

## Ready for some football?



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Practice started today and Mike Gottsch, Colby High School head football coach, said this year's Eagle team is a little older and wiser with nine returning lettermen vs. five from last year. He also said the numbers are up with about 50 players out, including the freshmen. ABOVE: Schuyler Sharpe (forefront), along with Rusty Raymo kicking, were among the players this morning.

# All eyes on Colby Country Club golfers

By TOM (TD) DREILING  
Free Press Publisher

Can Colby make it four-in-a-row? That's the question swirling around northwest Kansas golf circles as the 12th annual KLOE/KKCI/KWGB Golf Classic unfolds at Sugar Hills Golf Club in Goodland on Sunday, Aug. 19.

Teams representing the Colby Country Club won the past three classics and are expected to once again make a strong showing. The defending champions from Colby will be represented this year by Lonnie Melvin, David Pool, Scott Focke, Jay Kimberly, Bob Harper, Justin Krey, Kevan Taylor, Jim Stanley, Miles Ladenburger, Max Mountford, Tom Barlow and B J Melvin.

The classic, said to be one of the most unique golf tournaments in the state, will boast 132 of the best golfers in the Tri-State Area.

Tee-off will be at 8 a.m. (MDT), 9 a.m. (CDT).

Melia Communications of Goodland tells the Free Press that each of the 11 cities represented this year will bring their 12 best individual golfers to compete as a team for over \$4,000 in prize money and bragging rights for their golf club.

Teams will be participating from Oberlin (who laid out last year due to a scheduling conflict), Goodland, Colby, Sharon Springs, Tribune, Atwood, Benkelman (Neb.), Oakley, Norton, Hoxie and St. Francis.

## Broncos rout Dallas, 20-6

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Olandis Gary and Mike Anderson were virtually even in their first preseason battle to become Denver's featured running back, and quarterbacks Brian Griese and Gus Frerotte were sharp as the Broncos beat the Dallas Cowboys 20-6 Saturday night.

Griese led Denver (1-0) to field goals on his two series, then Frerotte guided a 13-play, 80-yard drive on his first possession for a 13-0 lead. Jason Suttle returned an interception 48 yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Dallas (0-2) lost its eighth straight preseason game.

The Atwood Country Club, according to the tourney organizers, won five of the preceding 11 tournaments since 1990.

Kay Melia, director and founder of the event, said today that all of the top individuals from last year's tourney will play again this year, including last

year's co-medalists Lonnie Melvin of Colby and Jim Kanak of Atwood.

Low scores were also shot last year by Bill Steiner of Oakley, Joe Kanak, Kevin Finley and Nick Bowles of Atwood, Dax Hayden and Chuck Osborn of Goodland, and Scott Focke, Kevan Taylor and Miles Ladenburger of

Colby. All will return this year.

The classic is unique in that all prize money is awarded to the clubs instead of the individuals who play for their clubs.

Melia stressed that the public is again invited to follow their favorite players — at no charge.

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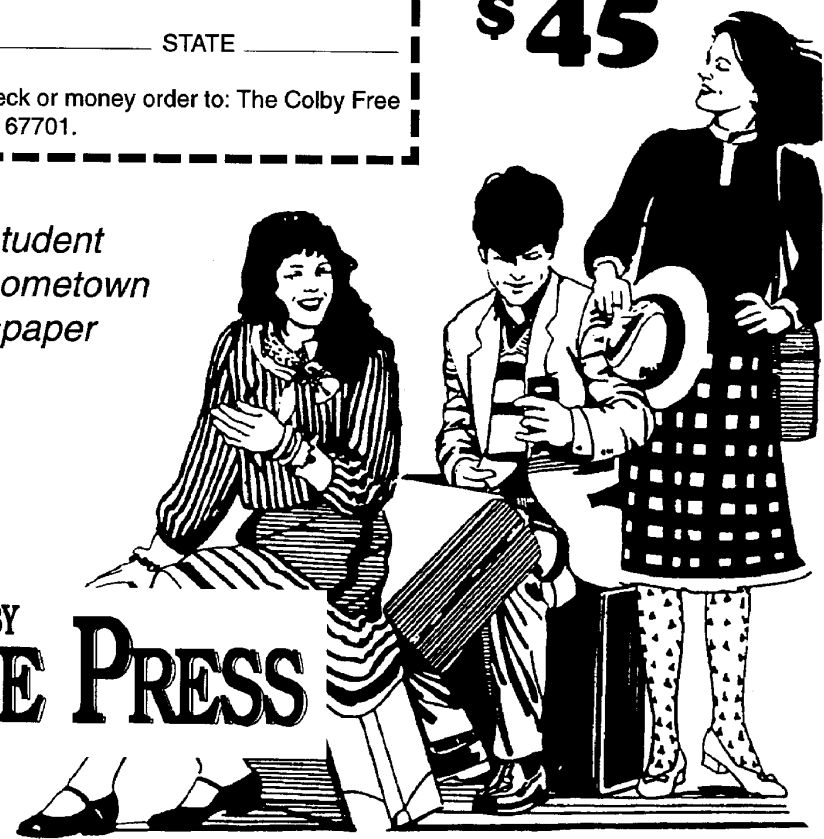
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## And away we go!

For all practical purposes, summer is over! That was apparent today as Colby High School athletes got together with their respective fall sports coaches. Volleyball, cross country, football, girls' tennis and girls' golf hit the ground running, so to speak, as they get set to embark on what they all hope will be ownership of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's a long time from Day 1 to the finish line, and we're fortunate to have some awfully good people heading up the various programs. Let's make 2001 the Year of the Fans. Let's see how many we can get to show up for each and every contest — regardless of the activity. We all know how important it is to have support. Let's put that knowledge to work. You, the fans, are the secret ingredient to any successful recipe.



Tom Dreiling  
• Time Out

his thing on the basketball court.

It'll be interesting to watch the Big 12 unfold this year. I see where Oklahoma is #3 in the AP's preseason poll, Nebraska is #4 and Texas is #5. Sorry, 'Cat fans, but K-State is ranked no higher than #13. Here is the way the AP sees the top 10:

1, Florida; 2, Miami; 3, Oklahoma; 4, Nebraska; 5, Texas; 6, Florida State; 7, Oregon; 8, Tennessee; 9, Virginia Tech; and 10, Georgia Tech.

The second 10 includes: 11, Oregon State; 12, Michigan; 13, Kansas State; 14, LSU; 15, Washington; 16, Northwestern; 17, UCLA; 18, Notre Dame; 19, Clemson; and 20, Mississippi State.

The final 5 in the Top 25 are: 21, South Carolina; 22, Wisconsin; 23, Ohio State; 24, Colorado State; and 25, Alabama.

The perfect job. I read where the Denver Nuggets hired a new general manager with no front-office experience, and they will hire him an assistant to help him with such matters as player contracts. And this experienceless person will receive \$750,000 a year (he inked a 5-year contract). He is a former Nuggets standout who got his start in the NBA 21 years ago in Denver. The name Kiki Vandeweghe, 43, will certainly ring a bell. I wonder if the Nuggets have any more of those kinds of contracts that they are trying to fill with people that have no experience for the vacancies at hand.

Oh, Dan Issel will remain president and head coach of the Nuggets.

Jay Kelley, sports editor, is off this week vacationing in Texas.

Vacationing in Texas in August?

Have a good one.

## Locals in Hill City rodeo

Rodeo fans will be able to see several local and area contestants competing in the Hill City High School Rodeo on Aug. 18-19 in Hill City. Ashley Amos, Colby; Brooke Inlow, Oakley; Jace Rambat, Bird City; Jamie Dunn, St. Francis; and Scott Minium, Morland are scheduled to compete.

The Kansas High School Rodeo Association kicks off its 2001-2002 year with this qualifying rodeo, sponsored by the Jayhawker High School Rodeo Club and held at the Jayhawker Arena on the Graham County Fairgrounds at the south edge of Hill City,

just off Hwy. 283.

A slack performance will begin the weekend's activities at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18, followed by an evening performance at 7.

Sunday, Aug. 19, will find the day starting with "Cowboy Church" in the 4-H building at 9 a.m. followed by rodeo action at 10 a.m. (no slack).

An estimated 150 contestants and their families are expected to be in Hill City during the opening weekend of the fall rodeo season.

Participants will be from Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

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