

Department to hold 5K race on Saturday

The Turkey Trot 5K is five days away, says Colby Recreation Director Stacy Jasper; the race begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17.

Jasper said runners will use the same course that was used for the 10K, beginning at the College Drive Assembly of God Church.

"From there, you will stay on the sidewalk and run west toward the tree-line entrance into Villa High (Park)," she said. "You will turn right (north) into that alley, where you will follow the lake road up to Range Avenue ... remain on sidewalk heading north to Poplar Street (corner at Vision Source).

"Turn right (east) on Poplar and run to the alley, where you turn south through the alley and into the KXXX radio parking lot. From there, you run back the way you came, down through Villa High and up on College Drive again to the ... church."

Jasper said this course is 1.55 miles – halfway for a 5K. A marked turn will direct runners to begin the course again, and a second loop should finish the race near an "official" 5K of 3.1 miles.

"As of now, there will not be a Youth Mile Run," she added.

Race registration will be in the parking lot of the church, not at the following the race when all competitors finish.

"Again, this is a predicted time run," Jasper said, "so the winner is established by (who's) closest to their predicted time. No watches are allowed, although you can listen to music."

The Recreation Department will accept Turkey Trot applicants through the morning of the race, she said. For information, contact Jasper at 460-4440 or at colbyrecreation@gmail.com.

Middle school team kicks off winter season

By Taylor Todd
Golden Plains Middle School

Golden Plains Middle School kicked off its basketball season Friday and Saturday at a preseason tournament in Brewster.

The girls coach is Travis Smith, assisted by Parker Christensen. The boys coach is Russ Aumiller. The schools has 13 boys out for basketball and 23 girls.

Aumiller said his goal for the boys is to stay focused as a team. His other goal is for the team to have respect on and off the court. Coach Smith said his goals for the team are to work hard, play hard and have fun. He also expects good leadership from the eighth graders.

"My main goal for the year is to try and win the final tournament," said eighth grader Jessica Koeplich. "I want live up to and be as good as my older brother (Joseph Koeplich)."

"I can't wait for this season to start and want to improve from the previous years," said Dawson Spresser, an eighth grader.

"As a sixth grader, I hope to learn as much as I can, and I can't wait to play in games," Kaycee Miller said.

"I'm excited to play basketball and can't wait for the first game," seventh grader Clayton Bange said.

All the players agree that they are all looking forward to play and are excited to improve and learn.

The schedule this year:
Friday and Saturday – Preseason at Brewster.
Thursday – at Logan.
Tuesday, Nov. 20 – vs. Triplains-Brewster.
Thursday, Nov. 29 – vs. Palco.
Thursday, Dec. 13 – vs. Northern Valley.
Thursday, Jan. 3 – vs. Cheylin.
Monday, Jan. 14 – vs. Western Plains.
Thursday, Jan. 17 – vs. Healy.
Thursday, Jan. 24 – at Grinnell-Wheatland
Thursday, Jan. 31 – at Weskan
Thursday and Saturday, Feb. 7 and 9 – Western Kansas Liberty League tournament at Brewster.

Broncos dominate Panthers 36-14

By Steve Reed
AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos were too much for the Carolina Panthers.

Manning threw for 310 yards and a touchdown Sunday helping the first-place Broncos (6-3) rout the Panthers 36-14 to win for the fifth time in six games.

"I didn't know what kind of progress I would make physically," Manning said after he missed last season because of injuries.

"I have made some. I continue to have some that I need to make and continue to have to do my rehab. I think we have improved on certain things and part of developing some kind of chemistry."

The Broncos have scored at least 31 points in their past five wins.

After the game, players gave coach John Fox a game ball after winning against the team he coached for nine seasons from 2002-2010.

"There were a lot of motivating factors to help us win this game, and Coach Fox was the biggest one," Von Miller said.

Manning threw his 420th touchdown pass to move into a tie for second place on the NFL's list

with his childhood hero Dan Marino. He trails only Brett Favre (508).

"I have never felt comfortable kind of being mentioned with him," Manning said.

Manning had plenty of help from his teammates.

Linebacker Miller harassed Cam Newton all day and Trindon Holliday returned a punt 76 yards for a touchdown as for the Broncos (6-3).

The Broncos sacked Newton seven times, including once for a safety, and Miller pressured him into an interception that Tony Carter returned 40 yards for a score.

Fox spent nine seasons in Carolina before his relationship with owner Jerry Richardson deteriorated when the organization failed to offer him a contract extension.

Fox took the high road after the game.

Miller was all over the field and finished with a sack, forced fumble and four tackles for a loss.

Denver's defense pressured Newton all day, forcing him to make quick decisions that often resulted in mistakes.

After a strong start, Newton finished 21 of 36 for 241 yards with two touchdown passes to tight end Greg Olsen. He threw two interceptions.

Playing in home tourney



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Linda Pagrode dribbled the ball Thursday during the first night of the Ambassador Classic for the Colby Community College basketball teams. The Lady Trojans lost to Western Nebraska Community College.

Kansas State moving up, so close to first title shot

By Stephen Hawkins
AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas – Kansas State is so close. With two more wins, the Wildcats almost certainly will be headed to Miami for the BCS championship game and a shot at their first national title.

So imagine the excitement and euphoria for the Wildcats following their victory at TCU, which came after defending national champion Alabama lost at home.

"It's good for us," receiver Tramaine Thompson said matter-of-factly after the Wildcats won 23-10 on Saturday night. "We're doing something that's special and doesn't come around a lot in any program. We're just taking it in and we're just moving forward."

OK, so coach Bill Snyder's message clearly permeates through this team. Don't worry about what any other team does, or what can happen in two months. Focus instead on what's immediately ahead.

"I am just going to ask my guys as I always do to try to get better at practice on Monday," Snyder said.

The Wildcats (10-0, 7-0 Big 12) will go to practice Monday as the No. 1 team in the BCS rankings that determine who plays for the national championship.

They replaced Alabama at the top when the new Bowl Championship Series standings were released Sunday night. They moved up one spot, staying ahead of No. 2 Oregon.

Kansas State also moved up a spot in the new AP Top 25 earlier Sunday, going from third to second. Oregon, which was already ahead of the Wildcats in the AP poll, was the new No. 1 there.

Alabama slipped three spots to fourth in both rankings.

"We don't pay too much (attention) to the rankings," defensive back Jarard Milo said. "Coach Snyder does a good job of stressing that's not something we control. We control our family and we control what we do out there on the field in practice."

Kansas State plays next Saturday night at Baylor, where the Wildcats have lost their last two trips but now could clinch at least a share of its first Big 12

title since 2003. They get Thanksgiving week off before ending the regular season at home Dec. 1 against 18th-ranked Texas.

The last time the Wildcats were this close to a possible national championship was 1998, when they went 11-0 in the regular season before being upset by Texas A&M in the Big 12 championship game. The league no longer has a title game.

Maybe the Aggies have finally provided some payback, and helped their old league.

Texas A&M, now in the SEC, won 29-24 Saturday at Alabama. That game ended only minutes after K-State kicked off at TCU (6-4, 3-4).

Snyder insisted he didn't know about the Crimson Tide's loss until being told after his team was done.

But TCU coach Gary Patterson, a Kansas State alumnus who started his coaching career as a graduate assistant for the Wildcats' first bowl team three decades ago, knew Alabama was losing before his team took the field.

"I was like, just what we needed, Kansas State to have another reason to come out fired up," Patterson said.

Heisman Trophy hopeful Collin Klein, back in the lineup a week after coming out early against Oklahoma State because of an apparent concussion, threw only his third interception of the season on the first drive of the game.

But Klein went on to run for two touchdowns and the Wildcats built a 23-0 lead against the Horned Frogs, a team full of freshmen and sophomores for the school's first Big 12 season and already bowl eligible.

"I'm not disappointed in our kids at all. We thought we could win this ballgame," Patterson said. "That's where we are right now, just a little bit short against teams like that."

Kansas State had two turnovers after giving the ball away only once the previous six games, and scored its fewest points this season.

Plus, the admittedly conservative Wildcats were outgained by TCU, 274 to 260.

That gives Snyder plenty of focal points going into a new week.

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