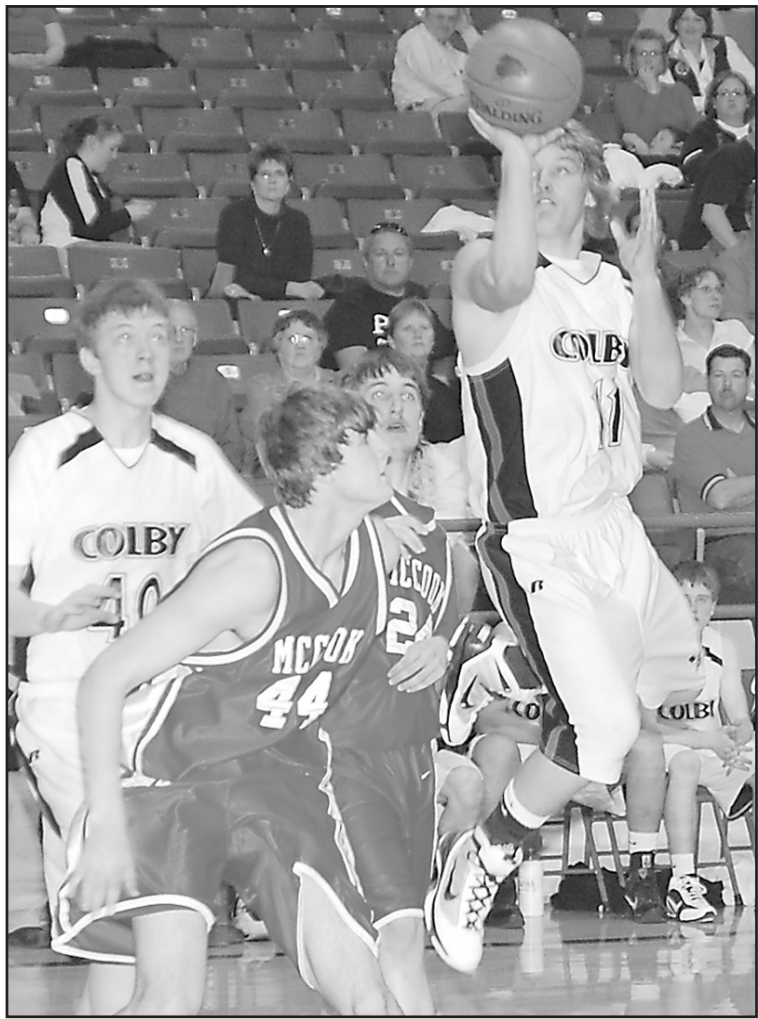


Colby boys fall to McCook



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Colby High senior Chaz Winger rose above the competition to take a shot during the Eagles' game against McCook on Tuesday at the Colby Community Building.

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby Eagles played a terrific first quarter Tuesday night against McCook High from Nebraska, but they couldn't maintain their level of play for the rest of the game.

Colby led 15-12 after the first, but McCook took control after that and went on to whip the Eagles 58-34.

"We played tense in the second half," said senior Brock Wagoner. "You have to be loose to play well."

The Bison got off to a strong start, scoring the first 7 points. Wagoner pulled down a rebound and stuck it back in to give Colby its first points. Junior Corbin Stephens whipped a pass to a wide-open Wagoner, who made another layup to cut the Bison lead to 7-4. Stephens hit a turnaround jumper that rattled around the rim and fell in to make it 7-6.

Senior Chaz Winger swooped into the lane and made a tough left-handed layup while being fouled to make it 12-10 McCook. He missed his free throw but Colby got a rebound that led to a three-pointer, giving the Eagles a 13-12 lead. Colby picked up two more points before the first quarter came to a close.

The Eagles turned up the defensive pressure in the second period. Stephens got a tie-up on two consecutive McCook possessions. The Bison's Ethan Hardin made a transition layup. Stephens swished a jump shot while a defender had a hand right in his face to give Colby a 17-14 lead. Then McCook scored the next six points and took a 20-17 lead.

The Bison extended their lead to 24-17. Senior Ryley Haas missed a reverse layup, but he got his own rebound and took a baseline jumper that was also off the mark, then got his own rebound again and scored to cut the lead to 24-19. Then McCook's Dustin Parde made a long jumper to give his team a 26-19 lead. The Bison led 28-19 at the half.

Colby got off to a slow start in the second half. Parde had a big third, scoring on a couple of drives and a three-pointer. The Eagles trailed 45-26 at the end of the third.

Senior Braden McKee drilled mid-range jumper to make it 51-27 with 5:41 in the fourth. The Bison wouldn't allow Colby to mount any sort of rally, and McCook picked up the win.

With the loss, the boys' record dropped to 1-7. They will play at 8 p.m., or after the girls' game, on Friday at Hoxie.

Wrestlers win tourney

The The Colby High Eagles' wrestling team took first out of 22 teams in the Southwest Classic in Liberal on Saturday.

Senior Adam Weber, sophomore Dalton Snyder and freshman Dustin Reed snared first in the 185, 135 and 103 pound classes. Weber went 2-0 and Reed and Snyder went 3-0.

Seniors Bob Schroeder, Nathan Reed and junior Andrew Flanagin took second at 145, 112 and 171. They all went 2-1.

Senior Ethan Stickel and sophomore Michael Tubbs finished third overall at 152 and 130. They both finished 3-1. Senior Torey Taylor, junior George Smollock, sophomore Konner Kriss and Zell Bieberle all finished fourth. Smollock went 3-2 at 189 and Taylor and Kriss went 2-2 at 119 and 160. Bieberle went 1-2.

Junior Dryden Baumfalk and sophomore Brandon Leth both went 1-2 at 140 and 125.

The Eagles' wrestling team dominated a dual at Ulysses on Friday 33-12.

Nathan Reed won his match 16-3 and Snyder hammered his opponent 15-2. Flanagin overwhelmed his opponent 13-2 and Leth won 13-1.

Taylor pounded his opponent 10-2 and Schroeder soundly defeated his opponent 16-8. Other wrestlers who won their matches include senior Adam Weber, 7-3; Smollock, 7-2; and Baumfalk, 3-2. Bieberle won by forfeit because the Tigers had no one to wrestle him.

Dustin Reed, Stickel, Kriss and Tubbs all lost their matches, though Reed, Tubbs and Kriss all lost by one point. Stickel lost 3-0.

The Eagles will wrestle in a tournament starting at 11:15 a.m. Friday at Newton.

Clemente steps up for Cats

MANHATTAN (AP) — Kansas State has been waiting all season for Denis Clemente to find his shot. The senior has done everything else right, running the offense, distributing, playing solid defense. Just not scoring.

Coming off a tough loss, Clemente couldn't have picked a better time to break out. He scored 20 of his 24 points in a dominating first half and No. 13 Kansas State rode its stifling defense to an 88-65 rout over Texas A&M Tuesday night.

"Denis doesn't like losing. Plays to win," Kansas State coach Frank Martin said. "That loss a couple days ago? Didn't go down in his stomach real good. You saw the way he came out today; he was going to put them on his back...."

Colby Trojans basketball team loses two competitive games

"Close but no cigar," a phrase that would certainly apply to this year's Trojan men's basketball team.

The Colby Community College team has lost seven games so far by less than six points.

The men lost two hotly contested games to Johnson County and Labette County this weekend in the Jayhawk Shoot-Out in Coffeyville.

They lost to Labette 70-69 on Sunday, and they fell to Johnson County 78-74 on Saturday.

The Trojans led the Cardinals 32-23 at half on Sunday, but they were outscored 47-37 in the second half.

Freshman Michael Morris had a monster game, scoring 20 points on 9-of-15 shooting.

"He was really aggressive underneath the basket," said coach Dustin Pfeifer. "It was a sign of what kind of player he can be for us in the future."

Sophomore Aireus Stephenson added 14 points and dished out 8 assists. Freshman Regis Schafer also had 14. Colby outrebounded Labette 47-42.

The Trojans struggled from beyond the arc, hitting only 4 of 17 three-pointers, while the Cardinals made 11 of 21.

Stephenson led the team with 17 points and Michelson had 16 points and 11 rebounds against Johnson County.

Saturday, the Cavaliers won the first half 34-32 and the second half 44-42.

Schafer had 15 and Morris had 9 points while grabbing 9 rebounds. Freshman Jose P  na-Benjamin

scored 8 and dished out 5 assists and freshman Corey Woofter took four charges. The Trojans outrebounded the Cavaliers 44-39 and they hit 10 of 11 free throws.

"Our effort was there," said Pfeifer. "I feel for the guys. They are really battling."

With the losses, the men's record dropped to 6 and 10.

They will play Dodge City at 8 p.m. tonight at the Colby Community Building.

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The Colby High Lady Eagles C-team dominated a basketball contest against Burlington (Colo.) High School 47-17 on Monday at the high school gymnasium.

Colby jumped out to an early 20-8 lead. Then freshman Karly Kriss was fouled while attempting a layup. She sank both her free throws to extend her team's lead to 22-8 in the second quarter. Freshman Morgan Smull fired a slick cross-court pass to an open Kriss, who laid it in give the Lady Eagles a 24-8 advantage. This remained the score for the duration of the half.

The girls went on a 16-0 run to start the second half. Several Lady Eagles contributed, including sophomores Brenna McKee, Paige Roopchan and Kriss.

Kriss found freshman Janessa Williams under the basket for a bucket in the final seconds of the third to make it 42-10 Colby.

Roopchan was fouled while shooting early in the fourth. She made both her free throws to extend the Lady Eagles' lead to 44-12. Freshman Bailey Terrell found freshman Kenzie Curry, who took the ball down for a layup to make it 47-15.

The Lady Eagles defeated McCook 35-32 on Tuesday night at the Community Building.

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