

Successful athletes' testimony not grandstanding before God

On any given day over the last few months there has been a story on Tim Tebow somewhere in the media. Sometimes there have been dozens of them.

The success of Tebow has created a phenomenon. He has become a polarizing figure. Some hate him, others love him, but there are few who have no opinion about him. Tim Tebow has also raised a number of questions, such as, does God decide the outcome of sporting events, and is it appropriate for a person to be so upfront about his or her faith?

But this is not the first time the world has witnessed such a thing. In the 1920s another incredible Christian athlete caused a similar stir and raised similar questions in Great Britain. The man I am referring to, the Tim Tebow of his time, was Eric Liddell.

Like Tebow, Liddell was the son of missionaries. His parents were missionaries in North China and he would someday follow their example and return to China as a missionary, where he would die of a brain tumor in a Japanese internment camp. But before that he electrified Britain with his athletic prowess and his testimony.

Liddell excelled in rugby, but he won international fame as a sprinter. His best event was the 100 yard dash. At the AAA Championship in 1923 he set a British record for the event, 9.7 seconds, a record that was not broken for 35 years. He also took first place in the 250 yard dash with a time of 21.6 seconds.

Eric Liddell was famous for the way in which he finished his races. He would throw his head back and look to the sky with his arms outstretched as if he were worshipping God.



Mark Carlton

• From the Pulpit

The reason for this was that he was worshipping God, and he did not care who knew it. In fact, he wanted everyone to know it. You see, like Tebow, Liddell used the fame that came with his athletic success as a platform to proclaim his faith in Christ and he was not shy about it.

Heading into the 1924 Olympics, Liddell was favored to win the 100-yard dash. But then he heard that the race was going to be scheduled for a Sunday. As a staunch Scottish Presbyterian, Eric believed Sunday was the Christian Sabbath, and he was a strict observer of it. So he withdrew from the race and began to train for a race he had never done particularly well in, the 400-meter run.

His decision was very controversial. He was viewed by many as a fool; a religion fanatic. It was hard for anyone to understand why he would not compromise his standards. After all, it was just one race. Surely God would understand. But he never wavered even though the odds of him winning the 400 were about the same as the odds of Tim Tebow leading his team to a playoff win over the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Finally the day of the big race came. The field was tough, but he was a sprinter, not a middle distance runner; so none of the favor-

ites felt particularly threatened. While he was standing in the blocks preparing to race, the American trainer, a fellow believer who was impressed Liddell's by faith and boldness, slipped him a note with a scripture verse written on it, I Samuel 2:30 "Those who honor me I will honor." With the note clutched in his hand Eric ran the race; not only did he win, he set a new world record.

This race has been dramatized in the 1981winner of the Oscar for best picture, "Chariots of Fire." In this scene a statement Eric had made earlier to his sister is replayed as Eric is pictured winning the race: "God has made me fast, and when I run I feel his pleasure."

So does God care about athletic events and those who compete in them? I think Eric Liddell's statement answers this question. God did indeed make Eric Liddell fast. He was an incredible athlete and a hard worker, but God is the one who designed and built him. And he was right in saying he felt God's pleasure when he raced, when he used the abilities God gave him and ran as fast as he could.

Did God fix the race? I don't think so, but God did give him the opportunity to run, and when he threw his head back as he completed his run I have no doubt he felt His pleasure. It is also clear that God honored this man who honored him.

So, what does this teach us about Tim Tebow? Perhaps the same thing. We shall see.

Mark Carlton is pastor of the Colby Berean Church. You can reach him at pastormark@colbyberean.com or 460-2763.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Wednesday
7:12 a.m. – Assisted motorist at I-70 and K-25.
10:20 a.m. – Removed debris from road way at Third and Mission.
2:55 p.m. – Caller advised of theft. Report filed.
5:40 p.m. – Caller requested subject be removed. Spoke with subjects; subject removed.
10:43 p.m. – Caller advised of possible theft. Report filed for minor in possession.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Wednesday
9:20 a.m. – Brought inmate from Rawlins County to Colby.
11:10 a.m. – Transported inmate

from Colby to Rawlins County
11:34 a.m. – Booked Joshua Neal Reed.
12:11 p.m. – Brought inmate from Limon, Colo., to Colby.
12:24 p.m. – Released Reed to Transcor.
4:18 p.m. – Served arrest warrant David Garcia-Perez.
4:18 p.m. – Served arrest warrant on Caleb Fox.
5:30 p.m. – Booked Brian Neu-bel.

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Babies

Jayelle Nichole Dunlap

Jayelle Nichole Dunlap, daughter of Garrett Dunlap and Ariana Brungardt of Oakley, was born Friday, Jan. 6, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Brothers James and Devon welcomed their sister home.

Grandparents are Cliff Brungardt of Quinter; Jeanette Rivituso of Three Bridges, N.J.; and Earl Dunlap and Maybelle Nief of Clinton, N.J.



Jayelle D.

Logan Jerry Bordon



Logan B.

Logan Jerry Bordon, son of Matthew and Miriah Bordon of Oberlin, was born Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Sister Lillian Bordon welcomed her brother home.

Grandparents are Kellie Black and Lon Gish of Oberlin, Maggie Bordon of Idaho Springs, Colo., and Jerry Bordon of Orofino, Idaho.

Talon Wayne Beedy

Talon Wayne Beedy, son of Roy and Julee Beedy of Colby, was born Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 8 pounds and measured 21 inches.

Sister Taylor Ann Beedy welcomed her brother home.

Grandparents are Russ and Cathy Wieggers of Leoti and Gerald and Flora Beedy of Bird City.

Writers: Kansas Voices contest ends March 15

Entries of short stories, prose or poetry are being accepted for the 23rd annual Kansas Voices Writing Contest, sponsored by the Winfield Arts and Humanities Council. Winners will be honored and invited to read their work at a special presentation at Winfield Baden Square, 700 Gary, Winfield, on Saturday, May 5.

Those who write for fun along with professional writers are encouraged to enter the. Writers may enter either youth or adult divisions in two categories: poetry and prose. Youth Division entrants must be currently enrolled in high school or be under 18 years of age.

To be eligible, writers must live in Kansas. All entries must be postmarked by Thursday, March 15. No particular subject matter is required and all entries are judged by professionals entirely on literary merit. Entries must

be unpublished stories or poems accompanied by an official entry form and a \$3 entry fee for each submission.

Guidelines and entry forms are available through the Winfield Arts and Humanities Council, 700 Gary, Suite A & B, Winfield, Kan., 67156, at (620) 221-2161, Ext 10 or at www.winfieldarts.com.

Prizes total \$1,000: \$275 each for first prize in adult poetry and prose, \$100 each for first prize in youth poetry and prose, and a total of \$250 in honorable mentions.

Markets

| Quotes as of close of previous business day | |
|---|---------|
| Hi-Plains Co-op | |
| Wheat (bushel) | \$6.23 |
| Corn (bushel) | \$5.95 |
| Milo (hundredweight) | \$10.16 |
| Soybeans (bushel) | \$10.39 |

Museum luncheon to feature railroads

Larry Dilts, author of "Colby's Railroads: A Local History" and two other books, will present a lunchtime talk on area railroads at noon Thursday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. The program is free and open to the public, and a light lunch will be served.

The talk is part of the museum's ongoing "Food for Thought" series offered on the third Thursday of each month from November through April.

The programs this year are fo-

cused on topics related to the settlement period of the late 19th century in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act and the Pacific Railway Act. Both were signed into law by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 and each was crucial to settlement of the High Plains.

The museum is at 1905 S. Franklin Ave. For information, call 460-4590, visit www.prairiemuseum.org, or e-mail museumed@st-tel.net.

Arrest lists unusual name

MADISON, Wis. (AP) – Authorities in southern Wisconsin are facing a tongue twister thanks to the arrest of Beezow Doo-Doo Zopittybop-Bop-Bop.

The unusually named 30-year-old man was in jail Sunday in Madison. Police say he violated this bail conditions from a previous run-in with the law.

Court records show that his name used to be Jeffrey Drew Wilschke. He legally changed it in October.

The *Capital Times* reports (<http://bit.ly/z7lOdM>) that Zopittybop-Bop-Bop was arrested last week after residents complained of excessive drinking and drug use near Reynolds Park in Madison. Authorities say he was arrested in another local park last April after police found a loaded handgun in his backpack.

He's tentatively charged with

carrying a concealed knife, and possession of drug paraphernalia and marijuana.

Jail records don't list his bail amount or an attorney.

We'd like to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, cards, and concern while I was in the hospital in Colby & Denver. Thanks to the Drs. nurses, and the EMS for their excellent care at both facilities. A special thanks to Robert and Leon Schroeder for taking care of the farm and our livestock while we were gone.
- Rod Arnberger

Happy 60th Anniversary Norman & Edna Hansen January 13th, 2012

Brad & Deb
Brian, LouAnn, Ashley, Aaron & Audra
Chandi, Kevin, Jayden & Raeth
Tyson, Robyn & Lynk
Bruce, Tina & Maura



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RESERVE THE DATE: January 26th, 2012.

In celebration of our 125th anniversary, we are hosting a Business After Five! Please join us at our main location, 240 W. 4th Street, as we celebrate **125 years** of growing with and serving our community!

RESERVE THE DATE
January 26th, 2012

125 YEARS

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COLBY LUMBER

Bud Van Horn and Staff
1760 W. 4th 462-2181



Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



First Presbyterian Church

Schedule of church services

GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP, 2nd and Sunrise, Oakley. Pastor James Bloom, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church 10:15 a.m., Wednesday evening Bible Study and Intercessory Prayer 6:30 p.m. 785-671-4020.

COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee's building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 785-460-0313, Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 785-462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May.

COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, 245 W. College Dr., Colby. Pastor Steve Todd. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Worship 10:15 a.m. Kid's Church for Kindergarten-5th grade during Worship Service. Nursery available for kids birth - 5 yrs old. Wednesday night: Family night September - May. Meal served 6 - 6:30 p.m. CD Kidz for kids birth - 5th grade, Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders and Adult Bible Study at 7 p.m. 785-462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, www.colbyberean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m and Saturday, 5:30 p.m.. Pastor Mark Carlton, Senior Pastor and Pastor Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor. Middle School Group Wednesday 7 p.m. at the Attic and High School Youth Group Sunday 6 p.m. at the Attic. AWANA Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the church.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, meeting at Community Building Sundays at 2 p.m. Pastor Dan Keel. (No service until the first week in January)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Rev. Craig Crossman, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; RC Club 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH (Affiliated with Southern Baptist), 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 785-460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m. Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday's. Contemporary Evening Service at 4 p.m. through the semester.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-728-7380, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (MST)

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, 501 Bellview Ave. Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Tom Peyton. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Worship Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Evenings 6:30. 3rd Sunday informal fellowship - bring a snack to share! First Sunday of month - carry-in dinner following morning worship.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 785-462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 a.m. and 9:25-9:40 a.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 785-462-6342, Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website colbypres.org.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 785-460-6605, President Andy Rose, 785-460-6807. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open by appointment. Call 785-462-3571.

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday worship, 10 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 6p.m. Shoponline at: www.rlmregionalchurch.com.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 785-460-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. www.colbyumc.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Minister, Jarrod Spencer. 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m. www.colbychurch.com

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Lyle Knebel, 385 W. 3rd - 785-460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church at 10:00 a.m.

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Rev. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 205 1st St., Pastor Charles Taff, 785-586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 785-687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/ Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

This feature is sponsored by these business firms as a contribution to the religious life of the community.