



COLBY FREE PRESS FILE PHOTO
Taylor Finley, left, held on to one of his opponents while wrestling for Colby High School last year. Finley is now wrestling for Colby Community College in the 149 pound class.

Wrestlers still have high goals

From Colby Community College

Although Trojan head wrestling coach Steve Lampe doesn't have many returning starters for the 2006-07 wrestling season, it doesn't mean the expectations will be any less.

"In the junior college ranks sophomore leadership is a little over-rated," Lampe said. "We have a lot of kids, freshmen or sophomores, this season who have the potential to be All-Americans."

Lampe also said that by the end of the season many of the freshmen have gained the experience, and if they are competitive enough, it doesn't matter that they are freshman.

That experience starts today when Colby wrestles at the Northwest Wyoming Open in Powell.

A sophomore expected to contribute is Levi Younkin, a 141-pounder from Oakley, who was an NJCAA All-American last season. He finished sixth in 133 pounds at the national tournament.

Also returning from last season are three red-shirt wrestlers who are expected to make an impact. They are Akmal Adilov, from Uzbekistan; Lyubomir Kubarov, Bulgaria; and Cale Farber from Hoxie.

Also returning from last season are Danny Toledo and Robbie Wilger, who saw some varsity action last year.

Lampe and assistant coaches Todd Voss and Bryan Miller have recruited several newcomers to the squad who will contribute. They include Tyler Baker, Tony Santos, Chris Kearn, Cole Garcia, Scott Miller, David Obermeyer, Kyle Withington, Taylor Finley, Chris

Overton and Dante Brown.

"The beginning of the year is important, the wrestling team's main concern is what happens at the end of the year," Lampe said.

The wrestling team will be shooting for a top-five finish in the national tournament and has been in the top 10 in the nation for the past 12 years. Last year, Colby finished eighth at nationals.

Lampe said it's always the team's goal to win the national championship. Academically, the Trojans have always been at the top of the nation including having the highest grade point average in the nation two years ago.

The wrestling team has six home dates, including the Tournament of Champions Jan. 5. Lampe is expecting one of the biggest fields ever for the tournament, with 12 to 13 teams expected to compete.

125 pounds: Akmal Adilov from Tashkent, Uzbekistan
133: Tyler Baker from Hoxie, Kansas

165: Dante Brown from Virginia Beach, Va.

149: Cale Farber of Hoxie; Taylor Finley of Colby

157: Cole Garcia from Colby

285: Wyatt Green from Scott City

157: Benjamin Mettlen from Scott City

174: Scott Miller from Oberlin

285: Gabe Moore from Oberlin

197: David Obermeyer from Hoxie

125: Chris Overton from Chesapeake, Va.

184: Naoto Saga from Akita City, Japan

174: Tony Santos from Hamilton, Ohio

133: Mike Savage from New Orleans, La.

184: Christopher Sutton-Kearn from Concordia

133: Danny Toledo from Naples, Fla.

285: Gabe Walz from St. Francis

174: Robert Wilger from Lamar, Colo.

149: Kyle Withington from Colby

141: Levi Younkin from Oakley

149: Lyubomir Kubarov from Kochan, Bulgaria


133: Joel Pflaster from Cozad, Neb.

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Trojan equestrian team members place at English Horse Show

The Colby Community College hunt seat team competed in Parker, Colo., Oct. 21-22 at the first Intercollegiate English Horse Show of the year hosted by Denver University.

Riders representing Colby were Kanako Takamatsu (Japan), Rebecca Page (Abilene), Angela MacDonald (Rose Hill), Jennifer Schatz (Rose Hill), Shelby Steerman (Grainfield), Matt Hutfles (Colby), Caroline Coffey (Chappell, Neb.) and Staci Cole (Cozad, Neb.)

Takamatsu, competing in her first horse show ever, placed sixth on Saturday and fourth on Sunday in the walk/trot division.

Page, MacDonald and Schatz competed in the beginning walk, trot, canter division.

"We had a strong showing in this division," said horse production director Dr. Kelly Riccitelli. "Rebecca Page placed second on Saturday and seventh on Sunday. Angela MacDonald placed fifth on Sunday and Jeni Schatz brought home third place ribbons on both Saturday and Sunday."

Steerman and Hutfles showed in the advanced walk, trot, canter division. Steerman, a returning rider from last year, drew very difficult horses on both Saturday and Sunday and did not place either day. Hutfles placed seventh on Saturday and improved to fourth on Sunday in very large, competitive classes.

In order to field riders in as many divisions as possible, Coffey rode in the Novice Division for Colby even though she actually qualified to ride in a lower division.

"With a little more seasoning I am confident she will be competitive in Novice and will help the team point standings," said Riccitelli. "The difficulty of the horses increases with each division and Caroline did not draw well on Saturday or Sunday and did not place in very large competitive classes."

Cole is the most experienced returning rider for Colby. She competed in both the Intermediate Flat and Over Fences Divisions. She brought home a fourth on Saturday and sixth on Sunday in the jumping classes.

CCC competed against Denver

University, Colorado College, University of Colorado, United States Air Force Academy, Laramie Community College, Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, Texas Tech University, West Texas A&M University, University of Wyoming and Oklahoma Panhandle State University.

Volleyball team seeded 2

The Colby Community College volleyball team received a first-round bye in the Region VI tournament.

Colby is the No. 2 seed team and will face the No. 3 seed Seward County Nov. 11 at Hutchinson. The tournament takes place Nov. 11-12, and is a double-elimination tournament with the winner advancing to the national tournament.

The five Division 1 teams competing for the right to go to nationals are Hutchinson, Colby, Seward County, Cloud County and Garden City. Butler is not eligible for post-season competition.

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