



## Bulldogs lose by 16 on the road

By Cole Christensen  
Golden Plains High School

The Bulldogs' basketball team fell to Healy 55-39 in a road game, even though the boys took an early lead.

The Eagles won the tip on Dec. 14 and moved the ball down the court fast, only to have it stolen by Rilee Spresser. The Bulldogs moved the ball back up the court and made a quick three-pointer.

Cole Christensen and Devinn Ritter both had two points, and Tate Preston added one and the Bulldogs led 8-7 at the end of the quarter.

In the second quarter, the 'Dogs got most of their points off free throws. Healy let 23-20 at the half.

In the third period, the Bulldogs couldn't get a shot to fall, allowing the Eagles to expand their lead. The same thing happened in the fourth. The Bulldogs scored 8 of their 12 points in the last couple of minutes, and Healy picked up a 55-39 win.

## Wildcats suffer loss to UNLV

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) – An angry Frank Martin refused to take questions about the loss of Kansas State's top two players right before the Wildcats played Nevada-Las Vegas on Tuesday.

But coach Lon Kruger was perfectly willing to admit that having seniors Jacob Pullen and Curtis Kelly suspended by the NCAA helped his Runnin' Rebels ring up a 63-59 victory Tuesday night over the No. 11 Wildcats.

"Obviously, catching them a little short-handed makes a world of difference, no denying that," said Kruger, a former All-Big Eight point guard and head coach for Kansas State. "Most importantly, we just mentally didn't want to approach it any differently because we knew they were going to be very physical and they're still going to be really good defensively."

Tre'Von Willis scored 16 points and Oscar Bellfield hit a key 3-pointer with 1:10 left to help UNLV seal a victory over the highest-ranked opponent it had faced in the regular season in more than three years.

"Obviously, without Pullen out there, a guy that gets the ball late in games, they've got to go some other direction. That's a big adjustment for any team," Kruger said.

The NCAA, citing receipt of impermissible benefits, told Pullen, a four-year starter and pre-season All-America point guard, to sit out three games. Kelly, the Wildcats' only other senior, also was told not to play. The team said the extent of his punishment would be decided later.

The Wildcats (9-3) had trouble adjusting to the absence of their senior leaders and top two scorers and lost their second in a row. As Martin took his seat in the interview room, his media aide announced the coach would take no questions regarding Pullen or Kelly. Then Martin let loose when asked how his players responded to their absence.

"You guys are trying to get under my skin today, aren't you?" he said. "I've been pretty respectful of the media my whole career. I don't want to hear anything else about leadership without anybody other than the guys on the basketball floor."

## Driving to the hoop



Colby High sophomore Zane Winger took a shot on a fast break during the Eagles' game against Hugoton on Friday at the Community Building.

## Eagles win two games

The Colby junior varsity girls team bounced back from its first loss of the season against Garden City on Monday by crushing rival Goodland 51-30 in a tournament game on the Cowgirls' home court.

"The ladies shot the ball very well and really got after it defensively," coach Jack Elliot said. "We jumped to an 18-0 lead and never looked back."

Senior Caitlyn Wark led the team in scoring with 14 points and freshman Haileigh Shull added 13. Freshman McKenna Ortner had 10, junior Brenna McKee, sophomore Karly Kriss and freshman Abby Friesen all had 4 and freshman Morgan Mengel chipped in 2.

The girls crushed Hugoton 58-14 on Friday at Colby High School. Fifteen out of the 18 girls on the

team scored.

"Defensively we were very solid and are starting to get the concept of the defense we want played throughout our program," Elliot said.

Shull had a team-high 9 and junior Paige Roopchan and Ortner both had 6. The other Eagles' scorers included Friesen with 5, sophomore Kenzie Curry, junior Emilea Finley, sophomore Lauren Bell, freshman Madison Rogers and Kriss all had 4, freshman Andrea Barton 3, freshmen twin sisters Morgan and Haley Mengel and sophomore Morgan Smull 2, and McKee 1.

With the wins, Colby's record now stands at 4-1. They will not play again until at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4, at Goodland.

## Bulldogs squads split games

By Judy Rogers  
Golden Plains High School  
judy@usd316.org

The Golden Plains junior varsity teams split two shortened games at Healy. The Lady Bulldogs crushed Healy 27-4 while the junior varsity boys lost 28-16. The games on Dec. 14 lasted two quarter each.

The junior varsity girls held the Lady Eagles scoreless and led

17-0 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Bulldogs continued to play strong, adding another 10 points to their total and holding Healy to 4 to win.

Kylie Jones was the team's high point scorer with 8 and Jordan Christensen added 7.

Paulita Ramirez tallied 6 points, Avery Spresser 3, Chantee Luna 2 and Leea Juenemann 1.

The junior varsity boys put in 14 during two quarters of play,

but it wasn't enough to win. Healy doubled their points with 28.

During the first quarter, the Eagles posted 12 points while the Bulldogs only put up 5. The 'Dogs added 9 more in the second quarter, but the Eagles put in 16 and won 28-14.

Golden Plains' Andrew Luna had a team-high 7, Haydyn Best, Trey Schwarz and Zach Spresser all had 2 and Grant Spresser chipped in 1.

## Four wrestlers take first place

Four Colby High junior varsity wrestlers took first in their weight classes at a tournament in Oberlin on Saturday, while the Eagles finished second out of seven teams with 117 points.

Garden City took first with 139.5 points and Phillipsburg came in third with 75.

Senior Nathan Quagliano and sophomores Troy Quenzer, Beau Brown and Dustin Burleigh all took first in their weights.

Quagliano won both his matches at 275, Quenzer was 2-0 at 171; Burleigh, 2-0 at 215, and Brown, 3-0 at 160. Quagliano and Burleigh pinned all their opponents, including Quagliano pinning senior teammate Cameron Crocker in the finals.

Brown got two pins, including one over junior teammate Marcus Colson in the finals. He also won a 7-5 decision. Quenzer pinned one opponent and won a 9-4 decision over freshman teammate Dylan McLemore.

Colson won his first match 7-5 and pinned his next opponent

before losing to Brown. Crocker won by a pin before being pinned by Quagliano. Freshman Brandon Gaede took second at 135 and sophomore John Faber finished third at 125. Gaede won 10-9 but got pinned in the finals and Faber won a 3-0 decision and lost 5-3.

McLemore came in third at 171. He won his first match by fall, lost 9-4 to Quenzer in his second and got a pin in his third. Freshman Garrett Craft went 2-2 and finished fourth at 140. He won an 8-1 decision and one match by pinfall.

Sophomore Brad Schroeder took fourth at 152. He won his first match 8-6 and lost a 15-3 major decision in his second. Schroeder pinned his next opponent, but he got pinned in his final match. Freshman Ashley Coleman went 0-2 at 145.

The Eagles varsity and junior varsity wrestling teams will not compete again until January. Colby faces Goodland in a dual at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6, at the high school gymnasium.

## Rookie quarterback gets mixed reviews

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) – Tim Tebow either demonstrated he wasn't ready for the NFL or provided glimpses of greatness in his first NFL start.

It's all in the eye of the beholder: Denver's rookie quarterback was either Tim Terrific or Tim Terrible in his debut last weekend in Oakland. The truth is probably smack dab in the middle.

The Tebow haters found plenty of flaws in his game: his measly total of eight completions in a paltry 16 pass attempts and a pitiful 2-for-7 performance out of the shotgun, in manageable down and distances no less. They point to his 2-for-12 third-down conversion rate.

Tebow fans loved his 40-yard touchdown jaunt – the longest by an NFL quarterback in his first career start – and learning that he was supposed to hand the ball off to Correll Buckhalter on the third-and-24 play only added to the amazement.

And they adored his 33-yard touchdown pass that went through a defensive back's hands before settling into Brandon Lloyd's hands as he tumbled out of the end zone.

Another of his passes was dropped by running back Lance Ball in the end zone, although Tebow was a tad late delivering the ball.

Tebow is probably more realistic than either faction, saying there was some good and some bad in his debut.

"I think I did OK," he said after

throwing for 138 yards and running eight times for 78 yards in Denver's 39-23 loss to the Raiders. "We did some things well, some things I have to get better at. We didn't have any turnovers offensively so that always gives you a better chance.

"We just have to execute a little better on third down. Honestly, I have to go back and look at the film to know everything. But just be crisper, quicker and better with my reads."

Tebow's 100.5 passer rating was the highest in team history for a pro debut and the highest among the NFL's seven rookie quarterbacks who have debuted this season.

The Raiders were impressed by the former Florida star who was stunningly selected in the first round of the draft by former Broncos coach Josh McDaniels.

"People said he couldn't be an NFL quarterback but he made some good throws, he had some good runs," linebacker Quentin Groves said.

But the big question about Tebow is can he run like he did in college and survive in the pros? He'll have to become more of a pocket passer, and to do that, he'll have to refine his footwork and his throwing mechanics.

"I thought he played well," Raiders cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha said. "He ran the ball well like we knew he would."

Defensive tackle Tommy Kelly said Tebow made the most of the conservative calls.

The government wears many hats. We put them all in one place.

Looking for one place to get fast answers to your questions about government benefits and services? USA.gov is your official source for all federal, state and local government information. Now that's something you can hang your hat on.

USA.gov  
1 (800) FED-INFO

**MOVIE PASSES**  
Watch for your name in the Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.

(Passes must be used within 7 days.)

Pick up your passes at your:

Colby Free Press

**Fluorescent NO HUNTING SIGNS**

50¢ or 3 for \$1

Colby Free Press  
155 W. Fifth, Colby KS • 785.462.3963