

# And it's up!



By CRYSTAL RUCKER/Colby Free Press

Alisha Liess of McCook smacked one for the Colby Community College Lady Trojans' Softball team as they played at home last week. The ladies, now 6-7 for the season (1-1 in conference action), are scheduled to play in Garden City on Thursday and at the Seward County Softball Tournament on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Their next home game will be on Tuesday as they host Pratt Community College at 3 p.m.

# Tournament of Champions lives up to all expectations

By Les Brown

Colby Community College's collegiate wrestling tournament has long been billed as the most competitive regular season junior college tournament in the nation, hence the name "Tournament of Champions."

This season was no exception. There are ten weight classes in the collegiate ranks with the top eight finishers at the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament in each of those weight class being awarded All-American honors. This creates a total of 80 All-Americans each

season. Thirty-six of this year's All-Americans represented teams who competed in the Tournament of Champions earlier this year.

Going a step further, thirteen of the twenty finalists at the national tournament represented teams those same teams.

Finally, six national champions competed for schools that took part in this season's tournament.

Colby led the way with eight All-Americans. Followed by Neosho with six, Ellsworth with five, Iowa Central and Lassen with four, St. Louis-Meramec and Lincoln with three and Labette and Ridgewater with two.

These results certainly add credibility to the Tournament of Champions' claim of being the toughest junior college wrestling tournament in the nation.

And, while impressive, the results could have been even loftier had Northwest College and Western Wyoming competed at this season's tournament.

Typically, Northwest College and Western Wyoming compete at the tournament each year, but unexpectedly failed to take part this year. These schools accounted for six additional All-Americans and one additional national champion tournament this year.

# Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs finish season with 11-11 record

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs finished their season in the second round of the Regional tournament this year, and ended with an even record of 11-11.

The Lady Bulldogs played in the Sagebrush Tournament held at Brewster in early December. They won the first round game against Oberlin 44-42. However, they dropped their next two games against Grinnell and St. Francis. They ended 2002 with an impressive win over Jennings 68-34, and forcing the Lady Coyotes into 27 turnovers.

In January they went 6-2, with their only losses to Brewster and Grinnell. The Lady Bulldogs played their best complete game against the Vikings of Triplains. They were a 30-point underdog going into the game, but came out on top with a 23-point victory.

When Cheylin came to town the Cougars narrowly escaped with a 1-point victory. Even though the Lady Bulldogs forced 25 turnover they lost 39-40 on a last second 3 pointer.

For the third time this season the Lady Bulldogs played Jennings.

Once again the Lady Bulldogs played excellent defense and forced 35 turnovers in a 85-37 win.

Seniors Michele Goscha and April Riedel played the last game of their high school career against Triplains. The Lady Vikings were ready to redeem themselves in regional play by beating the Lady Bulldogs 48-38.

Season break-downs: Seniors — Riedel lead the team in four categories, scoring 231 points, 71 assists, 58 steals, and 47 percent in 3-point shooting. Goscha had 191 points, 114 rebounds, 45 assists, 35 steals, and shot 60 percent from the line.

Juniors — Randi Stevenson had 136 points, averaged 4.2 rebounds per game, and had 35 steals. Abbie Miller had 118 points, 59 rebounds and shot 74 percent from the line. Sammy Juenemann and Courtney Albers each had 5 points.

Sophomores — Niki Spreser finished with 191 points, a team high of 125 rebounds and 35 steals. Darcie Spreser ended with 79 points, 116 rebounds, and 35 assists. Kristin Wark recorded 3

points. Freshmen — Valerie Broecklman finished the season with 81 points, 68 rebounds, and shot a team high 78 percent from the line. Jessica Shaw scored 37 points, had 22 rebounds and shot 75 percent from the line. Ashley Albers finished with 4 points and 11 rebounds. Jennifer Eatherly added 2 points. Hana Withington also contributed on the floor.

The Lady Bulldogs were coached by Parker Christensen and Orba Stevenson. Dana Broecklman was the manager.

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# All-star game slated for Sunday

Four Colby High School seniors and one from Brewster are on the roster for Sunday's 10th annual Sports Shoppe/Colby Bowl Northwest Kansas All-Star Classic.

The event features senior basketball players from 14 northwest Kansas counties in boys and girls games.

Summar Stephens, Landon Stover, Carson McKee and Jordan Harris of Colby will join Alicia Collett from Brewster and 35 other seniors in the games Sunday. The women will tip off at 5 p.m. at the Colby Community Building. The men's game will follow, and in between there'll be a three-point shooting competition.

Eagle coach Derek Bissitt and Goodland High School coach Jon McLean are the men's coaches. Nick Linn of Smith Center and Mike Weatherman of Sylvan Grove are the women's coaches.



Harris



McKee



Stover



Stephens



Collett

Logan; Jordan Young and Jentri Dixon, Tribune; Brooke Ubelaker, Osborne; Amanda Foster and Wendy Fehrenback, Ness City; Summar Stephens, Colby; Jill Windscheffel, Smith Center; Amber Stull, Natoma; Kacie Luebbers, Leoti; Alisha Welsh, Weskan; Shauna Petersen, Tribune; and Jolene Hubin, Dighton.

**Men:** Scott Yates, Phillipsburg; Nathan Spreser, Hoxie; Marcus Dodd and Tyler Wolters, St. Francis; Matt Zerr, Wheatland; Chris Schmidtberger, Trego County; Jordan Carter, Scott City; Nathan Lindberg, Pike Valley; Carson McKee, Jordan Harris and Landon Stover, Colby; Marc Thiele, Norton; Ryan Miller Jennings; Anthony Taylor, Ellis; Kevin Schoendaler, Grinnell; Preston Mackley, Triplains; David Dunn, Scott County; and Scott Schumacher, Hays High.

# Bill Snyder takes a seat on Football Coaches board

WACO, Texas (AP) — Kansas State coach Bill Snyder will replace former Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum on the American Football Coaches Association board, the organization said Tuesday.

Snyder has a 116-51-1 record in 14 years at Kansas State and has led the Wildcats to 10 consecutive bowl appearances. Last year, Kansas State finished 11-2 and defeated Arizona State in the Holiday Bowl. Snyder has also won honors as the AFCA Regional Coach of the Year three times.

As a trustee, Snyder will help direct policy for the professional organization, which sets ethical and moral codes for coaches and provides a forum for addressing coaching issues for its more than 9,000 members.

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'93 Mitsubishi 3000 GT SL	'85 Chevy Blazer 4x4
'92 Pontiac LeMans	'83 GMC Jimmy 4x4
'91 Chevy Corvette (white)	'82 Ford F-350
'91 Hyundai Excel	'78 Ford F-150
'91 Toyota Previa	'77 Chevy Pickup
'90 Lincoln Continental Signature Series	

# Sports Brief

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA will consider postponing games in the men's and women's basketball tournaments and other national championships if war with Iraq begins this week.

President Myles Brand acknowledged that the NCAA was checking the availability of arenas and hotels for the days after first and second-round games are scheduled to be completed. That would give the officials more flexibility in making a decision about postponements.

The primary consideration, Brand said, would be the safety of the athletes and fans.

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