

Racing season goes out in style

By SHERRY BARRETT

Colby Free Press

Sunday, Sept. 1 at Thomas County Speedway saw the largest crowd of the season. The grandstand was full and a great car count showed up to finish out the 2002 racing year. The weather was warm but not too hot and very little wind.

In the cruiser division seventeen cars took to the track in two heats. #00 Haines/Allenbaugh and #88 Fabrizius/Schlageck teams won the heats. Haines and Allenbaugh came back to win the Cash Dash. The cruisers put on an exciting feature. Three wide racing even in the turns was not uncommon. The #00 and #88 teams starting in the front row were soon challenged by the teams of #01W Plumisto and Plumisto and #73 Meitl and Eisenbart. This good close racing finally took its toll on the #88 team who lost their engine in the last part of the race. #01W then held the lead to the checkers.

Twenty eight bombers were divided into four heats. The winners of those races were; #25 Jordan Blackwill, #20W Ed Wright, #4s David Schemm and #27J Jarod Hurst. Wright also won the Cash Dash. The first three places of each of each heat race were automatically transferred to the A-main. The remainder of the cars ran in a B-main with the first eight to transfer to the A-main. Among those failing to qualify in his heat was the points leader #87m Johnny Orhman. Orhman was leading the pack in the B-main when his rear axel broke in turns one and two sending him sideways over the top of the turn and causing his car to roll. His chances at the track championship were destroyed, not to mention his car that was carrying a for sale sign. Orhman was not hurt in the incident.

In the A-Main #20W Ed Wright of Colby jumped out to an early lead from a second row start. He held that posi-

tion for the rest of the race despite many yellow flag restarts. Wright pulled off his first sweep of the Bomber division. With Orhman out of the running for the championship points, #43J Jarod Smades of Goodland made sure he clinched the title for the year by finishing second in the feature.

The thirteen Super Stocks were divided into two heats. #41 Ronnie Hill and #01 Michael Meyer both of Sharon Springs were the winners of the heat races. Hill made a sweep of the division by winning the Cash Dash and the Feature. Meyer led the first half of the race. Hill, from a mid-pack start was able to work his way to the front taking the win from Meyer. The point's leader for the Super Stock division #27 Todd Schwarz of Menlo took second place in the feature, securing his Championship title

Three heats of the nineteen modifieds produced winners; #23x Jeff Hartwell, and #73 Nick Tubbs both of Colby and #3 Brady Coen of Wiley, CO. Coen was the winner of the Cash Dash. In the twenty lap Modified Feature #73 Nick Tubbs sprinted to an early lead and held off about six cars running literally nose to tail for half of the race. #23x Jeff Hartwell waited patiently for Tubbs to make the slightest mistake and finally took the lead, diving low as Tubbs got high in one of the turns. Meanwhile both #3 Coen and points leader #21 Darren DeLoach had made their way from mid pack starts to the third and fourth place positions. These two passed each other, sometimes twice a lap for about four laps. DeLoach and Coen were both able to get around Tubbs. DeLoach challenged Hartwell for the lead. The two ran door to door for several laps. Coming out of turn two Hartwell lifted ever so slightly, giving DeLoach the break he needed to complete the pass for the win.

The American Sprint Car Series (ASCS) the Rocky Mountain Regional added plenty of entertainment to the evening. This division of ASCS cars is touring in five different states at eleven different tracks with twenty-three race dates on their 2002 schedule. Colby was their second to last stop. Their last two races and season finale will be Sept. 6 and 7 at Hollywood Hills raceway in Albuquerque, NM.

Twenty-four cars were divided into three heats. Heat race winners were; #10 Dennis Park of Liberal, KS, #21 Mike Dreiling of Highlands Ranch, CO, #18 Tony Bruce Jr. of Liberal, KS. Those that did not qualify in the heat races ran in a B-Main with #2 Mason Hill of Billings, MT winning that race. The field of twenty cars was then set to run the thirty lap feature. Series points leader Mike Dreiling lead most of the race until lapped traffic came into the picture.

C. J. Johnson, who had started the race third row inside made his way to second to make a bid for the lead. He chose the best line thru the lapped traffic to complete a pass on Dreiling over half way through the race. Johnson stretched his lead to nearly half a lap during the remainder of the race to take the checkered flag. Hard charger, Steve King of Jetmore, KS made a notable run from his sixteenth place start to finish fifth in the race. The top five places were; #45x C. J. Johnson of Quinter, KS, #21 Mike Dreiling of Highlands Ranch, CO, #10 Dennis Park of Liberal, KS, #18 Tony Bruce Jr. of Liberal, KS and #88 Steve King of Jetmore, KS.

On behalf of all of us at Thomas County Speedway, fans, staff and racers, a special thanks to the ASCS sprints you put on a great show!

Thank You!

I want to thank the following people for contributing to my excellent 2002 racing season!

Hutfls Construction
Ron Hutfls & Family
Mom, Dad & Grandpa
Engine Builder
Brad Wagoner
All My Fans

God Bless!
Nick Tubbs,
Modified #73



1. #41 Hill Sharon Springs 2. #27 Schwarz Menlo 3. #01 Meyer Sharon Springs 4. #17 Maughlin Dighton 5. #8fr Wark Colby 6. #3 Towns Monument 7. #24 Long Wiley, CO 8. #4 Huss, Jr. Howard, CO 9. #15 Wagoner (DNF) Colby 10. #55 W. Lippelman (DNF) Oberlin 11. #9 Tipton (DNF) Weskan 12. #86 Beakley (DNF) Lamar, CO 13. #10 Roehl (DNS) Rexford

MODIFIEDS FEATURE
1. #21 DeLoach Lamar, CO 2. #23x Hartwell Colby 3. #3 Coen Wiley, CO 4. #73 N. Tubbs Colby 5. #9 Nurdyke Holly, CO 6. #70 B. Scott Liberal 7. #8 Perez Lamar, CO 8. #2d D. Dechant Lamar, CO 9. #23 Warta Colby 10. #383M. Lippelman Oberlin 11. #96 Shepard Boulder, CO The following were all (DNF's) 12. #33g Garrison Oberlin 13. #37 J. Tubbs Colby 14. #40 Concelman Erie, CO 15. #07s Shilling McCook, NE 16. #21cke Colby The following were (DNS's) 17. #38 Murphy Sharon Springs 18. #17 Deines Weskan

ASCS SPRINT CARS B-Main
1. #2 Hill Billings, MT 2. #69x Taylor 3. #56 Mirk Black Forest, CO 4. #43 Selenke 5. #86 Lee Pueblo West, CO 6. #8 Ream Colorado Springs, CO 7. #2H Heffner Denver, CO (DNF) 8. #20 Caralile Liberal, KS (DNS)

A-Main-Feature 1. #45x C. J. Johnson Quinter, KS 2. #21 Mike Dreiling Highlands Ranch, CO 3. #10 Dennis Park Liberal, KS 4. #18 Tony Bruce Jr. Liberal, KS 5. #88 Steve King Jetmore, KS 6. #83 Michael Woodruff Satanta, KS 7. #36 Jason Martin Liberal, KS 8. #35 Kyle Martin Liberal, KS 9. #4 Eric Miller Thornton, CO 10. #43A. J. Selenke Wichita, KS 11. #7J Jace Pennetta Littleton, CO

The following were all (DNF's) 12. #69 Thigpen Loveland, CO 13. #2 Hill 14. #47 Sheaffer Eagle, CO 15. #3 Salem Pueblo West, CO 16. #56 Mirk 17. #19 McCarthy Broomfield, CO 18. #2d Miller Rapid City, SD 19. #69x Taylor Ft. Collins, CO 20. #49 Peters Wichita, KS

ics of the area, its rich baseball heritage, the enthusiastic cooperation of the local government units and a robust business climate make this an exciting area."

Ehlert plans to have the stadium built in Village West, the Tourism District of Wyandotte County adjacent to Kansas Speedway that has grown to include a number of retail stores.

Ehlert said the stadium will also host other family events such as "fairs, concerts, shows, rallies and community events."

The Northern League owners unanimously approved the move Wednesday.

The Northern League is comprised of 18 teams in the northern United States and Canada. Teams play 90 games — 45 home and 45 away — from around Memorial Day until about Labor Day.

The old bump, set, and spike drill



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Trojan sophomore Sondy Frey set the ball as freshmen Desiree Coleman and Jenni Sramek (front) waited Wednesday as the Colby College volleyball prepared for tonight's home owner against conference foe Pratt. Coach Gina Chvatal said "We just want to play to our potential and execute." Colby hosts a tournament this weekend, with games being played at both the Colby Community Building and the Colby High School gym.



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Kansas City, Kansas to get minor league baseball team

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — An independent minor league baseball team will relocate here and play in a \$15 million, 4,500-seat stadium to be built near Kansas Speedway.

The Duluth-Superior Dukes of the Northern League will move from Minnesota to play in the stadium, which will be located near the intersection of Interstate 70 and Interstate 435. The team, which is not affiliated with any major league franchise, will be named by fans in an upcoming contest. Plans call for the team to begin playing in the stadium when the 2003 season starts around Memorial Day.

John Ehlert, CEO of Dukes Baseball LLC, made the announcement Wednesday.

"We are excited to bring the affordable family fun that is Northern League Baseball to the Kansas City market," Ehlert said. "The family demograph-

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