## State next for Colby girls

### Win over Nickerson sends team to Salina

By RALPH WOLF and TOM A. DREILING

Colby Free Press

Like the battery that features the bunny, the Colby High School Lady basketball Eagles just keep going...and going...and going.

This week they are going to the Bicentennial Center in Salina to take part in the Class 4A State Tournament, thanks to their lopsided 54-24 win over the Nickerson Panthers in the championship game of the 4A Sub-State at Ulysses Saturday

The Eagles will open against Kansas City-Bishop Ward at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Bishop Ward takes a 17-6 record into the game. This is the third consecutive year

years that the Eagles are heading to the state tournament. The Eagles used a stifling defense

to get their 22nd win of the season

Colby jumped out quickly and held a 14-point, 16-2 lead at the

However, the second half wasn't the Eagles' best performance, scoring only 10 points while the Panthers got 13, but the Colby lead was sufficient enough to hold the Nickerson bunch at arm's length at the break, 26-15.

The third quarter wasn't anything to write home about, but the fact the Eagles scored 9 points and Nickerson just 3, left the Eagles in control at the end of that period, 35-

The Eagles came alive in the final quarter to score 19 points while holding the Panthers to just 6.

Ivy Ramsey led the way with 14

**Oakley** 

earns trip

to state

points, 10 rebounds, 5 steals and 2 assists. Jessica Stephens scored 9 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal and 1 assist. Emily Sloan scored 8, had 8 rebounds, 1 steal and a season-high 4 blocked shots. Amanda Seemann had 7 points, 8 rebounds, 2 steals and 3 assists.

Brittany Kersenbrock added 5 points, 3 boards, 1 steal, 1 assist and 1 blocked shot. Zanae Baird connected on 4 of 5 free throws for 4 points, 6 rebounds and 1 steal. Ashley Barnes and Marcia Kaus each contributed 3 points to the cause, and Barnes had 8 boards and 1 steal, while Kaus hauled down 3 rebounds.

Rounding out the scoring was April Weaver with 1 points and 1 and the fourth time in the last five rebounds. Rishonna Martin got a rebound and an assist and Lauren Cox grabbed 2 rebounds and had 1

As a team, the Eagles shot a season's low 31 percent from the field, 12 percent from 3-point range and 58 percent from the free throw

The tourney bracket

Wednesday

• #2 seed Abilene (21-2) vs. #7 seed Fort Scott (17-6) at 3 p.m.

•#3 seed Wichita-Collegiate (21-2) vs. #6 seed Towanda-Circle (19-4) at 4:45 p.m.

• #1 seed Colby (22-1) vs. #8

• #4 seed Topeka-Hayden (20-3) vs. #5 seed Altamont-Labette 1) vs. #8 seed Wamego (17-6) at 3 County (20-3) at 8:15 p.m.

the way at the 3A Sub-State at

In the first round, Oakley bopped

The tourney bracket Boys

Thursday

3A State Tournament.



NOLA SLOAN/Colby Free Press

Colby High School Eagles Amanda Seemann and Ivy Ramsey went on the defensive against the Nickerson Panthers in their 4A Sub-State championship game Saturday night at Ulysses. Colby seed KC-Bishop Ward (17-6) at advances to state at Salina this week.

• #1 seed Andover-Central (22-

•#4 seed Atchison (20-3) vs. #5 seed Altamont-Labette County (20-3) at 4:45 p.m.

TMP-Marian 50-25 in the champi-

Oakley takes an 18-4 mark to

• #2 seed Kansas City-Sumner Academy (21-2) faces the #7 seed Kingman (19-4) at 6:30 p.m.

• #3 seed Ulysses (20-3) battles #6 seed Fort Scott (20-3) at 8:15

Inlow and Victoria Kuhlman led

the way with 15 points each, Amy Pilkington knocked down 14, Bencken pocketed 5 and Ziegler

Pilkington was 4 of 5 from 3-In the finals vs. TMP, Brooke point range.

#### Ray Nolan

From the Dugout

## Despite early losses, we have a good team

Trojan baseball had a long week ent, and although we battled just ground balls off the gym floor. That on. Lamar is a good club and I feel is the life of a team in winter, they would win our conference. though. I can't say that I am not happy for the rain. I think the prosperity of our community is a lot more important than us playing baseball games.

The weather forced us to cancel Otero and Seward. We will make up both series later in the season.

We finally got outside on Sunday and faced a Lamar club that was just dominating. They played much better than the first time we played them. They threw some talented arms at us and swung the sticks very

In game one they threw a righthander named Josh Cooper who is on his way to the University of Utah next season. He threw a great game. He mixed up his pitches well, and threw with above average velocity. He struck out 11 and gave up just four hits.

bad day, and his good stuff became a lot better because of it.

of hitting in-doors and taking like in game one, our bats were not Can we beat them? Sure, we had the opportunity at their place on opening day when we lost in the bottom of the seventh. We have a good team and we should beat some nationally ranked opponents this season.

This week we might be able to make our doubleheader against Otero, but currently we have nothing set. Our next doubleheader is not until Saturday against Brown Mackie. On Sunday, March 14, we will go to El Dorado to play Butler.

Butler will once again bring a competitive team to the park. Every year they have a lot of ability, but are just not able to get to the upper echelon of the conference. The past four seasons they have been notorious for looking great one game, and then giving the next away. They have a new coach this year, so we will see if that seesaw look has We have a line up that can hit a changed. Butler is currently 4-4 on pitcher of that ability, but we had a the year. Our losses Sunday dropped us to 3-5, but four of those losses have been to nationally

## Potluck will honor wrestling program

A"Wrestling Awards Potluck" is and table service. Refreshments scheduled at Colby High School on will be provided. Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the commons area.

aged to attend and bring a food dish to the public.

The evening is for all participants

in the sport, including managers and Parents and students are encourtrainers. The program is also open

#### **Sports information to:** colbysports@nwkansas.com

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