

Bulldogs, Titans go to substate

The Triplains-Brewster Titans and Golden Plains Bulldogs will both play in Saturday's 1A Division II substate tournament at Sharon Springs.

Golden Plains (27-8 record) has earned a No. 2 seed among six teams, which means the Bulldogs have earned a first-round bye.

No. 6-seed Triplains-Brewster (6-23 record) must play a first-round match against No. 3 Weskan (25-10). If the Titans prevail in this single-elimination state qualifier, they'll take Golden Plains during the semifinal round.

Sharon Springs-Wallace County (31-4) has earned the No. 1 seed. The Wildcats will play a semifinal against either No. 4 Wheatland-Grinnell (23-12) or No. 5 Bird City-Cheylein (9-22).

The championship match will conclude Saturday's tournament, with that advancing into 1A state tourney play on Nov. 1-2. Watch for more details next week.

Who will survive Saturday in Colby?

By R.B. Headley
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When 4A schools split into two divisions last summer, Colby High volleyball coach Jerry McKee was already looking forward about five months.

"There are only four teams to go through instead of eight, which means an opportunity for more teams to reach state," he said about the substate tournaments. "Now we have the opportunity. Let's see what happens."

The Eagles can make state travel plans without even leaving home. They're the home team for Saturday's substate and official pairings were announced Wednesday afternoon:

No. 1 Goodland (27-7) vs. No. 4 Scott City (6-26) at 2 p.m. followed by No. 2 Hugoton (19-17) vs. No. 3 Colby (18-17).

The winners advance into a late-afternoon or early-evening substate championship match.

Yet one loss means go home and start getting ready for winter.

"Playing at home, there's going to be a little more pressure and expectations to perform," McKee admitted. "Our team can handle it. Hopefully, we'll have a good



The Colby Eagles and Goodland Cowgirls played a spirited three-set match during last weekend's Great West Athletic Conference tournament as sophomore Lara Stephens (14) sent this volleyball past two blockers. However, intensity will reach another level during Saturday's 4A substate.

crowd and some home-court advantage." Substate admission prices were

also announced on Wednesday: \$6 for adults and \$5 for students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

No season passes will be accepted at this Kansas High School Activities Association event.

Trojans earn high league honors again Colby can clinch title at home

By Debbie Schwanke
Colby Community College

The Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference has announced the selection of Colby Community College freshman Danielle Rodriguez for the third time this year as the Division I Defensive Player of the Week.

The 5'3" freshman from Greeley, Colo., is a libero/defensive specialist for the conference-leading Lady Trojans (13-1 league, 23-7 overall). She continued to succeed on the back row for Colby this week with double digit digs in each match. She averaged 4.14 digs per set during five straight wins for Colby.

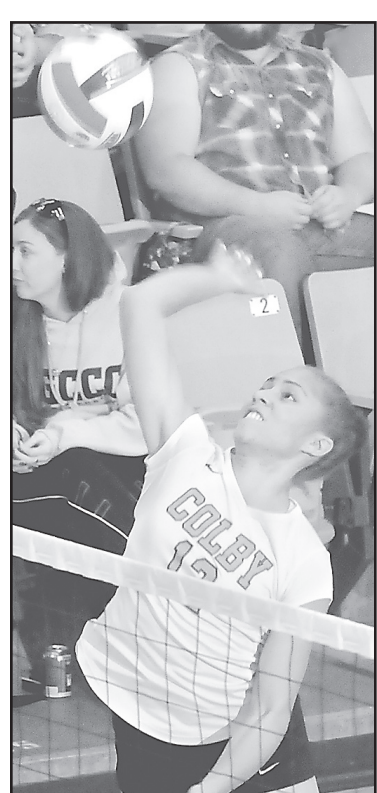
Maisy Munson, a sophomore from Anthem, Ariz., was selected for the second time this year as Division I Player of the Week.

Munson continued to run the Lady Trojans' offense this week through five straight wins, continuing to lead the Jayhawk West by half of a match. She had three more double double matches this week, notching her 10th and 11th of the year and the 21st of her career.

In Saturday's match at Air Force Prep, she had her career high of 62 assists. Munson averaged 10.81 assists per set this week through five matches and 2.05 digs per set.

The Trojans will play host to Barton Community College (7-6 record) tonight in a 6:30 p.m. at the Colby Community Building. A win would clinch Colby's Jayhawk conference championship and chance to be home for the Regional Tournament Nov. 8-9.

Watch for tonight's results in the *Free Press* on Friday.



BRAD NADING/Garden City Telegram Sophomore Lorena Rosario unleashed a team-high 11 kills for Colby Community College in a sweep of Garden City Tuesday evening.

Eagles blank Goodland, 32-0

By R.B. Headley
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Just a few remarks to kick around and fill this space reserved for today's guest sports column that did not arrive:

"Colby 32, Goodland 0" is an accurate headline as the Eagle junior varsity football team brilliantly took apart their old rivals at Goodland Monday afternoon.

Unfortunately, all the post-game excitement didn't lead to any available stats or scoring summary from this excellent victory — so a bold headline is the best I can do today.

Good job, Eagles. Hopefully some winning mojo will carry over to the varsity home game against Clay Center Friday evening.

ning.

It's cool to hear that Colby High alum Danny Mainus has signed a new contract which helps continue his Mixed Martial Arts career.

More details will appear in an upcoming *Free Press*, but I do know that Mainus will fight at Broomfield, Colo., next month and is hoping for great fan support from his hometown.

A real interesting exhibition would be Mainus taking on an Australian announcer, late-night TV show host Jimmy Fallon and anyone else who's been mispronouncing his name during recent weeks.

Not sure how Mainus could be pronounced like a body part. There's too much information through YouTube and Google if

While Goodland owns eight more wins than any other challenger, McKee doesn't believe much separates the four teams.

Goodland won a tough three-set match over Colby 25-22, 23-25, 25-15 at last weekend's Great West Athletic Conference tourney.

"That match came down to one or two plays," McKee said. "Goodland has good size and three very quality hitters, but it only takes getting a team in a bad rotation that they can't get out of."

Hugoton also topped Colby during last week's league showdown, which was the Eagles' fourth of a busy five-match Saturday. Colby finished fourth among six teams.

"It will be different this Saturday for both teams," the coach explained. "They'll be some changes in how we match up, how to set our rotations. Our big key will be just to cut down on our errors."

McKee noted that even No. 4 seed Scott City is a "fairly decent" team despite its 6-26 record.

"They've taken a lot of teams to three sets, they just haven't quite put two good ones together," he concluded. "It will be a pretty tough substate. Our girls are ready. They're looking forward to a successful day. Our seniors have provided good leadership."

'Grandpa' Favre rejects NFL

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Brett Favre says that he loved the NFL, but the game took a physical toll and he's not returning even though league sources said that the St. Louis Rams reached out to his agent.

The Rams lost Sam Bradford to season-ending knee surgery.

Favre wouldn't say which team or teams reached out to his agent Bus Cook, but the 44-year-old made it clear that he is enjoying spending time with his family including his three-year-old grand-

son. He doesn't feel physically able to compete in the NFL. In fact, when asked about concussions, he expressed fear that he has been affected.

"I don't remember my daughter playing soccer, playing youth soccer, one summer," he said. "I don't remember that. This was pretty shocking to me that I couldn't remember my daughter playing youth soccer, just one summer, I think. I remember her playing

basketball, I remember her playing volleyball, so I kind of think maybe she only played a game or two. I think she played eight. So that's a little bit scary to me. For the first time in 44 years, that put a little fear in me."

He said he has considered seeing a doctor about the issue but doesn't know how much can be done at this point. He said he tries to stay in shape these days, not to play football, but to be able to spend time with his family.

Wildcat 'buzzsaw' greets Golden Plains

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Bulldogs played the Eight-Man II No. 3-ranked Wallace County Wildcats in a district game at Sharon Springs Friday evening.

Undefeated Wallace County (7-0) played a tough game showing fans on both sides of the field why they have this high ranking on preppowerindex.com.

The Bulldogs knew this would be a challenging game from start to finish, but played for pride in their team and played the best game they could.

"We ran into a buzzsaw in Wallace County," coach Travis Smith said.

Despite their efforts, the Wildcats rolled past them for a 61-0 win by the half moving them up to a No. 2 state ranking on max-preps.com.

The visiting Bulldogs only managed 91 rushing yards and made 31 tackles defensively. Senior Shane Ryburn had 11 and junior Benny Martinez added 10 to lead the Golden Plains 'D'.

The Bulldogs have returned home for another game against the Wheatland/Grinnell Thunder-



Golden Plains quarterback Grant Spresser (8) enjoyed good pass protection from teammates Josh Barnhart (2), Cole Ziegelmeier (20) and Benny Martinez (21) on this play against Wallace County last weekend at Sharon Springs. The Wallace County Wildcats improved to 7-0.

hawks at 7 p.m. on Friday.

"As a team we have to move forward and prepare for this week," Smith concluded

"We have a great opportunity to get a win this week and need to turn our focus to that."

Wheatland-Grinnell brings an 0-7 record into the contest, while Golden Plains is 1-6.

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