

Eagle wrestlers finish fourth at Beloit meet

By **DARREL PATTILLO**
Colby Free Press

The Colby Eagle wrestling team took fourth place at the Beloit tournament over the weekend, finishing behind the #1 ranked teams in 3-2-1A, 4A, and 6A, Hoxie, Clay Center, and Manhattan, respectively. Colby's Eric Luedke was the Eagle's lone 1st-place finisher, at 145 pounds. Jesse Tibbles finished 2nd at 130, Tucker Olsen was 3rd at 171, Brent Deibert was third at 215, Schuyler Sharpe was 4th at 152, Daniel Tibbles also was 4th, at 103. Taylor Finley, at 119 pounds, finished 6th, as did John Wark at 125 pounds. Travis Powell, Cole Garcia, Justin Bell, Drue Herl, Theo Kleinsorge, and Cubby Haremza also wrestled, but didn't place. On the way to first place, Eric Luedke defeated two previously undefeated wrestlers, and was

named the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler. "Luedke wrestled the best ever and dominated two very good opponents," coach Mitch Beims said. Overall, Beims was pleased with the Eagle's performance. "I felt we wrestled very well in a very tough tournament," he said. "We have a few things we need to fine tune before the regionals." Up next for the Eagle wrestlers is the NWKL tournament in St. Francis on Saturday. Regional wrestling is scheduled for Feb. 21 and 22 at Goodland. Beloit Tournament Hoxie, 221.5; Manhattan, 163.5; Clay Center, 152.5; Colby, 139.5; Salina South, 106; Concordia, 104; Abilene, 94.5. Minneapolis, 73; Marysville, 68; Beloit, 61.5; Plainville, 61; Stockton, 56.5; Oberlin, 54.5; Royal Valley, 44; Belleville, 37; Smith Center, 37; Silver Lake, 26.

Middle school Lady Eagles win in Atwood

By **DARREL PATTILLO**
Colby Free Press

The Colby Middle School 7th-grade girl's basketball A-team got another big win, this time in Atwood Monday night, winning 42-11. The B-team played a fifth-quarter and tied 2-2. Robyn Hull scored the B-team's basket, and had a rebound. Emily Geschwentner had an offensive rebound, Lindsay Frahm had 2 rebounds, and Logan Wark had 6 steals and a rebound. In the A-team game, Aubrette Stephens had 13 points, 1 assist, 1 steal, and 1 def rebound. Malory McKee had an assist and a steal. Paige Stephens had 1 offensive and 1 defensive rebound, 2 points, and 2 assists. Amber Wagoner got an offensive and a defensive rebound, and had 2 assists. Leah Cox had 2 points, a steal, an assist, and an offensive and defensive rebound. Darci Brown had 2 points, 1 offensive rebound, 3 steals, 2 defensive rebounds, and blocked 2 shots. Elizabeth Barnes had 2 steals and an assist. Lissa Mazanec led the scoring effort with 15 points. She also had 4 steals, 4 offensive rebounds, 3 defensive rebounds, 3 blocked shots, and an assist. Tasha Wagoner had 8 points, an offensive rebound, an assist, and 3 steals. Coach Jada Tubbs said "I was proud to see our girls pull together in the second half of the game. Re-

bouncing, shooting, and driving to the basket improved, and we got more aggressive as our confidence rose." "We're looking forward to hosting Oakley Thursday. I know their program is stronger and we will be preparing for them. Atwood presented us a few problems that we will work out before Thursday. Our season has really started, we are now hitting the floor running. We have nine game days in February. There's plenty of opportunity for our community to come out and watch." The 7th-grade Lady Eagles are now 2-0. Game time Thursday is 4:30 p.m. at the high school. The B-team will play first, followed by the A-team.

Colby 8th-grade A-team 38 Atwood 21

The 8th-grade Lady Eagles played Monday in Atwood. The B-team played a 10 minute quarter which Colby won 8-6. Bailey Klinger scored 6 of the 8 points, Michelle Kaus scored 2. In the A-team game, Colby defeated Atwood 38-21. Ashley Barnes led with 14 points, Brittany Kersenbrock had 8, Rishonna Martin 8, April Weaver 4, Caitie Henry 2 and Jenna Johnson 2. The 8th-grade Lady Eagles (3-0) take on Oakley Thursday at 4:30 in the Community Building.



JULIE ROSS/Colby Free Press

Former Colby Eagle wrestler Riley Ross in action earlier this year, wrestling for the University of Nebraska-Kearney. Ross took first at the National Duals, which UNK won on Jan. 19.

Former Eagle helps team win National Duals

KEARNEY, Neb. — Former Colby Eagle wrestler Riley Ross, a senior at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, recently helped his squad win a National Duals Championship. The 4th-ranked Nebraska-Kearney wrestling team (7-1) won the prestigious NWCA National Duals on Jan. 19 in Columbus, Ohio, by upsetting No. 2 ranked University of Northern Oklahoma, 24-14 as well as top ranked, and defending national champion, University of Central Oklahoma. UNK whipped No. 13 Central Missouri State (33-10) and No. 15 Augustana (27-13) before upsetting Central Oklahoma, 21-19. Against the mighty Broncos of UCO, the Lopers faced a team that had four wrestlers ranked No. 1 in the country. UCO used three of those top ranked wrestlers to get out to a 13-

0 lead. Their other No. 1 ranked wrestler, Shawn Silvis, met up with Ross at 165 lbs. The Lopers lone No. 1 ranked individual, Brandon Pfizenmaier (149 pounds), picked up an 11-5 win and began a stretch of four straight Lopers victories. No upset was bigger than at 165 pounds where 5th-ranked Riley Ross defeated No. 1 ranked Shawn Silvis, 4-2, to bring the Lopers within a point at 13-12. A class earlier, sophomore Aaron Dalton gave UNK three extra team points with a pin at the 6:29 mark. A UCO pin at 184 pounds put them up by four, 19-15. In the dual's final two matches, redshirt freshman Jeff Sylvester and senior Bob Murphy won by a combined three points to give UNK one of its biggest dual wins in school history, UNK 21-University of Central Oklahoma 19.

Title IX backers bucked

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supporters of the status quo for Title IX were dealt a setback when a Bush administration commission issued procedures that stated its final report "will not include minority views." The Education Department's 15-member Commission on Opportu-

nity in Athletics will debate and vote on as many as 24 recommendations during public meetings Wednesday and Thursday. Several commissioners have said they expect the panel will vote to weaken the 31-year-old gender equity law that greatly increased female participation in sports.

The Bucs beat Oakland? Isn't that what I said?



Darrel Pattillo
•On the Ball

How bout them Bucs! Gruden's karma must've out-ranked Gannon's karma, which explains why the Bucs beat the snot out of the Raiders. I wrote last week that because Gannon had got a raw deal in Kansas City, he and the Raiders would win the Super Bowl. (BACKPEDAL ALERT) It's not that I thought Tampa had a bad team, I just underestimated how mad the football gods were at Al Davis. So, I stuck my big ol' foot in my mouth on the Super Bowl. Well, it's not the first time, and it won't be the last. After all, what you read in this column is strictly Darrel-thinking, which gets me in trouble all the time anyway. Remember when I wrote about the government taking oversports? That hasn't happened. Yet. All I'm really trying to do with this column is entertain. For the most part, because being silly comes so naturally to me, I think I do entertain. However, On The Ball is sometimes a vehicle for me to say things that I think need to be said, and can't really say in a regular story. Like how neat it was to see all the people at the Orange and Black last weekend. I personally have never heard it that loud in the Community Building. Good show, people! Elvis the Eagle did a great job at the tournament, I thought. Elvis might have missed an opportunity against Ulysses, if you know what I mean, but, oh well. The only thing that would have made that tourney any better was our boys winning. But I'm proud of them just the same, and they don't have any reason to hang their heads. Like Carson McKee said, Hays is a good team. And those Lady Eagles! Congrats, girls, on your back-to-back O&B championships! So now it's crunch time for our basketball teams and the wrestlers. Time to walk the walk, so to speak. Get ready to do some traveling, people! Regionals are coming up. Time to put new tires on the car and take some road trips! Ever wonder where I get ideas for my columns? Me too. Actually, there's plenty of serious things to write about, but that gets in the way of having fun. The Raiders rolling over for the Buccaneers because the Mafia said to is not a serious issue, but it's more fun to think about than making Iraq our 52nd state. Nine times out of ten, I'll pick the silly over the serious. Silly takes little time to contemplate; serious requires work. Any time I think about serious, I feel silly. The world is full of serious people. Silly people are at a premium. Ketchup is silly. Mustard is serious. Mustard takes it's job seriously, while ketchup is there just to entertain. Eggs Benedict is silly. Egg salad is serious. You don't want to mess around with egg salad. Goof around with egg salad and it'll send some mayonnaise to mess up your sphincter. Don't forget to be silly once in awhile. I'm serious.

Darrel Pattillo is the sports editor for the Colby Free Press. His column appears on Wednesdays.

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