

Colby whips Goodland; to state

By RAY NOLAN
Free Press Columnist
Colby American Legion (20-7)
advanced to the state tournament
Monday evening with a 15-4 win

over Goodland in the championship game of the Kansas State American Legion Zone 6 Tournament in Colby. Colby attacked early with seven

runs in the bottom of the first inning and never looked back. Scott Wolf got the inning started with a single to right center. Wolf stole second on the next pitch and Brian Sulzman then singled to move him to third. After Sulzman swiped second Josh Houtz hit a sacrifice fly to right field to bring home Wolf and advance Sulzman to third.

Jared Cranston then reached base on an error and took second on the next pitch. Bruce Arnberger walked and Chris Gordon singled to load the bases. John Wark then singled to bring home Cranston and Arnberger. The scoring was completed when Jeff Williams doubled over the left fielder to plate Gordon and Wark.

Colby held a 10-4 advantage in the sixth when they again put together a big inning. Five consecutive hits and five runs finished off the scoring for the evening.

Brian Sulzman led off with a single and advanced to second on a wild pitch. Josh Houtz then singled to plate Sulzman. After Houtz stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch, Jared Cranston singled to bring him in. Bruce Arnberger then tripled to bring home Cranston. Bruce was not on third long because Chris Gordon followed suit and tripled to bring him home. Gordon then scored on a wild pitch. The final hit of the inning belonged to Travis Powell who's single to left would have brought home Gordon.

Chris Gordon ended with the big night at the plate going 3-for-4 with a triple and two RBI's. Brian Sulzman, Josh Houtz, Bruce Arnberger and John Wark each had two hits. Houtz had three RBI's, Wark had two, and Arnberger also had a double to go along with his triple in the sixth. Ryan Arensdorf helped ignite the offense by reaching base three times, twice by getting hit by pitches.

Jared Cranston struck out nine in seven complete innings of work on the mound to earn the victory and help send Colby to the state tournament.

Colby plays July 31 at 3 p.m. in Pratt.



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

Scott Wolf of Colby's American Legion team took a bye on a pitch during the championship game Monday night against Goodland. Colby overpowered Goodland 15-4. Colby advances to the state tourney. Team members include Ryan Arensdorf, Matt Augustine, Jordan Cranston, Josh Houtz, Stephen Mardock, Brian Sulzman, Jeff Williams, Bruce Arnberger, Jared Cranston, Chris Gordon, Clayton Keiser, Travis Powell, John Wark and Wolf.

Local racers fare very well at Fort Morgan 'Challenge'

Sherry Barrett

● At the Races

The last day there was a drop of rain in the area was two weeks ago on race day just as the races were completed. Since then triple digit heat and dry winds were the norm. This past Sunday in Colby there were lots of dark clouds, very humid air and even some sprinkles of rain but not enough to prevent the races from being run.

Considering the extreme drought conditions and being an agricultural oriented community, no one would dare to complain about the rain. Still the question does come up why only on race day, just at race time? Maybe the farmers would like us to have races every three days.

A little bit of bragging here; on July 19-20 many of the Thomas County Speedway Modified regulars competed in Fort Morgan, Colo. at the I-76 Speedway in a \$10,000 to win *Dirt Magazine* Challenge Race. With 125 cars pre-registered and 100 cars from 16 different states making the show, our local boys represented us well.

Four of the 12 heat races were won by Thomas County regulars: Jeff Tubbs, Jeff Hartwell and Dr. A. J. Warka all of Colby, and Brady Coen of Wiley, Colo. Five qualifying features were also run on Friday night, with the top three receiving a transfer spot in the A-Main to be run on Saturday. Coen won the first of these qualifying features with Hartwell edging out some very tough competition for the second feature win. Ken Maloney of Keenesburg, Colo. who has raced often this season at Thomas County Speedway emerged the victor in a scramble for the fifth qualifying feature.

Speedway regulars Dr. Warka, Frank Perez of Lamar, Colo. and Monty Nordyke of Holly, Colo. missing the cut, finishing fifth, sixth and tenth respectively in this race. Saturday, after four more qualifying features transferring two each and a drawing for the final spot of a 24-car field, the challenge race was run.

Lubbock, Texas hot shoe Monty Bolton took home the big check with Jeff Hartwell finishing second. Kenosha, Wisconsin's Mike

Sandholm captured third, Galva, Kansas's Jerry Phillips snagged fourth place and Brady Coen rounding out the fifth place spot in the finish of this race. Congratulations racers, you make Thomas County Speedway look great.

Now back to last Sunday's races...

The #01W Cruiser team of Bruce Plumisto and Clint Hockersmith pulled off a sweep of the division winning their heat; the cash dash and close three-way battle with #23m Giebler/Weigel and #W2 Wagoner/Wagoner, for the feature. On the last lap of the feature, a tangle between #23m and #W2 sent the #23m car spinning across the finish line backwards just behind the #W2, but it was determined that the #W2 had caused the caution by tagging the back of the #23m. According to the rules if a car causes a caution, that car is sent to the back of the pack. The #23m team of Curt Giebler and Jim Weigel of Russell finished in second and also were the second heat winners.

The #69 Bomber of Matt Giesenhagen of Colby pulled off a sweep of his division winning Heat #2, the cash dash and the feature. Giesenhagen ran with a commanding lead throughout the feature. The other heat race winners were #11r Larry Rogers of Colby and #11 Shawn Mohler of Scott City.

In the Super Stock division, the heat races were won by #3 Travis Towns of Monument and #01 Mike Meyer of Sharon Springs. The cash dash was so close it would have been nice to have had an electronic photo for the finish. It was determined by the scorers table that Meyer just edged out Towns for the win. In the feature #55 Wheat Lippelman of Colby led most of the race, a late race yellow flag resulting in a restart allowed #15 Brad Wagoner of Colby the chance he needed to dive low and complete a

pass on Lippelman. Wagoner then held the lead to the checkered flag for his first feature win of the season.

In the modified division #23x Jeff Hartwell's stellar weekend was ended when a broken part on his car forced him to not finish his heat and scratch for the feature. This hurts Hartwell's chances for a track championship this season, as Hartwell was the championship point leader going in this race. Heat race winners were #34H Doug Holzmeister and #3 Brady Coen. Coen managed a win in the Cash Dash also. Holzmeister held the lead of the feature for most of the race. Late in the race hard chargers Coen and #21 Darren DeLoach of Lamar in 2nd and 3rd from 6th and 8th place starts respectively. Holzmeister and Coen were coming up on lapped traffic. Coen darted low and the lapped car went high momentarily blocking Holzmeister just long enough for Coen to complete the pass and win the race for a sweep of the class.

Thomas County Speedway's next races will be the big fair race on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2. The Friday night show will feature Cruisers and Bombers with a handsomely increased purse, and the Rocky Mountain Division of the ASCS 360 Sprint Cars. The Saturday show will feature the hard charging and always competitive Super Stock Division also with an increased purse, and the \$5,000 to win Golden Harvest Hybrids Modified Shootout with a rain date of Sunday, Aug. 3. This race will be paying out over a \$25,000 total purse payout. Both nights of racing will begin at 7 p.m. with hot laps beginning at 6p.m. (Central Time).

Race fans from out-of-town need to be making reservations soon, and check for racer's discount. Also, you can no longer "save" seats at the grandstand. !



Picnic In The Park

Bring your lunch and lawn chair and enjoy the musical talent of....

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Thursday, July 24th 12:00 noon Fike Park

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Beth Israel Hospital at Harvard University. While at Harvard, he was Dr. Augustus White's first Orthopaedic Spine Fellow. Dr. White is regarded as one of the deans of modern orthopaedic spine care in America.

Board Certification
American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and is a fellow member of the American College of Surgeons, and the Royal College of Surgeons.

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