

# Twins outpitch Royals

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Kansas City Royals have struggled to find reliable relievers. The Minnesota Twins are having no such problems.

Torii Hunter went 3-for-4 with three runs scored and the Minnesota bullpen was unscathed upon again as the Twins beat the Kansas City Royals 8-5 Tuesday night.

Minnesota scored four times in the sixth against reliever Blake Stein to take an 8-5 lead.

"We're always having a bad inning out of the bullpen," said Royals manager Tony Muser, whose team has blown 78 saves since the start of the 1999 season. "That's hurt us."

Many thought relief pitching would be the Twins' biggest problem this year, but instead it's been their strength. Their bullpen is 4-0 with a 1.82 ERA and six saves in six chances over the first 14 games.

"If it wasn't for our bullpen, who knows where we'd be," said Twins starter Rick Reed, who allowed five runs, seven hits and three walks in 3 1-3 innings.

Minnesota's rotation, thought to be the strength of the team with four pitchers who have been All-Stars, is 5-5 with a 7.56 ERA and has averaged fewer than five innings per outing.

"You have to be proud of our bullpen," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "They're pulling us along right now. I want my starters going deeper into games and doing more, and they will do that. As we get going, our starters will be our strength."

Tony Fiore (1-0) kept Reed's line from swelling by striking out Mike Sweeney and retiring Michael Tucker on a deep fly to right with the bases loaded in the fourth.

J.C. Romero and Mike Jackson bridged the gap between Fiore and Eddie Guardado, who struck out two in a perfect ninth for his sixth save.

"We had some opportunities against Reed to do some more damage and we didn't do it," Kansas City's Joe Randa said. "When you're playing here, you need as many runs as you can get."



The Goodland Cowgirls tried to take the field Tuesday when high winds (above) sent dirt across the area. The Hays High team hid behind their dugout (bottom left) while the umpires (bottom right) talked about whether to cancel the games. Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

## Softball games cancelled when wind, dirt blow onto ballfield



Softball games were cancelled Tuesday when high gusts of winds blew across Centennial Park, stirring up dirt and forcing teams and fans to search for cover.

The Goodland Cowgirls were tied at one with the Hays Indians at the top of the fourth inning when winds from the northwest invaded about 3:45 p.m.

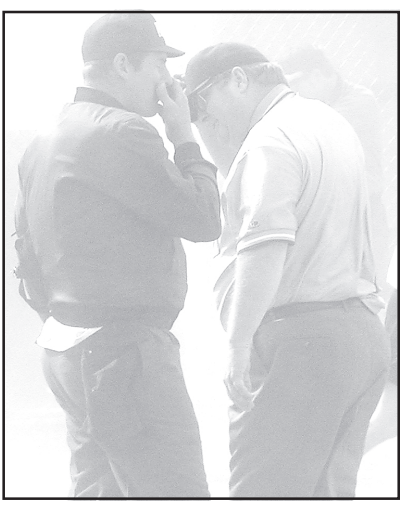
The Cowgirls tried to take their positions when the wind first picked up, but moments later were driven back to the dugout. Dirt flew into players' and fans' eyes and gusts almost knocked several people off their feet. For a little over a minute,

there was a complete blackout and everyone was blinded.

The Hays team huddled behind the north-facing visitors dugout to escape the wind. Both junior varsity teams, which were playing on the south field, retreated to their dugouts.

Spectators found shelter behind the restroom building.

After about five minutes of flying dirt, players and fans ran to their cars. The wind had slowed down a bit, but the umpires called the games because they heard more severe weather was supposed to be on the way.



## Wichita State slams Jayhawks

WICHITA (AP) — Wichita State got home runs from four players Tuesday as the Shockers defeated Kansas 10-1.

Dustin Hawkins, Tanner Welch, Brandon Green, and Mark Johnson all homered for Wichita State (25-8). The Shockers scored first in the second inning on RBI singles from Ryan Owens and Hawkins, who had three RBIs in

the game. The Shockers then got four runs in the bottom of the fourth inning, three of them on back-to-back homers from Hawkins and Green, putting the game out of reach.

Kansas (16-18) scored in the third inning with an RBI single from Casey Spanish. The Jayhawks threatened again in the fourth with runners on first and second and nobody out when Cole

Armstrong hit into a triple-play.

Mathew Jakubov (1-1) earned the win for the Shockers, giving up four hits and one run over five innings of work. The Jayhawks' Tom Gorzelanny (0-6) picked up the loss, giving up five runs and striking out six in 3 1/3 innings.

## Arizona beats St. Louis 5-3

PHOENIX (AP) — Randy Johnson can overpower most teams. Against the St. Louis Cardinals, he's satisfied to just get by.

Johnson allowed three runs — the total he'd given up combined in his first three starts — but still was good enough to become the season's first four-game winner Tuesday night as Arizona beat the Cardinals 5-3.

"For those who come to expect 18 strikeouts and shutout baseball nine innings every time he takes the mound, it wasn't typical Randy Johnson," Ari-

zona manager Bob Brenly said. "But it's what we expect from Randy. He went out there and he battled, and he pitched. He worked extremely hard."

Johnson, 5-6 in his career against St. Louis, beat the Cardinals for the first time since July 20, 2000.

With the win, the Diamondbacks extend their string of victories to six games.

"There might be some games when I overpower a team," Johnson said. "But this is a team that has good at bats against me."

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