Free Press SPORTS

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Chad Wolf crossed the finish line during the Colby Recreation Department's 5K Spring Fling. Wolf was the first of 30 runners to complete the race, finishing in 23 minutes and 57 seconds.

Colby Eagles boys squad improved during season

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby High Eagles' basketball team got off to a slow start this season, but the boys showed a lot of improvement as the yeat progressed.

The team finished their season with a 7-14 record.

The Eagles will be losing to some key players, including seniors Chaz Winger, Ryley Haas, Brock Wagoner and Braden McKee, Coach Jon McKee's son. Players with experience playing varsity like juniors Spencer Tubbs, Kale Arnberger and Corbin Stephens will have to adopt a leadership role next year for Colby to be successful.

Stephens averaged a team-high 11.4 per game. He had several big games this year, including scoring 19 on six-for-nine shooting in the Eagles' 56-47 victory over Oberlin on Feb. 5. He scored 17 in a 49-42 win against St. Francis and in the boys' 68-63 win against Hoxie on Jan. 15.

Stephens has a vast arsenal of moves on offense. He can knock down three-pointers, drain mid-range jumpers off the dribble, score on dribble-drives to the basket and make reverse layups. He was also the team's second leading rebounder with a total of 100 rebounds.

McKee averaged 7.5 points per game and led Colby in rebounds and assists with 49 and 146. He also led the Eagles in blocks with 47. McKee scored a team-high 24 in the Eagles' 61-47 loss to Newton on Dec. 4 in the Hays City Shootout, hitting all five of his three-pointers.

McKee also scored 19 in Colby's 46-39 win at Norton in the boys' last regular-season game on Feb. 23. He scored in double figures in several other games. McKee had a deadly jump shot from close range and consistently hit shots at or below the free-throw line.

Winger was the team's second-leading scorer, averaging eight points a game. He had 18 points in the season-opening 61-38 loss to Riley County and 17 in the boys' 51-48 victory over rival Goodland in the Orange and Black Classic. Winger was especially good at driving to the hoop and scoring with defenders in his face.

Haas was Colby's most consistent three-point shooter. He knocked down a total of 22 treys – 13 more than any other player on the team. Hass had a team-high 20 points in the 69-51 loss to Scott City in the Orange and Black.

Tubbs, a junior, showed a lot of improvement. Tubbs played a big role in the Eagles 68-63 win over Hoxie in overtime. The 6-foot-7 post player scored 13 points on six-of-nine shooting in that game. Tubbs was second on the team in blocks with 41.

Wagoner was one of this yea'rs vocal leaders on both offense and defense. He made several three-pointers.

Arnberger was an off-and-on starter this year. His biggest game came against St. Francis,when he hit three big three-pointers in the fourth quarter. His third three tied the game at 42 with 2:41 left.

Sophomore Braden Sager and junior Andrew Ketchum gave the Eagles some solid minutes off the bench. Ketchum was one of the team's best defenders and Sager showed he could score and rebound down low.

Coach Jon McKee said Sager was good at establishing position inside. He said he will be tough to stop when he learns how to score consistently.

McKee said his team started to get better when they started to get better inside play from Braden McKee and Tubbs. He said the team executed their offense better as the season progressed.

Coach McKee's said his favorite game this year was the boy's 55-49 victory over Thomas More-Prep-Marian on Jan. 28.

"We fought back, got the lead and played good at the end of the game," said the coach.

He said the Eagles' 56-47 win over Oberlin and the team's comeback 52-51 victory over Goodland on Feb. 16 were two games where he thought Colby played well.

Recreation department holds Spring Fling race

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby Recreational Department held the third annual Spring Fling 5k run around downtown on Thursday.

Thirty runners participated in the event this year. Stacy Lee, recreation department director, said it was the biggest turnout the race had ever received. The winners of the race were not based on who ran the fastest, but on who was able to come closest to their predicted time.

Nancy Arendt took first. She estimated she would finish in 39 minutes and 30 seconds and she ended up finishing in 39:18. Charles Query took second place. He predicted he would finish in 27 minutes and he actually completed the race in 26:31. Kora Schindler took third place. She predicted she would finish in 45 and she finished in 45:35. Each person received fitness equipment and water bottles as prizes. Daniel Morris won the door prize, which was a family pass to the pool.

Chad Wolf had the fastest time, finishing in 23:57 and Doug Johnson finished second, completing the race in 24:38.

The race started on Fifth Street outside the Community Building. The runners went west to Franklin Avenue, then south to Poplar Street, before going west to Wheatridge Road. Then they headed south on Hill Street, and turned east on Maize Road. Then they headed north on Poplar Street, went east on Franklin Avenue and went north to Eighth Street. Then they headed east on Court Avenue and finished outside the Community Building.

College hunt show member takes first in Intermediate Flat

Two Colby Community College Hunt Show team members recently qualified for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association zone competition Saturday, April 10, at West Texas A&M in Canyon.

Riders Devon Felts, Kelly Maxwell and Neil Melton participated in the hunt seat competition at the University of Nebraska, Omaha on March 6. Felts was named regional champion for Zone 7 Region 1 in Intermediate Flat. Melton took third in Advanced Walk Trot Canter.

Winners at the zone competition in Texas will qualify for the national competition Thursday through Saturday, May 6 to 8, in Lexington, Ky.

Western division regionals were on March 7 at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Colby riders Elizabeth Kennedy, Melton, Curtis Korthanke, Megan Sitz and Audra Welty competed. None qualified for the semifinals.

"Overall this year, the Colby Community team was ranked third in the region for our western riders," said coach Shanda Mattix. "It's been a great year and we look forward to great results from Devon and Neil and another strong performance next year."

The team travels to shows in Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming and Kansas during the school year.

No. 1 seed Kansas Jayhawks survive scare against Lehigh

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kansas coach Bill Self had to burn an early timeout, and was thrilled when his team tied the game at 12.

This wasn't the way the Jayhawks wanted to start the NCAA tournament.

Little Lehigh nearly took down the biggest Goliath of them all.

Struggling against another Patriot League team in Oklahoma City, top-seeded Kansas survived a scare by pulling away for a 90-74 win over scrappy Lehigh and avoiding a monumental upset in the Midwest Regional on Thursday night.

"It's a good thing we got tested," Kansas senior Sherron Collins said. "We needed that. It'll get us ready for games like this because there'll be more games we get tested in this tournament. It's a crazy tournament."

Kansas (33-2) nearly became the biggest name to be crossed off the brackets on a wild opening day of the NCAA tournament.

Falling into their season-long pattern of playing in spurts, the Jayhawks gave No. 16 seed Lehigh (22-11) hope of making college basketball history.

Kansas led by just six and halftime and didn't pull away until midway through the second half for a tougher-than-anticipated start to what's expected to be a deep run into the NCAA tournament.

Marcus Morris had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Collins chipped in 18 points.

STRIKE ZONE

~ League Bowling Results ~

February 16, 2010 - Pinbusters League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Corona Kids	31.5	8.5	1
Al's Painting	28	12	2
Roofmasters	27	13	3
Colby Bowl	24	16	4
Subway	23.5	16.5	5
Cummins Central Power	16.5	23.5	6
Bargos	13	27	7
Chartwells	12	28	8
Colby Automotive	8.5	31.5	9

First high Individual game: Alvin Koenig, 266
First high Individual series: Cody Crocker, 691

February 15, 2010 - First Nighters League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Kansas Quicklube	221.5	98.5	1
Sparky's Fireworks	206.5	113.5	2
Parking Lot Maintenance	177	143	3
Woofter Well & Pump	172	148	4
Frontier Ag Inc.	168	152	5
Discount Repair of	162.5	157.5	6
Pepsi	151.5	168.5	7
Grinnell Furniture	147	173	8
McKee	137	183	9
Wild Ride	136	184	10
Fire Xtrikers	130	190	11
NW Refrigeration	111	209	12

First high Men Individual game: J.R. Bargo, 255
First high Men Individual series: Ken Brewer, 666

February 18, 2010 - King Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
5 Pony Men	173	107	1
Colby Automotive	170	110	2
Kurts Pro	170	110	3
Morgan Construction	158	122	4
Balls Deep	153.5	126.5	5
www.visitcolby.com	146.5	133.5	6
Drinkin Mates	136	144	7
Thomas County Feeder	128	152	8
T.J. Tire	127	153	9

First high Individual game: J.R. Bargo, 278
First high Individual series: Brent Menges, 708

February 17, 2010 - Ladies Nite Out League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Susie's Circus	16	8	1
Bop Shop Betties	16	8	2
Strike-Outs	15	9	3
Straightline	15	9	4
Service Oil	14	10	5
Minds in the Gutter	12	12	6
Twisters II	12	12	7
Swartz Veterinary Clinic	11	13	8
Don's Electric	11	13	9
Assist-Ur-Sale	11	13	10
Twisters	9	15	11

First high Individual game: Dee Hovda, 213
First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 554

February 19, 2010 - Ten Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Once Upon a Sign	50.5	33.5	1
Colby Bowl	44	40	2
Cal Williams	39.5	44.5	3

First high Individual game: Bobbi Barton, 223
First high Individual series: Mary Hurtt, 581

February 16, 2010 - Early Bird Ladies League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
NW Vacuum	15	9	1
Van's Merry Four	12	12	2
www.strike	11	13	3
Bowlerettes	10	14	4

First high Individual game: Dee Hovda, 218
First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 572

January 14, 2010 - King and Queen non-smoking

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Norman-Mackley	31	17	1
Benson-Schmidtbe	29	19	2
Niermeier-McCarty	28	20	3
Cook-Lanning	27	21	4
Kreutzer-Garrett-	26	22	5
Team RB	26	22	6
Schissler-Wolf	25.5	22.5	7
Swartz-Barnett	23	25	8
Pancake-Unruh	23	25	9
Prochazka-Jacobs	22	26	10
Schroeder-Schroeder	16.5	31.5	11

First high Men Individual game: Tom Benson, 289
First high Men individual series: Gary Pancake, 660
First high Women individual game: Tohnna Benson, 213
First high Women individual series: Deb Norman, 558

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