

Racing series back in Colby

By Pat Tubbs

If you like racing and you like motorcycles, you will be pleased to know that on Friday, Aug. 12 in Colby, there will be plenty of both. In fact, there plans to be a lot of great racing.

"The 2011 Cycle Zone Racing series is shaping up to be one of our best race weeks we have offered to date," said Frank Hardman of the Cycle Zone Racing Association. "The object is to give the fans in the grandstands the best show possible. We also want our sponsors, such as Colby Ag (Center) and Yamaha, to benefit from the experience. The goal is to offer a great event to ensure the riders, sponsors and the spectators get the most bang for their buck."

And that is what everyone should expect to receive on Friday, Aug. 12. This year at the Thomas County Speedway for the first time in maybe the history of the sport, there will be outlaw racing, the Great Plains Flat Truck Racing Association, the American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association

and the Vintage Dirt Track Racing Association all on one track.

Add to that the top national riders in the country and it will be the best of the best. Colby plans to be part of the Chris Carr Farewell Tour, as well as playing host to many of the top national and local racers.

"Fans are sure to know and/or recognize someone they know," says Mark Ostmeyer of Ride-n-Slide Racing and local organizer. "We have Colby Ag, Hoxie Implement and Oakley Ag Center as major sponsors, showcasing the Yamaha motorcycle series that are located at each of their respected stores to thank for helping us bring this west to Colby."

Last year's race filled the stands with many area supporters; however, this year's race with all the competition and fanfare should ensure standing room only (including in the pits.)

"Colby is fortunate to be able to be part of this series and will be sure to provide a full afternoon and evening of excitement for all involved," said Ostmeyer.



Larry Dickey of Goodland posed with Mark Ostmeyer from Ride-n-Slide Racing and employees of the Colby Ag Center Thursday at the Colby Ag Center. Dickey is racing in the Cycle Zone Racing series next month, and the main sponsor of the series is the Colby Ag Center. Pictured are Lynn Stover, general manager of

Colby Ag Center (from left), James Rehmer, Colby Ag, Mark Ostmeyer, Landon Stover, Colby Ag, Larry Dickey, Chris Haefner, Colby Ag, Brett Dempewolf, Colby Ag, and T.J. Preston, Colby Ag.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Hoxie holds softball tourney

The Hoxie Summer Recreation Commission is having its third annual co-ed softball tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 23.

The tournament will be over in time to enjoy the Midway Carnival that evening. The tournament

type will be announced, depending on the number of teams enrolled. There will be a cash payout to the winner. Entry fee is \$100. Call or text Janel Beckman at (785) 386-8554 or Darlene Keith at (785) 675-1282 to enter your team today.

Support the Lady Trojan basketball team by purchasing your fireworks at the Wholesale Tent in the Dillon's parking lot through Monday. Opens early, closes late.

Nine Trojan athletes recognized as athletes of academic distinction

The National Junior College Athletic Association has announced that nine Colby Community College Trojan student athletes have been selected as 2010-2011 Academic All-Americans. Three of the athletes earned the association's highest academic honor, the Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence. The announcement was made as part of the comprehensive list which was posted on the association's Web site.

Pinnacle Award recipients were Cade Carter (Colby), Garrett Jones (Lecompton), and Jessica Leiker (Colby). Carter was a member of the baseball squad. Jones participated in cross country and indoor track. Leiker was a member of the Lady Trojan golf team. The Pinnacle Award is given to athletes with a 4.0 GPA.

Student athletes who earn a GPA of 3.8 to 3.99 are honored with the Superior Academic Achieve-

ment Award. Recipients are Courtney Bloski (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada) and Chelsie Gausman (Goodland). Bloski played for the Lady Trojan softball team. Gausman was a member of the women's golf squad.

Four Colby Community College athletes received the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award given to students with a 3.6 to 3.75 GPA. Recipients were Brandon Frank (Greeley, Colo.), Emily Lubbers (Yuma, Colo.), Hannah Thornton (Dublin, Ireland), and Wes Toews (Ithica, Mich.). Frank played on the Trojan baseball team. Lubbers was a member of the indoor and outdoor track and field teams and the Lady Trojan volleyball squad. Thornton was a member of the women's basketball team. Toews ran for the men's cross country squad.

Lockout begins as sides fail to reach new deal

By Brian Mahoney
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - The memories of a thrilling NBA season might have to last for a while.

There's no telling when basketball will be back.

The NBA locked out its players early Friday when its collective bargaining agreement expired, becoming the second major pro sport shut down by labor strife.

The players and owners remained far apart on just about every major issue, from salaries to the salary cap, revenues to revenue sharing.

"We had a great year in terms of the appreciation of our fans for our game. It just wasn't a profitable one for the owners, and it wasn't one that many of the smaller market teams particularly enjoyed or felt included in," Commissioner David Stern said. "The goal here has been to make the league profitable and to have a league where

all 30 teams can compete."

It is believed to be only the second time that two leagues have been shut down simultaneously by labor problems.

In 1994, both the NHL and MLB were idle from October through the end of the year. The NHL locked out its players from October 1994 until mid-January 1995 and reduced the 1994-95 season from 84 games to 48. MLB endured a 232-day strike from August 12, 1994 until April 2, 1995, which led to the cancellation of the entire 1994 postseason and World Series.

The NBA's long-expected lockout puts the 2011-12 season in jeopardy and all league business on hold - starting with the free agency period that would have opened Friday.

The NBA's summer league in Las Vegas already has been canceled, and teams were prohibited from having any contact with their players.

The lockout comes exactly one year after one of the NBA's most anticipated days in recent years, when LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and the rest of the celebrated class of 2010 became free agents.

Football bargaining session today

By Dave Campbell
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - The labor negotiating teams led by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and players' association chief DeMaurice Smith were back for more talks Friday, following a 15-hour bargaining session that lasted until early morning.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan is overseeing the process and said the sides would resume negotiations about six hours after they ended the last one.

Friday marks the fourth straight day of negotiations. The lockout began March 12, with the central issue being how to split revenues for the \$9 billion business.

A conference call with player representatives midway through Thursday's talks offered no news of a breakthrough. Some observers noted that since players don't get their regular paychecks until the regular season and revenue for the league revolves heavily around Sunday games, neither side appears to be up against a critical deadline - yet.

Still, training camps start in about three weeks, with the pre-season-opening Hall of Fame game scheduled Aug. 7 between the Bears and Cardinals.

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