

Easy Eagle wins

The Colby High School basketball boys and girls came away big winners in Saturday's game vs. St. Francis at the Colby Community Building.

The boys' scoreboard showed a 75-30 triumph and the girls' a 64-32 victory.

In the boys' game, Colby jumped out to a 31-4 first quarter lead and 45-12 half-time advantage. Going into the final quarter, the Eagles were riding a 62-27 express.

For the girls, the Eagles shut out St. Francis in the first quarter, 12-0, raced to a 34-9 half-time lead and took a 51-19 spread into the final period.

Scoring for the Eagle boys, were: Brian Sulzman, 7; Matt Augustine, 16; Jordon Cranston, 2; Shane Stover, 16; Irvin Dinkel, 10; Bruce Arnberger, 19; Chris Finley, 2; and Sean Mengel, 3. St. Francis was led by Michael Raile with 14.

And for the girls: Ivy Ramsey, 19; Jessica Stephens, 15; Shea McKee, 6; Amanda Seemann, 11; Emily Sloan, 9; and Zanae Baird, 4. Kandee Raile was tops for St. Francis with 13.

The Eagle boys are now 5-1 on the season and the girls are 6-0. Both teams play TMP-Marian here Tuesday night.



RANDY DECKER/Colby Free Press

At the outset of every varsity Colby Eagle basketball game, the starting five receive a traditional chest jump from Jordan Sharp, junior teammate, (wearing black shirt). During the game against St. Francis on Saturday in the Colby Community Building, the ritual remained unchanged as Sharp jumps against Brian Sulzman, a senior.

Trojan ladies improve to 14-1

Coming off an impressive 13-1 non-conference record in 2003, the Colby Community College Lady Trojans continued their terrific season opening Jayhawk West Conference play with a dominating 81-44 victory over Butler County on the road in El Dorado on Saturday.

Colby jumped out to a commanding 45-16 half-time lead and never looked back.

The Lady Trojans dominated the boards out-rebounding the Lady

Grizzlies 47-22 and forcing Butler County into 17 turnovers. Colby shot 61.1 percent for the game, while holding Butler County to 30.6 percent. Butler County went to the line just twice in the game, while the Lady Trojans used their strong inside play to convert 11 of 15 free throw attempts.

The Lady Trojans were led by Jelena Spiric's 19 point and 5 assist performance. Ivana Drmanac added 12 while Bojana

Samardziska had 11. Louise McLean had 9 points and 13 rebounds for Colby as all 11 Lady Trojans scored in the game. Colby dished out 17 assists as a team.

Colby is now 14-1 overall and 1-0 in Jayhawk West Conference action. They return for the Jayhawk home opener on Wednesday, hosting defending Conference and Region VI Champion Garden City. Game time is set for 6 p.m. at the Community Building.

Trojan men suffer first defeat

The Colby Community College men's basketball team fell 69-66 on the road in El Dorado Saturday afternoon ending their school record 14-game winning streak.

Colby was led by Branden Miller's 24-point performance. EJ

Drayton added 16 for the Trojans. Butler County was led by Todd Henry with 19 points. Matt Simms came off the bench for Butler County to score 14 points including four 3-point shots. Official stats were not available after the game in

El Dorado.

Colby falls to 14-1 overall and 0-1 in Jayhawk West Conference play. They will host Garden City on Wednesday in the their conference home opener. Game time is set for 8 p.m. at the Community Building.

Just wasn't Denver's turn... again

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — This was the season Denver expected to end its post-Elway drought. The Broncos had the explosive running back, a quarterback who could improvise and a stout defense.

Maybe next season.

Breakdowns on defense led to an early deficit and the offense never played well enough to catch up, leading to a 41-10 loss to Indianapolis Sunday that kept the Broncos winless in the playoffs since John Elway retired.

“Offensively, defensively, special teams never put anything down,” Broncos tight end Shannon Sharpe said. “We did absolutely nothing out there today. Who did we expect to beat today?”

The Broncos were loose and confident headed into their first playoff game in three years, but it didn't carry over to the field.

Denver gave up 479 yards on defense, had three turnovers on offense — all by quarterback Jake Plummer — and allowed Indianapolis' Raheem Brock to break through the middle and block a field goal.

The breakdowns led to Denver's most lopsided loss since a 55-10 setback to San Francisco in the 1990 Super Bowl and dropped the Broncos to 0-2 in the playoffs since Elway walked away in 1999.

“I am just totally, totally embarrassed with what we put out there today for the whole world to see. That's pathetic,” Sharpe said.

The Broncos routed the Colts 31-17 in Indianapolis just two weeks ago, but didn't seem ready for the rematch.

Peyton Manning picked them apart from the start, throwing for 327 yards and four touchdowns in the first half as the Colts built a 31-3 lead.

The league's co-MVP finished 22-for-26 for 377 yards and five touchdowns.

Denver was in trouble from the start.

Strong safety Kennoy Kennedy bit on a play-action fake on the Colts' first drive, leading to a 31-yard touchdown pass from Manning to Brandon Stokley.

On the next series, Marvin Harrison had what appeared to be a leaping 16-yard reception, but the four Denver players standing around him were busy arguing over coverage and failed to touch him. Harrison got up and turned it into a scamper of 46 yards for a touchdown.

“That's just a lack of focus. That's a bad play and you can't let that happen in the playoffs,” said Broncos cornerback Lenny Walls, who was on of Denver's players who had a chance to deny Harrison that touchdown.

Playoffs

By The Associated Press

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 3

Tennessee 20, Baltimore 17

Carolina 29, Dallas 10

Sunday, Jan. 4

Green Bay 33, Seattle 27, OT

Indianapolis 41, Denver 10 (All Times EST)

Saturday, Jan. 10

Carolina at St. Louis, 4:30 p.m. (FOX)

Tennessee at New England, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)

Sunday, Jan. 11

Indianapolis at Kansas City, 1 p.m. (CBS)

Green Bay at Philadelphia, 4:45 p.m. (FOX)

Sunday, Jan. 18

AFC Championship Game, 3 p.m. (CBS)

NFC Championship Game, 6:45 p.m. (FOX)

Sunday, Feb. 1

Super Bowl at Houston, 6:25 p.m. (CBS)

EAT HEARTY.....

— STEAK FRY —

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Your choice of Potato and Salad

COLBY VFW

MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME!

College football gets co-champs

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Football Writer

The wait was well worth it for Southern California.

USC finished No. 1 in The Associated Press college football poll early Monday, earning 48 of the 65 first-place votes.

The Trojans (12-1) beat out USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll champion LSU, which defeated Oklahoma 21-14 in Bowl Championship Series title game Sunday night in the Sugar Bowl.

“We're glad it concluded in the fashion we all hoped it would,” Trojans coach Pete Carroll said, three days after his team beat Michigan 28-14 in the Rose Bowl.

“We're proud of that. We had a terrific football season. We're really excited for that.”

The coaches were obligated to crown LSU (13-1) even though USC held the top spot in their poll going into the bowls.

Three of the 63 coaches broke the agreement by voting the Trojans No. 1, but it wasn't enough to win the poll.

“The argument about the system is out there and that's probably good,” Carroll said.

“We did what we could, impressing the people in the AP poll and the coaches who felt free to vote.”

It's the first split national championship since 1997, when Michigan won the AP poll and Nebraska was the coaches' choice.

The BCS started the following season with the goal of choosing an undisputed champion.

In each of the first five years, only one major team finished undefeated, making the choice simple. But with three top one-loss teams at the end of the regular season, chaos reigned this season.

“It doesn't bother me,” LSU defensive tackle Chad Lavalais said. “It's like winning the lottery, but you have to share the Powerball with another person. It's still a good deal.”

And with no playoff system in college football, the debate about who's No. 1 won't get resolved this season.

“I think there'd be an awful lot of people who would love the matchup,” Carroll said.

“It would be exciting for the country. It's too bad it can't happen.”

USC was left out of the BCS title game despite being the top team in both polls, while Oklahoma made it after losing the Big 12 championship game 35-7 to the Kansas State Wildcats.

The Trojans have now been involved in three of the 11 split titles

in college football history. In 1978, they won the coaches' poll while Alabama won the AP poll, and in 1974, the coaches picked USC while the media picked Oklahoma.

The Trojans hadn't won the AP poll since 1972, when they were the undisputed champion.

That was also the last time a Pac-10 team won the AP title. Washington won the coaches' poll in 1991.

USC has four AP titles overall, tied with Minnesota, Nebraska and Ohio State for the fifth most ever.

There have been nine different champions in the past nine seasons, the longest stretch in the history of the poll.

SportsLine

Perfect time for a playoff

With The AP giving its #1 football nod to the University of Southern California (USC) and the Bowl Championship Series crowning Louisiana State University (LSU) as its #1, the scene should be set — but isn't — to pit these two teams together to play for the national championship. It only makes sense that in those years when there are co-champions, that they pair off to determine the true national champion. In those years when #1 is the same in both polls, then a playoff wouldn't be necessary. People keep talking about playoffs, well....? —comment by TD

Colby activities

- Tuesday — High school basketball vs. TMP-Marian. C/JV/V at the high school and at the Community Building, action begins at 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday — High school wrestlers at Goodland, action begins at 6:30 p.m. 7thA/8th A-B at Hays Felten Middle School, 3:45 p.m.

Colby College activities

- Wednesday — Trojan women and men's basketball vs. Garden City, Community Building, 6 and 8 p.m., respectively. Wrestling vs. Lincoln (Illinois) dual at Hoxie High School, 6:30 p.m.

Golden Plains activities

- Thursday — Junior high basketball at Brewster, 3 p.m.

Brewster activities

- Tuesday — High school basketball vs. Herndon, 6:30 and 8 p.m., at home.
- Thursday — Junior high basketball vs. Rexford, 3 p.m. home.

STRIKE ZONE

League Bowling Results

December 29 - First Nighters League				Strike Outs			
Team	Won	Lost	Pins	Colby Bowl	38.5	25.5	37660
Colby Implement	8	0	55370	Premier Auto	35	29	37495
OutCasts of Oakley	5	3	55843	Sunflower Bank	35	29	37023
Schlick Construction	5	3	55682	Clear Choice	34.5	29.5	37353
Woolter Well & Pump	4	4	54969	Lobo Liquor	34	30	37432
Colby Bowl	4	4	51326	Horlacher Jewelry	29	35	37310
Coors	3	5	48556	Brooks Inc.	25.5	38.5	37009
Frontier Equity	2	6	54414	Straight Line	24.5	39.5	36603
Code Red	1	7	55056		24	40	36898
First high Individual game: Wayne Summers, 227				First high individual game: Mary Hurr, 200			
First high individual series: Gordon Berry, 550				First high individual series: Mary Hurr, 536			
December 17 - Powderpuff League				December 30 - Pinbusters League			
Team	Won	Lost	Pins	Team	Won	Lost	Pins
Service Oil	36	24	35341	Colby Automotive	8	0	55917
Western Sprinklers	33	27	35456	Pepsi Renegades	6	2	55542
Weiser Insurance	28	32	34977	United Commercial Travelers	6	2	55000
Camouflage Lawn Care	25	35	34906	Farm Credit	5	3	55499
Nightmares	25	27	30392	Bowladium Lanes - Goodland	4	4	58402
First high individual game: Debra Metzler, 226				City Slickers	4	4	54075
First high individual series: Monica Miller, 532				McCarty Dairy	3	5	55150
December 18 - King Pin League				Kersensbrock's	3	5	55800
Team	Won	Lost	Pins	Cummins Mid America	3	5	55200
5 Pony Men	25	7	49556	TNT	3	5	55008
Stephens Construction	18	14	49262	Al's Painting	2	6	54710
Colby Bowl & Fun Center	18	14	49247	Silver Bullets	0	8	40015
T.J.'s Tire	16	16	48377	First high Individual game: Scott Cameron, 267			
A & R Farms	15	17	48210	First high Individual series: Scott Cameron, 635			
Colby Automotive	15	17	49191	December 21 - King & Queen			
Triple K Racing	15	17	48608	Team	Won	Lost	Pins
Thunderballs	6	26	48393	Wark - Ryan	21	11	19183
First high individual game: Ralph Wolf, 230				Norman - Moore	21	11	18805
First high individual series: Charles Schwanke, 560				Brewer - Schwanke	20	12	18678
December 19 - Ten Pin League				White - Gaede	19	13	18620
Team	Won	Lost	Pins	Kern - Dale	17.5	14.5	18600
Oasis Travel Center	18	10	34683	Benson - Sabatka	17	15	18944
Hurr Enterprises	17	11	35420	Bachman - McGuire	16.5	15.5	16446
Comfort Inn	15	13	35259	Moeder - Lee	15	17	18532
Colby Community College	15	13	34603	Andrews - Boell	15	17	18508
L & R Promotions	14	14	32407	Lippert - Odell - Stults	12.5	19.5	15729
Sunflower Kitchen Bakery	13	15	34579	Barton - Niblock	10.5	21.5	15903
Cal Williams	12	16	34798	First high male game: Robert Lee, 236			
Colby Community College	11	13	32269	First high male series: Ken Brewer, 576			
Passion Party	12	16	34531	First high female game: Deb Norman, 172			
Colby Bowl	10	18	35129	First high female series: Deb Norman, 466			
Western Times	10	18	35097	December 23 - Early Bird Ladies League			
Don's Electric	9	19	34885	Team	Won	Lost	Pins
First high individual game: Monica Miller, 204				Bowlerettes	361	28	37628
First high individual series: Monica Miller, 501				NW Vacuum	33.5	30.5	37530
December 17 - Ladies Nite Out League				www.strike	32	32	37181
Team	Won	Lost	Pins	4 4 Fun	31.5	32.5	36894
Who-No's	40	24	37658	Van's Merry Four	29.5	34.5	36949
				Jean's Rollers	29.5	34.5	36875
				First high individual game: Deb Mountford, 183			
				First high individual series: Deb Mountford, 516			

Brought to you each week by these sponsors:

TO WAAC TIRE
I.O. HAW TIRE
ESTABLISHED 1947
Jim Wallin,
Store Manager
910 South Range • Colby
462-3957

Litter Critters

ALAN & KELLY FOCKE
* PARKING LOT SWEEPING
* PRESSURE WASHING
MOBILE: 785-443-3481
785-462-8399

ColbyBowl
F U N C E N T E R
GAME ROOM • POOL ROOM
SNACK BAR/LOUNGE • PRO SHOP
Charles & Vern Schwanke, owners

Your
COLBY
FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th • 462-3963