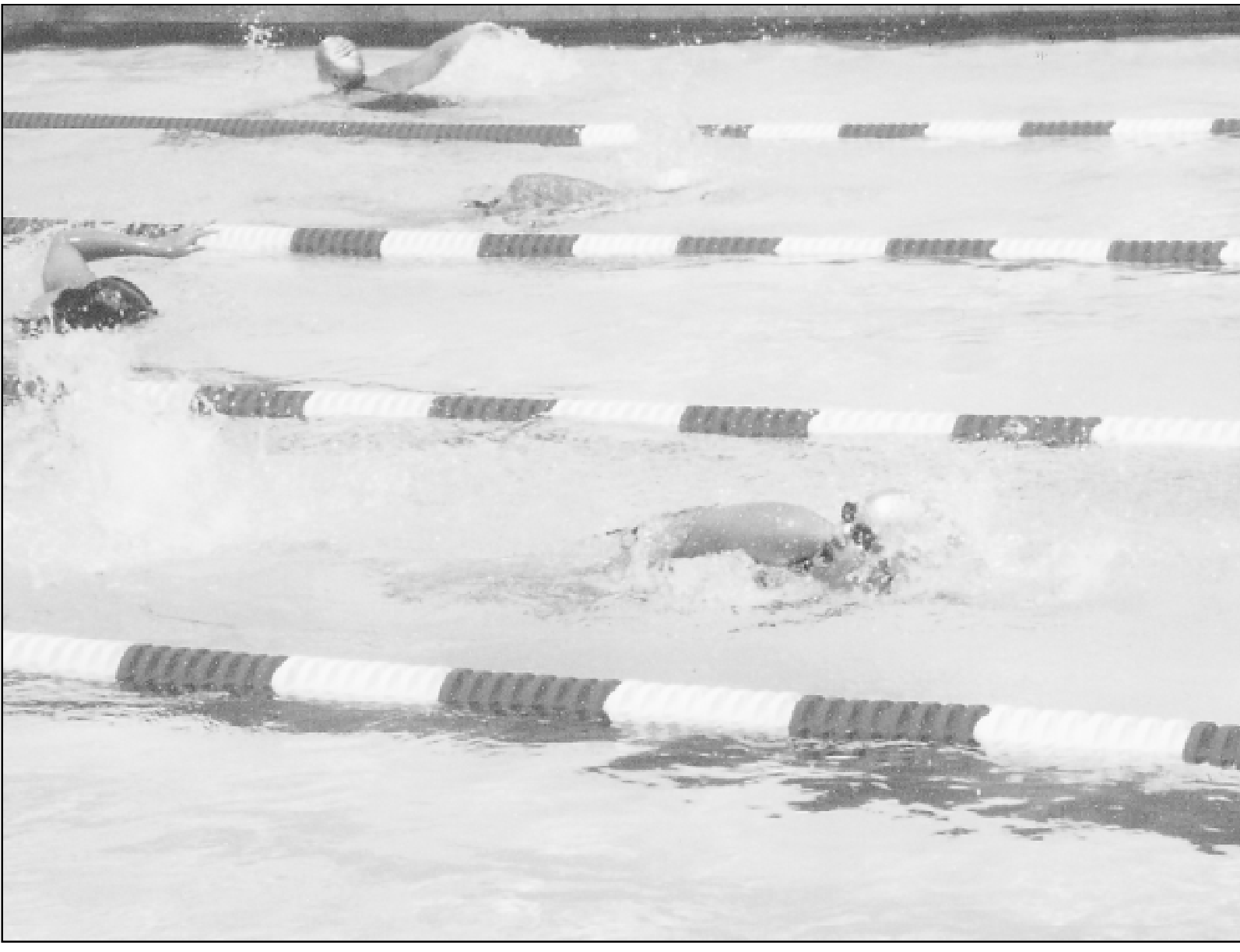


Swim season gets underway



CAROL KENNEDY/Colby Free Press

Zanae Baird (bottom lane) of the Colby Swim Club competed at Burlington last Saturday. The Sharks finished the meet tied for second with Hoxie. Complete results of the Burlington and the Holyoke, Colo. meet will be published next week in the Colby Free Press.

Nineteen softball teams in town this weekend

By DARREL PATTILLO

Colby Free Press

Colby's Sweet Thunder will host the 2002 Colby Invitational Fast Pitch softball tournament this weekend at the Colby Recreational Complex.

The 10&under, 12&under, and 14&under teams will play Saturday and Sunday.

Following is a list of pools for each age group:

14&under

Pool A: Colby Sweet Thunder, Burlington Girls, Goodland Big Stix.

Pool B: Hays Storm, Hill City Heat, Garden City Dusters.

12&under

Pool A: Colby Sweet Thunder, McCook Untouchables, NRC Thunder, Garden City Dusters, Goodland Diamond Dusters.

Pool B: Larned Renegades, Hill City Heat, Dodge City Magic, Great Bend Quicksilver Blue, Colby Rec Team.

10&under

Pool A: Colby Sweet Thunder, McCook Li'1 Untouchables 'A', McCook Li'1 Untouchables 'B'.

All pools will begin play on Saturday at 9 a.m. 14&under will play on Field 4, 12&under on Fields 2 and 3, and 10&under on Field 5.

Concession stands available for July basketball tourney

The Colby Recreation Department has the following concession stand opportunities open for the Mid-America Youth Basketball tournament July 5 - 7.

There will be no cost to have a stand and the vendors keep all the profit, said

C.W. Cheney, director, who said that 63 teams will be coming to Colby for the weekend.

Locations for concessions include Colby High School, Colby College and Rexford gymnasiums. If interested, call Cheney at 462-4440.

Germany beats U.S. 1 - 0

ULSAN, South Korea (AP) - The United States lost, its great World Cup ride is over. And yet the Americans felt as if they were winners anyway.

They outplayed Germany, the three-time World Cup champions, but were beaten 1-0 in the quarterfinals Friday because of one mistake.

Perhaps more importantly, they proved they are no longer the pushovers of U.S. teams past, sending a message to the rest of the world and leaving a calling card for 2006 and beyond. "We can go home with our heads held high," U.S. goalkeeper

Brad Friedel said after the Americans' fell short to end their best World Cup performance in 72 years.

Ford engineers are keeping things competitive



Don Fosdick

Life in the Fast Lane

As a die-hard Chevy lover and for all the other Chevy lovers out there, we sure are taking a beating from the Ford boys at present. This is hard for me to say, but the Ford boys have it going on right now, and everyone else is sucking canal water.

Over the winter the Ford camp worked on its aerodynamics which is allowing the cars to slip through wind better which looks as if they have more horsepower, and it sure is showing up this year. I'm sure that they also found some true horsepower help from their engine programs, as it truly does take a total package of aero, horsepower, and driver to be competitive in NASCAR today without a doubt.

So even though it hurts me deeply, I've got to give kudos to those Ford guys and their fast race cars. So for my

buddies Kevin, Jon, & Jeff, and for all of the Ford people that I don't know, ya'll have something to cheer about. I'm also going to throw this in as I have taken a few calls from friends reminding me that last Sunday at Michigan, 7 of the top 10 finishers were Foooooordsss. Man this is tough, I'm starting to get an eye twitch, and my neck is starting to jerk.

This weekend will be one of those other kinds of NASCAR races, which I think will be interesting.

There is some aero needed, but the driver will have the largest input into who, what, and where everyone will finish. Which gives me some glimmer of hope that a real Chevy might be up front at the end of the race. (The 24 & 48 aren't real Chevy's) If Robby Gordon #31 Cingular Chevy performs any-

thing like last year and doesn't have any problems with his car, he should be strong and good pick to win.

Robby should have won both road races last year, but driver decisions and car problems kept him from winning last year. It sure would be great to see RCR Racing back in the winner's circle, and a real Chevy there also. I still believe that Robby Gordon could

be a great driver, and being with RCR Racing is the best opportunity he has had to showcase his talent.

And Richard Childress has experience with a driver like Robby Gordon, as Robby reminds me a lot of Dale Earnhardt Sr. in his younger days, racing in NASCAR. So there's a lot of potential there if they can make it come together.

E-mail your sports news to: colbysports@nwkansan.com



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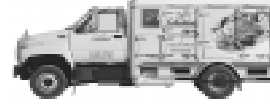
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