



Amber Barton (left) and Jessica Vaughn (right) neared the finish line during the Colby Recreational Department 5K run on Thursday evening on Court Avenue behind the Colby Community Building.

## Runners brave humidity, compete in Thursday race

Twelve brave souls, 11 from Colby, ventured outside to take part in the Colby Recreation 5K run on Thursday under the glaring sun.

All 12 runners completed the race despite the stifling humidity. Michelle Metlen won with a time 39 minutes and 30 seconds, - 30 seconds under her predicted time.

Success in the race was not based on who crossed the finish line first, but on whose predicted time was closest to their actual time.

Walter Lewis took second with 20:21 - 30 seconds over his pre-

dicted time. He was also the first person to finish the race, Rod Williams took third with 23:33 - 37 seconds over his estimated time.

Amanda Wahlmeier won the door prize. In order to win the door prize you have to have your name drawn from a jar filled with the names of all the participants.

The prizes given out to the top three finishers and the door prize winners included a barbecue package, an outdoor package and a golf package.

The race began in front of the Colby Community Building and then went west on Fifth Street to

the gravel entrance of Smith Park. Then they went north to Harvey Avenue and turned east in to Walker Avenue. From there, they went to the North End of Walker which curved east into Austin Avenue. They went south to Fifth Street and then headed east back to the Community Building. From there, they went north on Court Avenue and crossed the finish line.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

## Tri-Plains High graduate will rope for Dodge City

Tad Sheets, the 18-year-old son of Scott and Vicki Sheets of Winona, has signed to rodeo at Dodge City Community College next year.

The 2010 Tri-Plains High School graduate will be coached by Kent Crouch. Sheets, a team roper and will be competing for Dodge, in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's Central Plains Region. The team will travel to 10 rodeos in Kansas and Oklahoma during both semesters and compete against two- and four-year schools.

Sheets was born in Colby and lived here through kindergarten. He said he began roping when he was 6 and he was roping off a horse when he was 7. He said he's known about the rodeo "pretty much since he was born."

"My Dad was a rodeo judge," Sheets said. "I've been around rodeo my whole life."

Sheets said he first started competing in rodeos when he was in junior high. He thought about do-

ing team roping down in Texas after high school, but he decided he wanted to stay closer to home for a couple years.

Rodeo team members are required to maintain their grade average to be eligible to compete and many have to work to pay entry fees and the cost of feed and care for their horses. Sheets said he plans to have a job while in college.

Sheets said the only real difference between Dodge City and Winona is that Dodge has more traffic.

"They are both agricultural communities," he said.

Sheets will be working to earn enough points to compete at the College National Finals, the largest and most important college rodeo. He plans to study Ag Business while at Dodge City.

Sheets wants to eventually compete in professional rodeo. He said this has always been a dream of his.

## No. 1 golfer shoots under par

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) - Looking for ways to kill time during a fog delay that pushed tee times back, Tiger Woods ate a second breakfast.

Then, as the wait dragged on, he ate his third.

"That's always good," he said. The best part? That wasn't the highlight of his day Thursday.

OK, so shooting 1-under 71, even at the PGA Championship, shouldn't be that big of a deal for a guy who has held the No. 1 ranking for more than five years. But after the year - not to mention the week - Woods has had, just finishing a round under par is huge.

Woods actually made a brief appearance at the top of the PGA leaderboard after making birdie on three of his first four holes. But he quickly gave way to Bubba Wat-

son and Francesco Molinari, the leaders at 4-under 68, and needed a birdie on his last hole to stay in the red.

The fog delay - a fittingly odd start for the strangest of years - meant that only half of the 156-player field finished the first round before dark.

"I played too good not to shoot under par, and it would have been very disappointing and frustrating to end up at even par as well as I played," Woods said.

Woods' personal life has been in shambles for nine months following the revelations of his rampant infidelities, and it's spilled over onto the course. He hasn't won all season.

Watson is one of the biggest hitters on the tour, which makes him a perfect match for the soft condi-

tions at Whistling Straits. On the 587-yard fifth hole, his drive was so monstrous - 445 yards, by his count - that he needed only a lob wedge and an easy two-putt for birdie.

Watson has only one career victory, this year's Travelers Championship, but you'd never know it by his relaxed attitude. He's fun-loving by nature, and personal crises - his father is battling cancer, and his wife had a scare of her own at Christmas - have only made him appreciate his life more.

"The win just showed me that we're onto something, the right thing. Let's have fun with our lives and let's have fun with golf," Watson said.

Molinari missed only two fairways and dropped only one shot on his way to a share of the lead.

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