

Trojan wrestlers pound Air Force Academy jayvee, 32-9

By LES BROWN

Free Press Contributor
“Colby is a better tournament team than dual team this season.” This comment has been shared by many of the nation’s “in-the-know” junior college wrestling fans since this season’s early polls were released. But the shellacking the Trojans bestowed upon the Air Force Academy JV team Friday evening in the Colby Community Building may have some rethinking that notion. The Trojan wrestlers certainly gave a sizable home crowd a lot to cheer about during their 32-9 win over the visitors from Colorado Springs.

The first match of the evening was at 133 pounds, due to a double forfeit at the 125 pound weight class.

The 133 pound bout ended regulation deadlocked in a 3-3 tie, but the 1:16 in riding time accumulated throughout the course of the match gave Kyle Patton (freshman, Wellsville) a bonus point to secure the win. Patton’s win gave Colby a 3-0 lead in the team score race.

Air Force JV forfeited to Colby at 141 pounds, as their athlete did not make weight. But an exhibition match was wrestled between Tony Lombardi (freshman, Key West, Fla.) and Luke Vitolo anyway. Lombardi won the exhibition match over Vitolo by an 8-4 score on the strength of an early takedown and nicely executed pinning combination. While the exhibition was for nothing more than experience, the forfeit gave Colby a 9-0 lead.

A. J. Wenger (freshman, Bellville, Ohio) then took the mat at 149 pounds for the Trojans. Wenger normally competes at 141 pounds but moved up to 149 pounds for Drue Herl, who was noticeably absent from the Trojans’ line-up. Wenger opened his match with Derek Ebeling in fine fashion by scoring an early takedown. But Ebeling appeared to gradually deplete the stamina of the smaller Wenger and pulled away late in the match for a 10-3 victory. This cut the Colby team score lead to 9-3.

Colby would then secure the win by rattling off four consecutive victories. Eric Luedke (freshman, Colby) began the streak when he squared off against Bridger Lord in the 157 pound bout. Luedke dem-

onstrated complete control throughout the match and earned an 8-3 victory for the Trojans.

Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov (sophomore, Tashkent, Uzbekistan) then put on a takedown demonstration in his bout against Beau Tresemer. Abdurakhmanov recorded several takedowns in his bout prior to scoring a technical fall victory just a few seconds into the third period of his 165 pound match.

Zach Luedke (freshman, Colby) was then able to score a well earned 10-4 victory over Logan Brewer at 174 pounds. And C.B. Dollaway (sophomore, Mt. Gilead, Ohio) dismantled Hugoton product Zane Hershey by technical fall in the 184 pound bout. The four match winning streak stretched Colby’s team

score lead to 26-3.

But Air Force JV was able to get back on the scoreboard at 197 pounds when Peter Bozynski pinned Ryan Zweggardt (sophomore, St. Francis). Zweggardt put forth a gutsy effort against Bozynski, who outweighed the Trojan wrestler by over 30 pounds. Zweggardt normally competes at 165 pounds, but filled in against the Air Force JV for an ailing Ed Jaramillo (freshman, Rocky Ford, Colo.).

Sam Karash (freshman, Grant, Neb.) then earned a forfeit at 285 pounds to secure a 32-9 win for the Trojans.

Next action for the Trojans will be in the West-Central Regional national qualifying tournament in

Parsons this coming Saturday. The West-Central Region has long been known as the most competitive regional in the country, and this year’s version is no different. Northwest College (Wyoming) is currently the top ranked team in the country. Labette County Community College is ranked 5th; Colby Community College is ranked 6th; and Neosho County Community College is ranked 7th.

Also in the region are Western Wyoming (who has been ranked in previous polls this season), Pima (Ariz.) and Glendale (Ariz.). Based upon the NJCAA rankings released on Jan. 27 the top ranked wrestler in six of the ten weight classes and a total of twenty-five nationally ranked wrestlers will be in Parsons.

Eagle ladies romp to 15th victory

By RALPH WOLF

Free Press Contributor
The Colby High School Lady Eagles picked up their 15th basketball win of the season, 57-31 over the Oberlin Red Devils Friday night on the road. Colby got off to a fast start and led 22-8 after the first period and by half-time 33-17.

Colby continues to hold down the #4 spot in the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association poll.

Zanae Baird led the team in scoring by tossing in 11 points. Baird also had three rebounds. Ivy Ramsey, Jessica Stephens and Amanda Seemann all were credited with 9 points apiece. Ramsey added 5 rebounds, 3 steals and 2 assists. Stephens had 1 board, 3 steals and 4 assists. Seemann grabbed 4 rebounds, 6 steals and dished out 5 assists.

Brittany Kersenbrock finished the game with 7 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal and 5 assists. Emily Sloan recorded 6 points, 7 boards, 1 steal,

1 assist and rejected 2 shots. Ashley Barnes was credited with 4 points, 4 rebounds, 4 steals and one assist. Rounding out the scoring was Marcia Kaus with 2 points. Kaus also had 5 boards. Shea McKee and Rishonna Martin both had 1 rebound each. McKee left the game with an ankle injury. Lauren Cox also saw some action.

As a team the Eagles committed a season high 30 turnovers, but managed to connect on 47 percent of their shots from two-point land, 40 percent from behind the three-point line and an amazing 81 percent from the free throw line.

Junior varsity

Colby defeated the Red Devils, 58-26. The Eagles outscored Oberlin 18-5 in the first quarter and 21-12 in the second quarter to take a comfortable 39-17 lead into the lockerroom at half-time.

Marcia Kaus was credited with a double double by scoring 13 points and hauling down 10 rebounds.

Kaus also had 4 steals. Caitie Henry added 12 points and 4 rebounds. Ashley Barnes recorded 11 points, 5 boards, 1 steal and 1 assist before fouling out of the game. Rishonna Martin finished the game with 10 points, 7 rebounds, 4 steals and 4 assists.

Brittany Kersenbrock had 5 points and 2 steals, while Lauren Cox tossed in 3 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, 3 steals, 3 blocked shots and 1 assist. Tisha Bieker finished the contest with 2 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals and 2 assists. April Weaver and Jenna Johnson both recorded 1 point, 3 rebounds, 1 steal and 1 assist each. Carleigh Dempewolf had 1 rebound.

Others seeing action were Nikole Schroeder, Jacquie Fry, Kristin Cox, Michelle Kaus and Rashaun Wilson. As a team the jayvee shot 35 percent from the field, 20 percent from three-point land and 50 percent from the charity stripe.

Eagles travel to Quinter Friday.

Colby varsity wrestlers win 37-23

The Colby High School varsity wrestles came away with a 37-23 dual victory over the Oberlin Red Devils in action Friday night at home.

The results (Colby listed first): 103 — Daniel Tibbles won by fall over Aaron Helm.

112 — Travis Powell won 6-2 over David Barth in overtime.

119 — Evan Mainus lost 6-1 to Jonathan Richards.

125 — Doug Hurtt won by a fall over Cameron Nedland.

130 — Cole Garcia won by virtue of an open weight.

135 — Taylor Finley won by a fall over Kegan MacFee.

140 — Kyle Withington lost 4-0 to Shane Montgomery.

145 — Ben Jurek lost 13-3 to Matt Coleman.

152 — Schuyler Sharpe won 5-2 over Logan Glaze.

160 — Ross Wright lost 14-1 to Chance Harman.

171 — Tucker Olsen lost 5-2 to Brett Keck.

189 — Brady Strange lost by a fall to Gannon Reichert.

215 — Theo Kleinsorge won 12-0 over Brett Marietta.

275 — Kraig Cersovsky won 9-4 over Brock Euhas.

Next action for the Eagles will be Friday at home vs. Garden City

Improve record to 21-4

Trojan men punish Cloud, 94-62

The #12-ranked Colby Community College Trojan men jumped out to a 8-0 lead and never trailed defeating Cloud County 94-62 Saturday night at the Colby Community Building and in the process building their home court winning streak to 18.

Colby built a 26-13 lead midway through the first half before Cloud County answered with a 15-2 run to tie the game at 28. It was the only tie in the game as Colby responded with a 10-0 run over 2 minutes and

ended the half with a 44-32 lead.

The Trojans started the second half on a 19-8 run over the first 6 minutes of the second half and never were threatened again. The Trojans outrebounded Cloud County 33-22 and connected on a school record 19 of 19 free throws in the win. Colby held Cloud County to 32.4 percent shooting, while the Trojans hit 55 percent of their shots.

Branden Miller came off the bench for the third straight game

and led Colby with 19 points. EJ Drayton added 13 points and 5 rebounds, while Justin Williams added 12 points and 6 rebounds. Ontario McKee and Dillion Sneed each added 11 in the victory. McKee led Colby’s 22 assist attack with 6.

Colby is now 21-4 overall and 7-4 in Jayhawk West Conference action. They will travel to Liberal Wednesday for a Jayhawk West game against Seward County. Game time is set for 8 p.m.

Colby boys post big win over Red Devils
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