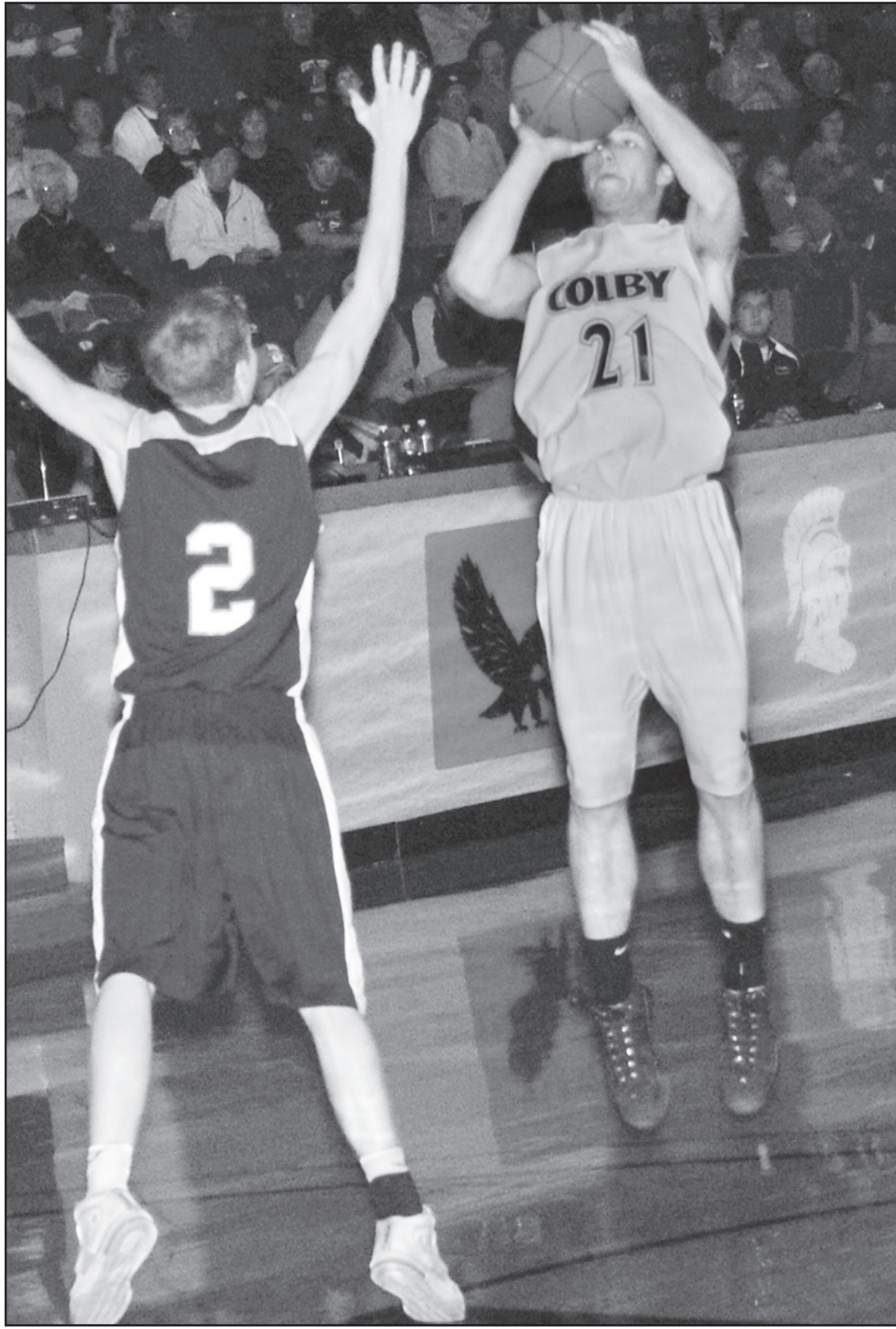


Ready, aim, fire



Colby High senior Clint Goosen took a three-point shot during the Eagles' game against Scott City on Tuesday at the Community Building.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Women lose on road

The Lady Trojans basketball team fell to Seward County Community College 64-46 in Liberal on Wednesday in a game that stayed competitive until the last couple of minutes.

Coach Brady Jasper said the 18-point margin is deceiving, since it was a 4- to 6-point game until the 5-minute mark in the second half.

The Lady Trojans held a 27-26 lead at halftime. Jasper said Colby trailed 44-42 with five minutes left in the half, and neither team shot well. Colby went 16 for 41 from the field and 4 of 22 from the three-point line while Seward made 20 of 67 and just 3 for 20 from beyond the arc.

Jasper said his team was getting good shots, but they just weren't falling. Both teams had 15 turnovers and 10 assists.

One area where the Lady Saints were dominant was at the foul line. Seward connected on 21 of 29 free throws, while the Trojans only went 10 for 20.

Freshman Liga Vente was one of the few players who shot well, finishing with a team-high 18 points on 7 for 11 shooting. Sophomore Tayler Puttergill added 9 and freshmen Kelli Crittenden scored 8, including two threes. Sophomore Hannah Thornton, the team's leading scorer going into the contest, was held to 2 points. Thornton went 0 for 9 from the field and 2 of 4 from the free-throw line.

With the loss, the Lady Trojans dropped to 6-11 and 1-2 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference Western Division.

They will play at 5:30 p.m. Saturday at Dodge City Community College.

Golden Plains basketball team picks up exciting 66-53 victory

By Laura Clapp  
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains varsity boys picked up an exciting 66-53 win over the St. Francis Indians last week.

Junior Cole Christensen tipped the ball to Tate Preston to start the game on Jan. 4. St. Francis fouled Preston and he made both free throws. The Bulldogs continued to stay ahead of the Indians throughout the first quarter, as Preston put in three more buckets and Christensen scored five points.

Junior Tyler Stevenson, starting his first varsity game this season, proved himself at the end of the first quarter by making a long heave from well behind the half-court line that gave the Bulldogs a 16-10 lead.

At the beginning of the second quarter, Preston made another three for Golden Plains. At the

end of the half, the Bulldogs led 29-20.

Preston drilled a three-pointer to start the third for the Bulldogs, then made two free throws after St. Francis got a technical foul.

The Indians slowly crept back into the contest during the quarter, but the 'Dogs stopped their momentum and built up a 48-36 lead by the end of the third.

The game was far from over at the beginning of the last quarter, however.

Some fast thinking from senior Devinn Ritter saved the Bulldogs on one play. Ritter threw the ball to senior Rilee Spreser, who jumped to grab the ball. It bounced off his foot. Ritter, out of the far left corner, swiped the ball away from a St. Francis' player's grasp and scored two for the Bulldogs.

Spreser then added two of his own after getting a nice pass from Preston. Preston pulled down a

rebound, then sped down the floor for a quick layup. Spreser hit a shot and Preston added two, giving Golden Plains a 54-38 lead.

After a three-point shot from Spreser, the 'Dogs led by 20 with a 62-42 score. Ritter finished the game with two more buckets on assists from Preston. Golden Plains went on to pick up a 66-53 win.

Preston finished the game with a career-high 28 points, including four three-pointers. Preston went 6 for 6 from the free-throw line.

Spreser had 17 points, including two three-pointers. Ritter had 8 points, with 5 from Christensen and 2 from senior Casey Gould.

"We ran the court and the ball really well," Preston said. "This was Tyler's (Stevenson) first starting game, and I think he proved himself on the court."

Stevenson finished the game with two three-pointers.

Lady Bulldogs lose opener to St. Francis by 8 at Rexford

By Judy Rogers  
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The Golden Plains varsity girls fell to St. Francis 57-49 in their season opener at Rexford.

The girls got off to a slow start in the first quarter in the game on Jan. 4, scoring only 7 points while allowing the Lady Indians to score 16. In the second quarter, the Lady Bulldogs mounted a comeback. A steal and layup by Jacy Moss narrowed the gap to 20-19. The Lady Indians were determined to hold on to their lead, however, scoring the last four points of the half to make it 24-19.

In the third quarter, St. Francis extended its lead to 28-19 before Jordan Christensen put in a bucket for the Lady Bulldogs. Then senior Melissa Ritter, who only had one point in the first half, put in 6 consecutive points, cutting the Lady Indians' lead to 28-27 with four minutes left in the quarter. St. Francis scored again before fouling Christensen, who made both free throws to bring Golden Plains within one.

A quick bucket from Angela Ritter gave the Lady

Bulldogs their first lead of the game at 31-30 with 2:55 still to play in the third. The lead went back and forth between the teams. St. Francis scored and took the lead, but then Melissa Ritter scored a bucket to make it 33-32 Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Indians answered with a three-pointer and held the lead before Melissa Ritter put in another bucket with just 1.3 seconds on the clock, tying the game at 35.

The fourth quarter was filled with more action as the Lady 'Dogs kept the game close. They were down 49-47 with 3:17 left. Although the girls continued to work hard, St. Francis pulled ahead and eventually picked up a 57-49 victory.

"We started playing together better as a team in the second half," Melissa Ritter said. "We played much better defense and didn't give up the easy shots."

Melissa Ritter led the team with 17 points, 16 in the second half. Christensen and Angela Ritter each added 9 and Kylie Jones 7, Moss 5 and Hailee Spreser 2. The girls outrebounded the Lady Indians 36-20. Jones led the rebounds with 16 while Melissa Ritter grabbed 7.

Kansas State gets upset by Colorado

MANHATTAN (AP) — Before heading off to the Pac-10, Colorado is settling some old scores in the Big 12.

The resurgent Buffs knocked off then-No. 9 Missouri 89-76 on Saturday for their first victory over a ranked team in almost seven years. On Wednesday night, Levi Knutson scored 20 points and the Buffs held off No. 21 Kansas State 74-66 for their first win over a ranked team on the road in 14 years.

Long a Big 12 doormat, Colorado had lost nine in a row to Kansas State and was winless in Manhattan since 2005.

"We're trying to start a new chapter," said senior guard Cory Higgins, whose coast-to-coast layup in the final minutes helped seal the win. "It's a whole new Colorado."

Alec Burks and Marcus Relphorde added 12 points for Colorado, which erased an 11-point deficit in the first half and outrebounded Kansas State 38-29.

"It's a huge testament to our guys' grit and toughness," said first-year coach Tad Boyle. "It is not easy winning on the road in college basketball, especially in an environment like this. Tonight's win shows where our players are in terms of their belief in each other."

Jacob Pullen scored 22 points for Kansas State (12-5, 0-2).

"This one hurt, man," said Pullen. "Four years as a Wildcat, I never lost to Colorado. No disrespect to them but I just always felt that we had the better team. Losing to them tonight hurt a lot."

Martavious Irving's free throw cut Colorado's lead to 68-65, then Andre Roberson left the door open for Kansas State when he missed two free throws with 1:12 remaining.

Junior varsity wins games

The Colby High junior varsity picked up a dominating 48-27 victory Friday at Holcomb.

"The contest was very physical," said coach Jack Elliot, "and we held our composure and played a solid four quarters."

Sophomore McKenna Ortner had a team-high 13 points and senior Caitlyn Wark added 11. Junior Brenna McKee had 8, sophomore Kenzie Curry, 7; freshman

Haileigh Shull, 5; and sophomore Karly Kriss, 2. The girls went 12 for 24 from the free-throw line for 50 percent.

The junior varsity Lady Eagles pounded Scott City 54-15 Tuesday at the high school gym.

"We played a solid game on both sides of the ball," the coach said.

Curry led the team in scoring with 14, Wark had 9 and sopho-

more Lauren Bell 8. Freshman Haley Mengel added 5, Kriss and Shull, 4 each; and Ortner, McKee and freshman Andrea Barton, 2 each. The girls went 7 for 8 from the foul line.

With the win, the junior varsity improved to 7-1. The girls will play Ulysses at 8 p.m. Friday at the high school.

Triplains-Brewster loses two

The Triplains-Brewster basketball team lost 56-30 at Hoxie in a game where Coach Dustin Quenzer said turnovers really hurt his team.

"We need to eliminate turnovers, be patient on offense, and get a good shot," he said.

Michael Schmidt was the team's high-point man in the road game Jan. 4 with 13 and Nathan Jorgensen added 8.

The coach said he was happy with how the boys played on defense.

"We played really good defense," he said. "I was happy how we played coming off Christmas break."

Both teams shot 42 percent from the field and Triplains-Brewster

went 6 for 12 from the free-throw line.

Hoxie led 8-4 at the end of the first quarter. The Indians extended their lead to 25-11 by halftime. Triplains-Brewster was outscored 16-5 in the third. The final quarter was pretty even, with Hoxie outscoring Triplains-Brewster 15-14.

The team fell to a hot shooting Tribune team 59-30 in Brewster on Friday as the Jackrabbits shot a blistering 57 percent from the field.

The coach said his team played pretty well the first quarter, but then they quit.

"We need to work on the small things like the fundamentals," he said.

Quenzer said the boys need to

learn how to play their game and not let the other team decide the tempo.

Edoardo Broggi and Schmidt had 4 points each, Jorgensen, Seth Smith and Gus Lamb all 3 and Dan Brown 2.

Triplains-Brewster fell behind 18-3 at the end of the first quarter. The Jackrabbits extended their lead to 38-5 after outscoring Triplains-Brewster 20-2 in the second quarter. The third and fourth periods were more competitive, with Tribune outscoring Triplains by 8 and 6.

Triplains-Brewster will play a Western Kansas Liberty League tournament game at 12:30 p.m. (Central Time) Saturday in Goodland.

Lady Crusaders pick up first victory of season

The Heartland Christian High School girls beat Healy 51-40 in a home basketball game last Friday.

Lady Crusaders' junior Rebekah Grace had 17 points and sophomore Alexi Regier had 11. Other scorers include junior Jade Kruse with 8, sophomore Abby Russ and

senior Rachel Myers, 6 each, and senior Ariel Regier, Alexi's older sister, 2.

Russ and Kruse led the team in rebounds with 11 each and the Regiers both grabbed 10. Rachel Myers had 8 rebounds; and Ariel and freshman Amy Myers, 1.

Alexi had 4 steals.

With the win, the girls improved to 1-4. They will play a Deerfield/Santa Fe Trail Tour game at 6 p.m. next Thursday in Deerfield.

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