

Royals rebound, shutout Devil Rays

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Mac Suzuki threw eight shutout innings and Dee Brown hit his first major league homer as the Kansas City Royals beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 6-0 Thursday.

Suzuki (2-1) gave up six hits, struck out four and walked one. He was lifted in the ninth after a two-base error by first baseman Mike Sweeney. Jason Grimsley finished up.

Brown hit a two-run shot — the Royals' first extra base hit in the three-game series — to put Kansas City up 2-0 in the fourth inning. He added a

run-scoring single during a three-run, sixth-inning.

Rey Sanchez and Sweeney had RBI doubles in the sixth as the Royals scored more than five runs in a game for just the second time this season.

Tampa Bay starter Bryan Rekar (0-3) gave up five runs and seven hits in 5 1-3 innings. The right-hander has allowed 10 runs and 14 hits over 10 innings in his past two starts.

Aubrey Huff had a one-out double for Tampa Bay in the fifth, but was thrown out by center fielder Carlos Beltran trying to score on Mike Di-

Felice's single.

Tampa Bay's Russ Johnson singled and went to second on a wild pitch with one out in the eighth inning, but was left stranded.

The Devil Rays hit into double plays in both the first and second innings. Kansas City threatened in the first, putting two on with none out. After Mark Quinn popped out, Sweeney hit into his first double play in 76 at-bats this season.

Tampa Bay, which won the first two games of the series, was looking for its first three-game winning streak this

season. The Royals won for just the third time in 12 road games.<

The announced crowd of 11,083 was the second-lowest for a Devil Rays' home game.

Notes: Suzuki entered 0-3 with a 6.65 ERA in seven previous games against Tampa Bay. Brown's homer came on his 97th career at-bat. .Royals OF Jermaine Dye (left knee bruise) and INF Luis Alicea (right hamstring) were out of the starting lineup. .Huff snapped an 0-for-17 slide with his fifth-inning double. Johnson extended his career-high hitting streak to nine games.

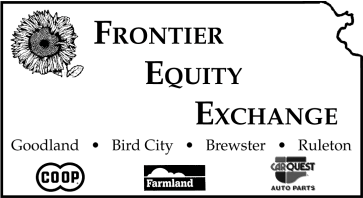
bowling results

By The Associated Press					Texas (Helling 1-3) at Cleveland (Burba 2-1), 5:05 p.m.				
AMERICAN LEAGUE					Baltimore (McElroy 0-1) at Minnesota (Redman 1-2), 5:05 p.m.				
East Division					Seattle (Abbott 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Biddle 1-0), 5:05 p.m.				
	W	L	Pct	GB	Sunday's Games				
Boston	15	7	.682	—	Anaheim at Toronto, 11:05 a.m.				
Toronto	14	7	.667	1/2	Texas at Cleveland, 11:05 a.m.				
New York	11	11	.500	4	Kansas City at Boston, 11:05 a.m.				
Baltimore	10	12	.455	5	Tampa Bay at Detroit, 11:05 a.m.				
Tampa Bay	7	15	.318	8	Oakland at N.Y. Yankees, 11:05 a.m.				
Central Division					Baltimore at Minnesota, 12:05 p.m.				
	W	L	Pct	GB	Seattle at Chicago White Sox, 12:05 p.m.				
Minnesota	15	5	.750	—	NATIONAL LEAGUE				
Cleveland	12	8	.600	3	East Division				
Chicago	7	13	.350	8		W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	7	14	.333	8 1/2	Philadelphia	14	7	.667	—
Detroit	6	14	.300	9	Montreal	10	12	.455	4 1/2
West Division					Atlanta	10	13	.435	5
	W	L	Pct	GB	Florida	8	13	.381	6
Seattle	18	4	.818	—	New York	8	13	.381	6
Texas	10	12	.455	8	Central Division				
Anaheim	9	13	.409	9		W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	8	14	.364	10	Chicago	13	8	.619	—
Thursday's Games					Cincinnati	12	9	.571	1
Kansas City 6, Tampa Bay 0					Houston	11	9	.550	1 1/2
Detroit 8, Baltimore 2					Milwaukee	11	10	.524	2
Boston 2, Minnesota 0					St. Louis	10	11	.476	3
Cleveland 6, Anaheim 5					Pittsburgh	8	12	.400	4 1/2
Seattle 7, N.Y. Yankees 3					West Division				
Oakland 16, Chicago White Sox 6						W	L	Pct	GB
Today's Games					Colorado	12	9	.571	—
Anaheim (Washburn 0-2) at Toronto (Loaiza 3-1), 5:05 p.m.					Arizona	12	10	.545	1/2
Texas (Oliver 4-0) at Cleveland (Drew 0-0), 5:05 p.m.					Los Angeles	12	10	.545	1/2
Tampa Bay (Rupe 1-2) at Detroit (Mlicki 0-2), 5:05 p.m.					San Francisco	11	10	.524	1
Kansas City (Stein 1-2) at Boston (Castillo 2-1), 5:05 p.m.					San Diego	8	14	.364	4 1/2
Oakland (Mulder 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Hernandez 0-2), 5:05 p.m.					Thursday's Games				
Baltimore (Mercedes 0-3) at Minnesota (Mays 2-1), 6:05 p.m.					Montreal 4, St. Louis 3, 15 innings				
Seattle (Sele 3-0) at Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 0-0), 6:05 p.m.					Milwaukee 12, N.Y. Mets 8				
Saturday's Games					Chicago Cubs 7, Colorado 2				
Anaheim (Ortiz 2-2) at Toronto (Michalak 3-0), 11:05 a.m.					Cincinnati 7, San Francisco 5				
Kansas City (Reichert 2-1) at Boston (Ohka 2-0), 11:05 a.m.					San Diego 11, Philadelphia 0				
Oakland (Hudson 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Lilly 0-0), 11:05 a.m.					Arizona 13, Atlanta 6				
Tampa Bay (Judd 0-0) at Detroit (Perisho 0-1), 11:05 a.m.					Los Angeles 6, Pittsburgh 3				
					Today's Games				
					Florida (Penny 1-0) at Houston (Lima 1-1), 6:05 p.m.				
					Montreal (Thurman 1-3) at Milwaukee (Leiter 0-0), 6:05 p.m.				
					N.Y. Mets (Appier 2-1) at St. Louis (Morris 2-2), 6:10 p.m.				
					Cincinnati (Reitsma 2-1) at Colorado (Astacio				

March Employee of the Month Dan Duell

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Cubs end losing streak, defeat Rockies, 7-2

DENVER (AP) — Rondell White had two hits and drove in two runs, and Jon Lieber made another solid start as the Chicago Cubs beat the Colorado Rockies 7-2 Thursday.

Gary Matthews Jr., batting .146 (6-for-41) this season, added a two-run triple as Chicago snapped a three-game losing skid.

After watching Chicago pitchers surrender 20 runs in the first two games of the series, Lieber (2-1) gave up two runs and seven hits in seven innings. He walked four, struck out eight and has pitched at least seven innings in all five of his starts.

Rockies starter Brian Bohanon (0-3) allowed six runs — five earned — and nine hits in six innings. All his losses have come at home, where he has given up 19 earned runs in 14 1-3 innings.

Jeff Cirillo's two-out RBI double gave Colorado a 2-1 lead in the third before things unraveled for the Rockies and Bohanon.

Manager Buddy Bell was ejected after Todd Walker was called out on a checked swing to end the fourth, and the Cubs made matters worse with a five-run fifth.

After giving up an infield single to Augie Ojeda, Bohanon threw late to

second on Lieber's sacrifice bunt. Eric Young followed with a bloop RBI single that fell just inside the left-field foul line, and Matthews hit a two-run triple to give Chicago the lead.

Bohanon nearly escaped by retiring Sammy Sosa and Ron Coomer, but White had a run-scoring single and scored two batters later when Julio Zuleta's grounder to third went through Terry Shumpert's legs.

White had been 3-for-19 in the first five games of Chicago's nine-game road trip.

Notes: Cirillo left the game after his RBI double because of muscle spasms near his rib cage. He immediately grabbed his lower back after completing his swing and jogged lightly into second base.

Bell was ejected for the second time this season and the 11th in the last two years.

Chicago has not been swept by Colorado since July 24-27, 1997. Sosa is 1-for-18 against Bohanon after going hitless in three at-bats against him Thursday.

Colorado failed to homer for the first time in 37 games against the Cubs at Coors Field. Rockies OF Todd Hollandsworth singled in the eighth for his 500th career hit.

Avs lose to Kings in overtime, 4-3

DENVER (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche weathered one power-play opportunity by the Los Angeles Kings in overtime. A second one proved fatal.

The Kings, extending their playoff winning streak to a franchise-record five games, won on Modry's power-play goal after Adam Foote went off on

a holding penalty for pulling down

Ziggy Palffy on a partial breakaway.

Stumpel passed to Modry, who beat Patrick Roy to end Colorado's four-game winning streak. It was Modry's first career playoff goal.

Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is Saturday in Denver.

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