

## What form!



RANDY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Colby High School sophomore, Joey Melnyk, sends one up for a serve at Saturday's Colby Invitational Tennis Tournament. Melnyk finished second in singles and first in doubles with Jordan Sharp as his partner. Complete results of the tournament will appear in Wednesday's edition of the *Colby Free Press*.

## Local sports calendar

**Tuesday** - Varsity golf at Oakley, 3 p.m.; C team golf at Norton, 3 p.m.; Junior varsity doubles tennis at Russell, 3 p.m.; Varsity track at Garden City, 3 p.m.; Varsity tennis at Hoisington, 3 p.m.; Varsity baseball at Plainville, 4 p.m.; Varsity softball with Plainville at home, 4 p.m.; Junior varsity softball with Ellis at home, 5:30 p.m.

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The district physicals scheduled for Wednesday have been moved to Wednesday, May 14 at the Family Center for Health Care Clinic. Times will be as follows: Middle School 5-6 p.m.; High School 6-7 p.m.

## Trojans almost overcome setbacks

Trojan baseball fans, we went into the last week before playoffs with a chance to overcome all of the setbacks of this season. Of course, in order to do so we would have to win a majority of the week's games. Well, we almost accomplished this feat.

Wednesday Cloud came to town and in game one sophomore left hander Casey Wernke threw a complete game five hitter to lead us to victory. We were down 2-0 in the bottom of the fourth when sophomore second baseman Chris Lebeda hit a two run home run to left. Then in the bottom of the fifth with the score still tied, Lebeda and freshman outfielder Joel Gould each drew bases loaded walks to put us ahead 4-2. We held on to win 4-3.

Game two was not pretty as Cloud cruised to a 10-0 victory with the help of eight unearned runs. Folks, almost nothing is more upsetting than an unearned run. We have had a lot of them this year. Chris Lebeda finished the day 2-5 with a double, a home run, and three RBI's.

Thursday came with a chance to move up in the standings with a sweep over Pratt. The Beavers were just one game ahead of us. The day started with promise as we scored four in the bottom of the first. Sophomores Justin Dickson and Keith Wollis both had RBI singles before freshman first baseman Brian Hassing plated two with a double to right.

Pratt kept pace though, with a three run home run in the top of the fourth. We answered in the bottom of the inning when freshman left fielder Dan McClure led off with a triple and was driven in by a Chris Lebeda single. Although the game stayed close, we prevailed 7-6. Freshman Roy Allen earned the victory striking out five in six and two-thirds innings of work. Sophomore Branden Shiers picked up the last out for the save.



### Ray Nolan

- From the Dugout

It looked like we would complete a sweep until the top of the seventh in game two. Down by two, Pratt scored four to take an 8-6 lead that they would not relinquish. It was obviously a disappointing end to an otherwise great day. Sophomore infielder Ian Mabb had a big second game hitting a two RBI triple in the fourth and a three RBI double in the fifth.

Thursday's finish was hard to take; especially after all the close calls we have had this year. But all you can do is keep moving forward. If you dwell on a game too long, you will lose the next one as well. That would be important to remember as the weekend wore on.

We faced third place Barton County on Saturday and earned a split. Game one saw a great pitching performance from Cougar ace Andrew Burdine. Our only run of the game came on an error that scored Chris Lebeda. Lebeda had our only hit and we lost 7-1.

Game two was quite different as freshman lefty Tyler Landenberger threw a complete game, striking out seven. Joel Gould had three RBI's, two of which came on a two strike double over the right fielders head in the fourth. Gould was 2 for 3 in the game. Brian Hassing, Keith Wollis, and Dan McClure also had two hits apiece. Hassing drove in two runs to help us to an 8-3 victory.

Sunday we traveled to Concordia

to take on the hot Cloud County T-birds. On Saturday the T-birds swept Hutch, and were making a run for the fourth seed in the sub-region tournament. Remember what I said about dwelling on games, well game one would test our skills of forgetting.

Game one Sunday can only be categorized as a disaster. The wind was blowing out and Cloud used it to their advantage hitting home run after home run. When they did hit a ball that could be caught, we did not capitalize. Anyway, we lost due to six errors and numerous T-bird shots over the fence.

Game two was looking to be the same way, but we did not let it. With the score 7-2 after only two innings, we produced an eight run rally capped off by a two strike, two out, three run home run over the right field fence by Joel Gould.

We were ahead 10-9 in the top of the fifth with two outs, and Dan McClure on third base after a lead off triple, when rain and hail suspended our glorious second game.

Today we might have to finish playing that game if the conference president says that we have to. The game actually does not matter to our seeding for next week's sub-region tournament in El Dorado. We are going to play Seward in the first round.

Cloud on the other hand needs to play the game because if they come-back and win they will be the fourth seed. If they lose they will be the fifth seed. Either way, they play Butler, but they want the higher seed out of principle. I will tell you next week how this situation turns out and about our fortunes in the sub-region tournament.

## IRRIGATED PASTURE ~ FIELD DAYS ~

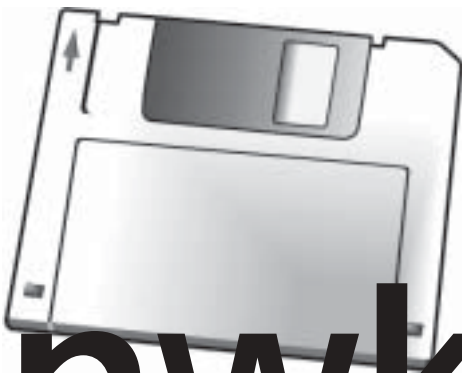
ST. FRANCIS - Thursday, May 15, 5:30 p.m. at **Riverside Recreation**  
**Cheyenne Co. Feedyard - Cooperator**

OAKLEY - Friday, May 16, 5:30 p.m. at **Colonial Steak House**  
**Mike Stephens - Cooperator**

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