



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby High junior Madison Gawith, pictured here taking a swing during tennis practice on Tuesday, and the rest of the Lady Eagles' varsity team finished second out of four teams at a meet in Ulysses on Thursday.

Lady Eagles tennis team finishes second in Ulysses

Colby High senior Caitlyn Wark finished first in No. 1 singles action in a meet at Ulysses on Thursday.

Wark went 3-0 on the day. She hammered a girl from Ulysses 6-0 and easily defeated Scott City's Krista Kucharik 6-0. Wark also pounded Susan Nyugen of Liberal 6-1.

The Lady Eagles took second out of four teams with 19 points. Scott City placed first with 24 points.

The No. 1 doubles team of seniors Lauren Shoaff and Megan Dougherty went 3-1 and finished second. They dominated Perla Rivera and Mary Moore of Ulysses 6-1, and beat Katie Plunk and Desirae Courkamp of Liberal 6-1 but were soundly defeated by Scott City's Alyssa Scheuerman and Shannon Blair 6-2.

Junior Madison Gawith finished 1-2. She shut out Joccy Wickard of Ulysses 6-0, but lost to Scott City's Avelia Vasko 6-3 and Kathy

Nguyen of Liberal 6-4.

The No. 2 doubles team of juniors Megan Schroeder and Paige Ropchan went 1-2. They defeated Laurent Harp and Jackie Nguyen of Liberal 6-1, but lost to Ulysses' Joell Martin and Samantha Monzon 7-5 and Emily Reed and Britany Berry of Scott City 6-4.

The other two teams in the meet were Liberal and Ulysses.

The girls will play next at 9 a.m. Saturday at Lindsborg.

Heartland volleyball squad goes unbeaten in tournament

By Andy Heintz

Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

The Heartland Christian School volleyball team went 4-0 in a junior varsity tournament on Saturday at Leoti.

The Lady Crusaders swept Garden City 25-18, 25-16 in their first match. Sophomore Abigail Russ made six of eight serves in bounds in the two sets and freshman Kirsten Bandy made 11 of 12 serves. Senior Ariel Regier made 10 of 13 serves. Sophomore Alexi Regier made three of four kills and junior Jade Kruse made six of seven serves.

The girls continued to dominate in their second match, pounding Sublette 25-11, 25-14. Russ made 11 out of 12 serves and freshman Amy Myers made seven of seven kills. Senior Rachel Myers made five

of five serves.

The Lady Crusaders swept St. Francis in their third match 25-19, 25-13. Kruse made 10 of 10 bumps serves and Alexi Regier made nine of 11 kills. Bandy made 12 of 14 serves.

Heartland swept Wichita County 25-12, 25-12 in its last match. Alexi Regier made eight of nine serves and freshman Amy Myers made 10 of 12 serves.

"The girls are getting to a point where they just buckle down and do what needs to be done," coach Melissa Regier said. "We focused a lot on making sure we were getting better and for the most part I felt like they did that."

Alexi Regier made 15 of 18 kills and made 17 of 22 serves in the tourney. Rachel Myers got 12 of 14 serves in bounds and Amy Myers made 23 of 28 serves.

Royals defeat Athletics

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Wilson Betemit hit his first career grand slam and Bruce Chen picked up his 10th victory as the Royals beat the Athletics 6-3.

Betemit, who homered and drove in four runs Tuesday, worked a full count from Trevor Cahill and fouled off the next

three pitches before homering just inside the right-field pole.

Mitch Maier doubled, Jarrod Dyson had an infield single and Billy Butler walked before Betemit's 12th home run that snapped Cahill's 15-inning scoreless streak.

College volleyball squad continues to win at home

The Colby Community College volleyball team maintained its undefeated record at home by sweeping Cloud County Community College 27-25, 25-17, 25-18 on Wednesday.

The team's record at home is 6-0. The first set went back and forth with neither team able to grab momentum. Sophomore Gabriella Cardoso scored on kill to give the Lady Trojans a 14-12 lead. Later on, freshman Ashley McMullen crushed a spike, extending Colby's lead to 16-14. Then freshman Jennie Watkins got an ace, giving the Lady Trojans a 17-14 lead.

The Lady Thunderbirds cut the lead to 18-17 before sophomore Danqi Li scored on a kill. Cloud scored the next two points, tying the set. Then Li had her spike blocked, giving the Lady Thunderbirds a one point lead.

The pendulum continued to shift back and forth between the two teams. Colby finally won the set 27-25 after freshman Ana Calito scored on a kill.

Coach Carey Jones said her team got off to a slow start, but the way they came back showed a lot about the character of her team.

The Lady Trojans won the second set 25-17. Colby fell behind 8-2 in the third set, but the Lady Trojans battled back. Li scored on a kill, cutting the Lady Thunderbirds' lead to 11-8. Colby eventually tied the set at 14. Later on, Li scored on a tip shot, giving the Lady Trojans a 20-17 lead. Colby went on to win the set 25-18.

Calito got 15 kills on 25 attempts in the match.

"That's incredible," Jones said.

The coach said she expects Calito to score on about 25 percent of her kills, but she scored on 55 percent of her kills on Wednesday.

Sophomore Emily Lubbers had over 40 assists. Jones said she thought Calito and Lubbers were the difference in the match.

The Lady Trojans swept Trinidad State from Colorado 25-13, 25-18, 25-20 on Monday in a road game and they lost their match to

Otero Junior College 25-23, 25-16, 26-24 in La Junta, Colo. on Sunday.

Jones said the team was not prepared for its match against Otero. She said the match was an okay time for her team to see that they can't go into sets expecting to win.

"We have to earn everything we get," she said.

Colby's record sits at 10-5 and 2-1 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference.

The Lady Trojans will play in the Southeast Community College tournament in Nebraska on Friday and Saturday.

Colby's first match will be at 1 p.m. against Highland Community College on Friday and its second match will be at 5 p.m. against Iowa Central Community College from Fort Dodge. The team plays at 9 a.m. Saturday against Lake Land Community College from Illinois and Carl Sandburg College from Illinois at 11 a.m.

Colby College sophomore places seventh in home invite

The Colby Community College women's cross country team finished third out of four teams in a 4K race at its home invitational on Friday on campus.

The Lady Trojans ended with an overall time of 1 hour, 36 minutes and 55 seconds and a score of 82.

Fort Hays State took first with 21 points and an overall time of 1:24.45 and Garden City came in second with 38 points with a time of 1:26.22. The other team who participated in the tourney was Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell.

Sophomore Jackie Robledo finished seventh out of 24 runners whose times counted toward a team score and ninth out of the 30 runners who participated in the race with 17:07. Anyone could sign up for the race even if they were not affiliated with a team.

Coach Crystal Berndt said Robledo's time was three minutes faster than her time at last year's home invitational.

Sophomore Breana Yost finished 12th out of the 30 runners with 17:24, but her score did go into the team's overall points because she has used up all her years of eligibility, the coach said.

Freshman Mikarla Swann came in 18th overall and 13th among times that went to team scores with 18:07. Berndt said Swann was continuing to improve. She said she kept up with Robledo for the first 1/2 of the race, before falling behind. The coach said Swann should be running similar times to Robledo and freshman Erica Rappard by the end of the

season.

The coach said Rappard, her fastest runner this season, didn't run in the race due to an illness. Freshman Shauntae Miller also didn't run in the race due to an injury. Berndt said Rappard is feeling better and she has been running with the team this week.

The coach said several members of her team have been sick recently, adding that right now she only has four healthy runners.

Other Lady Trojans' runners include freshman Kelsey Locke, who finished with 19:44, freshman Alexandria Torres, 19:56; and freshman Cynthia Turley, 22 minutes.

Colby men's cross country coach James Ortiz' significant other Tenley Determan finished first overall with 14:32. Ortiz said Determan had been helping him at practice. He said she had also been working out with the team. Berndt said Determan once ran for Texas State University in San Marcos.

Jill Carlson, another Colby student not on the Lady Trojans' squad, finished second overall with 16:23. Berndt said she tried to get Carlson to run with the team, but she will be going to run for Metropolitan State College in Denver next year and they want her to have all four years of her eligibility left. Carlson will be playing for the Lady Trojans' softball team this spring.

The girls will run in the Oklahoma State Jamboree at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at Stillwater.

Kansas coach silences critics

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) - The season's only two games old and Turner Gill's Kansas Jayhawks already own the worst loss and the best win in the Big 12.

In between, Gill's boss abruptly retired under heavy fire. All that did was create even more anxiety

for a first-year head coach following a shocking 6-3 opening loss to North Dakota State.

Gill suddenly found himself under more criticism than he'd ever known before.

Believe it or not, a few fatalist fans actually wanted him fired. One game was enough for them.

But seven days later the Jayhawks turned around and beat then-No. 15 Georgia Tech 28-25. It was Kansas' first win in nine games, going back to the debacle of 2009. It was their first home win over a top-15 team in 26 years. So, what happened? How can the same team, on the same field, lose

to an FCS team picked sixth in the Missouri Valley and then knock the defending ACC champs completely out of the Top 25?

It goes back to the head coach. Gill rallied his team and silenced his critics.

He unveiled a true freshman running back, James Sims, who ran for 101 yards after not even playing against North Dakota

State.

He changed quarterbacks and redshirt freshman Jordan Webb threw three touchdown passes.

One receiver, Daymond Patterson, made a spectacular tackle-breaking run to turn a short pass into a score.

Next up is Friday night's trip to Southern Mississippi.

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