

# Injured Hinrich helps Kansas win

By Doug Tucker  
*AP Sports Writer*

ST. LOUIS — Even with a bad ankle, Kirk Hinrich was a force for top-seeded Kansas.

Hinrich, playing with a brace on the left ankle he sprained two days earlier, scored 15 points as the Jayhawks routed Stanford 86-63 in a second-round Midwest Regional game Saturday night.

Kansas (31-3) used a 15-0 run to open the game against the eighth-seeded Cardinal, and then closed the first half on a 10-0 run, capped by Hinrich's jumper, to head into the locker room with a 48-26 halftime lead.

After losing to Oklahoma in the Big 12 tournament final last Sunday and struggling to beat 16th-seeded Holy Cross on Thursday, the Jayhawks appeared to regain the rhythm and flow of the three-guard offense that made them the nation's highest-scoring team with more than 91 points a game.

Their lead over Stanford (20-10), rose to 31 points twice in the waning minutes, the last with 5:09 left when Drew Gooden hit from inside for an 82-51 lead.

Jeff Boschee had 19 points and Nick Collison, who had five points and six turnovers in the ragged 70-59 victory over Holy Cross, rebounded with 17 points and 13 rebounds for the Jayhawks, who will make their second straight trip to the round of 16.

Hinrich, whose status was in doubt until game time, came off the bench with 13:05 left in the first half, bringing a roar from several thousand Kansas fans who feared he might be through for the year.

Less than three minutes later, after Stanford's Curtis Borchardt shot an air ball, Hinrich pulled up and hit a jumper to make it 23-9.

After Josh Childress hit for Stanford, Hinrich drilled a 3-pointer at the 10:06 mark. With 7:56 left in the half, he hit another long 3 to put the Jayhawks up 31-15.

The 6-foot-3 Hinrich, the Jayhawks' best defender also spent much of the game guarding Casey Jacobsen, Stanford's 6-6 swingman who had 24 points.

Gooden, the Jayhawks' All-America junior forward, had just four points in the first half but finished with a total of 15.

Three minutes into the second half, Gooden stole the ball at midcourt and drove for a big dunk to give Kansas a 58-32 lead. With 13:40 left, Boschee stole a pass and threw the ball to Hinrich streaking down court, who fed Gooden for a layup. The Jayhawks took a 65-37 lead moments later when Hinrich hit another long 3. He was 3-of-4 from 3-point range, and 6-of-9 overall.

Borchardt had 13 points and 11 rebounds, his 17th double-double for Stanford, which never mounted even a mild threat after Kansas hit six of its first eight shots and forced the Pac-10 runners-up into five turnovers in the opening minutes.

Kansas will play Illinois on Friday, time to be announced.

## Getting ready



Stephanie Fairbanks fielded a ground ball and threw it back to home plate at aCowgirls' softball practice last week.  
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

# Rockies play three

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The Colorado Rockies played three games this weekend, losing twice to Arizona and beating the Giants.

Shortstop Tim Olson committed four of Arizona's 10 errors but had an RBI single in the ninth to lift the Diamondbacks to a 10-9 victory over the Rockies in a split-squad game on Sunday.

Colorado starter Mike Hampton and Arizona's Randy Johnson both struggled. Each gave up five runs and eight hits over four innings. But only two of runs against Johnson were earned.

Olson made two of his errors in the fifth, including a bad throw that allowed Ryan Owens and Ben Petrick to score and gave Colorado an 8-6 lead.

Third baseman Chris Donnels made two errors, and second baseman Junior Spivey, catcher Chad Moeller, third baseman Robbie Hammock and right fielder Doug Devore also committed errors.

It was Hampton's third straight rough outing. He gave up two homers, walked five and struck out three. In his past 9 1-3 innings, Hampton has allowed 14 runs and walked 13 batters.

Johnson had limited opponents to just three hits over 11 shutout innings

in his previous three starts.

The Rockies lost to Arizona 2-1 in the game on Saturday.

Larry Walker hit a home run and Gary Bennett and Juan Uribe each had three hits as the Rockies defeated the San Francisco Giants 10-8 Sunday.

Reggie Sanders had two hits and drove in three runs for the Giants, who had their four-game winning streak snapped. Damon Minor hit his fifth home run, and David Bell also homered.

Mike James pitched the fourth to pick up the win. Jason Christensen, making his first appearance since March 1, took the loss.

Chris Holt made his first start of the spring after four relief appearances. He went three innings, allowing five runs, six hits and two walks.

Giants starter Joe Nathan allowed three runs and seven hits in four innings with two walks and a strikeout.

Uribe, who has a team-high 20 hits, was 3-for-5, with a single, double and triple.

The Rockies scored three runs in the fifth to take the lead for good. Benny Agbayani walked and scored when Mike Bell tripled. Bennett and John Barnes each followed with RBI doubles.

# Woods wins at Bay Hill

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Tiger Woods began his march to the Masters with his first victory of the year, a four-shot margin at the Bay Hill Invitational that was secured by Phil Mickelson's blunders on the closing holes.

Trailing Mickelson by one stroke at the turn, Woods played mistake-free when the pressure was at its peak and closed with a 3-under 69 to become the first player to win Arnold Palmer's tournament three years in a row.

Woods finished at 275 and won for the 30th time in his career. At age 26, he is the youngest player in PGA Tour history to reach that benchmark.

Mickelson closed with three straight bogeys and finished at 71, in a tie for third, five strokes behind.

Michael Campbell of New Zealand holed a 42-foot chip on the 18th for birdie to close with a 71 and finish second at 279, his best finish ever on the PGA Tour.

## bowling results

<b>Monday Afternoon Ladies' League</b> <b>March 4</b> Medical Arts Pharmacy over Clawson's 3-1 Mann's Jewelry over Callahan's 3-1 Bowladium Lanes over KLOE 4-0 <b>Individual high game:</b> Diana Nichols-237 <b>Individual high series:</b> Diana Nichols-612 <b>High team game:</b> Mann's Jewelry-663 <b>High team series:</b> Mann's Jewelry-1,849 <b>Standings:</b> Bowladium Lanes 19, 9; Medical Arts Pharmacy 18, 14; KLOE 16 1/2, 15 1/2 <b>Tuesday Night Alibi League</b> <b>March 5</b> Shelter Insurance over Safari 3-1 Ahead of the Times over Hitchcock's 4-0 Bumper Babes over Best Foods 4-0 <b>High individual game:</b> Mary Keihl-192 <b>High individual series:</b> Diane Luther-533 <b>High team game:</b> Ahead of the Times-822 <b>High team series:</b> Ahead of the Times-2,375 <b>Standings:</b> Shelter Insurance 69, 27; Ahead of the Times 57, 39; Hitchcock's 52 1/2, 43 1/2; Best Foods 39, 57; Safari 37, 59; Bumper Babes 34 1/2, 61 1/2 <b>Wednesday Morning Coffee League</b> <b>March 6</b> Mr. Jim's over WOF 3-1 BEMs over Brady Bunch 4-0 Lonny's Quality Auto Body over McClung's Appliances 2 1/2-1 1/2 <b>High individual game:</b> Lori Amthor-225 <b>High individual series:</b> Lori Amthor-564 <b>High team game:</b> Lonny's Quality Auto Body-540 <b>High team series:</b> Lonny's Quality Auto Body-1,437 <b>March 13</b> Lonny's Quality Auto Body over BEMs 3-1 WOF over McClung's Appliances 3-1 Mr. Jim's over Brady Bunch 4-0 <b>High individual game:</b> Nancy Kear-201	<b>High individual series:</b> Mary Keihl-537 <b>High team game:</b> Mr. Jim's-527 <b>High team series:</b> Mr. Jim's-1,464 <b>Standings:</b> BEMs 58 1/2, 49 1/2; McClungs Appliances 58, 50; Lonny's Quality Auto Body 54, 54; Brady Bunch 54, 54; WOF 50, 58; Mr. Jim's 49 1/2, 58 1/2 <b>Wednesday Night Men's Scratch Classic</b> <b>League</b> <b>March 13</b> Bowladium Lanes over Basgall Construction 16 1/2-3 1/2 Western Kansas Valley over Fitzgibbon's 18-2 Sigco over ProLine 13-7 L&M Steel over Weber Kennels 12-8 <b>High individual game:</b> Darren Hickson-268 <b>High individual series:</b> Darren Hickson-910 <b>High team game:</b> Bowladium Lanes-680 <b>High team series:</b> Bowladium Lanes-2,456 <b>Standings:</b> Bowladium Lanes 42 1/2, 17 1/2; Sigco 42, 18; L&M Steel 37, 23; Fitzgibbon's 30 1/2, 29 1/2; ProLine 24 1/2, 35 1/2; Weber Kennels 16, 44; Basgall Construction 14 1/2, 45 1/2 <b>Wednesday Night Mixed League</b> <b>March 13</b> Mueller Grain over Phillips Brothers 4-0 D&G Clan over Goodland Sheet Metal 4-0 Muddslingers over Kanorado Coop 4-0 Blossom Shoppe over Gamblers 3-1 Guzzlin Socializers over Kickers 3-1 Shear Dimensions over Phantoms 4-0 <b>Women's high game:</b> Betty Wright-194 <b>Women's high series:</b> Alice Nemechek-514 <b>Men's high game:</b> Melvin Musil Sr.-224 <b>Men's high series:</b> Melvin Musil Sr.-585 <b>Team high game:</b> D&G Clan-844 <b>Team high series:</b> Shear Dimensions-2,451 <b>Standings:</b> Mueller Grain 74 1/2, 41 1/2; Kanorado Coop 74, 42; Gamblers 69, 47; Shear Dimensions 68, 48; D&G Clan 66 1/2, 49 1/2.
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# Kris Wilson looking to fill spot on Royal's roster

HAINES CITY, Fla. (AP) — Right-hander Kris Wilson hopes to land the final spot in the Royals' rotation despite a sore elbow and a late start this spring.

Kansas City's pitcher of the month last July, Wilson didn't throw in a game this spring until March 9, the team's ninth Grapefruit League outing.

Wilson, 25, has made three one-inning relief appearances this spring, allowing two hits and one run.

Pain that contributed to Wilson's troubles late last season resurfaced with he threw off the mound in February before reporting to Florida. He notified the Royals, which ordered a dye-injected MRI of the elbow, revealing a bone spur, some fraying and an inflamed ligament.

"For 10 days after the MRI, I didn't even touch a ball, which put me behind the others," Wilson said.

"I feel I'm a week behind now, where I was two weeks behind," he said. "I think I'll come out of spring training 100 percent and ready to go. Everyday is more encouraging."

"If I didn't report it until a week into spring training and say, 'my arm is killing me,' than that would have killed the whole spring training. I'm sure it helped me reporting it early."

Wilson knows it's just a matter of time until he'll likely need arthroscopic surgery on the elbow, but he's hoping that will be later rather than sooner.

"Some days are better than others," Wilson said. "It flared up (in February) and cost me to be behind a little bit. When we had the chilly weather (earlier in spring training), it took me awhile to get loose."

"Lately it has felt good with the warm weather. Now it just a matter of getting my arm in shape."

Last July, Wilson went 3-0 with a 2.08 ERA in three consecutive starts, earning the team's monthly honor. He was 5-1 with a 3.55 ERA in his first seven starts of the season, but after an Aug. 9 victory over Baltimore, he did not win again.

He was 0-3 with an 8.75 ERA in his final six starts, lasting more than five innings in only one of those starts.

He finally conceded that his elbow was aching and he did not pitch after Sept. 21, when he lasted just four innings and gave up five runs against the Chicago White Sox.

He had an 11.45 ERA in three September starts.

Wilson finished 6-5 with a 5.19 ERA in 29 games, including 15 starts.

"It was a fairly successful season," said Wilson, also a candidate for the bullpen. "I didn't finish the way I wanted to. I learned so much. I had some great experiences and a lot of failures. I got to learn from the failures, and I'm not going to make the same mistakes that I made last year."

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