

Cowgirls finish sixth

Rainouts plague tennis

The Cowgirls tennis team finished sixth out of eight teams at the Colby Varsity Tennis Tournament on Saturday in a meet shortened by rain.

Besides Goodland, teams competing were Colby, Garden City, Ness City, Norton, Phillipsburg, Trego County and Tribune.

The Goodland girls racked up 16 tournament points amid very tough competition.

In the No. 1 doubles, Jessica Vignery and Jennifer Mentzer defeated a double pair from Norton 6-0 to win seventh place. They finished with a 1-3 record.

Abby Sheopner and Shannon Showalter finished 1 1/2-2 1/2 and 2 1/2-1 1/2 respectively in singles play.

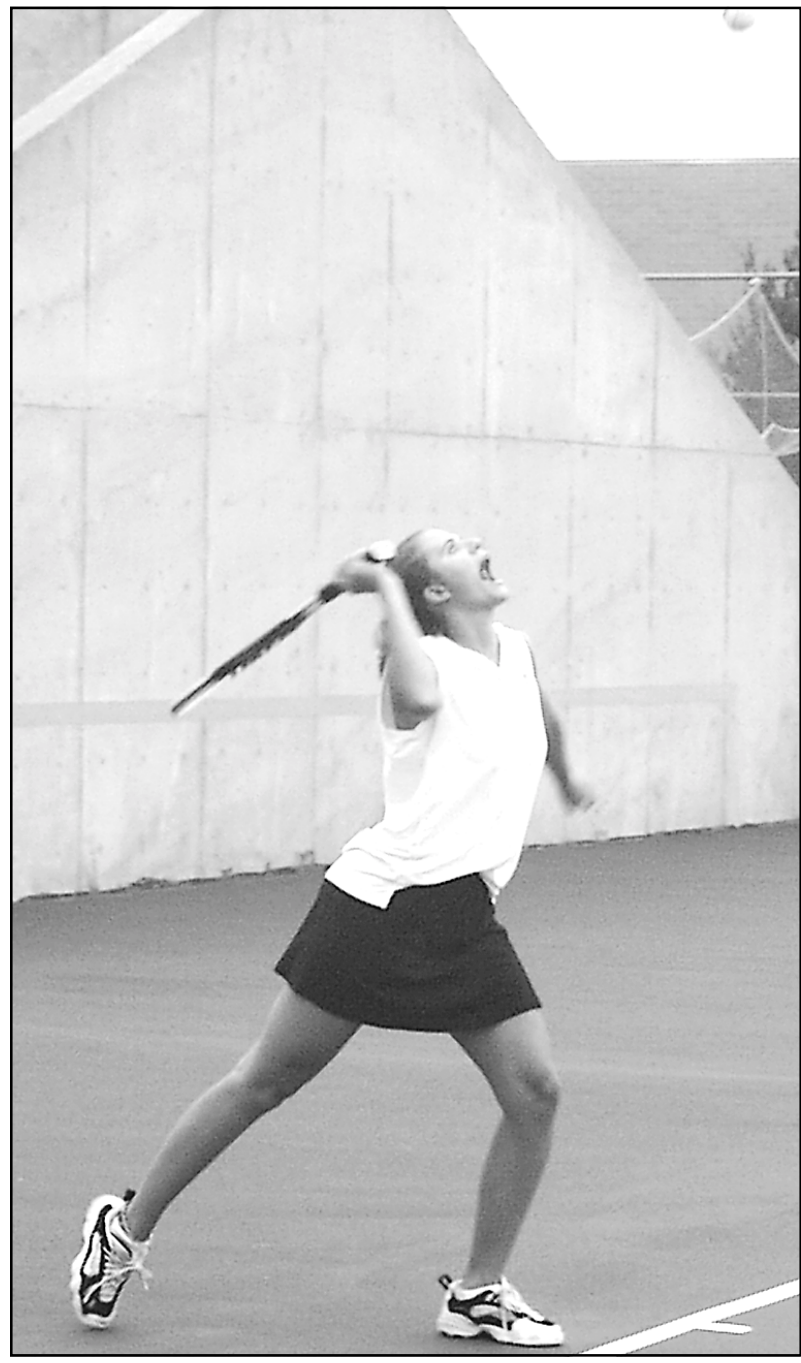
Sheopner defeated a Ness City player 6-2 and tied with a girl from Trego County (WaKeeney) for fifth and sixth place.

Showalter defeated Amanda Walters of Trego County 6-3 and Alexa Riffel of Phillipsburg 6-2 and tied with a Tribune player for third and fourth.

Ashley Engel and Leslie Knitig finished with a 1 1/2-2 1/2 record. They defeated a doubles duo from Ness City 6-1 and tied with Colby for fourth and fifth in the medal round.

Rain shortened the medal round and has shortened or postponed four out of six meets the Cowgirls have had so far this fall.

Goodland will host a junior varsity meet Tuesday at Steever and Gulick parks. The girls will go to WaKeeney for a varsity meet at 8 a.m. Saturday.



Abby Scheopner served up some hardball at the tennis tournament in Colby on Saturday. Photo by Jay Kelley/The Colby Free Press

Rockies ready to resume

DENVER (AP) — Baseball teams have expressed concern about whether pitchers will be able to throw strikes and whether hitters will be able to regain their timing after missing a week of games following Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

Manager Buddy Bell and some of the Colorado Rockies don't see that as a problem.

"I have been through it a couple of times, be it the playoffs because I was the odd man out with the Atlanta Braves or a year ago with the New York Yankees," said pitcher Denny Neagle, Colorado's scheduled starter for Monday night against Randy Johnson.

"You do whatever you can, be it extra bullpen sessions and then you don't think about it."

The Rockies held a two-hour workout Sunday at Coors Field, where they will resume their season Monday night against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

"For me, once you get through the first inning, everything is fine," Neagle said. "Besides, with all that is going on in this country, whether I might walk someone or not is not one of the biggest things on our minds."

Neagle has had four bullpen sessions since going six innings on Sept. 4 in a victory over Los Angeles.

First baseman Todd Helton agreed. "There is too much going on to worry about it. We ought to be glad we are just playing."

Helton said it might take only a few at-bats to get back his full timing. But then, he said the time away might have already helped.

"I hadn't had timing before the lay-off," said Helton, 3-for-11 in the three games leading up to the stoppage of play. "I was really struggling before the incident and my body probably wasn't feeling the best its felt in a while."

Bell said the fact the layoff happened over five months into the season removed any concerns of rustiness.

"If this was March 5 or March 6 and then you have a layoff, it might have taken longer," Bell said. "In this case, I think we are going to be OK."

"Getting to face Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling can do more to your timing than this layoff," Bell said.

Bell has equally little concern about the effort the Rockies will give the rest of the season. With 20 games left, the

chances of the Rockies (62-80) finishing .500 are slight at best.

"Other than the fact they have to do it for themselves, there are a lot of people watching that are paying good money to see us do things good or bad."

"I hope we play well and I hope they don't," Bell said. "Effort has never been a concern of mine with this team. Unfortunately, you never know how it is going to turn out."

"These guys still have a job to do, they know what is expected of them and going halfway just isn't going to cut it," Bell said.

Bell reaffirmed that third baseman Jeff Cirillo, who has been sidelined with back spasms, will play Monday night.

"Other than maybe a little stiffness, I don't think there is any problem at all," Bell said.

Fans attending Monday's game will face new security measures at Coors Field. No coolers or hard-sided containers will be permitted in the ballpark, all bags will be subject to a thorough search at the turnstiles, and there will be no re-entry into the stadium after the initial entrance.

Puppet maker has global producers

PUPPET, from Page 1

from Goodland, Oberlin, Gem, Tribune and St. Francis who have their own businesses.

The group meets for lunch once a month, she said, and has an engineer to keep the women focused and help them with their web sites, dealing with employees and other business issues. The five women are all in creative fields, Bishop said, and benefit from the engineer helping them to channel their energy.

The other women manufacture sculptures, she said, and make Native American masks, crafts, greeting cards, food products and preserve

grasses that look and feel real.

Bishop says she has had success with the factories in China because it costs less for them to produce the puppets than to have them produced in the U.S. and the workers do a good job.

The people at the factories stand behind their work, she said, and if they make a mistake they don't argue about it, but just fix it. They do an amazing job of packing too, she said, not wasting any space and compiling detailed paperwork so that no problems have come up clearing customs.

Her global producers employ brokers to take care of the paperwork for shipment, Bishop said, people to obtain containers for packing, people to

pack and ship the puppets, translators and 235 people to sew the puppets.

At the factory in Goodland, Bishop said, she is joined by her husband Harry part-time and one full-time employee, Lucille Fenner, who does some of the sewing and mending and can do almost anything that needs to be done. Fenner has been in the hospital after having a heart attack, though, and Bishop says she has been missed.

One thing she likes about having the puppets produced in China, Bishop said, is that she doesn't have to worry about whether or not someone shows up to work.

That, she said, is someone else's problem.

Sports resume after a silent pause

By Jim Litke
AP Sports Writer

Nobody won.
Nobody lost.

No big-name coaches got fired. No pro ballplayers blew out ACLs. No home runs were hit or touchdowns scored. There was no need for box scores or football summaries in the newspaper.

During the weekend, stadiums across the country were as quiet as cathedrals. Sports still had a role to fill, and it did that in an admirable, subdued fashion. The games that did go on — at high school football

fields, park district soccer pitches and softball diamonds, shirts and skins in YMCA gyms — were just that. Games.

"If kids can't have fun out here on a night like this," security officer Jesse Chavez said Friday, watching a high school football game in suburban Chicago, "that would be too bad."

"They had their homecoming parade canceled because of the situation. We want to make sure they enjoy this time in their lives. Whatever it takes," he added, "we'll make them secure."

The real test, of course, begins today. Baseball is scheduled to take the padlock off the stadium gates in six cities.

It feels like months since we've seen the best matched against the best in anything. It's been all of a week. Time will tell how dearly we still cling to these rituals.

Last weekend, there were 50 sporting events available on local TV in New York. This weekend, there was none.

Last Sunday, Barry Bonds hit three home runs to whet our appetites, then he and the surging San Francisco Giants headed for Houston and the short home-run porches in Enron Field. Monday night, we sweated out a rain delay in New York to see whether ageless Roger Clemens would get to his

shot at a 20th win. The will-he-or-won't-he saga of Michael Jordan's return to basketball seemed at an end. A flick of the remote control transported you to Denver, where the Broncos and New York Giants and the unveiling of yet one more space-age stadium yielded more than the usual pageantry.

By Tuesday morning, dramas of a much more costly and terrible nature commandeered the airwaves. The Giants returned to New York wondering how they were going to pick up the shattered pieces of a routine work week.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press					N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 2-6) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 13-7), 6:05 p.m.					Today's Games				
American League										Florida (Dempster 15-11) at Montreal (Vazquez 16-11), 5:05 p.m.				
East Division										Atlanta (Maddux 17-8) at Philadelphia (Person 14-6), 5:05 p.m.				
	W	L	Pct	GB	National League									
					East Division									
New York	86	57	.601	—		W	L	Pct	GB					
Boston	72	69	.511	13	Atlanta	78	64	.549	—					
Toronto	70	73	.489	16	Philadelphia	75	68	.525	3 1/2					
Baltimore	55	87	.387	30 1/2	New York	71	73	.493	8					
Tampa Bay	50	93	.350	36	Florida	66	77	.461	12 1/2					
Central Division					Montreal	61	82	.427	17 1/2	Arizona (Johnson 18-6) at Colorado (Neagle 9-7), 7:05 p.m.				
	W	L	Pct	GB	Central Division					San Diego (Middlebrook 0-0) at Los Angeles (Brown 10-4), 8:10 p.m.				
Cleveland	82	62	.569	—		W <td>L<td>Pct</td><td>GB</td><th colspan="5">Tuesday's Games</th></td>	L <td>Pct</td> <td>GB</td> <th colspan="5">Tuesday's Games</th>	Pct	GB	Tuesday's Games				
Minnesota	76	68	.528	6	Houston	84	59	.587	—	Florida (Penny 7-9) at Montreal (Thurman 8-10), 5:05 p.m.				
Chicago	74	70	.514	8	St. Louis	79	64	.552	5	N.Y. Mets (Appier 8-10) at Pittsburgh (D. Williams 2-6), 5:05 p.m.				
Detroit	57	86	.399	24 1/2	Chicago	78	65	.545	6	Chicago Cubs (Lieber 18-6) at Cincinnati (Dessens 9-12), 5:05 p.m.				
Kansas City	57	86	.399	24 1/2	Milwaukee	63	81	.438	21 1/2	Atlanta (Glavine 14-7) at Philadelphia (Duckworth 2-1), 5:05 p.m.				
West Division					Cincinnati	58	86	.403	26 1/2	Milwaukee (J. Wright 9-11) at St. Louis (Hermanson 12-12), 6:10 p.m.				
	W	L	Pct	GB	Pittsburgh	55	88	.385	29	Arizona (Schilling 20-6) at Colorado (Thomson 2-5), 7:05 p.m.				
x-Seattle	104	40	.722	—	West Division									
Oakland	87	57	.604	17		W	L	Pct	GB					
Anaheim	73	71	.507	31	Arizona	81	62	.566	—					
Texas	66	78	.458	38	San Francisco	80	64	.556	1 1/2					
x-clinched playoff spot					Los Angeles	78	65	.545	3					
Today's Game					San Diego	70	73	.489	11					
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay, ppd.					Colorado	62	80	.437	18 1/2					
Tuesday's Games														
Baltimore (Johnson 10-11) at Toronto (Escobar 6-6), 5:05 p.m.														
Tampa Bay (Sturtz 8-11) at Boston (Nomo 11-8), 5:05 p.m.														
Kansas City (Durbin 7-14) at Cleveland (Finley 6-6), 5:05 p.m.														
Detroit (Weaver 11-14) at Minnesota (Radke 12-9), 6:05 p.m.														
Oakland (Mulder 18-7) at Texas (Helling 11-9), 6:05 p.m.														

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