It's going to be a heck of a sports year

If you missed out being in Lucas Thursday night for the K-18 state championship game, you missed a heck of ball game. Our boys got the job done, from pitching to defense, base running, hitting (especially hitting; you couldn't tell the bottom of the order from the top-everyone was hitting

I'm just glad I was there and got a chance to see a little bit of history made, and Jordon, I'm sorry I left your for driving on the freeways. Har. name off of the picture caption.

I for one am looking forward to this year's scholastic athletic activity. I think that good, possibly even great things are going to happen in Thomas County this year. Having said that, I hope I can rise to the occasion and provide the kind of coverage on this sports page that our hard-working kids deserve. I remember when I was a kid and saw my name on the sports page-it was

Rest assured, I'll give it all I've got. For some, that won't be enough, I know. But I'll strive for progress, if you all will hang in there with me.

—dp-From the Bad Joke Department: My riends and I got kicked out of Denver who hasn't learned to duck yet.



Darrel Pattillo

On The Ball

Tiger Woods should be playing in a few more tournaments than just the majors? How's he getting away with that? I heard somebody talking during a golf tanked at the British Open. I'm not too sure about that. I mean, have you seen his girlfriend?

Don't Get It Department: They just you're interested. don't get it.

John Madden begins his tenure tonight as the analyst for Monday Night of the Colby Free Press. His column Football. I got a dollar that says Mad- appears on Mondays. You can reach den accidentally slugs Al Michaels, him here at the newspaper or e-mail

Speaking of football, I noticed that Am I the only one that thinks that the Washington Redskins have redesigned their football uniform, and to me they look an awful lot like Florida State Seminoles.

Wasn't new head coach Steve telecast, saying that may be why he Spurrier a Florida Gator? Hmmmm....

I know a guy here in Colby that wants to get up a rugby match. Here's your chance, folks, for a little con-From the Baseball Players Just trolled mayhem. Get a hold of me if

> I believe it takes thirty players to field two complete rugby teams.

Darrel Pattillo is the Sports Editor him at colbysports@nwkansas.com

Royals let one slip past against Twins

sas City Royals know what happens in the Metrodome.

"Funny things," third baseman Joe Randa said.

Sunday's game was no different. There was a throwing error that eliminated the Royals' one-run lead in the ninth. Plus, on the final play, Twins batter Corey Koskie was accidentally knocked down by a throw from 25 feet away as Minnesota beat Kansas City 5-4 in 10 innings.

Koskie was taken to a hospital, where X-rays showed he has a sore chest and is expected to be OK.

"I walk away from games at this place too many times feeling good about where we are and yet shaking my head," Randa said. "Funny things happen with the ceiling and the bounce on the turf. The style of team they have is a credit to that. They force things to

The Twins are a major league-best

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A second

straight day of 102-degree tempera-

tures greeted the Nebraska football

The Cornhuskers had a two-hour

morning practice Sunday followed by

an hour and 45 minutes in the after-

team for two-a-day practices.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Kan- City, meanwhile, has lost 12 of 13 and

The Twins had loaded the bases with no outs in the 10th against Scott Mullen (3-3) on singles by Torii Hunter and David Ortiz and a four-pitch walk to Dustan Mohr.

Jason Grimsley relieved and left fielder Michael Tucker came in as a innings, as Minnesota has won all three fifth infielder, playing in front of second base. Grimsley struck out Doug Mientkiewicz before Koskie won it.

Since the beginning of last season, saves in 10 opportunities in the

ond out of the 10th inning, and first baseman Chan Perry was attempting to throw out Hunter, the winning run.

his feet, and he was sitting up when he into first base as Perez's throw skipped 19-4 since the All-Star break. Kansas was taken off the field on a cart.

Frank Solich said. "I'm very pleased

with their enthusiasm and attitude."

weeks against Arizona State.

"He's taken a lot of shots to the six in a row — the last four by one run. chest," Hunter said of his teammate, who grew up playing hockey as a goalie in Anola, Manitoba. "I'm sure he'll be all right."

> series, they have pitched 11 scoreless games by one run.

top of the 10th and pitched out of the the Royals' bullpen has blown eight jam. He got Aaron Guiel on a grounder

"That's the pressure a bullpen Koskie had grounded out for the sec-faces," Romero said. "But we love it. We thrive on that pressure."

> That pressure got to the Royals, tying the score with two outs in the ninth.

past Perry, scoring Rivas.

two-a-day practices "Practice went fairly well," coach lot done to be as smooth as you can be for that first ballgame."

A lot is expected of young players at The season opens in less than three some spots, he said. "It is an exciting time for those guys, "When fall camp starts that first of course, but there won't be too many kickoff is right around the corner," more practice snaps before they are

The Twins bullpen did the job again, pitching four scoreless innings. In the

J.C. Romero (7-1) relieved Tony Fiore with two on and none out in the with the bases loaded to end the inning.

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Ronnie Hill's car (left) and Brad Wagoner's of Colby displayed the American flag before Saturday's racing action at the Thomas County Speedway. Results from all of the racing action that took place over the weekend will be published this week.

Williamswins third straight **Acura Classic**

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Venus Williams was simply overwhelming

Relying on her power game and tournament final at La Costa Resort and Spa.

 $Williams\,has\,now\,won\,27\,WTA\,tour$ naments in her career. She is the only player to win the tournament three times in a row in its 19-year history.

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REPUBLICAN His throw nailed the nearby Koskie Luis Rivas was on second when court coverage, the top-seeded Willbetween the "n" and "s" on his uniform Jacque Jones hit an infield single that iams won her third consecutive Acura letters. Koskie was on the ground for Kansas City shortstop Neifi Perez Classic, defeating sixth-seeded Jelena I would appreciate your vote on August 6th. more than 5 minutes before coming to fielded in the hole. Jones slid headfirst Dokic of Yugoslavia 6-2, 6-2 in the

Ron Evans, Treasurer.

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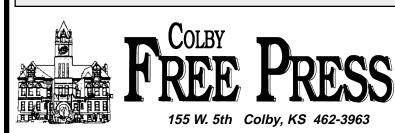
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Solich said. "You try and get an awful kicking it off," Solich said.

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