

# Colby 5K Run comes down to a few seconds

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Temptations to stop were everywhere for a gallant few athletes who entered the Colby 5K Rec Run Wednesday evening.

Isaac Rosales admitted he considered "stopping at a friend's house, having a pop and calling it a day."

Connie Jackson of Oakley expected her visit to "The Oasis On The Plains" to actually feature more plains.

"There are more hills here than in Oakley," Jackson said. "My lungs were on fire."

Gary Schuette's knees didn't feel much better after enduring surgery last year. Yet he keeps on running even larger races like the Denver Half-Marathon earlier this year.

"Yeah, I saw you there," Sara Betz told Schuette.

Betz just likes to avoid the somewhat painful memory of her first 5K run.

"I was so far behind that the guy who gives directions (along the course) had actually driven off," she recalled. "He came back but I was like 'dude, that's okay'."

Betz didn't have to worry about a similar experience Wednesday evening, nor did any other 5K runner. Because every one finished this course through Colby within 22 seconds of their predicted time, and only eight seconds decided the eventual champion.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

On those kids! Isaac Rosales (above right) delivers a good final "kick" on the home stretch of Wednesday's Colby 5K Rec Run and earned first place overall. Sara Betz (above left) kept pace with her nephew Isaac through most of the race and finished 22 seconds faster than her predicted time. Meanwhile, Connie Jackson (right) conquered every obstacle to cross the finish line Wednesday evening. Unusually cool mid-August weather accompanied this annual event.

Fastest times didn't determine places. Instead, it was who came closest to their predicted times before the race.

Rosales, a member of Colby's 12-and-under Jayhawk League champion baseball team, sur-

passed his own expectations by finishing 14 seconds faster (27:19) than what he predicted (27:33).

Schuette earned a second-place prize as he was only 18 seconds (34:03) off his goal of 33:45.

Jackson's 21-second difference



took third overall. She was aiming for 30:45 and finished in 31:06.

Meanwhile, Betz shouldn't have been displeased about finishing fourth with her 22-second difference.

She crossed the final line in

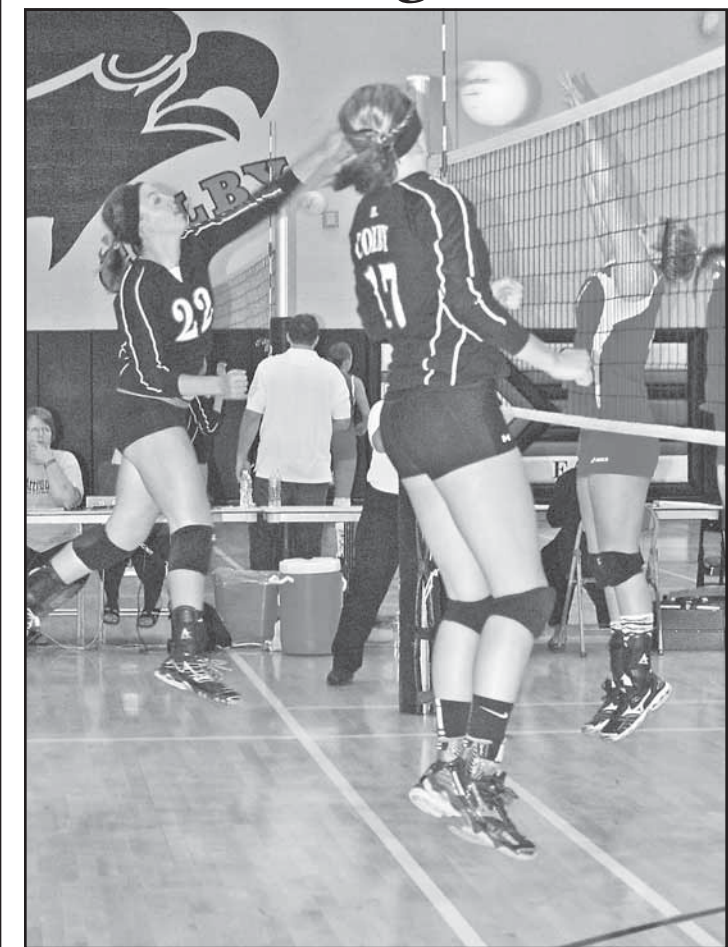
27:21, which surpassed her forecast of 27:43.

Hopefully, the weather forecasts for future Colby Rec runs will be just as promising. Temperatures were unusually cool and comfort on the mid-August evening.

The big running event on Colby's calendar will be its annual Turkey Trot set for Saturday, Nov. 23.

Rosales earned a free entry into that event with Wednesday's victory.

## It's almost Eagles time



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

The Colby High School volleyball team has high hopes after a strong 2012 season, and many talented players are returning this fall. All area fall sports teams begin pre-season practices on Monday. Watch for more details in upcoming editions as photos, schedules and previews are being planned for each team.

## Wimbledon champ retires after defeat

MASON, Ohio (AP) — With her body aching after another loss, Wimbledon champion Marion Bartoli decided to retire Wednesday night, saying she could no longer deal with the continuous pain on the court.

Her tearful announcement at the Western & Southern Open came only two months after she pushed through the pain to win her greatest championship on Wimbledon's chewed-up grass.

"My body was really starting to fall apart and I was able to keep

it together, go through the pain -- with a lot of pain -- throughout this Wimbledon and make it happen," the 28-year-old French player said, tears running down her cheeks. "That was probably the last little bit of something that was left inside me."

"I've been playing for a long, long, long time, and it's time for me now. It is."

She was seeded 15th when she beat Sabine Lisicki for the title at the All England Club, ending the match with an ace.

## Kickin' around a tourney in Ness City

A coed kickball tournament will be played on Saturday, Aug. 24 at Ness City.

The action kicks off at 9 a.m. with round-robin contests that will determine seeds for a single-elimination championship tournament.

There will be three divisions: third through fifth grades, sixth through eighth, and high school/adult.

Registration is required by Friday, Aug. 23, with team entry fee being \$100.

Call the Ness City Recreation Department at (785) 798-2453 for information.

the youth round robins have been played.

Teams can move up to older divisions but not down. So sixth through eighth grade could challenge adults if daring enough.

## Fish rise up to deal Royals series defeat

### Kansas City faces huge 5-game series at Detroit

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Justin Ruggiano picked the scuffed-up ball off the carpet, smiled a toothy smile and proudly held it up for everyone to see in the visiting clubhouse at Kauffman Stadium.

A souvenir from his first career hit? Nope.

Just his first hit in a while.

Ruggiano snapped a franchise-worst 0-for-42 slump by hitting that ball for a single in the first inning Wednesday, and then added two more hits and drove in a run as the Miami Marlins beat the Kansas City Royals 5-2 to wrap up a winning three-game series.

"It became a mental issue. I wouldn't wish that on anybody in the world," said Ruggiano, whose last hit came on July 12. "I'm just glad it's over with. Now I can get back to doing what I do."

Ruggiano drove in the Marlins' first run, but they still trailed 2-1 when Koyie Hill doubled off reliever Tim Collins (2-6) to start the seventh. Christian Yelich then hit a grounder toward third that utility man Elliot Johnson let through his legs to put runners on second and third.

Donovan Solano and Logan Morrison followed with RBI groundouts to give the Marlins the lead.

Closer Dan Cishek struck out Alex Gordon with runners on first and second to end the game.

The Royals were rolling when the series began. They'd won 17 of 20 after taking the opener to climb into playoff contention, but now limp off to play five games in four days against AL Central-leading Detroit with their first

defeat in eight series.

The Royals, blanked 1-0 in 10 innings Tuesday night, got off to a good start when Eric Hosmer doubled in the first inning and eventually scored on a single by Salvador Perez.

The Royals failed to take advantage of the erratic Jacob Turner, though. The Marlins starter walked six without a strikeout in five-plus innings, but Kansas City could only squeeze out one more run against him on a groundout by David Lough in the fourth.

The Royals' relievers — with little help from their defense — failed to hold on. Johnson's error turned the game, Royals manager Ned Yost said, and eventually led to the go-ahead runs.

"In Elliot's defense, it was cue-ball shot with a lot of English. It had a lot of spin on it, it hit and then boom, it stayed down," Yost said. "It changed the whole complexion of the inning."

For his part, Johnson refused to make any excuses.

"We're in the middle of the hunt and they're not going to tolerate that sort of stuff. It seems like an easy play," Johnson said. "It wasn't as easy as it seems, (but) still I should have made it."

The Royals suffered their series loss in eight since the All-Star Game break. They won three of four from Boston last weekend along with downing A.L. powerhouses Detroit and Baltimore. But lowly Miami became too much for K.C.

## Diamond fans should focus on five tidbits

A foul ball off his forehead many years ago only left lasting effects on that poor baseball, so Times sports writer R.B. Headley's feeling sharp enough to offer five tidbits of insight for true big-league fans this week:

**1. Royals can do double trouble in Detroit.** Kansas City has shown no fear, going 5-3 against

mighty Detroit this season and playing five more games in the Motor City this weekend.

Since fellow wildcard contenders Oakland and Cleveland are also playing, every Royals win means K.C. can gain ground on two teams. Of course, every loss could be doubly painful.

**2. Don't worry about the Yan-**

kees. They've won six of seven, but Alfonso Soriano is a notorious streak hitter who won't knock in 13 runs every two games like he did Tuesday and Wednesday. Derek Jeter's return also seems iffy at best, and never count on A-Rod.

**3. Pirates sailing along.** A night after literally dropping a key game at St. Louis, the Pirates came back

with another resounding win. There will be no second-half collapse like last two years.

**4. Will Dodgers ever cool down?** They are now 40-8 in last 48 games, and it seems no one can win a series from them.

**5. My team is dangerous.** Cincinnati's won seven of eight with pitching that can dominate.

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