



# Lady Eagles take care of the present before reliving the past

By Joey Falkoff

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Former Lady Eagle basketball players Rishonna Martin, Ashley Barnes and April Weaver will go down in history as the first senior class to win a state championship in any girls sport.

All three girls were on hand Thursday to receive their championship banner, but even with everything they accomplished last year, the newest edition of the Colby Lady Eagles put on a show even they had to be impressed with.

On a night devoted to honoring the team's past accomplishments, the Colby Lady Eagles (6-0) showed the future may be just as bright in their 75-23 victory over St. Francis (1-6) Thursday at the community building.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to an early 8-0 lead and had the game put away well before they headed to the locker room at halftime with a 45-16 lead.

"Our older girls came out and played with a lot of heart and set the tempo right away," said Lady Eagle head coach Parker McKee.

The bigger, more athletic Lady Eagles forced the Lady Indians into 29 turnovers which led to a 35-3 advantage in points off turnovers and 34-4 advantage in points in the paint.

For the first three quarters, it was a rare sight to see a Lady Eagle shooting anything other than a layup.

"One thing we talked about in practice was getting more transition baskets," said McKee.

"We were able to get some turnovers and get out on the fastbreak. I was glad we did a good job with that."

Colby shot 32-65 (49.2 percent) and held St. Francis to 7-35 (20 percent) shooting, including 1-16 (16.7 percent) in the second half.

The Lady Indians never scored more than eight points in a quarter and ended the game with no assists.



JOEY FALKOFF/Colby Free Press

Lady Eagle starters Paige Stephens, left, Lissa Mazanec, Tasha Wagoner, Aubrette Stephens and reserve Kayla Hockersmith could all sit back and relax during their 75-23 win over St. Francis Thursday at the community building.

As dominant as the Eagles were on the offense and defensive ends, the biggest disparity in the game was in rebounding where the Eagles ended with a 48-18 advantage, which was actually an improvement for St. Francis after being beaten on the glass 29-5 in the first half.

"Boxing out was a point of emphasis for us," said McKee. "But 29-5, I've never seen a margin that big."

The Lady Eagles won nearly every statistical battle by a wide margin, and after starting the second half with a 16-0 run to expand to a 61-16 lead, McKee was able to rest his starters the rest of the way and save them for their game 6:30 p.m. tonight at Hays.

Lissa Mazanec and Tasha Wagoner were limited to just 13 points against St. Francis, but their scoring wasn't needed on a night where the Lady Eagles supporting cast

was ready and willing to pick up the slack.

Both Paige Stephens and April Gee struggled to put the ball in the hole against Oakley, but bounced back with their best games of the season.

Stephens scored a season-high 16 points on 7-9 shooting and had six rebounds.

Gee was second on the team with 13 points, which all came in the first half. She also pulled down seven rebounds.

Also in double-figures was freshman Katherine Kaus who had a breakout game with her season-high of 12 points and eight rebounds.

Depth had been a question mark for the Eagles to this point, but after Thursday's performance, the Lady Eagles showed they can get produc-

tion from a variety of places.

"We have really good depth," said McKee. "Even if Lissa or Tasha don't each score 20 points, I think we proved tonight that we're more than capable of getting points from other places."

That depth may continue to expand as McKee was able to play all 12 of his girls at least nine minutes.

With mostly freshman on the court the final 12 minutes, the Lady Eagles more than held their own, outscoring St. Francis 10-7.

Freshman Kayla Hockersmith, who finished with nine points on 4-5 shooting, hit a layup with under minutes left to give the Lady Eagles their biggest lead of 75-18.

Things figure to get a little tougher against a 5A Hays team that is 3-2

right off the bat."

"I'll think we'll see two teams more evenly matched athletically," said McKee. "We'll have the same mentality as always, set the tempo

The tempo was all Colby's Thursday, allowing Martin, Weaver and Barnes to see for themselves their team is still in pretty good hands.

Box Score									
	1	2	3	4					
St. Francis (1-6)	8	5	3	7	-	23			
Colby (6-0)	22	23	24	6	-	75			
<b>St. Francis (23)-</b> Jami Pevler 3, Williams 1, Holzwarth 4, J. Hilt 2, Crabtree 8, Gienger 1, C. Hilt 4									
<b>Colby (75)-</b> Hockersmith 9, Terrell 2, Wagoner 3, A. Stephens 6, Katherine Kaus 12, P. Stephens 16, Gee 13, Young 2, Mazanec 10, Schuette 2									
<b>Team Stats:</b>									
<b>Turnovers:</b> Colby 13 St. Francis 29									
<b>Points off turnovers:</b> Colby 35 St. Francis 3									
<b>Points in the paint:</b> Colby 34 St. Francis 4									
<b>Rebounds:</b> Colby 48 St. Francis 18									
<b>Assists:</b> Colby 15 St. Francis 0									
<b>Steals:</b> Colby 15 St. Francis 4									
<b>Field goal percentage:</b> Colby 32-65 (49.2%) St. Francis 7-35 (20%)									
<b>Three-point percentage:</b> Colby 1-6 (16.7%) St. Francis 1-6 (16.7%)									
<b>Free throw percentage:</b> Colby 10-16 (62.5%) St. Francis 8-11 (72.7%)									



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## Acclaimed coach signs with Dolphins

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — Bill Parcells led Super Bowl winners from the sideline. The Miami Dolphins hope he'll do the same from the front office.

Parcells signed a four-year contract Thursday to lead the Dolphins' football operations, one day after turning down essentially the same role with the Atlanta Falcons.

The two-time Super Bowl champion coach will report directly to Miami owner Wayne Huizenga, whose affinity for big-name help now has led him to Parcells — a 66-year-old former coach of four NFL clubs who owns a home in South Florida and now has a job there, too.

"He has a proven track record of success everywhere he has been in the National Football League," Huizenga said. "And his football acumen will help put the Miami Dolphins franchise back among the elite of the NFL."

On Wednesday, the expectation around the league was that Parcells would take over in Atlanta.

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