

Baseball team goes 1-4 in Colorado



Kevin Bottrell/Colby Free Press
Macen Shull slid into second base during the front half of a doubleheader between the Colby K-18 baseball team and Atwood on the road on July 1.

The Colby K-18 baseball team struggled in a tournament at Fort Morgan, Colo., this weekend, losing four of five games.

The team lost both its games on Friday, a competitive game to Boulder, Colo., 6-4 and then a shut out by the Fort Morgan C team 10-0.

Colby and Boulder both scored two runs in the first inning, then Boulder picked up another run in the bottom half of the second. The two teams both scored a run in the third. Colby got a run in the top of the fourth, tying the game at 4. Boulder responded by ticking off two runs to make it 6-4. Neither team scored in the fifth and Boulder picked up the win.

Luke Cox went 2-3 at the plate and David Browne had two sacrifice fly balls. Dalaan Organ pitched the first four innings and Zach Stones came on in the fifth.

In the second game, Fort Morgan had a big six-run inning in the top of the first. The team scored three more runs in the third and one in the fourth before the game ended due to the 10-run limit. Stones and Andrew Taylor both singled. Troy Quenzer pitched all four innings for Colby.

Coach Russell Rodenbeck said Fort Morgan had mostly 16-year-olds. He said the team's pitcher was the best Colby has seen this season.

"He threw hard and had a very good curve ball," Rodenbeck said.

The boys squeaked out a 10-9 win over Jefferson County, Colo.,

10-9 in their first game Saturday.

Jefferson scored two runs in the first to take an early lead. They tacked on two more runs in the top half of the second to make it 4-0. The Colby offense came alive in the second, scoring seven runs to go up 7-4.

Jefferson County scored two in the third to narrow the gap to one. They picked up three more runs in the top of the fourth to make it 9-7. But Colby rallied, scoring three in the bottom half of the inning to go up 10-9. Neither team was able to score in the fifth and Colby escaped with a win.

Trek Keck had a huge game on offense, going 4-4 with a home run. Macen Shull and Hunter Butts had two singles each. Stones threw the first four innings and Organ pitched the fifth.

The Fort Morgan D team shut out Colby 11-0 in the second game Saturday. Fort Morgan put the game out of reach in the top of the fourth with a six-run inning that extended their lead to 11. Colby was unable to score in the bottom of the fourth and Fort Morgan picked up the win due to the 10-run limit.

Shull and Quenzer both singled. Shull pitched the entire game.

Colby suffered a 13-1 defeat to Gering, Neb., in their last game of the tourney on Sunday. Gering scored four runs in the first and one in the second to make it 5-0.

Colby got its first run of the game in the top of the fourth, but Gering responded by tacking on two more runs in the bottom half of the in-

ning. Gering put up six more runs and prevailed 13-1 in the sixth due to the run limit.

Cox doubled and Organ, Quenzer and Shull all had singles.

The boys swept Atwood on the road on July 1, winning the first game 20-9 and the second game 11-4. The first game ended earlier because of the run limit.

Colby's offense came out looking strong in the first, scoring six runs. The team scored two more in the bottom of the second to make it 8-4. Both teams put up four runs in the next two innings. Atwood scored one in the top of the fifth, cutting Colby's lead to 12-9, but Colby had a breakout eight-run inning and picked up a 20-9 victory.

The boys outthrew Atwood 18-4. Browne went 4 for 4, Quenzer, 3 for 3; Shull, 2 for 2; Stones, 2 for 2; Chance Hoeting, 3 for 4, Brady Rose, 2 for 2 and Reed Stephens, 2 for 3.

Stephens started the game on the mound. He pitched two innings and recorded two strikeouts. Keegan Morgan threw two innings and Stones pitched one. Stones struck out three.

Two big innings helped Colby defeat Atwood 11-4 in the second game. The boys scored five in the first and five in the fourth. They outthrew Atwood 12-3.

Shull went 3-4 and Chase Hartwell went 2-2. Hoeting singled twice.

The team plays Oakley in a doubleheader this evening at Young Memorial Field.

Cyclist suffers through race

By Jim Litke

AP Sports Columnist

There are two days in every great athlete's comeback that somehow still catch us by surprise.

The day he announces it. And the day that removes any lingering doubts whether it was a good idea in the first place.

Lance Armstrong suffered through one of the latter Sunday at the Tour de France. His comeback isn't officially over; the race still has two weeks left to run. But Armstrong would need a handful of younger, fitter rivals all to take a wrong turn - then stay lost for nearly 15 minutes - just to make up the ground he's lost already.

Stage 8 marked the tour's first ascent into the

Alps, often the point at which Armstrong put some distance between himself and the pack. Instead, he got caught up in three crashes and dropped by the leaders on the two grueling climbs, skidding all the way back to 39th place.

"Obviously the Tour's finished for me," Armstrong said, "but I can try and win stages, try and help the team, really try and appreciate my time here, and the fact that I'm not coming back."

He was 27 when he won the first of seven consecutive tours, and after 3 1/2 years away from the sport, 37 when he returned last year and finished third.

Whatever Armstrong was looking for the day he decided to give the tour a final try, the one thing that's clear is that the finish line won't come soon enough.

Late-inning homer derails Rockies

DENVER (AP) - Reliever Matt Belisle's bases-loaded throwing error led to two unearned runs in the eighth inning, and Everth Cabrera hit his first homer of the season in the ninth to drive San Diego to a 9-7 victory over Denver, saving the Padres from a sweep and preserving a two-game lead in the division race.

Scott Hairston matched a career high with four hits in helping the NL West-leading Padres take

a two-game cushion over second-place Colorado, which had won six straight.

Heath Bell got the five outs for his 24th save in 27 chances.

Belisle (4-4) ended up with the loss, while reliever Luke Gregerson (3-5) earned the win. The Rockies had hoped to tie the Padres in the pennant race with a three-game sweep, but couldn't hold on for the victory.

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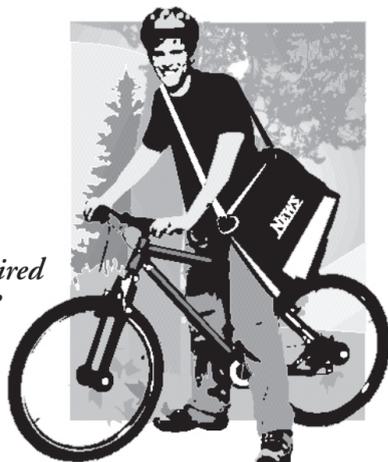
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