



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press
Colby's Jamie Schroeder dribbled around Odessa's Ashley Ingle Wednesday during Odessa's 64-62 quarterfinal win at the NJCAA National Tournament in Salina. Colby plays Trinity Valley Community College at 8 p.m. tonight.

Odessa sends Lady Trojans to consolation bracket

By John Van Nostrand
Colby Free Press

What the Colby Lady Trojans used to get back in the game also got them out of the game.

Odessa, Texas, Wranglers defeated Colby 64-62 in overtime Wednesday. An Odessa three-point shot with 2:55 left in overtime gave the momentum back to the Wranglers.

Colby had used the long distant shot to erase Odessa's halftime lead.

The loss sends Colby to the consolation bracket of the NJCAA National Tournament played in Salina. Colby plays 8 p.m. tonight against Trinity Valley Community College from Athens, Texas.

Colby had the ball with .3 seconds left in overtime. But that was not enough time for an inbound pass from near midcourt and a shot as the final buzzer sounded before a shot could be attempted.

Trojan Ivana Mijalcevic scored Colby's four overtime points within the first two minutes.

Odessa's three-point shot trimmed the deficit to 62-61. Colby's offense could not preserve the lead as Odessa took the lead thanks to three free throws in the last 2:14. Odessa's last free throw was with 14 seconds left.

"We played hard," said Colby coach Tom Stephens. "But we had turnovers that hurt us a little."

Odessa took a 32-25 lead at half-time thanks to a combination of strong defense and 10 Trojan turn-

overs.

Colby was able to cut the deficit in the second half using the three-point shot. Suzana Sormaz made two three-point shots in the first four minutes to cut Odessa's lead to 38-36. Odessa built the lead to nine points with about 13 minutes left.

Then Sormaz found the three-point shot again. Two of the shots within 30 seconds of each other had Colby trailing 52-50 with 5:05 left. Jamie Schroeder's shot with less than four minutes left tied the game at 52.

Stephens said Odessa's second half defense gave Colby the green light to shoot the three.

"They seemed to have packed inside pretty tight," he said.

Sormaz's three-point shot with 2:53 left in regulation gave Colby a 55-52 lead. Odessa tied the game at 55 thanks to a Helen Roden shot and free throw with 1:57 left.

Trojan Rita Kollo made her only three-point shot of the game to give Colby a 58-55 lead with 1:15 left. That would be the last points for Colby in regulation.

Odessa's Chandra Jones made a free throw with 35 seconds left and La'Desha Stoudemire's basket with 17 seconds tied the game at 58.

Odessa forced a jump ball with 2.3 seconds left and regained possession. A desperation shot from half court at the buzzer missed.

Colby finished the game with 19 turnovers. Odessa's defense was stingy too.

"When we put the ball on the

floor it gave us some problems," Stephens said.

The Trojans will play their third game today in as many days.

"We did not want to play three days in a row," Stephens said. "But they will get over it. And Odessa, I would like to play them again."

Odessa is seeded third in the tournament and had a 30-0 record going in.

Four Trojans scored in double figures. Sormaz led with 18 points thanks to six three-point shots. Jamie Schroeder scored 15 points and had 10 rebounds. Kollo scored 14 points and had 13 rebounds. Ivana Mijalcevic scored 10 points.

Colby made 24 of 62 shots for 38 percent. Odessa made 25 of 78 shots for 32 percent.

If Colby loses tonight, they will be out of the tournament. If they win, they will play for fifth place 3 p.m. Saturday.

Lynette Ball in softball hall of fame

By JAN KATZ ACKERMAN
Colby Free Press

A Menlo resident has been named as one of the state's leading softball commissioners.

Lynette Ball was named to the Kansas Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame Saturday in Topeka.

A player most of her life, Ball now serves as a full-time commissioner for the sport.

"My time playing waned a couple years ago," she said. "I've played since I was a little kid and from then on, but I quit playing a couple years ago."

Ball, 54, said her job as a softball commissioner includes managing tournaments with activities such as attracting players and umpires, setting up T-shirt vendors and prepar-

ing brackets, as well as collecting fees and attending tournaments.

"I'm there as an ASA spokesperson," she said.

According to Ball, the Amateur Softball Association is the national governing body for the sport of softball and acts as the umbrella to state level associations.

The Kansas Amateur Softball Association's jurisdiction includes all Kansas counties except Johnson and Wyandotte, which are part of the Metro Kansas City association. Ball is a softball commissioner for Region 6 which includes leagues and recreation departments in 44 counties of western Kansas.

Among those are the Colby Recreation, Colby Sweet Thunder team, Great Bend Quicksilver, Larned Renegades, Phillipsburg Girls Fast Pitch and Plainville Recreation.

According to association organizers, the purpose of the Hall of Fame, which dates back to the late 1980s, is to honor and recognize

men and women who have "brilliantly and competed so well" during their careers. It is also a way to honor those who have "contributed to the development and growth of the sport."

Ball said current Kansas association state commissioner Joe Sproul of Edmond got her started being a deputy commissioner in 1991.

A commissioner for the past 15 years, Ball was inducted into the Hall of Fame for her work done at the regional level the past 10 years.

"Joe asked me to attend a meeting of commissioners and got me interested," Ball said. "I then went on to become a district commissioner and in 1995 became regional commissioner."

Ball promotes girls' fast pitch, boys' baseball and adult slow pitch softball.

"Also, this year we'll have girls modified pitch," Ball said.

"Basically if anyone wants to learn how to get started they can call me."



L. Ball

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
NOW PLAYING:
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

COLBY CINEMA & ARCADE

MAR. 17 - MAR. 23

SHAGGY DOG
Fri. & Sat. : 7:00 & 9:00 (PG) 1:40
Sun. - Thurs: 7:00

FAILURE TO LAUNCH
Fri. & Sat. : 7:15 & 9:15 (PG-13) 1:37
Sun. - Thurs: 7:15

COLBY THEATRE

MAR. 17 - MAR. 23

V FOR VENDETTA
Fri. & Sat. : 7:00 & 9:30 (R) 2:12
Sun. - Thurs: 7:00

HILLS HAVE EYES
Fri. & Sat. : 7:15 & 9:15 (R) 1:45
Sun. - Thurs: 7:15

WINNER OF 2 MOVIE PASSES:
KIRK COULTER
(Pickup pass at the Colby Free Press. Pass expires in 7 days)

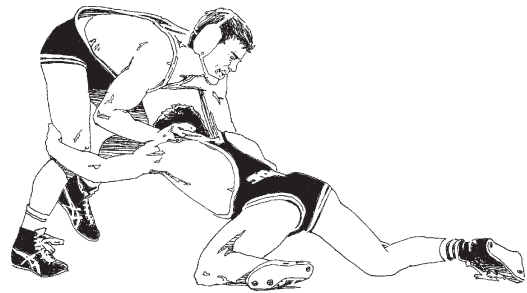
Luedke places eighth

Former Colby High School and Colby Community College wrestler Eric Luedke of Colby along earned all-American honors at the 2006 NCAA Wrestling Championships last weekend in Oklahoma City. The Hawkeyes finished fourth at NAAs.

Eric Luedke (165 pounds) assured himself of all-American status with a 3-1 win over Johnny Galloway of Northern Illinois, then lost

to No. 8 Travis Paulson of Iowa State, 8-3. Luedke took eighth after falling to Daniel Thompson of the Citadel, 8-3.

Faced with a Drinking Problem?
Perhaps
Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help
Meetings are Open to the Public
City Hall Basement
Mondays & Thursdays - 8:30 p.m.



Good Luck

Colby Wrestling Club

32 Wrestlers

Qualified to go on to State Competition at Topeka, KS

Saturday & Sunday
March 25 & 26



Congratulations to the following wrestlers who participated in the 6 and Under State Tournament held in Ottawa, Ks. March 19, 2006.

Braiden Lynn -5th place Age 6u/Weight 37
Rex Branum -5th place Age 6u/Weight 52
Tucker Branum -qualifer Age 6u/Weight 49

Tate Carney	Age 8/Weight 49	Konnor Kriss	Age 12/Weight 76	Brandon Harlow	Age 16/Weight 95
Connor Edmundson	Age 8/Weight 73	Keagan Strange	Age 12/Weight 76	Bryan Brewer	Age 16/Weight 110
Austin Hart	Age 8/Weight 95	Taylor Moeder	Age 12/Weight 84	Cody Wark	Age 16/Weight 115
Keegan Morgan	Age 8/Weight 110	Travis Horinek	Age 12/Weight 190	Dalen Schlageck	Age 16/Weight 115
Dustin Reed	Age 10/Weight 55	Seth DeHart	Age 14/Weight 70	Brent Luedke	Age 16/Weight 120
Josh Barnhart	Age 10/Weight 58	Nathan Reed	Age 14/Weight 90	Darren Spring	Age 16/Weight 125
Kyle Finley	Age 10/Weight 61	Bob Schroeder	Age 14/Weight 95	Hunter Olsen	Age 16/Weight 135
Quade Woofter	Age 10/Weight 79	Jordan Voss	Age 14/Weight 110	Jared Flanagin	Age 16/Weight 140
Treck Keck	Age 10/Weight 100	Ethan Stickel	Age 14/Weight 135	Nick Kriss	Age 16/Weight 185
Zell Bieberle	Age 10/Weight 130	Breck Arnberger	Age 14/Weight 140	Taylor Brown	Age 16/Weight 245
Dustin Burleigh	Age 10/Weight 130	Tanner Kriss	Age 14/Weight 160		