

Watch 'er sink!



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Colby High School junior, Jared Helin sank his putt during Thursday's Colby Invitational Golf Tournament. Helin tied for the lowest score of the day with 40 strokes. Due to windy conditions, the tournament had to be cut short at only nine holes.

Eagles brave the wind at invitational on Thursday

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS
Colby Free Press

Mother Nature had her way at the Colby Invitational Golf Tournament on Thursday. Due to extremely windy conditions, the boys were only able to complete nine holes.

The Eagles came out on top of the 10 teams at the tournament by 8 strokes. Colby finished the nine holes with a team score of 170 strokes. They were followed by Atwood 178; Goodland 179; Norton 179; Hoxie 181; Hays 188; Oberlin 188; Garden City 191; Ness City 198 and Oakley 199.

Many of the Colby players competed well including Jared Helin who tied for the lowest score with 40 strokes and Christopher Finley who came in second with 41.

"Jared Helin stepped up his play," said head coach Ray Higley.

Other Eagle scores were as follows: Derek Elliott 44, Dason Wente 45, Deni Wieland 46, Sean Mengel 46, and Curt Beringer 46.

In the past couple of weeks the team has traveled for several out-of-town tournaments as well. Here are the results from those invitionals:

Atwood

As a team Colby finished third

with 342 strokes behind Atwood 332 and Goodland 333. Other team scores were: Hoxie 344; Grinnell 362; Oberlin 370; Quinter 388; Cheylin 404; Ness City 436; and Oakley 439.

Individually, none of the Eagle golfers finished with a medal, although three of the guys tied for tenth but lost in a playoff.

Finley, Wente and Elliott tied for the lowest Colby score with 85. Wieland fired an 87, while Mengel had 94 and Beringer had 98.

Hays TMP

Ideal weather conditions assisted the Eagles in finishing second at the

Hays tournament, second only to their host. Thomas More Prep finished with 338 strokes with Colby close behind with 342. Other team scores were as follows: Phillipsburg 347; Scott City 352; Ellis 356; Goodland 357; Hays High JV 359; Trego 364; Stockton 366; Hill City 370; Norton 373; Smith Center 376; Russell 398; Oberlin 401; Plainville 424 and Victoria 455.

Wieland was the only Eagle to place in the top ten. He finished seventh with 84 strokes. Finley shot an 85, while Elliott finished with 86. Mengel had 87, Helin 92 and Wente rounded out the team's score with 94.

College rodeo team continues their success at Hays

The Colby Community College Rodeo Team finished a strong regular season at the Fort Hays State Rodeo held April 25-27.

Rodeo coach Allen Russell said, despite adverse conditions and a muddy arena, the competition was intense because qualification for the Regionals and College National Finals was at stake.

"The conditions at Hays were miserable from an enjoyment standpoint, but for all the spectators and participants who are farmers and ranchers the moisture was desperately needed," Russell said.

Travis Sharp, Interior, a sopho-

more from Interior, S.D., solidified his spot in the regional finals in the bareback riding by winning second in the second round with a 72 point ride.

Sophomore David Dyke of Fremont, Iowa, made a sizable move in the bull riding by winning second in the first round with a score of 77, winning the second round with a score of 78 and winning the average.

"Dave's performance was outstanding because the 110 team points that he earned enabled him to finish second in the regional standing," Russell said. "Plus he is an automatic qualifier for the College National Finals Rodeo, regardless

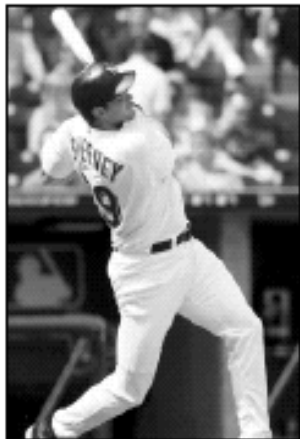
of what happens at regionals."

Brandon Ferguson, a sophomore from Lakewood, Colo., also qualified for the regional finals by finishing eleventh in the final standing tally. Sophomore Skylar Howell of Tribune placed eighth in the first round of calf roping. The men's team finished fifth overall.

Atkinson, Neb. sophomore Andrea Boettcher led the women's team. Boettcher scored 25 team points in the goat tying by finishing with a tie for second in the first round. That was enough points to protect her second place regional standing. Boettcher is now an au-

tomatic qualifier for the College National Finals Rodeo. She also qualified for the region finals in the breakaway roping. Karli Sherwood, a freshman from Holly, Colo., also qualified for regionals by finishing fourth in the breakaway roping regional standings.

The Regional Championship Series started on Wednesday in Lawton, Okla. and will continue until Saturday. The Series has 24 contestants in each event, 12 from the Central Plains Region and 12 from the Ozark Region. The College National Finals Rodeo will be held June 7-14, in Casper, Wyo.



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Local sports calendar

Today - Colby Invitational Track Meet at Dennen Field, 3 p.m.; Varsity baseball at Larned, 4 p.m.; Varsity and junior varsity softball at Larned, 4 p.m.

Saturday - Varsity tennis at Garden City, 8:30 a.m.; Varsity golf at Oberlin, 9 a.m.; Varsity baseball with Holcomb at Colby, 11 a.m.

Monday - Junior varsity and Varsity tennis at Goodland, 3 p.m.; Varsity baseball with Healy and Leoti at Colby, 4 p.m.



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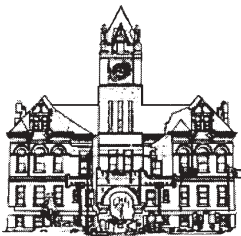
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