

Boys runners take second

By Kayla Cornett
Colby Free Press
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The Colby High boys cross country team performed well at the Oberlin meet Tuesday, taking second place with 41 team points.

Norton took the top spot for the boys with 30 points, McCook, Neb., was third with 62 and Oberlin fourth with 85.

The Colby girls squad finished fourth at the meet with 102 points. Norton's girls grabbed first with 52, McCook second with 71, Oberlin third with 80 and Wheatland fifth with 114.

Coach Chris Giersch said he keeps seeing improvement at every meet.

"We had eight individual medalists, the greatest number of the season," he said.

Four of those winning medals were part of the boys varsity. Senior John Faber came in fourth with a time of 18 minutes, 15 seconds. Sophomore Alec Onstad followed in sixth with 18:24, sophomore Aaron Faber was 11th with 18:43 and junior Michael Schiferl 15th with 20:10.

Giersch said John Faber continues to be a dominant runner on the team, but he's starting to have some competition.

"John is starting to be pushed by Alec Onstad and his brother Aaron, who both ran very close to John, finishing in the top 10 of the competition," he said.

"Michael Schiferl had his best performance of the year, and he placed 15th overall earning himself his first individual medal of the season," he added.

Overall, Giersch said the boys team is getting better and better as the season goes on.

"The boys team continues to improve because of their hard work and the fact that we have JV runners that are catching up to the

times of some of the varsity runners," he said.

Other boys varsity runners at the meet were junior Marc Bremenkamp, who took 19th with 20:25, senior Brad Schroeder 26th with 20:51 and senior Wiatt Binder 27th with 20:55.

On the boys junior varsity squad, three runners took individual medals. Senior Blake McNinch finished third with 20:46, senior Brady Rose followed in fourth with 20:58 and senior Matt Dickman sixth with 21:17.

"Brady Rose and Blake McNinch continued to have good performances for us on the JV squad," Giersch said.

One Colby girl received a medal at the meet: freshman Andrea Browne, who came in third with 16:07.

"The girls struggled at the start of the race and were forced to make up ground throughout the rest of the course," Giersch said. "We had good effort, though, and all of the girls had improved over their Hill City times except one."

The other girls running in Hill City were sophomore Taylor Lemman, 20th with 18:15; sophomore Bridget Bickner, 21st with 18:19; freshman Makayla Hoffman, 32nd with 20:46; junior Katie Elias, 36th with 22:33; junior Maura Hansen, 38th with 23:52; and senior Cameron McLaughlin, 41st with 24:24. Senior Morgan Smull, running in the junior varsity race, took 13th with 36:58.

"Taylor Lemman and Bridget Bickner ran well again, but just can't seem to break into the top 15 to earn an individual medal," Giersch said. "Taylor Lemman, Cameron McLaughlin, Wiatt Binder, Marc Bremenkamp and Aaron Faber all had improved times over last year."

The team's next meet will be at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Phillipsburg.

Running the ball



MARY ZERR

Jordan Schippers (No. 37) carried the ball Saturday during the Colby sixth grade football team's home game against Phillipsburg at Dennen Field. The Colby boys won 27-6 and now have a 3-0 record. The Colby team whipped the Phillipsburg team, which had been undefeated the last two years, 27-6. The Colby sixth graders will play Oakley Saturday at Dennen Field.

The sixth graders are coached by Travis Branum, Fred Britt, Andy Schippers and Scott Platt. Team members are Peyton Ortnier, Jordan Schippers, Tommy Cline, Aaron Platt, Tucker Branum, Tyler Zerr, Carter Stanley, Kyler Britt, Alex Ferguson, Heath Bolyard, A.J. Reed, Josh Olson, Dalton Schutte, Kory Finley and Issac Rosales.

Colby Rec holds first relay race

The first Colby Recreation Department 10K Relay Race was held Saturday with 38 runners on 10 teams.

Recreation Director Stacy Jasper called the race, which had five men's teams, four coed teams and one women's team, a success.

The 1.6 mile course started at the College Drive Assembly of God Church parking lot, Jasper said, and then went west through the Villa High Park area, around the Vision Source lot, back through Villa High and back to the church.

All 10 teams started at the same time, she said. Each team consisted of four runners and ran 6.2 miles relay style, each runner running about 1.6 miles. Jasper said four laps of the course equaled 6.2 miles.

She said the men's teams were all members of the Colby Community College men's bas-

ketball team; three of the coed teams consisted of Colby Community College women's basketball players along with men's basketball coach Brady Jasper, wrestling coach David Nordhues and faculty member Doug Johnson.

"The other two teams were led by captains Walter Lewis of Atwood and Tiffany Mader of Colby," Stacy Jasper said.

Lewis's coed team won their division with a time of 42 minutes, 42 seconds, coming in third overall. John Clark, Colby Community College sophomore, led his men's team to a first-place finish in their division and overall with 41:54.

Mader's women's team finished first in their division with 57:50. The fastest split recorded for the 1.6-mile lap went to Nordhues with 9:37.

Stacy Jasper said gold medals were award-

ed to all first-place division winners. Brady Jasper's coed team also won "Most Creative Team Uniform," as all teams were encouraged to wear fun apparel.

"This was our first 10K race and our first relay-style race," Stacy Jasper said. "I was very happy with the turnout of runners. It was a competitive and very spirited event. Because of the college basketball teams' participation, there was a lot of friendly 'trash talking,' which made the event very entertaining."

"I'm hoping to introduce more relay-style events in the future as this one gave us a record number of runners and just a fun and competitive atmosphere."

The department's next race will be the Sixth Annual Turkey Trot 5K and Youth Mile Run on Saturday, Nov. 17. Call the department for race info at 460-4440.

Fans cheer as referees return to field Thursday

By Joseph White
AP Sports Writer

BALTIMORE – The final pass of the game sailed out of the end zone, saving the regular refs from the same type of call that brought the replacements to the height of unpopularity just three days earlier.

Referee Gene Steratore and his crew didn't have to decide which player came down with the ball, and fans and players aren't going to spend Friday going ballistic that their team was robbed. From the pregame cheers to the final whistle, it was overall a good return for the National Football League's veteran men in stripes, who ran a mostly smooth and efficient game Thursday night as the Baltimore Ravens beat the Cleveland Browns 23-16.

"It was great to have those guys back," Ravens running back Ray Rice said. "It looked like they knew what they were doing."

Yes, the real refs are back. Official harmony is restored.

The league's experiment with replacement officials ended on "Monday Night Football" when a 24-yard desperation pass on the last play was ruled a touch-

down – even though replays appeared to show it should been an interception – giving the Seattle Seahawks a disputed 14-12 win over the Green Bay Packers.

The stage was set for something similar Thursday. An fourth-down unnecessary roughness penalty on Baltimore's Paul Kruger – a good call, given the way he shoved Cleveland's Joe Thomas after the whistle – gave the Browns one final chance from the 18-yard line.

But Brandon Weeden's 18-yard pass sailed high as time expired. "Too much juice," he said. No controversial ending this time.

The love for the officials was evident all evening. About an hour before kickoff, they walked on the field and heard cheers from the early arrivals. A few minutes later, Steratore was shaking hands with Shurmur near midfield and getting a hug from Ravens Ray Lewis at the 30-yard line.

Later, when the crew returned, they received a standing ovation and doffed their caps to the crowd. One fan held up a sign that read: "Finally! We get to yell at real refs! Welcome back!"

"The other refs just made

dumb calls," said Jessie Riley, a 15-year-old fan wearing an Ed Reed jersey.

When Steratore then turned on his microphone to greet the captains for the pre-game coin toss, the crowd heard him say: "Good evening, men. It's good to be back."

The stadium erupted in a roar. Steratore and his seven-man crew donned their familiar stripes for the first game of Week 4 after three weeks of replacement officials created moments of chaos throughout the league. They were inevitably serenaded with a hearty round of boos for one call that went against the home team, but there were no headline-making gaffes.

"You know we always pride ourselves in being a face without a name," Steratore, a 10-year league veteran, told the Associated Press about an hour before kickoff. "This will be a little different, but I don't expect it to last too long. And that's the goal – is that we can let them get through that portion of this. It's happy to be back, it's happy to be appreciated. But then as soon as the game starts, it's happy to disappear again and let the entertainers entertain."

College to hold fall horse show

Colby Community College will hold the first Intercollegiate Horse Show Association show of the season on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 13 and 14, at the college farm.

Colby students will compete against colleges from around the region in a true test of rider ability, said Coach Shanda Mattix. The association was founded on the principle that any college student should be able to participate in horse shows regardless of riding ability or financial status.

Over 8,300 students from more than 370 colleges

and universities across the United States and Canada participate.


There are eight levels of Hunt Seat riding competition from Beginner through Medal/Maclay and six levels of Western Riding, Beginner through Open/Reining.

The free show will begin at 9 a.m. Concessions will be available.

The college farm is three miles east of Colby on U.S. 24 and a mile north. For information, call Mattix at (785) 460-5464.

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