

Rockies fall to Cards 5-4

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Along at-bat in 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 2-for-13 slump, and he stranded five runners in two at-bats early in the game. The turning point came when the left-handed 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 NL Central leaders are 12-18 without him.

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

been struggling without Mark," Edmonds said. "If the No. 3 hitter is not 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.

"If we keep working at it, the worm 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 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 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 Edmonds before Hollandsworth, who had tagged up, crossed the plate.

"I thought it was low enough and I 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

15th homer off Bobby Chouinard in the eighth. In the ninth, Shawn Dunston singled with two outs off Jose Jimenez (5-2) before Edmonds doubled to the gap in left-center on a 3-2 pitch.

"The at-bat that killed him was 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 of the ninth when he nearly overran a 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 best I can," Dunston said.

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 third, but Mike Matheny was forced at second.

Renteria and J.D. Drew added sacrifice flies in the second and third.

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

Jays rally against Royals for 15-7 win

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Tony 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. Overall, it was his first victory since

July 6.

Brad Fullmer hit a three-run homer for the Blue Jays, who outhit Kansas City 17-14 and won for just the fifth time in their last 11 games. Shannon Stewart was 3-for-6 with a homer and three RBIs, and Alex Gonzalez was 3-for-6 with two RBIs.

Kansas City's Johnny Damon went 3-for-4 and is 61-for-124 (.492) since the All-Star break, raising his average from .267 to .329. It was his 18th multihit game since the break.

Chris Fussell (4-3), who relieved with the score 7-7 in the fourth, gave up three runs and two hits in two in-

nings.

Brian Meadows, making his first start since the Royals acquired him from San Diego on July 31, was tagged for seven runs and eight hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Toronto trailed 6-3 in the fourth before going ahead on Batista's homer, which tied him with Chicago's Frank Thomas, consecutive doubles by Jose Cruz Jr. and Craig Grebeck, and Stewart's two-run homer, which chased Wells.

Stewart and Gonzalez added RBI singles off Jerry Spradlin in the seventh.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press


National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	69	45	.605	
New York	66	47	.584	2 1/2
Florida	58	56	.509	11
Montreal	51	59	.464	16
Philadelphia	49	64	.434	19 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	62	52	.544	
Cincinnati	56	57	.496	5 1/2
Chicago	53	60	.469	8 1/2
Pittsburgh	48	65	.425	13 1/2
Milwaukee	47	67	.412	15
Houston	43	72	.374	19 1/2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	64	48	.571	
Arizona	62	52	.544	3
Los Angeles	59	54	.522	5 1/2
Colorado	55	58	.487	9 1/2
San Diego	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-				
nings				
Thursday's Games				
St. Louis 5, Colorado 4				
N.Y. Mets 10, Houston 3				
San Diego 15, Philadelphia 3				
Only games scheduled				
Friday's Games				
Cincinnati (Bell 5-6) at Chicago Cubs				

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	62	48	.564	
Boston	57	53	.518	5
Toronto	60	57	.513	5 1/2
Baltimore	50	63	.442	13 1/2
Tampa Bay	50	63	.442	13 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	68	46	.596	
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				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	68	47	.591	
Oakland	61	52	.540	6
Anaheim	59	56	.513	9
Texas	53	59	.473	13
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				


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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 Anaheim (Schoeneweis 5-6), 8:05 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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