



# Royals fall to Tigers, remain in last place

DETROIT (AP) — About 50 fans missed most of the Detroit Tigers' victory over the Kansas City Royals when they got trapped on the Comerica Park Ferris wheel.

The Tigers and Royals, in a race to avoid last place in the AL Central in part because of their problems stranding base runners, must have known just how the fans felt.

The Tigers survived leaving 12 runners on base Wednesday in a 6-4 victory over the Royals, who stranded seven.

"This is how things have been going all year for us," Royals All-Star first baseman Mike Sweeney said. "We had the pitcher on the ropes and we didn't finish him off. That's the story of the season."

The Tigers have won two straight after an eight-game losing streak, while the Royals have lost three in a row.

"We struggled early, and in the last few weeks, we would have never recovered from it," Tigers manager Phil Garner said. "Today, we did. That's a good sign."

The recovery came after Garner and starting pitcher Jeff Weaver screamed at the team after a brutal fifth inning that saw the Royals take advantage of two Tigers errors to score three unearned runs.

"We gave them six outs, and I told them it stunk, but that we needed to get past it and go make something happen," Garner said. "And they did."

That inning followed four by the Tigers that saw them score just one run while going 0-for-9 with runners in scoring position.

"I've seen that happen to us several times already," Weaver said. "Our guys start putting too much pressure on themselves when they come up with runners on base, and we don't make anything happen. I just wanted guys to stop worrying about that and just be aggressive at the plate. We were playing like we are expecting to lose."

Weaver said that his tirade was directed at certain players.

"I wanted to light a fire under some of the guys because we were playing timid baseball," he said. "I know that Robert Fick responds to getting yelled at, and sure enough, he hit a homer in the next inning. I respond when people yell at me, so I got to turn the tables."

Fick homered in the fifth and Juan Encarnacion connected in the sixth, a 447-foot drive that tied the game.

"I had the lead and I didn't hang on to it," Royals starter Jeff Suppan said. "I did some good things, but I let Fick and Encarnacion hit the homers. I can't do that."

Kansas City swept the Tigers last week, and now Royals manager Tony Muser wants to make sure that his team

doesn't return the favor.

"Tomorrow is a big swing game," he said. "We need to go out there and win a baseball game."

Sweeney, though, was able to smile while thinking about his trip to Seattle for next week's All-Star game.

"It's going to be great. Last year was something completely new, but this year, I'll be going with Tony Muser, who is coaching, and I'll know a lot of the other players. I'm very thrilled," he said.

Detroit first baseman Tony Clark, who went 0-for-3 Wednesday, was named to a backup spot on the AL All-Star team.

Notes: @ About 50 fans were stuck on the Ferris wheel for about 90 minutes. The Ferris wheel had an air-compressor failure, and the fans had to be removed with fire department cherry pickers. There were no injuries. ... Tigers RHP Brian Moehler had season-ending shoulder surgery Wednesday to repair a torn rotator cuff and labrum. He is expected to be throwing off a mound by spring training. ... Sweeney extended his hitting streak to 12 games.

# Rockies lose two to Padres

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Sterling Hitchcock pitched seven strong innings in his first start in more than a year, and Bubba Trammell hit his first career grand slam as the San Diego Padres beat the Colorado Rockies 8-3 Wednesday night.

Rookie shortstop D'Angelo Jimenez hit his first homer to atone for two errors, and the Padres dropped the Rockies into last place in the NL West. The Rockies have lost 13 of 15.

Hitchcock made his first start since having reconstructive surgery on his left elbow on June 6, 2000. Hitchcock allowed three runs, only one earned, on five hits, struck out five and walked none. Two relievers held the Rockies hitless the final two innings.

Trammell hit Acevedo's first pitch to

center field for a grand slam with two outs in the seventh. Reliever Mike Myers had loaded the bases on Damian Jackson's leadoff single and two-out walks to Phil Nevin and Mike Darr.

The Rockies scored three runs on three hits and a wild pitch in the fifth. Brent Butler, making his big league debut, singled for his first hit and RBI, and Neifi Perez hit a two-run double.

The Padres took the lead in the bottom of the inning off starter Mac Suzuki (0-1). Ben Davis walked and Jimenez followed with a homer to right-center. After striking out Hitchcock, Suzuki allowed the next four batters to reach base. Jackson scored on a throwing error by catcher Ben Petrick and Klesko had an RBI single.

## Padres 6 - Rockies 5

SAN DIEGO (AP) — D'Angelo Jimenez hit San Diego's fourth sacrifice fly of the game — tying the NL record — to lift the Padres over the Colorado Rockies 6-5 Tuesday night.

With the score tied at 5, San Diego loaded the bases in the sixth off reliever Kane Davis (0-3) on singles by Damian Jackson, Wiki Gonzalez and Mark Kotsay. Jimenez put the Padres ahead with his fly.

The major league record for sacrifice flies is five by Seattle against Oakland on Aug. 7, 1988.

Colorado lost for the 11th time in 13 games. The Rockies stranded 11 runners, including seven in scoring position,

## sports briefs

### City-County Recreation scores

- Boys Minor**  
06/26/01  
Waddell & Reed 16 - Heartland Carriers 16  
Dairy Queen 9 - Marshall's Team 8  
People's Natural Gas 11 - Dan Brenner Ford 9  
6/28/01  
Peoples Natural Gas 16 - Marshall's Team 5  
Heartland Carriers 9 - Dan Brenner Ford 8  
Waddell & Reed 20 - Dairy Queen 11
- Boys Rookie**  
06/25/01  
VFV 26 - Wallace County CO-OP 6  
Western State Bank 13 - Flanders Gutting 8  
06/28/01  
Kiwanis 21 - Flanders Gutting 10
- Girls Major**  
06/25/01  
Sunwest Investments 12 - Witzel & Rhea 5  
Crazy R's 25 - Western State Bank 9  
06/26/01  
Applebee's Golf Carts 9 - Van Allen Implement 6  
Bankwest 14 - KWGB 11  
06/28/01  
KC Video 13 - Western State Bank 4  
Witzel & Rhea 18 - KKCI 3  
Crazy R's 17 - Sunwest Investments 10
- Men's**  
06/26/01  
Jackyls 22 - Brew Crew & Bob's Meat Block 6  
Lonny's Quality Auto Body 14 - Century Feeders 3  
Budweiser 11 - B & K Pumping 7  
Inmates 11 - Tap-N-It 0  
Coors 16 - Overhead Door 0  
Coors 11 - Tap-N-It 5
- Topside Co-Ed**  
06/25/01  
Short & Sun 6 (Forfeit) - First National Bank 0  
Sno Shack 13 - Kiwanis 11  
06/28/01  
Sno Shack 11 - Sigco Sun Products 8  
Short & Sun 14 - First National Bank 9  
Kiwanis 13 - First National Bank 2
- Men's**  
06/26/01  
Jackyls 22 - Brew Crew & Bob's Meat Block 6  
Lonny's Quality Auto Body 14 - Century Feeders 3  
Budweiser 11 - B & K Pumping 7  
Inmates 11 - Tap-N-It 0  
Coors 16 - Overhead Door 0  
Coors 11 - Tap-N-It 5

### World's fastest man wins in Switzerland

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Maurice Greene equaled his world-best time this season, winning the 100 meters in 9.90 seconds at the Athletissima Grand Prix against a strong Olympic field.

Triple Olympic champion Marion Jones reaffirmed her status as the top female sprinter, winning the 100 in 11.04, ahead of Ukrainian rival Zhanna Pintusevich.

Greene, the world's fastest man, beat training partner and Olympic silver medalist Ato Boldon of Trinidad, who was .09 back.

Olympic 400-meter hurdles champion American Angelo Taylor set a season's world best, crossing in 47.95 seconds.



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