

Eagles bow to Scott City, 40-36

Season ends in 4A semi-finals at Larned

It wasn't a high scoring game by any stretch.

But it was one of those that kept fans on the edge of their seats from start to finish.

And the old saw, "It ain't over till it's over" applied to this semi-final Class 4A Sub-State game at Larned Thursday night.

The only hitch: Colby (seeded #4) lost to Scott City (seeded #1) 40-36.

The loss closes out the season for the Colby Eagle boys with a record of 12-10.

Scott City will go up against the #3-seed Larned Indians for the championship Saturday night. Larned beat Pratt 61-46 in the other semi-final matchup Thursday night.

The Eagles led Scott City at the end of the two opening quarters — 10-8 and 18-17. Scott City's Beavers owned the third and fourth quarters — 29-26 and 40-36.

The Eagles were 50 percent from the field (16 of 32), 33 percent from 3-point land (1 of 3) and 75 percent from the free throw line (3 of 4).

Scott City was 42 percent from

the field (16 of 38), 20 percent from 3-point range (3 of 15) and 71 percent from the stripe (5 of 7).

Colby owned the boards, but not by much, 21-19.

Jared Dinkel was Colby's lone double-digit shooter with 17 points

and he also had 6 rebounds.

Others scoring for the Eagles (and rebounds), were: Matt Augustine 7 (3); Trey Barnett 2 (3); Chris Finley 8 (3); and Deke Elliott 2 (2). Scott City's top scorer was Tim Peintner with 14.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

This scene will be repeated tonight at Larned as the Colby Eagle ladies take on Larned at 7:30 p.m. in semi-final action in the Class 4A Sub-State Basketball Tournament. The winner plays for the championship Saturday night. Colby is the #1 seed and Larned #4.

Dream trip recalled as...

The Eagle wrestlers invade Texas

Earlier this year, the Colby High School wrestling team participated in a tournament in the Dallas, Texas area. The results appeared in the Colby Free Press and created a lot of chatter and interest. Sherry Barrett, a longtime bus driver for the Colby School District, piloted the bus carrying the Eagle wrestlers and asked to share some of the experiences with the readers of this newspaper. Here then, in her own words, is a commentary/travelogue of the trip into the Lone Star state. -td

The intent of this commentary is so the patrons and taxpayers of the Colby School District may understand: Facts, Why this tournament, and an Overview of the Colby High School Wrestlers Trip to Texas.

I am currently in my eleventh year as a Colby School District bus driver. Many, who know me well, know I am a certifiable "wrestling fan nut" This may be the reason, many months ago; that head wrestling coach, Mitch Beims called me and asked if I would be interested in driving a bus to the Lone Star Duals Tournament in Arlington, Texas. I said, "Yes, of course I would." What an opportunity, I thought I had died and gone to heaven!

The Colby School Board's approval of the trip was with the stipulation that the district would pay and provide transportation for only the portion of the trip that would have normally been spent attending the Liberal Wrestling Tournament, the venue that the high school team has taken part, this same week, in past years. The team would have to pay for the rest of the cost of the trip.

Knowing that this would be an expensive undertaking for the team, I agreed to make the trip for no pay. I left Colby a day ahead of the wrestlers. I paid for my own transportation to Liberal and one night's stay at a local motel so I could get a good night's sleep and check out all of the details about driving the bus.

This trip was made possible by fund-raising efforts that involved the hard work of many dedicated individuals, parents, coaches and wrestlers, both varsity and junior varsity — and the generous support of many local businesses and other supporters. I must mention the huge donation of the free use (except for fuel) of the Liberal BJ's bus, a semi-professional baseball team. After faxing all of the necessary information on my CDL, and other certifications, to the BJ's secretaries, they even covered us with insurance, by adding my name to their regular driver list on their insurance policy. The BJ's provided a security fenced and patrolled area to park the schools three suburban vehicles, while on the trip.

The BJ's bus was a very nice 37-passenger coach on a Freightliner Chassis. I was amazed that it was almost the same bus mechanically, that I drive for the Colby schools, except for more passenger amenities, including reclining seats, a huge rear storage compartment for gear, individual reading lights, a television/with a VCR and a mid-

bus plug-in for cell phones and DVD players etc.. This bus got great fuel mileage, we used just under 100 gallons of diesel fuel for the whole trip — this included idling time, warming the bus before use.

Tournament officials reserved two hotels, adjacent to each other, for the tournament participants and parents: The Arlington Hilton Hotel for the college wrestlers and the Hawthorn Suites Hotel for the high school teams. These suites provided wonderful accommodations for guests, including a full buffet breakfast, and a complete workout room. The rates for the rooms, even for the parents, were nearly half of the regular rates the hotel usually charges. The Hawthorn Suites Hotel was a three-story multiple building complex, allowing each team to have their own area, with ample secured parking. Early morning weigh-ins were at the Hilton so separate trips to the school were unnecessary.

Competition tough, good experience

The Lone Star Duals at South Grand Prairie High School in Arlington, was a very well run event, featuring 23 high school teams, and 23 top college teams nationally. It was a privilege seeing former Colby Eagle wrestling standout, Matt Murray wrestling for the University of Nebraska. Other former Kansas notables there included Bryce Abby/Goodland, Trevor Charbonneau/Green, Jon Hausserman/Norton, all wrestling for the University of Nebraska at Kearney; Chris Saferite/Augusta, wrestling for Central Oklahoma; and wrestling for Air Force, 4-time state champ, Kansas 2004 Wrestler of the Year and Academic All American, Jake Kreigbaum/Abilene, whom Colby High's current 135-pound wrestler Cole Garcia managed to pin in an upset victory last year at the regional qualifying. Seeing top-ranked college teams in action was a good experience for our team, not to mention, the college-recruiting scouts that got to look at us.

The dual tournament format is popular at the college level, where teams wrestle duals round robin style, in pools. Next, the top two or three teams (three, at this tournament) enter a team bracket, rather than individuals in a bracket. This format is becoming more popular at the high school level for a number of reasons: it allows all of the team members not just the top ones, more matches (our team had eight matches). The concept of team has more emphasis as members become aware of earning extra points for the team score, for example, working for a major decision, technical fall, or pin (all ways to score more team points), rather than just settling for the win. Another advantage to attending this tournament is that our team wrestled completely new competition. This would not have been the case had we attended the Liberal Tournament, as in the past. As the tournament progressed, it was evident that many of the Colby Eagle wrestlers that didn't have a lot of experience at the varsity level

just kept getting better and better.

Most of the high school teams at this tournament were very large schools. Many as large as or larger than the biggest 6A schools in Kansas. The Colby team wrestled very well, despite the fact that two varsity starters, before Christmas break, were unable to make the trip due to injuries. Friday the Colby team had a great start for the day by defeating the number one seed in their pool, Coppelle High School. This victory was especially sweet for coach Beims, as he started Coppelle's wrestling program and was their first head coach back in 1999-2000. Colby won the rest of their duals for the day, taking first place in their pool. Saturday, it was tougher for the team, as Ross Wright, had to leave due to a previous commitment with his family. Team alternate Trenton Powell wrestled at the 119-lb. weight and the rest of the team moved up a weight to fill the void that Wright left at the 171-lb. weight. Colby's win/loss record for the second day was 1 win and 3 losses. Two of the losses were very close. Colby took home a beautiful clear acrylic, etched, eighth-place trophy carved in the shape of the state of Texas. Maybe next year we can ace this tournament.

Eagle delegation highly praised

People recognized that I was from Colby because of the Colby High School and Colby College wrestling T-shirts I was proudly wearing. I counted seven different times throughout the weekend that various individuals would comment to me, unsolicited, about how polite, well-mannered, mature acting our team was. These comments came from hotel staff, restaurants we visited and even staff at the tournament. The tournament director, Barry Boustead, caught me on the first day of wrestling, and commented on how well our team was wrestling.

He said, "The Colby kids aren't afraid of anything, are they?" I answered, "I guess they weren't told they were supposed to be." He laughed and said, "Yes, I guess you come from an area with a long history of tough wrestling." I was glad I had on my T-shirt that lists all of the Colby High School state placers on the back (dating back to Lloyd Grady's 2nd-place finish in 1931) I showed it to him. He was impressed, as Texas high school wrestling is relatively new, most programs only twenty years old, or less.

I commend the Colby School Board for allowing the wrestlers to take this trip and urge the board to allow any other groups that put forth an effort to earn their own extra funding to get some national exposure, to do so.

It's a big world out there and the more our students and young people are exposed and shown that they can compete, the better.

I respectfully thank readers for their time.

Sherry Barrett
Colby resident,
school bus driver

High School Scoreboard

BOYS

Results of games Thursday night:
Scott City 40, Colby 36

Larned 61, Pratt 46

Quinter 70, Hoxie 62

Trego 38, Ellis 17

Andover Central 63, Rose Hill 49

Andover High 62, Wichita Collegiate 55

Atchison 78, Bonner Springs 71

Belle Plaine 67, Kingman 37

Berean Academy 54, Hutchinson

Trinity 49

Blue Valley West 69, KC Harmon

37

Buhler 60, Chapman 40

Circle 75, Haven 67

Fort Scott 65, Coffeyville 56

Frankfort 53, Washington 34

Gardner-Edgerton 58, Lansing

46

Great Bend 71, Wichita West 37

Immaculata 65, Solomon 38

Inman 42, Bennington 41

Jackson Heights 71, Troy 57

KC Schlagle 47, Blue Valley

Stilwell 40

KC Sumner 78, KC Ward 47

KC Wyandotte 75, KC Turner 50

Kinsley 54, Sublette 51

Labette County 76, Independence 64

Liberal 42, Wichita Carroll 37

Louisburg 60, Spring Hill 51

McPherson 81, Salina Central 38

Osawatomie 69, Anderson

County 64

Osborne 69, Plainville 54

Oswego 55, Sedan 43

Ottawa 78, Pittsburg 63

Peabody 51, Remington 49

Pittsburg Colgan 88, West Elk 42

Salina South 55, Valley Center 36

Santa Fe Trail 50, Jefferson West

44

SM Miego 77, KC Washington

68

Smoky Valley 57, Marysville 46

St. John 71, Sacred Heart 60

Stanton County 56, Meade 51

Syracuse 68, Deerfield 60

Topeka Hayden 65, Wamego 31

Topeka Highland Park 50, Paola

45

Topeka Seaman 62, Shawnee

Mill Valley 45

Topeka West 84, Shawnee

Heights 40

Wabaunsee 48, Jefferson North

44

Wichita Kapaun 67, Newton 50

Winfield 48, Wichita Campus 41

GIRLS

Results of games Thursday night:

Brewster 55, Logan 32

Victoria 60, Golden Plains 48

Holcomb 44, Norton 36

TMP-Marian 53, Lakin 37

Baileyville 69, Tipton 50

Baxter Springs 48, Erie 36

Belleville 58, Beloit 46

Blue Valley North 61, Blue Valley Northwest 46

Burlington 57, Fredonia 29

Cheney 58, Chaparral 56

Clafflin 54, Tribune 43

Eastern Heights 54, Western

Plains 43

Fowler 47, South Central 41

Garden Plain 62, Bluestem 39

Goddard 87, Dodge City 46

Greensburg 41, Moscow 29

Hanston 64, Norwich 44

Hesston 64, Medicine Lodge 31

Hillsboro 55, Lyons 42

Horton 39, Nemaha Valley 38

Jetmore 66, Cunningham 52

Junction City 73, Wichita East 61

KC Christian 53, Wellsville 38

Lawrence High 73, Topeka High

57

Leavenworth 50, Lawrence Free

State 41

Little River 61, Hanover 55

Maize 55, Derby 38

Manhattan 38, Emporia 29

Neodesha 54, Cherryvale 40

Olathe East 55, Olathe North 38

Olathe South 52, Olathe North-

west 35

Olpe 63, Uniontown 44

Osage City 53, Oskaloosa 40

Riley County 59, Southeast of

Saline 44

Riverton 47, Southeast Cherokee

41

Silver Lake 52, Maur Hill-Mount

Academy 40

SM Northwest 56, SM West 46

SM South 55, SM East 50

South Haven 50 Marais des

Cygnus 35

St. Paul 53, Burrton 32

St. Thomas Aquinas 43, SM

North 38

Topeka Washburn Rural 58,

Wichita North 21

Waverly 58, Flinthills 45

Wetmore 56, Pike Valley 53

White City 63, Centralia 47

Wichita Heights 65, Wichita

Southeast 46

Wichita Northwest 32,

Hutchinson 26

Wichita South 60, Garden City

52

Congratulations

Cole

on bringing home the GOLD!

We're very proud of you!



Love Always -
Dad, Denise, Lexie, Bear & Cheif

Colby College schedule

Tuesday — Indoor track national championships, Charleston, Ill.; rodeo at Garden City.

Saturday — IHSA Western Team at Colorado State University; indoor track championships at Charleston, Ill.; women's basketball vs. Butler County, Community Building, 2 p.m.; men's basketball vs. Butler County, Community Building, 4 p.m.; rodeo at Garden City.

Sunday — IHSA Western Team at Colorado State University; softball vs. Cloud County, Concordia; rodeo at Garden City.

Sports notes to: colbysports@nwkansan.com

STRIKE ZONE

League Bowling Results

February 24- King Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Colby Automotive	206	130	1
Colby Bowl & Fun Center	187	149	2
Thunderballs	171	165	3
5 Pony Men	158	178	4
Orschelns	150	186	5
T - J's Tire	136	200	6

First high Individual game: Brent Menges, 277

First high Individual series: Brent Menges, 703

February 28 - First Nighters League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Schlick Construction	42	0	1
Woofter Well & Pump	40	2	2
Out Cast of Oakley	31	11	3
Colby Implement	28	14	4
Frontier Equity	28	14	5
Warrior Hunting Supplies	14	28	6
Coors	14	28	7
Code Red	11	31	8
Colby Bowl	0	42	9

First high Individual game: John Liester, 266

First high Individual series: John Liester, 666

February 25 - Ten Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Hurt Enterprises	19	9	1
Don's Electric	16	12	2
Classic Trojans	15	13	3
Colby Bowl	14.5	13.5	4
Comfort Inn	13	15	5
Lantern Park Manor	12	16	6
Cal Williams	11.5	16.5	7
JJ Tools	11	17	8

First high Individual game: Monica Miller, 235

First high Individual series: Rebecca Koel, 556

February 27 - King & Queen

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Benson - Sabatka	36	16	1
Brewer - Schwanke	29.5	22.5	2
Moeder - Lee	27.5	24.5	3
White - Gaede	26	26	4
Kern - Dale	26	26	5
Barton - Donley	25	27	6
Rosales - Gourley	23	29	7
Wark - Ryan	23	29	8
Crocker - Lewis	23	29	9
Norman - Gallentine	21	31	10

Men's First high Individual game: Shawn Dale, 298

Men's First high Individual series: Shawn Dale, 692

Women's First high Individual game: Deb Norman, 216

Women's First high Individual series: Robin Schwanke, 559

February 22 - Early Bird Ladies League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Bowlerettes	15.5	8.5	1
4 4 Fun	14.5	9.5	2
NW Vacuum	13	11	3
Van's Merry Four	11	13	4
Jean's Rollers	11	13	5
www. strike	7	17	6

First high Individual game: Sharon Kriss, 165

First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 590

February 23 - Ladies Nite Out

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Strike-Outs	16	8	1
Bottle Gallery	14.5	9.5	2
Twisters	14	10	3
Who-No's?	14	10	4
Sunflower Bank	13.5	10.5	5
Camouflage Lawn Care	11	13	6
Lobo Liquor	10	14	7
Straight Line	10	14	8
Colby Bowl	9	15	9
CMC	8	16	10