

Eagle men have rare off-night; Lady Eagles cruise

Shooting woes plague boys team

Colby girls now 8-1 after handling McCook

By DARREL PATTILLO

Colby Free Press

On off-night shooting led to the Colby Eagles second straight loss of the season Tuesday night in McCook, as the Eagles fell 64-47 against the top-ranked McCook Bison.

Colby shot just 30.9 percent from the floor (9.1 percent from beyond the arc). Landon Stover led the Eagles with 16 points, Matt Augustine had 13, Jordan Harris had 6, Shane Stover and Carson McKee each had 5 and Jeff Reavis had 2 points. Jared Cranston also played, but did not score.

On the boards, Harris had 9 rebounds, Landon had 7, Augustine had 5, Shane got 2, and Reavis and Cranston each grabbed one.

The Eagles record is now 7-2. Scoring by quarters:
Colby 13...8...10...16...47
McCook 13...17...17...17...63
Colby JV 51, McCook 63

The Eagle junior varsity suffered its first loss of the season Tuesday night against McCook. Bruce Arnberger led the effort with 15, Jared Dinkel and Brian Sulzman each had 11, Chris Finley scored 9 points, Jordan Cranston had 3, and Deke Elliott scored a basket. Sean



PAM AUGUSTINE/Colby Free Press

Colby Eagle head coach Derek Bissitt talked to the Eagle basketball during a time-out Tuesday night in McCook. The Eagles fell to the Bison 64-47.

Mengel and Jordan Sharp also played.

The Eagles are back home Friday

night against the Indians from Hoxie. The basketball action gets underway at 4:30 p.m., at the High

School, and games will also be played at the Colby Community Building.

Colby Trojan wrestling team wins convincing dual against Neosho

By LES BROWN

Colby Free Press

The Colby Community College Trojans closed out a successful weekend of collegiate wrestling with their 38-9 dual win over the Neosho County Community College Panthers.

The Panthers forfeited three weight classes to the Trojans, while Colby forfeited one weight class. Of the six matches wrestled, Colby won five.

The dual started at 184 pounds where Neosho forfeited to Colby's C.B. Dollaway. The Panthers' Danny Sanders had competed in the Tournament of Champions but Sanders, who is currently nationally ranked at 174 pounds, was noticeably absent on Sunday. The forfeit to Dollaway gave the Trojans a 6-0 lead in the team race.

Colby's forfeit at 197 pounds evened the team score at 6-6. The Trojan's varsity wrestler, Logan Prideaux, was injured in the practice room over holiday break. If Prideaux is unable to return to the line-up, it is anticipated that Derek Daugherty (sophomore, Watonga, Okla.) will make his first appearance in the near future.

At 285 pounds Colby's Rio Mayo battled Neosho's Chris Johnson. While the score ended 2-0 in favor of Johnson, it was Johnson who controlled the tempo of the match. Neosho's win brought the team score to 9-6 in favor of the Panthers.

Colby's Davey Dyke then scored a huge win over Hector Mendez at 125 pounds. Mendez is currently rated as the nation's fifth best 125 pound junior college wrestler. Dyke had scored a 7-0 win over Mendez in this weekend's Tournament of Champions. This match was important, both for team points in the dual and also because it would play a role in the seeding of the 125 pound bracket at the national qualifying tournament. Mendez took early control of the match, but Dyke battled back and scored a takedown with approximately 10 seconds left in the match to secure a 4-3 victory. Dyke's win evened the team score at 9-9.

Neosho's Chad Willard then forfeited to Colby's Erkin Tadzhimetov at 133 pound for the second time in as many days. Willard, who is nursing a leg injury, had also forfeited to Tadzhimetov in Saturday evening's championship

round of the Tournament of Champions. This put Colby in the team score lead by a 15-9 count.

The afternoon's second marquee match-up was then wrestled at the 141 pound weight class where Bryan Miller squared off with Neosho's Kevin Artis. Artis took early control in Sunday's match by scoring two first period takedowns. Artis maintained the 4-2 lead through the scoreless second period. Miller then made his decision to start the third period from the top position pay off as he scored five near fall points and was awarded an extra point for riding time. Miller's 6-4 win pushed Colby into an 18-9 lead in the team race and gave Miller his second victory over Artis in as many days.

O.T. Johnson then took the mat for Colby at the 149 pound match. This too was expected to be an important match for seeding purposes later in the season, but Neosho sent Nick Eaves to the mat in lieu of Aurel Ciufulescu. In a Saturday evening battle between returning NJCAA All-Americans, Ciufulescu 4th in 2000 and Johnson 7th in 2002, Johnson had escaped with a 2-1 win to earn the Tournament of

Champions' gold medal. Eaves proved to be no match for Johnson, who seemed to score at will en route to an easy win. Johnson's technical fall victory gave Colby a 23-9 lead in the team race.

The Trojans then sent Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov to the mat to battle Neosho's Blane Sanderford. Abdurakhmanov made quick work of Sanderford by scoring a fall early in the first period and, in doing so, gave Colby a 29-9 lead.

Roshawn Haldarov then took the mat at 165 pounds for the Trojans. Haldarov rebounded from an unexpected loss on Saturday evening, as he dominated Sunday's match against Joe Blackwolf. The 7-3 victory pushed Colby into a 32-9 team score lead.

Neosho then elected to forfeit to Alibek Pardakulov instead of sending their 174 pounder, Steve Hurla, to the mat. The forfeit finalized the team score at 38-9 in favor of Colby.

Colby's victory ended Neosho's much publicized consecutive dual win streak at 32 straight wins.

Next action for the Trojans will be a road trip to Fort Dodge, Iowa on Thursday to dual the defending NJCAA national champion, Iowa Central Community College. On Friday the Trojans compete in a series of duals in Worthington, Minnesota, and then close out the weekend by competing in the Blue Jay Open on Saturday.

Close contests the norm this year

The Colby Trojans return home this Saturday after road games at Barton County (Monday) and Seward County (tonight). The Trojans take on the Hutch Blue Dragons coached by Colby native Chad Wintz.

The Blue Dragons are 15-1, 2-0) heading into this week. They were receiving votes in the National Poll last week (Jan. 6th poll). Tip-off Saturday is set for 8 p.m. The women's game begins at 6 p.m.

We have already played two very close ball games. A one-point loss to Garden City and three-point loss to Cloud.

Garden City has played three games all decided by 2 points or less. Barton County has had two of three games decided by 2 points or less. Expect close ball games to be the norm this year in the Jayhawk West.

There are so many good teams. Many teams are very close in talent level. Teams that win close games will be the ones that make big plays and nail their free throws down the stretch.

Last season we played 10 games that were decided by 6 points or less. The year before (2000-2001) we played in eight.

This league is so intense and the games so close. It is exciting basketball. Certainly we have played in many nail biters! Nail biters, heart stoppers, whatever phrase you would like to use to describe Colby Vs. Hutch.

We hope to see you Saturday



Brian Ostermann

• Power Sports

night for a Jayhawk West league contest at 8 p.m. vs Hutchinson. The women tip off at 6 p.m. McDonald's of Colby is the sponsor for the game

JOTTINGS

Jayhawk West scores from this past Saturday: Seward over Butler 82-79, Hutch over Pratt 64-57, and Barton over Garden City 69-68 at Garden City.

Barton is ranked #9 and Seward #6 in the nation. The only other Jayhawk West School to receive any mention in the national poll is Hutchinson. The Trojans face all three teams this week!

We are back to school this week and will try to build on our last semester academically (team g.p.a. was 3.03). Our goal this semester will be to keep our team g.p.a. above a 3.0. We have six sophomores on the team this year and each is expected to graduate.

McDonald's of Colby is our sponsor for this weekend's game against Hutch. We thank Bob Anderson and McDonald's for providing meals to our team during the holiday break!

The Colby Baseball team is gear-

ing up for a special fundraiser on February 15th. There will be bowling and other sporting contests. I will provide details in the future but do mark you calendars to assist the baseball team.

The Lady Trojans knocked off #11 ranked Cloud County last week. They picked up a big big win!

A special thanks goes out to McDonald's, Gambino's, Taco Johns, and Thomas County Feeders. Thank you for feeding the Trojans during the holidays! Also, thanks to Pepsi for providing drinks for our road trips!

Don't forget Little Dribblers will perform this Saturday and all Little Cagers will be introduced this Saturday night!

FAST FORWARD

MARK YOU CALENDERS! JAYHAWK WEST home contests. Jan. 18 vs Hutch, 29th Vs Dodge. Feb. 5 vs Garden, 12th vs Seward, 15th vs Barton. March 1 vs Pratt.

Brian Ostermann is the head coach of the Colby Community College Trojan men's basketball team. His column normally appears on Tuesdays, but this week, there was a technical problem.

Mill Bar
3X10
100%
from
OBH