

Lady Eagles' squad takes third at home

The Colby junior varsity girls' tennis team took third out of 10 teams with 31 points overall at a home meet Saturday at Fike Park and the tennis courts on the Colby Community College campus.

The No. 1 doubles team of sophomore Keana Keck and junior Hannah Giebler finished second and senior foreign exchange student Theresa Bassett came in second in No. 2 singles. Sophomores Tomi Miller and Alexa Schindler placed fourth and sophomore Je-

nessa Williams fifth in No. 1 singles. It was the last match for the majority of the junior varsity girls this season.

"I'm extremely proud of our team," coach Gene Rothfuss said. "They have worked hard and done very well this season."

Other teams in the tournament were WaKeeney, Tribune, Liberal, Norton and two mixed teams made up of girls from WaKeeney, Phillipsburg, Colby, Scott City and Norton.

Take it to the house



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Colby High freshman Andrew Taylor carried the ball against Ulysses during the junior varsity team's game Monday at Den- nen Field. The boys lost to Ulysses 38-14. The loss dropped the Eagles to 2-3 this season.



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College sophomore Jessica Leiker, pictured here at practice on the Colby Community College campus, shot a career best round of 82 at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Maverick Invitational at Goodland on Monday.

Sophomore golfer wins at Goodland

Colby Community College sophomore Chelsie Gausman took first out of 18 golfers and sophomore Jessica Leiker shot a career best round at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Maverick Invitational on Monday.

Gausman completed the 18 holes at Sugar Hills Golf Club near Goodland in 80 strokes and Leiker shot an 82.

Leiker attributes her low round to a lot of changes, most significantly a change in her attitude going into the competition, coach Lisa Stithem said.

Barton County Community College from Great Bend finished first as a team with 371. The only other teams with enough players to receive a score were Central Christian College from McPherson with 402 and the Barton County B team with 429. Team scores re-

flect the sum of the four lowest rounds.

Colby had only three players because of an injury. Freshman Kayla Waugh finished 15th with a 114.

"She continues to work very hard and is showing lots of improvement," the coach said.

Sophomore Christy Colson was forced to withdraw after nine holes after hurting her knee.

Stithem said if Colson had been able to finish, the Lady Trojans would have had a good chance of winning the tournament.

The Lady Trojans will play again at noon Monday in the 36-hole Sterling College tournament at the Highlands Golf Club in Hutchinson. The tournament will resume at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Women's basketball team to hold dodge-ball event

The Colby Community College women's basketball team will hold its first dodge-ball tournament on Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Colby Community Building.

Coach Brady Jasper said the tourney represents a different type of fund raiser from the usual golf and softball tournaments. The coach said although he wants to make a little money for the program, the tournament is mainly about having fun. Each team will have six players and the cost is \$75 per team. The deadline to pay is Thursday, Oct. 14.

Jasper said he, assistant coach Chris Lehecka and Recreation Director Stacy Lee are working together

to set up the event. Lehecka replaces assistant coach Brad Phillips.

Jasper said Lehecka, a Wichita native, graduated from Kansas State University in 2009. He had coached a few Amateur Athletic Union teams before taking the job at Colby.

Lehecka said a time for the tournament will be established once they figure out how many teams will compete. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team and the squad with the best uniforms. For information, call him at (316) 706-7452 or e-mail chris.lehecka@colbycc.edu.

Husker player overcomes odds

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Blackshirt represents defensive excellence, membership in a fraternity that spans five decades and, in Rickey Thenarse's case, a personal watershed.

Seeing one of those coveted practice jerseys hanging in his locker two weeks ago nearly brought Thenarse to tears, not just because it affirmed his status as a starter, but because it provided him with a sense of closure to everything that's gone wrong since he arrived in Lincoln in 2006.

The senior safety is making the most of the extra year of eligibility he was granted after he tore a major ligament in his right knee early last season.

He'll go into Thursday's Big 12 opener at Kansas State as the No. 7 Huskers' third-leading tackler, a performance that has helped shed his reputation as a hard-hitting

special-teams contributor who struggled to otherwise get on the field because of assorted injuries and his failure to grasp what was being coached.

He admits his mind was not in the right place after the deaths of two half brothers in shootings two months apart in 2008. He easily could have faded into oblivion on the depth chart.

"Coming back and playing, and how well we've been playing, this is kind of a dream come true," Thenarse said.

Secondary coach Marvin Sanders said Thenarse is a changed man since he met him three years ago during the transition between the Bill Callahan and Bo Pelini coaching staffs.

After enduring surgery and excruciating rehabilitation for his torn anterior cruciate ligament, Sanders said, Thenarse showed

up for preseason practice with a sense of resolve. Sanders told him: "You've had a lot of distractions in your life, and this is your last go-round. If you come back, there is no more tomorrow."

Thenarse said he considered giving up football after the injury in the fourth game of the 2009 season.

"I thought that maybe football is not for me," he said. "I'm a competitive person. Since I was growing up, I've always been that guy who has played well on the team, always the guy who was looked to. It wasn't the case anymore, and I thought about quitting. I'm glad I didn't."

Teammate DeJon Gomes said Thenarse has never talked much about the adversity he's faced, especially the deaths of his half brothers.

Golden Plains girls win one on road

By Jackie Armstrong
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains junior varsity volleyball team won a game and lost two in a junior varsity tournament Saturday, Sept. 25, in Brewster.

The girls beat Cheylin/Brewster 25-22, 25-19. The Lady Bulldogs

lost to Rawlins County 25-13, 25-14. The Dighton Hornets beat Golden Plains 25-4. The girls picked themselves up in the second set and played close, but the Lady Hornets prevailed 28-26.

"The girls started out the day

well with a win over Cheylin/Brewster, then struggled a little in their final two matches," coach Ashley Aramberger said.

"Overall, this was a great opportunity for some quality playing time."

Youth can carve pumpkins

The Colby Recreation Department will hold its annual Tricks and Treats event from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21, at the Colby Community Building.

Children 5 and up will carve pumpkins with the help of players from the Colby Community College softball team, said Recreation Director Stacy Lee. The department will provide the pumpkins. The cost is \$5 per child and the deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 18.

The deadline to sign up for the department men's basketball league and women's volleyball league is Thursday, Oct. 28. Lee said the basketball league costs \$175 per team and the volleyball league \$215 per team. Play will start in the first weekend of November, volleyball on Saturday and basketball on Sunday.

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Twins get added motivation

Joe Mauer and the Minnesota Twins need no added motivation to beat the Yankees. They found some anyway.

Prepping for their playoff series, the Twins hung a picture in their clubhouse of the back page of a re-

cent (New York) *Daily News* that read "Bad news: Yanks must go on road for playoffs. Good news: They play the Twins. E-Z Pass."

"Yes, we've had our issues with them," Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire said Tuesday.

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