

## 'If you move that way...'



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

The Colby Eagle boy's basketball team began practice sessions Monday at the high school gym. The Eagles open the season on the road on Thursday, Dec. 5, at Scott City. ABOVE: Bruce Arnberger listened while coach Tom Bowen instructed Jordan Sharp during practice.

## Big crowds equal big wins at home

Thank you fans! No doubt our crowds (over 1200 each night) this past weekend were a factor in our hard fought victories! We have improved to 6-0 on the young season. We are 5-0 at home! We have won 18 of our past 23 home games and we are currently on a 7 game home winning streak. Let's keep it rolling this weekend!

If you missed it this weekend you missed some great basketball. Our Lady Trojans picked up three wins including two great ones over Casper and Western Nebraska. Both games were terrific. Our games both nights were tough, physical, hard fought games. This was probably the best weekend of basketball in Colby in a long time. Expect more great basketball action this weekend!

We had several key guys step up over the weekend. Obviously, Justin Williams was a major force. He had 19 points, 11 rebounds, 4 blocks in our win over Casper 68-60. In the finals against Marshalltown Justin had 10 points, 9 rebounds, and 3 blocks in a tough 53-48 win. Friday night Sam Jackson provided a big spark off the bench scoring 5 points and making several big plays. Saturday night it was freshmen K.J. Wilkens turn as he played great defense and ran the offense down the stretch for us. The depth on this team is proving to be a big plus. We all must continue to improve if we want to have a season to remember.

This week is very big for us. We must have great focus in practice and really improve. We have two ball games this weekend and a short week next week (Thanksgiving trip). There are several areas we must improve. We must find a better rhythm to our offense. We are making too many mistakes and trying to force too many things. We must let our offense evolve naturally. Defensively, I have been pleased. We are tough to score against but we must continue to focus on rebounding. All of our players must become more consistent in their performances. We must continue to build team discipline and team togetherness.



Brian Ostermann

### ●Power Sports

This is a big week for our team to improve!

We have a big weekend ahead. We host the Western Sprinklers Classic. It should be a great weekend playing two good teams from New Mexico and Iowa respectively.

#### JOTTINGS

Here's a great Lou Holtz quote: "Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it."

Breakfast club begins this Thursday. Thursday morning at 7:30 we will be meeting at the Deep Rock for coffee and basketball talk. Everyone and anyone is invited to talk Trojan basketball and other sports tidbits. See ya Thursday morning.

A special thank you to all our sponsors especially 'Western Sprinklers' which sponsor this weekend's classic. Justin Williams had 29 points and 20 rebounds in two games this weekend. He really stepped up for our ball club.

It's going to be another great year of local college basketball. Get your schedule & make plans to attend all the home games. Get there early for your best seats and let's get loud! We need all you fans if we are going to finish in the top 4 in the rugged West. A year ago we lost 4 home games by a total of 6 points. We were 10-4 at the CCB. With your support we can go 15-0 this year!

I really appreciate the support of our fans and sponsors. Everyone really came through for us this past weekend!

This weekend will be the final home games until conference play begins January 4.

Check out the new HOME EVENTS schedule posted downtown on the Sport Shoppe building. This is a great reminder for all you fans. This sign will list our winter home sports contests. We thank the Colby CC Backers Club, Commercial Sign, and F & M Insurance for sponsoring the sign.

Congratulations to our wrestling team on their current #1 ranking. Let's win it all!

Be sure to check out this website: <http://www.highlandcc.edu/sports/regionvi-bb/bbstnd.html>

Congrats to the Lady Trojans for winning three games this past weekend and improving to a 5-4 overall record. Tom Stephens and the girls did an outstanding job! Great WINS!

The 'Western Sprinklers' Classic will be November 22nd and November 23rd. We will play New Mexico Junior College and Southwestern, Iowa at 8 p.m. both nights. Garden City Junior College will play both nights at 6:00 p.m. This will be a men's team only Classic.

Jayhawk West teams currently undefeated include: Barton County (7-0), Seward (5-0), Colby (6-0), and Hutchinson (6-0).

The first NJCAA regular season basketball poll will be released Nov. 26. Expect Barton County, Seward, and Coffeyville to all be ranked in the top 20. Barton was #1, Seward #18 and Coffeyville was receiving votes in the pre-season poll.

Brian Ostermann is in his fifth year as head coach of the Colby Community College Trojan men's basketball team. His column appears on Tuesdays.

## Griese out Sunday, could miss three games

DENVER (AP) — Brian Griese's sprained left knee will keep him out of Denver's lineup against Indianapolis next weekend and could sideline him for three weeks.

Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said his quarterback will not practice this week after being injured in a 31-9 victory over Seattle on Sunday. Griese

was hurt late in the third quarter when defensive tackle Rocky Bernard rolled into his knee.

The Broncos initially said Griese could be out up to a month, but lowered the estimate Monday after an MRI exam showed a second-degree sprain of the medial collateral ligament.

Shanahan said the good news was

that Griese didn't have much swelling or a dramatic loss of motion that typically comes with such an injury. He said Griese's return will depend on how quickly the ligament stabilizes.

Steve Beuerlein, who threw two four-quarter touchdown passes in relief of Griese, will start against the Colts on Sunday night.

E-mail your sports news to [colbysports@nwkansas.com](mailto:colbysports@nwkansas.com)

## Rockies busy making deals

ATLANTA (AP) — Mike Hampton got his wish to leave Coors Field — but only after tens of millions of dollars changed hands in a baseball trade that resembled a complex corporate merger.

The money trail goes like this: The Atlanta Braves got Hampton, \$30 million to help pay his massive contract and the flexibility to re-sign Tom Glavine or Greg Maddux.

The Colorado Rockies rid themselves of Hampton's contract and will wind up paying \$49 million for two dismal seasons. Florida saved about \$23 million in salary commitments in a trade that sent catcher Charles Johnson and outfielder Preston Wilson

to the Rockies, but the Marlins were weakened on the field.

Commissioner Bud Selig signed off on the three-way deal, approving a record transfer of cash — \$36.5 million.

Meanwhile, talks resumed in an attempt to complete a trade that would send Larry Walker from the Rockies to the Arizona Diamondbacks as part of a five-player deal.

The proposed trade would send third baseman Matt Williams, first baseman Erubiel Durazo, outfielder David Dellucci and reliever Bret Prinz to the Rockies. Both Walker and Williams would have to waive no-trade clauses in their contracts.

## Kansas City Chiefs winning games, but not gaining ground

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — After slugging it out with Buffalo to beat the Bills by a point, the Kansas City Chiefs awake today to find they gained not one inch of ground in the AFC West.

Denver (7-3), San Diego (7-3) and Oakland (6-4) also won on Sunday and remain ahead of the Chiefs (5-5) in what's become one of the most competitive divisions in a parity-filled NFL.

Luckily for the Chiefs, they still play all three of their division rivals one more time, on the final three weekends of the regular season.

"If we can stay healthy and keep growing as a football team, we'll be competitive," coach Dick Vermeil said Monday. "But we have to keep getting

better."

Getting better seems to be the theme of the defense. Although it's still ranked No. 32 in the 32-team league, the Bills, 49ers and Oakland Raiders have discovered how deceptive that figure can be.

Buffalo had only one TD Sunday's 17-16 Chiefs' victory, while the Bills' tandem of Eric Moulds and Peerless Price, the No. 2 and 3 wide receivers in the league, totaled just eight catches for 76 yards.

"Going into it, they were the strongest duo and these guys have similar catches with similar numbers and nobody has really been able to contain them," said Chiefs cornerback Eric Warfield.

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