

Girl's basketball coach resigns

By John Van Nostrand
Colby Free Press Publisher

Colby High teacher and girl's basketball coach Derek Bissitt resigned this week to take a position in Holton.

"I am going to Holton to teach and be the boy's basketball coach," Bissitt said Wednesday.

It's a homecoming for he and his wife.

"That is where I graduated from and both my wife and I are from there. We both are very excited about the move and being closer to home and family."

Bissitt led the Colby girl's to the 4A state basketball title in March.

He said he has enjoyed the successes he was a part of while at Colby.

"My seven years here have many incredible memories including our boys 4A runner-up team in 2003 and our girls state championship team this past season. I have coached nearly 200 games at Colby High School and have had the opportunity to work with many wonderful, incredible students and athletes," he said.

Holton's athletic director is former Colby teacher and wrestling coach Mitch Beims.

Colby School Board is expected to formally accept Bissitt's resignation during its June meeting.

Eagles lose in extra innings

Colby High's baseball team lost to Ulysses 4-3 in nine innings Wednesday in the regional semifinal game in Hugoton. Colby was seeded number one in the bracket. Ulysses was seeded fourth.

Statistics of the game were not

available by press time today.

Ulysses went on to lose the regional championship 13-10 to Russell. Russell was the second seed in the bracket.

Russell defeated Larned 6-2 in the other regional semifinal game.

SportsBriefs

By The Associated Press

HORSE RACING

BALTIMORE (AP) — Street Sense has already defied long odds by winning the Kentucky Derby. The colt will be a short price in Saturday's Preakness Stakes.

Street Sense was made the 7-5 favorite, and a victory would set up a Triple Crown shot in the Belmont Stakes on June 9.

A field of nine 3-year-olds was entered for the 1 3-16th mile Preakness at Pimlico Race Course. Street Sense drew the No. 8 post, one spot farther out than Derby runner-up Hard Spun, the 5-2 second choice. In the Derby, their posts were reversed.

Preakness favorites have won five of the last six times.

AUTO RACING

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Ryan Newman's pit crew kicked off NASCAR's All-Star week activities by winning the Nextel Pit Crew Challenge on Wednesday night, beating Bobby Labonte's team in the final round.

Newman's seven-member crew changed four tires, filled the car with gas and pushed it 40 yards in 24.66 seconds to collect the \$70,300 first prize.

Jackman Britt Goodrich, a former linebacker at North Carolina State, had to pump the jack a second time in the final round and was beaten to the car by Labonte's jackman Tony Martin. But Newman's crew was able to get the No. 12 car to roll quicker to win the event.

BASEBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Hank Aaron will take on an increased role with the Atlanta Braves following the team's sale from Time Warner

Inc. to Liberty Media Corp.

The deal, which Braves chairman Terry McGuirk said values the franchise at \$450 million, was unanimously approved by baseball owners at a special meeting called to beat a midnight change in tax laws. The companies were set to transfer the team later in the evening.

SOCCER

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Sevilla became only the second team to successfully defend a UEFA Cup title, beating Espanyol 3-1 in a shootout after finishing regulation and 30 minutes of extra time tied 2-2.

Goalkeeper Andres Palop stopped three penalty kicks and Frederic Kanoute, Ivica Dragutinovic and Antonio Puerta scored in the tiebreaker for Sevilla.

Walter Pandiani scored for Espanyol in the shootout at Hampden Park.

CYCLING

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) — The lawyers bickered. The translator translated. The arbitrators tried to make peace. And no one stuck to the schedule on another painstaking day in Floyd Landis' arbitration hearing.

A long argument about access to certain documents clogged up most of the afternoon. When the day was over, only three witnesses on a list of dozens had completed their testimony in the case that could decide the Tour de France champion's fate.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency plans to bring three-time Tour winner Greg LeMond to the stand Thursday — an appearance that figures to offer a much-anticipated break from the dry science and procedural bickering that has filled the first three days.



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

Colby softball pitcher Logan Wark aimed for the plate Wednesday during Colby's 1-0 semifinal win over Ulysses in Colby. Wark threw a shut out. Colby lost the regional championship 4-1 to Thomas More Prep.

Thomas More Prep wins regional

Colby softball coach Jack Elliott said Colby may have played its best game of the year against Thomas More Prep Wednesday in the regional finals, but it did not show on the scoreboard.

Thomas More Prep, seeded first in the regional, spread out four runs over the seven innings to win 4-1. Colby's lone score came in the seventh inning when Lauren Cox scored off a wild pitch.

"We may have played our best, but it wasn't enough," Elliott said. Colby was seeded second in regionals. The two teams played each other in last year's regional finals which Thomas More Prep won 4-0.

Logan Wark took the loss for Colby.

She gave up four runs, 10 hits and stuck out five.

Colby only had four hits Wednesday, led by Ashley Barnes who was 2-3 with a double. Wark, Brena Jones and Lauren Cox each went 1-3.

Colby finished the season 15-5

Semifinal

Colby's Jordan Krzycki's hit in the bottom of the seventh inning scored Kiri Kendrick as Colby beat Ulysses 1-0 in the regional semifinal game in Colby.

One run was all Colby needed as Wark allowed three hits, struck out eight and walked two.

Each team had opportunities to score later in the game.

In the sixth inning, both teams had two baserunners and two outs.

In the fifth inning, a Ulysses baserunner was tagged out at third base.

During Colby's fifth inning, the Eagles had two baserunners, with one on third, and two outs.

"We struggled offensively," Elliott said, "but found a way to win."

Colby had eight hits. Barnes was 2-3 including a double. Krzycki was 2-4 with a RBI. Wark was 2-4. Kendrick and Lauren Cox each went 1-3.

Thomas More Prep defeated Goodland 9-3 in the other regional semifinal game.

The softball team's award and potluck banquet will be held 6:30 p.m. Monday at the high school. The public is invited.

Trojans add another wrestler

Colby Community College head wrestling coach, Steve Lampe announced the signing of Colby's Danny Manius for the 2007-08 wrestling season.

Manius is a 2003 graduate of

Colby High School and will wrestle at one of the lower weight classes.

It is the third wrestler that Lampe has signed for next season. The Trojans lost just one sophomore from last year's team, Levi Younkin.

Earlier this month, Lampe signed two wrestlers for the 2007-08 wrestling season.

The two wrestlers are T.J. Hepburn from Connecticut and Delanno Palmore from Georgia.

Bowler breaks 100 - years

DECATUR, Ga. (AP) — Bill Hargrove took three small steps and dropped the ball at his feet with a loud clunk. While it rolled slowly down the lane, he held up his right arm in a camera-friendly pose.

Good form — especially for someone who's 106 and can't see what he's aiming at.

At a well-worn strip mall in suburban Atlanta, Hargrove became the oldest league bowler in U.S. history Wednesday. Leading off for "Bill's Bunch," he knocked down nine pins with his first throw and averaged 93 in the three-game match.

"I haven't really given it much thought," Hargrove said. "I just go with the punches."

But plenty of others thought the occasion was worthy of notice. The United States Bowling Congress sent a representative all the way from Wisconsin to present Hargrove with a plaque. His minister came out. So did more than a dozen friends, who took turns posing for pictures with the man of the hour.

Hargrove surpassed the record that was held by 105-year-old John Venturello of Sunrise, Fla., a certified bowler until his death in 1993. The new record holder turned 106 last week.

"Unless someone can prove us wrong," said Mark Miller, a spokesman for the USBC, "we believe he's the oldest bowler in the world."

A few months ago, one of Hargrove's good friends asked him, "What is your goal in life?"

"I know that really seems like a dumb question to be asking a 105-year-old," said Tom Smith, who bowls with Hargrove in another league closer to his north Georgia home. "But he told me, 'I want to be 106, so when I throw that first ball I'll be the oldest sanctioned bowler ever.' He really wanted to set the record. And he did it."

Hargrove lost most of his sight with the passage of time, but his love of bowling never waned. He took up the sport in 1924 and remains passionate about every throw.

"It's been a lifelong pleasure," he said. "I'll keep playing as long as I can physically handle it."

Actually, Hargrove was starting to wear down from the grind of having to play three straight games in the league format. But his teammates got him a lighter ball about six weeks ago — he now throws an 8 pounder instead of a 10 — which has improved his scores and made it easier to keep going. Special holes were drilled into the ball at an angle, making it easier for him to handle with his arthritic finger.

Hargrove works around his other limitations.

Since he can't see the pins at the far end of the lane, he relies on a teammate to tell him which ones are standing after his first throw.

Hargrove can't get much speed on the ball, so he has to rely on precision to knock down as many pins as possible. Occasionally, he dumps one in the gutter. More often, he puts the ball right where he's aiming.

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