

Getting ready for WaKeeney



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press
Luke Rogers (left), and Rusty Helin practiced their doubles skills at Fike Park Monday afternoon as the Colby High School tennis prepared for today's match in WaKeeney.

Eagles open track season at Norton Invitational

The Colby High School track teams were in Norton Friday where the boys took third place and the girls were fourth. Jessie Brenn won the girl's long jump with a distance of 15 feet, 9 and a half inches, and Ivy Ramsey took first in both the 1600 and 800 meters, running the 1600 meters in 5:37.17 and the 800 in 2:28.69. Ramsey, along with Emily Sloan, Summer Stephens, and Amanda Seeman, won the girls 4X800 with a time of 10:23.67. Erica Erickson, Breann Hart, Lauren Kaiser, and Jessie Brenn took first in the 4X400, with a time of 4:20.1. Raya Mazanec won the javelin toss with a throw of 105 feet 10 inches.

For the boys, Brent McCoy took second in both the 100 and 200 meter races, with a time of 11.28 in the 100 and 23.53 in the 200. Rusty Raymo took second in the triple jump with distance of 37 feet 9 inches Nathan Harter was second in the 3200 meters, with a

time of 11:05.65. Rusty Raymo, Jason Simmering, Brett Mariman, and Brent McCoy won the 4X100 relay, with a time of 44.86, and Raymo, Mariman, Simmering and Jordan Harris won the 4X400 with a time of 3:33.51. The team standings were:		
Boys		
Smith Center	109	
Goodland	105	
Colby	87	
Norton	72	
Scott City	66	
Phillipsburg	47	
Logan	44	
Northern Valley	14	
Elm Creek	13	
Girls		
Elm Creek	109	
Smith Center	96	
Goodland	92	
Norton	84	
Colby	82	
Phillipsburg	61	
Northern Valley	30	
Scott City	24	
Logan	7	

Drew Gooden to decide on plans 'this week'

LAWRENCE (AP) — All-American Drew Gooden is getting closer to deciding whether he'll be back for a final year at Kansas, promising an announcement "sometime this week."

Gooden and his teammates, who made the Final Four in this year's NCAA basketball tournament, were honored Monday night in the annual team banquet at the Lied Center.

Gooden, a 6-foot-10 junior, led the Big 12 in scoring (19.8 points per game) and rebounding (11.4 per game.) He finished second to Duke's Jason Williams in the balloting for the Wooden Award as the nation's top player, and would likely be among the top choices in the National Basketball Association draft should he turn pro.

"Whatever decision I make is going to be the best for me," Gooden said after the program during which he was named the team's most valuable player. "But it makes the decision tough, just wanting to be on this team and play with these guys again and win it all. It goes both ways."

This year's Kansas team went undefeated in the Big 12 and made the Final Four for the first time since 1993, finishing 33-4 after losing to Maryland in the semifinals.

In his remarks, coach Roy Williams urged Kansas fans to support Gooden in whatever path he chooses.

"I don't want anybody to say, 'Drew, you need to stay,' because that's not right," Williams said. "If you could get the kind of money he can get, you'd give up your last year at ol' KU. And don't say you wouldn't."

"I want everyone to understand that if Drew goes, he's given us a great three years," Williams said. "If Drew stays, I'm going to enjoy coaching the heck out of him."

"But there's going to be some time in the future when we hang that jersey in the rafters as a retired jersey," he said. "And for the rest of my life I'll know that there's a guy up there that I coached."

After his coach's remarks, Gooden rose from his chair and he and Williams embraced as the fans stood.

The player's father, Andrew Gooden Jr., said his son is struggling with his options because of the loyalty he feels toward his coaches, teammates and fans.

"The conflict is that Drew never dreamed he'd come to college, play for that school and fall in love — with the community, the state, the teachers, the coaches, the players," the elder Gooden said. "He's having the greatest time and doesn't want to give that up. That's half the calling card. He worried that he'd feel like he's deserting people. He's not a quitter."

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