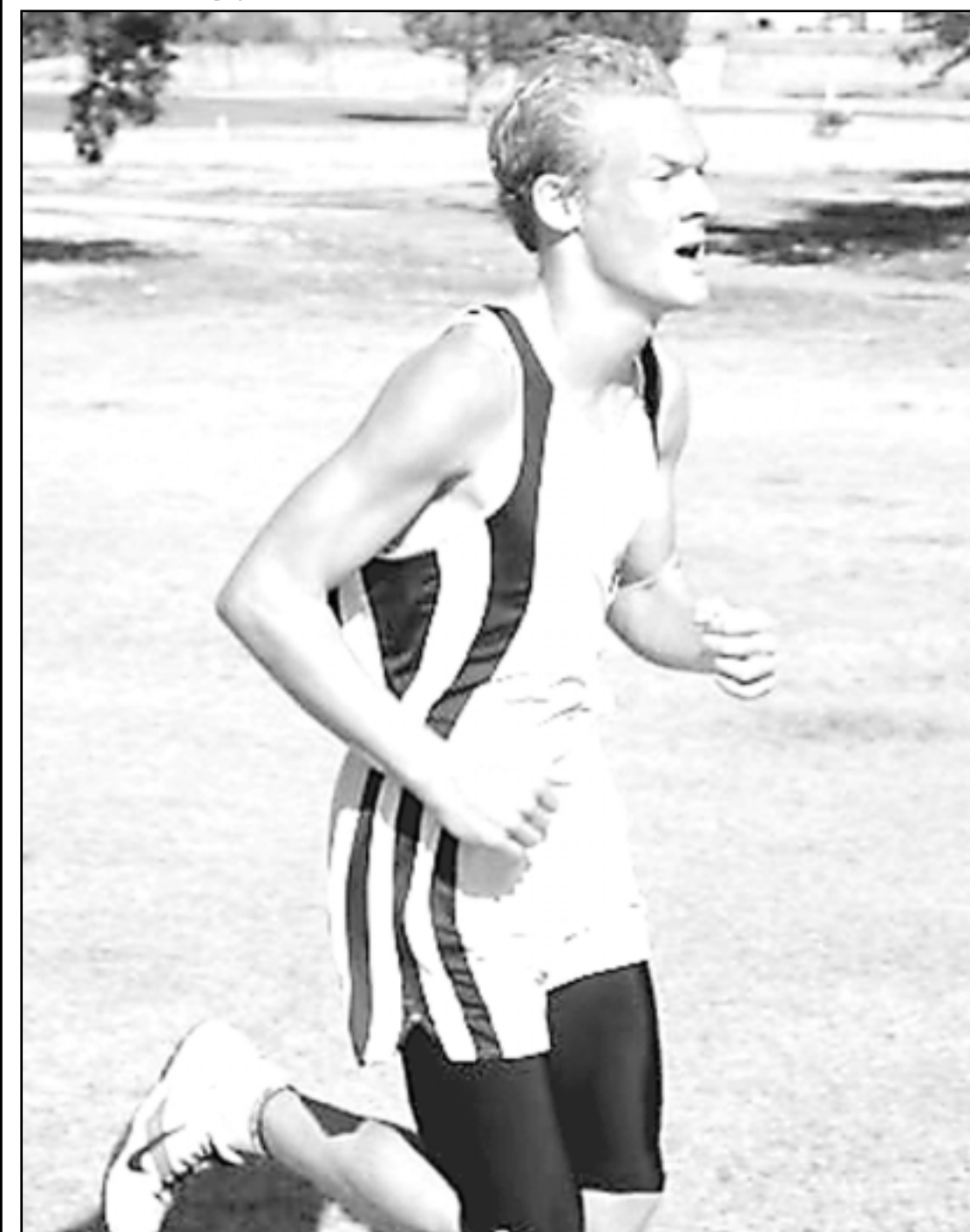


## Running for the state title



Junior Kerek Mason will compete Saturday at the state Class 4A cross country championships at the country club in Wamego. Mason finished third at last Saturday's regional meet in Buhler behind Cole Ginther of Thomas More Prep-Marian and Abilene's Tyler Fennema, who are the only two runners with better qualifying times than Mason in the field. The Class 4A boys race begins at 12:30 (Mountain Time). Colby senior Jessica Stephens has the fastest qualifying time for the Class 4A girls.

Photo by Jeff Mason/The Goodland Star-News

## Former Cowgirl ready to begin first season of basketball action at New Mexico State

Former Goodland Cowgirl Jayci Stone, now a junior at New Mexico State University, begins her first season of NCAA Division I basketball next month after two seasons playing at Colby Community College.

Stone displayed her shooting talents last Saturday as she led the Crimson Squad to a 16-15 win over the White Squad in a preseason intrasquad scrimmage. Stone made both her shots from behind to three-point arc, scoring six points during the 12-minute scrimmage. She is one of two junior college

transfers joining the team this coming season under third-year coach Darin Spence.



Jayci Stone

"I love the way she plays," said Spence after the scrimmage. "She's as hard-nosed as they come."

The other junior college transfer for the Aggies is Irma Kmitaite, from Midland College in Texas. Stone's roommate this year. Kimitaite scored four points for the White Squad during the scrimmage.

"Both Irma and Jayci are just what we needed for our team," said

Spence during an interview by the *Las Cruces Sun-News*. "Both can play different positions, and that's a nice situation for us."

Stone averaged over 14 points per game last season for the Lady Trojans. She also averaged five rebounds and three assists. Stone scored a season high 25 points against Independence Community College last November.

Jayci, the daughter of Dennis and Karen Stone of Goodland, is a 2003 graduate of Goodland High, where she lettered in volleyball and track as well as basketball. She was named to Northwest Kansas All-League team in her junior and senior seasons as a Cowgirl.

During Stone's two seasons at

## Cowgirls end season 15-18

The Goodland High School volleyball team ended its season last Saturday in the first round of the state Class 4A sub-state tournament in Ulysses losing to Pratt High 26-24, 25-10.

The Cowgirls finished the season 15-18. This is the team's first losing season in at least eight years.

The Lady Eagles of Colby won

the tournament and advanced to the state championship tournament which starts today at the Bicentennial Center in Salina. The Eagles enter the tournament as the No. 5 seed with a 28-5 record.

In today's pool play Colby will face Clearwater, seeded fourth; Girard, the top seed; and Santa Fe Trail High of Carbondale, seeded

eight.

The semi-finals, and the championship and consolation matches will be played Saturday afternoon.

Colby made it to the state tournament last year but finished 1-2 in pool play including a loss to the eventual champion Andover.

## Brewster volleyball finishes 29-9

The Brewster High volleyball team ended its season Saturday, losing to Wheatland High of Grainfield in the first round of the Class 1A substate tournament in Ransom.

The Lady Shockers won their first game against Brewster 25-22, but dropped the second 25-18. Wheatland came back to dominate the third game 25-8.

"We started Game 1 playing tentatively, got behind and had to fight our way back," said Brewster coach Lynda McKee. "We played much more aggressively in Game 2 and came away with the win. Game 3 was a nightmare — we started worrying about making mistakes, quit playing aggressively and never got

into the game."

Junior Avery Schultz led Brewster in kills with 13, followed by senior Caitlin Rush with nine. Senior Jalyn Reid led the team with 12 assists. Freshman Brit Kammer had three service aces in the match with Reid, Rush and senior Kasie Stevenson each recording one.

The Lady Bulldogs finished their season 29-9.

"We had a very good season," McKee said. "It's just unfortunate to end it not playing our best."

The Shockers went on to defeat Sylvan Grove 15-25, 25-11 and 25-15 and qualify for the state tournament, which starts today in Gross Memorial Coliseum at Fort Hays

State University.

The Lady Wildcats of Wallace County High in Sharon Springs also won both of their matches in Ransom and advanced to the state tournament. At the substate, the Wildcats beat Kensington 25-13, 25-23 and then Otis-Bison 25-23, 25-18.

Wallace County, now 33-5 and seeded No. 4, starts pool play at 8:30 (Mountain Time) this morning against Baileyville. Wheatland, 27-9, is seeded No. 7 and faces Flint-hills High of Rosalia at 8:30 a.m.

Axtell High, last year's state runner-up, is the tournament's top seed with a 32-1 record. Flinthills, the No. 2 seed, finished fourth last year.

## Lady Trojans ranked No. 13 in preseason top-30 hoops poll

People are expecting big things from the Lady Trojans of Colby Community College this season after being ranked No. 13 in the Division I preseason basketball poll by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

The Trojans have seven sophomores back, including Rito Kollo, last year's most valuable player in the Western Division of the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference. Kollo was the division's

freshman of the year as well as being a first-team all-conference pick.

Kollo was Colby's leading scorer last season, averaging over 19 points per game. She led the team in rebounding, grabbing an average of eight per game.

Other returning players are Ivana Mijalcevic, Shareka Purnell, Ivana Stojadinov, Val Jackson, Ivy Ramsey and Suzana Sormaz. Sormaz was a second-team all-conference selection last season, averaging more than 12 points per game.

Joining the returning veterans are freshmen Jacci Tinkel, Loree Siruta, Jamie Schroeder and Jacie Hoyt. Hoyt, a 2005 graduate of Hoxie High, made the All-Northwest Kansas League team as both a junior and senior.

The challenge, says Coach Tom Stephens, is to form a cohesive team by merging the talent of the incom-

ing freshmen with that of his returning players.

"You can have the best team in the world individually," he said, "and if they don't play together as a team, they will struggle... if a team comes together and pulls for each other, they can overcome every obstacle in their season."

The Trojans begin their season on Nov. 2 with a five straight road games before getting the chance to play at home as the host for the Ambassador Classic Nov. 17-19 at the Colby Community Building.

Colby went 25-7 overall last season and finished third in the division with an 11-5 record.

Barton County Community College of Great Bend was ranked No. 8 in the preseason poll. Seward County Community College of Liberal also received some votes. Both belong to the Western Division.

**The winter trapshooting season for the Goodland Gun Club begins Saturday, Nov 5**  
**For more information call J.B. Petrachich at (785) 890-3446**

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