



## Going to Salina



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press  
Colby High junior third baseman Brittany Bange (far right) and junior shortstop and catcher Caitlyn Wark (middle) talked with sophomore Madison Gawith while getting packed up to head to the Bill Burke Complex in Salina where the Lady Eagles' softball team will face Basehor-Linwood in the first round of the Class 4A state tournament.

# Golden Plains club provides aid to squads

By Judy Rogers  
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The Golden Plains Booster Club has been working on raising money to help buy uniforms for activities at Golden Plains Schools. They applied for and received a contribution from the Thomas County Community Foundation. As part of the proposal, they planned and served concessions at the Freedom League and Western Kansas Liberty League Track meets in Scott City on May 14. "The track concession stand was a huge success," President Jennifer Spresser said. "It would have been impossible to pull off without all of the volunteers; those that were willing to work throughout the day and those who provided us with baked goods. "We owe a special thanks to Tammy Shaw who organized the whole ordeal. I would also like to thank the businesses who made contributions to help us with this project. The communities' commitment to the success of our students is outstanding," she added. "We appreciate all of the support in reaching our goals to help benefit the kids."

Individuals contributing to the concession stand project include Melissa Wessel, Annette Spresser, Lisa Stoll, Brandi Wark, Stephanie Ritter, Sheri Jacobs, Dalene Babcock, Tanya Schwarz, Renee and Caitlin Spresser, Judy Rogers, Jennifer Spresser, Vicki Allison, Tammy Shaw, Julie Ziegelmeier, Sandra and Taylor Lobato, and Jennifer Moss. Pepsi-Cola Bottling in Colby donated some of the beverages sold in the concession stand. In addition to the donation from the community foundation, cash contributions have been received by Golden Plains High School Class of 2010, Patrick and Connie Brown of Starlight Painting and Steve's Body Shop. With the success of the concession stand fund raiser, the booster club was able to make a sizable contribution towards buying football pants for the middle and high school teams and additional high school volleyball jerseys. Additional needs still exist in sports, primarily for middle school basketball and football jerseys, Scholar's Bowl competition shirts and high school football jerseys. If any individual or business would like to contribute, they may do so by sending money to the booster club, c/o Golden Plains Schools, PO Box 100, Rexford, Kan. 67753.

"We really appreciate the booster club's efforts in providing support to our student's activities," school activities director Travis Smith said. "The monies provided by this fund raiser and the contributions received will enable the school to replace worn out uniforms and encourage the students to compete with pride in their team and in themselves."

With the success of the concession stand fund raiser, the

# New basketball coach won't settle for average

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New Colby High basketball coach Jerad Johnson is not satisfied with his team being just respectable this winter. "It's not about whether or not we will be competitive, it's whether or not we will make state," Johnson said. The new coach said he wants to bring prestige and a tradition of winning back to the basketball program. "When people talked about Colby, they used to talk about our basketball program," said Johnson. The coach played basketball for the high school when the Eagles were a force to be reckoned with. His team went to state his sophomore year in 1997-1998 and they won the class 4A State championship his junior season. During his high school career Johnson played with Colby High girls basketball coach Parker McKee – one year younger than Johnson – and Colby Community College men's basketball coach Dustin Pfeifer. Johnson played with Parker's older brother Spencer McKee the year the team won state. "The basketball program here is about more than just basketball to me; it's a tradition," the coach said. Johnson grew up in Colby and has lived here all his life, except for the four years – 2000-2003 – when he played defensive back for the Kansas State Wildcats football team under the guidance of legendary coach Bill Snyder. K-State won 11 games in three of Johnson's four

years at the college and they also won two bowl games. During his senior year, the Wildcats picked up arguably the biggest win in the program's history when they defeated No. 1 ranked Oklahoma 35-7 in the Big 12 Championship. Johnson said he returned to Colby after college because he always felt like he had a connection with the community. He said coaching is a way he can give back to the community. Johnson said he loves working with the kids at the high school and coaching was an opportunity to give back to the kids. Johnson is already the assistant coach of the high school football team. He will be going into his seventh year as coach this fall. When he's not coaching Johnson works as a crop consultant for Leanna Tubbs-Soehner. The coach said his practices will be run at game speed and will focus on eliminating team weaknesses. Practices will be intense, competitive and focused, Johnson said. The coach said a player's work ethic in practice can say a lot about that person. "The kid whose willing to sweat and bleed for you is a kid you can trust when the game is on the line," the Johnson said. Johnson wants the middle school and high school basketball teams to be seen as one program instead of two separate entities. He said he wants the high school players to interact with the middle school kids and he wants the middle schoolers to be comfortable with the high school players. The coach said he is still working on a schedule of activities for his players this summer. These activities include workout sessions, a basketball league and a camp.

# Bulldogs qualify for state meet

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Golden Plains High sophomore Cole Christensen and freshman Angela Ritter both qualified for the state tournament this weekend at Cessna Stadium at the Wichita State University campus. Christensen qualified by taking third in the regional tournament in high jump with 6 feet and 2 inches at the regional tournament last Friday at Hays. Christensen has placed consistently in the high jump all year and competes in the state tournament today. Ritter, who has also performed well all season, earned a trip to Wichita by snaring fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1 minute and 4.61 seconds. She will also runs in the preliminaries today. Two other Golden Plains' athletes qualified for finals and scored points for the Bulldogs. Junior Devinn Ritter finished sixth in shot put with a throw of 43' 8.5" and sophomore Kalyn Weber qualified in both the 100 meter-dash and the 200 meters with 12 and 24.58. He just missed state qualification by placing fifth in both events.

Other students competing in the regional tournament were freshman Andrew Luna, 200 meters; senior Jarrett Marker, javelin; junior Rilee Spresser, long jump, javelin, and shot put; sophomore Viri Loya, 100-meter hurdles; freshman Morgan Walz, 100 meters; senior Jenna Bruggeman, javelin; junior Avery Spresser, triple jump; junior Ryan Ptashkin, 100 meters; senior Jonathan Broeckelman, 800 meters; and senior Isaac Broeckelman, Jonathan Broeckelman's twin brother, 100-meter hurdles.

# STRIKE ZONE

## ~ League Bowling Results ~

April 6, 2010 - Pinbusters League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
Colby Bowl	206	114	1
Roommasters	195	125	2
Bargos	182	138	3
Al's Painting	179	141	4
Colby Automotive	176.5	143.5	5
Subway	168	152	6
Corona Kids	160.5	159.5	7
Cummins Central Power	132.5	187.5	8
Chartwells	129.5	170.5	9
First high Individual game: Alvin Koenig, 323			
First high Individual series: Jason Hoppe, 727			

April 12, 2010 - First Nighters League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
Pepsi	211	109	1
Kansas Quicklube	201	119	2
Woolter Well & Pump	191.5	128.5	3
McKee	175.5	144.5	4
Discount Repair of	175	145	5
Frontier Ag Inc.	166.5	153.5	6
Sparky's Firework	161	159	7
Fire Xtrikers	145	175	8
Parking Lot Maintenance	141.5	178.5	9
NW Refrigeration	138	182	10
Wild Ride	129	191	11
Grinnell Furniture	84	236	12
First high Men Individual game: Jeff Wagoner, 290			
First high Men Individual series: Johnnie Williams, 779			

April 22, 2010 - King Pin League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
www.visitcolby.com	220	100	1
Balls Deep	194	126	2
Colby Automotive	181	139	3
Morgan Construction	180	140	4
T.J. Tire	176	144	5
Thomas County Feeders	169.5	150.5	6
Drinkin Mates	147	173	7
Kurts Pro	141.5	178.5	8
5 Pony Men	124	196	9
First high Individual game: Brent Menges, 299			
First high Individual series: Brent Menges, 708			

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April 28, 2010 - Ladies Nite Out League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
Minds in the Gutter	24	8	1
Service Oil	20	12	2
Twisters	19	13	3
Straightline	19	13	4
Don's Electric	18	14	5
Bop Shop Betties	16.5	15.5	6
Strike-outs	15	17	7
Assist-Ur-Sale	14	18	8
Susie's Circus	13	19	9
Swartz Veterinary Clinic	12.5	19.5	10
Twisters II	12	20	11
First high Individual game: Jennifer Phillips, 225			
First high Individual series: Missy Lippelmann, 601			

May 7, 2010 - Ten Pin League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
Once Upon a Sign	74.5	53.5	1
Cal Williams	67.5	60.5	2
Colby Bowl	65	63	3
First high Individual game: Mandi Kreutzer, 223			
First high Individual series: Mary Hurtt, 581			

April 27, 2010 - Early Bird Ladies League			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
NW Vacuum	35	29	1
www.strike	35	29	2
Van's Merry Four	32	32	3
Bowlerettes	25	39	4
First high Individual game: Dee Hovda, 218			
First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 572			

April 11, 2010 - King and Queen non-smoking			
Team	Won	Lost	Place
Norman-Mackley	43	21	1
Benson-Schmidtbe	41	23	2
Team RB	38	26	3
Niermeier-McCarty	36	28	4
Kreutzer-Garrett	34	30	5
Prochazka-Jacobs	33	31	6
Cook-Lanning	32	32	7
Schissler-Wolf	31.5	32.5	8
Schroeder-Schroeder	29.5	34.5	9
Swartz-Barnett	29	35	10
Pancake-Kaiser	29	33	11
First high Men Individual game: Oura Garrett, 309			
First high Men individual series: Matt Schmidtberger, 772			
First high Women Individual game: Deb Norman, 224			
First high Women individual series: Amber Barton, 558			

Congratulations

Congratulations Colby High School Softball team on a great season!

Good luck at state!

Shaun & Mindy Curry Family

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