



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Sportscaster Rich Epp calls a Colby Eagle game from his familiar seat at the Colby Community Building. The longtime sportscaster was honored for his talents by a statewide organization in recently in Manhattan.

Colby sportscaster named state's best

By Tom (TD) Dreiling

Free Press Publisher

Colby broadcaster Rich Epp was named "Sportscaster of the Year" by the Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association at their spring conference in Manhattan on March 19.

Athletic directors from across the state nominate sportscasters they feel are deserving of such recognition. A selection committee then listens to a two-minute tape of each nominated sportscaster and selects one to be the annual recipient.

Epp is the voice of the Colby Community College Trojans and the Colby High School Eagles.

He has an extensive resume and many awards that speak volumes of the respect he has earned over the years since beginning his career in broadcasting in 1971.

Epp was nominated by Terry Ostmeyer, activities director at the Grinnell School District.

"I have known Rich for years and our history goes back to when I played and he was sportscaster in this area," Ostmeyer said.

"Ostmeyer said Epp is respected, very active and recognizable in the communities all across northwest Kansas.

"What strikes me most is how professional he always is and his impeccable appearance as he represents himself and his profession," Ostmeyer said.

"I take great pride in the fact that he was chosen for this award. There are many who are nominated each year and it is very nice to see the award given to a man that has devoted so much time and effort to the youth of northwest Kansas," he said.

Epp told the *Colby Free Press* today that "nothing gives me more pleasure than broadcasting high school athletic events, something I have been doing for 33 years.

"I've always enjoyed working with school officials in promoting the positive aspects of athletics."

Epp said that he is "grateful to the Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association for selecting me as Kansas Sportscaster of the Year."

Augustine to go up against K. U. seniors

The popular "KU Barnstorming" basketball team is coming to northwest Kansas on April 23 and one Colby basketball player is among 14 selected to challenge the Jayhawkers.

Matt Augustine of Colby will join these other area high school all-stars on the court: Silas Hibbs, Jay Dreiling, Casey Miles, Kyle

Younger, all of Hays High; TJ Schmidt and Nick Felder, TMP; Ryan Maddy, Norton; Wade Knapp, WaKeeney; Andrew Schroter, LaCrosse; James Brungardt, Victoria; Chuck Parks, Ellis; Blaise Kriley, Stockton; MJ Klein, Plainville; and Miguel Mendoza, Phillipsburg.

The game will be played at Hays

High School at 7 p.m.

K.U. senior players will include Wayne Simien, Keith Langford, Aaron Miles, Michael Lee and others.

Tickets, at \$8 each, are limited and are available at Hays Dillons Store, Hays Cervs locations, Hays High School athletic office, or you can order on-line at

www.hayshighindians.com.

Autographs will be signed starting at 5:30 p.m.

Proceeds will go to the Hays High Booster Club and Hays High basketball.

For additional information, call Rick Keltner at 785-623-2600 (Hays High) or 785-625-5874 (home).

Trojan baseball sweeps Arapahoe, 7-6 and 12-5

The Colby Community College Trojans swept Arapahoe Tuesday at home, 7-6 and 12-5, on the strength of a six hit performance by sophomore outfielder Ben Schmidt.

The Trojans grabbed the early lead in game one with five runs in the first three innings. Sophomore left hander Cody Hovdestad held the Coyotes scoreless until the sixth

inning. He struck out five batters in six innings of work.

After Hovdestad got into a jam in the seventh inning, sophomore Dan Micklewright earned the save. With runners on second and third and no one out Micklewright got a strike out, a ground out and a strike out to preserve the victory.

Ben Schmidt went 3 for 4 and scored two runs while Kyle Christensen drove in three runs with a double and a home run.

Game two saw freshman righty Tony Pietras strike out seven in six innings of work to earn the victory. Once again Ben Schmidt went 3 for 4, this time scoring three runs. Freshman Paul Roh added to the offense with three rbi's on two singles.

The Trojans (11-14) face McCook at home Thursday at 1 p.m.

Game One
Arapahoe 0 0 0 0 1 5 6 6 1
Colby 2 2 1 0 2 0 x 7 9 4
WP: Hovdestad (2-3)

K-18 Baseball Annual Sign-up

**April 2, 2005
2:00 p.m.
Colby Community Building**

**MUST BE 12 YEARS
OF AGE UP TO 15
YEARS OF AGE BY
JULY 31ST TO
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PLAY.**



Save: Micklewright (1)
Game Two
Arapahoe 2 1 0 0 0 2 0 5 6 3
Colby 3 8 1 0 0 0 x 12 12 5
WP: Pietras (1-2)

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