



Monica Kane

Colby Community Sophomore Quinlynn Woofter, shown here barrel racing at last year's College Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Rodeo, and the rest of the Trojans' rodeo team will be holding the 2010 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Rodeo starting at 7 p.m. Friday at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

Rodeo to begin on Friday

Horses, trailers, pickup trucks and rodeo enthusiasts will surround Thomas County Fairgrounds starting at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 17 during the annual Colby Community College National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Rodeo.

The rodeo will last through Sunday. Saturday's events will begin at 7 p.m. and the finals featuring the top 10 in each event will start at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Russell said slack events will be held on Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Russell said only 10 people per event compete each evening, which leaves a lot of people in each event unable to compete in the evenings. He said events such as calf roping, breakaway roping and team roping always have a lot of participants. He said about 100 people usually participate in calf roping. All the people who don't compete in the evening will participate in the slack periods. The coach said that everyone in each event gets to go once and the top 10 people from each event make it to the finals on Sunday.

Men's events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping and bull riding. The women will compete in breakaway calf roping, goat tying and barrel racing.

Tickets at the gate are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Advance tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and are on sale at Vanderbilts and the college campus bookstore. Stock will be provided by the Hudson Rodeo Company with Deone

Hudson, Sharon Springs, as producer of the event.

Allen Russell, Colby Community College rodeo coach, served as the director of the Central Plains Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Rodeo, which includes two- and four-year colleges and universities in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri for six years.

"We will have over 500 contestants from 24 colleges in Kansas and Oklahoma competing," said Russell. "The Central Plains Region is one of the largest and toughest in the NIRA. This is one of the biggest events hosted in Colby, and the community support is always outstanding. It would not be possible without the numerous volunteers and sponsors who support the college and our rodeo program. I encourage everyone to attend all three performances."

The Central Plains Region is the largest of the 11 rodeo regions in the United States, the coach said. Russell said about 500 contestants participate in the rodeo. He said what distinguishes rodeo from other college sports is the fact that four-year colleges and two-year colleges compete against each other.

The coach said there will be a lot of familiar faces on the opposing teams at this rodeo. He said three former Trojans went to Southwestern Oklahoma State after graduating from the college, three went to Fort Hays State and one went to Kansas State University.

For more information about the rodeo, contact Russell at (785) 460-5461.

Colby recreation department names 2010 athlete of the year

By Andy Heintz
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Brent Brooks was named athlete of the year by the Colby Recreation Department.

Brooks, originally from Norton, dominated recreation department sports this year, racking up numerous awards.

He was a member of the league champion Motor Town Men's basketball team. The squad finished the season with an 11-2 record. Brooks also took first the men's basketball three-point title, knocking down 26 three-pointers during the regular season.

Brooks was a captain of the Sports Shoppe, who took first in

the departments men's softball championship. His team finished 16-5. He also pitched for the Colby Recreation Department Coed team. They went 14-2 and captured the coed softball championship. He said pitching was probably his best position.

Brooks said his favorite accomplishment was when his Men's softball team beat Unicel 18-13 in the championship. He said there were a lot of competitive teams in the league.

Brooks played football, basketball and track and field at Norton High School. He said basketball was his favorite sport.

Brooks played basketball at the college from 2000-2002 before transferring to Fort Hays Univer-

sity. He said he had a lot of fun playing for the team.

He moved back to Colby in 2007. Brooks and his wife Kristin have two sons, Dylan, 9, and Kellan, 2.



Brent Brooks

Coach enters third year

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Bo Pelini is heading into his third year at Nebraska. Based on his track record, that means it must be about time for him to move again.

The only place Pelini plans to go is to the Big Ten in 2011, and he's taking his Cornhuskers with him.

Forget that for now. Pelini's got big plans for the Huskers' last go-round in the Big 12.

They won six of their last seven last season and are favored to win the North Division again this year.

The 42-year-old Pelini has never held a job for more than three years.

Given how Pelini has returned Nebraska to national relevance so fast, the fans are more than willing to put up with Pelini's cantankerous side. They consider him a godsend after Bill Callahan struggled.

Another big year, and Pelini could be mentioned for prominent job openings. But he said if he does his job right at Nebraska, he could see himself staying in Lincoln for a long time.

"I don't think Nebraska is a steppingstone job," he said. "It's a great job. You have all the things necessary to win. We have a great athletic director, we have great support. I love my staff."

Lady Trojans' coach lacks veteran runners

By Trent Rose
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Colby Community College women's cross country coach Crystal Berndt will experience something for the first time in her tenure as head coach: almost no sophomore leadership.

The Lady Trojans lost eight runners due to graduation and only sophomore Jackie Robledo from San Antonio returns.

"It's hard to compete without a solid top returning runner on your team," the coach said. "My freshmen have some pretty big shoes to fill and they will have to mature quickly in order for us to experience success."

The Lady Trojans will try to replace their three top runners in Scarla Nero, Hella Kahssay, and Breana Yost. Nero and Kahssay both graduated, while Yost will probably only compete in the half-

marathon due to her school commitments.

This year's Lady Trojan squad features seven runners led by Overland Park freshman Erica Rappard. Berndt said Rappard has shown in practice the ability to be the teams' number one runner.

"She is very strong willed, has a great passion for running, and has great leadership skills," she said.

Berndt said Robledo, freshmen Mikarla Swann from the Bahamas and Alexandria Torres from San Antonio will be counted on to produce for the Lady Trojans this season.

The coach said Robledo has improved from last season and will provide leadership as the team's only returning sophomore. Berndt also said Swann and Torres are improving and will continue to gain confidence as the season progresses.

Freshman Cynthia Turley from Leoti, freshman Kelsey Locke

from La Vernia, Texas, and freshman Shauntae Miller from the Bahamas complete the seven-member squad. Berndt said these remaining members of the squad will be counted on to push each other and compete for the fifth spot on the team.

"I will have to do a good job coaching this year," Berndt said. "With a sophomore-laden team, they are the ones to lead and teach the younger girls what it takes to compete. We will experience some growing pains, but we'll have to just wait and see how the season falls into place."

The Lady Trojans begin their season at the University of Kansas Invitational at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 3, in Lawrence at the University of Kansas Invitational. The only home meet of the season is at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10, when the Lady Trojans hold the Colby Invitational.

Coaches must get results

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

Often coaches get a grace period when they take a new job. Not these guys.

Turner Gill, Kansas. Much fuss was made when Gill was passed over for the Auburn job for Gene Chizik, who ended up having a very solid first season with the Tigers. Now Gill, who did a remarkable job at long downtrodden Buffalo, gets his shot to prove he can get it done in one of the six power conferences.

Jimbo Fisher, Florida State. It's certainly not Fisher's fault

that Florida State felt compelled to push Bobby Bowden out to make room for him. Still, for the move to be justified, Fisher has to win right away.

Tommy Tuberville, Texas Tech. In Lubbock, Mike Leach was similar to Bowden. The Red Raiders were never more successful than they were in Leach's 10 seasons. Fans adored him and many were angered when he was fired. Winning over those Texas Tech supporters won't be easy for Tuberville.

Brian Kelly, Notre Dame. Kelly has one thing going for him that Fisher and Tuberville don't. The guy Kelly is replacing

(Charlie Weis) was not particularly well liked by Fighting Irish supporters. So while another 6-6 season will not go over well, he doesn't have to take a giant step forward in year one to win over the faithful.

Derek Dooley, Tennessee. Much like Kelly, Dooley is replacing a guy the locals won't miss in Lane Kiffin. But the Volunteers can't afford a long rebuilding process and another down season. Not when their main competition is Florida.

Mike London, Virginia. It would be surprising if Virginia didn't have a losing season in a tough ACC division.

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