

Playing at home



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Haley Wallingford swung at the ball in a singles match Sept. 25 during the Colby High varsity tennis team's home tournament at Fike Park. Along with Colby, teams from Norton, Phillipsburg, Russell, Scott City and Tribune competed in the tourney.

Trojan runners take seventh in Oklahoma

Members of the Colby Community College men's cross country team competed Saturday at the Oklahoma State Jamboree in Stillwater, Okla.

The men finished seventh as a team, competing against 22 colleges and universities. Jonathan Burgess, Brisbane, Australia, and Juan Pacheco, Torreon, Mexico, led the Trojans, finishing third and sixth, respectively.

"We competed against nationally-ranked Iowa Central (second), and Allen County Community College (third)," said Coach James Ortiz. "This race was a good measure of where we stand."

Colby was ranked fourth in the National Junior College Athletic Association's national rankings last week, but updated rankings released Wednesday put the Trojans in eighth.

"That's what happens when you slip up at a competition," Ortiz said. "We had a great opportunity to prove ourselves at the Oklahoma State Jamboree and didn't

show up."

However, Ortiz said he's not worried about the drop in the rankings.

"I've said it all season, I'm not worried," he said. "I have faith in my guys and we will be where we need to be at season end."

He said the team still has work to do to get ready for next month.

"We had some good individual performances, but as a team, we still have work to do. We weren't worried about losing on Saturday because our focus is still November at regionals and nationals," said Ortiz.

The next competition for the Trojans is Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Dave Burgess Invitational in Overland Park.

The women's cross country team also competed Saturday at the Oklahoma State Jamboree in Stillwater.

The women finished 22nd overall as a team, competing against 26 colleges and universities.

Melissa Collins, Guyana, led

the Lady Trojans, finishing in 58th place. Denet Sang, Kenya, finished 111th; Emily Chestnut, Clay Center, 136th; Heather Schneider, Herndon, 170th; Sierra Besmer, Loomis, Neb., 171st; Stephanie Hornbaker, Holcomb, 187th; and Amanda Duvail, Spurger, Texas, 206th.

"It was a very tough course — probably one of the toughest we will run this year by far," said Coach Crystal Berndt. "I think most of the ladies were rather intimidated when we checked out the course the day before we ran. They had to start on an incline and had seven hard hills throughout the course."

"I was hoping for a better finish. However, I just didn't see the necessary communication throughout the race that I usually see from these ladies."

The Lady Trojans will compete at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Fort Hays State University Tiger Open Meet in Victoria.

Volleyball squad on nine-game win streak

By Hailee Spresser

Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains High School Lady Bulldog volleyball team had their second matches at home on Sept. 25 against Healy, Weskan and Heartland Christian.

Coming into these matches, the ladies' record was 13-5.

Golden Plains started off the evening playing the Healy Lady Eagles. Macayla Easton hit the match off, serving seven in a row. The Lady Bulldogs kept it going all through the match, and destroyed Healy 25-6. In the second match, Golden Plains kept up the enthusiasm to annihilate the Lady Eagles 25-6.

The Lady Bulldogs sat out a game, and then took on the Weskan Lady Coyotes. This was the first time Golden Plains had seen them all season. Once again, Easton started the game off going on an 8-0 run with kills by Hailee Spresser and Kylie Jones in between. Angela Ritter served seven in a row with the help

of kills by Jordan Christensen and Leea Juenemann. The match was hard-fought by both teams, but Golden Plains came out on top, 25-21. The Lady Bulldogs shut down Weskan in the second match, winning 25-17.

Golden Plains sat out one more game to play the last game of the night against the Heartland Christian Lady Crusaders. Although these two teams have faced each other many times, this was the final time Golden Plains would play Heartland this season.

The first match was very closely contested, but Heartland just barely slipped by the Lady Bulldogs, 26-24. In the second match, there was a lot of hot competition, this time going in the Lady Bulldogs favor, 29-27.

Golden Plains knew they had to win this game to end their record with Heartland 3-3. The Lady Bulldogs took control of the match, and shut down Heartland 25-14.

The Lady Bulldogs' record stands at 16-5. They looked forward to traveling to Winona Tuesday.

Junior varsity loses in Quinter

By Brianna Stoll

Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs junior volleyball team played two matches at Quinter. This was the first time the girls had played either Quinter or Cheylin.

Coming into the game on Sept. 18 after previously winning against Brewster-Triplains, the Lady Bulldogs started off the matches by beating Cheylin 25-17. During the second match, Cheylin came back and won in a close game, beating the Bulldogs by

two points, 26-24. The third match ended with Cheylin taking the victory with the final score 15-10.

The last match for the girls was against Quinter. Quinter fought hard against the Bulldogs and came out on top during the first set, winning 25-15. The Bulldogs fought their way back and ended the second match with a victory of 27-25. The Bulldogs worked very hard, but couldn't quite get the win over Quinter.

"I think we played good, but we still have a lot to work on," Maddy Walz said about the team's performance.

Struggling Chiefs' injury woes pile up

By Dave Skretta

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Romeo Crennel shuffled into the small interview room, settled into a chair behind a table holding a couple of microphones, and launched into what's become his usual routine. "All right," Crennel said, "I'm going to start with our injuries."

And with that, Crennel started the roll call.

Peyton Hillis was out with an ankle injury. Glenn Dorsey a calf injury. Jon Baldwin, Jalil Brown and Devon Wylie with hamstring troubles. Derrick Johnson a sore groin, Ropati Pitoitua an elbow injury, Kendrick Lewis an ailing shoulder and Ryan Lilja a bad back.

Just what the Chiefs (1-3) don't need heading into Sunday's game against Baltimore.

The only problem is that it's hard to prepare when there are eight guys missing from practice, and a couple more who are limited. It reached the point this week that Crennel had to ponder throwing practice squad defensive end Jerome Long in with the starters

for lack of able bodies.

The most loathed three letters in Kansas City these days? DNP, as in, did not participate.

By comparison, the Ravens (3-1) had just two players on this week's injury report.

It's hard to decide which of the Chiefs' injuries are the most debilitating, which players the most difficult to replace.

Six players on the report are starters, most of the rest of them key contributors, including Pitoitua, who started last Sunday's game in Dorsey's place.

Hillis hurt his ankle two weeks ago against New Orleans and hasn't practiced since, putting more of the load in the ground game on Jamaal Charles and Shaun Draughn.

Dorsey injured his left calf before last week's game against San Diego, the game in which Pitoitua got hurt. Johnson has been dealing with a number of bumps and bruises this season, but the Pro Bowl linebacker's latest appears to be the most severe.

Baldwin hurt his hamstring in practice this week, and Crennel said it would be taped and he

would give it a go in Thursday's workout. Baldwin has 10 catches for 148 yards this season.

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