

# Colby girl captures 4A Top 10 medal

Facing 4A's toughest field of more than 100 cross country runners did not bother Colby High sophomore Andrea Browne on Saturday.

Browne started fast, maintained a strong pace and achieved far more than just medaling among the top 20 at this state championship race.

Browne reached the 4A Top 10 with a final time of 16:06.51. She was just seven seconds from moving up seven more places.

"The finish was exciting because only those seven seconds separated third from 10th," Colby coach Chris Giersch said. "Andrea ran her best race of the year.

As a coach, you hope your runners peak at the right time and have their best performance at the state meet. That is just what Andrea was able to accomplish."

Browne tripped and fell during last year's 4A state race — yet still recovered to finish 33rd.

There were no stumbles on Saturday as Browne conquered a hilly Wamego Country Club course.

"Andrea was never farther back than 12th place and she ran the

hills strongly," Giersch confirmed. "During her workouts (last week), we focused on running hills, staying relaxed and having the correct arm motion. Her efforts during practices really paid off."

Browne finished eight seconds faster than her McPherson regional top three effort one week earlier. McPherson champ Hallie Helfrich of Pratt, just a freshman, placed second among all 4A runners (15:53.41).

Only state champion Cailie Logue of Girard, another freshman, gained some "breathing room" with her winning time of 15:22.2.

Browne's great work ethic will likely get her even closer to those state leaders in upcoming seasons.

"The goal I set for Andrea was under 16 minutes. She was very close to that goal. I couldn't be more proud of her accomplishments."

In the 4A team title race, DeSoto finished first (56 points) ahead of top challengers Baldwin (70) and Paola (90).

**The final 4A girls' top 10:**



Colby High sophomore Andrea Browne (1126) conquered the uphill terrain at Wamego on Saturday and took home her first 4A state cross country medal, placing 10th overall

MELISSA WERTH

Cailie Logue, Girard, 15:22.2; 2. Hallie Helfrich, Pratt, 15:53.41; 3. Katren Reinbolt, Fort Scott, 15:58.13; 4. Katie Jo Kirk, Paola,

15:59.64; 5. Sarah Jaloma, Atchison, 16:00.89; 6. Meredith Wolfe, De Soto, 16:01.65; 7. Cassie West-off, Fort Scott, 16:02.34; 8. Jocie

Howland, El Dorado, 16:04.08; 9. Christian Provence, Girard, 16:05.03; 10. Andrea Browne, Colby, 16:06.51.



Brewster High junior Layton Werth (1068) stayed a few steps ahead of most 1A state cross country qualifiers as he took sixth at Wamego Country Club on Saturday.

MICHELLE WERTH

# Brewster Bulldog rumbles to sixth place at 1A state

Lagging near the back of Saturday's 1A state pack was not where anyone would find a Brewster Bulldog on Saturday.

Not only did junior Layton Werth capture another state medal (sixth/17:55.83), but first-year runner Takoda Turner reached the top third (30th/19:34.17) in this 87-runner state race.

"Both ran very well, especially since it is a hilly course, much hillier than what we are used to," Brewster coach Shea Rothchild said about the Wamego Country Club. "Layton was running it for the third time, and it was the first time for Takoda. It was a very good race for both of them."

These Bulldogs had battled 1A's best just one week earlier, as region champion Scandia-Pike Valley also captured the 1A state title

(50 points).

Individual champ Caden Callaway recorded a time (16:54.34) about 50 seconds slower than his region victory, but it was excellent on the hilly terrain.

"The pace was fast, but it was right where we needed to be," Callaway remarked to media covering Saturday's state race. "When I looked over coming down the last hill, I knew I had it won."

Werth's time was only about three seconds behind his regional effort.

He had finished a race earlier this season in 17:25, according to Rothchild, which would have earned fourth on Saturday.

He'll certainly be pursuing those top places as a senior next fall if all goes according to plan. Meanwhile, sophomore Turner

showed he's ready to continue this strong Bulldog state running tradition.

Turner ran some junior varsity races during the season, but reached that region top 10 and qualified for state.

**The final 1A Top 10 boys' finishers at state on Saturday:**

1. Caden Callaway, Scandia-Pike Valley, 16:54.34; 2. Henry Penner, Macksville, 17:17.69; 3. Adam Koch, Frankfort, 17:24.55; 4. Derek McClure, Stafford, 17:41.82; 5. Wynter Wiebeke, Lincoln, 17:51.64; 6. Layton Werth, Brewster, 17:55.83; 7. Tracy Schmitz, Axtell, 18:00.83; 8. Christian Schuler, Jetmore, 18:17.66; 9. Kameron Blanding, Scandia-Pike Valley, 18:21.17; 10. Adrian Pishny, Valley Heights, 18:33.07.

# Trojans sweep home openers

By R.B. Headley  
Colby Free Press  
rbheadley@nwkansas.com

At 6'10" and 325 pounds, Colby Community College freshman Ramon Taylor proved he can block out Sunrise Academy players as well as the sun during Saturday's Taco Johns/Pizza Hut Classic.

First, Taylor delivered the perfect screen for teammate Terry Starks to drive around as his lay-up broke a 60-60 deadlock.

Feisty Sunrise Academy still never seemed to go away, as this prep school team of 18 and 19-year-olds played exactly how Colby coach Rusty Grafel predicted one night earlier.

"They look like a Jayhawk (conference) team," Grafel said. "They're physical. They can shoot the ball. They can do a little bit of everything."

Everything except stop Taylor when it counted most. Like the approaching "fall back" time change, this Newark, N.J., product decided it was time to turn out lights early.

Taylor powered inside for a put-back that put Colby ahead 68-62, and the Trojans finally finished off Sunrise, 72-65, Saturday evening.

"He's a big guy," sophomore leading scorer Jeremiah Ingram, who's ONLY listed at 6'7" and 215. "I have trouble with him in practice. He's going to be a force down there (near the hoop)."

Ingram was highlight-worthy with 28 points during Colby's opening 106-51 win over the Lamar (Colo.) Community College junior varsity team Friday evening.

The Trojans enjoyed advantages at almost every position during that contest.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Sophomore guard Jamal Jones (10) displayed the good defense that helped Colby Community College dominate throughout a 106-51 season-opening win over Lamar (Colo.) Community College's junior varsity team Friday night.

Starks (17 points), sophomore freshmen Joey Meyer (13) from Scott City David Tait (11) of Brooklyn, N.Y. and sophomore Gaige Deis (11) of Sioux Falls, S.D. all joined Ingram in double figures.

"We have more depth this year," Grafel said. Point guard Starks was the driving force (20 points) during Saturday's far more competitive game.

"When there's only 10 (seconds on the shot clock), I have to go and make something happen," the 5'11" Starks explained. "We were being aggressive offensively, then we got a little lazy. I'm just happy

we got the win."

"It was an ugly win. We were a little shaky and lackadaisical at times," Grafel added. "At times, we didn't look like we knew what we were doing. But we got it done."

Other leaders on Saturday for the 2-0 Trojans were freshman Kyle Summers (12 points) and Johnson (10 points, six rebounds). Summers hit four of the Trojans' seven three-pointers.

The Colby Trojan women make their season debut today (5:40 p.m.) when they take on Tabor College's JV team in the Colby Community Building.

# Titans dominate finale, 46-0

By Bonnie Holm

Closing their first winning season since 2008, the Triplains-Brewster Titans had no trouble stomping the visiting Cheylin Cougars, 46-0, Thursday night in Brewster.

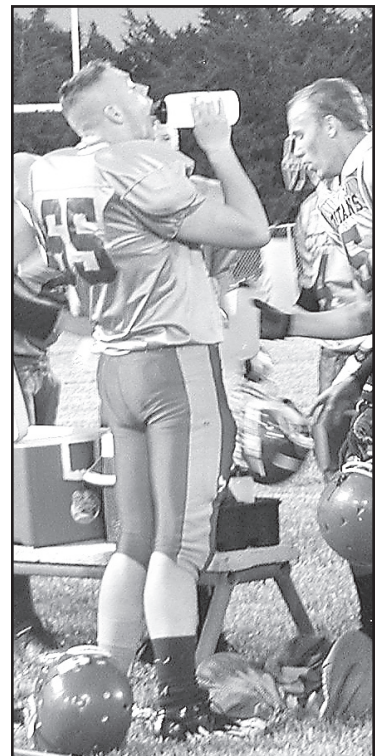
The Titans (6-3 record) intercepted passes, recovered fumbles and dominated the Cougars both on offense and defense. They easily surpassed the 21-point victory needed to still have a 1A state playoff opportunity.

However, they also needed at least a double-digit Weskan defeat and those Coyotes did not cooperate. They blanked Greeley County, 44-0, to secure that playoff spot.

The Titans won Thursday's opening coin toss and scored on a third-down play, as Jace Jorgensen sped into the endzone for the first touchdown. Nathan Jorgensen successfully converted the extra-point attempt, and the Titans led 8-0.

The Cougars didn't have the ball for long when Nathan Jorgensen tipped the ball on a pass attempt, caught it and gave the Titans great field position on the 10-yard line. Justin Culwell ran nine yards on the first play from scrimmage, and Nathan Jorgensen powered up the middle and into the end zone for the score. Ryan Gfeller converted on the extra-point attempt to increase the Titan lead to 16-0.

Senior Seth Smith ended Cheylin's next drive by intercepting a pass on the Titan 25-yard line. Early in the second quarter, the



HEATHER ALWIN/Colby Free Press  
Triplains-Brewster senior Rook Shaw (65) fueled up before one of the Titans' six varsity football wins this fall.

Titans were forced to punt for the first time, but Gfeller put a hit on the running back, causing him to cough up the ball, which was recovered by Nathan Jorgensen.

The pass combo of Gfeller to Culwell gave the Titans a first down, and Nathan Jorgensen was the quarterback's target on the next play. Jorgensen caught the ball, and tiptoed down the sideline, staying inbounds and into the end zone. The Titans now led

22-0. Taylor Stramel later scooped up a Cheylin fumbled punt to advance the Titans to the Cougar 34 yard line.

Expecting another pass, the Cougar defense wasn't ready for Nathan Jorgensen's charge, as he romped into the end zone, increasing the Titan lead 28-0. Gfeller again converted on the extra-point attempt, making the score 30-0.

Nathan Jorgensen was again headed for the end zone on the Titan's next possession, scoring his fourth touchdown.

The Titans opened the second half with the team chanting "finish it", and junior C.J. Felzien infiltrated the Cougar backfield, sacking the quarterback.

With their confidence shaken, the Cougars turned to their passing game, but Nathan Jorgensen intercepted the pass, setting the Titans up on the Cougar six-yard line. Jace Jorgensen sauntered into the endzone on the next play, and when brother Nathan Jorgensen crossed the goal line on the extra point attempt, the Titans ended the game 46-0.

Senior Nathan Jorgensen ended his high school football career in fine style, scoring four touchdowns and four two-point conversions. He also had 53 yards rushing and 43 yards receiving.

Culwell also had a great game, rushing for 14 yards and receiving for 18 yards.

On defense, senior Smith led all tacklers with 12 tackles, followed by Gfeller with nine, Schmidt with 6 and Stramel with five.