

Down...but not out

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

Something you rarely see took place on the wrestling mats at Colby High School last Friday night: an official getting kicked in the head, whisked off to the hospital by ambulance, and eventually released after undergoing tests.

The bizarre set of circumstances happened during the Colby-Burlington wrestling dual.

Steve Woody of Atwood, a referee for 28 years, said today that he was more embarrassed than hurt following the incident.

"I think I got what is called in some football injuries a *stinger*—I was more stunned than anything, but not unconscious," he said.

The accident happened late into the wrestling matches when Ross Wright of Colby at 171 lbs. had the advantage over his Burlington opponent.

"I was either watching the take down or checking back points when I got hit in the back of the head with a heel," he said. "The hit drove my head and jaw into the mat and I felt like my jaw was out of place."

Spectators, coaches and fans were as stunned as the referee himself when they realized what had happened.

One fan, Wes Rummel, said he didn't see the referee get hit, but he was wondering why the score wasn't changing.

"I was watching the scoreboard and wondering why the takedown and back points weren't going up," Rummel said. "I have never seen anything like that before."

Joe and Denise Garcia, who were both watching from the stands, said neither of them saw what happened.

"All we saw were the boys wrestling and the next thing we knew, Woody was laying on the floor," Joe said. "We weren't sure if he had a heart attack or what was going on," Denise said.

Mike Finley, Colby wrestler



RANDY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Steve Woody, Atwood, wrestling official at the Colby wrestling dual Friday night, said he was "stunned" after being kicked in the back of the head during the 171 lb. match. Assisting Woody following the incident were: (from top and clockwise) Cortney Beims, RN at Colby Medical and Surgical Center; Ryan Zwegardt, Thomas County EMS; Juanita Gatz and Luetta Flanagan, both nurse practitioners at Family Center for Health Care; and Kathi Wright, director of Thomas County EMS. All five were in attendance to watch the wrestling matches between Colby and Burlington.

Taylor Finley's father, said he was busy watching the boys wrestle.

"I saw the boys' feet flip up and continued watching them. It wasn't until I saw Mitch Beims (Colby wrestling head coach) that I noticed something was wrong with Woody," Finley said.

Within seconds, the Thomas County Emergency Medical Director Kathi Wright, who was there watching her son—who coincidentally was the wrestler at the time—was on the mat, along with other medical personnel, to check on Woody's injuries.

The referee was then taken by

Thomas County ambulance to Citizens Medical Center where tests were done before he was released.

As for Woody, he said he is just fine. In fact, he was at the Fort Hays State University wrestling open the next day for 12 hours officiating those matches.

This wasn't the first time Woody has experienced a knock out. "About 20 years ago," he said, "during a junior high school match between Atwood and Oberlin, one of the wrestlers hit my nose and mouth area with an elbow and knocked me out."

Eagle boys come close, but...

By **NICK HOWARD**

Colby Free Press

The Class 5A Hays High Indians, coming off a championship showing at last weekend's Hays City Shootout, apparently didn't impress the Colby Eagles who just about pulled off what would have been a blue-ribbon victory.

But...in the closing seconds, Hays got the last basket and boarded their bus with a heart-stopping 70-68 win.

Colby's goes to 0-2 after losing their season's opener on the road last Friday to Scott City, 63-40.

Throughout the first and second quarters, the Colby Community Building was transformed into a battle zone. The scoring went back-and-forth. With both teams at 29-all with 1.3 seconds left in the half, it looked like the Eagles would go into the locker room with a tie game on their hands. But the Indians managed to get off a last second 3-point range stunner to take a 32-29 lead

at the break.

This scorching battle raged on into the third and through the fourth quarters. The public address announcer was calling, "Hays, Colby, Hays, Colby, Hays"...as the seesaw embedded itself in the confines of the arena.

As would be expected in this kind of exchange, the game boiled down to the final 10 ticks on the clock. Hays had the ball and the game was knotted at 68. The Indians shot with 5 seconds left and the shot missed, but Hays' big man Matt Stramel grabbed the ball and put it in.

Hays 70, Colby 68. With just 3 seconds left, the Eagles tried to push the ball up the floor for 2—but it was too late. The #4-ranked Indians had the win by just a 2-point margin.

Fans agreed the Eagles made vast improvements over what they displayed at Scott City just days earlier.

The Hays-Colby scoreboard

showed Irvin Dinkel leading the way for Colby with 28 points. Matt Augustine shredded the nets with 13, while Jordan Cranston, Jordan Sharp, Chris Finley and Dusty Quenzer all scored 6 and Derek Elliott added 3.

For Hays, Casey Miles had 8, Silas Hibbs 2, Michael Selby 7, Alex Binder 6, Jason Ball 9, Kyle Younger 6, Kameron Parker 10 and Matt Stramel 20.

By quarters:
Colby 14-15-19-20 = 68
Hays 14-18-16-22 = 70

Junior varsity

The Eagles jayvee is now 2-0, thanks to a 71-63 triumph over the Hays Indians.

Leading the jayvee charge was Trevor Siebert with 18 points, followed by R.J. Ladenburger with 14, J.D. Donn 12, Nick Howard 11 and Ryan White 5.

C-Team

The C-team lost, moving their record to 1-1.

Eagle girls sack up another win

From staff reports

The #1-ranked Colby Lady Eagles put another game in the "W" column, this time over Class 5A Hays High School, 67-46 Tuesday night in the Colby Community Building.

The Eagles opened the season at Scott City last Friday and brought home a 74-31 victory. They are now 2-0.

The first two quarters vs. Hays were played on even terms, so to

say, with the Eagles holding only a 2-point lead after the first period, 14-12 and just a 1-point advantage at the break, 26-25.

Colby began its move toward a victory by outscoring the visitors 19-12 in the third frame to take a 45-37 lead into the final quarter.

The last period was the barnburner the Eagles needed to stay perfect on the early season, outscoring Hays 22-9.

Leading the way for the Eagles

was Emily Sloan with 16 points. Brittany Kersenbrock, Lissa Mazanec and Jessica Stephens also scored in double digits — Brittany with 12, Lissa with 11 and Jessica with 11. Others breaking into the scoring column were Ashley Barnes with 8, Zanae Baird with 7 and Marcia Kaus with 2.

By quarters:
Colby 14-12-19-22 = 67
Hays 12-13-12-9 = 46

Colby wrestlers edge Burlington

The Colby varsity Eagle wrestlers won a razor-thin 36-35 dual over Burlington at the Colby High gym last Friday night.

Their next action will be hosting their own 19th annual Classic on Friday and Saturday. Details to appear in Thursday's Free Press.

Here are the Colby-Burlington results:
103 lb. — Daniel Tibbles won (open)

112 — Trenton Powell lost by technical fall to Penny, 15-0

119 — Hunter Olsen pinned Penny

125 — Travis Powell won (open)

130 — Jared Flanagan lost 6-1 to Hines

135 — Jesse Hawk was pinned by Aeschelman

140 — Kyle Withington lost 3-1 to Grinnan

145 — Taylor Finley lost 5-3 to

David

152 — Jeremy Dietz was pinned by Hertneky

160 — David Voss was pinned by Files

171 — Ross Wright lost 10-4 to Sandoval

189 — Tenet Mazanec won (open)

215 — Nick Kriss won (open)

275 — Mike Juenemann won (open)

Brewster rolls to an easy victory

By **JAY KELLEY**

Colby Free PRESS

BREWSTER — The Brewster High School boys and girls basketball teams opened the new season with a pair of wins — 75-28 boys and 68-14 girls — over the visiting Cheylin Cougars Friday night.

The girls held a 25-4 lead at the end of the first quarter and held Cheylin scoreless for 8 minutes, leading 49-6 at half-time.

The boys started a little slower, rattling off 10 unanswered points to take a 12-4 lead in the first quarter, but by half they led 42-15 and by the end of three quarters they were

firmly in control 63-22.

Scoring for the Brewster girls were Megan Allen 6; Audrey Hoyt 5; Caitlan rush 4; Jalyn Reid 13; Sarah Flanders 4; Andrea Horney 9; Avery Schultz 21; and Amy Carpenter 6. For Cheylin it was Underwood 3; Mason 2; Krien 2; Weishapl 2; and Kehlbeck 5.

For the Brewster boys: Paul Flanders 6; Jonathan Collett 13; Jake Long 4; Karman Selby 10; Kyle O'Connor 9; Tyler Johnson 1; Branson Gilley 3; Heath Baird 16; Mark Luckert 8; and Josh Ryan 5. for Cheylin: A. Hengen 2; Ketzner 1; Marshall 10; Banister 2; S.

Hengen 4; Moyer 2; White 4; and Pochop 3.

NOW PLAYING:

COLBY CINEMA & ARCADE

DEC. 8th - DEC. 16th

BLADE TRINITY (R) 2 hrs.
Wed. & Thur.: 7:15
Friday & Saturday: 7:15 & 9:30
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:15

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 2:15
Friday & Saturday: 7:00 & 9:30
Sunday thru Thursday: 7:00

COLBY THEATRE

DEC. 10th - DEC. 16th

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) 2:10
Friday & Saturday: 7:00 & 9:30
Sunday thru Tuesday: 7:00

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:40
Friday & Saturday: 7:15 & 9:15
Sunday thru Tuesday: 7:15

**WINNER OF 2 MOVIE PASSES:
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and
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College Football bowl games are more FUN when you have a friendly rooting interest. Colby Free Press and KXXX will join promotional forces to bring an exciting bowl contest to Northwest Kansas.

Here is how the College Bowl Extravaganza works:

- Contestants pick the winners in all 28 bowl games.
- Each bowl game is assigned a value from (1-5) based on importance and factors of interest

5 Points	National Championship Game
4 Points	BCS Games
3 Points	Big 12 Bowl Games
2 Points	Bowls That Involve 2 Teams From BCS Conf.
1 Point	Bowls That Involve 1 Team From Non-BCS Conf.

- Prizes will be assembled from local merchants and sponsors
- Each contestant will get a spreadsheet to follow the picks of all participants in the contest. This builds optimism and excitement level.
- Leaders will be posted in the Colby Free Press and the Leaderboard will be discussed on the KXXX Golden Plains Sports Hour.

This is a better contest than a NCAA tournament pool because:

- Every game played involves a winning or losing pick.
- There is no "common set" of duplicated picks with 28 closely-matched bowl games.
- Everyone can easily chart how they picked against other contestants for each game.
- The bowl season is nearing- the drama builds daily

Look to the Colby Free Press & KXXX for more information.

No purchases • No cash awarded...but there will be **PRIZES...and maybe SURPRISES!**