

Royals slide past the Jays

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Todd Dunwoody went 4-for-4 and drove in three runs and Johnny Damon had four hits and two RBIs as the Kansas City Royals rallied to beat the Toronto Blue Jays 8-7 Monday night.

Damon, 4-for-5, hit a two-run double off reliever Lance Painter in the sixth inning to give the Royals a 5-4 lead in a game delayed 2 hours, 54 minutes at the start by rain.

Dunwoody, who had two doubles and two singles, hit a two-run RBI double in the seventh to make it 8-4.

Carlos Delgado tripled in the eighth for Toronto and scored on Tony Batista's bloop single to make it 8-5.

Dave Martinez and Delgado added RBI singles off Ricky Bottalico in the ninth to make it a one-run game.

Bottalico held on for his 12th save in 18 opportunities.

Blake Stein (3-3) pitched nine hits and four runs, struck out four and walked three in 6 2-3 innings.

Damon is 55-for-112 (.491) with 16 doubles and 19 RBIs since the All-Star break, raising his average from .267 to .324.

It was his fourth four-hit game since



the break.

The game got off to an ominous start for the Royals.

Shannon Stewart hit a leadoff home run and Brad Fullmer added a three-run shot to give the Blue Jays a 4-0 lead against Stein in the first.

But Stein, who held the New York Yankees to two hits in eight innings in his previous start, shut out the Blue Jays on six hits through the next 5 2-3 innings.

Stewart hit a single and a double for his fifth consecutive multihit game for the Blue Jays, who have lost eight of their last 11.

Stewart is batting .366 leading off games, with four doubles, two triples and four homers.

Two of his leadoff homers have

come against the Royals.

The Royals got a run in the second on Dunwoody's RBI double and a run in the third on Joe Randa's sacrifice fly.

Damon made it 4-3 in the fifth when he bunted safely and scored from second on Mike Sweeney's single after stealing his league-leading 34th base.

With one out in the sixth, Dunwoody and Gregg Zaun singled off Esteban Loaiza (6-8) and Carlos Febles was hit by a pitch, bringing left-hander Painter out of the bullpen to face the left-handed Damon.

On a 1-1 pitch, Damon lined a two-run double to right field.

Rey Sanchez made it 6-4 with a run-scoring groundout.

Loaiza went 5 1-3 innings and gave up six runs on nine hits, with two walks and two strikeouts.

Notes: The Blue Jays lead the AL with 186 homers.

The Royals lead with 178 homers allowed.

Right fielder Jermaine Dye made a fine effort on Mickey Morandini's sinking liner in the fourth, but it dropped in for a single — Morandini's first AL hit.

Broncos receiver given a chance

GREELEY, Colo. (AP) — For two weeks, Andre Reed waited patiently for a chance to show the Denver Broncos he still has a few receptions remaining in his Hall of Fame-caliber hands.

He studied Denver's complex offense and remained even-tempered when the team depth chart listed his name behind unproven wide receivers Andre Cooper, Chris Doering, Travis McGriff and Muneer Moore.

With Doering and Moore out with season-ending injuries and Cooper battling migraine headaches, Reed appears to be a valuable insurance policy as the Broncos search for a third receiver to complement starters Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith.

"I'm sure a lot of people didn't think I could make this team at all," Reed, 36, said Monday. "Nobody's in my shoes. Nobody knows what I'm going through. Nobody knows how I go about preparing myself. It's just too bad.

"I've been having to prove things to people every single year. Every time somebody says, 'I'm this' and 'I'm that,' I'm always proving them wrong."

Reed, whose 941 career receptions are second only to Jerry Rice, spent 15 seasons with the Buffalo Bills before signing a two-year, incentive-laden contract with the Broncos on the eve of training camp.

He caught a 24-yard touchdown pass in Denver's preseason opener Saturday at Arizona. The reception came after Doering tore his left Achilles' tendon and Moore broke his left ankle.

"Injuries didn't have anything to do with me stepping up and being an important part of this team," Reed said. "It's unfortunate that Chris went down and Muneer went down, but that's how football is. Opportunity only presents itself so many times, and you've got to take advantage of the opportunity."

Wide receivers coach Karl Dorrell said he has been impressed with Reed, and the Broncos wanted him to practice more at the flanker position behind McCaffrey. Reed had been working out behind Smith at the split-end position.

"You have to be interchangeable in this offense," Dorrell said. "Really, there is no difference. In our offense, you've got to be able to learn them all."

Entering camp, the Broncos appeared to have impressive depth at wideout. The wealth of options prompted them to move Billy Miller from wide receiver to tight end. Miller gained 15 pounds for his new role but may be asked to play both positions if necessary.

He walked out of the cafeteria Monday with a grilled cheese sandwich and said he would change his diet if needed.

"It's good because the more you can do, the more opportunity you have of staying on the team," said Miller, who is Denver's fourth tight end, "but it'll be hard to go out there and run a couple (quick pass routes) at 230 (pounds). I can do it, don't get me wrong."

Even with Miller available, the Broncos can ill afford to lose any more receivers. Remove McCaffrey, Smith and Reed from the equation and Cooper, McGriff and rookies Chris Cole and Bashir Yamini have 24 NFL games and 12 receptions among them.

"With three preseason games to go, you would hope you can maintain your health," Dorrell said. "We have enough right now to keep us going, but it is a concern."

Lakers executive quitting four-decade NBA career

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Time and again, Mitch Kupchak recalled, Jerry West threatened to quit the Los Angeles Lakers for one reason or another, only to change his mind.

Not this time.

West, who couldn't even watch in June as the Lakers won their first championship since 1988, announced his retirement Monday to end four decades with the franchise as one of the NBA's greatest players and top executives.

"Part of me tends to look at that door over there and see Jerry's face come out and say, 'I'm only kidding,'" Kupchak

said Monday. "He's not kidding.

"Today's that day."

Kupchak spoke during a news conference at the Lakers' practice facility in nearby El Segundo called to announce the 62-year-old West's retirement as the Lakers' head of basketball operations.

Kupchak, the team's general manager, is his successor.

"He's a very dear friend, and I'll miss being with him on a daily basis,"

Kupchak said. "I feel after 14 years of working with Jerry that nobody could be more prepared for this opportunity

than I am, and I embrace that opportunity."

West, who granted few interviews in recent weeks, didn't appear at the news conference.

The Lakers also announced that 42-year-old Kurt Rambis, interim coach for the team during most of the lock-out-shortened 1998-99 season, was being promoted to assistant general manager.

West was enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1979, and the Lakers retired his No. 44 jersey four years later.

Rockies fall to the Pirates 8-7

DENVER (AP) — Brian Giles credits Colorado Rockies general manager Dan O'Dowd with helping him complete a nine-year trip from the minors to the major leagues.

"I go back a long ways with Dan in the Cleveland organization," said Giles, who was called up to the Indians in 1996 while O'Dowd was Cleveland's assistant GM. "He was one of the guys in my corner in Cleveland."

Giles had three RBIs, including a bases-loaded walk in the ninth inning Monday night, lifting the Pittsburgh Pirates to an 8-7 victory over Colorado, the Rockies' 24th loss in 32 games.

"There were times when you didn't like a lot of the things Dan said, but he told you the way it was," Giles said.

"And you have to respect somebody in that position that tells you exactly how it really is."

With the score 7-all, Pat Meares reached first in the ninth against Jose Jimenez (5-1) on an error by short-stop Neifi Perez.

Kevin Young blooped a single to left, and the runners advanced on Adrian Brown's high bouncer to first. Jason Kendall was walked intentionally to load the bases, and Myers walked Brian Giles on a 3-1 pitch.

"Myers usually eats our lefties



alive. Brian included," Pittsburgh manager Gene Lamont said. "Myers was wild, and if you have to have a lefty up there facing him, Brian is the guy you want."

Scott Sauerbeck (4-1) pitched 1 1-3 hitless innings, and Mike Williams got three outs for his 16th save.

"I was missing with my curveball and my fastball," Myers said. "Not just one pitch. Everything."

Jeffrey Hammonds hit a two-run homer and Larry Walker added a solo shot for Colorado, and Jeff Cirillo went 4-for-5.

"No deficit is really too much for these guys," said Colorado manager Buddy Bell, who watched his team overcome a 5-0 deficit to lead 6-5. "Unfortunately, we just haven't been able to get enough."

Pittsburgh's Jimmy Anderson, who hasn't lost in six starts since June 14 against Atlanta, allowed six runs — four earned — and nine hits in six innings.

Colorado's Masato Yoshii, winless in seven starts since June 29, gave up

seven runs and 12 hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Pittsburgh took a 5-0 lead in the first on RBI singles by Giles and Alexander Ramirez, Aramis Ramirez's sacrifice fly and run-scoring doubles by Warren Morris and Meares.

"I felt my body was too strong," Yoshii said. "Those five runs in the first inning had a lot to do with tonight's loss, so I feel very responsible for that."

Ben Petrick hit an RBI single in the bottom half, and Colorado closed to 5-4 in the fourth on Cirillo's RBI double and a two-run throwing error by Kendall, Pittsburgh's catcher, during a rundown.

Hammonds' homer put Colorado ahead 6-5 in the fifth, but Kendall's RBI single off Yoshii and Giles' sacrifice fly against Gabe White gave Pittsburgh a 7-6 lead in the seventh.

Walker tied it with a homer off Rich Loiselle in the bottom half, his first since July 27.

Notes: Pittsburgh RHP Francisco Cordova is to throw on the side on Tuesday.

The Pirates activated OF Adrian Brown to replace Bruce Aven, traded Sunday to Los Angeles.

INF Luis Sojo was traded by the Pirates to the Yankees for minor league RHP Chris Spurling.

Chiefs' coach sends players clear message

RIVER FALLS, Wis. (AP) — Kansas City Chiefs head coach Gunther Cunningham's message at Monday's practice was clear: Do your job or you're gone.

Cunningham put his team through a pair of full-pad workouts two days after the first preseason game, intent on correcting the mistakes the Chiefs made in their 14-10 loss to the Tennessee Titans.

Specifically, the second-year coach pointed to tackling and penalties as two areas the Chiefs need to improve.

"We're working hard on missed tackles and some of the penalty situations, and I addressed that," Cunningham said.

"We're going to make progress one way or another, or the guys who are

causing it are not going to be here. It's as simple as that."

The Chiefs were flagged for 12 penalties in their first preseason game, eight in the first half. But the former defensive coordinator said the missed tackles Saturday night were a particu-

lar sore point with him.

"Our history is one of a big turnover team, and that causes tackling problems because when you go in to strip the ball you tend to strike at the ball and not wrap your arms around the ball carrier," he said.

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By The Associated Press

National League East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	68	44	.607	—
New York	64	46	.582	3
Florida	56	56	.500	12
Montreal	49	59	.454	17
Philadelphia	47	63	.427	20

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	61	50	.550	—
Cincinnati	55	56	.495	6
Chicago	52	59	.468	9
Pittsburgh	48	63	.432	13
Milwaukee	47	65	.420	14 1/2
Houston	42	70	.375	19 1/2

West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	62	48	.564	—
Arizona	62	50	.554	1
Los Angeles	58	53	.523	4 1/2
Colorado	53	57	.482	9
San Diego	53	59	.473	10

Sunday's Games				
Florida 9, Cincinnati 6				
Houston 8, Montreal 1				
Philadelphia 10, Colorado 9				
San Francisco 7, Pittsburgh 1				
Arizona 9, N.Y. Mets 5				
San Diego 8, Chicago Cubs 6				
Atlanta 6, St. Louis 4				
Milwaukee 9, Los Angeles 6				
Monday's Games				
Cincinnati 3, Atlanta 2, 10 innings				
San Diego 6, Philadelphia 4				
N.Y. Mets 6, Houston 5, 11 innings				
Pittsburgh 8, Colorado 7				
Arizona 5, Montreal 2				
Chicago Cubs 7, Los Angeles 3				
San Francisco 8, Milwaukee 1				
St. Louis 2, Florida 1, 11 innings				

Tuesday's Games				
San Diego (Tollberg 2-1) at Philadelphia (Daal 2-12), 5:35 p.m.				
Atlanta (Ashby 7-8) at Cincinnati (Dessens 5-1), 5:35 p.m.				
Florida (Sanchez 6-8) at St. Louis				

(Hentgen 10-8), 6:10 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (Leiter 12-4) at Houston

(B.Powell 0-0), 6:05 p.m.

Pittsburgh (Silva 7-5) at Colorado (Rose 0-0), 7:05 p.m.

Montreal (Downs 4-3) at Arizona

(B.Anderson 9-4), 8:05 p.m.

Chicago Cubs (Norton 0-0) at Los Angeles (Dreifort 8-7), 8:10 p.m.

Milwaukee (Wright 6-4) at San Francisco (Ortiz 6-10), 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Florida (Dempster 10-8) at St. Louis (An.Benes 10-6), 11:10 a.m.

Pittsburgh (Benson 8-9) at Colorado (Tavarez 7-2), 1:05 p.m.

Milwaukee (Rigdon 0-1) at San Francisco (Rueter 7-7), 1:35 p.m.

San Diego (Witasick 0-0) at Philadelphia (Bottenfield 0-1), 5:35 p.m.

Atlanta (Glavine 14-5) at Cincinnati (Harnisch 3-6), 5:35 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (Reed 6-2) at Houston (Lima 4-13), 6:05 p.m.

Montreal (Vazquez 8-5) at Arizona (Johnson 15-4), 8:05 p.m.

Chicago Cubs (Lieber 10-5) at Los Angeles (Brown 10-4), 8:05 p.m.

American League East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	59	48	.551	—
Boston	56	52	.519	3 1/2
Toronto	58	56	.509	4 1/2
Baltimore	49	61	.445	11 1/2
Tampa Bay	47	63	.427	13 1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	67	43	.609	—
Cleveland	58	51	.532	8 1/2
Detroit	51	59	.464	16
Kansas City 51	60	.459	16 1/2	
Minnesota	52	62	.456	17

West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	65	46	.586	—
Oakland	61	49	.555	3 1/2
Anaheim	58	55	.513	8
Texas	52	58	.473	12 1/2

Sunday's Games				
Cleveland 5, Anaheim 2				
Seattle 11, N.Y. Yankees 1				
Texas 11, Toronto 6				
Kansas City 3, Boston 1				
Minnesota 7, Detroit 3				
Tampa Bay 7, Baltimore 4				
Chicago White Sox 13, Oakland 0				
Monday's Games				
Seattle 8, N.Y. Yankees 5				
Cleveland 2, Texas 0				
Minnesota 4, Tampa Bay 2				
Baltimore 4, Detroit 3				
Kansas City 8, Toronto 7				
Anaheim 4, Boston 1				
Only games scheduled				

Tuesday's Games				
Seattle (Pineiro 0-0 and Garcia 3-2) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 2-3 and Barcelo 0-0 or Beirne 1-1), 3:05 p.m.				
Baltimore (Rapp 6-8) at Detroit (Moehler 7-7), 5:05 p.m.				
Texas (Rogers 10-9) at Cleveland (Bere 2-0), 5:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Zito 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 9-6), 5:05 p.m.				
Minnesota (Radke 8-11) at Tampa Bay (Lopez 8-8), 5:15 p.m.				
Toronto (F.Castillo 8-5) at Kansas City (Suzuki 5-6), 6:05 p.m.				
Boston (P.Martinez 13-3) at Anaheim (Ortiz 3-2), 8:05 p.m.				

Wednesday's Games				
Baltimore (Mercedes 6-4) at Detroit (Blair 8-2), 5:05 p.m.				
Texas (Perisho 2-3) at Cleveland (Burba 10-4), 5:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Mulder 6-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 12-6), 5:05 p.m.				
Minnesota (Milton 11-6) at Tampa Bay (Wilson 0-0), 5:15 p.m.				
Toronto (Trachsel 6-10) at Kansas City (Suppan 5-6), 6:05 p.m.				
Seattle (Moyer 11-4) at Chicago White Sox (Sitotka 9-9), 6:05 p.m.				
Boston (Fassero 7-5) at Anaheim (Wise 0-0), 8:05 p.m.				