

No tornadoes mean summer sports soon to heat up

Colby summer sports really swings into action today, with both golf and softball events scheduled.

Junior Golf was to tee off at 10 a.m. on the Meadow Lake Golf Course. The group is open for youths 7 to 17. They will practice every Thursday morning through July 25.

Meanwhile, Colby men's softball action begins tonight as a busy Recreation League summer season begins. The activities include everything from water aerobics to yoga to youth leagues and an upcoming Legends basketball camp.

Meadow Lake also will remain a busy, since the Colby Rotary-Chamber Golf Tournament is set for Friday. Golfers will tee off at 10 a.m. after 9 a.m. registration.

Besides 18 holes of golf, the tourney features prizes, contests, lunch and a fried-chicken dinner.

Saturday brings the Colby swim team's season debut at Holyoke, Colo. The *Colby Free Press* plans to publish results and highlights once again throughout this summer.

Colby American Legion and youth baseball teams will get their busy seasons underway Monday evening.

Here is the 2013 Colby American Legion baseball schedule:

Wednesday: Goodland, 6 and 8 p.m.
 June 9: Burlington, 6 and 8 p.m.
 June 15-16: At Burlington Wood Bat Tourney.
 June 19: At Burlington, 6 and 8 p.m.
 June 22-23: At Goodland Tourney.
 June 26: Thomas More Prep, 6 and 8 p.m.
 June 30: At Norton, 6 and 8 p.m.
 July 5-7: At Hays Wood Bat Tourney.

July 10: At Goodland, 6 and 8 p.m.

June 21-27: At Zone Tourney.
 July 31-Aug. 4: State Tourney at Pratt.

Aug. 8-12: Region Tourney at Pratt.

Here also is the Colby 4th-6th Grade baseball schedule:

Monday: Grainfield/Grinnell, 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday: At Oberlin, 6:30 p.m.
 June 10: WaKeeney, 6:30 p.m.
 June 12: At Hoxie, 6:30 p.m.
 June 17: At Quinter, 6:30 p.m.
 June 19: At Grainfield/Grinnell, 6:30 p.m.
 June 24: Oberlin, 6:30 p.m.
 June 26: At WaKeeney, 6:30 p.m.
 July 1: Hoxie, 6:30 p.m.
 July 3: Quinter, 6:30 p.m.
 July 11: Tourney first round.
 July 13: Final rounds of tournament.



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Youth baseball and many other summer sports are about to begin in Colby.

New sports writer ready for Colby?

Meet a former teenager once cool enough to forget his glasses before little-league outfield practice.

"Man, that fly ball just keeps on flying," R.B. Headley recalled thinking. "Oh wait, that's a bird. Wow, I hope no one noticed."

Right. No one noticed, some dogs really can talk and a Kansas City Chiefs-Minnesota Vikings Super Bowl is destined for next February.

"I'm a lifelong Yikes!-ing fan, so I'm excited," R.B. said. "Finally, revenge for Super Bowl IV (Chiefs 23, Yike!-ings 7) and all those annoying happy Hank Stram videos."

Editor's note: For those born after 1980, Hank Stram was a legendary Chiefs coach and yes - believe it or not - the Chiefs have played in two Super Bowls.

Anyhoo, potential girlfriends were certainly happy around R.B., especially after his YouTube-worthy falls followed by snow angel routines on the ski slopes.

"I would have stood up and said 'hi' if not for those stupid skis," he explained.

Yet R.B. certainly stood tall on the basketball court, using his LeBron-like post moves to dominate opponents. Of course, those foes were about 12 while R.B. was past 25.

"My brother and I towered over the competition," he recalled. "Did we win the game? Uhhh, I really don't recall."

Fading memories are often welcome friends for great athletes like these. Yet one fact has always remained unforgettable about R.B.

He loves many sports and enjoys almost all of them.

"Holiday hot-dog-eating contests should not appear on ESPN Sportscenter," he said. "Pies and doughnuts? Now that's good competition."

Sports writer jobs have given R.B. a chance to cover many competitions during his nearly 20 years of newspaper work in four states. His favorite focus has

usually centered on prep, youth, collegiate and community sports - which is why Colby seems like an excellent new location for him.

"I've never really been drawn to big cities besides brief visits," he confessed. "I get lost too easily, as some here at the *Free Press* have already recognized. This presents another new challenge and I'm happy to be here. Go Eagles and Trojans! Go K-State and Kansas Jayhawks!"

That last sentence is not a misprint. R.B. has cheered for both KU and K-State on many occasions, even though he's a Nebraska (egads!) native.

"I started cheering on KU hoops when a great high school player, Ron Kellogg from Omaha Northwest High School, signed with Larry Brown's team. Danny Manning arrived the following year and Rock Chalk has been among my favorites ever since," R.B. said. "K-State's drawn some mixed reviews over the years. I covered a 2003 football game in Lincoln when Darren Sproles and those crazy 'Cats embarrassed my Huskers 38-9."

It was an ugly scene, with purple-clad fans encircling Tom Osborne Field and celebrating a bit too loudly.

"But I've gained appreciation for coach Bill Snyder over the years and thought (quarterback) Collin Klein was great. So now I'm not afraid to often say go K-State!"

Rivalries and friendly debates are other R.B. favorites.

So while community sports will rule most of his sports-page space, he'll also mix in some opinion pieces where local fans can state their own thoughts. It all adds up to what sports should be about, he said:

Good, clean fun.
 "That's my goal," he concluded. "If you have any sports story ideas, no one reading this should hesitate to call. I'll make sure to answer between snacks and occasional naps."

Up and over



KARIN RASMUSSEN

Colby's Hannah Strange made a great effort to clear the high bar during the Class 4A state track and field competition in Wichita last weekend. Ten qualifiers represented Colby High, with several bringing home state medals.

Lowly Astros edge Rockies in 12

HOUSTON (AP) - The Colorado Rockies had plenty of opportunities to put away Houston. Time after time they came up empty.

Brandon Barnes hit an RBI double with two outs in the 12th inning to lift the Astros to a 3-2 victory Monday.

Colorado stranded 15 runners and fell to 3-5 in extra-inning games this season.

"We left too many men on," manager Walt Weiss said. "We have to find a way to win a game like that."

Matt Dominguez singled off former Astro Wilton Lopez (1-2) to start the 12th. Dominguez was replaced by pinch-runner Ronny Cedeno, who advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt.

The Rockies intentionally walked Jose Altuve with two outs before Barnes connected on a

ground-rule double into the right-field corner.

Paul Clemens (2-2) struck out two in a scoreless inning for the win.

Carlos Gonzalez drove in a run with a double in the Colorado first, and Jonathan Herrera made it 2-0 with a run-scoring bunt in the fourth.

Carlos Pena hit a two-run double for Houston to tie it at 2 in the fourth.

The Astros loaded the bases with two outs in the 11th, but Jimmy Paredes flied out to end the inning.

Wilin Rosario singled to start the 10th for the Rockies, went to second on a sacrifice bunt and third on a flyout. Houston intentionally walked pinch-hitter Michael Cud-dyer, and Travis Blackley struck out pinch-hitter D.J. LeMahieu to

end the threat.

"It's difficult to win that way, when you leave over 10 runners on base and not being able to get the big hit," Gonzalez said. "It's frustrating."

Colby K18 will debut in Atwood

Another Colby baseball team makes its season debut tonight when the K18 squad hosts Atwood for a 6:30 p.m. contest.

Coach Brian Quagliano directed this year's squad with Ted Hart and Sean Lydon assisting.

The K18 roster features Parker Wright, Shevin Martin, Zack Hart, Jonah Thompson, Brady Holzmeister, Hudson Stramel, Tyler Schritter, Brooks Curry, Mark Faber, Rex Branum, Austin Hart, Alex Vap, Colyn Gugelman, Brady Slinger, Ben Matchell and Casey Quagliano.

A glance at the complete Colby K18 season schedule:

Tonight: Atwood, 6:30 p.m.
 June 6: At Oakley, 6:30 p.m.
 June 10: Goodland, 6:30 p.m.
 June 13: At Oakley, 6:30 p.m.
 June 17: At Norton, 6:30 p.m.
 June 20: McCook, 5:30 p.m.
 June 22-23: Colby Tourney
 June 24: Oakley, 6:30 p.m..
 June 27: At Goodland, 7 p.m.
 June 29: At McCook, noon
 July 1: Wakeeney, 6:30 p.m.
 July 4-7: At Garden City Tourney, TBA
 July 8: At Atwood, 6:30 p.m.
 July 20-21: Regionals
 July 26-31: State at Lucas

Watch for scores, photos, stat leaders and other details about these contests all summer in the *Free Press*.

RARE OPPORTUNITIES

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