JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School

Golden Plains High School junior Cole Christensen jumped up and over the bar at regionals last weekend. Christensen qualified for the state championship meet in Wichita in the high jump as well as in triple jump.

Three Golden Plains boys qualify for state track meet

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Golden Plains High School had three members of the boys track team qualify for the state meet at regionals in Hays last weekend in four events. The state meet is Friday and Saturday in Wichita.

Junior Cole Christensen placed third in high jump with a jump of 6 feet, 2 inches. His personal best jump of the season is 6 feet, 4 inches. Christensen also qualified in the triple jump with 42 feet, 5.25 inches for a third-place finish. This was his best jump of the season.

Also qualifying for state was senior Rilee Spresser, who threw a third-place 45 feet, 4.5 inches in shot put. His personal best this season was 48 feet two weeks earlier in Colby.

The third state qualifier is junior Kalyn Weber, who will be competing in the 100-meter dash. Weber ran an 11.82 in the prelims and finished third in the finals with 11.77. His best time this season in finals is 11.21, which he ran at the league meet in Scott City the week before.

This is a return trip to the state meet for both Christensen and Spresser, but will be Weber's first time to compete at the state level.

Other boys competing in regionals performed well with some giving their best performance, adding team points and others just missing state qualification.

In the 400 meters, sophomore Andrew Luna ran a personal-best time of 54 seconds. The 4-by-100 relay team ran its best time of the season at 46.57 seconds with Ethan Walter, Christensen, Andrew Luna and Weber running. This was Walter's first time to run the relay with the others.

Spresser just missed state qualification in high jump with 5'10" placing him in a three-way tie for fifth place. Devinn Ritter qualified for the shot put finals and threw 44 feet, 2 inches for a sixth-place finish.

Also competing were Jesus Garcia in the 400 meters, Zach Spresser in triple jump and Ritter in discus.

The team scored 26 points, placing 12th out of the 21 teams competing.

Girls runners post best times

The Golden Plains High School girls track team posted many of their best times of the season at the regional track meet in Hays on Friday.

Leea Juenemann ran a season-best time of 2:45.82 in the 800-meter run.

Both of the girls relay teams improved their times. The 4-by-100 team of Macayla Easton, Viridiana Beltran, Melissa Ritter and Angela Ritter ran a 55.31. The 4-by-400 team of Kylie Jones, Easton, Jordan Christensen, and Angela Ritter also ran a season-best 4:28.32 and just missed scoring points for the team by finishing in 7th place.

"We tried our best and that's what counts," Easton said. "We got our best time and we did it together."

In other events, both Jones and Christensen matched their season-best jump of 4 feet, 8 inches and Hannah Antholz threw 75 feet, 10 inches in discus. Also competing in their final meet of the season were Morgan Walz in long jump, Avery Spresser in triple jump and Randi Cressler in javelin.

K-State wins first round

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – Ross Kivett singled in the go-ahead run in the top of the ninth inning Wednesday night and Kansas State defeated Oklahoma 5-4 in the first round of the Big 12 tournament.

Dan Klein singled with one out and reached third on a passed ball and groundout before Kivett delivered his fourth hit of the game.

James Allen came on in the bottom of the ninth and walked Kevin Seitzer. Pinch runner Chris Ellison moved to second on a groundout, but Elliott Blair flied out to end the game.

Evan Marshall (5-5) earned the win with an inning of one-hit relief, and Allen picked up his 16th save. Jordan John (4-1), who relieved starter Michael Rocha in the second inning, took the loss.

Kansas State (36-21), which won the regular-season series against Oklahoma, advances to a game against Texas A&M on Thursday. Oklahoma (40-17) plays Texas Tech in an elimination game.

Leaping catch denies tying run

DENVER (AP) – Ty Wigginton's soaring drive had game-tying homer written all over it.

Center fielder Chris Young turned it into an all-important out for Arizona with a tremendous leaping grab at the wall, preserving the Diamondbacks' 2-1 victory over Colorado on Wednesday night and extending a miserable run by the Rockies in tight, low-scoring games.

An early baserunning gaffe, a lack of timely hitting and Young's defensive gem added up to the sixth loss in eight games for the Rockies (24-24), who dropped to .500 for the first time since starting the season 1-1.

"We just have to be better," Rockies starter Jason Hammel said. "There's not much that we haven't already said. But obviously it has to change."

Hammel (3-4) was a hard-luck loser, pitching seven strong innings and surrendering two unearned runs.

Shortstop Alfredo Amezaga's error in the sixth proved costly for Hammel, opening the door for both runs.

Amezaga was filling in for Troy Tulowitzki after the slugger was given his first day off this season. Amezaga threw high to Todd Helton at first, allowing Ryan Roberts to slide safely into the bag and set the stage for the decisive inning.

Kelly Johnson then followed with a double. After Upton brought in a run with a groundout, Stephen Drew hit a shot into the left-center gap, only to have Gold Glove winner Carlos Gonzalez leap up and haul it in before brushing against the wall.

But Gonzalez could do nothing about Young's two-out flare that dropped in front of the left fielder, bringing in Johnson and making it 2-1.

That was more than enough support for Ian Kennedy (6-1), who allowed one run in eight innings.

Seth Smith, who overran second base and was tagged out to take the steam out of a promising first inning, came back to help the Rockies take a 1-0 lead. He led off the fourth with a double, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on Helton's sacrifice fly to left.

The Rockies are still coming to grips with losing left-hander Jorge De La Rosa to a season-ending elbow injury.

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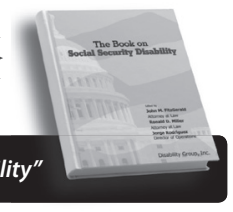
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