

# Cross country team sixth at nationals

The Colby Community College men's cross country team finished sixth at the Half Marathon Nationals held Saturday in Levelland, Texas.

"Two years ago we finished eighth," said Coach James Ortiz. "Last season, we did not compete. As a team we are disappointed. We should have placed better. We are a low-mileage program, so half marathon is always a challenge for us, but we don't use it as an excuse. We still have high expectations and know we need to do our best representing the college."

Individual results:

- Peter Koskey, Kenya, 12th with a time of 1:12:39.
- Nico Barrera, Carlsbad, N.M., 15th, 1:13:16.
- Damarius Lowery, Houston, 41st, 1:17:24.

The women's half marathon team finished ninth in

the nation Saturday and second in the region. Seventeen teams were represented at the competition.

"This was our second-best finish ever at the Half Marathon Championship," said Coach Crystal Berndt. "If you've ever run a half marathon, trust me, it is not easy, and all of these ladies volunteered to run in this race. They ran very well considering they had just competed in the NJCAA Cross Country meet last weekend."

Denet Sang was the top Colby finisher, placing 13th with a time of 1 hour, 32 minutes and 47.30 seconds. Heather Schneider finished 42nd with 1:40:57.90; Sierra Besmer, 47th with 1:42:14.10; Emily Chestnut, 50th with 1:43:42.30; Stephanie Hornbaker, 55th with 1:50:24; and Amanda Duvail, 58th with 1:51:06.15.

# Colby equestrian qualifies for regionals

The Colby Community College equestrian team rode in two shows in Wyoming.

The Western Show Team competed Nov. 10 in a competition at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne. On Nov. 11, Colby competed in a Hunt Seat Show at the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

Amanda Barnum, Colby, qualified for regionals on Nov. 11 in Advanced Walk Trot Canter.

Individual results:

**Western Show**

**Open Reining:** Heather Darling, Abilene, second; William Wright, Louisburg, fourth; Jade Kruse, Oakley, fifth.

**Open Horsemanship:** Kruse,

fourth; Wright, seventh.

**Novice Horsemanship:** Britany Normand, Fort Scott, first; Elizabeth Leiker, WaKeeney, third; Heather Thompson, Solomon, seventh.

**Advanced Horsemanship:** Chelsea Brady, Parker, Colo., fourth.

**Intermediate II Horsemanship:** Kassie Spalding, Rock Port, Mo., sixth; Amanda Reed, Brookville, sixth; Allison Grimmett, Olathe, sixth.

**Beginner Horsemanship:** Lori Beth James, McPherson, first; Ariel Severson, Colby, fourth; Tarrah Stuart, Gove, fifth; Emily Nuss, Newton, fifth.

**Intermediate I Horsemanship:**

Desirae Melgoza, Gove, sixth.

**Hunt Seat Show Intermediate Jump:** Normand, second; Brady, seventh.

**Novice Jump:** Darling, fifth; Kruse, fifth; Wright, seventh.

**Open Flat:** Brady, first.

**Novice Flat:** Kruse, fifth; Wright, fifth.

**Advanced Walk Trot Canter:** Barnum, second; Sara Schurz, Phillipsburg, second.

**Walk, Trot:** Nuss, fifth; Marci Scriptor, Chapman, fifth.

**Beginner Walk Trot Canter:** Reed, first; Grimmett, second.

**Intermediate Flat:** Darling, second; Normand, fourth.

# Middle school girls play hard

By Hailee Spresser

Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Middle School Lady Bulldog basketball teams traveled to Brewster for the annual preseason tournament, with the A-team splitting a pair of games and the B-team sweeping theirs.

The A and B teams both played two games each in the tournament Nov. 9 and 10 to kick off their season.

The A-team girls started off playing the Triplains-Brewster Lady Titans. The Lady Bulldogs outscored the Lady Titans in the first half 11-4 with baskets by Courtney Heinrich, Gabrielle Schiltz, Jessica Koerperich and Brittany Fringer. Golden Plains held the Lady Titans to only 3 points in the third quarter, scoring 8 for themselves. The Lady Bulldogs only scored 3 points in the fourth quarter, but still triumphed over the Lady Titans 22-15.

Schiltz led the Lady Bulldogs in scoring with 12, followed by Koerperich with 5, Heinrich and Kellee Snyder 2 each and Fringer 1.

The next opponent was the Grinnell-Wheatland Thunderhawks. In the first quarter, the Lady Bulldogs fought hard and ended it a tie at 6. Golden Plains scored 6 in the second quarter, leaving the Lady Bulldogs down by one at halftime, 13-12.

Golden Plains came out slow after the second half, only chipping in 3 points in the third quarter, but in the fourth quarter the Lady Bulldogs scored 8. Golden Plains fell short of the win to the Lady Thunderhawks, losing 26-23.

Contributing points were Schiltz 11, Koerperich 4, Camacho 3, Morgan Ritter and Carmen Sepulveda 2

each and Heinrich a free throw.

"We played very well against both teams and played as a team the whole time," Schiltz said. "We need to improve on talking on the floor and being more aggressive as a whole."

The B-team girls faced Triplains-Brewster first. In the first half, Golden Plains scored a whopping 30 points with baskets by KayCee Miller, Sierra Finlay, Noel Ritter, Kaylie Schaben, Maggi Nieman and Jennifer Esparza. The Lady Bulldogs held the Lady Titans to only 2 points.

Golden Plains finished off the Lady Titans in the second half, getting their first win of the season by a large margin, 44-5. Miller led the scoring with 17, Finlay had 14, Ritter 6, Esparza 3 and Nieman and Schaben 2 each.

The B-team's last game was against the Northern Valley Lady Huskies. Still running off the energy of the game the day before, the Lady Bulldogs came out and outscored the Lady Huskies 12-4 in the first half. They put in 10 points in the second half to win the game 22-9.

Contributing to the team's success were Nieman with 8 points, Finlay 4 and Paris Bailey, Miller, Beth Luna, Esparza and Ritter 2 points each.

"I was scared, excited and nervous all at the same time to play my first basketball games in middle school," said sixth-grader Miller, "but the games were even more fun than I had anticipated. The attributes that led to our B-team wins were teamwork, hustle from everyone on the court, fast-break layups, good rebounds and awesome defense."

The Lady Bulldogs were to play Logan on Nov. 15 on the road.

## Free throw fund raiser



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Senior Lauren Bell shot a free throw Saturday for the Colby High girls basketball team's Free-Throw-a-Thon fund raiser in the high school gym. This was the third year for the event, sponsored by the Booster Club. Each sponsor pledged a certain amount, such as 25 cents, per free throw made and the players took 30 shots each.

# No. 7 K-State tries to recover

By Dave Skretta

AP Sports Writer

MANHATTAN — It's hard for anybody to drop into Manhattan.

The home of seventh-ranked Kansas State is tucked in a quiet valley out in the Flint Hills, surrounded by tallgrass prairie. There're a few flights into the airport, but not many. Most of the people who live in this college town are affiliated with the university in some way.

All of which makes it the perfect place to convalesce after a monumental disappointment.

The Wildcats were barreling toward the national championship game when they headed to Baylor last week. Quarterback in Collin Klein who was leading the race for the Heisman Trophy.

It all came undone in 60 short minutes.

The Bears found a way to force the steady Klein into throwing three interceptions, more than he'd thrown all season. They shut down his running ability, along with backfield mate John Hubert, and then ripped apart a defense that had been among the best in the Big 12.

By the time the carnage had ended, the Bears were celebrating a 52-24 victory every bit as lopsided as the score, and the Wildcats were heading home to lick

their wounds.

And with a week off before playing No. 18 Texas, there's a lot of time for licking.

"It's a double-edged sword," Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said. "The time is needed from a rest standpoint for our players. Maybe it would have been better to have it a little sooner than this, but that is hindsight. The other side of the coin is you have to let this fester for that period of time. That can be good or bad. It depends on how they respond to it."

Truth be told, the Wildcats still have plenty to play for.

They can ensure only their second Big 12 championship by beating the Longhorns in the finale Dec. 1, and also punch their ticket to a BCS bowl game, even if it's not the title game.

Even that's not entirely out of the picture.

The Wildcats (10-1, 7-1) will be big fans of USC, Florida State and Oregon State on Saturday. The Trojans need to beat No. 1 Notre Dame, the Seminoles have to top sixth-ranked Florida and the Beavers have to deal No. 5 Oregon its second straight defeat for Kansas State to have any chance of slipping back into the top two spots in the BCS standings.

That's a lot to ask, of course. The Wildcats know it.

But they also know that far stranger things have happened — like going to Waco, Texas, and getting pasted by a Baylor team whose only previous Big 12 win came against lowly Kansas.

"It was something that we knew we were going to have to face," Kansas State linebacker Arthur Brown said. "The day after the loss was probably the worst, but we have to accept it."

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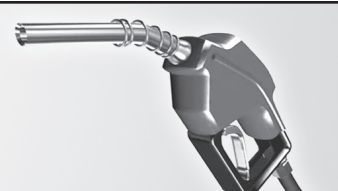
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