



Colby High wrestlers dominate duals

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby High varsity wrestling team crushed St. Francis 59-12 and Oakley 64-7 in a triple dual match on Friday at the high school gym.

They did this on a night where members of the 2009 state championship team got see their championship banner hang from the rafters during a ceremony before the last dual.

Breck Arnberger, a 2009 state champion, and state qualifier Heath Stephens returned from college to attend. Garrett Zwegardt, another 2009 state qualifier, was refereeing matches in the dual. He also was a part of the ceremony.

The ceremony took place before the third dual of the night between Colby and Oakley. Each wrestler from last year's team was recognized and the crowd was directed to look at the 2009 banner suspended in the air along with past banners.

The Eagles took on St. Francis in the first dual of the night. Freshman Dustin Reed got the boys off to a good start by pinning Keller of St. Francis at 103 pounds to give his team a quick 6-0 lead. Senior Nathan Reed, Dustin's brother, extended the lead to 12-0 by pinning the Indians' Liebrandt at 112. Sophomore Konnor Kriss won by fall over Pacheco of St. Francis in the second period at 119 to make it 18-0 Colby.

Junior Dustin Baumfalk and sophomore Michael Tubbs won by forfeit at 125 and 130 because



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby High senior Bob Schroeder tangled with Keller from St. Francis during a triple-dual match between Colby, St. Francis and

Oakley on Friday at the high school gym. The Eagles crushed St. Francis 59-12 and hammered Oakley 64-7.

the Indians had no one to wrestle them. Sophomore Dalton Snyder lost a hotly-contested match 7-5 in overtime to the Lamb of St. Francis at 135. Snyder managed to rally from a two-point deficit and tie the match at 5 with only a few

seconds left in the third period, but Lamb got the first two points in overtime to pick up the victory.

Brandon Leth was pinned at 140 by Sherlock of St. Francis, then senior Bob Schroeder scored a gritty 5-3 win over the Indians'

Keller at 145.

Senior Ethan Stickel scored a takedown on Douthit of St. Francis to take an early 4-1 lead at 152. He increased his lead to 9-1 by the end of the first period. Stickel almost had his opponent pinned

then, but time ran out. He pinned him in the second.

Senior Torey Taylor led the Indians' Brunk 4-2 at the end of the first period at 160 and led 6-3 after two periods. Taylor was able to get Brunk's shoulders exposed for

Eighth graders beat Hoxie, finish season with 12-0 record

The Colby Middle School eighth-grade boys finished their basketball season undefeated Thursday, taking the championship in the Northwest Kansas League tournament before a home crowd.

"Those kids were really fun to work with," said coach Carson McKee.

Its not hard to understand why McKee felt this way. The team capped off an 11-0 season by beating Hoxie 48-43 in the finals at the Colby High gym. They had to come from behind to do it, too.

Colby trailed by 10 in the third quarter against the Indians, only to rally and eventually pick up the win.

The boys demolished St. Francis 51-34 on Dec. 14 in the first round of the tournament, and they hammered Oakley 46-26 in the second round Thursday afternoon.

McKee said his team was very

coachable and they understood his defensive schemes.

He said his defensive style featured a lot of press and pressure defense.

McKee said the boys had a good transition game and towards the end of the year, they learned when to slow down and when to speed up. He said as a coach, he emphasized never taking a play off in a game, and his team really took that to heart.

McKee said another key to the boys' success was that they always had four guys going for rebounds. He said they outrebounded most of the teams they played this year.

The eighth-grade team is comprised of Michael Schiferl, Spencer Barnes, Andrew Taylor, Tuck-

er Gerstner, Marc Bremencamp, Adam Giersch, Dylan Slavens, Kaden Staab, Billy Selley, Ashley Coleman, Chase Hartwell, Reed Stephens, Connor Schwanke, Luke Cox, Brady Colson, Jaden Morrison and Colton Rundell.

Broncos control their own destiny

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Josh McDaniels rattled off a lengthy list of miscues and missteps that ended up derailing Denver in a last-minute loss to the Oakland Raiders.

The bright spot, the Broncos coach quickly pointed out Monday, was that his team was "far from being dead" in the postseason picture.

Denver had a chance to move a giant step closer to locking up an AFC wild-card spot, only to have JaMarcus Russell come off the bench to rally the Raiders in a 20-19 win.

Just like that, the Broncos gave a slew of teams renewed hope, including the defending Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers (7-7).

Even with their recent slump, though, the Broncos are still in control of their postseason chances.

A win in Philadelphia, followed by another at home against Kansas City, and they're in.

It's that simple.

But they're not favored against an Eagles team that's won five straight games. A loss there only complicates things even more.

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