

Jason jets by



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press
Colby High School senior Jason Simmering ran the first leg of the 4X800 relay at the 4A state track meet in Wichita. The Eagles ran the 800 relay in 8:32.51.

The silly season is well underway



Don Fosdick

Life in the Fast Lane

Well I guess I need to get this over with; for the last two races FORD’S have ruled NASCAR racing.

For my buddies Kevin and Jon, you guys must be walking a couple of feet off the ground right now. And I’ve got to eat some crow, and it doesn’t taste good.

Congratulations to Mark Martin driver of the #6 Viagra Ford, and winner of the Coke Family 600 at Charlotte.

It was truly nice to see Mark Martin up front and back to his winning ways again, I hope they have good things coming their way again. As this was Mark’s first win since back in 2000, if my memory serves me right.

Mark and Matt Kenseth driver of the #17 DeWalt Ford really came on towards the end of the race to put on quite a show for the fans. So the ole Fosdick kudos goes out to Mark Martin and Matt Kenseth both drivers of Roush FFFFord. Man, that was had to get out.

With the start of silly season a few

weeks ago I was really expecting to start seeing a lot more moves and unexpected things happening, but it has seemed to settle down at present.

Richard Childress owner of RCR Racing has decided to switch the crews of the #29 Goodwrench Chevy, and the #31 Cingular Wireless Chevy.

Richard stated that both teams were struggling right now and out of the points race at present, so this would be a good time to shake up things and try some new chemistry between everyone. I wish RCR Racing well as they need something to get jump-started for this year; it has been dismal for them, as both of these teams are somewhere around 30th in the points.

This weekend NASCAR and all of their series at the monster mile in Dover, it will be exciting. The Monster Mile is an all-concrete racetrack, and is notorious for taking no prisoners, when it comes to NASCAR. There will be a lot of wrecked race cars come Sunday evening.

NASCAR runs on very few all-con-

crete tracks and most teams build special cars for these tracks. Concrete cars as they are called are built with a lot stiffer chassis, and there are a multitude of other modifications that the teams engineer into these hot rods, trying to get them set up for these tracks.

So be ready for a lot of cautions during the races this weekend, as they are plentiful and messy.

Hope we have no serious injuries to any of the drivers involved in these mishaps. There will be some good racing this weekend at Dover so enjoy!

And when the NASCAR race is over with come out to the Thomas County Speedway, and enjoy some dirt track racing with our local boys, as they will be pumped up and ready to go racing. See you there.

As always, if you made this far thank you for your time. Drive safely, and we will see you at the track on Sunday.

Don Fosdick is a local guy who loves racing. He can be reached at dfosdick@gravine.net or you can contact him through the Free Press.

A great rivalry comes down to Game 7

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Steve Yzerman admits he’s nervous, and with good reason.

The Detroit Red Wings and the Colorado Avalanche meet in Game 7 tonight — two great rivals playing for a spot in the Stanley Cup finals.

“We’re looking forward to playing in a game of this magnitude,” Yzerman, the Detroit captain, said Thursday. “It’s been a tremendous series and we’re enjoying the competition that is bringing out the best in both teams.”

Stars — not thugs — have been the focus in the series, unlike the 1996 conference finals between Detroit and Colorado when the rivalry was ignited with plenty of punches and blood.

While some hard feelings carried over to regular-season games in the 1990s, the postseason matchups since 1996 have been relatively tame.

“I think people that have watched the series have appreciated the hockey that has been played,” Detroit’s Brendan Shanahan said. “I think a lot of people thought the rivalry was dead, but this series has shown otherwise.

“I think this series has show that the most important thing to the players is who wins, not so much who spills the most blood.”

The Red Wings and Avalanche — who have combined for four of the past

six Stanley Cups — know they may be playing on limited rest after a night of tossing and turning while thinking about everything at stake.

“It’s probably good to be a little nervous,” Colorado’s Adam Foote said. “I’m sure everybody will be feeling it because Game 7s are like that.”

The Avalanche should know.

Colorado will become the first NHL team to play in four consecutive Game 7s, dating to last year when the Avalanche won the Stanley Cup. Colorado will join the 1993 Toronto Maple Leafs as the only teams to play in three Game 7s in one postseason.

The Avalanche have won four straight Game 7s since losing to Dallas in 2000 Western Conference finals.

Colorado captain Joe Sakic is glad Patrick Roy will again be behind him in net.

“He always plays his best games when something is one the line,” Sakic said.

The Red Wings will be playing in their first Game 7 since beating St. Louis 1-0 in overtime of the 1996 Western Conference semifinals, but Shanahan does not make much of that.

“A lot of us have played in elimination tournaments, like the World Cup and the Olympics, where every game is a Game 7,” said Shanahan, who along with Yzerman, helped Canada win the gold medal in this year’s Olympics. “You learn from that and you

learn how to relax yourself and to get to sleep when your nerves are trying to prevent you from doing so.”

Whoever wins, and advances to play Carolina, will move one step closer to making a compelling argument that it is the most successful hockey team of this era.

Volleyball league forming

The deadline for sign-ups for summer volleyball is June 20. The league will play from July 8 to July 31 on Monday and Wednesday nights. The cost is \$35 and includes a jersey. Contact Gina Chvatal at 626-9238 or the Colby Rec Department at 462-4440.

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