

# Partial Trojan team scores at Kearney

By LES BROWN

Colby Free Press

The Colby Community College Trojans took a partial team to Kearney, Nebraska to compete in last weekend's University of Nebraska-Kearney Open. Only four varsity wrestlers competed in the event, with two of them finding their way into the championship finals.

Erkin Tadzhimetov earned championship honors in the 133 pound class with a 13-3 major decision over Jock Renz, a red-shirt representing the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Tadzhimetov, who won his other three matches on the day by fall, was in the running for tournament outstanding wrestler honors but ultimately lost out to two individuals from the host school.

Bryan Miller also advanced to the championship finals, but lost a 7-6 decision to three time NCAA Division II

All-American, Roderick Ratcliff of the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Miller posted a 3-1 record in the 141 weight class.

Coach Steve Lampe stated that both Tadzhimetov and Miller wrestled in an "outstanding" manner on Saturday. Lampe indicates Miller wrestled well enough to win, but was deprived of back points on two separate occasions that could have sealed the win.

Despite that, Miller still had a great outing against one of the NCAA Division II's best 141 pounders. And Tadzhimetov dominated his bracket en route to the tournament championship.

Lampe went on to say that Hurshid Haldarov also had a great day. Haldarov advanced to the semi-finals at 165 pounds, but lost a 3-1 decision to Colby High School graduate Riley Ross of the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Lampe indicates Henry Martinez

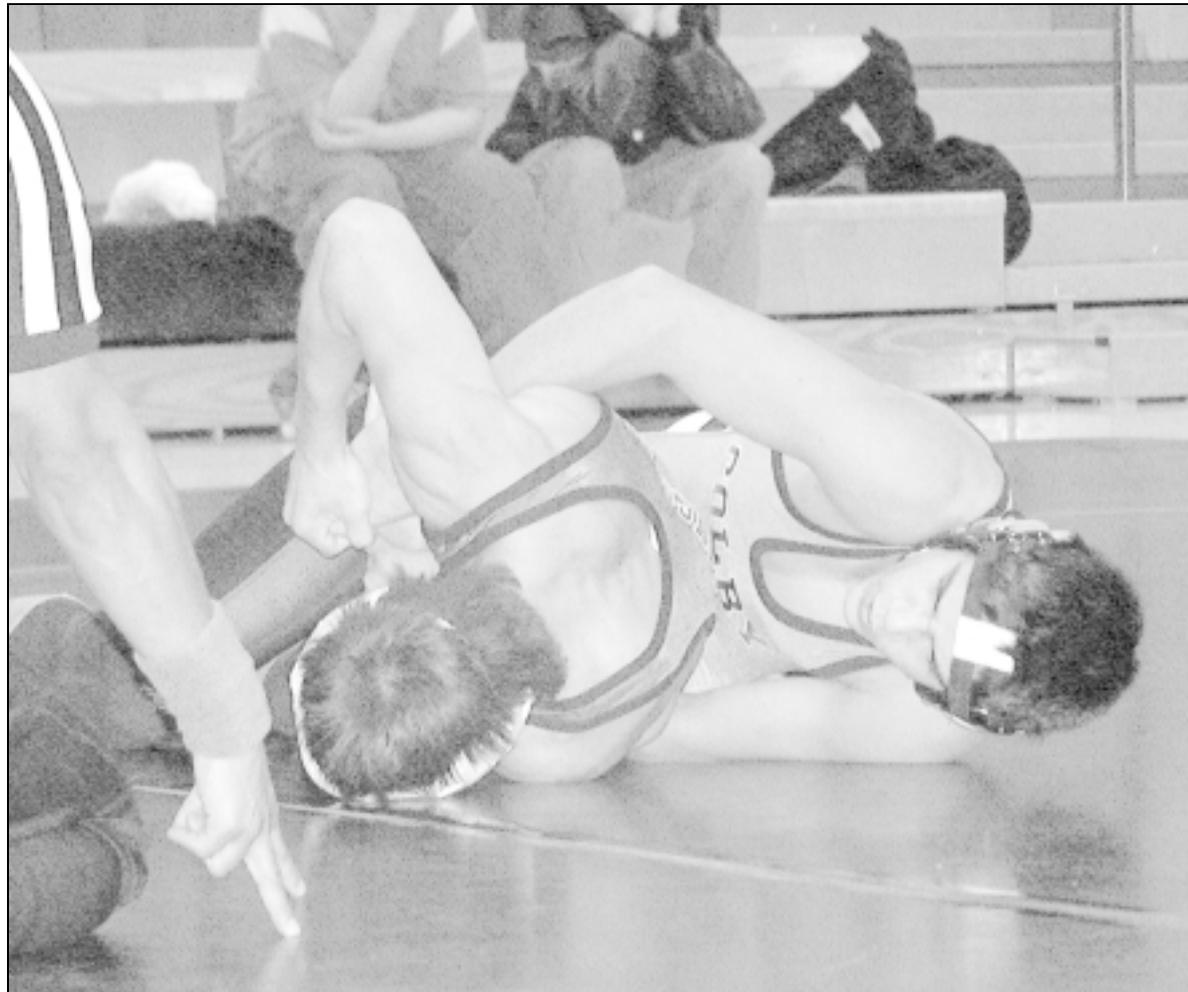
also wrestled extremely well in the 157 pound weight division before being forced to drop out of the tournament due to injury.

Others making the trip to Kearney were Jim Gebauer, Buster Johnson, Michael Robinson, Ryan Zweygardt and Logan Prideaux.

Another Colby Community College student, Melvin Guillard, competed in the tournament as an unattached red-shirt athlete.

Next action for the Trojans will be in early January. The NJCAA's number one ranked Trojans host a dual meet against Lincoln (Illinois) College on Wednesday, Jan. 8. They then host the annual Tournament of Champions on Friday, Jan. 10 and Saturday, Jan. 11. They then close out the 2002-03 home schedule with a dual meet against nationally ranked, in-state rival Neosho County Community College on Sunday, Jan. 12.

# At the Eagle Invitational



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Freshman Cole Garcia worked for back points against Wes Fleming of Concordia Saturday morning during the Eagle Invitational wrestling tournament. Garcia defeated Fleming 4-2. Colby's only dual loss of the tournament was against Concordia, 38-27.

# Injury-plagued Chiefs on the verge of missing playoffs after loss to Denver

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A hip injury will probably sideline NFL rushing leader Priest Holmes this week as the Kansas City Chiefs find themselves a team of suddenly hobbled players.

Holmes and kick returner/wide receiver Dante Hall were both on crutches Monday following Sunday's 31-24 loss to Denver, which placed the Chiefs (7-7) on the verge of missing the playoffs.

Definitely out for Sunday's home finale against San Diego is fullback Tony Richardson, who sustained a shoulder injury in the first half at Denver.

Wide receiver Marc Boerigter, who was subbing for starter Johnnie Morton, was wearing a big shoulder bandage on Monday and was also doubtful for this week, Vermeil said. Morton sat out on Sunday with back spasms. His availability for Sunday was also in doubt.

All but Morton were scheduled to undergo MRIs, the results of which wouldn't be immediately known.

With stitches on the thumb of his throwing hand was quarterback Trent Green, who sustained the painful in-

jury during the game.

"I saw he had blood on his jersey," Vermeil said. "He didn't know when he cut the thumb."

Green continued to play, but missed several open receivers. He was not expected to be hampered this Sunday.

"We're really decimated right now," said Vermeil.

Of the wounded Chiefs, the one who seemed a good bet to be ready by Sunday was Hall, who has scored five TDs in the past three games; three on kick returns and two on long catch-and-runs.

Holmes, who is just two touchdowns away from the NFL single-season record of 26 held by Marshall Faulk, is "very doubtful" to play this week. Holmes left the game when he was dragged down awkwardly from behind by Denver's Tyrone Poole at the end of a 56-yard run.

He limped away and then limped into the locker room and left the stadium on crutches.

His last run boosted his total for the day to 161 yards and nudged him back ahead of Miami's Ricky Williams for the NFL rushing lead, 1,615 yards to

1,601.

The 2001 NFL rushing champion, Holmes also leads the NFL with 2,287 yards from scrimmage this season, putting him within range of Faulk's NFL record of 2,429.

Vermeil said Holmes initially felt the injury in his run prior to the 56-yarder.

"That's probably why he was caught from behind and why it aggravated to the point he couldn't go any more," Vermeil said. "He just came out of the game and said, 'I'm going in the locker room. I'm hurt. I can't play anymore.'"

Holmes' backup is Mike Cloud.

Richardson had his arm in a sling after his left shoulder popped out when he was hit hard in the second quarter. His absence severely limited the offensive possibilities for the Chiefs, who did not have another fullback dressed for the game.

Richardson will be replaced by rookie Omar Easy, who has played only sparingly on special teams.

"Tony's been a great help to me, helping me to adjust since I got here," Easy said. "I've just got to put that in motion now. I've just tried to be patient and watch and learn day after day."

colbysports@nwkansas.com

# Broncos control their own destiny as regular season grinds to a finish

DENVER (AP) — Having thrust themselves back into the playoff picture, the Denver Broncos don't need to be reminded of the importance of their next game.

"It doesn't get any bigger than this," coach Mike Shanahan said Monday as his staff began preparations for next Sunday's game in Oakland.

Denver's 31-24 win over Kansas City on Sunday — coupled with Oakland's loss to Miami and San Diego's loss to Buffalo — rekindled the Broncos' playoff hopes.

Tiebreakers favor the Broncos (8-6) if they win their final two games, so the game against the Raiders (9-5) looms

as potentially a division title game. Denver will conclude its regular season on Dec. 29 at home against Arizona, while Oakland is home against Kansas City.

Typically on Mondays, Shanahan declines to talk about his next opponent, preferring to wait until later in the week.

There was no muzzling him on this particular Monday, however.

"We've got a chance to control our own destiny," Shanahan said. "We know how important this game is. Everything you've been working for in the off-season and during the season applies to this game — for us and for

the Raiders. It's as big as it gets."

Asked if he could envision a better scenario than to face the Broncos' hated rival — and the same organization that fired him as head coach in 1989 — Shanahan said, "No."

"We know the Raiders are an excellent team," Shanahan said. "We got embarrassed in the first game," Oakland's 34-10 win on Nov. 11.

"They're thinking about not only winning the division but possibly home-field advantage. We're just thinking about winning the division."

"It comes down to this game for both of us. It's what you work for. Everybody knows this is for the AFC West."

# Time for a break for Trojans

Our first semester schedule is complete. We are 12-2 at the break including a 6-2 mark vs. NJCAA Division I opponents and a home record of 7-0. Our only 2 losses come at Marshalltown (8-5) and at Coffeyville (9-3). Both losses were against very good teams as indicated by their records. Our best wins were at South Plains (10-2) and at home vs. New Mexico (8-5), Marshalltown (8-5) and McCook (7-4). A year ago we finished 11-3 at the break.

The non-conference schedule should have prepared us for the league. We open up Jayhawk West league action on Jan. 4 at 4 p.m. Vs Butler County. The West looks to be tough as ever! Playing the type of non-conference opponents and the many situations we were in is our best attempt to prepare us for Jan. and February.

I do believe we have learned several things about our ball club. We are very solid defensively. Holding opponents to just 36% field goal shooting and under 65 points per game. We are a strong rebounding team. We are a plus 17 per game on the boards and have out rebounded our opponent 13 out of 14 games. We have a balanced offensive attack. All 5 starters average in double figures led by 6'8" freshman E.J. Drayton (16 ppg).

We have several areas we must improve upon when we return from the holiday break.

We must become a better offensive team in the half-court. Our half-court execution needs to improve (set better screens, make harder/faster cuts). We must handle pressure defenses; we have had to many turnovers against pressure. Our perimeter shooters must shoot the ball with confidence. Of course there are many little things but I think you get the idea.

## JOTTINGS

There is a very strong possibility that 8 out of the 9 Jayhawk West teams will enter conference play with at least 10 wins in the non-conference. It looks like another awesome year in the West! Be sure to check out all the home games beginning Jan. 4 at 4 p.m.

Little Cagers will begin Jan. 4. Sign up at the Colby Recreation Department. Call 462-4440 NOW to reserve your spot. Little Cagers has been very popular the last few years and our players look forward to working with your kids (boys & girls) each Saturday morning in Jan.. Age groups are as follows: 2nd grade thru 4th grade 9:00-



Brian Ostermann  
Power Sports

10:30 and 5th & 6th grade 10:30-12:00. Cost is just \$35 for 4 Saturdays and includes a T-shirt. Little Dribblers will run from 12:00-12:30 for preschool thru 1st grade. Cost is \$10. Cagers will take place at the Colby Middle School each Saturday in January

A special thanks goes out to McDonald's, Gambino's, Taco Johns, and Thomas County Feeders. Thank you for feeding the Trojans during the holidays! Also, thanks to Pepsi for providing drinks for our road trips!

Sophomore Detric Spooner will make an official visit to Charlotte University of Conference USA on December 27th. They have offered a full scholarship. Other schools to offer Spoon are: UW-Milwaukee, Louisiana Tech, and St. Louis.

The Dunk-O-Meter is currently at 45.

Jayhawk West teams are a combined 92-31 overall. Teams are 50-5 at home and 42-26 on the road.

Records for Jayhawk West teams Vs other NJCAA Division I schools: Barton County (10-1) Garden City (9-3) Seward County (7-1) Colby (6-2) Cloud County (5-4) Butler (5-4) Dodge City (4-4) Hutchinson (3-0) Pratt (1-9)

Final exams are today thru Thursday. Most of our players leave for home on Thursday.

We resume practice on Sunday December 29th as we prepare to open conference play on Saturday Jan. 4.

I thank everyone for his or her support first semester. Have a happy and safe holiday. We look forward to seeing you at the games in Jan..

## FAST FORWARD

This next home game will be a conference showdown with Butler County on Saturday Jan. 4. Game times are 2 p.m. for the women and 4 p.m. for the men. Please note the time change.

Thursday Jan. 9 is DOLLAR NIGHT. All tickets to the Trojan Vs. Cloud County game will be just \$1.

Brian Ostermann is the head coach of the Colby Trojan men's basketball team. His column appears on Tuesdays.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory, call  
Derek or Crystal at 462-3963.

AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER • AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER • AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER

**Cal Spas**  
CALCULATING THE WAY YOU FEEL!  
Powered by GE Motors

Easy Financing!  
O.A.C.

**SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS**

Full line of Spas, Gazebos, Saunas,  
Pool Tables, Chemicals and Accessories

**Cal Spas**

1200 W. 4th • Colby, KS • 462-8350

AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER • AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER • AUTHORIZED CAL SPAS DEALER

**KITCHEN & BATHS**  
CABINETS &  
COUNTERTOPS

Design • Remodel • Installation

"Serving the Area Since 1984"

Call Dennis at:  
**THE TOOL BOX**  
785-462-7843

**ULTRA LITE STYLE**  
FAMILY OF LENSES

**Larry Washburn, O.D.**  
Doctor of Optometry

505 Franklin  
Colby, KS  
785-462-3348

**ADAMS, BROWN, BERAN & BALL, CHARTERED**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Full Line Of Professional Services:

- Individual and Business Tax Preparation
- Bookkeeping and Payroll Service
- Financial and Estate Planning

BRIAN C. STAATS, C.P.A.

505 N. Franklin, Suite D • Colby, KS • 785-462-7501

New System Professional  
Window Cleaning  
Colby, Kansas

Dear Chris and Beth,  
"THANKS ALOT! Windows look beautiful."  
Serina Lake, Goodland, Kan.

(785) 462-6995  
(800) 611-6735

**Get On-Line for Value!**

nwkansas.com

Call 462-3963 or stop by  
155 W. 5th St., Colby

**ROUND TRIP TRAVEL**

TRAVEL PACKAGES AND CERTIFICATES  
MAKE GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS!!

• • VACATION SPECIALS • •

LAS VEGAS - Air & hotel	From (per adult) \$200	No. of nights 4
DISNEY WORLD - Hotel, air, park passes	\$505	3
MEXICO - Air & hotel	\$450	3
CARIBBEAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,050	5
ALASKAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,500	7
HAWAII - Air & hotel	\$740	3
LONDON, ENGLAND - Air & hotel	\$700	3
AMTRAK EXPLORE AMERICA	\$359	Max. 45

ALL SPECIALS MAY BE FOR SPECIFIC DATES AND ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. CALL IN OR FAX YOUR INTERNET QUOTES AND OTHER ADS! WE CAN BOOK THEM FOR YOU WITH LOCAL, CARING SERVICE!!!

Ask about AAA, AARP, Senior & Companion, Corporate and Government discounts!

140 W. 4th  
Colby, KS 67701  
1-888-690-7077  
462-6999  
FAX: 462-3824

**CERSOVSKY INSURANCE**  
FARM HOME AUTO BUSINESS LIFE CROP

"Customer Service is Our Policy"

**CINDY L. CERSOVSKY**  
Cersovsky Insurance Inc

370 N. Franklin • P.O. Box 310 • Colby KS 67701  
Ph. 785-462-7544 Toll Free 888-462-7544

**Warta Chiropractic & Fitness Club**

415 N. Franklin • Colby • 785-462-3350

**Dr. A.J. Warta** 25 years of experience as a licensed chiropractor

Where you can still get a full-spine adjustment for 1980's fees!

Monday & Wednesday:  
2:00-7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:  
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Science and Nature Working Together For You!

BC/BS CAP Provider  
Simple Care Provider

**PIT ROAD**

We Sell Officially Licensed NASCAR® Products  
Apparel • Racing Collectibles • Die Cast

We Specialize in Collectibles 785-462-8002

1/2 Mile West on Hwy. 24 • Colby, Kansas 67701  
e-mail: pitroad3@hotmail.com