# daily news
## sports

# Goodland kids run in Oakley

Five youths from Goodland competed in the Oakley Booster Track Meet on Saturday.

Three of them, Michelle Smith, Nick Smith and Dustin Pennington, placed second in at least one of their events.

The meet, put together by the Oakley track booster club, draws 300-400 kids from the area each year. Anyone 14-years old or younger could compete, except for those already on a junior high track team.

Competitors are put into age divisions based on their birthday. If a competitor is 12, but will turn 13 this year, they are put in the youth (13 to 14) division.

Results were:

**Primary boys (8 and under): Nathaniel Smith**, 7, third, 50-meter dash, 10.51 seconds

**Midget girls (11 to 12): Michelle Smith**, 11, second, discus, 49-8 3/4 ; third, shot put 26-11 1/2.

**Youth boys (13 to 14): Nick Smith**, 12, second high jump, 4-0; second, long jump, 10-9 1/2; third, shot put 27-7 1/2; third, discus, results not available; **Dustin Pennington**, 12, second, 400-meter dash 1:22.09; second 200-meter dash, 39.21; fourth, long jump 9-11 1/2; **Dustin Zelfer**, 12, fourth, 100-meters, 18.58; fifth long jump, 9-7.

# Rockies adjust staff

DENVER (AP) — Alan Cockrell was selected to replace Clint Hurdle as the Colorado Rockies hitting coach Monday, the same day third base coach Rich Donnelly resigned.

No replacement was named for Donnelly, who's resignation was effective immediately.

Hurdle replaced the fired Buddy Bell as Rockies manager on Friday. The 39-year-old Cockrell joined the Rockies in 1998 as a scout.

He was a manager of minor-league teams and became the franchise's minor-league roving hitting coordinator last year.

"Alan knows our players, knows our system and he can step in and help the ballclub right away," Hurdle said.

A former outfielder, Cockrell played 13 seasons of professional baseball, making his major-league debut with the Rockies in 1996.

Donnelly, 55, joined the Rockies before the 1999 season after serving as the third base coach for the Florida Marlins under Jim Leyland.

Donnelly has spent 36 years in professional baseball as a player, coach and manager.

## *It's not always work, work, work*



Shandel Simon and Nicolette Clancy, seventh graders at Grant Junior High (left) grabbed a baton from Chelsea Grey, an eighth grader, while goofing off at the end of track practice Monday at the Goodland High School track. The next junior high track meet will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Hoxie.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

# Avs goalie leads team to win

DENVER (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche have a distinct advantage when a series reaches Game 7: Patrick Roy, the man who blocks the net and leads them to victory.

Roy proved again why he's considered the best big-game goalie in the NHL, stopping 23 shots as the Avalanche beat the Los Angeles Kings 4-0 Monday night to win their first-round series 4-3.

"I think we played with great urgency and that was key," said Roy, who has won the Stanley Cup four times, including last year.

"To beat the Kings we have to play our best game. We were all excited. We all loved our chance to win that game."

Roy won his third straight Game 7 and extended his record of playoff shutouts to 21. He stopped 11 shots in the second period, and the crowd chanted "Roy! Roy!" after his save on a power play midway through the third period.

"It's all about emotions in the playoffs," defenseman Adam Foote said. "And when it's up and down, he's always in control."

Chris Drury, Alex Tanguay, Steven Reinprecht and Foote scored for Colorado.

The victory puts Colorado in the conference semifinals for the fourth straight year and sixth time in seven seasons in Denver. The Avalanche will face San Jose in the second round beginning Wednesday night in Denver.

The series was eerily similar to last year's conference semifinals. The Kings also rallied from a 3-1 deficit last year before losing in Game 7.

Last year, the Avalanche struggled on offense before coming alive in Game 7. This year, they scored three goals in four games before breaking through in the final game.

Last year, Los Angeles goalie Felix Potvin had consecutive shutouts to force a Game 7, then gave up three goals in the third period of a 5-1 loss in the final game. This year, he stopped 103 of 106 shots in Games 3 through 6 this year.

# Olympic hearing held

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — The International Skating Union held a nine-hour hearing into the Olympic figure skating scandal Monday, with the French judge at the center of the dispute complaining she was the victim of an "organized massacre."

A lawyer described the opening session of the two-day, closed-door hearings as "intense."

Judge Marie-Reine Le Gougne and French skating boss Didier Gailhaguet were called before the council to answer charges they manipulated the result of the pairs competition at the Salt Lake City Games.

Le Gougne was suspended indefinitely by the ISU for alleged misconduct after initially declaring she was instructed by Gailhaguet to vote for the victorious Russian pair ahead of the Canadians, who were later awarded duplicate gold medals.

Le Gougne retracted the accusation against Gailhaguet, saying she was in emotional distress at the time and had been harassed by ISU officials into making false claims against him.

Gailhaguet has denied any wrongdoing. ISU president Ottavio

Cinquanta said Monday he hopes the hearings will prevent further scandals and help reform the sport.

"We want to resolve the grave matter of Salt Lake City once and for all," he told The Associated Press. "But we also think the consequences of the hearing can have a positive effect for the whole sport."

Cinquanta said he expects the council to deliver its verdict by Tuesday evening. Until then, all parties in the case were asked to observe a confidentiality agreement.

"It's going very professionally, very respectfully," Cinquanta said.

# Royals manager dismissed

By Doug Tucker
*The Associated Press*

Tony Muser sounded as if his dismissal as manager of the Kansas City Royals made perfect sense.

The losingest manager in Royals history was informed of the decision in a meeting in Detroit with general manager Allard Baird early Tuesday.

The firing came after the Royals (8-15) beat the Tigers 4-0 Monday night. Muser was in the final year of his contract.

"Everybody understands the circumstances, the mood of our fans," Muser told The Associated Press by telephone just minutes after talking with Baird.

"They need a change," he said. "It's just a part of this business. Managers are hired to be fired. I understand it, and life goes on. The most important thing is the success of the organization."

Muser, 317-431 (.424) since taking over midway through the 1997 season, became the fourth manager fired in the season's opening month.

Since 1900, there had never been more than two managers fired in the season's first month before this year, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Phil Garner was let go by Detroit on April 9, Milwaukee fired Davey Lopes on April 18 and Colorado got rid of Buddy Bell last Friday. All four teams have seen large attendance drops. The Royals are down about 4,500 a game through 14 home dates.

Boston fired Joe Kerrigan during spring training.

Muser, who was ejected in the third inning Monday night, did not learn of his dismissal until he got back to his hotel room about midnight and called Baird.

"It was very, very emotional. It was very difficult for Allard," Muser said. "I respect Allard Baird as much as I respect any man I've ever met in baseball."

With the Royals off to another poor start, Muser faced a torrent of criticism from fans and media. A 2-7 homestand that ended with a three-game sweep by Baltimore on Sunday gave the Royals a league-worst 4-10 home record.

"It's a business, very competitive," Muser said. "These things happen. I'm not ashamed. I did the best I could possibly do, and life goes on."

## baseball scoreboard