

New rec director knows Colby community

By R.B. Headley
Colby Free Press

As Dane Olofson worked through Wednesday, he was probably glad the infamous Geico TV commercial camel didn't drop by to greet him.

"What day is it? What day is it," the camel asks while hoping someone will quietly say "it's hump day."

"It's day three," was Olofson's response about Wednesday afternoon.

Day three of a brand-new challenge as the Colby Recreation Department director.

Olofson was already busy attending meetings and tackling new tasks like taking down volleyball nets so basketball players could have full-court practice.

Yet maintenance man Ken Sanford was right there helping and displaying what Olofson enjoys most about Colby.

"They (Colby residents) are a friendly bunch," Olofson said. "I'm very happy since moving here. They're quick to greet you and welcome you. They're very receptive."

The Holyoke, Colo., native's connection to Colby is really nothing new. He arrived in 2007

for a job with Sherman and Thomas County Communications.

"That and recreation has really allowed me to get out into the community and not be such an unfamiliar face," he said.

Olofson also quickly became familiar with Colby Recreation activities for both youth and adults.

He's coached legion baseball, umpired games, officiated basketball and assisted the department whenever time has permitted.

The former three-sport high school athlete (basketball, football and baseball) also gained valuable experience while attending Colorado State University.

Olofson worked for both the CSU and Fort Collins, Colo., recreational departments.

Most importantly, the father of two enjoys just about any sport.

In fact, establishing a new cricket league has already become one of Olofson's top priorities.

Or not.

"I haven't quite figured cricket out," he admitted about an English bat-and-ball game where those who deliver the ball are called "bowlers" on a field called "pitch".

Come on, that's not confusing at all.

"I do find myself watching



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
New Colby Recreation Director Dane Olofson, left, assisted maintenance worker Ken Sanford in taking down volleyball nets at the Colby Community Center Wednesday afternoon.

about any sport. I'll watch hockey, golf, tennis and I enjoy the Olympic sports like water polo. I watch World Cup (soccer) every year they have it," Olofson said.

Olofson would also enjoy expanding the Colby Recreation

Department sports and programs, perhaps eventually getting involved with other communities.

"Pushing fitness is something both I and (former Colby Rec Director) Stacy (Jasper) have talked about," he explained. "Bigger

events like a Warrior Dash, which is a 5-K Run and obstacle course, would be good. But right now, there is good structure within our rec department and I want to keep our current programs going well."

Some other quick facts to know

about the new Colby Recreation Director:

Wife and kids?

"We have two girls, Piper who is two years old and Everleigh who is 2 1/2 months. My wife, Kallie, is a nurse."

The Holyoke Dragons are a well-known eastern Colorado athletic program. What positions did you play at the high school?

"I was a wide receiver in football, though I seemed to end up on the defensive line every year. Nose tackle.

I was a catcher in baseball and have both knees surgically repaired.

I played forward in basketball. Shooting forward? No, I was actually a power forward."

Other hobbies beyond sports?

"When we have any free time, my wife and I like to remodel houses."

Your excellent predecessor, Stacy Jasper, was a classic crimson-and-blue Kansas Jayhawk fan. Do you support the 'Hawks or Kansas State Wildcats?

"Neither. I'm right down the middle. My wife is a KU fan and I'll watch them, but no, they're not my team."

Eagles aim to stop any Ulysses late-game magic

No Tigers will escape this time.

That's how the Colby Eagles will approach their 7 p.m. Homecoming game on Friday when those Ulysses Tigers invade Dennen Field.

Ulysses (1-1) earned its first win of the season last weekend, but just barely against Great Bend.

Zach Romer's five-yard touchdown run with 3:02 remaining broke a 14-14 tie and lifted the Tigers to their 21-14 victory.

Running the football appears to be Ulysses' strength entering game three.

Ian Rudzik rushed 20 times for 173 yards, the Garden City Telegram reported. The Tigers totaled 273 rushing yards overall including two more TD runs from Riley Seeger (33 yards) and Garrett Walters (one yards).

Ulysses needed a stronger effort



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
Sophomore quarterback Brady Holzmeister (7) checked the Scott City defense during Colby High's junior varsity home opener at Dennen Field Monday afternoon. Scott City prevailed 12-0.

after surrendering 56 points in its opening 56-41 loss to Liberal.

Complete Colby Eagle leaders from Friday's varsity game at Scott City are being published today.

The 3A defending state champs only led Colby, 14-12, at halftime

before winning 28-12.

Offense

Rushing: Ben Matchell 10 carries, 46 yards.

Passing: Josh Matchell 7 completions in 24 attempts, 84 yards,

1 touchdown and 1 interception.

Receiving: Adam Giersch 1 catch for 53 yards, 1 TD; Ben Matchell 3 for 14, Chase Hartwell 1 for 14, Andrew Taylor 2 for 3.

Defense

Solo tackles: Andrew Taylor 9, Eric Schuette 7, Ben Matchell 6, Brady Holzmeister 5, Adam Giersch 4, Jay Ziegelmeier 3, Josh Matchell 2, Garrett Rose 2, Austin Boehme 2, Bryce Arnberger 2.

Sacks: Rose 1. Schuette and Keegan Morgan each recorded half of a sack.

Takeaways: Taylor (fumble recovery), Ben Matchell (fumble recovery), Josh Matchell (interception) and Holzmeister (forced fumble).

Special teams

Kickoff returns: Adam Giersch 3 for 95 yards, Ben Matchell 1 for 42.

Punt returns: Ben Matchell 1 for 6.

Punts: Andrew Taylor 7 for 188 yards.

Bulldogs' big rally leads to 44-42 win

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Bulldogs traveled to Healy to take on the Western Plains/Healy Bobcats Friday night for Healy's Homecoming game.

The "Dogs allowed the Bobcats to get the first jump and pull ahead 22-0 before closing within 22-8 at the end of the first quarter.

The Bulldogs were determined and closed the spread to 28-22 at the half.

Golden Plains continued to hit hard and make plays in the second half to narrowly slip past the Bobcats for the 44-42 victory.

"We had to focus on the game and not give up," senior Zach Spresser said "That is the only way we could come back for the win."

Spresser had one of the Bulldogs' six touchdowns in this game.

Also posting TDs for Golden Plains were seniors Josh Barnhart with three, Shane Ryburn with one and Tristan Schwarz with one.

Senior quarterback Grant Spresser threw three TDs to Zach Spresser, Ryburn and Schwarz.

Barnhart led the team in rushing with 146 yards in 12 carries for an average of more than 12 yards per attempt.

Benny Martinez, junior, led the team with a total of 10 solo tackles and eight assists.

Grant Spresser had 11 tackles while Ryburn and sophomore Cole Ziegelmeier each claimed 10. Domonic Luna, junior, had nine along with Schwarz's six, Zach Spresser's six, Barnhart's three and two tackles from sophomore Feliciano Bermudez.

The Bulldogs (1-1 record) will be back on the road this week as they trek to Tribune to face the Greeley County Jackrabbits.



JORDAN CHRISTENSEN/Golden Plains High School
Senior Zach Spresser brought down a Western Plains-Healy Bobcat while Dominic Luna (22) rushed in to assist Friday evening. The Bulldogs rallied from 22-0 down to earn a victory.

Trojans win match and Player of Week

The Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference has announced the selection of Taylor Alderson as its National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Player of the Week.

Alderson helped guide Colby Community College to a 4-1 week with a big win against conference foe Seward County and a tough, but well-fought match against nationally No. 11-ranked Snow College of Abilene.

The freshman from Abilene averaged 5.28 digs per set and had 111 digs total for the week.

Alderson becomes the fifth Player of the Week selection from Colby College already this season, which makes perfect sense since the Trojans are now 5-0 in Jayhawk League play.

On Wednesday night, the Tro-



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
Freshman Taylor Alderson made a diving dig during Colby Community College's home sweep of Pratt College Monday evening at the Colby Community Center.

jans (12-4 record overall) dropped their first set 25-15 to Cloud County Community College in Concordia. Yet Colby promptly rallied for 25-17, 25-15 and 25-11

victories.

Complete stat leaders were not available before press time.

The Trojans followed up a sweep of Jayhawk Conference co-

leader Pratt Monday night, after Pratt had scored three consecutive league wins.

Watch for coverage of Trojans sports all season in the *Free Press*.

Golfer gets to top five

Colby Community College sophomore Kaylee Keck finished in fourth place at the first fall Jayhawk Conference Tournament held Sunday and Monday at Meadow Lake Golf Course.

Keck had an 18-hole total of 88 on Sunday, followed by nine-hole score of 43 on Monday for a total of 131.

Other two-day totals for the Colby golfers were Macinzie Lehman 152, Marissa Bland 157, Rachell Platt 167 and Brooke Gettler 169.

"We need to work on controlling nerves, chipping and putting and the mental aspect of the game," assistant coach Lisa Stithem said.

The next competition for the women's team is Sept. 22-23 at Dodge City.

Colby tennis champ went 3-0 at tourney

Colby High sophomore Julie Schroeder went undefeated through three No. 1 singles players at the Ulysses Invitational on Monday.

More details were obtained after Wednesday's press deadline.

Champion Schroeder defeated Alyssa Flores from Ulysses, Scott City's Leah Artz and Stephanie Sanchez of 5A Liberal for the gold medal. All great achievements for just her second tournament as a varsity No. 1 singles player.

Junior Olivia Wetter moved up

to the No. 1 varsity doubles spot and joined senior Sarah Lamm. They earned a three-way tie for second place after besting Scott City's top combination.

Colby's No. 1 and No. 2 doubles teams did not score any wins, though coach Jennifer Rall emphasized "they worked hard all day."

Senior Madison Rogers played No. 2 singles, while sophomore Rachel Browne and junior Tresta Urban teamed to play No. 2 doubles.

Upcoming sports events

Today
Volleyball: Colby Quadrangular, 3:30 p.m. C volleyball: Colby at Wheatland Quadrangular, 3 p.m. JV tennis: Colby at Hays, 3 p.m. Junior high football: Colby at

Ulysses, 4 p.m. Junior high football: Golden Plains at Grinnell/Wheatland, 4 p.m. Junior high volleyball: Colby at Scott City Quadrangular, 4 p.m. Cross country: Brewster at WaKeeney, 4 p.m.

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Junior Traeger Wood Pellet Grill Drawing, must be present to win