

# Speedway in Colby holds races

By Kayla Cornett

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Ron Baalmann grabbed the win in the econo class in racing last Sunday at the Thomas County Speedway, receiving 39 points for first place.

Joe Harper finished second and got 38 points, Jory Friesen third for 37, Bryan Guyer fourth for 36 and Jeremy Blackwill fifth for 35, Ryan Baalmann sixth for 34 (did not finish), Alex West seventh for 33 (did not finish), Jason Schwarz eighth for 32 (did not finish) and Rocky Baalmann ninth for 31 (did not finish).

In the hobby-stock class, Brian Stich took home first and 40 points. Richard Boon came in second for 39, Raymond Dechant third for 38, Daniel Irwin fourth for 37, Drew Drennan fifth for 36, Jason Blackhart sixth for 35 and Matt Giesenhagen seventh for 34;

John Luckert (eighth for 33 points), Michael Johnson (ninth for 32), Joey Snethen (10th for 31), Tyrel Smith (11th for 30), Emanuel Young (12th for 29), Curt Kennedy (13th for 28; did not fin-

ish). Mike Giesenhagen (14th for 27) did not start the feature.

Michael Wadel came away with the win again in the sport modified class Sunday, grabbing 37 points. Dustin Daniels took second for 36, Jason Brees third for 35, Jason Gray fourth for 34, Darren Crouch fifth for 33 and Cody Pancake sixth for 32. Ethan Zweygardt (seventh for 31) did not finish.

In the stock-car class, Angel Munoz finished first for 40 points. Bruce Plumisto came in second for 39, Jason Rogers third for 38, Wheat Lippelman fourth for 37, B.J. Wagoner fifth for 36, Tyler Tipton sixth for 35, Jeff Tubbs seventh for 34, Nick Tubbs eighth for 33, Allen Snethen ninth for 32 and Jason Stevens 10th for 31. Mike Meyer (11th for 30) and Austin Janousek (12th for 29) did not finish.

Adam Morris took the top spot in the modified class for 36 points. Darren DeLoach took second for 35, John Fose third for 34, Nate Moore fourth for 33 and Wheat Lippelmann fifth for 32. Allen Kurth (sixth for 31) did not finish the race.

## Crashing cars



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Jake Haines (No. 00) almost crashed into Andy Blackhart (No. 7) while John Rucetto (No. 26R) sped ahead of them during the figure-eight races for full-size cars that took place before the

demolition derby Saturday night at the Thomas County Speedway. The derby is a featured event of the Thomas County Free Fair, which officially begins tonight.

# More world records fall at Olympic pool

By Paul Newberry

AP National Writer

LONDON — So much for all those dire predictions of records set during the high-tech bodysuit era standing for decades.

They're falling quickly at the Olympic Aquatics Centre in London.

American Dana Vollmer took down another record in the 100-meter butterfly Sunday night, then Cameron van der Burgh of South Africa beat another in the 100 breaststroke — denying Japan's Kosuke Kitajima an Olympic threepeat.

Not even through the second night of the London Games, three world records had already been set.

And they're just getting warmed up.

Camille Muffat of France also won gold in a riveting 400 free-style duel with American Allison Schmitt, the two virtually stroke for stroke the entire way. Muffat held on to win by about half a stroke with an Olympic-record time, while Schmitt settled for silver. Britain's Rebecca Adlington brought out the biggest cheer when she touched third — the home country's first swimming medal of the games.

On a night expected to feature a relay duel between the Australians and the Americans, Vollmer got things started with a bang. She was third at the turn but powered to the wall for a time of 55.98 seconds, beating the record of 56.06 set by Sweden's Sarah Sjöström at the 2009 world championships.

Not bad for someone who didn't even qualify for the last Olympics.

Vollmer dropped back her

head when saw the time, then broke into a huge smile, slapped the water and pumped her fists.

"I'm on top of the world right now," she said. "I still know I can go faster."

Vollmer, who made the Olympics as a 16-year-old in 2004, was a huge disappointment when she failed to make the team in Beijing four years ago. She was slowed by injuries and health problems, making her question whether she even wanted to continue competitive swimming.

But her injuries healed, and a change in diet gave her a new outlook. She came close to breaking Sjöström's record at the U.S. Olympic trials last month, and set an Olympic record in the semifinals to come in as the top qualifier.

Now, she's an Olympic champion.

Kitajima was trying to become the first male swimmer to win the same race at three straight Olympics. But, like Michael Phelps the night before in the 400 individual medley, the Japanese star didn't come close.

Van der Burgh made sure of that, dominating the race almost as soon as his head popped out of the water for the first time. He was comfortably ahead at the turn and blew away the field on the return lap to touch in 58.46, knocking off another of the marks set at the 2009 world championships.

Brendan Rickard's time of 58.58 was among the astonishing 43 world records established at that meet in Rome, when rubberized suits took the sport to times that bordered on absurd. The suits have since been banned, with some predicting that it might take decades to go

faster in textile suits.

Only two records fell at last year's worlds in Shanghai, but the Olympic meet has already beaten that number.

Australia's Christian Sprenger took the silver in 58.93, and American Brendan Hansen claimed bronze in 59.49, providing a bit of salve for past Olympic disappointments. Hansen was so disgusted with his performance in Beijing that he retired from the sport, saying he was totally burned out. After giving triathlons a try, he returned to the pool and got back up to speed.

Kitajima didn't find the speed he needed, struggling home in fifth at 59.79. The night before, Phelps failed in his bid to win three straight 400 IM titles, fading to fourth while fellow American Ryan Lochte took gold with a dominating performance.

Van der Burgh propped himself on the lane rope, breathing heavy and holding his hands on his head. He thought of his good friend, Alex Dale Oen, who was the world champion in this event but died suddenly in April from cardiac arrest.

Lu Ying gave China another medal, taking silver behind Vollmer in 56.87. Australia's Alicia Coutts grabbed the bronze in 56.94. It was a tough night for Sjöström, who not only lost her world record but didn't even get a medal, touching fourth in 57.17.

Muffat and Schmitt raced side by side the whole way in the 400 free, with Muffat clinging tenaciously to the lead while the American tried desperately to reel her in. She couldn't pull it off, as Muffat touched in 4 minutes, 1.45 seconds to win by a scant 0.32 margin.

## Fort Hays to hold Mud Run

Hays Medical Center's Center for Health Improvement and Fort Hays State University will sponsor the Big Creek Mud Run on Sunday, Aug. 26.

The mud run is a 2-mile obstacle course that winds through the Fort Hays campus. Participants should be ready to "get their dirty on" as they jump, crawl and climb through mud and other obstacles.

"The Mud Run was so successful last year that we are excited to once again host this event," said Stephanie Schaffer, fitness director of the Center for Health Improvement. "People loved the event last year, and we are adding some additional features to make it even better."

This year's event will include a Kids Mud Bath that begins at 1 p.m. Kids will be allowed to get dirty after the last wave of competitors has completed the course. No obstacles for them, just plenty of mud.

The run is carried out in heats of 30 people. The first wave begins at 8:30 a.m. and a new wave starts every 30 minutes, with the last one beginning at 12:30 p.m. You can run in your own wave or get your friends together and all run in the same wave.

Deadline for registering is Wednesday, Aug. 22. The fee is \$25 and participants must be 18 or older. All participants will receive a T-shirt and lunch. Live music and food will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to bring families and friends.

For information or to register, go to the center's website at [www.thecenter.haysmed.com/mudrun](http://www.thecenter.haysmed.com/mudrun). Call Kelly at the center at (785) 623-6324 or Emily at Fort Hays State at (785) 628-5908 with questions.

## Schedule of Events

### 2012 Thomas County Fair

#### Saturday, July 28th

##### DEMO DERBY

8:00 p.m.

Coyote Country Spin  
& Win \$100,000  
Jackpot Giveaway & a  
share in over \$35,000 prizes  
and gift certificates

#### Sunday, July 29th

##### TODD BECKER FOUNDATION BLOCKSTOP CONCERT

5:00 p.m.

Franklin Ave. & 5<sup>th</sup> St.

#### Monday, July 30th

##### OPEN CLASS ENTRIES

4-H Building

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

##### MUTTON BUSTING

6:00 p.m. Registration

##### RODEO &

##### QUEEN CROWNING

8:00 p.m.

#### Tuesday, July 31st

##### CARNIVAL • 7 - 11 p.m.

All booths will be set up

##### PARADE • 5:30 p.m.

Line-up at 8th & Franklin North  
of Fike Park

##### KPRA RODEO • 8:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday, August 1st

##### ANTIQUA TRACTOR SHOW

11:00 a.m.

##### FREE BBQ • 5:30 p.m.

##### PEDAL TRACTOR PULL

4:00 p.m.

Free Entertainment  
"Texaco Country Showdown"

7:30 p.m.

#### Thursday, August 2nd

##### THOMAS COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BREAKFAST

4-H Building 7:30 a.m.

##### 4-H LIVESTOCK SHOWS

All Day

##### LIVESTOCK AUCTION

5:30 p.m.

#### Friday, August 3rd

##### ROUND ROBIN JUDGING

9:00 a.m.

##### OPEN FFA JUDGING CONTEST

1:00 p.m.

##### CAR RACES • 7:00 p.m.

#### Saturday, August 4th

##### CAR RACES • 7:00 p.m.

##### CARNIVAL

Tuesday - Saturday  
7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Tues. F&M Bank Wristband Night  
Sat. \$10 Wristband Night for all rides



## VOTE TO ELECT Kevin N. Berens

Your Thomas County Attorney

Currently Serving as Thomas County Attorney  
with Knowledge, Experience and Integrity.

- Raised in Colby
- Local business and property owner
- Family and Friends in the community
- Member of Thomas County LEPC
- Member of the Kansas Sentencing Commission (appointed by Gov. Brownback)
- Protection through Vigorous Prosecution