

Colby Legion team thumps Burlington

By Kayla Cornett

Colby Free Press
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The Colby American Legion baseball team had an outstanding show of their batting skills against Burlington in a doubleheader Wednesday night at the Colby Recreation Fields.

Both games ended early due to the 10-run rule, with Colby winning the first game 13-2 after four innings. The team handed Burlington a 17-0 shutout in the second game, which was called in the middle of the third inning.

The first game started out with a bang, with Jordan Rasmussen slamming a home run on the first pitch in the bottom of the first inning. Later in the inning, Todd Kane also hit a home run, bringing in an additional run.

Colby finished the game with nine runs batted in. Six players batted in 1 run each and 1 player had three. The team stole a total of 8 bases.

Brock James pitched 3 of the 4 innings and came

out with 7 walks, 5 strikeouts and only 1 hit given up.

Game two would be even sweeter for Colby, which played well both offensively and defensively.

Colby pitcher Luke Cox pitched the entire game, giving up only 1 hit and 1 walk, while striking out four. It was "three up, three down" for Cox in the top of the second and third innings, where each batter was either a fly out, a ground out or a strikeout.

On the offensive side of the ball, the team was up 7-0 by the end of the first inning and scored the remaining 10 runs in the bottom of the second. Colby had a total of 13 runs batted in; three players had 1 each while five players had 2.

Colby stole 10 bases due in part to Burlington's pitching problems. Burlington changed pitchers twice in the bottom of the second, which proved fruitless in the face of Colby's batting success. Burlington also had 5 errors which resulted in 5 runs batted in.

Colby is now headed into the Columbus tournament, which runs from today to Sunday.



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Luke Cox pitched for Colby during the second game of a doubleheader Wednesday at the Colby Recreation Fields. In three innings, Cox gave up only 1 hit and 1 walk, and threw 4 strikeouts.

Big 12 basketball tourney, women's sports are changing

By Doug Tucker

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Finishing among the top six in the regular season will be rewarded with a first-round bye in the redesigned men's and women's Big 12 basketball tournaments.

It's one of the last adjustments the league had to make after Colorado and Nebraska dropped out this year and reduced the league to 10. As a 12-team league, only the top four teams got byes.

Under the new format, seeds No. 8 and 9 and 7 and 10 will play on the first day. Then the quarterfinals will match No. 4 vs. No. 5, No. 3 vs. No. 6, No. 1 vs. the 8-9 winner and No. 2 vs. the 7-10 winner.

The league spent several months studying various possibilities before adopting the new plan at its annual meetings last Thursday.

"It went through our coaches groups, went through our ad-

ministrative groups, went all the way up the ladder," said commissioner Dan Beebe. "I think there was consideration of all sorts of formats. After all the discussion and debates about various benefits and detriments of other formats, it ended up unanimous."

The league also decided the men's and women's tournaments would run concurrently, Wednesday through Saturday. Last year, the women had an off day between the semifinals and championship game.

"They felt more comfortable eliminating the off day," said conference spokesman Bob Burda. "They felt if they ended on Sunday it would be somewhat anticlimactic since the men's championship would have occurred the previous day."

In another decision that may have more far-reaching implications than are apparent, the Big 12 voted to sponsor championships in rowing and equestrian, adding

both as women's sports. Presently, only Kansas, Kansas State, Texas and Oklahoma have rowing teams and only Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Baylor and Texas A&M have equestrian.

But making these sports subject to conference eligibility requirements means they can help schools neutralize football's impact on Title IX gender requirements.

Squad limits will be 52 for rowing and 32 for equestrian.

"The feeling is as institutions go forward and look at possible expansion, they'll look at those two activities," said Beebe. "We are increasing tremendously the opportunities for women."

The conference also voted to increase from \$7,500 to \$9,000 the Prentice Gault postgraduate scholarship awards that are given every year to two student-athletes at each Big 12 school.

K-18 July Schedule

July 6	July 7	July 8	July 14	July 23
with McCook 6:30 p.m.	with Goodland 6:30 p.m.	at McCook 6:30 p.m.	with Oakley 6:30 p.m.	Regional at Oakley
July 24	July 29	July 30	July 31	August 2
Regional at Oakley	State Tournament at Lucas	State Tournament at Lucas	State Tournament at Lucas	State Tournament at Lucas

*Home games are in bold.

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Thomas County Relay for Life
Dennen Field • June 17-18, 2011

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Survivors' BBQ with Grant Smith Family
5:30 - 10:30 p.m. Silent Auction (Bids will be finalized following the Luminary Service)

Opening Ceremony
~ Welcome: Dave Evert
~ Flag Ceremony: Boy Scouts
~ Star Spangled Banner: Sweet Adelines
~ Opening Prayer: Fr. Dana Clark
~ Introductions: Committee members; Sponsors; Survivors; Teams
~ Survivors/Caregivers Walk (Wheelchairs welcome)
~ Team Walk

7:40 - 8:10 p.m. Live Auction (Tool Set, Pet Care Basket, Kansas Basket, Baby Basket & more!)

8:15 - 9:15 p.m. Massages by Cindy England
Music by DJ Wayne Williams

9:15 p.m. Luminary Service
~ Candle Lighting & Inspirational Music
~ Survivor Story - Ann Miner
~ Reading of Luminaries - Margaret Kummer

10:15 - 10:45 p.m. Dance Team
10:45 p.m. Music by Reed (Logan Barnes, Steven Kerkisiek, Blake McNinch, Austin & Bryan Scheideman)
12:45 a.m. Games

12:45 - 7:00 a.m. DJ - Wayne Williams
Games

1:00 a.m. Fight Back Ceremony
6:30 a.m. Closing Ceremony
7:00 a.m. Goodbye and Thank You!

Everyone is Invited!
Luminaries to honor a cancer survivor or remember a victim are available for purchase now at \$10 apiece.
Please call Irene Hartwell at 443-0974