

Eagle wrestlers head to state tournament



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Head coach for the Colby Eagle wrestling team, Mitch Beims, spoke to a crowd of students, faculty, parents and community supports this morning at a pep rally for the team heading to the state tournament. Beims will be taking nine wrestlers to compete in the two-day event which will start at 9 a.m. on Friday in Wichita.

Eighth grade girls take victories from Goodland

In their final game of the season before the league tournament, the Colby Middle School eighth grade girls faced off with Goodland once again. Both the A and B teams were able to pull off wins.

The A team brought home a 45-41 win, while the B team put Goodland away with a 38-12 victory.

A team

Motivated by rivalry, the A team girls basketball set out to beat the Mustangs and came out with the win, 45-41.

Up by 9 points at the half, it appeared the Eagles would get the job done, however, the Mustangs had a 12-2 run in the third period. This left the Eagles down by a point heading into the final quarter.

Aided by free throws and turnovers in the fourth quarter, the Eagles came out on top with a 45-41 victory.

Brittany Kersenbrock finished the game with 19 points, including 4 of 6 from 3-point land, and hauled in four rebounds. Rishonna Martin added 10 points; Lauren Cox had 7 points and 6 rebounds; Jenna Johnson added 5 points and 6 rebounds and Ashley Barnes had 4 points and 7 rebounds.

The team was 57 percent from the line, proving how important those free shots can be in the fourth quarter of the game.

Coming off the bench with crucial help were Rashaun Wilson, Caitie Henry and April Weaver. With the victory, the Eagles improved to 10-0.

B team

The B team easily rolled over Goodland 38-12.

Coach Raenette Martin said, "This win was very satisfying for this group of girls."

"At the B team fun day in Goodland a week ago, Goodland beat them in overtime, 37-33, so for them to play so hard and come up

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS

Colby Free Press

Nine Eagle wrestlers are taking their skills to the 4A State Wrestling Tournament on Friday and Saturday in the Kansas Coliseum at Wichita. The Eagles cinched the regional championship last weekend in Goodland and beat six of the top 10 ranked teams in Class 4A to do so.

The team this year finished with a dual record of 13-3 and placed in all seven of the tournaments they attended. The team finished first in the regional tournament and the St. Francis Invitational; second at the Northwest Kansas League Tournament in St. Francis; fourth at the Eagle Invitational in Colby, the Beloit Invitational and the Panther Classic in Phillipsburg; and sixth at the Southwest Classic in Liberal.

The nine state bound wrestlers are:

- 103 Daniel Tibbles — Tibbles, a sophomore, is 22-11 for the year and has placed in every tournament but one. He finished first in St. Francis, fourth at Beloit, third at league and Phillipsburg, and was the regional runner-up.
- 112 Travis Powell — Powell, a sophomore, will be heading to state for the second time. He finished fourth at the regional tournament and beat the number two ranked wrestler, in doing so.

- 130 Jesse Tibbles — Tibbles, a senior, has a record of 24-11 and has been in the finals in four out of the six tournaments he competed in this season.
- 135 Cole Garcia — Garcia is the only freshman on the team to be attending the state tournament. Last weekend during the regional tournament he beat the number three ranked wrestler to finish fourth and have the honor of wrestling at state.

Hope. Progress. Answers.™

1-800-ACS-2345
www.cancer.org

©2000, American Cancer Society, Inc.

with a big win was great."

Two girls scored in the double figures in the effort. Bailey Klinger had 16 points and Caitie Henry had 10. Kristin Cox added 4; Rashaun Wilson 3; Michelle Kaus 2; Carleigh Dempewolf 2; and Tisha Bieker had 2 points and led the team in steals with 3. Jennifer McMahan and Brandi Stпка also added to the game.

The B team finished their season 9-1. In scoring for the season, Klinger averaged 8.2 points per game, followed by Caitie Henry who averaged 5.7.

Rebound leaders were Klinger with 5.4 per game and Kristin Skiles with 4.3. Steal leader was Klinger with 3 per game.

"These girls have been a joy to coach," Martin said. "When I look back over the course of this season, they have improved so much."

"They are dedicated to continue to work and build strength over the summer, which will only make them better next year."

"They will all contribute to the basketball program when they enter high school next year."

- 145 Eric Luedke — Luedke, a senior, will be attending the state tournament for the fourth time. His freshman year he placed third and brought home second place medals his sophomore and junior year. He defeated the number three ranked wrestler by a score of 14-3 at the regional tournament and finished first in his weight class. He has a record of 35-1 for the season and has been awarded five championships and an outstanding wrestler award.

- 152 Schuyler Sharpe — Sharpe, a junior, finished second last year at the state tournament and has a record of 33-4 for the season. He finished first at the regional tournament and has placed in the top four in every tournament this season.
- 171 Tucker Olsen — Olsen, a junior, has a record of 28-11 for the season and has placed in every tournament this year. He finished third in regionals and will be attending the state tournament for the second time.

- 189 Theo Kleinsorge — Kleinsorge, a junior, at the regional tournament finished fourth and had two upset wins over opponents who have beat him previously this season.
- 275 Brent Deibert — Deibert, a senior, finished in second place at the regional tournament and was the league champion. He has a record of 15-4 for the season.

Head coach Mitch Beims said at a pep rally earlier today that the team has overcome many worthy opponents and teams this year.

"If we do it one more time, we can take state," he said.

Beims encouraged the students and public to support the wrestlers on the quest for another state title.

As the state bound wrestlers had an opportunity to speak to the student body, Deibert rallied the students with his final comment.

"Let the bodies hit the floor."

Wrestling will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday. At 2:30, the quarterfinals will be wrestled followed by the first round of consolation matches

and the championship semifinals at 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, at 9 a.m. the consolation cross bracketing will be wrestled followed the consolation quarterfinals at 11:30 a.m., consolation semifinals at 1 p.m., fifth place at 2:30 p.m. and the consolation finals at 3:10 p.m. At 6:10 p.m. there will be a parade of champions followed by the championship finals at 6:30 p.m.

Other than the nine wrestlers attending state, the following also competed in wrestling this year: Lincoln McClure, Taylor Finley, Nolan Hull, Josh Cersovsky, Kyle Withington, Doug Hurtt, Alex Kleinsorge, Todd Ohlrogge, Adam Horinek, Justin Bell, John Wark, Ben Jurek, David Voss, Sean McCurdy, Ross Wright, Tyson Plumisto, Rusty Raymo, Tanner McClure, Brady Strange, Cubby Haremza, Cody Lily and Mark Bartlett.

Assisting coach Beims are Ray Higley, Bert Stramel and Rick Williams.

HIS SHOP

475 N. FRANKLIN • 462-6361 • COLBY

Winter Clearance Continues!!

STORE HOURS:
9:00-7:00 Monday, Tues.,
Wed. Thurs.
9:00-5:30, Fri. & Sat.
Prices Good
Thurs., Fri. & Sat.
Feb. 27, 28, March 1

Suits (Entire stock)Reduced 25%

Sportcoats (Select Group - Values to \$210) Now ea. \$84.99

Long Sleeve Sportshirts (values to \$59.95, 1 group).....Now ea. \$15.99

Long Sleeve Sportshirts (One Group) Now 1/2 price

Sweaters (Values to \$65) Now ea. \$19.99

Sweater VestsNow ea. \$10.99

T-Necks & Banded Bottom Shirts (values to \$42.50)..Now ea. \$12.99

Winter CoatsReduced 60%

Young Men's T-Shirts (values to \$33)Now ea. \$9.99

X-Large Tall & Large Tall Sport Shirts (values to \$65)..Now ea. \$18.99

• ALL SALES FINAL ON SALE MERCHANDISE •

85% at GSN

Unicell Hello

Capitalize On Our Low Fares.

\$85*

Fly AirTran
Airways to
Washington.



Support our low-cost carriers
and keep fares low. Or we'll
have to drive to the Kansas
City airport all over again.

Ditch the Drive.
Fly Wichita Mid-Continent Airport.

For the latest low fares,
see ditchthedrive.com.

*All fares are one-way. All fares are non-refundable, and a \$50 fee per person applies to any change made after purchase plus any applicable increase in airfare. Seven-day advance purchase required. Tickets must be purchased by March 6, 2003. Travel must be completed by September 5, 2003. Fares are not valid for travel on Friday and Sunday. Seats are limited, subject to availability, and may not be available on all flights. Blackout dates are as follows: April 18, 21, 27; May 21, 26; July 3, 4, 5, 6; August 29; and September 1, 2003. Fares, routes, and schedules are subject to change without notice. Fares do not include per-segment tax of \$5. A segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing. The September 11th security fee of up to \$10 is not included. Airport Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$18 are not included. © AirTran Airways 2003

AirTran
AIRWAYS



CITY OF
WICHITA

Sports Briefs

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers cut Kordell Stewart, allowing the quarterback to become an unrestricted free agent and getting the Steelers under the 2003 salary cap, which kicks in this weekend.

Stewart had an up-and-down career in Pittsburgh after becoming its starter in 1997. After leading the Steelers to the AFC title game in 2001, he lost his job to Tommy Maddox early last season.

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods beat Carl Pettersson in the first round of the Match Play Championship.

Ernie Els had a shocking finish to a short week at La Costa. Poised to get past Phil Tataurangi, he could only watch as the Kiwi holed a 25-foot birdie putt on the 18th and then won on the 20th hole.