

The title belongs in our house



Triplains-Brewster High School

The 2013 Sagebrush Shootout championship went to coach Kent Gfeller's undefeated Triplains-Brewster girls after their 58-28 finals victory over Weskan on Saturday in Brewster. The Titans are now 5-0 after also defeating Logan and Stockton during this three-day, eight-team annual tournament. Team members are listed from left. Kneeling are Jessi Williams, Taylyr Cheatum, C.J. Lewallen, Brittany Plummer, Alicia Barrie, Rachel Friess and Faith Edwards. Standing are Gfeller, Maddie Lamb, April Mays, Dara Roulter, Kelly Lamb, Shayna Rogge and assistant coach Audrey Schnurr. The Titan girls and boys both play at Healy tonight.

Can Wildcats outclaw Wolverines in bowl?

After nearly four months of fierce and ugly football-picking battles, Associated Press guru Ralph Russo won *Free Press* guesser R.B. (Rounder Belly-than-ever) Headley with one remark.

"Starting Saturday, 35 bowl games will be played," he said. "You (anyone reading this) should watch of all them."

"I whole-heartedly agree," R.B. agreed. "The holidays are about love, and largely about love for eating. You've got bowls named after potatoes (Famous Idaho Potato), pizza (Little Caesar's) and wings (Buffalo Wild Wings). The key is to eat these items during each game along with at least one chocolate supplement. You'll stay healthy and happy.uhh, at least happy throughout the bowl season. Heck, there's even a Fight Hunger Bowl."

Anyhoo, Russo went on to provide insightful reasons for watching all 35 bowls. It's for too close to dinner and deadline for R.B.



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Michigan quarterback Devin Gardner scored this touchdown and was unstoppable against then-undefeated Ohio State in November. Now Kansas State faces Gardner's Wolverines on Saturday, Dec. 28 to decide the Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl champion.

providing his own ideas, but he is happy to challenge Russo on these opening bowl predictions. More will be featured in an edition between Christmas and New Year's.

Russo still owns a seven or eight-game lead over Rotten Breath.

New Mexico Bowl: Washington State (6-6 record) vs. Colorado State (7-6).

Russo: Why watch? We haven't seen (pirate wannabe) Mike Leach coach a post-season game since the 2009 Cotton Bowl. when he was at Texas Tech. **Washington State 31-24.** R.B.: I love saying Wazzu from the Paloose region which sounds like caboose on toy trains that sometimes carried candy. Plus they're playing a team from Colorado, where nobody cares about this game except a few alums. **Wazzu 38-30.**

Las Vegas Bowl: Fresno State (11-1) vs. USC (8-4). Russo: Why watch? Fresno State quarterback Derek Carr, who leads the nation in passing yards against one of the toughest defenses he'll face. **USC 35-24.** R.B.: These early bowls come down to motivation and

distractions. L.A. boys in Vegas? Take **Fresno State 31-28.**

Famous Idaho Potato: Buffalo (9-3) vs. San Diego State (7-5).

Russo: Why watch? When your favorite NFL team drafts Buffalo linebacker Khalil Mack in the first round, you'll know why. **Buffalo, 26-20.** R.B.: Boise, Idaho's blue field won't resemble blue skies of San Diego, but Aztecs will feel more at home. **Aztecs 27-24.**

New Orleans: Tulane (7-5) vs. Louisiana Lafayette (9-3). Russo: Why watch? A Montana playing quarterback in Tulane's Nick Montana, Joe's son. **Tulane 23-21.** R.B.: Joe was one of my all-time favorites while winning four Super Bowls. **Tulane 30-24.**

Other early bowl picks will be featured on Monday, but let's jump ahead to a big one:

Buffalo Wild Wings: Kansas State (7-5) vs. Michigan (7-5).

Russo: Gronk is playing! K-State's Glenn Gronkowski is younger brother of injured star New England Patriots tight end. Despite that, **Michigan 28-23.** R.B.: Wings and a Wildcat win: **K-State 33-28.**

Pull-up contest caps Eagle Invite awards

Valley Center teamed for 238 pull-ups to win the prestigious Air Force contest at last weekend's Eagle Wrestling Invitational.

All 18 teams participated, and Air Force representatives presented a champions belt to the Valley Center wrestlers.

The Air Force was a major sponsor of this 28th annual Eagle Invitational.

Valley Center earned third place on the mat behind coach Billy Gabel's champion Pine Creek,

Colo., Eagles and Chapparral. Goodland and Colby completed the top five teams.

Colby senior Andrew Taylor earned "Outstanding Wrestler" honors in the Pool 1 Upper Weights division.

Other awards presented to top performers:

Pool 1

Fastest pin, lower weights: Tyler Johnson, Chapparral (:34). Upper weights: Ryan Padilla, Chapparral (:13).

Most pins, lower weights: Ben Tyrgstad, Chapparral. Upper weights: Jay Ziegelmeier, Colby.

Outstanding wrestler, lower weights: Frank Martinez, Chapparral. Upper weights: Taylor.

Pool 2

Fastest pin, lower weights: Lance Page, Hutchinson (:13). Upper weights: Chris Cos, Pine Creek (:12).

Most pins, lower weights: Chase Frye, Pine Creek. Upper weights: Preston Weigel, Hays.

Outstanding wrestler, lower weights: Frye. Upper weights: Weigel.

Pool 3

Fastest pin, lower weights: Ryan Delforge, Valley Center (:14). Upper weights: Cesar Escamilla, Wray, Colo (:29).

Most pins, lower weights: Delforge. Upper weights: Corey Lapierre, Valley Center.

Outstanding wrestler, lower weights: Delforge. Upper weights: John Peden, Goodland.

Colby JV boys drop Goodland title game

Garden City stopped Colby's junior varsity boys, 42-23, in the Goodland Tournament champion-

ship game Thursday evening. The Eagles earned this title shot with a 42-41 win over Goodland

on Monday.

The Colby JV girls also fell short in their third-place game at

Goodland on Thursday.

Burlington, Colo., downed the Eagles by a 57-27 final.

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