

# Avalanche get into playoffs

DENVER (AP) — When the Colorado Avalanche play at home next, they will be in the first two rounds of the playoffs.

The Dallas Stars are just going home.

Steven Reinprecht scored with 2:59 left in regulation as Colorado tied Dallas 2-2 on Sunday to secure the second playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Colorado finished in a tie with San Jose at 99 points, but the Avalanche earned the higher seed by winning 45 games to the Sharks' 44. The Avalanche will face Los Angeles Kings, beginning Thursday in Denver.

Dallas, which won the Stanley Cup in 1999, finished its worst season since scoring 66 points in 1995-96.

"I don't feel badly for them," Colorado's Mike Keane, who played on the Stars' cup-winning team. "You feel badly for some players, because I know them pretty well. Still, any time one of the better teams get knocked out, you are happy. You have to play one less dangerous team with a lot of talent."

Colorado had several near-misses in the first two periods, but didn't score until Alex Tanguay circled around the net and beat Marty Turco on a power play 39 seconds into the third.

Brenden Morrow put Dallas up 2-1 with 9:14 left by ducking out of the way from a shot by Sergei Zubov. Morrow nearly got hit in the head on Zubov's high shot from near the blue line, and knocked the puck in past Patrick Roy after throwing his elbow up.

"It was coming on my face, and I moved so it hit me in the elbow and went down," said Morrow, who finished with 17 goals this season. "I think I read the 'Official NHL Puck' on the side as it was coming at me, so I got out of the way."

Turco was solid in the net and appeared to have the Avalanche headed toward a third-place finish in the West, but Reinprecht beat him on a breakaway.

Turco stopped 27 shots. Roy, who stopped 32 shots, allowed two or fewer goals for the 22nd time in 29 starts. He finished with a career-best nine shutouts and won 33 games, tying Tony Esposito for most consecutive 30-win seasons (7).

Roy also won the Williams H. Jennings Trophy for allowing the fewest goals this season (122).

"It is my best year," said Roy, who beat Dallas for the fifth time in six games. "Consistency was the key. I was consistent all year from the beginning of the season. It was a good year."

# Kansas State loses to Aggies

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Rusty Meyer and Neal Stephenson hit back-to-back solo home runs in the fourth inning and Texas A&M withstood a three-run rally by Kansas State in the ninth for a 6-5 victory Sunday.

The Aggies (28-13, 9-6 Big 12) took a 3-0 lead in the fourth after the two homers and an RBI single by David Evans.

Kansas State (19-16, 6-6) loaded the bases with none out in the sixth, but Aggie reliever Matt Farnum closed the Wildcats down.

Texas A&M improved its lead to 4-0 on Eddie Lang's single that scored pinch hitter Ryan Wardinsky.

The Wildcats got two runs in the top of the seventh on an RBI single by Nick Sorensen and an RBI double by Osmar

# Golfing along the Sappa



Goodland golfer Brandon Cowan took a swing Saturday at a tournament in Oberlin. The golf teams play Tuesday, the varsity in Scott City and the junior varsity at home at Sugar Hills Golf Club. Photo by Cynthia Haynes/The Oberlin Herald

# Sooners getting yardage at practice

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Nate Hybl passed for 200 yards and two touchdowns and the Oklahoma rushing attack gained 132 yards in a Sunday afternoon scrimmage.

The scrimmage had originally been scheduled for Saturday but had to be postponed because of heavy rains in the area.

Hybl was 12-for-18 and connected with receiver Brandon Jones for both scores.

One was a 15-yard strike and the other one was from 44 yards. Hybl also had two interceptions.

Brent Rawls was 7-of-15 for 122 yards, including a 49-yard TD to Will

Peoples.

Of the 63 plays run, 41 were on the ground for 132 yards. Aside from seven quarterback sacks, the running backs gained 135 yards on 28 attempts.

Renaldo Works ran for 34 yards on eight carries to lead all rushers in the scrimmage.

"There is no question that we're getting more physical play out of our offensive line than any time since we've been here," said coach Bob Stoops.

Linebacker Teddy Lehman had eight tackles to lead the defense.

Tommie Harris practiced for the first time in a week and got past the defense for two sacks on the quarterback in the

scrimmage.

Cornerback Derrick Strait, safety Brandon Everage and end Dan Cody did not play.

"I thought they (the defensive unit) were really solid and made some good stops," Stoops said.

The coach said his team isn't perfect, but it's trying to get there.

"There were a few mistakes here and there," he said, "but that's a sign of what our offense is doing, plus we're missing guys like, Derrick, Brandon and Dan."

The Sooners have four practices left this spring, including the annual Red/White game Saturday.

# Oakley track meet to draw hundreds

Grade school and middle school kids will get a chance to test their speed, endurance and strength at a track meet in Oakley on Saturday.

About 300-400 kids from all over western Kansas are expected to show up at the Oakley Booster Track Meet, said director Jason Robben, a Goodland native.

"We usually get some kids from Garden City, Dodge City," he said, "even some from Hays."

This is the third year Robben has helped put the annual meet together. He said he used to compete in it when he was in school in Goodland.

"It helps kids get in shape, participate in an activity and compete," said Robben, a math teacher and track and cross country coach at Oakley High School.

Registration starts at 8 a.m. and events begin at 9 a.m. The events should be over by 5:30 p.m., Robben said. Pre-registration isn't necessary, said Robben, although it would help.

Most track and field events will be

offered except the javelin throw and pole vault.

"Those aren't something younger kids should probably be doing," Robben said.

Any kid age 14 or under can compete, Robben said, except for those who are on a middle school track team.

"This is for kids who aren't already competing in a school program," he said.

The youngest division is 8 and under, but Robben said kids as young as 6 have competed in the past.

It costs \$6 per person to enter, Robben said, and there is a limit of three events.

To pre-register, mail a student's age, planned events and phone number to Robben at Box 11, Oakley, Kan., 67748. If there is a scheduling conflict, Robben said an organizer will call.

A list of other area youth meets can be found at [www.aau.org](http://www.aau.org), he said.

"It should be fun," Robben said. "With this many kids, it should be a blast."

# Astros beat St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Billy Wagner's first save of the season was a big one for the Houston Astros.

Wagner worked a scoreless ninth as the Astros, after leading by four runs in the fifth inning, ended a four-game losing streak and avoided a three-game sweep with a 5-4 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Sunday.

Wagner had 39 saves in 41 chances last year, but the 12th game of the season presented him with his first opportunity of this season and he confessed to some anxiety.

"It gets harder when you have to wait longer," Wagner said. "If you get that save out of the way right out of the way right out of the chute, you're OK, but when you have to pitch in a bunch of meaningless games. ..."

This one snapped the five-game winning streak of the Astros' chief rivals in the NL Central, who have taken two of three from Houston the last two weekends.

The teams had identical records last year, but the Houston Astros won the division based on head-to-head competition.

Wagner had to get by the heart of the Cardinals' order. J.D. Drew reached on an error by shortstop Adam Everett and advanced on a groundout by Albert Pujols.

Wagner struck out Jim Edmonds, whose two-run homer cut the gap to a run in the seventh, and benefited from a running catch by right fielder Richard Hidalgo on pinch-hitter Placido Polanco's drive to end it.

Manager Jimmy Williams said he hadn't been nervous when Hidalgo leaped and then grabbed the ball on the way down.

"No, because if you hold your breath too long, you're going to pass out," Williams said. "You just hope gravity grabs that ball a little bit and it goes in that glove out there and fortunately it did for us."

Shane Reynolds allowed one earned run in 5 1-3 innings for the Astros. Lance Berkman, Daryle Ward, Geoff Blum and Everett drove in a run apiece.

St. Louis' Eli Marrero was 3-for-3 with two steals and an intentional walk and is batting .567 (17-for-30) with a home run and six RBIs.

# bowling results

**Happy Our Bowling League**  
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Bowladium Lanes over Kanorado Coop Rasure Lumber over Blind Team 4 to 0

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KMA over Wheat Ridge Farms 3 to 1

**High individual game:** Mark Koenig-257  
**High individual series:** Mark Koenig-692

**High team game:** Pocket Rockets-856  
**High team series:** Bowladium Lanes-2,438

**Standings:** Bowladium Lanes 27, 9; Rasure Lumber 23, 13; KMA 22, 14

# Rain holds Indians' streak

CLEVELAND (AP) — When they were informed that the series finale against Kansas City was a wash, several Cleveland Indians fans waiting outside Jacobs Field walked away.

They weren't happy.

Neither was their favorite first baseman.

"Hey, when you're playing like we are right now," Jim Thome said, "you want to be out there every day."

Rain finally slowed down Cleveland, whose 10-game winning streak was on hold after the finale of their season-opening homestand was put off for a while because of bad weather on Sunday.

No makeup date was announced.

Cleveland (11-1), off to its best start since opening 1966 at 14-1, will have an off day Monday before opening a four-game series in Chicago on Tuesday.

Thome didn't want the rest.

On Saturday, he homered for the fourth straight game as Cleveland ral-

lied from five runs down in the eighth inning to beat the Royals 8-7.

"It would have been nice to get out there again," he said Sunday. "Especially after the way we won yesterday. You like to get back out there and have some more fun when you're playing like this. This has been a great start."

Matt Lawton hit a three-run homer in Cleveland's five-run eighth Saturday, and the Indians won it in the bottom of the ninth on a wild pitch.

The comeback win was the 93rd time the Indians have won in their last at-bat at home since the Jake opened in 1994.

The Royals are also off on Monday and will play at Minnesota on Tuesday night.

Manager Tony Muser said Dan Reichert will be pushed back and start the opener against Twins right-hander Rick Reed.

The Indians currently have the best record of any team in the major leagues.

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**Goodland All-Star Booster Club**

**Monday, April 15** - No School - Teacher Inservice; Boys Golf at Hays, 1 p.m.; Tech Night 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 16** - 6th Grade Music Program HS Auditorium, 7 p.m.; Boys JV Tennis at Colby, 12:00; Boys JV Golf in Goodland, 1 p.m.; Boys Golf at Scott City, 2 p.m.; Track at Scott City, 9 a.m.; JV-V SB with Hays, 3 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 17** - Technology Comm. Meeting, 3:45 p.m.; High School Large Group Music Contest.  
**Thursday, April 18** - High School Large Group Music Contest; Boys JV Tennis at WaKeeney, 8:30 a.m.; Boys Tennis - Goodland Invitational, 2 p.m.; Elementary School National Saving's Day (extra bank day); Kindergarten Round-up; JH Track Quad at Oakley, 2 p.m.  
**Friday, April 19** - National DECA Career Development Conference, Salt Lake City, UT; Track at Holcomb, 2 p.m.; Kindergarten Round-up.  
**Saturday, April 20** - Boys Tennis at Scott City, 8 a.m.; National DECA Career Development Conference, Salt Lake City, UT; JH Goodland Invitational Track Meet, 9 a.m.; Power Lifting Meeting at MJFH, 8 a.m. - noon.  
**Monday, April 22** - JV-V SB at Ulysses, 2 p.m.; National DECA Career Development Conference, Salt Lake City, UT; B.O.E. Meeting, 7 p.m.

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