

Teeth fly, Eagles fall on road

By R.B. Headley
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Losing a tooth might hurt senior Cameron Brown's ability to whistle Christmas tunes this week, but it certainly didn't slow him or Colby High's victory quest Friday night.

Brown scored a game-high 21 points in a nearly unstoppable effort for three quarters at Hugoton. His tooth was knocked out during a third-period collision, yet Brown returned after getting the bleeding to stop.

Now only if the Colby Eagles could have found ways to halt other whistling that filled Hugoton's gymnasium.

Referees whistled so many fouls that four Colby players — Brown, seniors Luke Cox, Adam Giersch and junior Austin Russ — were disqualified during the fourth quarter.

Hugoton (4-1 record) responded with 14 free throws in 16 attempts while pulling away for the 67-53 win.

Senior Marc Bremenkamp battled to the finish of another strong double-double effort (13 points, 14 rebounds).

Sophomore Chandler Comfort netted all nine of his points after halftime, and freshman Donte Whitfield's late offensive putback showed his dynamic talent.



REECE MCDANIELS/Hugoton Hermes
Colby High senior Luke Cox soared around this Hugoton Eagle defender during Friday night's varsity game in Hugoton.

However, Colby steadily lost ground during the 25-point Hugoton fourth period.

The margin was only 28-26 going into halftime thanks largely to Brown's 14 first-half points.

His first driving basket brought the Colby Eagles within 32-30. Yet they could never quite catch the home team.

Colby resumes its pursuit of a first win this season when Ulysses comes to Colby's Community Building on Friday, Jan. 3. The

girls-boys doubleheader (6:30 p.m. start) will be their first home appearances this season.

Scoring: Cameron Brown 21 points, Marc Bremenkamp 13, Chandler Comfort 9, Donte Whitfield 4, Connor Schwanke 2, Ashton Russ 2, Luke Cox 1, Austin Russ 1. Three-point goals: Brown, Comfort. Rebounds: Bremenkamp 14, Brown 6, Schwanke 5. Assists: Bremenkamp 4. Steals: Brown 2. Blocked shots: Bremenkamp 2, Brown 2.

Freshmen spark Hugoton past Colby

Bright futures best describe both the Hugoton and Colby Eagle girls after Hugoton's 52-37 home win Friday evening.

While a trio of freshman sharpshooters helped unbeaten Hugoton break away after halftime, the Colby Eagles continued battling even though senior leader Haleigh Shull was sidelined with back troubles.

Colby (2-3 record) sliced nine points off a big deficit during the final quarter.

"There's two ways this game could have gone: the way it did or a lot worse. But these players didn't let that (second option) happen," Colby coach Ryan Becker said. "We had some kids really step up in the second half. I told them afterwards to enjoy Christmas, enjoy their families and rest up because there are a lot of good things that are going to happen for the Colby Eagles this season."

Sophomore Brenly Terrell's 10 points paced the Colby attack while classmate Lara Stephens netted nine.

Junior Shaila Giebler added five points and showed what the Eagles' second-half attitude was

all about. Even down 20 points, Giebler dove to the floor and kept battling for a loose basketball.

"Our effort was much better in the second half, and that's encouraging," Becker said.

Colby did keep pace with Hugoton (5-0) through much of the first half. Junior Hannah Strange's inside three-point play ignited the offense, and a putback from sophomore guard Brielle McKee created a 5-5 tie.

Moments later, Stephens fired a perfect pass over to McKee and her baseline jumper gave Colby its second lead of 7-5.

However, Hugoton's talented freshmen eventually took charge. Amy Scott scored a game-high 16 points while Katy Hager (12 points) and Melissa Fabela (11) teamed for another 23.

"They've got three very good freshmen. When they drive to the basket, good things happen," Becker confirmed.

Hugoton built a 27-19 lead by halftime. Shull's driving basket briefly brought Colby closer, but another 10-0 run put the home team ahead 37-21.



REECE MCDANIELS/Hugoton Hermes
Colby High junior Kelly Sloan (33) and senior Haleigh Shull tried to steal this basketball away from a Hugoton Eagle Friday night.

Too much pain prevented Shull from leading any comebacks. "That kid fight until she can't

Win over Goodland clinches Colby's title

By R.B. Headley
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Meet one teacher who's already dreading the end of another school year this spring.

"I hate it that he (senior Andrew Taylor) is graduating this year," Colby High wrestling coach Matt Sims said. "He's just the ultimate competitor and the ultimate battler. If I had to go into a foxhole, Andrew Taylor is the first guy I'm grabbing."

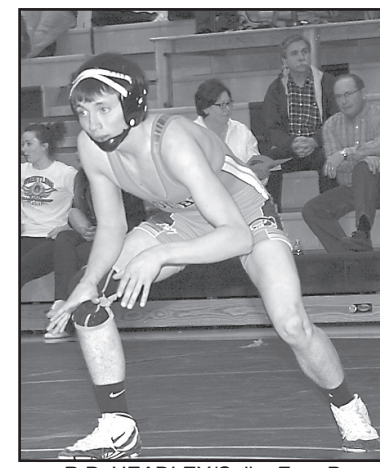
No wonder Sims and the Eagles were full of confidence during Saturday's most pressure-packed moments. They needed just one more win to go 5-0, beat rival Goodland and take home the Cowboys' own holiday dual tournament title.

No problem. Senior Andrew Taylor was on the mat and — sure enough — he sealed this deal with a 10-6 win over Goodland 182-pound rival Garrett Taylor.

The Eagles won all five Goodland tourney duals with Taylor, senior David Mainus (113 pounds), junior Jay Ziegelmeier (195), freshman Ethan Jay (285), Tate Carney (106) and Alex Young (132) all going undefeated.

It was easily Young's best high school tourney. He scored two pins, 28 points in two decisive wins and added one forfeit.

"I'm just proud of the guys.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
Senior David Mainus was one of the Colby High wrestlers to go unbeaten at Saturday's Goodland holiday tournament.

They worked hard all week," Sims said. "And I'm proud of Alex. It's kind of life. It keeps knocking you down until you do something about it. Alex did today."

The Eagles also defeated 3A/2A/1A No. 1 Norton during Saturday's dual. Results of all Colby victories:

Colby 33, Goodland 30

106: Tate Carney won 6-1 over T. Withington; 113: David Mainus won 5-1 over T. Cooper, 126: Travis Finley won 9-6 over T. Gastineau; 132: Alex Young won 16-9 over R. Lopez; 182: Andrew Taylor won 10-6 over Garrett Taylor; 195: Jay Ziegelmeier won by forfeit; 220: Austin Hart won by forfeit; 285: Ethan Jay won by forfeit.

Colby 37, Norton 34

106: Tate Carney won 6-0 over C. Campbell; 113: David Mainus won 6-3 over B. Addington; 120: Tanner Elias won by forfeit; 126: Travis Finley won 12-1 over K. Bell; 132: Alex Young won 6-1

over T. Wright; 182: Andrew Taylor won by forfeit; 195: Jay Ziegelmeier pinned J. Dole in 2:55; 285: Ethan Jay pinned M. Johnson in 5:04.

Colby 69, Scott City 9

106: Tate Carney pinned Z. Tucker in 1:04; 113: David Mainus won by forfeit; 120: Tanner Elias pinned C. Ramsey in 1:28; 126: Travis Finley pinned I. Lozano in :33; 132: Alex Young won by forfeit; 138: Brett Schroeder won by forfeit; 160: Matthew Pieper won by forfeit; 170: Austin Boehme won by forfeit; 182: Andrew Taylor won by forfeit; 195: Jay Ziegelmeier pinned G. Osborn in 1:23; 220: Austin Hart pinned L. Hayes in 5:12; 285: Ethan Jay pinned C. Birney in 1:53.

Colby 51, Baca County 21

106: Tate Carney won by forfeit; 113: David Mainus won by forfeit; 120: Tanner Elias won by forfeit; 132: Alex Young pinned A. Batterton in 1:54; 170: Austin Boehme won 8-4 over E. Hebbard; 182: Andrew Taylor won by forfeit; 195: Jay Ziegelmeier won by forfeit; 220: Austin Hart pinned D. Westphal in 3:28; 285: Ethan Jay won by forfeit.

Colby 66, Leoti 12

106: Tate Carney won by forfeit; 113: David Mainus pinned D. Niswonger in 1:07; 120: Tanner Elias pinned L. Ridder in :40; 126: Travis Finley won by forfeit; 132: Alex Young pinned B. Fisher in :20; 138: Brett Schroeder won by forfeit; 145: Andrew Voss won 8-6 over L. Tankersley; 160: Matthew Pieper pinned T. Seaton in 1:48; 182: Andrew Taylor won 5-2 over B. Mason; 195: Jay Ziegelmeier won by forfeit; 220: Austin Hart won by forfeit; 285: Ethan Jay won by forfeit.

Eagle JV girls triumph

Colby High's junior varsity ton Friday, and "C" team also prevailed 18-14 in two quarters.

Titans sweep through Healy

A 22-2 second quarter propelled the unbeaten Triplains-Brewster varsity girls to their 52-27 victory at Healy Friday evening.

Senior Brittany Plummer paced the 6-0 Titans with 18 points on eight-of-10 shooting. Junior Shay-

na Rogge also reached double figures (11 points) while senior April Mays and junior Alicia Barrie equally divided 12 more points (six apiece).

Other Titans to hit shots were seniors Yumi Inagaki (two points),

C.J. Lewellan (two), junior Dara Roulier (two) and sophomore Rachel Friess (one point).

Meanwhile, the Triplains-Brewster boys improved to 4-2 by beating Healy 61-17. More details will likely appear this week.

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