

# Colby official, coaches receive state honors

By Kayla Cornett

Colby Free Press  
colby.sports@nwkansas.com



Robb Ross



Ed Schmitt



Rick Williams

A Colby principal and two assistant coaches received state honors at the 42nd annual Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association awards banquet Saturday in Salina.

Colby High Athletic Director Larry Gabel said Middle School Principal Robb Ross was recognized as the Official of the Year and Ed Schmitt and Rick Williams were named as Class 4A Assistant Wrestling Coaches of the Year.

Coaches of the year are chosen for each classification. Assistant coaches are nominated by their head coaches, then the executive board makes the final decisions on the honorees.

An official of the year is selected from nominations by head wrestling coaches in all classifications statewide.

Honor is given to coaches for longevity as wrestling coaches and the number of their team's dual wins.

Recognition is also given to outstanding high

school senior wrestlers each year for 6A, 5A, 4A and 3-2-1A schools.

Kyle Mines, who wrestled for Oberlin and K-State in the 1950s and later coached in St. Francis and Colby, was inducted into the Kansas Wrestling Hall of Fame Saturday. He was a well known to wrestling fans in northwest Kansas.

This will be Ross' 29th year as a wrestling official. During this time, he considers it his good fortune to officiate at the middle school through college level.

He has been principal of the middle school for 21 years. Previously, he taught and coached for 12 years in Liberal and Pretty Prairie. His wife, Julie, teaches

first grade.

"He is easily one of the best wrestling officials in the state of Kansas," Williams said of Ross. "He has dedicated a ton of time and effort to advancing the sport of wrestling in Kansas as a wrestler, coach and official. He guides and instructs other officials as an (Kansas State High School Activities Association) area supervisor of officials.

"In my opinion, what makes Robb a great official is his great knowledge of the rules and his willingness to talk to coaches about the calls he makes without being arrogant. Robb is more than willing to tell a coach what he saw and why he called what he called in a calm and level-headed manner, even if the coach disagrees. I really respect this quality that Robb exhibits as an official."

Williams also said he feels honored to be recognized by other Kansas wrestling coaches.

"Obviously, being recognized by my fellow wrestling coaches around the state is a great honor," he said. "I feel like Ed and I won this award because we work for a great head coach in Matt Sims and have a great group of dedicated athletes in the sport of wrestling."

"The wrestling coaching staff at CHS does a great job working together in order to take advantage of our strengths. We are great friends and enjoy each other's company, which really helps us be successful."

Williams will begin his 11th season as assistant wrestling coach in Colby. He has coached 10 state champions and helped the team to a top 8 finish in 4-A every year. In 2009, Colby placed first and was second in 4-A last year.

Rick is also head girls golf coach and head baseball coach. His wife, Alexandra, is a 4th grade teacher. They have a son, Trae.

"Ed does a tremendous job in our weight room and is a great teacher of wrestling technique. He brings a very intense love for the sport of wrestling into our room and is constantly brainstorming things we need to do to take our athletes to the next level."

"Congratulations!" Gabel said in an e-mail. "Colby is very fortunate to have these young men representing Colby and working with our youth."

Rosalie Ross of the Rawlins County Square Deal contributed to this article.

## Equestrian team holds western show in Colby

The Colby Community College equestrian team held the first Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Western Show of the season Oct. 13 and 14 at the college farm.

"The team was Reserve High Point Team and William Wright was Reserve High Point Rider," said Coach Shanda Mattix. "Right now, our Western Team is third in the region, only behind by one point, and we have an eight-point lead on second place in the region with the English Team."

"Having both our first English and Western shows under our belt, anyone can see what a great team this is already and they just keep working harder."

Individual results:

### Oct. 13

**Open Reining:** Jade Kruse, Oakley, second; William Wright, Louisburg, fourth; Heather Darling, Abilene, fourth.

**Open Horsemanship:** Darling, Abilene, second; Kruse, Oakley, second; Wright, Louisburg, fourth.

**Advanced:** Chelsea Brady, Parker, Colo., third. **Novice:** Brittany Normand, Fort Scott, third; Heather Thompson, Solomon, sixth.

**Intermediate II:** Liz Leiker, WaKeeney, second; Amanda Barnum, Colby, third; Sara Schurz, Phillipsburg, fourth.

**Intermediate I:** Heather Toal, Hillsboro, first;

Desirae Melgoza, Gove, first; Allison Grimmett, Olathe, fifth.

**Beginner Horsemanship:** LoriBeth James, McPherson, second; Tarrah Stuart, Gove, fourth; Marci Scriptor, Chapman, sixth.

### Oct. 14

**Open Reining:** Wright, first; Darling, fourth; Kruse, fifth.

**Open Horsemanship:** Kruse, first; Wright, fourth; Darling, fourth.

**Advanced:** Brady, sixth.

**Novice:** Normand, reserve; Thompson, second. **Intermediate II:** Molly Jensen, Arthur, reserve; Leiker, first.

**Intermediate I:** Amanda Reed, Brookville, first; Grimmett, second.

**Beginner Horsemanship:** Ariel Severson, Colby, first; Emily Nuss, Newton, second; Stuart, fourth.

"It takes an incredible amount of work to host a show like this, and we are so grateful for all the volunteers we had and our sponsors who made it possible to have a great show," said Mattix.

"The team members also did a great deal of work as well as preparing to compete. It just proves how dedicated they are to put on the show and still earn reserve high point team both day, as well as a reserve high point rider each day."

## Jayhawks cruise past Emporia State

LAWRENCE (AP) — Perry Ellis led No. 7 Kansas in scoring Tuesday night. He was second on the team in rebounding, pitched in a couple of assists and didn't commit a turnover in his college debut.

Just think: Jayhawks coach Bill Self believes the freshman will only get better.

Ellis finished with 15 points and seven boards in the 88-54 exhibition victory over Emporia State, and helped to drive a big first-half run that put the game away early.

The Jayhawks' newcomers will be counted on to fill the shoes left by All-America Thomas Robinson, a first-round NBA draft pick, and Tyshawn Taylor, the senior guard who helped lead Kansas to the brink of a national championship last season.

The Jayhawks lost to Kentucky in the title game in New Orleans.

Elijah Johnson had 12 points against the Hornets, a Division II school from southeastern Kansas. The senior came off the bench because he was "substantially late" for a class, Self said.

Johnson is one of three returning starters and the top returning scorer. Seven-footer Jeff Withey, the Big 12's defensive player of

the year, added seven points and six rebounds, and Travis Releford added seven points and three assists.

This one was all about the freshmen, though.

Ben McLemore and Jamari Traylor both made statements in their first taste of playing in Allen Fieldhouse. The duo was part of last year's freshman class, but was

forced to redshirt after they were deemed by the NCAA to be partial qualifiers.

McLemore took a backdoor feed on the game's opening possession for an easy dunk. The 6-5 guard then brought a capacity crowd to its feet when he elevated midway through the second half to follow a 3-point miss by Johnson with another rim-rattling jam.

A PROPOSITION to amend section 1 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, relating to classification and taxation of watercraft, to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election to be held on November 6, 2012.

### House Concurrent Resolution No. 5017

§ 1. System of taxation; classification; exemption. (a) The provisions of this subsection shall govern the assessment and taxation of property on and after January 1, 2013, and each year thereafter. Except as otherwise hereinafter specifically provided, the legislature shall provide for a uniform and equal basis of valuation and rate of taxation of all property subject to taxation. The legislature may provide for the classification and the taxation uniformly as to class of recreational vehicles and watercraft, as defined by the legislature, or may exempt such class from property taxation and impose taxes upon another basis in lieu thereof. The provisions of this subsection shall not be applicable to the taxation of motor vehicles, except as otherwise hereinafter specifically provided, mineral products, money, mortgages, notes and other evidence of debt and grain. Property shall be classified into the following classes for the purpose of assessment and assessed at the percentage of value prescribed therefor:

- Class 1 shall consist of real property. Real property shall be further classified into seven subclasses. Such property shall be defined by law for the purpose of subclassification and assessed uniformly as to subclass at the following percentages of value:
- (1) Real property used for residential purposes including multifamily residential real property and real property necessary to accommodate a residential community of mobile or manufactured homes including the real property upon which such homes are located.....11 1/2%
  - (2) Land devoted to agricultural use which shall be valued upon the basis of its agricultural income or agricultural productivity pursuant to section 12 of article 11 of the constitution.....30%
  - (3) Vacant lots.....12%
  - (4) Real property which is owned and operated by a not-for-profit organization not subject to federal income taxation pursuant to section 501 of the federal internal revenue code, and which is included in this subclass by law.....12%
  - (5) Public utility real property, except railroad real property which shall be assessed at the average rate that all other commercial and industrial property is assessed.....33%
  - (6) Real property used for commercial and industrial purposes and buildings and other improvements located upon land devoted to agricultural use.....25%
  - (7) All other urban and rural real property not otherwise specifically subclassified.....30%

Class 2 shall consist of tangible personal property. Such tangible personal property shall be further classified into six subclasses, shall be defined by law for the purpose of subclassification and assessed uniformly as to subclass at the following percentages of value:

- (1) Mobile homes used for residential purposes.....11 1/2%
  - (2) Mineral leasehold interests except oil leasehold interests the average daily production from which is five barrels or less, and natural gas leasehold interests the average daily production from which is 100 mcf or less, which shall be assessed at 25%.....30%
  - (3) Public utility tangible personal property including inventories thereof, except railroad personal property including inventories thereof, which shall be assessed at the average rate all other commercial and industrial property is assessed.....33%
  - (4) All categories of motor vehicles not defined and specifically valued and taxed pursuant to law enacted prior to January 1, 1985.....30%
  - (5) Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment which, if its economic life is seven years or more, shall be valued at its retail cost when new less seven-year straight-line depreciation, or which, if its economic life is less than seven years, shall be valued at its retail cost when new less straight-line depreciation over its economic life, except that, the value so obtained for such property, notwithstanding its economic life and as long as such property is being used, shall not be less than 20% of the retail cost when new of such property.....25%
  - (6) All other tangible personal property not otherwise specifically classified.....30%
- (b) All property used exclusively for state, county, municipal, literary, educational, scientific, religious, benevolent and charitable purposes, farm machinery and equipment, merchants' and manufacturers' inventories, other than public utility inventories included in subclass (3) of class 2, livestock, and all household goods and personal effects not used for the production of income, shall be exempted from property taxation.

Explanatory statement. This amendment would allow the legislature to classify and tax watercraft upon a basis different from other property. A vote for this proposition would permit the legislature to provide for separate classification and taxation of watercraft or to exempt such property from property taxation and impose taxes in lieu thereof. A vote against this proposition would continue the taxation of watercraft in the same manner as all other property.

## Cross country women win conference championship

The Lady Trojans cross country team, coached by Crystal Berndt, won the Jayhawk West Conference Division I meet Saturday in Overland Park.

In the same race, the Lady Trojans finished fourth overall in the Region VI, Division I Championship.

"I could not be any prouder of these ladies," said Berndt. "They put in so much hard work and fought through so many things to make this happen. Butler (County Community College) has won the Jayhawk West Conference Championship the previous nine years, so to see this group of women take it from them is a great honor."

"Watching the men's team win the Region VI Championship was also very exciting. Congratula-

tions to Coach Ortiz and the cross country men's team. What an amazing weekend to be a Colby Trojan."

Oslyn "Melissa" Collins, Guyana, finished in fifth place overall with a time of 19 minutes, 36.9 seconds. Denet Sang, Kenya, came in ninth with 19:46.2; Emily Chestnut, Clay Center, 34th with 21:09.5; Heather Schneider, Herndon, 36th with 21:18.4; Sierra Besmer, Loomis, Neb., 50th with 22:07.4; Stephanie Hornbaker, Holcomb, 51st with 22:10.4; and Amanda Duvail, Sperger, Texas, 73rd with 23:45.4.

In the Jayhawk West Conference competition, Collins finished second, followed by Sang in fourth. Chestnut and Schneider finished 12th and 13th, Besmer and Horn-

baker were 17th and 18th and Duvail was 30th.

"Every one of these ladies showed up and gave 100 percent," said Berndt. "I told them before the race that no one was expecting us to do anything big. Let's go show them we can and that's exactly what they did."

"I am hoping these ladies will surprise everyone even more at nationals. I would like to give a big thanks to everyone who has shown support for the team. You are all greatly appreciated!"

The women will advance to the National Junior College Athletic Association Cross Country Championships on Saturday, Nov. 10, in Ina, Ill.

## Lady Bulldogs overrun Cheylin

By Hailee Spresser

Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Middle School volleyball team traveled to Bird City to take on the Cheylin Lady Cougars.

Golden Plains came home with two wins on Oct. 4 and as well as one for the football team.

The A-team went into this game with a 3-3 record and came out with a winning record of 4-3. Golden Plains defeated Cheylin in the first set 25-18. The Lady Bulldogs were determined to finish off Cheylin. Golden Plains fought hard in the second set and came out on top 25-21.

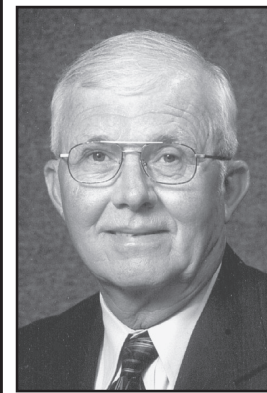
After the A-team's exciting win,

the B-team was prepared to do the same damage to the Lady Cougars. In the first set, the Lady Bulldogs pummeled Cheylin 25-13. Golden Plains worked over the Lady Cou-

gars in the second set, winning the game 25-17.

"I think we all did well," sixth grader Beth Luna added. "We talked and moved on the court."

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