

Stroke and a prayer



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Colby High School senior Will Higerd putts on the first green Tuesday afternoon. The Eagle golfers are getting ready for their first match of the year, in Goodland. The junior varsity plays on April 5, and the varsity will play on April 9.

Colby Kid’s Wrestling Club qualifies 40 for district tournament at Goodland

The Colby Kid’s Wrestling Club took 52 wrestlers to the Sub-District tournament in Hays Saturday and qualified 40 to go on to the District tournament to be held in Goodland on March 25.

The district tourney will be the last chance for the wrestlers to earn the right to compete at the state tournament to held in Topeka on March 31 and April 1.

The top four placers in each weight class at the Goodland tournament will advance to the state meet.

Here are the results of the Sub-District tournament in Hays: **8 & under-**

Dustin Reed, 1st; Jed Gray, 3rd; Konnor Kriss, 2nd; Taylor Moeder, 1st; Trek Keck, 4th; Chase Harlow, DNP; Dalton Snyder, 2nd; Sadie Bolz, 5th.

10 & under- Taylor McClure, 4th; Nathan Reed, 2nd; Zach Harlow, DNP; Ethan Stickel, 4th; Torey Taylor, 4th; Jordan Voss, 6th; Luke Schroeder, 4th; Drew White, DNP; Tracer Hudson, 1st; Tanner Kriss, 1st; Adam Weber, 1st; Breck Arnberger, 1st.

12 & under- Brandon Harlow, 1st; Cody Wark, 1st; Bryan Brewer, 1st; Dalen Schlageck, 1st; Trenton Powell, 2nd; Brent Luedke, 1st; Bryan Gray,

4th; Hunter Olsen, 1st; Bobby Weiss, DNP; Jared Flanagan, DNP; Jesse Hawk, 2nd; Josh Dack, 2nd; Mitchell Tuma, 4th; Mikel Ladenburger, DNP; Corey Siruta, 4th; Derrick Sorenson, DNP.

14 & under- Lincoln McClure, 2nd; Nick Harlow, 3rd; Taylor Finley, 4th; Travis Powell, 5th; Cole Garcia, 2nd; Nolan Hall, 5th; Kyle Withington, DNP; Austin Green, 3rd; Justin Horinek, 4th; Ross Wright, 2nd.

16 & under- Danny Tibbles, 2nd; Eric Luedke, 1st; Schuyler Sharpe, 1st; Tanner McClure, DNP; Tucker Olsen, 1st; Theo Kleinsorge, 4th.

Broncos sign former Raven to seven-year deal

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Broncos have reached an agreement with former Baltimore Ravens defensive tackle Lional Dalton on a seven-year, \$22 million contract, The Denver Post reported on its Web site Tuesday.

The deal includes a \$3 million signing bonus, The Post said.

Broncos spokesman Jim Saccomano did not immediately return a telephone message Tuesday night.

Dalton, 27, is an unrestricted free agent. He spent four years with the Ravens, mostly as a backup.

His playing time increased last season when starter Tony Siragusa battled injuries.

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Drew Gooden and Jayhawks looking forward to ‘Elite Eight’ and beyond

By STEVE BRISENDINE

Associated Press Writer
LAWRENCE (AP) — While his fellow students soaked up the sun during Kansas’ spring break, Drew Gooden sat behind a bank of microphones to face a different sort of glare — the scrutiny that comes with being an All-American, leading a No. 1-seeded team into the NCAA tournament’s round of 16.

Gooden wouldn’t trade his week for anyone else’s, though — although he could do with fewer questions on certain subjects.

“Sometimes I can see myself on the beach at Cancun, with my shirt off and the girls all around, dancing with Jerry Springer,” the Jayhawks’ star junior forward said Tuesday. “But I’m winning games in the NCAA tournament right now.”

Gooden, in his third year as a starter — and perhaps his last at Kansas — has never gotten past the round of 16.

The Jayhawks lost to Duke in the second round two years ago and were beaten in the regional semifinals last year by Illinois — the same team Kansas faces Friday at Madison, Wis.

“I’m excited to see what’s next,” Gooden said. “I want to see what an Elite Eight is like. I want to see what a

Final Four is like. I wish we could play every day instead of having these lay-offs, because I can’t wait to see what’s next.”

What’s next now is a rematch with a team that eliminated Kansas 80-64 last year — and physically dominated the Jayhawks in the process. Even a year later, Gooden and the other returning players still face questions about Kansas’ ability to win a high-contact game.

Gooden, for one, is getting tired of it.

“I don’t know how many physical games we have to win this year to prove that we can be physical, that we are a physical team,” Gooden said. “Ask Stanford. Ask them if we were physical. Ask Oklahoma if we were physical. Ask Texas. They’ll tell you.”

The fact that he and forward Nick Collison can play well away from the basket has led to speculation that they’re not comfortable banging around underneath it, Gooden said.

“Nick and I can step out on the floor and do some things. That doesn’t make us soft,” he said. “When we need to bang, we can bang.”

So can 6-foot-9, 250-pound freshman forward Wayne Simien, who has four double-doubles and is averaging 8.3 points and 5.3 rebounds per game

as a reserve.

The challenge for Simien and Kansas’ other freshmen, though — including starting point guard Aaron Miles — is adjusting to the demands of a longer season.

Kansas high school teams play from 20 to 25 games, while the Jayhawks (31-3) will be playing in their 35th game on Friday night.

“That wears on all the first-year players,” Simien said. “But you just have to look at it that there are, possibly, only four more games left in the season.”

“This is the time when you get down to the end of all the blood and sweat,” he said. “You just have to try not to think about that; you just suck it up, play those last four games and hopefully end the season on a good note.”

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HEY KIDS....

Be watching for the Easter Coloring Contest that will run in the Colby Free Press on FRIDAY, March 22. Grades 1-3 may participate. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place in each grade by local merchants.