

## First turkeys



GABE STANLEY

Carter Stanley, 12, (left) and his sister Kennedy, 10, knelt next to their turkeys over opening weekend near Jennings. The hunters bagged two birds each, while Jack Denny, 4, (standing) the son of JJ and Lori Denny watched the other two kids; it was his first turkey hunt.

## Fifth fishing derby planned by college

The fifth annual Free Kids Fishing Derby sponsored by Colby Community College and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks will be from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 18, at Villa High Pond.

There is no charge to participate. However, an enrollment form must be completed to participate. Forms are available by contacting Barry Kaaz or Kathy Britton at the college. Children under 7 years old must be accompanied by an adult. The age limit

is 17 years old.

Officials from Wildlife and Parks will be helping and providing information on fishing topics. The pond will be stocked with channel catfish purchased by Pheasants Forever.

Other prizes and donations are being provided by Colby Ag Center, Hi-Plains Co-Op, The Bank, Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales, and Mike and Cindy Shubert.

For information, contact Kaaz at 460-5429 or Britton at 460-5550.

## Nuggets' Karl named NBA coach of the year

By Arnie Stapleton

AP Sports Writer

DENVER — Selfless and starless. These were the staples of the exhilarating Denver Nuggets' NBA franchise-record 57-win regular season.

George Karl kept with that theme Wednesday, sharing the credit far and wide after being named the league's Coach of the Year for the first time in his quarter-century as an NBA head coach.

Karl thanked everyone from his middle school coach who got him into the game to his good friend, the late Rick Majerus, in an emotional news conference at the Pepsi Center.

He credited Nuggets players, assistant coaches, scouts, trainers, front office, ownership and support staff as he eyed the bronze Red Auerbach Trophy in front of him.

"What I hope is everybody understands this is not about me. It's

about a lot of people and a lot of people in my past and I am proud to have that trophy," Karl said.

The trophy depicts the architect of the great Boston Celtics teams back in the fledgling days of the NBA, Auerbach sitting at one end of the bench with his trademark cigar in his right hand, a rolled up program in his left.

There's a life-sized statue of it in Boston and Karl said he sat there once, imagining this very day.

"When I was told of the award about a week ago, it was a very humbling, emotional experience, because it made me think about my career," Karl said. "... A lot of times I wanted to win it and never did win it and now I've gotten caloused to winning it. And now I win it because this was probably in my career the most 'oneness' of an organization, a basketball team, a coaching staff, a support staff, administrative staff.

"I get the award in my name but

# Trojan track team get second, wins honors at regional meet

The Colby Trojans Track and Field Team competed May 3 and 4 at the Region VI Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Great Bend. The men earned Region VI runner-up honors after finishing second in the final team standings with 109 points.

Colby sophomore Juan Pacheco, Torreon, Mexico, was named Region VI Men's Athlete of the Meet after winning both the 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs.

The second-place finish is the best finish in the school's Division I history. The previous best finish was last year when the Trojans finished fifth.

Hutchinson Community College won the meet with 138 points. Barton Community College finished third behind the Trojans with 101 points, followed by Allen Community College with 95 points and Coffeyville with 93.5 points.

"Our guys showed up and we beat Coffeyville, the Indoor Region VI Champions," said Coach James Ortiz. "We had a really good weekend, but Hutchinson had a great one.

"Juan and Peter Koskey had a big weekend, maybe the biggest.

Peter finished second to Juan in the Athlete of the Meet voting." Colby finished the meet with a total of six region champions and two school records.

### Region Champions and School Records

Juan Pacheco: 10,000 meter run, 31:27.04

Gennard Paul: Long Jump, 7.37 meters (24-02.25)

Region Champions

Juan Pacheco: 5,000 meter run, 15:44.97

Peter Koskey: 3,000 meter steeplechase, 10:03.47

Johnathon Stiles: 400 meter

hurdles, 54.87

Ashley Riley, Robert Monticone, Josh Quiroga and Gabriel Johnson: 4x800 meter relay, 7:49.55.

"We have two weeks to tune up and stay healthy," said Ortiz. "The guys are ready for nationals."

The next competition for the Trojans is the National Junior College Athletic Association Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Hutchinson May 16 through 18. Last year, the Trojans finished with a school-best 10th place in the final standings.

## College signs new wrestlers

The wrestling team for Colby Community College signed three local wrestlers in about a week.

Colby High School senior Quade Woofter signed a letter of intent to wrestle at Colby on Tuesday afternoon. Kane Washington and Calvin Ochs, cousins who are both seniors at Hoxie, signed last week.

"We're excited, not only to sign a local kid, but also a kid of Quade's potential, but plenty room to grow," said wrestling coach Dave Nordhues.

Woofter said he was kept out of part of his wrestling season

with a neck and arm injury, before taking sixth place at the state wrestling competition and third at regionals.

"I was pretty much always thinking about it, and when he (Nordhues) talked to me," he said, and his decision became final.

Ochs said that he and his cousin had both thought about coming to practice here for awhile, and said he got to know Nordhues really well when he came here.



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Friends, family and other wrestlers welcomed high school wrestler Quade Woofter while he signed a letter of intent (above, right) to wrestle at Colby Community College Tuesday, while his mother Jennifer and father Mike sat with him and high school wrestling coach Matt Simms, (standing at left) and college coach David Nordhues (right) looked on. Last week, Kane Washington (below, left), signed with his mother, Pam, and Calvin Ochs, Kane's cousin and fellow Hoxie student, took a seat at the chair with his little brother Carson and father Gus (above)

it is totally because of the 'oneness' that we brought to the table this season."

Karl worked wonders with a lineup that lacked an All-Star, was beset by injuries to several starters and twisted its way through a brutal early-season schedule in which 22 of the team's first 32 games were on the road.

Relying on an old-school up-tempo offense and a deep bench that wore out opponents, especially at altitude, the Nuggets led the league in scoring, fast break production and points in the paint with nary a dominant scorer — Ty Lawson led Denver with 16.7 points a game, which ranked 31st in the league.

They went an NBA-best 38-3 at home, winning their last 23 games at the Pepsi Center in the regular

season and going 24-4 overall after the All-Star break.

The third-seeded Nuggets sorely missed forward Danilo Gallinari (knee) in the playoffs, however, and they lost in six games to Stephen Curry and the sixth-seeded Golden State Warriors.

That was their fourth straight first-round exit and the most disheartening in Karl's 81/2 seasons

in Denver.

"It was an incredible season. That's why the disappointment is so immense," Karl said. "I wake up every morning depressed. I woke up about 6 o'clock, I was hoping for sunshine and I got rain and it didn't make me feel very good, and then I said, 'Oh, God, I've got to put a suit and tie on. ... 'Hopefully, come next Oct. 1

... we'll move on knowing that we have a great young basketball team that is growing, that got better this season, that improved at such a fast rate that we got maybe too cocky and too ahead of ourselves," Karl said. "And the coaches fall into that category, too. None of us are happy with the result, but I think we're also motivated by the challenge."

## Hagan Scholarship Recipient

Ms. Tomi Miller, a student at Colby High School, was awarded a Hagan Scholarship to attend Kansas University. The Hagan Scholarships



vary up to \$5,000 per semester and are renewable for up to seven additional consecutive semesters if the renewal criteria are met. The purpose of the Hagan Scholarship is to provide each scholarship recipient with the opportunity to obtain a four-year college education and graduate debt free.

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