



Former Buffalo Bill Steve Tasker will speak July 17 at Colby Community College during the schools' wrestling program fundraiser.

Former NFL player to speak in Colby

From Colby Community College

Steve Tasker, widely regarded as the greatest special teams player in the history of the National Football League, will be speaking at Colby Community College 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 17.

Tasker will be the featured speaker at the annual CCC wrestling squad fund-raiser in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center.

A graduate of Leoti High School, Tasker was a vital player for the Buffalo Bills during the team's run of four consecutive Super Bowl appearances from 1991-94.

He was selected by his peers and coaches in the American Football Conference to play in seven Pro Bowls as a special teams player and was named the Most Valuable Player in the 1993 game. In 2000, Tasker was named to the 26-player NFL All-Time Team.

He was drafted in the ninth round of the 1985 NFL Draft by the Houston Oilers, but was waived by the Oilers a year later. Tasker didn't stay unemployed long. He joined

the Buffalo Bills in 1986 and the rest is history.

Tasker was a stand-out athlete at Leoti High School and led the track and field team to the 1981 Class 3A state championship. He attended Dodge City Community College for one year before signing with Northwestern University.

Following his retirement from the Bills in 1997, Tasker became a television football analyst for CBS.

He was inducted into the Greater Buffalo Hall of Fame in 2001.

"Many sports authorities consider Steve Tasker to be the greatest special teams' player of all time," said Colby head wrestling coach Steve Lampe. "Despite being only 5-8 and 183 pounds, Tasker had a reputation as one of the league's most feared hitters as he covered both punt and kickoff returns."

Admission is \$10 for this event. Seating is limited. Reservations may be made by calling Colby Community College administrative assistant Kathy Britton at (785) 460-5495 or Steve Lampe at (785) 443-2220.

Sports Briefs

NEW YORK (AP) — Rod Beck, an All-Star relief pitcher who wore a bushy mustache while earning 286 career saves, was found dead Saturday. He was 38.

Beck was discovered by police officers responding to a call to his home in suburban Phoenix, police department spokesman Andy Hill said. Foul play is not suspected, though the cause of death might not be known for several days.

With unruly hair framing his piercing eyes and an aggressive arm swing before delivering a pitch, the outgoing right-hander was a colorful baseball personality and a three-time All-Star. He spent the first seven of his 13 big league seasons with the San Francisco Giants.

Nicknamed "Shooter" and well-known for his fondness for country music, cowboy boots and cigarettes, Beck pitched for the Giants (1991-97), the Chicago Cubs (1998-99) and the Boston Red Sox (1999-2001) before finishing his career with the Padres (2003-04).

SEATTLE (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. hit his 583rd and 584th home runs during the Cincinnati Reds' game against the Seattle Mariners on Sunday, tying and then passing Mark McGwire for seventh on the career list.

In the first inning, Griffey hit a 2-0 pitch from Miguel Batista to left-center. The slugger took a step and hopped in anticipation of a home run that he had said he hoped to hit this weekend at Safeco Field, "The House that Griffey Built." The ballpark opened in 1999 — the last full season Griffey played in Seattle before he was traded to his hometown of Cincinnati.

His second homer was vintage Griffey, a no-doubt drive in the fifth reminiscent of so many he launched

at the since-demolished Kingdome across the street. He jumped all over Batista's first pitch and sent it rocketing off an advertisement lining the second deck beyond right field for another solo shot.

The homers, his first two against Seattle in six career games, left Griffey two behind Frank Robinson for sixth place. It also gave Griffey 1,654 RBI. That gave him sole possession of 18th place ahead of ex-Red Tony Perez.

Colby American Legion plays in Hays

Colby's American Legion baseball team won three of five games at the John Bollig Tournament last weekend in Hays.

Colby finished the tournament Sunday with a 10-2 win over Hays.

Seven Colby players each had two hits: Cade Carter (2-5); Cory Sager (2-5); Kevin Lang (2-5); Mitchell Gatz (2-5); Jeremy Dietz (2-4); Brent Arnberger (2-4); Eric Blanton (2-2). Blanton and Carter each had two RBIs. Sager, Gatz and Dinkel each had one.

Levi Schlick was 1-3 and Stephen Dinkel was 1-4.

Lang was the winning pitcher. Statistics were not available.

Saturday, Colby defeated McCook, Neb., 14-0, in a four-inning game. Dietz only allowed two hits and struck out five.

Sager led Colby with 4-4 at the plate. He had four RBIs. Lang was 2-4 with a double and an RBI. Schlick was 2-3. Gatz was 1-3 with two RBIs. Arnberger and Saddler each had a hit. Arnberger's hit was a double. Colby had 11 hits.

Russell defeated Colby 11-3 Saturday. Russell scored six runs in the seventh inning to extend its lead, and eventual win.

Sager and Dietz each had two hits. Gatz was 1-2 with two RBIs and a home run. Carter had a double.

Schlick and Arnberger each had hits.

Dinkel took the loss for Colby. Dinkel allowed one hit. Dietz replaced Dinkel after two innings. He allowed 10 hits, eight earned runs and struck out four.

Manhattan defeated Colby 16-8 Friday. Manhattan led 10-4 before six runs in the sixth inning extended their lead.

Arnberger was 2-3 with a home run and two RBIs. Carter and Lang each went 2-4 with an RBI. Sager, Blanton and Gatz each had a hit and an RBI. Schlick and Dinkel each had a hit.

Lang took the loss for Colby af-

ter four and one-third innings. He struck out four and gave up 11 hits. Dinkel replaced Lang and allowed three hits and struck out one.

Colby defeated Hays 6-1 Friday. Schlick was 2-4 with two RBIs. Lang, Dietz, Dinkel and Tom Wieland each had hits. Dinkel and Wieland had RBIs. Colby had six hits.

Schlick got the win. He pitched the entire game and gave up eight hits and struck out 13.

Other teams in the tournament included Dodge City and Goodland. Overall, Colby is 9-4. Colby plays Ellis at 6 p.m. Wednesday in Colby.

Oregon State wins another College World Series

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The first title was hard for Oregon State. The repeat seemed easy.

Oregon State ended one of the most dominant runs in the 61-year history of the College World Series

with a 9-3 victory over North Carolina on Sunday night. The Beavers became the first team in a decade to capture consecutive national titles.

They did it by winning all five of their CWS games, including a

sweep of the Tar Heels in the best-of-three finals. The Beavers (49-18) trailed for only one of 45 innings they played in Omaha, and they became the first team to win four CWS games by at least six runs.

"To be able to come to this tremendous tournament — the best athletic event on the face of the Earth — and to run through it pretty good, it's pretty special and it's a huge tribute to the guys," Oregon State coach Pat Casey said.

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