Legion team goes 1 and 3 at tourney

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press kbottrell@nwkansas.com

Despite outhitting the North Platte, Neb., team in the final game

Sunday, the Colby American Le-

gion baseball team lost 11-4. The Colby boys dropped two Colby had nine errors. games to North Platte and split with Gering, Neb., at the North

Platte Tournament this weekend. The team picked up the win on Saturday, beating Gering 9-5 with pitcher Brandon Rasmussen getting the win. That same day, the game.

team lost 5-4 to North Platte.

On Sunday, Colby lost 6-3 to Gering and 11-4 to North Platte. In the final game, outfielder Eric Blanton had a solo home run, going three for four with two runs batted in. Brent Arnberger also picked up two runs on three hits.

Pitcher Kevin Lang gave up 11 runs on seven hits in four 4 2/3rd innings. He struck out two. Relief pitcher Cade Carter came on in the fifth, holding North Platte to their 7-point lead to finish out the

Royals win one, prevent sweep

the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Greinke didn't allow any scoring until making his final pitch before a rain delay in the seventh inprevented the Pirates from sweeping an interleague series for the first time since 2001 by winning 3-2 on Sunday.

David DeJesus hit a solo homer off Charlie Morton (0-1) and drove in two runs to support Greinke (10-3), who gave up seven hits in 6 1-3 innings ahead of the 59-minute delay. Greinke became the AL's fourth 10-game winner, striking out three and walking none during a second successive effective start.

His 1.95 ERA leads the majors. "He's one of best in baseball and showed why," Freddy Sanchez said. "He pretty much shut

us down." the NL, halted a three-game losing streak and made sure the Pirates didn't finish with their best record streak from May 16-20. since interleague play began in 1997. They went 8-7, the same re- 12 slide with a solo homer, his

cord they had in 2001. yet didn't allow an extra-base hit Mark Teahen doubled and Teahen until Andy LaRoche tripled off the right-field wall during a driving rain in the seventh to score brother Adam LaRoche, who singled. Immediately after Adam LaRoche made it down the muddy third-base line, plate umpire Tom time in 16 games. Hallion stopped play.

wherever I wanted to (for five in- hamstring tightness, gave up three nings)," said Greinke, who had runs and seven hits in five introuble gripping the ball once nings. a hard rain began falling. "I've pitched in bad weather before, but ERA in four starts after going 8-1 usually better than that."

Jamey Wright got Jason Jaramillo nings in his last two. to ground out, scoring Andy La-

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Beating Roche with a run that was charged Zack Greinke and the weatherman to Greinke. Wright and John Bale in one day proved too difficult for combined for a scoreless eighth. Joakim Soria retired all three batters he faced for his ninth save in

11 opportunities. "Zack was having a little bit of ning, and the Kansas City Royals a problem ... he always takes (the sign) from the set position with the ball in his hand, but in that situation he wasn't able to keep it dry,' manager Trey Hillman said.

> The Pirates also felt the rain was a factor, and not in their favor.

'The rain delay kind of killed the rally," Jack Wilson said. "Battling anybody's No. 1, especially the No. 1 guy in the big leagues, you've got to take advantage the one time they give you a chance and the door opens. I thought that door was cracking, but the next thing you know the floodgates come in. I thought it was pretty bad timing."

The Pirates had won four in a The Royals, ending 8-10 against row since losing five in succession, but couldn't match their season's best five-game winning

DeJesus broke out of an 0-forsixth, to start the fourth. An in-Greinke wasn't overpowering, ning later, Alberto Callaspo and scored when first baseman Adam LaRoche's throw to the plate was late on DeJesus' grounder.

Greinke, making his first career start against Pittsburgh, allowed two runs or fewer for the 12th

Morton, his third start for Pitts-"It felt like I could throw it burgh pushed back two days by

Greinke was 0-2 with a 5.19 in his first 10, but it 2-0 with three Once the game resumed, reliever earned runs allowed in 14 1-3 in-

Colby K-18 team dominates McCook



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

during the Colby K-18 baseball team's doubleheader against in both games, winning 10-0 and 8-0.

Pitcher and first baseman Zack Stones slid into second base McCook, Neb., on Sunday. The Colby team shut out McCook

Rockies defeat Oakland in near-shutout

Aaron Cook is enjoying one of the their last 23 games, and improved most productive stretches of his career. It's also Colorado's best stretch since ending the 2007 season on a tear.

Cook took a shutout into the ninth inning and won his fifth consecutive start as the Rockies defeated the Oakland Athletics 3-1 on Sunday.

"Even when other teams get one or two hits, he's always one pitch away from putting the inning down," Rockies' manager Jim Tracy said. "That's the mindset of a pro, the mindset of a stalwart, front end of the rotation guy."

Chris Iannetta, Carlos Gonzalez and Seth Smith each drove in a run for the Rockies, who completed their first sweep of the A's and their fourth sweep in June.

Cook has a 1.75 ERA over his past five games, and with the Rockies averaging more than 6 and a half runs during that stretch, the combination has proved effec-

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — tive. The Rockies have won 20 of less streak against the A's end. to 22-7 under Tracy.

"This is one of those games where we did some things to get some runs, and Aaron Cook made the ones we did get, stand up," Tracy said. "He was fantastic. I felt like he got better as the game

Ryan Sweeney had three hits and drove in a run for the A's, who lost their fifth straight, matching their season high. Orlando Cabrera added two hits.

Cook (8-3) gave up nine hits while walking one and striking wins leader had a 12-inning score- and struck out eight in losing his not easy."

"Unfortunately I've had a lot of practice with guys on base," Cook said. "But I'm comfortable because I work on it a lot. It's not something that fazes me like it used to.'

Former A's closer Huston Street earned his 19th save in 20 chances by getting the final three outs. He saved all three games of the se-

"The way we're playing, and the way the A's were playing, this was a big series for us," Street said.

A's starter Vin Mazzaro (2-3) gave up three runs on five hits in haven't hit the long ball. Against out four. The Rockies' franchise five-plus innings. He walked four a sinker ball pitcher like Cook it's

"I thought he did a pretty good job of holding a pretty good hitting club," A's manager Bob Geren said. "He's one of the best young pitchers in the league.'

The A's finished 5-13 in interleague play, their worst performance against the National League. The Rockies matched their best record (11-4) in interleague play.

"They put together some good at bats against us the entire series," Geren said. "The big difference was the extra base hits. We



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