

Stuck in the middle



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Colby's John Wark got caught in a rundown between two Norton players during Tuesday night's American Legion baseball action. Colby took both games of the make-up doubleheader, 14-4 and 16-6. Friday the Legion team travels to Ellis, and next Monday the Legion will be in Norton for the final match-up of the regular season. The Legion zone tourney starts Friday July 19 in Scott City.

Father and son pull off sweep at the track

By SHERRY BARRETT

Colby Free Press

After a three week break for harvest and the Fourth of July holiday, racers and fans were eager to get back to the 2002 racing season at Thomas County Speedway. Fans were treated to an exhibition performance by the fellows from the Western Nebraska area known as the Classic Modifieds. Nine cars, built to resemble antique modifieds put on a good show and brought with them many of their racing buddies in other divisions, producing a very good car count for the night. Thirteen Cruisers took to the track with the father-son team of #01W Bruce and Dwayne Plumisto of Colby pulling off a sweep of the division winning their heat, the Cash Dash and the Feature. The other heat race winners were #73 Adam Meitl/Josh Eisenbart of Colby who gave the Plumistos all they wanted and then some for some stiff competition in the feature. All of the Cruiser races for the evening produced very competitive, smart, close racing.

Twenty-three Bombers made the show producing three different heat race winners, they were: #111 Mike Giesenhausen of Colby, #4s David Schemm of Sharon Springs, #20W Ed Wright of Colby. Mike Giesenhausen had his car dialed-in perfectly to easily come up with wins in the Cash Dash and the Feature to sweep the division. #01 Mike Meyer of Sharon Springs and #27 Todd Schwarz of Menlo were

the two heat race winners in the Super Stock division. Schwarz running strong all evening also won the Cash Dash and the Feature for his second feature win of the season. Mid-race Mike Meyer running fourth in the Feature came a little too close to the grand stand wall coming out of turn four. He scraped off most of the right front fender and some parts of his car taking him out of the competition for the rest of the race. #9b Les Mohr of Great Bend, experienced electrical problems with his car before any of the races started and was unable to compete for the night.

The three heat race winners out of twenty-one modifieds were #21 Darren DeLoach of Lamar, CO, #3 Brady Coen of Wiley, CO and #9 Monty Nordyke of Holly, CO. Coen shut out all other contenders in both the Cash Dash and the Feature for the sweep of the division.

In the Classic Modified division heat race winners were #413 Larry Pollmann of McCook, NE and #D2 Hagen of Culbertson, NE. Hagen managed wins in both the Cash Dash and the Feature. Hagen also competed in the regular Modified division for the evening. Thomas County Speedway fans and management would like to thank the racers in this division for coming to the track to put on another great show.

Plans are starting to roll into gear for the big fair races both Friday and Saturday nights August 2 and 3. Modified

racers who might want to save a little money on entry fees should be looking for entry forms and getting those sent in.

All other divisions, Late Models, Cruisers, Bombers running Friday night and Super Stocks running Saturday, do not need to pre-enter. For more information contact Kerry Wark at (785) 462-6403 or Fair Board Race Committee Chairman Marty Crampton at (785) 586-2248.

Thomas County Speedway's next race will be July 21, at 7 p.m. central time with hot laps at 6:15. Hope to see you at the High Banks!

Hutchinson course needs a lot of work after Open

HUTCHINSON (AP) — Golfing fans snatched up U.S. Women's merchandise at discount prices as crews began cleaning up after one of the largest sporting events ever to come to the region.

Prairie Dunes course superintendent Stan George surveyed the damage on Monday, one day after Juli Inkster closed with a 4-under 66 for a two-stroke victory over Annika Sorenstam.

The course reopens Thursday. George said the course's playing surfaces will recover by Nov. 1.

But, he said, the native grasses will need about 15 months to return to normal. And it could take five years for native grasses to recover in the corporate tent area, where forklift and construction damage was heavy.

"I think the course is in pretty good shape," George said. "If you had an aerial, you'd see exactly where the rope lines were, but we expected that. Within the ropes looks much better.

"It's a small price to pay, really, for

what we've enjoyed."

Championship officials on Monday began filing reams of paperwork and pitching in with a massive trash cleanup effort. Meanwhile, visitors flocked to the Merchandise Pavilion to take advantage of 75-percent savings.

Workers also began picking up portable toilets and removing the plants that decorated the course. It could take several more weeks before the grandstands and other portable structures are removed.

Tournament officials will continue to work out of a trailer at the course through the first part of August, said championship spokeswoman Liz Suter.

Betse Hamilton, women's championship director for the U.S. Golf Association, called the tournament a "huge success."

"Hutchinson did real great," she said. "The gallery support was just wonderful. Maybe one of these days we'll be back."

Hank Aaron, eleven others awarded Medal of Freedom

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hank Aaron, baseball's career home run king, was among 12 people honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom Tuesday.

President George W. Bush, a former

owner of the Texas Rangers, presented the nation's highest civilian honor to Aaron, who he said "overcame poverty and racism to become one of the most accomplished baseball players of all

Colby golfers in championship

Ten-year old junior golfers Dylan Stithem and Riley Haas of Colby have qualified to play in the state Junior Golf Championship which started today and continues Thursday and Friday, at Mariah Hills golf course in Dodge City.

Stithem and Haas were among the top three to qualify in the 11 and under age division for this state championship based on the individual points earned in the four sectional tournaments played throughout the month of June.

Haas and Stithem, along with Tyler Kitson of Hays, will represent the West section in their age division.

They will be competing as a team, and individually, against the top three golfers from each of the four other Kansas sectional teams.

Volleyball camp set for Colby players

All interested high school volleyball players in grades 9-12 for the 2002-2003 school year are invited to attend a team camp July 22 through July 25.

The camp will held at the Colby High School gym from 8 a.m. to noon. The cost for the camp is \$50. Checks should be made out to CCC Volleyball.

Money should be sent to coach Lesley Wagoner by July 20. For more information, contact Coach Wagoner at 462-7959.

Eagle football camp approaching

The Colby Eagle football camp is set to begin Monday, July 22, and will run four days. Seventh and 8th grade camp will be from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and the high school squads will work out from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

All workouts will be conducted at the CHS practice field, located just west of the high school.

Registrations are still being accepted, but jerseys may not be available in time for the camp.

For sign-up forms or more information, contact head coach Brad Wildeman at the high school weight room from 6 to 9 a.m. or 6-9 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or call him at 462-7815.

colbysports@nwkansas.com

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