



Abdurakhmanov



E. Luedke

Eagles at home tonight

The #1 seed Colby Lady Eagles entertain Ulysses at 7 p.m. today in the Colby Community Building in the opening round of the Class 4A Sub-State Tournament.

Colby brings a 19-1 record onto the floor vs. Ulysses' 0-19.

The winner advances to the semi-finals on Thursday at Ulysses, the wrap-up site of the 4-A tourney. The Colby-Ulysses winner will play the winner of the Goodland-Hugoton game, also scheduled tonight at Goodland.

Tuesday will find the #2 seed Colby Eagles battling the Goodland Cowboys in the Community Building at 7 p.m.

Colby brings a 15-5 record into the game vs. Goodland's 8-12.

The Colby-Goodland winner advances to the semi-finals at Ulysses on Friday and will face the winner of the Larned-Pratt game, also scheduled Tuesday night at Larned.

The championship game are on tap for Saturday — the ladies at 6 p.m. and the boys at 7:30 — at Ulysses.



BYRON BARRIENTEZ/Colby Free Press

Jake Kriegbaum of Abilene edged Colby's Cole Garcia 2-0 (on bottom) in the 130-pound weight class championship match at the state wrestling tournament in Wichita over the weekend. Garcia beat Kriegbaum in last week's regionals at Abilene, 4-2 in overtime.

Garcia finishes second at state

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

The Colby High School Eagle wrestling team placed five of six wrestlers and finished eighth at the Kansas State Class 4A Wrestling Tournament in Wichita over the weekend.

"Anytime you place five out of six, you have to be pleased," said head coach Mitch Beims, who also said the number of underclassmen in the group looked for the future.

The western part of the state was well-represented in the tournament. Not only was Colby in the top ten with 70 points, but Scott City won the tournament with 109 points. Goodland took

third with 93 points and Ulysses was fifth with 83 points.

Cole Garcia was the highest medalist for the Eagles. He met Abilene's Jake Kriegbaum in a rematch of the 130-pound regional final in which Garcia gave Kriegbaum his only loss of the season.

It was not to be again. Kriegbaum scored the only two points in the match early and neither wrestler could gain an advantage after that. Garcia took the second place medal and finished 3-1 in the tournament giving him a 36-3 overall record.

Schuyler Sharpe took fourth place in the 152-pound bracket. Sharpe won his first two matches before falling 8-2 to Alvin Metcalf,

the eventual champion from Fort Scott.

He met DeSoto's Neil Erisman in the consolation semi-final, losing 7-3.

Danny Tibbles took a default from Concordia's Dustin Dooley in the fifth place match at 103 pounds.

Tibbles went 2-2 and also got his first loss against the eventual champion at his weight, Blake Fischer from Andale.

Taylor Finley also went 2-2 in the 135-pound class, taking sixth place.

Theo Kleinsorge didn't place, but he did add five team points with a 9-2 win over Daniel Rose of Osawatomie in the first round.

Honors are planned for national champs

Tailgate party also on tap

Colby Community College announced today that a "Tailgate Party" has been scheduled for Wednesday evening prior to the Trojan women's Region VI game vs. Allen County in the Colby Community Building. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Serving for the tailgate party begins at 6 p.m. in the Community Building basement. The menu consists of hamburgers, chips and drinks. A free-will donation is the cost and the money will go toward the college's softball team.

At half-time of the game, hon-

ored will be the Trojan wrestlers who placed 5th at the weekend national tournament in Rochester, Minn.

Two Trojans — Eric Luedke at 157 lbs. and Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov at 165 lbs. won national titles. C.B. Dollaway at 184 lbs. placed third and Zach Luedke at 164 lbs. placed sixth. Kyle Patton at 125 lbs. failed to place.

Game tickets are \$5 for season pass holders, \$1 kids and \$7 general admission. Colby Community College students are admitted free.

Trojan Track

Region VI Indoor Track Meet Feb. 27 and 28th @ Manhattan, All-Region VI Performers:

Women (Colby College)

Kaela Thayer, 3rd place, pole vault

Men

Jerod Kersey, 3rd place, distance medley relay

Tom King, 3rd place, distance medley relay

Ray Longoria, 3rd place, distance medley relay

Felipe Longoria, 3rd place, distance medley relay

School Record:

Men

Rocky Baalman, 60m, 7.29

Coach Jeff Becker's said that due to problems with the computer timing system complete results will not be available until this afternoon.

Sports news to 462-3963 or fax 462-7749

Trojan baseball now 3-3 on year

Colby vs. Arapahoe (Colo.)

Saturday, Feb. 28

Game 1, Colby 2 — Arapahoe 3 (10 innings)

On an extremely windy day the Trojans could not push the winning run across the plate in the seventh, eighth, or tenth inning of game one,

even with a runner in scoring position in each inning. The Trojans left a total of 14 runners on base.

In the third inning freshman third baseman A.J. Steele put the Trojans on the board first with a triple down the left field line scoring sophomore shortstop Cole Armstrong, who had

singled and stolen second. Steele went 3 for 5 with a double in game one.

The Trojans tacked on one in the fourth with the help of some Coyote errors, but Arapahoe came back in the fifth with two runs to tie the score at two apiece. From that point the Trojans rallied, but could not come up with the hit they needed to end the game. The Coyotes were more fortunate, as their leadoff hitter managed to reach base and score in the top of the tenth. The Trojans answered in the bottom of the inning by getting a runner to second with one out, but just like in the other innings, they could not quite get the hit they needed.

Game 2, Colby 9 — Arapahoe 0

Game two turned out to be what game one should have been as timely hitting allowed the Trojans to cruise to an easy victory.

The Trojans led 3-0 in the fourth when with two runners on, sophomore second baseman Jared Lambertson singled to score freshman catcher Kyle Christensen, who led the inning off with a walk. Sophomore outfielder Dan McClure then hit a sacrifice fly to left to bring home freshman outfielder Ben Schmidt, who had reached base after being hit by a pitch.

Lambertson moved to second on McClure's sacrifice fly.

After Cole Armstrong reached first by being the second batter of the inning to be hit by a pitch, A.J. Steele hit a double to score Lambertson.

Armstrong then scored on a past ball. Steele eventually scored on a Coyote error to complete the scoring in the five-run Trojan fourth.

Freshman right-hander Conner Bramlet threw five complete striking out six while giving up just two hits for his first collegiate victory in his first collegiate start.

The Trojans are now 3-3 on the season. Their game against Northeastern Junior College scheduled for Sunday was canceled because of bad weather.

The Trojans are scheduled to face Otero Junior College on Wednesday, March 3 at 1 p.m. in Colby.

Jayhawk West Conference action starts Saturday, March 6 as defending 2003 regular season Jayhawk West champion Seward County comes to town to revenge last season's first-round Sub-Region playoff loss to the Trojans.

Game time for Saturday the 6th is also 1 p.m.

Not a bad week at all



Ray Nolan

From the Dugout

Hello, everyone! I hope the past week has treated everyone well. For Trojan baseball, despite dropping a 10-inning game to an inferior Arapahoe (Colo.) Community College team on Saturday, the week has not been bad.

On Wednesday we blew out Air Force J.V. twice, 13-3 and 13-1. They hung with us for a while in the first game, but eventually our bats came alive and they could not stay with us. The second game was never close.

Air Force had a few quality players, including a good freshman off their football team, but they did not have the pitching depth they needed to compete with us.

The Arapahoe game on Saturday was played in tough conditions. Even though the wind was ridiculous, we cannot use that as an excuse for our game-one loss. We always tell our guys that it is the little things that matter, and that is what cost us the victory in game one. A base-running mistake here and a walk there, and before you know it, we are in an extra inning game.

We had several opportunities throughout the game to blow it wide open. In fact, we left 14 runners on base. (Yes, 14!) That is not such a little thing, I know, but when the big stuff doesn't happen for you, that is when the little things matter.

What will help us compete in the Jayhawk is the reduction of small mistakes. You will not always make the timely hit, but the reduction of mistakes on the mental side of the game will make timely hits less important.

In the second game we capitalized on virtually all of their mistakes and sailed to an easy win, 9-0.

For the most part, I have to say that we are coming along fairly

well. We are improving with each game and our players are not making the same mistakes twice. They are learning from every one.

This maturity is important because this week we have six tough games. Fortunately they are all at home. On Wednesday we face Otero. The Rattlers always have a scrappy team that plays hard and seems to pull out victories with a drag bunt in the seventh or a clutch defensive play.

Saturday we open league play against Seward. Seward is currently 5-5 on the year, but it is early and chances are they are much better than a .500 team. They are picked to win the Jayhawk West again this season and are coming off a 2003 campaign where they won the regular season title. We beat them in the first round of the Sub-Region Tournament last season.

I don't know how Seward's offense will be, but I know that their pitching will be good. Colby native Jared Cranston chose Seward over us, and is currently on their staff. Seward is currently ranked 17th in the country.

After facing Seward Saturday, we turn right around the next day and face Lamar. That is a four-game set that you don't usually want to see.

We have some unfinished business with Lamar. We felt we should have won the second game of our double-header down there earlier this season and we look forward to the test this coming Sunday. Lamar is still ranked 15th in the country.

All three of our double-headers this week are in Colby and they all start at 1 p.m.

Ray Nolan is assistant baseball coach at Colby Community College. His column appears Mondays.

Trojan ladies earn home berth

The Colby Community College Lady Trojans earned a share of the Jayhawk West Conference regular season championship with their 85-79 victory at Pratt Saturday night, coupled with a Seward County home loss to Hutchinson also on Saturday night.

The Lady Trojans earned the #2 seed in the West and will host #7 from the Jayhawk East, Allen County. That big Region VI Tournament game is Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Colby Community Building.

Colby and Seward County each

ended the regular season with identical 14-2 conference records, but Seward does get a higher seed in the post-season tournament by virtue of beating the Lady Trojans twice.

At Pratt, Colby jumped out to a 50-41 half-time lead and never trailed in the second half. The Lady Trojans shot 47.6 percent from the field and converted 15 of 21 opportunities from the line. Colby held Pratt to 36.1 percent from the field and just 24.1 percent (7-29) from beyond the three-point line. The Lady Trojans outrebounded Pratt 48-38.

Goodland native Jayci Stone's career high 25 points led Colby. Stone shot 8 of 9 from the field and 5 of 6 from behind the 3-point arc. She added 5 rebounds. Four other Lady Trojans were also in double figures including Bojana Samardziska (18), Louise McLean (12), Jelena Spiric (12) and Ivana Drmanac (11). Samardziska led all Lady Trojans with 10 rebounds. McLean and Drmanac had 8 assists, while Spiric dished out 7. Colby had 27 assists in the contest.

Colby finished the regular season with a 27-3 overall, 14-2 league.

College men forced to play on road

The 15th ranked Colby Community College Trojans ended a two-game skid and finished the regular season on a positive note defeating Pratt on the road Saturday night 81-74. Colby trailed Pratt 28-8 with 12 minutes to go in the first half and proceeded to outscore the Beavers 73-46 over the final 32 minutes of the game.

The Trojans finished in a three-way tie for third place in the league with Dodge City and Barton County; however, Colby loses the tiebreak scenario and will get the #5 seed in the West. That forces the Trojans to travel to play the #4 seed

in the Jayhawk East, Allen County, on Wednesday. Game time is set for 7 p.m. at Iola.

The Pratt game

Colby held Pratt to 39 percent shooting from the field and outrebounded the Beavers 41-23. Colby turned the ball over 13 times in the first half, but committed just 3 in the second half en route to the road win. The Trojans shot 52.2 percent from the field and 50 percent from beyond the three-point arc. Colby also converted 24 of 30 free throws.

Justin Williams led Colby, grabbing 16 rebounds and scoring 15

points. Williams also swatted 3 shots in the win. Branden Miller was Colby's scoring leader with 20 points. Miller connected on 4 of 6 three's and all four of his free throws. EJ Drayton added 16 points and 5 rebounds. Freshman Ontario McKee directed the Colby offense and scored 9 points to go along with a team high 7 assists.

Colby finishes the regular season with a 24-6 overall record and a 10-6 mark in Jayhawk West Conference.

Colby has now won 24 games during the regular season for the second consecutive year.

College Softball

Lady Trojans Still Winless after Otero Trip

Game #1 Colby 2, — Otero 10

Leading Hitter - Alisha Liess 2-3 (HR) 2 RBI

Losing Pitcher - Lindsey Kastanek 9H 7K 3BB 10R 10ER

Team Hits - 5

Game #2 Colby 1 — Otero 5

Leading Hitter - Liess 2-3

Losing Pitcher - Christina Obernolte 6H 4K 3BB 5R 5ER

Team Hits - 3

Coach Carl Adams' comments:

"Our defense and pitching was much better than the first two games, with the exception of the first inning of game one. We are still struggling at the plate. We had better intensity and desire these two

game than against Garden City. It is still early in the season and we have time to put it together. We need everyone to step-up in all areas of the game for us to keep improving.

"The next action for the Lady Trojans will be Saturday and Sunday March 6-7 at home. Saturday Pratt comes to town and Sunday Otero will visit the campus. Garden City will be here March 9."

1A Regional Tourney Results

The Herndon boys and Grinnell girls won the Class 1A Regional Basketball Tournament Saturday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland.

Herndon outlasted Jennings, 66-56 and Grinnell defeated Brewster, 73-70.

Jennings edged Brewster, 63-62 in boys' semi-final action on Thursday and Herndon beat Golden Plains, 52-38, to advance to the championship finals Saturday night.

In the girls' semi-finals on Friday, Grinnell defeated Atwood, 64-51 and Brewster defeated Golden Plains, 60-56, to move into the Saturday night championships.

Top scorers Saturday night were:

Grinnell girls — Bixenman 22, T. Beckman 13 and K. Beckman 12.

Brewster girls — Reid 28, Horney 13 and Schultz 13.

Herndon boys — Basgall 21, Marinter 18 and B. Chambers 12.

Jennings boys — Miller 18, Wahlmeier 12 and A. Wahlmeier 12.

(fax) 462-7749

EAT HEARTY.....

— STEAK FRY —

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Your choice of Potato and Salad

COLBY VFW

MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME!