

# Quarterback will get to play

DENVER (AP)—Denver Broncos fans can expect to see a lot of backup quarterback Gus Frerotte in Friday night's preseason finale against the San Francisco 49ers.

Starting quarterback Brian Griese is expected to get about 20 plays in the game, as are most of the other starters. Griese, who has looked especially sharp in the preseason and boasts a 116.2 passer rating, has a solid grip on the No. 1 job.

Frerotte, who has worked rarely with the first team in either practice or in games, likely will see his most extensive duty of the preseason Friday night as he continues to assimilate the offense.

Third-string quarterback Jarious

Jackson, a rookie out of Notre Dame who has thrown only one pass in the preseason and who had hoped to get heavy work in the final preseason game, now looks more likely to be watching from the sideline.

Asked if Jackson will see action, coach Mike Shanahan said on Thursday, "I don't know. It all depends on the flow of the game. If he does play, he'll be limited."

"It's kind of like the last couple of weeks. I'd like to give Gus as much repetition as possible so he can feel comfortable with the offense."

Frerotte signed a free-agent contract with the Broncos last March after starting 52 games in his six-year NFL career with Washington and Detroit.

Running back Terrell Davis, who left last week's game with a sore left hamstring, is projected to get 10 to 20 plays against the 49ers. Davis has progressed steadily from reconstructive knee surgery last October.

Offensive guard Mark Schlereth will see his first preseason action after having arthroscopic surgery on his left knee less than a week into training camp.

Shanahan said even if Schlereth comes out of Friday night's game unscathed, he probably will split time with Lennie Friedman in the regular-season opener Sept. 4 against the Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams. Friedman started the first three preseason games.

# Royals lose in 10 inning game

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Pedro Martinez gave up five runs in the first inning, something he hadn't done in five years.

But by the time the game was over and the Boston Red Sox had a 9-7 victory in 10 innings over Kansas City, everyone was marveling at how great the reigning Cy Young winner really is.

That's because he retired 18 of the last 19 batters he faced and kept the Red Sox in the game.

"He's always picking us up when we score just one or two runs," said Boston's Brian Daubach, who hit a two-run homer. "This time it was our turn to pick him up."

Martinez allowed five runs and six hits in the first inning, something he hadn't done since 1995.

But after Mike Sweeney's home run with two outs in the second made it 6-1, Martinez allowed only a single in the fourth to Rey Sanchez, who was erased on a double play. Martinez was relieved by Hipolito Pichardo (5-2) starting the ninth.

"He can give up runs, just like anybody else," Boston manager Jimmy Williams said. "But those last six innings were really something. Those were special."

Martinez said he adjusted "only a

little" after the second inning.

"I just kind of poised myself and waited for the time to get better," Martinez said. "I kept throwing the ball the same way, tried to improve my location. There's nothing you can do but make your pitch and hope you get the result you want."

While Martinez was not walking anybody, Royals starter Mac Suzuki was walking seven.

"The big difference was Pedro didn't have his best stuff, especially early," Royals manager Tony Muser said. "But he didn't walk anybody."

"Great pitchers find ways to win. One way is to not walk people. He kept throwing strikes and he kept changing speeds."

Martinez gave up a season-high eight hits and six runs in eight innings, with six strikeouts and no walks. The six earned runs were the most he had allowed since giving up seven to Florida on July 19, 1999. His major league-leading ERA jumped from 1.53 to 1.77.

"Those last six innings were tremendous," Williams said. "He could have bagged it, whatever. But not him. To me, that was really impressive."

Andy Larkin (0-3) walked Manny Alexander with one out in the 10th.

Alexander stole second and with two outs, Trot Nixon was intentionally walked. Rico Brogna followed with an RBI single, Carl Everett had a run-scoring double and Lou Merloni had an RBI infield single.

Derek Lowe allowed an RBI single to Sweeney in the 10th before getting his 30th save.

Boston moved a half-game ahead of Cleveland in the AL wild-card race and stayed three games behind the Yankees in the AL East. Kansas City lost its fifth straight game.

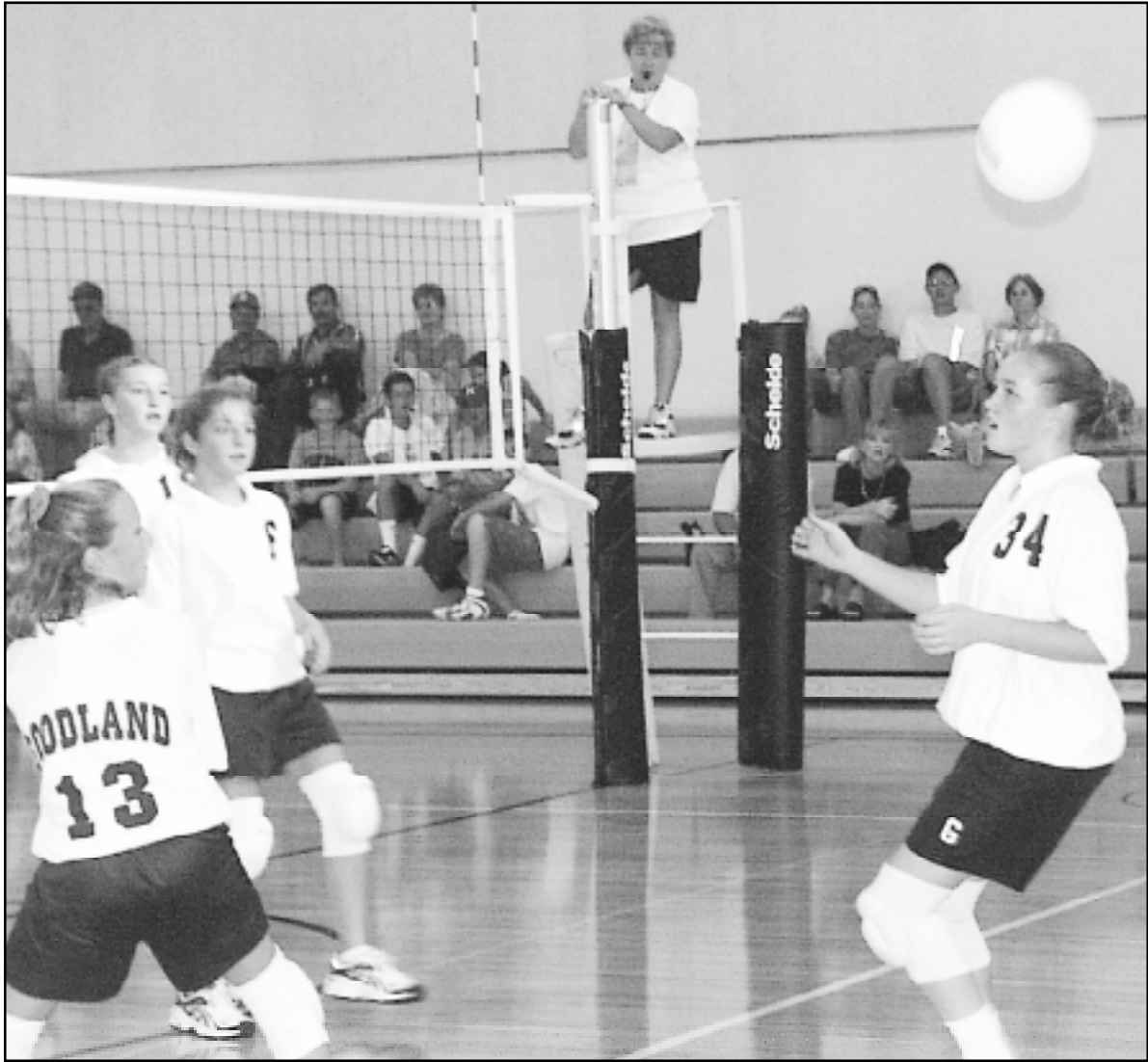
The Royals had four singles and two doubles while scoring five runs against Martinez in the improbable opening frame.

The five earned runs in the first inning were more than anyone had managed against Martinez in an entire game this year. The six hits were just one short of his high in a game all season.

In 22 previous starts this season, Martinez allowed only four runs in the first inning. He had not given up five runs in a first inning since June 20, 1995, when he was with Montreal and allowed five to Houston.

Notes: Toronto scored five runs against Martinez on June 25, but only four were earned.

## It's a miss



Jordan Frazier, No. 34, a seventh-grade Grant Junior High volleyball player, missed the ball at the junior high Soap Scrimmage on Thursday night, while Chelsea Gray and Abby Martin waited to rebound. The seventh-grade team played at 6:30 p.m. and the eighth-grade played at 8 p.m.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

# Soccer player retires, will be missed

CHICAGO (AP)—Former national coach Tony DiCicco doesn't have a favorite memory of Michelle Akers.

He's got dozens.

"The world will miss her," DiCicco said Thursday, after Akers announced she was retiring from international soccer competition and won't play in the Sydney Olympics next month. She still hopes to play for the new WUSA franchise in Orlando, which starts play next April.

"I'm sure there are coaches around the world that are breathing a sigh of relief, and a bunch of midfielders around the world that are jumping up and down in elation," DiCicco said. "But the truth is, the world is going to miss Michelle Akers. There's no one that can replace her."

While her play on the field set Akers apart, it was her perseverance over her physical problems that made her truly

amazing. She battled chronic fatigue syndrome for much of her career, a disease so debilitating it leaves many without the energy to get out of bed.

But when she reinjured her shoulder earlier this month in a game against Russia, the 34-year-old realized her battered body had finally had enough.

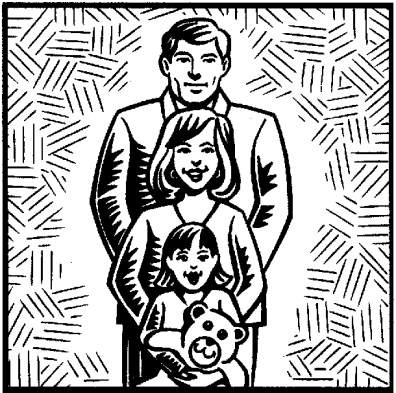
"I finally said to myself, 'This is insane,' " she said. "I was battling at my absolute gut level to just get through the day, and finally, the last straw was that I reinjured the shoulder. I just said, enough is enough. I am no good to myself like this, and I am certainly no good to my team."

For 15 years, Akers has been more than just "good" to her team and her sport. At 5-foot-10 and with a flowing mane of curls, she was the face of women's soccer before anybody heard of Mia Hamm and Brandi Chastain.

She's an original member of the U.S.

women's national team, scoring her first goal in the team's second game, a 2-2 tie with Denmark on Aug. 21, 1985. With 105 goals, 37 assists and 247 total points, she trails only Hamm in career scoring for the U.S. national team.

She has made 153 appearances for the United States, and holds several U.S. records.



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By The Associated Press

National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	77	50	.606	—
New York	75	52	.591	2
Florida	62	64	.492	14 1/2
Montreal	53	71	.427	22 1/2
Philadelphia	53	73	.421	23 1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	71	56	.560	—
Cincinnati	62	64	.492	8 1/2
Chicago	55	70	.440	15
Milwaukee	55	71	.437	15 1/2
Pittsburgh	52	73	.416	18
Houston	52	75	.409	19

West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	72	53	.576	—
Arizona	70	56	.556	2 1/2
Los Angeles	65	61	.516	7 1/2
Colorado	63	64	.496	10
San Diego	61	66	.480	12

Wednesday's Games				
Atlanta 5, Colorado 2				
San Francisco 5, Florida 0				
Chicago Cubs 15, Houston 5				
Philadelphia 4, Cincinnati 3				
St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 2				
Los Angeles 5, Montreal 1				
N.Y. Mets 4, San Diego 1				
Milwaukee 8, Arizona 5				

Thursday's Games				
Cincinnati 8, Philadelphia 3				
Los Angeles 7, Montreal 0				
St. Louis 12, Atlanta 5				
Only games scheduled				

Friday's Games				
Los Angeles (Dreifort 10-7 and Perez 4-6) at Chicago Cubs (Lieber 11-6 and Garibay 2-5), 2, 12:05 p.m.				
Houston (Holt 5-12) at Montreal (Lira 3-3), 5:05 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Dessens 5-4) at Florida (Cornelius 3-6), 5:05 p.m.				

Saturday's Games				
Colorado (Tavarez 8-2) at Pittsburgh (Anderson 4-6), 5:05 p.m.				
Arizona (Johnson 16-4) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 7-4), 5:10 p.m.				
San Francisco (Ortiz 9-10) at Philadelphia (Bottenfield 1-1), 5:35 p.m.				
St. Louis (Reames 0-1) at Atlanta (Glavine 16-6), 5:40 p.m.				
San Diego (Tollberg 2-2) at Milwaukee (Wright 6-6), 6:05 p.m.				

Sunday's Games				
Colorado at Pittsburgh, 11:15 a.m.				

Los Angeles at Chicago Cubs, 11:15 a.m.				
San Francisco at Philadelphia, 2:05 p.m.				
Houston at Montreal, 5:05 p.m.				
Cincinnati at Florida, 5:05 p.m.				
Arizona at N.Y. Mets, 5:10 p.m.				
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San Diego at Milwaukee, 6:05 p.m.				

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San Francisco at Philadelphia, 11:35 a.m.				

Colorado at Pittsburgh, 11:35 a.m.				
San Diego at Milwaukee, 12:05 p.m.				
Los Angeles at Chicago Cubs, 12:20 p.m.				
Cincinnati at Florida, 2:05 p.m.				

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	70	54	.564	—
Boston	67	57	.540	3
Toronto	66	61	.520	5 1/2
Baltimore	56	70	.444	15
Tampa Bay	55	70	.440	15 1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	75	52	.590	—
Cleveland	66	57	.537	7
Detroit	63	63	.500	11 1/2
Kansas City	58	69	.457	17
Minnesota	57	71	.445	18 1/2

West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	70	57	.551	—
Oakland	67	59	.532	2 1/2
Anaheim	65	62	.512	5
Texas	57	69	.452	12 1/2

Wednesday's Games				
Detroit 6, Seattle 5				
Toronto 9, Kansas City 8				
Cleveland 7, Oakland 5				
Minnesota 8, Tampa Bay 2				
N.Y. Yankees 10, Texas 9				
Chicago White Sox 8, Baltimore 4				
Boston 3, Anaheim 1				
Thursday's Games				
N.Y. Yankees 8, Texas 7				
Detroit 10, Seattle 3				
Baltimore 8, Chicago White Sox 5				
Oakland 11, Cleveland 7				

**Boston 9, Kansas City 7, 10 innings**

Only games scheduled				
Friday's Games				
Tampa Bay (Lopez 10-9) at Baltimore (Rapp 6-10), 5:35 p.m.				
Toronto (Wells 18-5) at Texas (Davis 5-4), 6:05 p.m.				

Boston (Fassero 8-7) at Kansas City (Suppan 6-7), 6:05 p.m.				
Detroit (Blair 9-3) at Minnesota (Radke 9-13), 6:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (Cone 3-10) at Oakland (Appier 11-9), 7:05 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Sirotko 11-10) at Seattle (Sele 13-8), 8:05 p.m.				
Cleveland (Burba 11-5) at Anaheim (Wise 2-1), 8:05 p.m.				

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Cleveland at Anaheim, 6:05 p.m.				
Toronto at Texas, 6:05 p.m.				

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