



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Two junior varsity girls fought for the ball Monday during the Colby High junior varsity girls basketball game at the Community Building. The Lady Eagles crushed Dighton 45-15 in the first round of Colby's junior varsity basketball tournament.

## Colby junior varsities win first tourney games

The first round of the Colby High Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament was held Monday, and both the Colby girls and boys won their games. The Lady Eagles dominated Dighton, winning 45-15 at the Community Building. The Eagles overcame Cheylin 49-38 also at the Community Building. Both teams will play in the championship game of their bracket. Stats from the games were not available. In the other games Monday, Burlington slid by Goodland 34-31 in the girls bracket and Oakley

defeated Goodland 47-41 in the boys bracket. Both games were played at the high school. The Colby girls will play Burlington at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Community Building and the Colby boys will play Oakley at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Community Building. In the girls bracket, Goodland will play Dighton for third place at 6 p.m. Thursday at the high school. On the boys' side, Goodland will play Cheylin for third at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the high school.

# Colby varsity boys win 50-41 at home

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The Colby High varsity boys won in front of the home crowd Friday, defeating the Norton Blue Jays 50-41 at the Community Building. The Eagles were successful on offense, scoring double-digits in all four quarters. The Colby boys started off strong with 16 points to Norton's 6, but Norton came roaring back in the second, outscoring Colby 16-10. After halftime, the Eagles continued making shots with 13 points in the third and the Blue Jays landed 6. The teams were equal in the fourth, each scoring 11, but Colby prevailed with a 50-41 win. Senior Todd Kane led in scoring with a game-high 21 points, including 5 three-point baskets. He was 7 of 11 from the field and grabbed a rebound and a steal as well. Junior Marc Bremenkamp followed with 13 points, going 5 of 7 on field goals and 3 of 4 from the free-throw line. He also had 4 rebounds, an assist and 2 steals. Junior Luke Cox finished with 10 points, from 5 of 7 field goals, 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals; senior Wyatt Binder had 4 points, 3 rebounds, an assist and a steal; senior Zane Winger made one basket and grabbed 2 rebounds, 1 assist and 1 steal; and sophomore Ashton Russ contributed a rebound and a steal. The Eagles shot 70 percent from the free-throw line, making 7 of 10 shots. The varsity girls also won their game against Nor-

ton, stomping the Lady Blue Jays Friday 64-34 at the Community Building. The Lady Eagles came out strong, landing 18 points in the first quarter and holding Norton to 5. The girls continued their offensive attack in the second and outscored the Lady Blue Jays 11-7. After the break, Norton stepped up its offense with 18 points in the third, but Colby put up 21. The Lady Eagle defense shut down the Lady Blue Jays in the fourth, holding them to 4 and putting in 14 themselves. Senior McKenna Ortnier led Colby with 15 points from 6 of 10 field goals, including 3 three-pointers. She also had 2 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals. Senior Karly Kriss followed with 14 points, from 7 of 7 field goals, 7 rebounds, 3 assists and a steal; senior Lauren Bell fouled out of the game with 13 points, a rebound, a block and a steal; and junior Haileigh Shull finished with 12 points, 5 rebounds, 6 assists and 2 steals. Freshman Brenly Terrell chipped in 4 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists and 1 steal; sophomore Hannah Strange had 2 points and 1 rebound; sophomore Kelly Sloan made one basket; senior Kenzie Curry made a free throw, pulled down 5 rebounds and stole the ball twice; and freshman Lara Stephens grabbed 1 free throw and 1 rebound. The Lady Eagles had 33 total rebounds and made 6 of 8 free throws (75 percent). The varsity boys and girls will play next in Hugoton on Friday. The girls will play at 6:30 p.m. with the boys to follow about 8 p.m.

## Lady Bulldogs undefeated

By Hailee Spresser  
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains High School junior varsity Lady Bulldogs played their fourth game of the season, a three-quarter victory against the Palco Lady Roosters. The game Jan. 18 was short due to shortages on the Palco side. The younger Lady Bulldogs came into this matchup with a 3-0 record, hoping to advance to 4-0. "This was my best game so far this season," said sophomore Rachael Ritter. "I had more confidence this game. My teammates

made a great effort to get the ball to me when I was open so I could score." Golden Plains started a little slow, but the girls took the lead and held it throughout the game. The Lady Bulldogs played solid defense and managed to put in 12 points in the first quarter to Palco's 6. Golden Plains carried over its success in the first quarter to double the lead in the second quarter, 25-12. To finish the game, the Lady Bulldogs let up a little, but still claimed the win, 35-25. "We didn't start off the best, but as the game went on we

gained momentum," said freshman Maddy Walz. "We played as a team and everyone scored and contributed. I am very excited for our upcoming JV tournament on Saturday (Jan. 26) at home. It is a chance for the JV to get some more games...." Leading the Lady Bulldogs in points was Walz with 9, followed by Ritter 7, Tayler Petersen 6, Taylor Todd 5, Kynndra Rush 4 and Ana Bermudez and Brianna Stoll 2 each. The Lady Bulldogs traveled to Quinter for a matchup against the Quinter Lady Bulldogs on Jan. 22.

## Bulldogs fall to Roosters' attack

By Judy Rogers  
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The Palco Roosters attacked the Golden Plains High School Bulldogs on the basketball floor in Palco early and often. The Roosters started in the first quarter of the varsity boys game Jan. 18, putting up 20 points to the Bulldogs' 9. The Bulldogs put in another 7 in the second quarter, but the Roosters extended their lead to 33-16 by the half. The Bulldogs had their best quarter in the third with 11 points while the Roosters put in 15. Not letting up, the Roosters added 14 in the final quarter while the Bulldogs posted 6, allowing the Roosters to claim the 62-33 victory over the Bulldogs. "We couldn't execute," said Golden Plains' Andrew Luna.

"We needed to handle the pressure and their press better," said Shane Ryburn. Scoring for the Bulldogs were Jose Bermudez 7, Luna 7, Ryburn 6, Camron Spresser 5, Grant Spresser 4, Tristan Schwarz 3 and Kade Wessel 1. The boys did well under the boards, pulling down 40 rebounds, including 13 by Joseph Koerperich and 9 by C. Spresser. Tristan Schwarz grabbed 5, G. Spresser and Luna 4 each, Zach Spresser 3 and Ryburn, Brandon Korte and Domic Luna 1 each. "We need to work as a team and people need to step up and make plays," said Ryburn, as evidenced by the total of only 8 assists for the game. In a junior varsity game earlier in the afternoon, the boys played three quarters. Kade Wessel and Kain Priess each made a basket in the first quarter along with a

free throw from Koi Wessel. Koi made more free throws in the second quarter as did Korte. Another basket from Kade Wessel gave the Bulldogs 10 points at the half, trailing the Roosters 20-10. As the final quarter progressed, the Bulldogs added 7 more free throws to their final score from both Wessels and Korte, along with a basket from Cole Ziegelmeier and a three-pointer from Korte. The Roosters put in 16 to win the game 36-22. Korte finished the game with 8 points, with 6 from Kade Wessel and 4 from Koi Wessel, and 2 each from Priess and Ziegelmeier. Eleven of the team's points came from 16 free-throw attempts. The boys traveled to Quinter on Jan. 22 before returning to Rexford Friday to try and avenge their league tournament loss to Northern Valley.

## Schools need sports for disabled

WASHINGTON (AP) — Students with disabilities must be given a fair shot to play on a traditional sports team or have their own leagues, the U.S. Education Department says. Disabled students who want to play for their school could join traditional teams if officials can make "reasonable modifications" to accommodate them, the agency says. If those adjustments would fundamentally alter a sport or give the student an advantage, the department is directing the school to create parallel athletic programs that have comparable standing to traditional programs. The groundbreaking order, reminiscent of the Title IX expansion of athletic opportunities for girls and women four decades ago, could bring sweeping changes to school budgets and locker rooms for years to come. Activists cheered the changes. "This is a landmark moment for students with disabilities," said Terri Lakowski, who for a decade led a coalition pushing for the changes. "This will do for students with disabilities what Title IX did for women. This is a huge victory." It's not clear whether the guidelines will spark a sudden uptick in sports participation. There was a

big increase in female participation in sports after Title IX guidance instructed schools to treat female athletics on par with male teams. That led many schools to cut some men's teams, arguing that it was necessary to be able to pay for women's teams. Department officials emphasized they did not intend to change sports traditions dramatically or guarantee students with disabilities a spot on competitive teams. Instead, they insisted schools may not exclude students based on their disabilities if they can keep up with their classmates. Federal laws require states to

provide a free public education to all students and prohibit schools that receive federal money from discriminating against students with disabilities. Going further, the new directive from the department's Civil Rights Division explicitly tells schools and colleges that access to interscholastic, intramural and intercollegiate athletics is a right. The department suggests minor accommodations to incorporate students with disabilities onto sports teams. For instance, track and field officials could use a visual cue for a deaf runner to begin a race.

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