Rockies fall to Cards 5-4

the seventh inning got Jim Edmonds' sweet swing clicking again.

After some earlier failures, Edmonds hit a game-winning double in the ninth as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Colorado Rockies 5-4 Thursday. The Cardinals survived after wasting a late two-run lead for the second straight game.

"A lot of the problems on this team have been me," Edmonds said. "It's good for me to get that hit and pick the team up, too, at the same time."

In the only other NL games Thursday, New York beat Houston 10-3 and San Diego routed Philadelphia 15-3.

Edmonds entered the game in a 2for-13 slump, and he stranded five runners in two at-bats early in the game. The turning point came when the lefthanded hitting Edmonds fouled off several pitches against left-hander Mike Myers in the seventh before hitting a two-out double.

"Probably the best thing was to hit off that left-hander and get 10 or 11 pitches to hit to get me going," Edmonds said. "It's tough sometimes to go up there with one swing. You really can't figure it out."

Like the rest of the Cardinals, Edmonds has been affected by the absence of Mark McGwire. The NLCentral leaders are 12-18 without him.

"You put two and two together, and I've been struggling and the team has

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A long at-bat in been struggling without Mark," 15th homeroff Bobby Chouinard in the Edmonds said. "If the No. 3 hitter is not eighth. In the ninth, Shawon Dunston doing his job, then the team is not going to be doing as well as it should."

St. Louis was just 3-4 on the homestand, totaling 19 runs.

will turn," manager Tony La Russa said. "We've earned too much all year long for it not to go our way."

Todd Helton was 4-for-4 for the Rockies to raise his NL-leading average to .384. He doubled his first three of the ninth when he nearly overran a at-bats to raise his league-leading total to 40, and he singled in the eighth.

The Rockies scored three runs in the seventh off Garrett Stephenson to go ahead 4-3. Brent Mayne had an RBI double, pinch- hitter Todd best I can," Dunston said. Hollandsworth had a run-scoring single and the go-ahead run scored on an error by shortstop Edgar Renteria. Renteria charged Juan Pierre's grounder hoping for a play at the plate and booted the ball.

Pierre, a rookie, cost the Rockies another run when he strayed off first on a flyout by Neifi Perez. He was doubled off for the final out by third, but Mike Matheny was forced at Edmonds before Hollandsworth, who had tagged up, crossed the plate.

"I thought it was low enough and I rifice flies in the second and third. took two more steps," Pierre said. "That's a big run, especially with these guys in a pennant race and going hard out there.'

Fernando Tatis tied it 4-4 with his two outs in the fourth.

singled with two outs off Jose Jimenez (5-2) before Edmonds doubled to the gap in left-center on a 3-2 pitch.

defily news

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"The at-bat that killed him was "If we keep working at it, the worm Dunston," Rockies manager Buddy Bell said. "He was up in the count and he threw him a fastball down the middle of the plate. Now you've got to deal with Edmonds.'

Dunston averted disaster in the top fly ball from pinch-hitter Jeff Frye with two on and no outs in the ninth. He had to reach back and jump to make the catch.

"I'm not an outfielder, but I do the

Mike Timlin (2-0) allowed two hits in 1 1-3 scoreless innings in relief of Stephenson, who gave up four runs and eight hits in 7 2-3 innings.

Stephenson, 1-for-42 (.024) at the plate, drove in his second run of the season with a squeeze bunt in the second, although he didn't get credit for a sacrifice. Tatis scored easily from second.

Renteria and J.D. Drew added sac-

Stephenson, coming off a shutout of Atlanta, extended his scoreless streak to 14 innings before consecutive doubles by Helton and Jeff Cirillo with

Brian Meadows, making his first

Toronto trailed 6-3 in the fourth be-

Stewart and Gonzalez added RBI

fore going ahead on Batista's homer,

chased Wells



U.S. soccer team loses players

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) -Michelle Akers had shoulder surgery in April and is hobbled by chronic fatigue syndrome. Carla Overbeck had knee surgery in May, not long after she was diagnosed with Graves' disease.

But it's hard to imagine a U.S. women's soccer team without either of them. Both were at practice Thursday, Akers wearing a harness and Overbeck a brace, as both were selected to the 18player squad that will represent the United States at the Olympics next month in Sydney.

"Having Michelle Akers and Carla Overbeck on this team was a decision that I made in my mind two or three months ago," coach April Heinrichs said.

"While Carla's knee might be at only 70 to 75 percent right now, her will and power among these players, along with her leadership, makes her the glue of this team.... We all know that Michelle one year ago helped this country win one of its most impressive trophies ever. One year away from that, she is still a world-class player, but she

what we will see over the next couple of weeks that she will get better."

Fifteen of the 20 players from last year's World Cup championship squad, including all of the regular starters, were selected.

Although Heinrichs has initiated something of a youth movement, the only major difference between the younger players, we've made too is starting goalkeeper Siri Mullinix, who displaced Briana Scurry while Scurry was injured.

Heinrichs initially made the veterans nervous when she experimented with younger lineups after she succeeded Tony DiCicco in January. It quickly became apparent that five players from first game of a three-game Olympic the World Cup team — Tisha kickoff tour Sunday.

struggles with her shoulder. I think Venturini, Danielle Fotopoulos, Tiffany Roberts, Tracy Ducar and Saskia Webber — did not figure in Heinrichs' Olympic plans.

"After the first week, some players approached me and were a little concerned about bringing in these young players," Heinrichs said. "I told them if we had more than two to three Olympic team and the World Cup team much of a change. I'm so proud of these players who've hung in there, and clawed to hang around this team. We weeded out the ones that aren't mentally ready yet, and we weeded out the ones that aren't physically ready yet."

> The team is training in Annapolis and will play there against Russia in the



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Jays rally against Royals for 15-7 win

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Tony July 6. Batista hit his 34th homer, leaving him tied for the American League lead, and had a go-ahead single Thursday as the Toronto Blue Jays rallied past the Kansas City Royals 15-7.

David Wells, 17-4 this season but 2-2 since the All-Star break, failed to hold a 3-0 lead. He allowed seven runs and seven hits in 3 2-3 innings, his shortest outing since April 14 against Seattle

Chris Carpenter (8-10) won in relief for the first time this season, giving up two hits in 4 1-3 scoreless innings.

Brad Fullmer hit a three-run homer for the Blue Jays, who outhit Kansas start since the Royals acquired him City 17-14 and won for just the fifth from San Diego on July 31, was tagged time in their last 11 games. Shannon for seven runs and eight hits in 3 2-3 Stewart was 3-for-6 with a homer and innings. three RBIs, and Alex Gonzalez was 3for-6 with two RBIs.

Kansas City's Johnny Damon went which tied him with Chicago's Frank 3-for-4 and is 61-for-124 (.492) since Thomas, consecutive doubles by Jose the All-Star break, raising his average Cruz Jr. and Craig Grebeck, and from .267 to .329. It was his 18th Stewart's two-run homer, which multihit game since the break.

Chris Fussell (4-3), who relieved with the score 7-7 in the fourth, gave singles off Jerry Spradlin in the sev-Overall, it was his first victory since up three runs and two hits in two in- enth.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press			
••	_		GB
			2 1/2
			11
-			16
-	-	-	19 1/2
Central Division			
••	_		GB
			<u> </u>
			5 1/2
			8 1/2
			13 1/2
			15
			19 1/2
West Division			
••	_		GB
64	48	.571	—
62	52	.544	3
59	54	.522	5 1/2
55	58	.487	9 1/2
54	61	.470	11 1/2
Wednesday's Games			
Florida 5, St. Louis 3			
Colorado 4, Pittsburgh 3			
San Francisco 9, Milwaukee 3			
Cincinnati 10, Atlanta 6			
Philadelphia 3, San Diego 2			
N.Y. Mets 12, Houston 5			
Montreal 4, Arizona 3			
Chicago Cubs 5, Los Angeles 4, 10 in-			
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N.Y. Mets 10, Houston 3

Only games scheduled

San Diego 15, Philadelphia 3

Friday's Games

Cincinnati (Bell 5-6) at Chicago Cubs

(Tapani 8-8), 1:20 p.m. Colorado (Bohanon 5-8) at Montreal (Hermanson 8-9), 5:05 p.m. San Diego (Eaton 3-2) at Florida (Burnett 1-2), 5:05 p.m. Arizona (Reynoso 8-7) at Pittsburgh (Serafini 1-0), 5:05 p.m.

San Francisco (Gardner 7-5) at N.Y. Mets

(Rusch 7-9), 5:10 p.m. Houston (Elarton 12-4) at Philadelphia

American League East Division L Pct. GB W 48 .564 New York 62 5 57 53 .518 Boston 60 57 .513 5 1/2 Toronto 63.442 13 1/2 **Baltimore** 50 50 63 .442 13 1/2 Tampa Bay **Central Division** W Pct. GB 68 46 .596 Chicago Cleveland 59 52 .532 7 1/2 Detroit 53 60 .469 14 1/2 Kansas City 52 62 .456 16 Minnesota 52 65.444 17 1/2 West Division GB W L Pct. 47 .591 68 Seattle Oakland 52 .540 6 61 59 56 .513 9 Anaheim 53 59 .473 13 Texas Wednesday's Games Baltimore 5, Detroit 2 Cleveland 6, Texas 4 N.Y. Yankees 12, Oakland 1 Tampa Bay 5, Minnesota 4, 10 innings Kansas City 5, Toronto 3 Chicago White Sox 19, Seattle 3 Boston 4, Anaheim 2 Thursday's Games N.Y. Yankees 12, Oakland 6 Tampa Bay 10, Minnesota 4 Detroit 14. Baltimore 3 Seattle 6, Chicago White Sox 3 Toronto 15, Kansas City 7 Friday's Games Chicago White Sox (Parque 9-4) at Tampa Bay (Rupe 4-4), 5:15 p.m. Baltimore (Mussina 7-11) at Kansas City (Reichert 5-6), 6:05 p.m.

Toronto (Escobar 7-12) at Minnesota

(Romero 1-1), 6:05 p.m. Boston (Arrojo 0-1) at Texas (Glynn 3-1), 6:35 p.m. Cleveland (Finley 9-8) at Seattle (Abbott

7-4), 8:05 p.m. Detroit (Weaver 6-10) at Oakland

(Heredia 13-7), 8:05 p.m. N.Y. Yankees (Hernandez 8-8) at Ana-

heim (Schoeneweis 5-6), 8:05 p.m.

(Chen 6-1), 5:35 p.m. Los Angeles (Park 11-8) at Atlanta (Millwood 7-8), 5:40 p.m. St. Louis (Kile 13-7) at Milwaukee (D'Amico 7-4), 6:05 p.m. Saturday's Games Houston (Miller 1-3) at Philadelphia (Person 5-4), 11:15 a.m. Cincinnati (Williamson 4-7) at Chicago Cubs (Quevedo 1-3), 11:15 a.m. St. Louis (Ankiel 7-7) at Milwaukee (Haynes 10-10), 11:15 a.m. Los Angeles (Valdes 2-5) at Atlanta (Maddux 12-6), 2:05 p.m. Colorado (Yoshii 4-12) at Montreal (Thurman 2-3), 5:05 p.m. San Diego (Clement 11-10) at Florida (C.Smith 1-4), 5:05 p.m Arizona (Schilling 9-6) at Pittsburgh (Ritchie 5-6), 5:05 p.m. San Francisco (Estes 11-3) at N.Y. Mets (Hampton 11-7), 5:10 p.m. Sunday's Games Los Angeles at Atlanta, 11:10 a.m. San Francisco at N.Y. Mets, 11:10 a.m. Colorado at Montreal, 11:35 a.m. Houston at Philadelphia, 11:35 a.m Arizona at Pittsburgh, 11:35 a.m. St. Louis at Milwaukee, 12:05 p.m. Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs, 12:20 p.m. San Diego at Florida, 2:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Cleveland (Colon 10-8) at Seattle (Halama 10-5), 2:05 p.m. Detroit (Bernero 0-0) at Oakland

(Hudson 12-4), 2:05 p.m. Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 13-4) at

Tampa Bay (Rekar 4-7), 2:15 p.m. Toronto (Loaiza 6-8) at Minnesota (Redman 10-5), 5:05 p.m.

Baltimore (Parrish 1-1) at Kansas City (Stein 3-3), 6:05 p.m.

Boston (Wakefield 6-6) at Texas (Glynn 3-1), 6:35 p.m. N.Y. Yankees (Neagle 2-2) at Anaheim

(Mercker 0-1), 8:05 p.m. Sunday's Games Chicago White Sox at Tampa Bay, 11:15

a.m Baltimore at Kansas City, 12:05 p.m. Toronto at Minnesota, 12:05 p.m Detroit at Oakland, 2:05 p.m. Cleveland at Seattle, 2:35 p.m. N.Y. Yankees at Anaheim, 6:05 p.m. Boston at Texas, 6:05 p.m.

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