

Sluggers exit early from Wild West Fest

By R.B. Headley
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A lack of players brought an early end to a lost weekend at Hays' Wild West Fest for the Colby Sluggers on Saturday.

"We were 0-3 in pool play, and then we had some unexpected absenteeisms," coach Jared Hamilton said. "We only had nine players to start the tournament, so we didn't have enough to field a team after that."

The always-tough Hays tournament field showed little mercy, except when all three Colby games were called due to baseball's 10-run mercy rule.

Teams from Topeka; Aurora, Colo.; and Cañon City, Colo. all posted double digits against a Sluggers team that had won 10 of its previous 15 games this summer.

"We were just overmatched," Hamilton said. "We had some defensive issues. Those teams' ability to hit the ball combined with our inability to make some plays once in awhile led to the 10-run disasters."

The Sluggers suffered this same painful pool play in last year's Wild West Fest, and two tournament games didn't get any easier as Colby finished 0-5 overall.

Recovery will wait until zone action resumes.

The Sluggers (10-8 record overall) will move on to visit area rival Goodland at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening.

When Colby last ventured into Goodland, the boys left with a Levi Hayden Memorial Tournament title just two weeks ago.

Colby's next two contests resulted in a doubleheader sweep at Norton last weekend.

"We'll get back out there on Wednesday and try to right the record," Hamilton concluded. "Every game, including the ones in Hays, counts in our seeding for the zone tournament coming up. We need to get back on track."

Wednesday's twin bill at Goodland will complete the Sluggers' 20-game regular season. They are not scheduled to play again until that zone tournament starts Sunday, June 21.

Watch for more details in upcoming editions.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
The Colby Sluggers didn't make as much contact at Hays last week as they did in earlier games this season. They'll resume zone play at Goodland Wednesday evening.

Rockies crumble in desert

PHOENIX (AP) — At last, Patrick Corbin has that elusive 10th victory.

The 23-year-old left-hander gave up three hits in eight innings and the Arizona Diamondbacks beat Colorado 6-1 Sunday for their fifth straight win and a dominant three-game sweep of the Rockies.

Corbin (10-1) struck out 10 in his seventh attempt at win No. 10.

Picked a day earlier for the All-Star team, Corbin also hit an RBI double as the Diamondbacks outscored the Rockies 22-2 in the series.

The Rockies lost more than the game. Star outfielder Carlos Gonzalez left after swinging at a pitch in the ninth inning. Afterward, he said it was a sprain and nothing serious.

Brewster rules Atwood race



MICHELLE WERTH

Brewster's Ben Baird raced to a top-10 finish at state this spring and on Thursday, he won an 8K showdown at Lake Atwood.

Fastest runner in five counties perfectly describes Brewster's Ben Baird after he won the Fourth of July County Challenge Race at Lake Atwood on Thursday.

Baird represented Thomas County, which competed against teams from Rawlins, Sheridan, Decatur and Sedgwick counties in the 33rd annual holiday showdown.

Though Thomas County finished just fourth overall, Baird captured the 8K championship with a time of 34:37.1, which was 40 seconds faster than Keegan Peckham from Rawlins County (35:17.3).

The 18-year-old Baird recently capped his Brewster Bulldogs career by earning a Class 1A Top 10 finish among all 3,200-meter state qualifiers.

On Thursday, he raced against a wider range of distance runners from 10 to 63 old.

Thad Friess, 12, and Tom Friess, 50, from Sheridan County both placed in the top six.

Gabriel Friess, 10, was seventh and 63-year-old Charles Peckham of Rawlins County took ninth.

Thomas County's Daren Organ, 40, joined Baird as top 10 finishers in the 8K. Organ recorded a final time of 55:15.8.

The women's 4K race featured

two top 20 placers from Thomas County: Heidi Bulfer finished 14th (27:05) and Kathy Baird 18th (42:08.8). Melissa Collins of Abilene, Texas, recorded the fastest 4K time of 16:57.9.

Thomas County totaled 105 points while Decatur scored 170 and Sheridan reached 195.

However, Rawlins County ran away with the team title with 840 points.

The complete top 10 from both races:

Men's 8K: 1. Ben Baird, Thomas, 34:37.1; 2. Keegan Peckham, Rawlins, 35:17.3; 3. Andy Bogue, Sheridan, 36:40.8; 4. Thad Friess, Sheridan, 38:20.6; 5. Tracey Whitman, Sedgwick, 38:21.2; 6. Tom Friess, Sheridan, 40:32.3; 7. Gabriel Friess, Sheridan, 40:46; 8. Travis Carroll, Rawlins, 40:59; 9. Charles Peckham, Rawlins, 49:42.8; 10. Daren Organ, Thomas County, 55:15.8.

Women's 4K: 1. Melissa Collins, Abilene, 16:57.9; 2. Katie Friess, Sheridan, 17:47.4; 3. Audrey Vap, Rawlins, 18:24.8; 4. Jakobi Blau, Decatur, 19:20.1; 5. Beth Hollie, Rawlins, 22:12.5; 6. Emily Bogue, Sheridan, 23:15.6; 7. Deanne Hesterman, Rawlins, 23:19.2; 8. Shellie Carroll, Rawlins, 23:55.9; 9. Mary Clark, Rawlins, 25:12.6; 10. Dana Juenemann, Rawlins, 25:30.9.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Casey Quagliano helped pitch the Colby K-18 team to a championship at the home tournament two weeks ago. Last weekend at Garden City, he hurled a complete game in Colby's one win over the Eastern Colorado All-Stars.

K-18 wins just one at weekend tourney

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Casey Quagliano's blazing three-hitter highlighted a long, hot weekend for Colby K-18 at the Garden City Tournament.

Colby beat the Eastern

Colorado All-Stars 5-3 on Friday as Quagliano struck out 12 and didn't walk a batter.

However, the team lost its remaining contests to host Garden City, 13-12; Widefield, Colo., by a 21-1 final count; and 16-1 to tournament winner Butler.

More details about these games will be published Wednesday.

Playoffs decide Meadow Lake scramble

Holiday fireworks and parties didn't hinder another week of competition at Meadow Lake Golf Course.

Men, women and couples all played scrambles, with nearly 100 golfers participating in the three events.

Ladies' Night

A 1-Lady Scramble drew 10 Tuesday evening, all of whom almost seem to be challenging for championships.

The top five finishers: 1. Audrey Hines, 2. Lisa Stithem, 3. Cheryl

Edmundson, 4. Lynette Ball, 5. Anita Beckman.

Men's Night

A combination event kept 61 men on their toes Wednesday evening as they played 2-Man Scramble on odd holes and best ball on even holes.

Unfortunately, first names were not obtained for all the top finishers.

First flight: 1. Stithem/Stithem, 2. Koepferich/Barnett, 3. Molstad/Haas.

Second flight: Playoffs of three

and four holes were needed to decide these places. 1: Schwanke/Woofter, 2. Suter/Waddinton, 3. Strutt/Kriss.

Third flight: 1. Denneler/Augustine, 2. Wark/Ryan, 3. Jacobs/Ritter.

Couples Night

A 2-Couple Scramble attracted 13 combos Friday night. 1. Chris and Nikki Carroll/Gabe and Lori Stanley, 2. Brandon and Sam Sabatka/Jeff and Tasha Waggoner, 3. Stan and Cheryl Edmundson/Nathan and Kacie Goetz.

Upcoming tournament

Meadow Lake's next big weekend action will be the Colby High School Wrestling Tournament on Saturday.

Registration will be 9 a.m. with 10 a.m. scheduled tee times for this 4-Person Scramble.

Cost is \$60 per person or \$240 per team. Gold sponsor fee of \$500 includes team cost and meal for 10 people.

Contact coach Matt Sim at 462-3500 for information about this tournament.

Speedway drivers deliver again Saturday

Thomas County Speedway drivers moved to Saturday night and showed they're just as fast as Sunday evenings at the Colby track.

A race story and photos will be featured in Wednesday's *Colby Free Press*.

Today, we have results from each class.

Sport Mods: 1. Clay Money, 2. Josh Appel, 3. Gage Coen, 4. Darren Couch, 5. Jasen Gray, 6. Ryan Stevenson, 7. Mike Appel, 8. Lucas Millen, 9. Warren Harkness, 10. Bryan Harkness. Brandon Clough, Andy Barton and Ryan Wark did not finish.

Econos: 1. Alex West, 2. Josh Colby, 3. Bryan Guyer, 4. Levi Jones, 5. Ray West, 6. Ron Baalman, 7. Ryan Baalman, 8. Mark Singer, 9. Joey Foster, 10. Eric Clayville. Rocky Baalman and Billy Turner did not finish.

Hobby stocks: 1. Tyrel Smith, 2. Daniel Irwin, 3. Richard Boon, 4. Colton Pfeifer, 5. Matt Giesenhagen, 6. Tanner Moss, 7. Jake Blackhart, 8. Mike Giesenhagen, 9. Cody Graham, 10. Gary Pancake, 11. Curt Kennedy. Adrienne West and Jason McClung did not finish.

Stock Cars: 1. Jeff Tubbs, 2. Jason Rogers, 3. Brent Moss, 4. B.J. Wagoner, 5. Nick Tubbs, 6. Shannon Maughlin, 7. Wheat Lippelmann, 8. Mike Meyer, 9. Jason Stevens, 10. Austin Janousek, 11. Brett Oelke. Derek Weudt, Bruce Plumisto and Kurt Trusty did not finish.

Modifieds: 1. Matt Morris, 2. Todd Schwarz, 3. Darren DeLoach, 4. Adam Morris, 5. Michael Wadel, 6. Nate Moore, 7. Brady Coen, 8. Milo Lippelmann, 9. Dusty Springer, 10. Wheat Lippelmann.

Unfortunately, sprint car results were not provided Monday morning for today's edition.

Those will likely be included with the story and photos which are being planned for Wednesday's *Free Press*.

Season points leaders

Here were the season point leaders entering Saturday's races. The top 10 drivers all season from each class are listed in space below:

Econos: 1. Alex West 117, 2. Rocky Baalman 116, 3. Ryan Baalman 111, 4. (tie) Levi Jones, 5. Joey Foster 105, 6. Ron Baalman 104, 7. Eric Clayville 102, 8. Cody Berg 99, 9. (tie) Bryan Guyer and Billy Turner, 70.

Sport Mods: 1. Clay Money 113, 2. Andy Barton 107, 3. Ryan Wark 105, 4. Clay Sellard 104, 5. Dustin Daniels 99, 6. Jasen Gray 88, 7. Daniel Gottschalk 76, 8.

Jason Brees 74, 9. Gage Coen 66, 10. Ryan Stevenson 65.

Modifieds: 1. Michael Wadel 114, 2. Adam Morris 113, 3. Nate Moore 111, 4. Darren DeLoach 107, 5. Matt Morris 96, 6. Wheat Lippelmann 91, 7. Milo Lippelmann 85, 8. Jeremy Frenier 74, 9. Jason Schoenberger 71, 10., Brady Coen 69.

Hobby Stocks: 1. Cody Graham 120, 2. (tie) Mike Giesenhagen, Jason McIntyre 105, 4. Brian Stich 104, 5. Eric Ross 103, 6. Colton Pfeifer 102, 7. Richard Boon 1008, Daniel Irwin 97, 9. Tanner Moss 88, 10. Curt Kennedy 87.

Stock Cars: 1. Jason Rogers 112, 2. (tie) B.J. Wagoner, Tyler Tipton 111, 4. (tie) Bruce Plumisto, Jeff Tubbs 99, 6. (tie) Nick Tubbs and Wheat Lippelmann 98, 8. Perry Misner 94, 9. Austin Janousek 80, 10. Brett Oelke 79.

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