Royals suffer 34th season loss to Pirates, 13-7

 $PITTSBURGH(AP) - The \, Kansas$ City Royals began the second half of the season just like they ended the first half. Pittsburgh starter Jimmy Anderson was completely different — and that was just the start he wanted.

Anderson didn't look like the struggling pitcher who won only once in nearly two months, pitching 8 1/3 scoreless innings Thursday night to lead the Pirates past the slumping Royals 2-0.

The Royals lost their eighth in a row and were shut out for the second time. Their 34-54 record is one of the worst in franchise history at this stage of the

"We were hoping to start it better than that," Royals manager Tony

Anderson (5-8), however, again tantalized the Pirates with the kind of performance that kept him in the rotation even as he won only four times in his

He didn't walk any — the first time Anderson said. "We had a fresh 0 game, you can't make those misthat's happened in the majors — and yielded only six hits, all singles. The runner past second base before yielding to Mike Williams, who got the final two outs for his 18th save.

Anderson seems to be either very, very good or very, very bad. He allowed 19 runs in his previous four starts, walking 11, yet has pitched shutout ball in four of his five victories.

"He had tremendous stuff," manager Lloyd McClendon said. "He had them offstride all night, and he kept the ball down in the strike zone all night." Anderson has twice taken a shutout

to the ninth inning, but wasn't allowed to finish either game. He pitched eight Suppan (4-8). shutout innings May 19 against Milwaukee before being lifted.

"I would have liked to finish it, but I was starting to get behind in the count to some hitters and we didn't want to take a chance on losing the game,"

bullpen, so I understand the decision."

The Royals had only three more hits, left-handed Anderson didn't allow a all singles, over the final five innings as Anderson won for the first time since beating Cleveland 6-3 on June 15.

> "He kept the ball low, he threw sinkers, changeups and a little breaking ball," Muser said.

> "He did a good job of keeping it out of the middle of the plate. When you do that and pitch down, you've got a real good chance."

> Kevin Young's two-run homer to center in the seventh inning followed John Vander Wal's one-out single and broke up a scoreless pitching duel between Anderson and right-hander Jeff

Young's homer, his eighth, came on a pitch that Suppan left over the middle

"It was a slider that didn't slide," just wasn't in the right location. In a 0takes."

Young, who is batting .221, said, "It was nice to be able to take advantage of a mistake instead of fouling it off."

Suppan was lifted for a pinch-hitter after the seventh, giving up five hits, walking one and striking out three.

Notes: The Pirates lost three of four before the All-Star break, but have won five in a row and 10 of 14 in PNC Park. The Pirates made two excellent de-

fensive plays to support Anderson. Shortstop Jack Wilson made a nice stop of Dave McCarty's grounder up the middle to turn a force play at second to end the eighth.

In the sixth, second baseman Abraham Nunez ranged far into center field for an over-the-shoulder catch of Donnie Sadler's popup.

It was the sixth shutout by the Pirates, three involving Anderson. The Suppan said. "It was the right pitch, it Royals dropped nine in a row last season from April 14-23.

Elway seeking arena team for Denver

DENVER (AP) — Golf and car that carry his name. Elway sold his dealerships just don't seem to be 17 dealerships to AutoNation for enough for former Denver Broncos \$82.5 million in 1997. quarterback John Elway.

after back-to-back Super Bowl NFL, it could help Elway gain titles, is part of a group seeking to executive experience if he wants bring an Arena Football League to pursue another ownership team to Denver, the Rocky Mountain News reported Thursday.

Broncos owner Pat Bowlen and Stan Kroenke, owner of the Colorado Avalanche and Denver Nuggets, would join Elway in the venture. Elway could make a presentation to the Arena League's expansion committee next month, the Arena League, a football hybrid newspaper said.

"We're interested in it. We don't have an arrangement with anyone right now," Don Elliman, president of Kroenke Sports Enterprises, told The Associated Press.

He declined to speak on behalf of in 1992. Bowlen and Elway, but said, "It's not an illogical pairing.'

Elway did not return a telephone message seeking comment. Bowlen seats 17,600 to 20,100 depending was expected to comment when he on the event. returned from an out-of-town trip, his spokeswoman said.

Shortly after his retirement in 1999, Elway was part of a group of executives bidding to add an NFL expansion in Los Angeles. The fran- and padded walls that to keep chise was eventually awarded to punts and field goals in play. An

Celebrity Players Tour and he also films commercials for the several made a significant impact in the AutoNation USA car dealerships NFL.

Though the Arena League does Elway, who retired two years ago not offer the prominence of the stake.

It also is a more affordable way to stay involved in pro football. While NFL franchises cost about \$500 million, Arena League teams sell for \$7 million to \$10

Denver is no stranger to the known for its quirky rules and high-scoring games. The Denver Dynamite was one of the four inaugural franchises when the Arena League began play in 1987, but the team filed for bankruptcy

The league has grown to 19 teams that play in arenas similar to Denver's Pepsi Center, which

The league season runs from April to August and has a style markedly different from the NFL.

Arena football is played on a 50-yard field that includes nets average game features about 95 Elway has been golfing on the points, and only one Arena League player, Kurt Warner, has

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press N.Y. Mets 4, Boston 2 **American League** East Division L Pct GB

New York 35 .598 Boston 37 .580 11/2 46 .483 10 Toronto 48 .454 12 1/2 Baltimore 28 61 .315 25 Tampa Bay **Central Division** L Pct

Minnesota 32 .636 36 .581 Cleveland 50 45 .477 Chicago 14 48 .435 Detroit 17 1/ Kansas City 34 54 22

West Division Pct GB L Seattle 24 .727 43 .511 19 Oakland 45 43 45 .489 Anaheim 52 .409 36

Thursday's Games Chicago Cubs 5, Chicago White Sox

Tampa Bay 10, Montreal 0 Florida 9, N.Y. Yankees 3 Cleveland 7, Cincinnati 0 Pittsburgh 2, Kansas City 0

Toronto 2, Philadelphia 1, 11 innings

Atlanta 6, Baltimore 5 Minnesota 13, Milwaukee 5 Detroit 7, St. Louis 5 Texas 6, Colorado 3 Anaheim 4, Arizona 1

Seattle 4, San Francisco 3, 11 innings Oakland 6, Los Angeles 0

> **National League East Division**

Pct GB W L 50 38 .568 .568 50 38 Philadelphia 45 .494 6 1/2 Florida 39 51 .433 12 New York 37 52 .416 13 1/2 Montreal Central Division

W L

Pct

52 35 .598 Chicago Houston 39 .552 44 .494 St. Louis 43 42 45 .483 10 Milwaukee 53 .391 Pittsburgh 34 18 33 55 .375 Cincinnati 19 1/ West Division

Pct GB .580 51 37 Arizona .539 3 1/2 Los Angeles 48 41 San Francisco 46 .517 5 1/2 43 42 47 .472 9 1/2 San Diego 39 49 .443 12 Colorado

Friday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 6-4) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 8-5), 1:20 p.m.

Kansas City (Durbin 6-8) at Pittsburgh (Ritchie 5-9), 5:05 p.m.

Colorado (Hampton 9-5) at Texas (Helling 5-8), 6:35 p.m. Saturday's Games

N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 12-1) at Florida (Dempster 10-8), 11:05 a.m. Boston (Arrojo 2-2) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 7-4), 11:15 a.m.

Cleveland (Burba 8-6) at Cincinnati (Brower 4-6), 11:15 a.m.

Chicago White Sox (Lowe 4-1) at a.m. Chicago Cubs (Tavarez 6-5), 11:15 Tampa Bay (Rekar 1-10) at

Montreal (Armas Jr. 7-8), 11:35 a.m. Kansas City (Wilson 2-1) at Pittsburgh (D.Williams 1-1), 11:35 a.m. Detroit (Holt 6-7) at St. Louis (Morris 10-5), 12:10 p.m.

San Francisco (Estes 7-3) at Seattle (Moyer 9-4), 2:05 p.m.

Los Angeles (Prokopec 6-4) at Oakland (Zito 6-6), 2:05 p.m. Toronto (Hamilton 4-6) at Philadel-

phia (Figueroa 1-1), 2:05 p.m. Colorado (Chacon 4-5) at Texas

(Davis 4-6), 4 p.m. Baltimore (Roberts 6-7) at Atlanta

(Burkett 6-6), 5:05 p.m.

Minnesota (Milton 8-3) at Milwaukee (Sheets 10-5), 5:05 p.m. San Diego (Jarvis 5-7) at Houston

(Miller 11-3), 6:05 p.m. Arizona (Johnson 11-5) at Anaheim (Washburn 7-4), 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 11:05 a.m. Toronto at N.Y. Mets, 11:10 a.m. Detroit at Cincinnati, 11:15 a.m. Boston at Montreal, 11:35 a.m. N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia, 11:35

Chicago White Sox at Milwaukee, 12:05 p.m.

Minnesota at St. Louis, 12:10 p.m. Kansas City at Chicago Cubs, 12:20 p.m.

Cleveland at Houston, 12:35 p.m. Colorado at Oakland, 2:05 p.m. Baltimore at Florida, 2:05 p.m. Los Angeles at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m. San Diego at Anaheim, 6:05 p.m. Arizona at Seattle, 6:05 p.m.

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Rockies lose to Rangers' batting, 6-3 ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Ivan earned runs, struck out four and walked

Rodriguez homered and Kenny Rogers allowed six hits over seven innings as the Texas Rangers beat the Colorado Rockies 6-3 on Thursday night.

Rodriguez went 3-for-4, and Michael Young had two RBIs for the Rangers, who had lost their previous five meetings with the Rockies.

previous four decisions, gave up two string.

The Rangers hadn't beaten the

Rockies since June 11, 1999. The teams have split their 14 games in interleague play. The slumping Rockies have lost nine

of their last 10 overall.

Colorado's Todd Helton left in the Rogers (5-6), who lost three of his fourthinning with a strained right ham-

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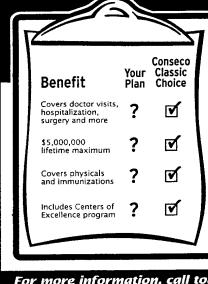
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