

# Fire can't hinder spirit of Colby College alum

By R.B. Headley  
Colby Free Press

Only one page of the Bible was found nearby after Black Forest fires completely destroyed her Colorado Springs house.

Yet Hannah Thornton's faith has never been stronger.

Being homeless for more than a week only inspires her about the future.

"I've never asked for so much help. I've always wanted to do stuff for other people," the Colby Community College alum and former Trojans basketball player said during a phone interview Wednesday afternoon. "Seeing people working at the shelters, giving up their time even though have full-time jobs. It makes me realize my turn to give back will be here again soon."

Until then, the daily challenge continues for Thornton and her roommate.

They spend each night taking turns sleeping on a couch or extra bed in another friend's house. They visit Salvation Army and Goodwill to search for potential furniture when that new home is found.

It still seems impossible to believe considering their previous move was barely two weeks ago.

"We were only there five days," Thornton said. "I was at work (when the fire hit). I remember sitting in my car - you always hope to hear good news. But they called and told me everything was definitely gone."

Clothes, money and basically everything else was lost except for what she described as "some really old tables, chairs and the cable box."

"I haven't been back there yet. I'm supposed to go this weekend," Thornton said. "That's when it will probably really sink in even more."

Sister Jill Thornton was also visiting from Ireland when the fire arrived. The monster blaze destroyed all her luggage and other items just one day before she was set to return home.

"It's been good to have my sister here, though, especially since the rest of my family is so far away," Hannah said.

Yet Hannah knows her extended family really isn't that far away. Barely one day after the disaster, Colby Recreation Director Stacy

Jasper was organizing donations and other aid to be sent Hannah's way.

Hannah can only marvel at the response during these past few days. It's reminded her how great it was to play basketball for Colby from 2009 to 2011, where she averaged 14 points per game. The 6'1" Dublin, Ireland native earned a National Collegiate Activities Association Division I opportunity with the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

"Sometimes, people say 'oh, you went to Colby' and I say it was one of my best experiences ever," Hannah said. "Really, Colby is one of the nicest communities I've ever been in. I'm very thankful for all my friends there and what they've done for me."

Hannah continues working at her new job, for Red Line Athletics in Colorado Springs. She graduated from Greeley with a sports management degree last month.

"I work from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day, but they are nice about giving us time when we need it to look for homes," she concluded. "We will be back on our feet and find a new home. I can't wait to start giving back."



Colby Community College alum Hannah Thornton played her last two basketball seasons with the University of Northern Colorado. uncbears.com

## Benefit golf hits 23rd year

The 23rd annual Citizens Medical Center tournament drew 22 golf teams and six tables of bridge players on Friday at Meadow Lake Course.

Jordan Sharp, Dave Windholz, Jody Hipp and Alexander Howard golfed their way to the championship flight title.

Laurie Ostmeier emerged as the bridge champion.

All proceeds from the tournament are for a capital campaign to expand health care at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

## Father, son hit targets

RICHMOND, Texas (AP) — A father-son duo from South Texas each shot a hole-in-one on Father's Day.

Lonnie Whitener, 57, told the *Houston Chronicle* (bit.ly/13VIAHF) he hit his 115-yard drive. Then 13-year-old Zach Whitener hit his shot from 100 yards using a 6-iron landed near the pin and gently rolled into the cup for the perfect follow-up.

## Colby sets home tourney pairings

Colby K-18 has announced the matchups for its age 15-and-under baseball tournament this weekend in Colby.

The event will feature round-robin play on Saturday followed by Sunday's tourney semifinals, championship and third-place contests.

**Saturday's games**  
Colby vs. Oakley, 9 a.m.

Burlington, Colo., vs. Johnson, 11 a.m.  
Colby vs. Johnson, 1 p.m.  
Oakley vs. Burlington, 3 p.m.  
Colby vs. Burlington, 5 p.m.  
Oakley vs. Johnson, 7 p.m.

**Sunday's games**  
Based on pool play, the No. 1 and No. 4 seeds play a 9 a.m. semifinal with No. 2 and 3 seeds meeting at 11 a.m.

The third-place game follows at 1 p.m. while a 3 p.m. championship showdown will decide this year's champion.

Colby K-18 currently owns a 9-1 overall record and 8-0 against Jayhawk League competition. Coach Brian Quagliano's team is trying to avenge that loss at McCook, Neb., today in a 5:30 p.m. doubleheader.

## Tonight will decide NBA title

MIAMI (AP) — Game 7s do more than settle championships. They define legacies.

No matter what happens Thursday night, LeBron James and the Miami Heat, and Tim Duncan's San Antonio Spurs have already won NBA titles and secured a place in history. Now is their opportunity to elevate it.

The truly memorable teams won the hard way, and that will be

the case for the one celebrating at center court this time. It's either a Heat repeat, possible only after James led Miami back from what seemed certain elimination in the closing seconds of Game 6, or the Spurs shaking off as gut-wrenching a loss as a team can have to become just the fourth club to win a Game 7 of the NBA Finals on the road.

"I want to go down as one of

the greatest. I want our team to go down as one of the greatest teams. And we have an opportunity to do that," James said.

Miami Heat guard Ray Allen played in the game the last time the NBA's season went down to the final day, the Boston Celtics fading at the finish and falling 83-79 to the Los Angeles Lakers in 2010. That made home teams 14-3 in Finals' Game 7s.

# High places show Colby's ready for Saturday home swim meet

The Colby Swim Club team's most experienced competitors earned several top 10 places at Saturday's Oakley Invitational.

Mark Faber paced the boys with three second-place finishes while also helping Colby's age 13-14 200-mixed medley relay win a championship.

Michael Quattlebaum (three top five places), Quinlee Niblock (three top 10 places) and Alex Vap (three top 10 places) ran the other legs of that winning relay.

Kory Finley, Nickolas Delzeit, Aaron Faber and Gabriel Schriener were four more trip le top placers as the entire Colby team totaled 225 points.

Besides Quinlee Niblock, these older Colby girls placed top 10 three times: Madison Rogers, Taylor Lemman and Kynndra Rush.

It's the final warm-up for Saturday's Colby Invitational on Saturday (9 a.m. start) at the Aquatic Park.

Here are remaining results from Oakley with all events are measured in yards.

**Age 8-and-under boys**  
Beau Mettlen placed eighth in 50-freestyle (58.25), eighth in 25-freestyle (26.55) and seventh in 25-butterfly (29.28).  
Blair Niblock placed 12th in 50-freestyle (1:32.46) and 14th in 25-freestyle (37.29).  
Blayne Reid placed 14th in 50-freestyle (1:48.62), 18th in 25-freestyle (43.29) and 11th in 25-backstroke (1:14.32).  
Caden Schriener placed 19th in 25-freestyle (44.39) and ninth in 25-breaststroke (1:09.11).  
Talon Wark placed 24th in 25-freestyle (1:30.74).  
Tucker Wark placed ninth in 25-freestyle (27.5), 13th in 25-backstroke (34.8) and seventh in 25-breaststroke (41.44).

Relays: Swim Club A of Mettlen, Tucker Wark, Lindsey and Barton placed second in 100-freestyle (2:01.69). Swim Club B of Lanning, Reid, McCarty and Talon Wark placed seventh in 100-freestyle (3:14.21). Swim Club A of Lindsey, Barton, Mettlen and Reid placed first in 100-medley (2:33.88).

Mixed relays: Swim Club A of Schriener, Niblock, Rhymer and Delzeit placed first in 100-freestyle (2:33.88). Swim Club A of Morris, Barton, Lanning and Tucker Wark placed seventh in 100-medley (2:50.1).

**Age 9-10 girls**  
Carissa Brogan placed fourth in 25-freestyle (17.65), seventh in 25-backstroke (24.08) and second in 25-butterfly (20.81).  
Oaklynn Carman placed 16th in 25-freestyle (26.69), 10th in 25-backstroke (27.07) and eighth in 25-breaststroke (32.92).  
Allison Catlin placed fourth in 100-freestyle (1:35.29), fifth in 25-freestyle (18.48) and fourth in 25-back-

stroke (22.96).  
Kourtney Finley placed second in 100-freestyle (1:28.22), first in 25-freestyle (17.0) and first in 25-butterfly (20.11).  
Jillian Niblock placed 13th in 25-freestyle (23.59), 11th in 25-backstroke (27.52) and sixth in 25-breaststroke (26.45).  
Alizah Schielke placed 14th in 25-freestyle (24.99), 12th in 25-backstroke (28.46) and ninth in 25-butterfly (33.71).  
Relay: Swim Club A of Niblock, Carman, Schielke and Allison Catlin placed second in 100-freestyle (1:33.84).  
**Age 9-10 girls**  
Steel Brown placed sixth in 100-freestyle (1:44.42) and 11th in 25-freestyle (20.84).  
Conner Lanning placed sixth in 25-freestyle (19.46), seventh in 25-butterfly (23.11) and seventh in 25-breaststroke (28.97).  
Dawson Lemman placed fourth in 25-freestyle (17.76), fourth in 25-butterfly (24.33) and seventh in 100-individual medley (2:08.95).  
Jud Rose placed 22nd in 25-freestyle (30.01), 13th in 25-breaststroke (36.79) and 14th in 25-breaststroke (44.85).  
Wade Rush placed third in 25-butterfly (22.53), fourth in 25-breaststroke (25.9) and third in 100-individual medley (1:47.43).  
Isaac Smith placed 19th in 25-freestyle (25.51), 15th in 25-backstroke (41.38) and 12th in 25-breaststroke (36.03).  
Joshua Yanez placed 13th in 100-freestyle (3:01.2), 23rd in 25-freestyle (35.53) and 10th in 25-butterfly (46.7).  
Relays: Swim Club A of Rose, Smith, Yanez and Brown placed second in 100-freestyle relay (1:42.14). Swim Club A of Smith, Rush, Lemman and Lanning placed second in 100-medley (1:56.16).  
Mixed relays: Swim Club A of Brogan, Lemman, Rush and Lanning placed first in 100-freestyle (1:17.26). Swim Club A of Rose, Catlin, Schielke and Yanez placed seventh in 100-medley (2:19.53).  
**Age 11-12 girls**  
Taylor Bieberle placed second in 50-freestyle (32.96), first in 50-breaststroke (40.38) and second in 100-individual medley (1:26.1).  
Alexis Carney placed 11th in 50-freestyle (37.13), ninth in 50-backstroke (48.83) and ninth in 50-breaststroke (49.63).  
Jersey Carney placed sixth in 100-freestyle (1:27.07), 15th in 50-freestyle (38.72) and ninth in 50-butterfly

(48.13).  
Macy Catlin placed second in 100-freestyle (1:11.6), first in 50-freestyle (38.75) and first in 50-butterfly (37.04).  
Meghann Elling placed 31st in 50-freestyle (45.44), 18th in 50-backstroke (1:03.23) and 15th in 100-individual medley (2:12.74).  
Lexy Kraft placed 25th in 50-freestyle (43.86), 15th in 50-backstroke (56.59) and 24th in 50-breaststroke (1:04.35).  
Madisyn Lemman placed first in 100-freestyle (1:10.62), second in 50-butterfly (37.39) and first in 100-individual medley (1:23.15).  
Jayln Mettlen placed ninth in 100-freestyle (1:29.78), 13th in 50-freestyle (38.4) and 11th in 50-breaststroke (50.63).  
Alexandra Quattlebaum placed ninth in 50-freestyle (37.02), 10th in 50-breaststroke (50.27) and ninth in 100-individual medley (1:41.45).  
Abby Rose placed 10th in 100-freestyle (1:30.2), 14th in 50-butterfly (53.09) and 18th in 50-breaststroke (56.59).  
Paige Schroer placed eighth in 50-freestyle (36.1), fifth in 50-breaststroke (46.23) and seventh in 100-individual medley (1:38.04).  
Mandy Summers placed 15th in 100-freestyle (1:44.93), 33rd in 50-freestyle (48.15) and 17th in 50-backstroke (1:02.65).  
Chloe Waddington placed 34th in 50-freestyle (1:11.97) and 27th in 50-breaststroke (1:21.85).  
Jessilyn Weis placed 22nd in 50-freestyle (41.28), sixth in 50-breaststroke (48.26) and 11th in 100-individual medley (1:43.57).  
Relays: Swim Club A of Bieberle, Schroer, Catlin and Lemman placed first in 200-freestyle (2:12.8). Swim Club B of Elling, Weis, Quattlebaum and Jersey Carney placed fourth in 200-freestyle (2:41.86). Swim Club C of Rose, Summers, Mettlen and Kraft placed fifth in 200-freestyle (2:51.1). Swim Club A of Alexis Carney, Bieberle, Lemman and Catlin placed first in 200-medley (2:39.46). Swim Club B of Elling, Schroer, Rose and Mettlen placed fourth in 200-medley (3:24.79). Swim Club C of Summers, Weis, Jersey Carney and Kraft placed seventh in 200-medley (3:23.23).  
**Age 11-12 boys**  
Brysen Barton placed fourth in 100-freestyle (1:27.25) and 11th in 50-freestyle (39.43).  
Riley Kraft placed 15th in 50-freestyle (44.69), eighth in 50-butterfly (56.44) and seventh in 100-individual medley (2:07.15).

Jaren Rush placed fourth in 50-freestyle (36.82), seventh in 50-butterfly (55.81) and fifth in 100-individual medley (1:48.41).  
Trey Stramel placed 16th in 100-freestyle (2:24.91) and 21st in 50-freestyle (1:04.35).  
Joseph Yanez placed 22nd in 50-freestyle (1:09.69), ninth in 50-backstroke (1:10.14) and eighth in 50-breaststroke (1:21.12).  
Relays: Swim Club A of Barton, Yanez, Stramel and Kraft placed fourth in 200-freestyle (3:25.71). Swim Club A of Barton, Yanez, Kraft and Stramel placed seventh in 200-medley (4:21.65).  
Mixed relays: Swim Club A of Alexis Carney, Finley, Rush and Waddington placed sixth in 200-freestyle (3:04.52). Swim Club A of Finley, Quattlebaum, Waddington and Rush placed sixth in 200-medley (3:44.87).  
**Age 13-14 girls**  
Sarah Bohall placed 16th in 100-freestyle (1:21.58) and 12th in 100-freestyle (35.01).  
Bryce Brown placed 12th in 100-freestyle (1:20.93) and 16th in 50-freestyle (36.82).  
Amelia Culver placed 21st in 100-freestyle (1:28.77), 19th in 50-freestyle (37.78) and sixth in 100-butterfly (1:46.12).  
Emily Delzeit placed 17th in 100-freestyle (1:23.47), 20th in 50-freestyle (38.23) and eighth in 100-backstroke (1:55.02).  
Lynnsey Elling placed 22nd in 100-freestyle (1:31.33), 22nd in 50-freestyle (40.07) and 16th in 100-breaststroke (1:51.62).  
Desiree Foster placed 19th in 100-freestyle (1:24.07), 17th in 50-freestyle (37.1) and 15th in 100-breaststroke (1:50.05).  
Quinlee Niblock placed fourth in 100-backstroke (1:33.71), sixth in 100-breaststroke (1:34.23) and fourth in 200-individual medley (3:18.68).  
Natalie Oren placed 23rd in 100-freestyle (1:32.45), 21st in 50-freestyle

(33.98) and 12th in 100-backstroke (1:49.43).  
Kynndra Rush placed third in 100-backstroke (1:29.68), fifth in 100-butterfly (1:45.39) and 10th in 100-breaststroke (1:38.02).  
Relays: Swim Club A of Niblock, Foster, Culver and Rush placed fifth in 200-freestyle (2:26.3). Swim Club B of Brown, Delzeit, Oren and Bohall placed sixth in 200-freestyle (2:27.53). Swim Club A of Niblock, Elling, Rush and Foster placed fifth in 200-medley (2:58.58). Swim Club B of Oren, Bohall, Culver and Delzeit placed sixth in 200-medley (3:12.97).  
**Age 13-14 boys**  
Mark Faber placed second in 100-backstroke (1:20.09), second in 100-breaststroke (1:23.95) and second in 200-individual medley (2:56.02).  
Kory Finley placed eighth in 100-freestyle (1:14.24), fourth in 100-butterfly (1:29.58) and third in 200-individual medley (3:09.55).  
Lander Niblock placed 14th in 100-freestyle (1:26.14), 13th in 50-freestyle (36.76) and seventh in 200-individual medley (3:59.47).  
Michael Quattlebaum placed fifth in 50-freestyle (30.28), fifth in 100-butterfly (1:43.09) and fifth in 200-individual medley (3:33.34).  
Alex Vap placed eighth in 100-backstroke (2:01.66), 10th in 100-breaststroke (2:06.8) and ninth in 200-individual medley (4:32.95).  
Relays: Swim Club A of Vap, Niblock, Quattlebaum and Faber placed third in 200-freestyle (2:18.67). Niblock, Faber, Quattlebaum and Finley placed first in 200-medley (2:19.39).  
**Age 15-18 girls**  
Taylor Lemman placed seventh in 100-freestyle (1:14.78), fifth in 50-freestyle (32.08) and fifth in 100-breaststroke (1:38.05).  
Madison Rogers placed ninth in 100-backstroke (1:21.66), second in 100-butterfly (1:19.41) and second in 200-individual medley (3:02.87).

**Age 15-18 boys**  
Nickolas Delzeit placed fourth in 100-freestyle (1:04.79), third in 100-breaststroke (1:21.46) and second in 200-individual medley (2:54.5).  
Aaron Faber placed sixth in 100-freestyle (1:07.1), sixth in 50-freestyle (28.84) and fourth in 100-breaststroke (1:28.58).  
Gabriel Schriener placed seventh in 50-freestyle (29.1), third in 100-butterfly (1:27.28) and third in 200-individual medley (2:56.67).  
Mixed relays: Lemman, Rogers, Schriener and Delzeit placed second in 200-freestyle (2:00.34).  
Faber, Delzeit, Lemman and Schriener placed fifth in 200-medley (2:32.08).

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