

Pitcher shines in his debut

CINCINNATI (AP) — Left-hander Aroldis Chapman made his big leg kick and let one fly. Flashes went off around the ballpark. The crowd let out a collective “ooh” when the ball slammed loudly into Ryan Hanigan’s mitt.

And that was just his first warm-up.

What came next was almost too fast to follow.

The Cuban defector made a big-league debut that opened a lot of eyes around the majors — especially on teams thinking they might face the Cincinnati Reds in the playoffs.

Chapman pitched a perfect inning, twice hitting 102 mph on the radar gun, during an 8-4 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Tuesday night.

“I don’t think it can get any better than this,” closer Francisco Cordero said.

Not much faster, anyway. As introductions go, this one sizzled.

“Aw, that was a wonderful debut,” manager Dusty Baker said. “People expected it, and they got what they heard about and read about.”

They’ll be talking about this one for some time.

The 22-year-old Cuban defected 13 months ago, deciding to take his triple-digit pitch to the majors. He signed a six-year, \$30.25 million deal with Cincinnati in January, then set out to try to win a spot in the rotation during spring training.

He wasn’t ready. Chapman started the season at Triple-A Louisville and struggled with his control. Last month, the Reds were in a pennant race and decided to see if Chapman could become something special out of the bullpen.

Everyone can see the answer. “He’s special,” Baker said.

His fastball was an urban legend even before he arrived. Chapman was clocked at 101 mph during spring training by major league scouts. When he moved into the bullpen, he was able to throw even harder. The radar gun in Louisville clocked one of his pitches at 105 mph.

Could he light it up in the big leagues?

The first time out, he sure did.

Chapman got a standing ovation from the crowd of 19,218 when he jogged out of the bullpen to pitch the top of the eighth with the Reds leading 8-3. Fans let out a collective “ooh” after each warm-up throw. There was a buzz in the small crowd — contrary to one fans’ sign, there’s no Chapmania yet.

His first pitch to Jonathan Lucroy registered 98 mph. The third one hit 102 mph.



Colby High sophomore Keana Keck, pictured here smacking the tennis ball during practice Tuesday, and the rest of the Lady Eagles’ junior varsity tennis team filled in for the varsity in a meet Saturday at WaKeeney. The girls finished eighth overall.

Junior varsity tennis team takes on stiff competition

The Colby High junior varsity tennis team started the season against some stiff competition at a varsity meet Saturday at WaKeeney. On a 90-degree day with 40 mph winds, the girls finished last out of eight teams.

The junior varsity girls were playing for the varsity squad because the varsity can only play a certain number of matches each season, coach Gene Rothfuss said. The other teams in the meet were WaKeeney, Phillipsburg, Tribune, Norton,

Osborne, Plainville and Russell.

Sophomore Keana Keck finished eighth in No. 1 singles and the No. 1 doubles team of junior Megan Schroeder and senior Laura Juenemann came in seventh. Sophomore Janessa Williams was eighth in No. 2 singles and senior Theresa Bassett and sophomore Tomi Miller took sixth in No. 2 doubles.

“Some of the matches were closer than they looked on paper,” the coach said.

Varsity golf team takes third place

The Colby High girl’s golf team took third out of eight team’s in its first tournament at Garden City on a windy Monday afternoon.

The squad finished with a team score of 223. Holcomb finished first and Syracuse snagged second.

The four lowest rounds by a team’s players are added up to determine the overall score.

Junior Kaylee Keck started her season on a positive note, shooting a 48 on nine holes to finish fourth. Coach Rick Williams said Keck would have been playing for first if it were not for two rough holes.

“She had a solid score on a tough day,” he added.

Sophomore Karly Kriss shot a 53 and came in 11th. She was tied for 10th place, but lost on the tie-breaker, the coach said. Williams said Kriss’ score would have been

lower, but she shot a 10 on the first hole.

Abby Miller shot a 58, Kate Ostmeier, 64; Brittany Bange, 65; and Kelsey Shields, 68. All are seniors; Bange is a newcomer to the team, the coach said, and Monday was the first golf tournament she had played in.

Williams said he thought overall the tournament had gone well, given the tough weather conditions.

Colby finished ahead of Sublette, Garden City’s junior varsity, Larned and St. Francis. Senior Jalyn McCauley, who travels with the Colby team, was the only golfer from St. Francis. McCauley took first with the lowest round of the tourney, finishing with a 45.

The Lady Eagles’ varsity and junior varsity squads will play again at 3 p.m. Thursday at Hugoton.

Colby High squad agrees to help golfer

By Andy Heintz

Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkans.com

The Colby High girls golf team will have a unfamiliar face sharing a seat with them on the bus this season.

Senior Jalyn McCauley from St. Francis will be traveling with the Lady Eagles because her school doesn’t have a golf program, coach Rick Williams said. He said St. Francis and Colby made a “co-operative agreement” that allows McCauley to travel with Colby to tournaments.

The plan to allow McCauley to ride with the team was approved at a Colby School Board meeting earlier this year, said Principal Larry Gabel. He said it was the

courteous thing to do.

Williams said McCauley could legally be a part of the Lady Eagles’ varsity team, but he said he didn’t want her to take the spot of one of Colby’s golfers. The coach added that if he had let her play for the Lady Eagles in the tournament at Garden City, however, Colby would have taken first place.

McCauley shot the lowest round of the tournament, finishing with a 45. Williams said the St. Francis golfer would practice mostly by herself, but she may practice with the Lady Eagles a couple times.

“She’s a really good player and a really nice kid,” he added.

Gabel said McCauley will be representing St. Francis at the Class 1A substate tournament.

Royals win by one

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Willie Bloomquist scored on Alex Ogando’s wild pitch with two outs in the bottom of the ninth and Alex Gordon drove in three runs as the Royals beat the Rangers 10-9.

Wilson Betemit opened the ninth with a double and Bloomquist pinch-ran for him. Brayon Pena walked with one out. Bloomquist

stole third with one out and scored on Ogando’s wild pitch with Yuniesky Betancourt at the plate.

Jakim Soria (1-2) picked up the victory, allowing one hit in a scoreless ninth. Rangers left-hander Darren Oliver (1-2), who started the ninth, took the loss and has allowed 11 earned runs in 10 innings in his past 13 outings.

Rockies fall to Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Andres Torres led off the eighth inning with a go-ahead home run, helping San Francisco beat Colorado 5-2 to close within four games of

first place in the NL West.

Buster Posey added a two-run double in the eighth as the Giants won for the second time in six games.

Kansas City area back commits to Cornhuskers

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Kansas prep quarterback Bubba Starling is a true dual threat.

Sure, Starling can run and throw a football like few of his peers. But he also hit, pitch and play the outfield with the best of them.

Starling, a 6-foot-5, 200-pound senior from Gardner-Edgerton High just outside of Kansas City, has committed to Nebraska to play both football and baseball.

Baseball might be Starling’s best sport, and he’s projected as a top pick as an outfielder in the 2011 major league draft. But he’s also one heck of a quarterback.

Starling threw for 1,433 yards and 18 touchdowns as a junior

last season and ran for 1,381 yards and 19 TDs on just 124 carries. Numbers like that — and 40-yard dash time of 4.36 according to Gardner-Edgerton coach Marvin Diener — drew the interest of schools such as Notre Dame and Alabama before Starling settled on the Huskers.

Starling broke into the Blazers’ starting lineup as a sophomore, and last season he led his team to a 12-1 record and the Class 5A title game.

Starling has earned a special place in the eyes of his community, no matter what sport he ultimately chooses to focus on.

Colby High School Sports
“Eagles on Radio”
with Chad Jones

100,000 Watt FM Signal

Listen on-air...or on-line at www.nwkradio.com

You're Invited

To save Money!

To get all the products you want on your service date!

To know what's on sale and what's new!

Schwan's Food Co. of Colby, Kansas would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Northwest Kansas for their business!

In our continued efforts to be the #1 depot in the nation, we are asking everyone to show their support by placing an on-line order. If you are not yet a Schwan's customer, or have had our products but not our service, now is the time to get on-line or give us a call and receive the ultimate Schwan's experience. There is NO contract to sign and NO minimum or maximum purchase and we accept cash, checks, credit cards and EBT.

Don't forget to ask about our awesome fund raising program. Thank you again and we can't wait to hear from you!

Customer Service is our number 1 priority. We know that the better we get to know our customer the better we will be able to serve your needs. We are inviting all our customers to visit us at www.schwans.com and check out all the fantastic savings, update your information, see the new products and order in advance to make your Schwan's experience as convenient as possible.

schwans.com
1-888-SCHWANS (888-724-9267)