

Armstrong takes three straight

PARIS (AP) — Lance Armstrong won his third straight Tour de France, ending three weeks of grueling competition with the Texan once again dominating the world's toughest cycling event.

In the leader's yellow jersey he has worn for the last seven stages of the Tour, Armstrong crossed the finish line on the Champs-Elysees with the main pack as tens of thousands of spectators lined the graceful avenue.

He became the first American to win the Tour three times in a row. Greg LeMond also won three Tours, but with a two-year gap between his first and second titles.

The Tour record of five wins is held jointly by four riders. Only Spain's Miguel Indurain won five consecutively.

Armstrong's feat is even more remarkable in light of his recovery from testicular cancer between his first and second win.

A sure thing



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

Doug Frohardt took off for third when Blake Winter decided to take the sure out at first in Colby Recreation adult tournament play on Sunday night. The season is officially over for recreation ball after Sunday's tournament.

Former Eagle in Shrine Bowl

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

Former Colby High School Eagle Zach Brown said the 12-12 tie between East and West in the Kansas Shrine bowl Saturday night was better than losing, but not much.

"We would have rather had the win," said Brown, who caught two passes for 27 yards for the West team in the first tie in the bowl's 28-year history.

Brown said the team pulled together very well for an All-Star team that had never played together before.

"The first day was pretty shaky, but then we figured out the offense," he said.

Both teams had some problems with different rules. Although most of the rules were similar to high school, there were some differences.

East was penalized for rushing a West field-goal attempt, against the rules in the shrine bowl.



Z. Brown

"We couldn't slant defense or rush," said Brown.

The heat wasn't a factor in the game, according to Brown. "The humidity in Salina was unbearable," he said. "But the game (in Manhattan) wasn't that bad."

As for the tie, Brown and his teammates thought referees were going to allow an overtime.

"We asked and (the referees) said 'high school rules'," he said.

The officials apparently changed their minds after a post-game conference with bowl officials and coaches.

Brown also said the visit to the Shriner's hospital in St. Louis made the trip worthwhile. "They were glad to see us," he said of the kids in the hospital.

The East made it 12-3 with 10:54 left in the final quarter on Andy Majors' 61-yard touchdown pass to Tremel Guillory.

But the West responded with a fourth-quarter nine-point effort that

included a field goal and a Cartez Brown touchdown.

West quarterback Michael Hammersmith of White City hit Wichita West's Cartez Brown with a 47-yard touchdown pass with 1:43 to tie the game.

But place-kicker Justin Gray missed the point-after attempt following the touchdown, and his teammates couldn't convert a 4th-and-1 from the East 27-yard line with 1:22 left.

Through three quarters at Kansas State University's Wagner Field the two teams combined for just eight points, with the East clinging to a 5-3 lead. The East had 198 yards total offense and the West 258.

Call in your sports news to the Colby Free Press at 462-3963 or e-mail colbysports@nwkansas.com. Jay Kelley is sports coordinator.

Some interesting facts about the Tour de France

By Ryan Hale

Colby Free Press

Like every sport, cycling has a rich history filled with truth and triumph. In its 88-year tradition, the Tour de France has produced some strange and interesting spectacles over the years.

- More people have been killed watching the Tour de France than have been killed riding in the race.
- In the early days of the race shopkeepers would stock their stores with food for the racers. It was considered an honor to serve the racers. If you were a foreign racer though, you had to be careful. One shopkeeper gave a racer a bottle of clear liquid telling him it was lemonade. It was in fact white vinegar!
- One rider in 1927 crashed into a pasture where he was kicked in the head by a cow. When he regained consciousness the race had passed him by

but he managed to get back on his bike and rejoin the race.

- Once, the first 3 finishers were disqualified for taking a train in one stage.
- Early in the century, a rider was so far ahead on one stage that he took the time to stop at a concession stand for ice cream.
- In 1999 Italian racer Mario Cipollini was fined \$2000 for taking the podium dressed as Julius Caesar. He said he was doing it to commemorate the emperor's birthday.
- The yellow jersey was introduced in 1903 at the first Tour de France to distinguish the leader for members of the media who were concerned they wouldn't be able to tell which rider was the leader when he went by. Another story is that the newspaper that sponsored the race was printed on yellow paper. The owner wanted people to

associate the race with the newspaper.

- The Postal Team uses different colored bar tape and/or different colored bottle cages to differentiate the primary bikes from those that are used as backups.
- Once, early in the century, a rider rode over an embankment and went 30 feet into a canyon. He was not seriously injured, but his team had to lash their spare tubes together to pull him up. Because rubber was so hard to come by in those days, the team had no choice but to drop out of the race due to their lack of spare tubes.
- Teams are only allowed to use water bottles issued by the race organization. Each team receives 3,000 bottles and uses about 130 each day.
- While racers are allowed to accept cans of soda from people in the crowd, they cannot accept a push as they go up

hill. One mountain has an exception, l'Alpe d'Huez. Riders often receive a helping hand on this hill without being penalized.

- The Postal Team has 9 rides for the Tour de France and has a support staff of 20 (4 mechanics, 4 trainers, 2 drivers, 2 equipment managers, 2 team managers, 2 press agents, 1 doctor and a chiropractor).

- A new set of tires is put on each bike each day. Sometimes this is stretched to every other day.

- Riders' luggage has triple in weight over the years. Today many riders travel with lap top computers, video games, mini speakers/stereos, palm pilots, etc.

Ryan Hale lives in Estes Park, Colo. and writes about cycling from time to time. He is the son of Roger Hale and Linda Hale, Colby.

Denver quarterback still limited after elbow surgery

GREELEY, Colo. (AP) — While starting quarterback Brian Griese took Sunday afternoon off, backups Gus Frerotte and Jarious Jackson stayed busy with dozens of passes.

Steve Beuerlein watched. Beuerlein, who signed a four-year contract with the Denver Broncos on May 30, remains limited while recuperating from reconstructive elbow surgery but hopes to become more active over the course of training camp.

"It's not close to 100 percent yet, but we're making progress and that's the key," Beuerlein said. "We're really trying to be smart with it. This afternoon,

I thought I could do a little bit more than what I did, but the trainers and the coaches, they just want to be real smart with it and not have any setbacks."

In addition to surgery on his right throwing elbow, Beuerlein had operations on his left knee and left shoulder.

Despite the ailments, the Broncos brought Beuerlein to Denver and plan to give him a chance to compete with


Frerotte for the No. 2 spot behind Griese.

The competition has yet to heat up, but Beuerlein wants to become a full-time participant by the second week of camp.

"That still is my goal," he said. "I don't know how realistic it is, but by the end of the first week, I'll be doing a heck of a lot more than I'm doing right now."

Beuerlein, 36, was named to his first Pro Bowl after throwing for 4,436 yards and 36 touchdowns for the Caro-

lina Panthers in 1999. He had another productive season last year but was released because of his high salary and questionable health.



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