

Last race of season to feature sprints

By SHERRY BARRETT

Colby Free Press

Thomas County Speedway's last race of the season, on Sunday at 7 p.m., will feature the 360 Winged Sprint Car Tour, who will be making their first appearance at the speedway.

It has been at least 12 years since Thomas County Speedway has seen any type of winged sprint car, according to track promoters.

Track officials say the sprint cars, with their high power-to-weight ratios, usually put on spectacular displays of speed even on flat tracks.

They expect the speedway, with the only high bank dirt track in northwest Kansas, to provide even more excitement for fans and racers alike.

Track points championships in the bomber, super stock and modified divisions will also be determined in the last race of the season.

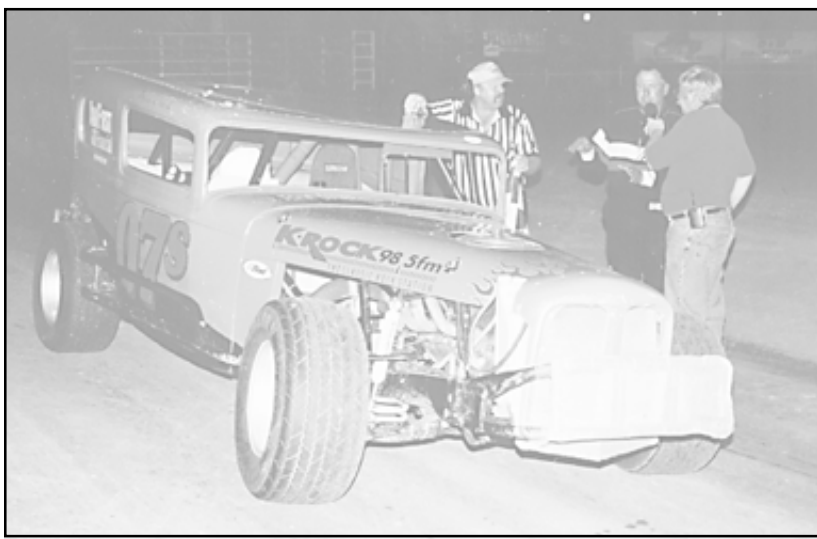
The modified and bomber points are quite close and many rivalries have developed within all divisions.

Ronnie Hill, #41, of Sharon Springs has a firm hold on the track championship in the super stock division.

He has a fourteen point lead over Bill Albin, #A1, of Gove in second place in the points and would have to finish very poorly or not start the feature at all to be out of the running.

Darren DeLoach, #21, of Lamar, Colo. is leading the modified division with 222 points. K.B. Murphy, #38, from Sharon Springs is second with 215 points so that race is a little tighter.

There is currently a tie for first place in the bomber division between



Jay Schilling, #07s, was interviewed by track announcer Gary Walker after winning the rare classic modified feature on Aug. 19. Sunday's race, the last of the season will feature 360 wing spring cars, another rare sight at the Thomas County Speedway.

Michael Wasson, #L7, of Oberlin and Jeremy Blackwill, #25, of Gove both with 226 points.

Jarod Smades, #43J of Goodland is just six points behind them. This points race is still very much up in the air.

Hot laps will begin at 6:15 p.m.

Here are the current points standings in each division:

Modifieds

1. Darren DeLoach #21, 222; 2. K.B. Murphy #38, 215; 3. Dwayne Dechant #2d, 209; 4. Brady Coen #3, 200; 5. John Icke #2I, 196; 6. Doug Holzmister #34H, 183; 7. Monty Nordyke #9, 181; 8. Jeff Hartwell #23X, 177; 9. Jeff

Tubbs #37, 176; 10. Milo Lippelman #383, 159; 11. Frank Perez #8, 100; 12. Kevin Hoeme #44, 97; 13. Shawn Lee #40, 66; 14. Bobby Joe Scott #70, 35; 15. Ken Maloney #75, 34; 16. Gary Dechant #3G, 33; 17. Kevin Wark #7K, 32; 18. Gregg Buker #27, 32; 19. Garold Deines #17, 32; 20. Paul Donovan #9d, 30; 21. Danny Keller #98, 30; 22. Michael Daut #49C, 30; 23. Mike Shaw #76, 29; 24. Dale Farr #58D, 28.

Super Stocks

1. Ronnie Hill #41, 235; 2. Bill Albin #A1, 221; 3. Brad Wagoner #15, 206; 4. Randy Tipton #6t, 202; 5. Travis Towns #3, 196; 6. A. J. Warta #23X,

191; 7. Todd Schwarz #27, 190; 8. Ryan Wark #8, 188; 9. Troy Plummer #11, 184; 10. Jay Nichol #14U, 175; 11. Wheat Lippelman #135, 168; 12. Eric Kinderknecht #CZ8, 143; 13. Dan Lauer #103, 142; 14. Shannon Maughlin #17, 120; 15. Earl Shannon #54S, 113; 16. Casey Rhea #17R, 96; 17. Darren Honeyman #2, 30; 18. Lynn Wright #3W, 30; 19. Kirk Osban #9, 29; 20. Justen Beakley #86, 29; 21. Randy Clydesdale #19, 27; 22. Troy Kurth #88, 5; 23. Tony Carter #44, 5; 24. Allen Kurth #88, 5.

Bombers

1. Michael Wasson #L7, 226; 2. Jeremy Blackwill #25, 226; 3. Jarod Smades #42J, 220; 4. Justin Meitl #14, 192; 5. Larry Rogers #11, 175; 6. Wayne Williams #33, 166; 7. Shawn Mohler #11M, 154; 8. Jake Blackheart #44, 151; 9. Mike Giesenhagen #111, 147; 10. Brendon Beesley #24B, 136; 11. Andrew Kuntz #57, 116; 12. Scott Waterman #99, 115; 13. Jason Schoenberger #6, 111; 14. Gene Sneath #78, 105; 15. Alex West #31, 96; 16. Ben Meitl #10B, 96; 17. Allen Sneathen #S5, 89; 18. Jeff Fryback #03, 86; 19. Johnny Orhman #87M, 67; 20. Eric Smith #60s, 59; 21. Angel Munoz #8, 35; 22. Doug Bauer #44A, 33; 23. Keith Stegman #13, 32; 24. Jason Stevens #99, 32; 25. Billy Phillips #Yp, 32; 26. Bruce Plumisto #01W, 31; 27. Ryan Shaw #12, 30; 28. T. J. Yarger #32, 27; 29. Ryan Shaw #12, 25; 30. Matt Giesenhagen #111, 24; 31. Brandon Beckman #16, 6; 32. Adam Smith #77, 5; 33. Jared Hurst #22S, 5; 34. Bryan Hagen #25x, 5.

Los Angeles scoreless in five against rookie

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It would have been difficult for Jason Jennings to top his major league debut in his second start.

Jennings, who homered and shut out the New York Mets in his first start, pitched out of trouble several times as the Colorado Rockies beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-3 Wednesday night.

Jennings didn't give up a hit in his first three innings and held Los Angeles scoreless until Dave Hansen's pinch-hit, RBI double in the fifth.

That ended Jennings' string of 13 shutout innings, but he gave up just two runs on eight hits in six-plus innings and left with a 5-2 lead.

"He didn't have the same kind of stuff he had the first time, but we didn't expect that," Colorado manager Buddy Bell said. "He made pitches when he really, really had to."

Jennings became the first player in modern big league history to throw a shutout and hit a homer in his debut, beating the Mets 10-0 last Thursday.

Los Angeles manager Jim Tracy liked what he saw in Jennings (2-0).

"He did a nice job, he did what he had to do to keep them in the game," Tracy said. "If I'm over there in the other clubhouse, I'd be very encouraged by what I've seen of Jennings."

Against the Dodgers, Jennings struck out his only two times up and had to yield to a reliever in the seventh. But that didn't spoil his evening.

"It's definitely satisfying," Jennings



said. "Six innings is the minimum I want to throw, but we were able to get the win."

Colorado got 13 hits — all singles — in five innings against James Baldwin (2-2).

"It was kind of unusual," Bell said. "We had 13 hits and we hit only two or three of them hard. Baldwin made good pitches and got burned with them."

Todd Helton went 3-for-4 and drove in two runs for the Rockies.

Terry Shumpert, Larry Walker and Juan Uribe all had a pair of hits.

The Rockies scored once in the first inning, three times in the second and built the lead to 5-0 in the fourth before

the Dodgers began to narrow the gap.

Although Jennings, a first-round pick out of Baylor in the 1999 amateur draft, appeared to tire in the seventh, he said that wasn't the case.

After Paul Lo Duca hit his 20th homer to lead off the inning, Eric Karros doubled and Marquis Grissom walked to chase Jennings.

"For some reason, I got the ball up in the zone to Lo Duca," Jennings said. "I wasn't getting tired."

Gabe White relieved, then Justin Speier came on with one out and the bases loaded. He ended the inning by

getting Adrian Beltre to line into a double play.

Jennings made a rookie mistake that helped end his scoreless streak — he was late covering first on a potential double play that would have ended the fifth inning.

Hansen then doubled in the Dodgers' first run.

In the sixth, Jennings again had trouble at first base, dropping a relay throw from Uribe on another potential double-play grounder. Shawn Green, however, was thrown out trying to steal.

K-State fullback returns to practice, still tentative

MANHATTAN (AP) — Kansas State has its 300-pound running back again, but that doesn't mean Joe Hall is back in the good graces of his coach and teammates.

Coach Bill Snyder said Tuesday the 6-foot-2 Hall is practicing with the team after sitting out last season for academic ineligibility. Snyder would not say what role Hall would play on the depth chart, but said the transfer from Palomar (Calif.) Junior College still has a way to go before he is back to his 1999 form.

"It's an ongoing process for him,"

Snyder said. "That has to continue. He hasn't done anything to make me think that he's the starter. But he's in a position to have a chance."

Snyder said Hall would work exclusively at fullback rather than at both running positions as he did in his junior season in 1999. Snyder

wouldn't say when Hall would play and became agitated during questioning.

"We will take 70 guys to USC," he said. "I'm not sure he will be with us or not."

Little League dispute goes on

MOCA, Dominican Republic (AP) — A public records expert trekked to this remote farming town to determine once and for all whether star Little League pitcher Danny Almonte is 12 or 14.

Conflicting documents about Almonte's age have surfaced this week, even as they were honored as world champions.

The boy's mother, Sonia Rojas Breton has a handwritten, photocopied birth certificate that says he was born April 7, 1989.

Ten blocks away, the town's official records office has another birth certificate that says he was born April 7, 1987.

Still another handwritten document obtained by the New York Daily News from Dr. Toribio Bencosme Hospital in Moca states that Rojas gave birth to a boy on April 7, 1987.

Area Schedule

Friday, Aug. 31

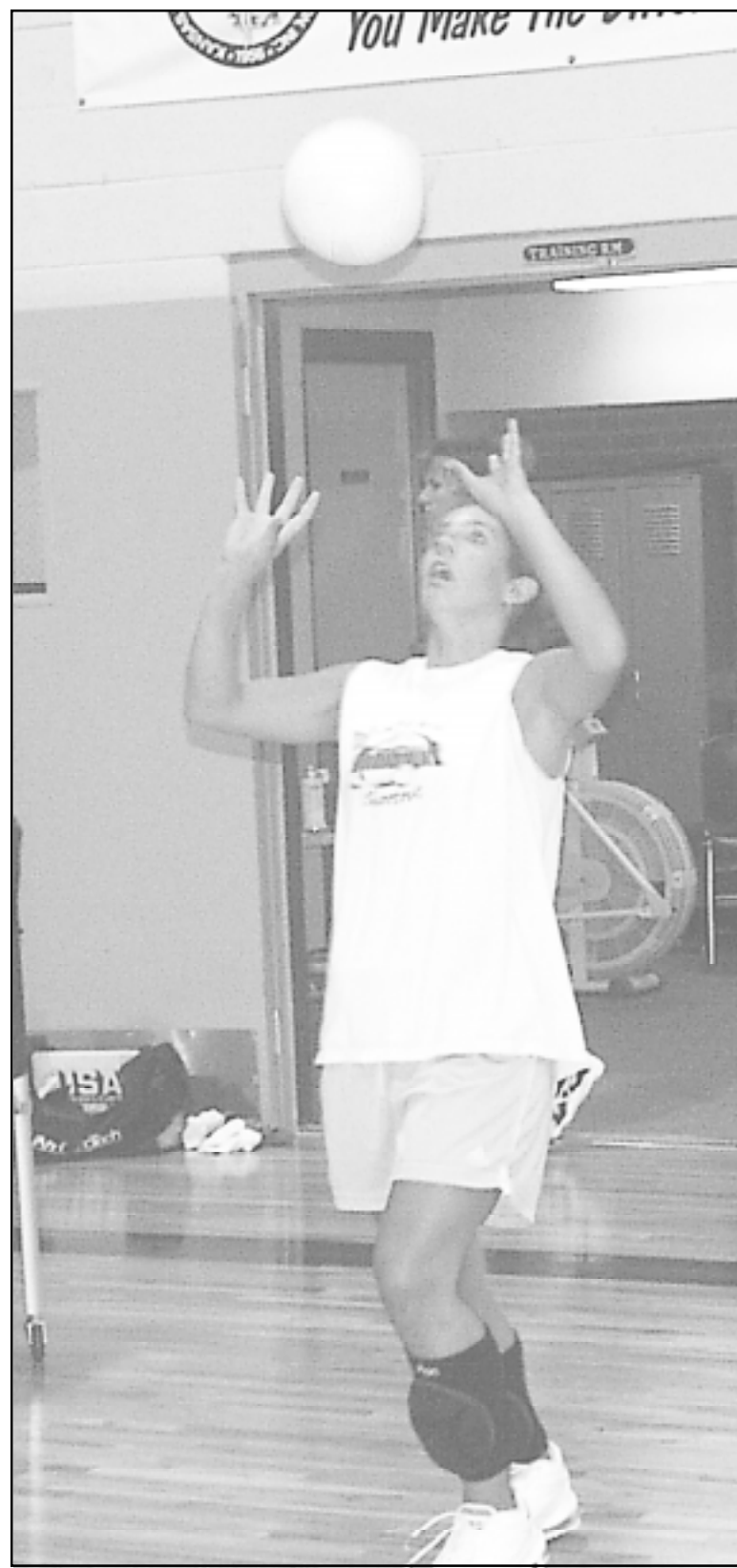
Colby All-School Booster Club tailgate party at Dennen Field at 5 p.m.

Colby High School varsity football vs. Atwood at Dennen Field, 7:30 p.m.

Golden Plains High School vs. Healy in Rexford at 7:30 p.m.

Brewster High School at Weskan at 7:30 p.m. MST.

Setting up



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

Kristy Jamison worked on set-up at Brewster High School volleyball practice. The Brewster girls took fourth in their opening tournament Saturday and will be in Weskan for a varsity quad on Tuesday.

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