



ERIC GAEDE/Thomas County Speedway

Adam Morris was interviewed by track announcer Gary Walker after his win in the Modified class on Sept. 4 at Thomas County Speedway. These were the last races of the season and the last races for track promoters Kerry and Leesa Wark.

Racing season ends with memorial races

By Eric Gaede
Thomas County Speedway

The fifth annual Jeff Hartwell memorial races on Sept. 4 were bittersweet for Kerry and Leesa Wark, as it was the last races they would be promoting. Kerry had a group get together and thanked all his helpers and supporters in front of the crowd during a short intermission. Thank you Kerry, Leesa, and everyone else that has helped throughout the last 21 years for keeping the sport of dirt track racing in Colby! It really does provide great entertainment and a boost to the local economy. Hopefully someone will step up and take over the reigns for the next year and beyond.

Modifieds

Adam Morris proved to everyone that he will be a threat in the future ending a great year with the win in the Jeff Hartwell memorial race. Nate Moore made it up to second but couldn't get to the

leader before the checkered flag fell. John Hansen, who won the International Motor Contest Association Modified Shootout during the fair, had to settle for third on this night. Darren DeLoach finished in the fourth spot but that was all he needed to capture the track championship. Brady Coen got a top five with newcomer Straun Taylor finishing in sixth. Fifteen modifieds were in the field.

Stock Cars

Wheat Lippelman bested the IMCA Stock Car class leading start to finish. It wasn't easy as he survived a restart and a couple hard moves to the inside to get the win. Tyler Tipton kept on Lippelman's back bumper but couldn't get past him and settled for second. Jason Rogers also looked for the lead at one point of the race but ended up in third place. Jeff Tubbs was fourth and BJ Waggoner came in fifth. Dustin Daniels finished sixth and took home the track championship trophy. Six-

teen stocks were on hand.

Hobby Stocks

Jason McIntyre finally stopped the winning streak Angel Munoz has been on by leading most of the laps and holding Munoz off to get the checkered flag. Cody Gumm had a great run for third and Tyrel Smith finished fourth and collected the track championship for his efforts. Al Emmons finished top five and Chad Fields finished sixth. There were 11 hobby stocks in the field.

Econos

Mike Meyers proved a station wagon is a real race car by getting the win in the Econo class. Mark Singer had a great run for second in his second race in the class. Joe Harper finished third and Jason Gray was fourth. Jory Friesen was fifth and also captured the track championship trophy. Eleven econos were on hand.

Lady Trojans victorious in Dodge City match

The Colby Community College Lady Trojan volleyball team defeated Dodge City Community College 25-23, 21-25, 25-22 and 25-23 in a match held on Saturday in Dodge City.

The Lady Trojans were led by Elzbieta Klein (Gdynia, Poland) with 20 kills for the match. Krissi Hahn (Chemnitz, Germany) had 26 assists with Abby Mrazek (Colorado Springs, Colo.) adding 18 assists. Jessica Piper (Kersey, Colo.) had 27 digs.

"We are still working to find the right lineup that is consistently strong and we hope we are closer to that after today," said Head Coach Carey Jones. "The most important thing about all 13 of these

young women is that they never stop fighting and it makes a big difference to have everyone on the same page with the coaching staff.

"Even though we are struggling some with inexperience, they are starting to really gel and we're hoping that things continue to head in that direction. Dodge City had a great team put together but we were the better team today, and the girls fought for the win."

Colby Community College will be on the road next weekend for a tournament in Texas. Their next home match is at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the Community Building.

Colby golfer takes first at Ulysses tournament

The Colby High School girls golf team has traveled to three tournaments this season and the golfers have improved at each event.

In the opening tourney of the year, the varsity squad went to the Sublette Tournament at Buffalo Dunes in Garden City on Aug. 29 for a 9-hole tourney. Head Coach Rick Williams had three girls playing the first golf tournament of their lives. Colby finished fourth as a team (Kaylee Keck, Karly Kriss, Lauren Mountford, Ariel Severson, McKenna Ortner, and Katie Zerr) out of 14. The individual medalists were Keck (49), fourth and Kriss (51), seventh.

"It was nice to get out and play under tournament pressure," Williams said. "We played pretty well for the first time out on a tough course with a difficult wind."

The next tournament was in Hugoton on Sept. 1, and it was a 9-hole tourney for both the varsity and junior varsity squads. On the varsity side, Colby took third as a team (Keck, Kriss, Mountford, Severson, Ortner, and Zerr).

Williams said his team accomplished a rare feat at this tournament.

"We pulled off something, as individuals, that I have rarely seen and Colby has never done, as we went 1 and 2 on the individual medal stand," Williams said. "Kaylee Keck shot a 4 over par 42 to take first and Karly Kriss shot a 6 over par 44 to take second.

On the junior varsity side, Kim Wilson placed eighth to win a JV medal. Haley Mengel tied for 10th, but missed out on a medal in the scorecard playoff.

The Goodland Tournament was another varsity and junior varsity tourney on Sept. 6. The varsity competed on 18 holes while the junior varsity competed on 9 holes. On the varsity side, Colby took third as a team (Keck, Kriss, Mountford, Severson, Ortner, and Zerr). The lone individual medalist was Keck who shot an 88 (18 holes) to win the tourney by 4 strokes. Kriss tied for 10th, but missed out on a medal in the scorecard playoff.

Williams said Goodland's

course is in bad shape and that made the scores for all of the teams a bit higher than normal.

"Kaylee played great to win back-to-back tournaments," Williams said. "The new girls really started to show some improvement. We need to get Karly to be a bit more consistent and keep the new girls improving and we will be in the hunt to win some of these tourneys."

The latest tournament was a junior varsity tourney Tuesday in Ulysses, and Williams took five of Colby's inexperienced golfers to it. Ortner shot a 53 to win the tournament by 7 strokes. Mountford placed fourth to get a medal. Williams said that they did not medal seniors at this tournament, but if they would have, Zerr and Wilson would have both medaled.

"McKenna played great and posted a personal best score by several strokes," Williams said. "Katie Zerr also played great. These two girls have been playing golf for only about three weeks, and have improved a ton."

College to hold home rodeo, expects over 650 contestants

Over 650 contestants from 24 colleges will compete in the annual Colby Community College National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rodeo scheduled for Friday to Sunday at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

Events will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday with the fi-

nals on Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Men's events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping and bull riding.

The women will compete in breakaway calf roping, goat tying and barrel racing.

Tickets at the gate are \$10 for

adults and \$5 for children under 12. Advance tickets (\$8 for adults and \$4 for children) are on sale at Vanderbilts and the Campus Bookstore.

For more information about the rodeo, contact Russell at (785) 460-5461.

Colby Recreation Department holds first golf tournament

Twenty-four people participated in the first Colby Recreation Department Golf Tournament last Thursday. The tourney was a four-person scramble with all proceeds going to new wireless scoring units for the City of Colby Ball Fields.

"Our facility is utilized by several groups nearly 8 months of the year," said Recreation Director Stacy Lee. "The Rec, CHS, CCC, K-18, Legion, and Sweet Thunder all use the fields at some point through the year. Our scoring units are in pretty bad shape with the wind and dust wear and tear, and with teenage operators, it's just time to get updated. We decided to start raising funds and what better way to start the campaign than with a golf tournament?"

The tournament started at 10 a.m. Thursday. After registration and rules, the teams teed off for their first 9 holes before coming in

for a lunch break.

"Kevan Taylor and his crew at Meadow Lake did a wonderful job preparing the course and meal for our tournament," said Lee. "If I was smarter, I would have been taking a few lessons from Kevan while we were waiting for teams to finish up!"

There were several hole contests and gimmicks around the 18-hole course. A team free throw contest was held on holes 1 and 10. The better the team percentage, the closer players got to move their ball to tee off for the hole. Holes 2 and 11 were sponsored by Horlacher Jewelry, with anyone hitting a hole in one winning a free diamond from the jewelers. Holes 3 and 12 were a \$10 Team Toss and Hit. Teams could pay to toss a golf ball and hit with a bat to mark where they could tee off from.

"It was a pretty entertaining hole," said Tess Smith, Recre-

ation Assistant. "We had several whiffers and several that I thought would really go, but went about 10 feet. It's a lot harder than it sounds."

Holes 4 and 13 were contests for the longest putt, with \$50 Taco Johns Gift cards going to the winners, Barry Lucas and Doug Wilson. On hole 5, Tracy Rogers won \$35 in Arby's VIP Cards for the shortest drive used. Holes 6 and 15 were regular play with 7 and 16 as the longest drive for women only. Amber Barton won both rounds, scooping up pink Colby Recreation Department golf balls

and a Diva Boutique purse donated by Adrienne Simms. Holes 8 and 17 had twists as they both started in the bunker instead of on the tee boxes. Van Koon and Dustin Pfeifer won prizes (\$20 El Dos De Oros Certificate and Kansas Quick Lube Oil Change and Car Washes) on holes 9 and 18 for second shot closest to the green but not on.

"We put a couple of spins on the tournament, trying to make it as Rec themed as we could get," said Lee. "We gave away free yoga and boot camp sessions to the team with the best free throw

percentage, which went to Randy and Mary Lou Jones, Steve Molstad, and Tracy Rogers. And in the spirit of our 5K races that we host at the Rec that are traditionally 'predicted time' runs, we awarded champion trophies to the team that came closest to their predicted scores. Brady Jasper, Dustin Pfeifer, Rusty Grafel, and David Nordhues were only one off their predicted score of 60."

The tournament consisted of two flights, Major and Minor Leagues. Barry Lucas, Brad Kersenbrock, Mitch Kane, and Doug Wilson claimed the Major League Cham-

pionship and Randy and Mary Lou Jones, Steve Molstad, and Tracy Rogers claimed the Minor League Championship.

"Though we didn't have a ton of teams play, we had a great time and managed to make a huge dent toward the \$5,000 project. I was overwhelmed with all the corporate sponsors' donations and especially all the great prizes that were donated. We are looking forward to hosting another tournament, most likely in the early spring, to continue and raise money for the updates."

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