

# Pitcher confused by ejection

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Seattle pitchers hit two Kansas City batters and got a warning.

Then Kansas City's pitcher came close to hitting Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki with one out left in the game and was ejected.

"I'm confused. I'm totally confused," Kansas City manager Tony Muser said. "I'm not kidding. I really don't understand it."

The ejection kept Cory Bailey from getting his first major league save. Jason Grimsley came on and got Suzuki to ground out, preserving the Royals' 6-3 victory over the Mariners on Thursday night.

Earlier, the Mariners hit two Royals batters and drew a warning from home plate umpire Jim Joyce.

"It is disappointing," said Bailey, who got the Royals out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth by giving up only one single.

"I thought I was going to get it right

there. It's kind of tough. I wasn't trying to hit him. I was trying to get him inside."

Joyce and Seattle manager Lou Piniella both thought Bailey was trying to hit their All-Star right fielder.

"I don't think there's any doubt Bailey was throwing at Ichiro," Joyce said. "I gave him the benefit of the doubt on the first one. But the second one was right at Ichiro."

Said Piniella, "It was obvious what the pitcher was trying to do. Joyce had no choice but to eject him."

The ninth-inning antics took the spotlight off the second consecutive superbly pitched game by a Royals starter.

Kris Wilson matched his season high with seven innings and outdueled Seattle's Freddy Garcia, the All-Star game winner who allowed just two earned runs in his 25 previous innings.

In the two games with the Mariners, the Royals' starting pitchers gave up

just one run in 15 innings.

"That's pretty good pitching," Muser said. "The pitching's been great. It's too bad we've wasted so much of it by not getting any offense."

Before the ninth-inning events, Carlos Beltran tripled and hit one of Kansas City's five doubles as the Royals handed Garcia his second loss in 13 decisions.

Garcia went four innings, his shortest outing since going 3 1/3 against Oakland on opening day.

The right-hander, who allowed only two earned runs in his previous 25 innings, surrendered nine hits and matched his season high with six earned runs.

"It seemed like he just couldn't get away with a mistake," Piniella said. "He had the ball up all night. But 11-2 — that's a pretty good run. We'll take another run of 11-2."

Three Seattle relievers held the Royals scoreless for the last five innings,

giving their bullpen 27 scoreless innings in a row.

Suzuki wasn't saying if he thought Bailey was trying to hit him.

"You should ask the pitcher or the catcher or the manager," he said through an interpreter. "I really don't know."

Notes: Garcia was also charged with six runs in a no-decision at Toronto on May 12. In a contentious meeting Thursday, supporters of a campaign to build a new baseball stadium downtown sparred with those who want to spend the money renovating Kauffman Stadium. Suzuki grounded into his second double play of the season, a 6-4-3 bouncer in the third. SS Sanchez made two outstanding plays for the Royals. Garcia's first loss was on June 9 when he gave up four runs on six hits in a 6-3 loss to San Diego. Piniella still needs one win to become the fourth active manager with 700 victories with his current club.

# baseball scoreboard

American League				
By The Associated Press				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	56	39	.590	—
Boston	55	40	.579	1
Toronto	45	51	.469	11 1/2
Baltimore	41	53	.436	14 1/2
Tampa Bay	30	66	.312	26 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	58	37	.610	—
Cleveland	54	39	.581	3
Chicago	46	47	.495	11
Detroit	42	51	.452	15
Kansas City	37	58	.389	21
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	68	27	.716	—
Oakland	50	45	.526	18
Anaheim	47	48	.495	21
Texas	39	55	.415	28 1/2
Thursday's Games				
Anaheim 2, Tampa Bay 1				
Toronto 4, Boston 3				
Detroit 11, N.Y. Yankees 2				
Minnesota 12, Oakland 10				
Kansas City 6, Seattle 3				
Cleveland 10, Chicago White Sox 3				
Texas at Baltimore, ppd, hazardous conditions, 1st game				
Texas at Baltimore, ppd, hazardous conditions, 2nd game				
Friday's Games				
Anaheim (Ortiz 7-7) at Baltimore (Towers 6-4), 5:05 p.m.				
Toronto (Loaiza 5-9) at N.Y. Yankees				

(Jodie 0-0), 5:05 p.m.				
Detroit (Holt 6-7) at Cleveland (Westbrook 2-1), 5:05 p.m.				
Texas (Davis 4-7) at Tampa Bay (Lopez 5-11), 5:15 p.m.				
Seattle (Sele 11-1) at Minnesota (Mays 11-6), 6:05 p.m.				
Boston (Nomo 9-4) at Chicago White Sox (Biddle 2-5), 6:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Lidle 3-4) at Kansas City (Byrd 1-3), 6:05 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Seattle (Pineiro 0-0) at Minnesota (Johnson 0-0), 11:05 a.m.				
Detroit (Pettyjohn 0-1) at Cleveland (Nagy 3-3), 11:15 a.m.				
Boston (Ohka 2-4) at Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 6-5), 11:15 a.m.				
Texas (Bell 3-0) at Tampa Bay (Rupe 4-8), 2:15 p.m.				
Toronto (Halladay 1-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 9-8), 2:35 p.m.				
Anaheim (Rapp 3-9) at Baltimore (Mercedes 4-10), 5:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Heredia 5-7) at Kansas City (Reichert 8-7), 6:05 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Detroit at Cleveland, 11:05 a.m.				
Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 11:05 a.m.				
Texas at Tampa Bay, 11:15 a.m.				
Anaheim at Baltimore, 11:35 a.m.				
Seattle at Minnesota, 12:05 p.m.				
Boston at Chicago White Sox, 12:05 p.m.				
Oakland at Kansas City, 6:05 p.m.				
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB

Atlanta	54	41	.568	—
Philadelphia	52	43	.547	2
Florida	49	47	.510	5 1/2
New York	44	53	.454	11
Montreal	42	54	.438	12 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	55	39	.585	—
Houston	52	42	.553	3
St. Louis	48	46	.511	7
Milwaukee	43	51	.457	12
Pittsburgh	36	58	.383	19
Cincinnati	35	60	.368	20 1/2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	55	40	.579	—
Los Angeles	54	42	.562	1 1/2
San Francisco	51	45	.531	4 1/2
San Diego	45	51	.469	10 1/2
Colorado	40	55	.421	15
Thursday's Games				
Florida 8, N.Y. Mets 3				
Atlanta 2, Cincinnati 1				
Montreal 5, Philadelphia 2				
Arizona 3, San Diego 0, cont. of susp. game				
San Diego 8, Arizona 4				
St. Louis 4, Houston 1				
Los Angeles 8, Milwaukee 6				
Pittsburgh 3, Chicago Cubs 2				
San Francisco 2, Colorado 1				
Friday's Games				
N.Y. Mets (Reed 8-4) at Philadelphia (Person 7-5), 5:05 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Acevedo 2-1) at Florida (Clement 5-6), 5:05 p.m.				
Montreal (Thurman 4-6) at Atlanta				

(Millwood 1-3), 5:35 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Lieber 12-4) at Houston (Redding 2-0), 6:05 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Schmidt 5-5) at St. Louis (Hermanson 7-7), 6:10 p.m.				
Los Angeles (Prokopec 6-4) at Colorado (Bohanon 4-5), 7:05 p.m.				
Milwaukee (Sheets 10-6) at San Diego (Hitchcock 1-0), 8:05 p.m.				
Arizona (Batista 5-5) at San Francisco (Hernandez 7-11), 8:35 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Los Angeles (Gagne 2-4) at Colorado (Neagle 6-3), 2:05 p.m.				
Arizona (Batista 5-5) at San Francisco (Jensen 0-1), 2:05 p.m.				
Montreal (Munoz 0-0) at Atlanta (Marquis 2-3), 5:05 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Davis 2-1) at Florida (Penny 7-3), 5:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 3-10) at Philadelphia (Wolf 5-9), 5:05 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Tapani 8-7) at Houston (Micki 1-0), 6:05 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Beimel 4-5) at St. Louis (Smith 1-0), 6:10 p.m.				
Milwaukee (Suzuki 0-2) at San Diego (Tollberg 3-3), 8:05 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Montreal at Atlanta, 11:05 a.m.				
N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia, 11:35 a.m.				
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 12:10 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs at Houston, 12:35 p.m.				
Los Angeles at Colorado, 1:05 p.m.				
Cincinnati at Florida, 2:05 p.m.				
Arizona at San Francisco, 2:05 p.m.				
Milwaukee at San Diego, 3:00 p.m.				

# Volleyball camp to be held here

A volleyball camp will be held next week at the Max Jones Field House in Goodland to help volleyball players to improve their skills. Two skilled coaches will be there to help volleyball players in grades 5-12 to get ready for the upcoming volleyball season. Jason Holt is currently the assistant coach at Fort Hays State University. He has coached volleyball 11 years at high schools, clubs and camps in Oregon, Colorado and Kansas. He was Oregon's coach of the year for 1996 and has an overall record as a head coach of 90-23. Brandon Hoffman, the other

coach for the camp, is currently the 15-1 head coach for the Front Range Volleyball club. He is also the junior varsity head coach at Highlands Ranch High School in Highlands Ranch, Colo. The camp will be from 9 a.m.-noon Monday-Thursday for grades 5-8 and 5-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday for high school students. Athletes interested in participating can register at the door. There will be a fee for the camp, and athletes must have a parent or guardian sign a release to participate. Registration will be at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Monday morning.

# Giants beat Rockies with runs in ninth

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Jeff Kent drew a bases-loaded walk after Colorado reliever Juan Acevedo intentionally walked Barry Bonds, and the San Francisco Giants rallied for two runs in the ninth inning to beat the Rockies 2-1 Thursday night. The Rockies lost their fifth in a row as Acevedo slipped to 0-for-5 in save chances. Felipe Crespo drew a two-out walk from Acevedo (0-2) in the ninth and went to second on Marvin Benard's single. Ramon Martinez's single tied it at 1. After Acevedo walked Bonds, he walked Kent on four pitches to end it. Acevedo has not had a save since 1999 in St. Louis. Felix Rodriguez (5-1) started the eighth inning to earn the win. Home run leader Barry Bonds, who

connected twice Wednesday night before leaving the game with back spasms, was back in the Giants' lineup. He was 0-for-2 with three walks. Bonds remained steady at 42 home runs this season, matching Yankee great Mickey Mantle on the career list with 563. "I'm still a little sore, but nothing like yesterday," he said. Ben Petrick's RBI single in the sixth off Shawn Estes gave Colorado a 1-0 lead and was the Rockies' first run in 18 innings. Petrick scored Todd Helton, who struck out but reached on a passed ball. Colorado rookie starter Shawn Chacon allowed seven hits but no runs over seven innings, striking out seven and walking three. Before the ninth, the closest the Giants came to scoring was in the fifth.

# Falcons push No. 1 draft pick up chart

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — The Atlanta Falcons are pushing Michael Vick up the depth chart. The No. 1 pick in the NFL draft began his first training camp Thursday with the surprising news that he's already listed as the Falcons' backup quarterback. Chris Chandler remains the starter, but Vick worked with the second team ahead of Eric Zeier and Doug Johnson. "We've got to get Michael ready as quick as we can," coach Dan Reeves said. "The only way we're going to get him ready is to get him involved." Zeier, the former Georgia quarterback who has started 12 games in a six-year career, was expected to come in as the backup to Chandler. Even Vick didn't realize that he's listed as No. 2. "No, we haven't talked about it," he said. "As far as I know, things are still the same." Vick did get a taste of being an NFL rookie. He had to carry a teammate's pads besides his own after practice. He knows he'll be called on to belt out a tune at one of the team dinners. "I know a few songs," he said. "Maybe I'll try 'We Are The World.'" Several hundred people showed up on a cloudy day at Furman University to watch his Falcons debut. In a testament to his popularity, the only jersey on sale at a concession stand above the practice field was No. 7 — Vick's number.

Vick looked a little shaky in his first practice, understandable for a 21-year-old quarterback who played only 22 games at Virginia Tech before entering the NFL draft. He overthrew passes, double-pumped while trying to pick up open receivers and let the play clock run out a couple of times before getting off the snap. "I was a little rusty," Vick said. "But I'll get better and better every day. If I make a mistake one day, I shouldn't make the same mistake the next day." The rookie didn't get a chance to show off his speed and elusiveness. First, he must learn Reeves' playbook, which is well-known for its convoluted terminology. "He had good command in the huddle for a young guy," Reeves said. "He's working very hard at it. We're doing everything we possibly can to expose him to as much as we possibly can." The coach did stamp out any speculation he plans to use Vick at other positions to get him on the field more often. "We're not going to make him a slash-running back or a slash-wide receiver," Reeves said. "We're going to focus on him as a quarterback."

The Falcons are coming up with a reduced package of plays that can be used exclusively by Vick, a way to ease his transition to the NFL. "He can cause a defense a lot of problems," Reeves said. "We want to make sure he's comfortable." Working with the second-team offense, Vick admitted he's got a long way to go before he's ready to start in the NFL. "I've got to get to the point where I'm not thinking too much," he said. "It's very fast out there, very fast. But I'm learning." The 35-year-old Chandler, who guided Atlanta to the Super Bowl just three years ago, is clearly the No. 1 quarterback despite coming off a sub-par season. Playing behind a dismal offensive line, he was briefly demoted to the third team as the Falcons struggled to 4-12, last in the NFC West. Chandler said it's important to bring Vick along slowly and relished the idea of playing a role in his development.

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# Tiger Woods struggles to match par at Open

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England (AP) — Colin Montgomerie punctuated a triumphant opening round of 65 with a long birdie putt on the final hole, while Tiger Woods struggled to match par in his first defense at the British Open. Trying to put a history of Open failures behind him, Montgomerie shot a 30 on the front nine before capping his round with a 40-foot birdie putt before a cheering, adoring crowd packed into bleachers at the 18th hole. The 6-under-par round was three less than Brad Faxon and six ahead of Woods, who found both the deep rough and the sand at Royal Lytham & St. Annes before finishing with a par 71. David Duval also felt good after an opening 69 that put him in a crowd at 2-under, while Phil Mickelson had back-to-back eagles on the front nine but still had to settle for a 1-under 70.

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (AP) — Nancy Scranton capped a 7-under-par 64 with a 10-foot eagle putt and held a two-stroke lead over Michele Redman after the opening round of the LPGA Big Apple Classic. Redman, who won this tournament in 1997, closed with two birdies for her 66 on the hilly, tree-lined layout. Hee-Won Han, a rookie from South Korea, closed her 67 with a 20-foot birdie putt on No. 9. Kris Tschetter, Wendy Ward, Mi Hyun Kim, Laura Diaz, Jenny Park-Choi and Betsy King had 68s. ENDICOTT, N.Y. (AP) — Seventeen-year-old amateur Ty Tyrone shot a 7-under 65 and was tied for the lead with Edward Fryatt after the first round of the B.C. Open. Garrett Willis, Brad Fabel, Brian Watts, Mark Hensby and Jeff Hart opened with 66s, and 12 players were at 5 under.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Dikembe Mutombo, the NBA's defensive player of the year, signed a four-year deal worth more than \$65 million to stay with the Philadelphia 76ers. The Sixers had the NBA's best record, 41-14, when they acquired Mutombo from Atlanta in a six-player deal just hours before the trade deadline on Feb. 22.

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# McGwire surprised by 566th career homer

HOUSTON (AP) — Mark McGwire didn't think he had hit a home run. "I knew I hit it good, but it surprised me," he said. "I thought maybe if they didn't catch it, maybe I'd get a triple." McGwire's three-run homer, the 566th of his career, led the St. Louis Cardinals over the Houston Astros 4-1 Thursday. The 441-foot drive was the second-longest at Enron Field this year behind the Dodgers' Shawn Green, who hit one 449 feet on June 3. The longest drive was 458 feet by San Francisco's Barry Bonds last Sept. 13. McGwire, who missed 36 games with right knee problems earlier this year, came in hitting .193, but went 3-for-7 with two home runs to increase his average to .204. "He's dangerous," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "He's a clutch

hitter and he's starting to feel good. I know he's happy because this is what he wants to do, help the team." Matt Morris (12-5) allowed five hits in eight innings and struck out nine. "Just one swing of the bat from him can make the difference any time," Morris said of McGwire. "He can do some damage. We all know that. He got a good swing. I think he's starting to get his timing back." Houston is 4-4 since the All-Star break after winning 12 of its previous 15. The Astros were amazed McGwire hit that pitch out. "It's pretty tough to hit that pitch out over the center-field wall but I guess that's why he has over 500 home runs," manager Larry Dierker. Wade Miller (11-5), who allowed four runs, four hits and four walks in seven innings, was upset he walked Jim Edmonds just before the McGwire homer.

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