

Area's top prep talent shows off on Sunday

The Colby Community Building was nearly full for the Eighth Annual Northwest Kansas High School All-Star game Sunday night, and the top players in the Northwest Kansas area did not disappoint the crowd.

The boys game wasn't decided until the final moments when a balanced attack by the dark team helped them win 96-92 in a high paced contest.

The girls' game was won 76-69 by the Light team, coached by Randall Rath of Oakley High School.

Boys' game

The light team was down as many as 23 points in the first half, before taking the lead in the second half on one occasion before the dark team stopped the rally.

Hays coach Rick Keltner's dark team placed six players in double figures, led by Colby's Parker McKee, Scott City's Derek Riner and Dan Weis with 12 points each. Also scoring in double figures were Justin Long of Lincoln, Keith Cressler from Wheatland and Michael Yates from Phillipsburg, all with 10 points.

Brewster's Brett Arnberger and Golden Plains' Josh Miller had nine points each and Colby's Justin Schwanke had five.

Quinter's Trey Look had four and Matt Wasinger from Hays had three. Mark Torluemke, Hoxie, was scheduled to play but was out due to an injury.

Despite being on the losing end of the game, the light team's Zach Foster, from Utica, took home most valuable player honors with his 22 points.

Colby's Corey Woofter added 20 while Hays' Stuart Keltner finished with 10 and Landon Steele from Weskan, St. Francis' Mike Wolters and Scott City's Kale Graham each added nine.

Matt Bixenman from Grinnell had six, Northern Valley's Joshua

Mussman and four and Scott Schultz, Hill City, had three. Golden Plains' Mat Juenemann also played.

Glenn O'Neill of Scott City High School coached the Light team. The boys 3-point champion was Steele

Girls' game

The light team was led by Emily Braxmeyer of Atwood with 13 points. Also scoring in double figures were Esther Dohl of Sylvan Grove with 12 points and Colby's Andrea Stephens with 10.

Lori Vahling from Jennings had nine points, Ashley Latham from Triplains had eight, along with Atwood's Krstina Cooper.

Kala Adam had six. Ashley Stull, Natoma and Karlynn Cox, Northern Valley had four each and Jenni Sloan from Norton had two.

The dark team was led by Jennifer Hake of Oakley with 20 points. Goodland's Jara McKee added 18, while fellow Cowgirl Ashley Hallagin contributed 11.

Bazine's Crystal Bruntz had eight points and both Erin Schmidt of Atwood and Camille Musgrave, LaCrosse had three.

Herndon's Angie Cash, Oakley's Carrie Wassmiller and Natoma's Melinda Finkenbinder had two each. Kayla Gassman, Hoxie, also played.

The dark team was coached by Tom Beckman of Colby High School. Stephens won the title in the girls' 3-point shootout.

Area Schedule

Wednesday, March 21

Colby Community College Softball at Seward County in Liberal at 2 p.m.

Thursday, March 22

Colby Community College baseball hosts Dodge City at 1 p.m. at Trojan Field.

Getting ready for spring

C.W. Cheney, recreation director for Colby, made some adjustments to a new batting cage at the recreation ball diamonds on Ninth Street. The cage, purchased and donated by the Colby All-Sports Booster Club is one of the improvements for the fields this year. Cheney said the diamonds are coming along, but the winter storms left a lot of improvements and repairs to be done before the season starts on Friday, when the Colby High School Lady Eagles host Goodland's first high school softball team at 4 p.m.



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press



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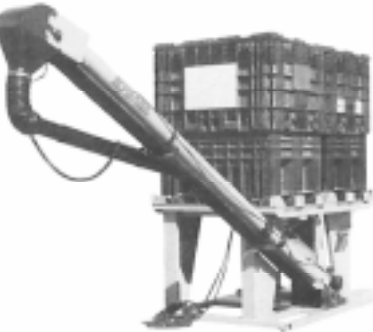
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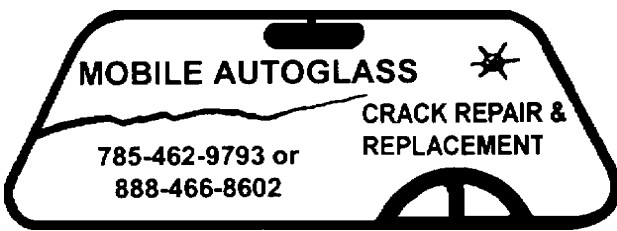
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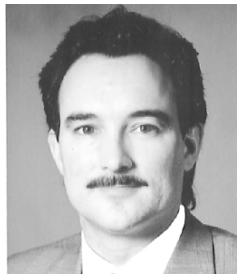
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