

Food and honors



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby High School volleyball coach Lesley Wagoner chatted with Kristen Cox at the high school commons area before the volleyball awards banquet Tuesday.

Trojan basketball ladies to open season in tournament in Texas

The Colby Community College Lady Trojans open their 2003-04 basketball campaign on the road Thursday (through Saturday) in Levelland, Texas at the South Plains Tournament.

They will see their first action at home on Thursday, Nov. 13 in the Ambassador Classic at 6 p.m.

The ladies, picked by Jayhawk Conference coaches to finish fourth this season, are coming off an 18-14 season. They finished fourth in the Jayhawk West Conference and hosted their first playoff game last year since joining the conference. The Lady Trojans made it to the Region VI quarterfinals after their highest conference finish ever.

Four Colby Community College Lady Trojans recently announced their commitment to continue their careers at the University of Nebraska.

Louise McLean (Warrnambool, Australia) is coming off a great freshman campaign when she averaged 12.5 points, 7.9 assists and 6.8 rebounds per game. She had a career high 26 points in the Lady Trojans upset win at home against Seward County.

McLean recorded two triple-doubles on the season against Colorado Northwestern and Pratt. She was a first team All-Jayhawk West Selection a year ago. In addition, she was honored as a All-Region VI member.

Center Bojana Samardziska (Belgrade, Yugoslavia), 6'4", was a third team I-Jayhawk West Selection a year ago. Samardziska averaged 14.3 points and 9.1 rebounds. She scored a career high 28 points at Garden City last season. Samardziska had 15 double-doubles and recorded a career high 17 rebounds at McCook last December. She was also an Honorable Mention All-Region VI pick as a freshman.

Ivana Drmanac also committed to play at the Big 12 school next season. Drmanac averaged 9.0 points and 4.6 rebounds as a freshman. She scored a career high 26 points against Butler County and recorded her only double-double against Hutchinson scoring 13 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

The fourth member of the Lady Trojans that has committed to the University of Nebraska is a new-

comer to this year's Lady Trojan squad — 6'1" Jelena Spiric from NCAA Division II member University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Spiric is expected to play a big role on this year's Lady Trojans team.

Coach Tom Stephens commented, "Our phone in the women's basketball office at Colby Community College has been busy. There were 58 NCAA Division I schools that had been in contact and interested in signing four of our sophomores. All the major conferences (Big 10, Big 12, Pac 10, ACC, Big East) have had schools that contacted us.

"All four of our international sophomores (McLean, Spiric, Drmanac and Samardziska) took an official visit to the University of Nebraska Oct. 24-25. While on the visit all four made a verbal commitment to play for coach Connie Yori. It is very unique to have four players all go to the same school.

"Each of our players has qualities that are different and the University of Nebraska felt like they all had specific skills that will help their program compete better in the tough Big 12 conference."

SportsLine

Colby activities

- Thursday — 7th/8th boys' basketball at Burlington, 4:30 p.m. — 7B followed by 7A in the Middle School gym, 8B followed by 8A in the high school gym; Colby High girls' tennis awards night in the high school commons area, 6:30 p.m., potluck supper followed by awards and recognition, open to the public; 7th/8th girls' basketball parent/player meeting, 7 p.m., in the elementary gym.
- Friday — 7th/8th boys' basketball with Hays Felten in the elementary school, 4 p.m., in the following order: 7A/8B/8A.

Colby College activities

- Thursday thru Saturday — Trojan Ladies basketball in South Plains Tourney at Levelland, Texas.
- Friday and Saturday — Trojan men's basketball in Otero Classic at LaJunta, Colo., vs. Eastern Arizona on Friday at 5 p.m. (MST), and vs. Mid-Plains, Neb. on Saturday at 5 p.m. (MST).
- Saturday — Trojan cross country in the NJCAA championships at Lawrence; Trojan volleyball in district tournament action at Hutchinson

Brewster activities

- Saturday — Varsity football vs. Sylvan Grove (playoffs) at Brewster. (TBA).

Scoreboard

- Brewster 86, Northern Valley 66
- Goodland 35, Kingman 0
- Hoxie 42, Osborne 12
- Oakley 58, Lakin 13
- St. Francis 46, Plainville 8
- Victoria 60, Sharon Springs 14
- Weskan 24, Ingalls 22
- Meade 18, Trego 12
- Norton 42, Ellinwood 7

Tennis awards planned Thursday

A reminder was issued today by Colby High School's athletic department of the Thursday evening tennis awards program in the commons area at the high school at 6:30 p.m.

Parents and students are asked to bring a main dish and side dish for the potluck.

The program is for all Colby High students who participated in tennis this fall, including managers and trainers.

The program is also open to the public.

Trojan volleyball advances to district

The Colby Community College Lady Trojans defeated Fort Scott Community College in the opening round of volleyball play-off action Monday night, 3-0. The Lady Trojans dominated the action winning 30-21, 30-23, 30-17. Ashley Blickenstaff led Colby with 14 kills and 5 solo blocks. Jessica Davis added 8 kills while

Kim Crossland added 7. Kayla Pelton had 35 set assists and 6 ace serves. Crossland was 8 for 8 serve receiving while Jenni Sramek was 12 of 15. Sramek was the leader with 15 digs, while Crossland and Emily Heim each had 9. The Trojans advance to District playoffs on Saturday in Hutchinson. They are 25-17.

Coach calls season 'very successful'

The Brewster varsity volleyball team concluded its season with a loss in the sub-state tournament at Ransom on Oct. 25 against Bazine-Ransom, 19-25, 19-25.

"I felt like we had the better team, but on this day Ransom played better as a team than we did," said coach Lynda McKee.

"We had a very successful season and our younger players improved tremendously. I'm very optimistic about the future of our volleyball program," she said.

Here are the statistics from the sub-state:
Vs. Bazine-Ransom, 19-25, 19-25

Leading hitters/kills — Andrea Horney 6K, Jalyn Reid 4K and Caitlan Rush 2K.

Leading setters/assists — Reid 89A, Mirandi Starns 4A, Rush 2A.

Leading servers/aces/percent/points — Rush 1A/100 percent/11p; Horney 100 percent/7p; Reid 100 percent/4p; Megan Allen 100 percent/3p; Amber Fulwider 100 percent/3p; and Sarah Flanders 100 percent/2p.

Leading blockers/stuffs/deflections — Avery Schultz 2S, 5D and Rush 2S, 4D.

Passing/serve receive leaders — Rush, Fulwider and Horney.

Long Trojan wrestling dual win streak comes to an end

By LES BROWN

Free Press Contributor

The Colby Trojan wrestling team lost its season opening dual to in-state rival Neosho County Community College by a score of 28-15 last Saturday. The meet was held in conjunction with the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association Clinic in Salina. The dual loss brought an end to the Trojans' 19-match consecutive dual win streak.

The Trojans' 125-pounder, Elliot Darden (freshman, Greensboro, N.C.), started quickly by picking up two separate takedowns and near fall combinations en route to an early first period lead of 8-1. However, Neosho's Ronnie Smith was able to fight his way back into the match by closing the gap to 9-8. Smith, the NJCAA's sixth ranked 125-pounder, then recorded a takedown to take the lead and later secured a second period fall to earn the win.

At 133 pounds, Kyle Patton (freshman, Wellsville) wrestled well for the first two periods of his match and entered the third period trailing by a 3-2 count to Mark Frey. But Frey, who earned a national prep championship during his high school days in Baltimore, was able to take control of the match in the third period to score a 9-3 victory for the Panthers.

The 141-pound match between

Neosho's Nick Johnson and Colby's Tony Lombardi (freshman, Key West, Fla.) contained a bit of controversy. Lombardi was trailing 7-3 in the second period when Johnson shot in on a single leg takedown attempt. Lombardi was quickly able to counter the move with a well executed spladle to score a two-point takedown and appeared to score a fall when he pinned Johnson's shoulders to the mat for several seconds. But the referee did not call the pin and Johnson, a two-time state champion from Minneapolis (Kan.) was able regroup and score a 12-8 win over Lombardi.

Drue Herl's (freshman Colby) first collegiate match proved to be a tough experience as he squared off against Neosho's Jason Leavitt. Leavitt, the NJCAA's sixth ranked 149-pounder, scored a first period fall in the match.

Colby finally found its way on the scoreboard at 157 pounds when Eric Luedke (freshman, Colby) scored a 6-3 decision over Neosho's James Schultz. Schultz, a former high school All-American from Indiana, put up a good fight, but Luedke's two takedowns gave him an early lead that he would not relinquish.

Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov (sophomore, Tashkent,

Uzbekistan) then wowed those in attendance with his prowess from the neutral position in the 165-pound bout. Colby's defending national champion scored six takedowns before scoring a fall over Garden City High School product Paul Lappin. The amazing part of the win was that it took just over two minutes for Abdurakhmanov to complete the task.

Colby then earned its third consecutive win in the 174-pound match when Zach Luedke (freshman, Colby) picked up a 6-4 overtime win against Neosho's Kenny Brown. The two closed out regulation deadlocked at 3-3 and finished the first round of sudden victory overtime tied at 4-4. After nearly 10 minutes of wrestling action, Luedke was able to score a takedown in the second overtime to win the match over the former state champion from Wichita's Bishop Carroll High School.

Defending national champion C.B. Dollaway (sophomore, Mt. Gilead, Ohio) survived a valiant upset bid by Neosho's junior varsity 174-pounder, John Sponsel. Neosho coach Merrick Wiles bumped Sponsel up to the 184-pound class to take on Dollaway and the move nearly paid huge dividends for the Panthers. Dollaway

lead 7-4 at the end of the first period and 10-4 at the end of the second period. But Sponsel scored seven third-period points and nearly pinned Dollaway in the process. Dollaway was able to fight off his back and hold on for a closer than anticipated 13-11 win.

The Panthers' varsity 184-pounder, Jasper Lockett then took the mat at 197 pounds to face Colby's Maine Ardney. While the match went the distance, the awarding of riding time allowed Neosho's sixth ranked wrestler to score a 19-4 technical fall victory over Ardney. Colby then forfeited to Neosho's Jorge Herrera at 285 pounds to finalize the team score at 28-15 in favor of Neosho.

Coach Steve Lampe indicated he was disappointed with his team's showing, but knew having a line-up comprised mostly of freshman could lead to some early season setbacks. "As I've said on many occasions, our philosophy at Colby is that a junior college wrestling season is a lot like running a marathon. Meaning that it is always best to peak at the end of the race, or in our case at the end of the season. This becomes especially important when 70 percent to 80 percent of your line-up is made up of freshman. It just takes some time for them to adapt to the pace of junior

college wrestling."

Lampe indicated that the biggest surprise of the day was Dollaway's performance at 184 pounds. "C.B. was in command throughout the first two periods, but he looked sluggish and off-balance throughout. It is a true testament to his competitive nature that he was able to fight off his back late in the match and hold on for a win against a very game challenge on a day that he was not competing at his best."

Lampe indicates he did have some positives emerge from the loss. "Muzaffar was incredibly dominant in his performance. Both Luedkes were able to pick up wins over quality opponents. And Elliot, Kyle and Tony all showed they are capable of competing against some of the nation's best performers. Sometimes adversity is a good thing and we must now use this loss as the stepping stone to prepare our young team for this year's post season tournaments."

Next action will be on Nov. 15 at Laramie in the University of Wyoming's Cowboy Open.

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Amber Fulwider
Brewster

Miranda Starns
Brewster

Congratulations, Brewster All-Stars, on your selection to play in the NW Kansas All-Star Volleyball Match!

Come out and watch Amber and Miranda, along with the rest of the All-Stars, play for one last time as high school volleyball players.

Match time is Saturday, Nov. 8, 4 p.m. MST (5 p.m. CST) at Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children under 12.

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