

Colby doesn't let season's history repeat itself

Girls win over Goodland sends them to state

By Cyndi Rothfuss
for the Colby Free Press

Like the old saying goes, "third time is a charm."

The third time Colby and Goodland girls played this season was the most vital as a trip to the state tournament was at stake.

Colby redeemed themselves from the two earlier losses to Goodland to win 54-45 Saturday at Goodland in the substate championship game.

"We were very solid defensively. Goodland had to earn everything they got," said Colby coach Derek Bissitt.

Goodland had given the Lady Eagles (22-2) their only two losses this season, the first loss was in December and the second Feb. 17.

Goodland had a 36-35 lead just 25 seconds into the fourth quarter. But that would be the last time Goodland had an edge. A scoring

run by Colby concluded with Colby freshman April Gee giving Colby it's biggest lead at 47-38 with 2:35 left in the game. She scored eight points in the fourth quarter.

Goodland managed to score a basket but Gee responded with a three-point play to give Colby a 50-40 lead with 2:09 left. Gee came through for the team in the clutch, as she put in two layups and two foul shots in the last three minutes of the game.

"I was pleased with the way we stepped up and finished," Bissitt said. "This was a physical game and Gee is strong enough to play."

Colby came through strong despite the pressure, and played very well, with the key factor being their ability to snatch 19 offensive rebounds.

"I thought our offensive rebounding was what allowed us to win. We did a great job on the boards," said Colby coach Derek Bissitt. "I guess the third time's the charm."

Tasha Wagoner, a junior, led Colby with 15 points. She kicked off the game early in the first quarter by draining two three-point shots to put the Eagles in the lead quickly.

"The way Tasha goes is the way the team goes," Bissitt said.

Colby relinquished that lead only once, briefly, as in the first minute of the second half Goodland took a one-point lead for less than 45 seconds of the game.

Behind Wagoner were Gee with 12 points and senior Ashley Barnes with 10 points. Lissa Mazanec, a junior, had 10 rebounds.

The Lady Eagles were able to put up 14 shots more than Goodland, shooting 22-57, for 39 percent from the field.

Colby earned their sixth trip to state in seven years. The state competition will be intense, with all teams playing having at least 20 wins for the season. Colby, seeded second at state, plays fifth-seed Columbus (21-2) 8:15 p.m. Thursday at the Bicentennial Center in Salina.

"The state tournament is loaded and wide open. It will go to whoever is playing best this week," said Bissitt. "The girls just need to believe in themselves and make it a special week."

Tonganoxie is seeded first with a 22-1 record. They play (8) Abilene (20-3) 6:30 p.m. Thursday. Colby-Columbus plays the winner of that game 6:30 p.m. Friday.

On the other side of the bracket, (2) Holton (22-1) plays (7) Augusta (21-2) 3 p.m. Thursday.

Third-seed Andover-Central (21-2) plays (6) Paola (21-2) 4:45 p.m. Thursday.

Championship game is 4 p.m. Saturday. Third-place game is noon Saturday.

Substate semifinal

Colby got by the Ulysses Lady Tigers in the substate semifinal game 62-39 Friday in Goodland.

Colby got off to a bit of a rough start, ending the first quarter with a 14-11 lead.

"We started off a little bit tight. They all looked nervous," said Bissitt. After that, Colby managed to build and establish a 20-point lead.

The Lady Eagles shot 45 percent from the field, compared to Ulysses' 41 percent. Colby outshot Ulysses by more than 20 shots. Colby's full-court press forced Ulysses to turn over the ball 26 times.

Mazanec led the Lady Eagles with 18 points and 11 rebounds, followed closely by senior Ashley Barnes with 11 points.

Paige Stephens, a junior, had 10 points and 10 rebounds. Wagoner had eight assists.



GOODLAND STAR-NEWS
Colby's Ashley Barnes looked for the basket during Colby's substate finals win Saturday at Goodland. Colby will play in the 4A state tournament starting Thursday.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Golden Plains Lady Bulldog Kendra Spreser looked for an open teammate during Thursday's substate semifinal game. Golden Plains defeated Rawlins County Saturday and will play in the state tournament.

Girls Class 1A

Golden Plains girls win substate; return to state tournament

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs are returning to the state tournament after beating Rawlins County 45-31 Saturday in Colby for the substate championship.

Golden Plains will play Randolph-Blue Valley in the first round of the state tournament 4:45 p.m. Wednesday at Fort Hays State University.

Kendra Spreser scored a game high 14 points and Katelyn Spreser added 13 to lead the Bulldogs. Liz

Staats chipped in with eight while Britt Ritter added six and Amanda Rall four.

Golden Plains outrebounded the Lady Buffs 33-19 which proved to be the difference in the contest. Golden Plains shot only 35 percent (15-42) but committed only nine turnovers for the contest.

GP improved their season mark to 23-1.

Golden Plains is seeded third at state. Randolph-Blue Valley is

seeded sixth with a 19-6 record. The winner of that game plays the winner of (2) South Haven (25-0) and (7) Quinter (18-6).

The semifinal game is 3 p.m. Friday.

On the other side of the bracket, (1) Olpe (25-0) plays (8) Little River (17-8). Fourth seed Centralia (20-4) plays (5) Claflin (20-5).

The championship game is 4 p.m. Saturday. Third-place game is noon Saturday.

Colby women to play at Labette in first round of tournament

The Colby Lady Trojans ended the regular season with a 100-63 loss at Seward County, the No. 2-ranked team in the NJCAA Saturday.

Seward led 51-34 at halftime, and kept the pressure on in the second half.

The Lady Trojans attempted 40

three-pointers for the game, making 14.

Sandra Sormaz led the Lady Trojans with 22 points, including 5-10 from three-point range. Jaci Tinkel had 12 points on four three-pointers and Jamie Schroeder had 11 points.

The Lady Trojan basketball team

(10-20, 6-10) will play at Labette Community College 6 p.m. Wednesday for their first-round Region VI tournament game.

The Lady Trojans are the West Division's fifth seed, while Labette (16-13, 9-9) is the East Division's fourth seed.

Trojan men finish season with loss

The Colby Community College men's basketball team ended their season with a 101-75 loss at Seward County on Saturday.

Seward shot 53 percent from the field, while the Trojan men were

held to 37 percent shooting. John Ortiz led the Trojans with 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Irvan Meyers added 16 points and Camilo Londono had 10 points and eight rebounds.

Jorge Canedo had seven points and nine rebounds in his final game as a Trojan.

The men's basketball team finishes the year at 7-23 overall and 1-15 in the conference.

Trojan woman wins three events at national indoor track meet

Betty Rotich continued her impressive season at CCC, winning three events and being named the NJCAA Women's Track Athlete of the Meet at the NJCAA Indoor Track Championships last weekend in Lubbock, Texas.

Earlier in the season, Rotich captured first place at the cross-country national championships.

Rotich led the Lady Trojans indoor track team to a seventh place finish, the first top 10 finish during head coach Jeff Becker's tenure. Rotich won the mile (5:10.19, school record), the 3000 meters (17:20.92) and the 5000 meters (17:30.50).

Here are Colby's results for the indoor track team.

Track:
600m: 14th Place, Lauren Kaiser, 1:43.57; 20th, Sherry-Ann Baggio, 1:51.67, ninth all-time at Colby.

Mile-
1st, Betty Rotich, 5:10.19, national champion, school record 3000m:

1st, Betty Rotich, 10:20.92, national champion

5000m-
1st, Betty Rotich, 17:30.50, national champion

4 x 400m-
13th, Amanda Daugherty (63.21), Lauren Kaiser (61.70), Vicmari Prospero (63.72), Sherry-Ann Baggio (60.87) 4:09.59, school record

Distance medley relay (1200, 400, 800, 1600)

12th, Onesmus Too (3:10.00), Shawn Hunter (52.52), Mark Porter (2:05.24), Sandino Nero (4:36.00) 10:43.76

Distance medley relay: (1200, 400, 800, 1600)

10th, Tiffany Thomas (4:35.00), Amanda Daugherty (64.18), Amy

Hoff (2:46.00), Mary Nyambura (6:22.00) 14:48.18

Field:
Shot Put-

15th, Ashley Murphy, 34-2

Weight Throw-

16th, Ashley Murphy, 35-6

18th, Ivan Guel, 46-9

"The indoor season started out really slow as we had bad weather and could not get in the practices we needed. This was a little frustrating for the coaches and athletes, but the team did not quit and finished the indoor portion of our season on a great note. The ladies team finished in the top 10 in the nation. This is the first top 10 finish we have had in the five years I have been coach at Colby. I am very proud of the team as they represented Colby Community College in a positive manner. Thanks for your support and we will now get ready for our outdoor season."

STRIKE ZONE

~ League Bowling Results ~

Feb. 27 - Early Bird Ladies League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
www.strike	18	6	1
NW Vacuum	15	9	2
4 4 Fun	14	10	3
Bowlerettes	13	11	4
Van's Merry Four	9	15	5

First high Individual game: Dee Hovda, 234
First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 522

Feb. 26 - First Nighters League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Woolter Well & Pump	180	114	1
Grinnell Furniture	159	135	2
Sparky's Fireworks	157	137	3
7-Up	146	148	4
Fire XStrikers	146	148	5
Schlick Construction	142	152	6
Seismic Land Mgmt.	139	155	7
Parking Lot Maintenance	135	159	8
Discount Repair of Oakley	134	160	9
Frontier Equity	132	162	10

First high Men Individual game: Mike Karnes, 265
First high Men Individual series: Mike Karnes, 649

Mar. 2 - Ten Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
CMC	15	9	1
Us & Barton Concrete	14	10	2
Colby Bowl	12	12	3
Cal Williams	12	12	4
Comfort Inn	10	14	5
ChiX w/ Balz	8	16	6

First high Individual game: Mary Hurr, 198
First high Individual series: Mary Hurr, 568

Feb. 25 - King & Queen

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Lee-Nelson	32	16	1
Norman - Keiser	26	22	2
Schissler-Koehn	26	22	3
Phillips - Carmen	25	23	4
Barton - Kreutzer	24	24	5
Swartz - Barnett	24	24	6
Krebs - Barnett	18	30	7
Bally - Llamas	8	8	8

Men's First high Individual game: Aaron Keiser, 243
Men's First high Individual series: Kipp Nelson, 571
Women's First high Individual game: Jessica Shaw, 173
Women's First high Individual series: Deb Norman, 494

Mar. 1 - King Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
5 Pony Men	28	14	1
Thunderballs	26	16	2
Colby Bowl & Fun Center	26	16	3
Morgan Construction	25	17	4
Colby Automotive	17	25	5
Orschlens	16	26	6
www.visitcolby.com	16	26	7
T - J's Tire	14	28	8

First high Individual game: Vern Schwanke, 268
First high Individual series: Vern Schwanke, 751

Feb. 27 - Pinbusters League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Killer Bees	204	132	1
Mufflers Plus	183	153	2
Taylor Motors	179	157	3
Colby Bowl	165	171	4
United Commercial Travelers	161	175	5
Colby Automotive	159	177	6
Donelan's Jewelry	127	179	7
MC Auto	124	182	8

First high Individual game: Aaron Rondeau, 259
First high Individual Series: Rich Bachman, 730

Feb. 28 - Ladies Nite Out

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Strike-Outs	21	7	1
Camouflage Lawn Care	17	11	2
Don's Electric	16	12	3
Straightline	15	13	4
Twisters	13	15	5
Stock Realty & Auction	13	15	6
Golden Harvest Seeds	12	16	7
Dbl U Trkn	5	23	8

First high Individual game: Alberta Cameron, 192
First high Individual series: Lesley Wagoner, 520

Feb. 28 - Powderpuff League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Weiser	22	6	1
Farm Credit	13	15	2
Service Oil	12	16	3
The B-Hive	7	21	4

First high Individual game: Margaret Karlin, 188
First high Individual series: Monica Miller, 510

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