

Trojans triumph at Liberal

The hitters just keep on coming for coach Carey Jones and the Colby Community College volleyball team this season.

Because when the Trojans ran into real trouble at Seward Community College Wednesday night, along came sophomore Andjela Reljic from Vrbas, Serbia.

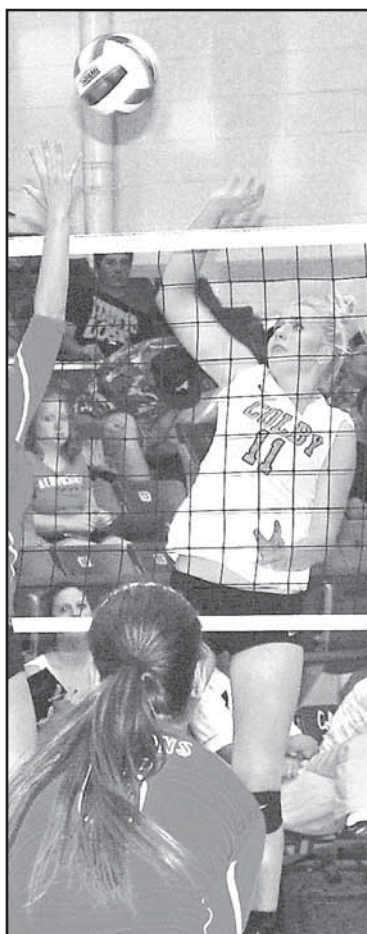
Boom! Boom! And boom again! A trio of Reljic kills included Colby's match-winning point that finished the 23-25, 25-11, 25-11, 23-25, 15-13 comeback win over another Jayhawk League foe.

"We were down by four in the fifth set, and you don't often see the score change that much when a team gets to eight points in that last set," Jones said. "But there's just something about these girls. We've got good depth in so many positions, and tonight we saw the Andjela we've been waiting for. She's definitely coming back."

Reljic returned from injuries to help Colby claim its third consecutive league win. Freshman Adriana Sosnowska also drilled a team-leading 22 kills for the Trojans (7-3 overall).

Jones praised many other aspects of Colby's game, from sophomore Maisy Munson's always steady play to freshman Taylor Alderson playing some great defense at libero.

"Our middles (blockers) also did a great job. It was a total team effort again," Jones concluded. "It



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
Colby Community College freshman Adrianna Sosnowska followed up a strong performance against Hutchinson Community College last week with 22 team-high kills Wednesday evening.

was our first three-hour trip of the season, and we learned a lot about how to pull through."

The Trojans are already traveling again as they compete in this weekend's Snow College Tournament at Ephraim, Utah.

Colby will play No. 13-nationally ranked Snow during this two-day event.

Eagles aim at 'Beaver Nation'

By R.B. Headley

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Few Beavers can bite through the air like No. 1-ranked 3A defending state champ Scott City.

Actually, flying beavers would probably have no idea where they were going — and the same can't be said about Scott City Beavers quarterback Trey O'Neil.

His razor-sharp passing against Abilene last week featured seven completions in 10 attempts with four going for touchdowns at more than 30 yards a connection (212 yards total).

The 6'2" junior O'Neil's quarterback rating after one game: 152.

Peyton Manning's rating after his NFL seven-TD effort against Baltimore last week: 141.

"It's a strange game when you have less than 10 yards rushing in the first half and still lead 27-0," Scott City coach Glenn O'Neil told the media as his team eventually beat Abilene 40-13.

Those Cowboys of Abilene were committed to stopping the Beavers' ground attack. When they resumed their base defense, Scott City rushed for nearly 200 yards in the second half.

That's what the Colby Eagles will be facing when they invade Scott City's "Beaver Nation" Friday evening for its 7:30 p.m. Great West Athletic Conference opener.

A balanced, confident Scott team coming back from its first state football championship since 1991.

What better time to get hit with



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Colby pass defense prevailed as this Oakley throw missed its intended touchdown target at Denen Field last weekend. The Eagles get another great test Friday night when they visit Scott City.

some overconfidence?

The Colby Eagles certainly won't back down, not against a schedule full of state playoff-caliber foes.

"We have to prepare ourselves every week to run at a high level," coach Chris Gardner said. "Defensively, I thought we played well last week (against 2A No. 3 Oakley) at times, but a few breakdowns in communication and missed tackles allowed them to get what they wanted (26-0 Oakley win). We have to shore up our tackling for sure."

While Colby battles the dangerous Beavers, other area teams face their own Friday the 13th challenges.

Triplains-Brewster at Northern Valley, 7 p.m.

Northern Valley fell last week, 38-28, at Alma, Neb., but many Kansas prep "experts" believe the Huskies are a talented eight-man Top 10 contender.

The Titans (1-0) contained everything during a 44-0 opening win over Healy-Western Plains. Now they must focus on senior Hunter Chandler after his 161-yard rushing effort at Alma.

The Huskies jumped ahead, 6-0, then surrendered 38 unanswered points before starting a 22-0 too-little too-late comeback attempt.

Golden Plains at Western Plains, 7 p.m.

Both teams will be pursuing a

first victory this fall.

At least Golden Plains did score during its 40-8 opening loss to Quinter. Western Plains barely gained 100 yards total against the Triplains-Brewster defense.

Heartland Christian at Wheatland-Grinnell, 7 p.m.

A perfect definition of "being stuffed" broke loose when Wheatland-Grinnell faced Rawlins County last week.

Wheatland-Grinnell literally went backwards to -38 rushing yards during a 46-0 defeat.

The hosts won't find much sympathy as Heartland Christian wants a first win. Those Crusaders were competitive but lost 28-16 at St. Mary's on Saturday.



CAROL MORGAN

Several members of the Thomas County 4-H Trap Shooting team listened to instructions from Fort Hays State University shooting coach Duane Shepherd, left, during a recent competition.

County 4-H shooters capture top five places at Hays contest

Five members of the Thomas County 4-H shooting sports team traveled to Hays on Sunday, Aug. 25 to participate in a 4-H trap shoot at the Hays Sportsman's Club.

Keegan Morgan and Jay Ziegelmeier both shot 87 out of 100 to tie for fourth place.

Teammates Cole Ziegelmeier shot 82 and Jory Koon shot a 77 for a combined team score of 333

out of 400 to land a third-place team finish.

Team member Josh Koon shot in the junior division, hitting 58 targets out of 100.

After the team finished its competition, shoot members were invited down to practice their skeet skills.

Duane Shepherd, coach for the Fort Hays State University trap team, and his wife Theresa volun-

teered their time to give personal instruction to all the shooters who participated.

The Thomas County shooters appreciated the personal instruction given by Shepherd and his wife.

The Senior team members will be required to shoot Skeet as well as trap at the State 4-H shoot on Sept. 28 at the Ark Valley Gun Club in Valley Center.

Bulldog spikers ready to begin

By Arianna Camacho

The Golden Plains Middle School Volleyball Team has 19 girls who will make their season debut today with a match at Triplains-Brewster.

Many of them are hyped for the season to begin, and their practices are going very well. All the girls are working hard in what has been a super-hot gym.

The sixth-grade girls are very enthused for the season, especially since it's their first year of volleyball. The girls are excited to get

out there, play the best they can, and hopefully come home with a win.

KayCee Miller is a seventh-grader who suited up last year for the varsity junior high team.

A personal goal of hers is to improve as the season goes, not just just mentally but physically as well.

"In order to achieve my goal I plan to hustle and do my best at all times in and out of practice," she said. "I feel we need to be more motivated and become closer together like a family."

"Improvement every day and hard work is what is what I want to see this year," coach Mindy Fleckenstein added.

The last time middle school Volleyball Team won their league was in 2009 when they went undefeated.

This year, the team's goal is to win the league tournament.

The team's motto this year is "The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work. Work is the key to success, and hard work can help you accomplish anything."

Matches are set for Colby quad

Colby High School has announced the schedule for Colby's varsity and junior varsity volleyball quadrangular next Thursday.

All varsity matches will be played at the east net with JV teams taking over that west net.

The matches are set to begin at 4 p.m. and will all be best of three.

Varsity

Colby vs. Oakley
Hoxie vs. Scott City
Colby vs. Scott City
Oakley vs. Hoxie
Oakley vs. Scott City
Colby vs. Hoxie

Junior varsity matches will follow this same schedule.

Admission prices for adults will be \$5 with students paying \$3 for these 12 matches (six varsity, six JV).

The Colby Eagles' varsity, JV and C teams currently own a combined 11-match win streak after sweeping through Tuesday's Saint Francis Triangular.

Trojan men in nation's top five

The Colby Community College men's cross country team is receiving national recognition from the National Junior College Athletic Association Hill-N-Dale rankings.

The Trojans, coached by James Ortiz, were ranked in 4th place in the men's week two rankings. The team received 142 points.

Central Arizona College is ranked first with 180 points.

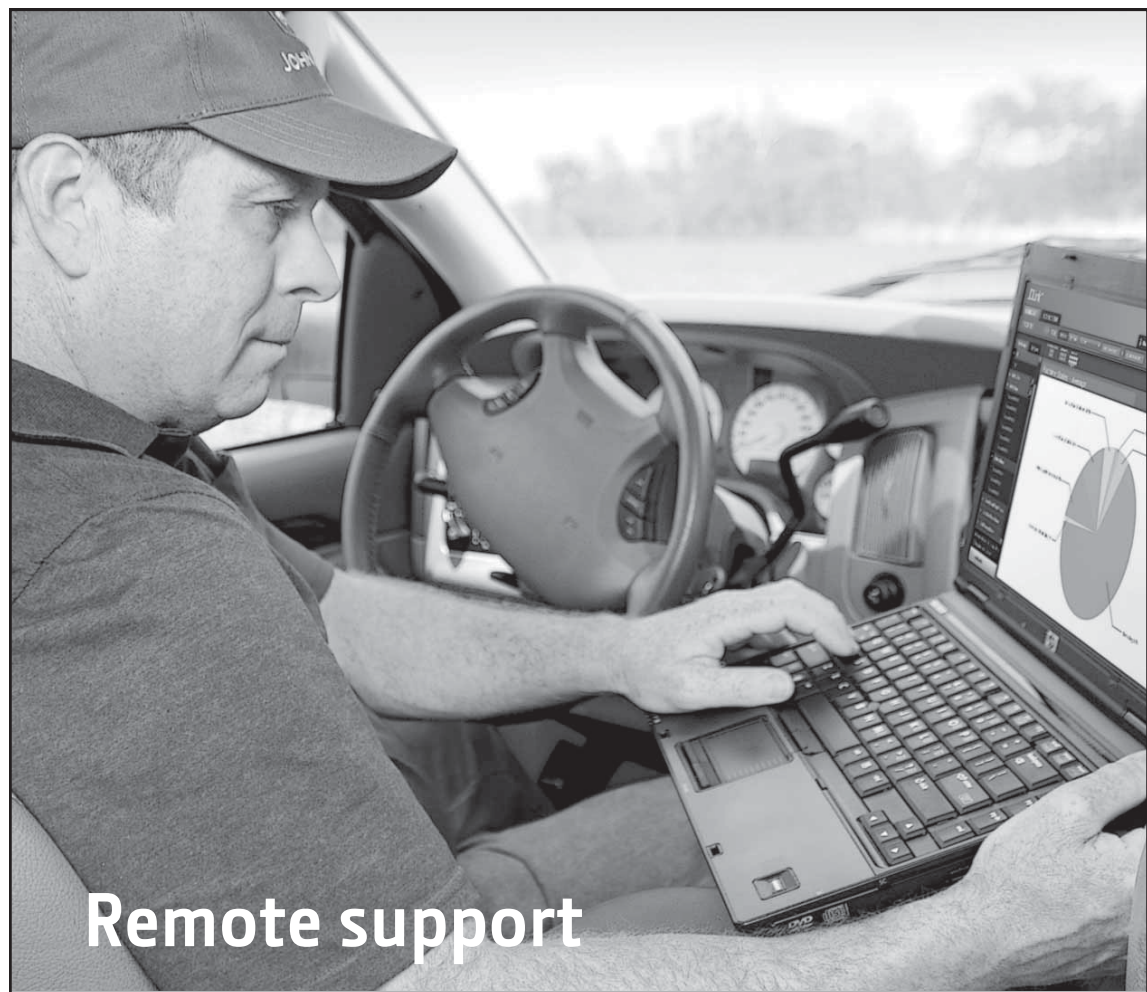
The Trojans made a super season debut during Friday's Colby Invitational, sweeping all top places for one perfect team score.

"I'm glad the voters think so highly of us, but personally I think we have a lot to do to meet our potential," Ortiz said. "Our fo-

cus isn't so much on the national rankings right now. We just want to keep focusing on getting better for November."

Colby will race on Saturday at the Blue Dragon Invitational in Hutchinson.

The Colby College women are also scheduled to run at Hutchinson on Saturday.



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