



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press  
Colby High senior Spencer Tubbs took a jumper inside the lane during the Eagles' game against Hugoton on Saturday at the Orange and Black Classic at the Community Building.

# Colby High big man leads team to first win

By Andy Heintz  
Colby Free Press  
aheintz@nwkansas.com

To say the Colby High boys got the monkey off their back Saturday would be an understatement. The Eagles punted the poor little primate out of sight. The boys' emphatic 59-43 come-from-behind win over Hugoton in their last game of the Orange and Black Basketball Classic put an end to any worries fans and players may have harbored about a winless season. "The seniors stepped up tonight," coach Jerad Johnson said. "I love those kids to death." The Eagles not only beat Hugoton to place seventh in the tourney, they crushed the Longhorns. After a slow start, the Colby boys took control of the game and never let up. Senior Spencer Tubbs led the way, scoring a season-high 23 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Hugoton never figured out how to stop Tubbs. He continued to pump in shot after shot in workmanlike fashion, shooting 10 for 15 from the field. However, the rest of the Eagles did a tremendous job of feeding him the ball down low throughout the game. "Guys became unselfish players," the coach said, adding that getting the ball to Tubbs down low helped the rest of the team because when he got double-teamed, it left other open. Tubbs said there was no game plan centered around getting him the ball; it was just the way things played out. Senior Corbin Stephens also had a huge game,

# Eagles fall to Palmer Ridge in foul-plagued tourney game

By Andy Heintz  
Colby Free Press  
aheintz@nwkansas.com

Fouls, fouls and more fouls; that was the theme in the Colby boys' 67-41 loss to Palmer Ridge in a consolation round game during the Orange and Black Classic on Friday at Colby High School. The two teams combined to take 61 free throws in a game that had less flow than a creek that hasn't held water in a decade. The contest never developed any rhythm because of the constant whistles. Neither team adjusted to the way the officials were calling the game. Colby just couldn't get enough stops on offense as the team from

Monument, Colo., knocked down a high percentage of its shots. The Bears shot a blistering 64 percent in the first half and 50 percent in the second. Senior Corbin Stephens was the Eagles' high-point man, scoring 11 on 5-of-8 shooting. Senior Clint Goosen added 8. Ridge capitalized on Colby's mistakes, scoring 25 points off the Eagles' 20 turnovers. The boys only got 5 points off the Bears' 15. Ridge scored 21 points off three-point plays to Colby's 6 and got 11 second-chance points. The Eagles shot about 44 percent, 12 for 27. The Bears' Forrest Dyer knocked down a three pointer to put his team up 12-5 in the first quarter. Ridge continued to broad-

en its lead in the second. Drew Tatman knocked down a three pointer from the top of the key to put the Colorado team up 30-12. They led 36-17 at halftime. Goosen and sophomore Todd Kane both knocked down jumpers for Colby in the third. Stephens hit a tough fade-away jumper from the baseline while being double teamed. He got another jumper at the start of the fourth, but the Eagles couldn't stop the Bears' attack and Ridge picked up a 67-41 win. Kane and freshman Luke Cox finished with 6 points each, sophomore Zane Winger had 3; juniors Daalan Organ and Braden Sager, 2 each; and senior Kale Arnberger, 1.

# Strong second half lifts Eagles to easy win

By Andy Heintz  
Colby Free Press  
aheintz@nwkansas.com

The Lady Eagles basketball team put together a strong second half that helped the girls cruise to a 47-28 win in the semifinals of the Orange and Black Basketball Classic on Friday at the Community Building. The girls struggled from the field in the first half and led by just three, 17-14, at the half. After making only about 21 percent or their shots – 6 of 28 – in the first half, the Lady Eagles hit about 52 percent, 11 of 21, in the second. The girls adeptly handled the Lady Bisons' 1-3-1 zone defense in the second half, remaining calm and making smart passes when McCook would try to trap one of them in a double team. Colby dominated the offensive glass early in the first quarter, but neither team was able to get many shots to fall. The Lady Eagles led 6-3 at the end of

the quarter. A three pointer by junior Morgan Bell gave Colby an 11-5 lead in the second. Senior Kayla Hockersmith dribbled down to the left elbow and knocked down a jumper to make it 15-9. The Lady Bisons cut the lead to 17-14 by halftime, however. Senior Katherine Kaus got a bucket off a turnover and knocked down a jumper in third. Hockersmith drilled a jumper and senior Caitlyn Wark buried a three-pointer. Senior Kelsey Shields banked in a shot inside early in the fourth to make it 40-23 Colby. Junior Emilea Finley fed Shields for a layup inside, giving the Lady Eagles a 44-23 with 3:26 left. Hockersmith had a team-high 18 on 5-of-9 shooting. She also had 7 rebounds, 6 offensive; and 5 steals. Katherine Kaus added 8 and Bell chipped in 7. Other scorers included senior Katrina Kaus, Katherine's twin, and Shields, 4 each; Wark, 3; sophomore Kenzie Curry, 2; and junior Emilea Finley, 1.

# Women fall to solid team

The Colby College women lost 73-53 Sunday afternoon at the Community Building to a powerful Hutchinson squad. The Lady Trojans trailed 36-19 to the 20th ranked Lady Blue Dragons at halftime, then cut the lead to 9 early in the second half. However, they were unable to get any closer against one of the top teams in the conference – and the nation. Coach Brady Jasper said every time his team would sink a couple of buckets and get their hopes up, Hutchinson would make a play. The coach said he thought his women played all right in spite of the loss. Sophomore Hannah Thornton had an huge game, scoring 24 points on 9-of-12 shooting from the field and 6 of 7 from the free-throw line. Thornton also led the team with 11 rebounds. Jasper said it was maybe the best game Thornton has played all year. Tayler Puttergill added 11 points and 6 rebounds, and Kelli Crittenden had 8 points and 9 boards. The Lady Trojans were out-

rebounded 46-37, but both teams finished with 18 offensive boards. Colby held the Lady Blue Dragons to about 42 percent from the field on 28 of 67 shooting and the Lady Trojans shot 33 percent, making 19 of 57. With the loss, Colby dropped to 8-12 and 3-3 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference Western Division. The Lady Trojans were to play Butler County Community College in a rescheduled game at 5:30 p.m. tonight in El Dorado.

# Orange and Black results

## BOYS

In round one of the Annual Paul Wintz/Tim Bowen Orange and Black Classic on Thursday, McCook squeezed past Holcomb 73-71; Sunrise Christian from Bel Aire dominated the Colby Eagles 79 to 27; Liberal won a tight game against Palmer Ridge from Colorado 38-36; and Hays High defeated Hugoton 46-29. In Friday's semifinals, Hays knocked off McCook 48-33, and Sunrise Christian beat Liberal 57-36. In the consolidation semifinals, Holcomb beat Hugoton 48-38 and Palmer Ridge beat Colby 67-41. In the finals Saturday, the Eagles picked up their first win of the season, beating Hugoton 59-43 to place seventh; Holcomb narrowly picked up fifth place over Palmer Ridge 45-42; and Liberal gave McCook a beating for third place, winning 70-29. Sunrise Christian continued its rise up the ranks, winning the championship against Hays, 44-32.

### BOYS

- 1 Sunrise
- 2 Hays
- 3 Liberal
- 4 McCook
- 5 Holcomb
- 6 Palmer
- 7 Colby
- 8 Hugoton

## GIRLS

On the girls side, round one saw the Lady Longhorns of Holcomb shut down Scott City 72-37; Palmer Ridge from Monument, Colo., won a close game against Sunrise Christian 49-44; McCook from Nebraska beat Hugoton 36-34; and Colby whipped Liberal 51-32. The Lady Eagles continued their winning streak in Friday's semifinals, beating McCook 47-28 as Holcomb bested Palmer Ridge 38-24. In the consolidation semifinals, Sunrise Christian beat Scott City 67-54; and Liberal defeated Hugoton 42-35. The Hugoton girls ended the tourney in eighth place – the same as the boys' team – after losing to Scott City 38-27 on Saturday; Liberal beat Sunrise Christian 75-55 for fifth; Palmer Ridge won 45-37 over McCook for third; and Colby got by Holcomb by 2 points, 47-45, to claim the championship for the third time in four years.

### GIRLS

- 1 Colby
- 2 Holcomb
- 3 Palmer
- 4 McCook
- 5 Liberal
- 6 Sunrise
- 7 Scott City
- 8 Hugoton

# WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING?



## Society Editor

The Colby Free Press is looking for a part-time society editor to do social notes, weddings, engagements, obituaries, church and club items, features and other news of interest to the town. This is a great way to be in touch with the pulse of your town and get to know a lot of people. It requires accuracy, speed and attention to detail. Work week would be 10-15 hours. Pay commensurate with experience and ability. Send a letter or e-mail to Kevin Bottrell, editor, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701, kbottrell@nwkansas.com. This could be the job you've been looking for. EOE m/f/h.



COLBY  
FREE PRESS

155 W. Fifth • Colby, Kan. 67701 • (785)-462-3963