

Sounds of ‘Sweet Thunder’ rolling in

By TOM (TD) DREILING
Free Press Publisher
The ‘Thunder’ you hear this weekend won’t be coming from above.

It’ll be coming from the Colby Rec Department’s ball fields as action takes place in the Sweet Thunder Softball Tournament. A bunch of young athletes from a number of communities in western Kansas and Nebraska and Colorado will make softball life interesting for a couple of days. Some of the teams will be involved on Saturday and Sunday and some just on Saturday. Here’s the way things look as of now:
16-under
Teams — Phillipsburg,

Goodland, Plainville, Hill City
Saturday
3 p.m. — Phillipsburg vs. Hill City (field #3), Goodland vs. Plainville (field #2); 6 p.m. — Hill City vs. Goodland (field #3), Phillipsburg vs. Plainville (field #2); 7:30 p.m. — Plainville vs. Hill City (field #4), Phillipsburg vs. Goodland (field #2).
14-under
Teams — Colby, Goodland, Larned, McCook, Neb., Hill City, Hays, Garden City
10:30 a.m. — Goodland vs. Garden City (field #4), Larned vs. Hays (field #3), McCook vs. Hill City (field #2); 12 noon — Larned vs. Colby (field #2); 1:30 p.m. — Hays vs. Goodland (field #4), McCook vs. Garden City (field #3), Hill City

vs. Colby (field #2); 4:30 p.m. — Goodland vs. McCook (field #4), Hill City vs. Garden City (field #3), Colby vs. Hays (field #2); 6 p.m. — Larned vs. Hill City (field #4)
12-under
Teams — Colby, Goodland, Larned, Burlington, Colo., Dodge City, .Phillipsburg, Garden City
9 a.m. — Larned vs. Phillipsburg (field #5), Goodland vs. Garden City (field 4), Burlington vs. Dodge City (field #3); 10:30 a.m. — Larned vs. Colby (field #5); 12 noon — Dodge City vs. Colby (field #5), Burlington vs. Garden City (field #4), Phillipsburg vs. Goodland (field #3); 1:30 p.m. — dodge City vs. Larned (field #5); 3 p.m. — Goodland vs. Burlington (field #5), Colby vs. Phillipsburg

(field 4); 4:30 p.m. — Dodge City vs. Garden City (field #5).
10-under
Teams — Colby Sweet Thunder, Hoxie, Larned Renegades, Grainfield
9 a.m. — Colby vs. Grainfield; 10:30 a.m. — Hoxie vs. Larned; 12 noon — Colby vs. Larned; 1:30 p.m. — Hoxie vs. Grainfield; 3 p.m. — Larned vs. Grainfield; 4:30 p.m. — Colby vs. Hoxie.
Sunday
14-under and 12-under will complete their bracket play, with games starting at 9 a.m. at the various sites, concluding with first-place games at 1:30 p.m. Questions can be directed to Ryan Sturdy, rec director (462-4440).

Colby Rec Scoreboard

June 10
Rookie Boys
Blue vs Yellow — Yellow team winner 22-15
Blue vs Red — Tie game 16-16
Junior Boys
Blue vs Orange — Blue team winner (no score)
Purple vs Gray — Gray team winner (no score)
June 11
Rookie Girls
Black vs Gray — Black winner 10-6
Yellow vs Purple — Yellow winner 20-4
Bambino Boys
Yellow vs Blue — Blue winner 5-4
Green vs Gray — Green winner 16-6
Yellow vs Green — Green winner 13-6
Orange vs Gray — Orange winner 12-0

Drew Gooden is back at K.U.

LAWRENCE (AP) — Sure he recently signed a four-year, \$13.8 million NBA contract. But Drew Gooden also has a Plan B. Gooden, 21, who just finished his rookie season with the Orlando Magic, is at the University of Kansas this summer, taking two classes as he progresses toward his bachelor’s degree in communication studies. “I’m chipping away at those hours a little bit at a time,” the 6-foot-10 former Kansas All-American said Monday. “I’m doing it for myself and my family, too,” Gooden said. “As a matter of fact, I’ll be the only person in my family with a college degree, if I get it.”

It’s going to take Gooden several offseasons to land his degree. No problem, he says. The Richmond, Calif., native likes returning to Lawrence, where he scored 1,526 points and grabbed 905 rebounds from 2000 to 2002. “I came to Lawrence for the first time when I was 16,” said Gooden, who chose Kansas over California, UCLA and several other schools. “When I got to Lawrence, and it was all beautiful and everybody embraced me, I could see why so many great players chose to come to this school. “It’s the story of me falling in love with Kansas, too.”

Gooden, who was selected fourth overall by Memphis in last year’s draft, averaged 12.1 points and 5.8 boards in 51 games for the Grizzlies. He and Gordan Giricek were dealt to Orlando in mid-February for Mike Miller, Ryan Humphrey and two future draft picks. He averaged 13.6 points and 8.4 boards in 19 games for the Magic. Gooden said he had spoken with Roy Williams a couple of times since his college coach left Kansas for North Carolina in April. “He sounds like he misses Kansas a lot,” Gooden said. “But again he had to basically do what I did (in leaving Kansas after three years), follow his dream.”

Broncos ink first draft pick of year

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Broncos have signed their first draft pick of the year. Receiver Adrian Madise has inked a five-year contract that could be worth \$2.65 million. Madise, a fifth-round pick from TCU, is scheduled to receive a \$190,000 signing bonus and mini-

mum salaries through the 2007 season. Madise is expected to battle for the No. 4 receiver slot behind the likes of Rod Smith, Ed McCaffrey and Ashley Lelie. The signing was announced Tuesday at the Broncos’ headquarters in Denver.

‘Harvest’ moves onto the local golf course

By TOM (TD) DREILING
Free Press Publisher
It’s shaping up as a real winner. It is the 13th annual “Harvest for Health” golf tournament at the Colby Country Club this coming Friday.

The annual tourney is a fund raiser for the Citizens Foundation and if all pieces fall together this year’s event could turn out to be a — as stated in the story’s lead — *real winner!* Tama Unger, spokesperson for the Foundation, said this morning

that around 20 teams are expected to participate. That number will be finalized as today wears on. Unger said some super prizes will be awarded, lunch will be provided and the course should be cleared of the day’s activity around 4 p.m. She said registration is at 8 a.m. with tee-off at 9 a.m. sharp. And the weather? According to the National Weather Service, Friday should bring partly cloudy to cloudy conditions, southwest winds around 10-15 miles per hour and highs in the mid 80s.

Camp helped player decide

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Linebacker Nick Frere of Muscatine got a taste of Iowa State football at coach Dan McCarney’s camp. He liked it so much that he’s going to play for the Cyclones. McCarney offered Frere a scholarship before he left town and the 6-foot-3, 217-pounder accepted. “It was all how the coaches treated me,” Frere said. “They all made me feel like I was part of the team.” Frere, who’ll be a senior at Muscatine, will follow former

teammate Ben Barkema to Iowa State. Barkema will be a freshman with the Cyclones this fall. “I didn’t know what I was going to do,” Frere said, “but when I was at camp this past week, I pretty much made up my mind that I was going to accept.”

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