



JOEY FALKOFF/Colby Free Press

Eagle senior Tim Howard went for an approach shot during a match against Liberal Saturday at Fike Park. Howard and #2 doubles teammate Geoffrey Rohr lost the match 6-8, but finished in second place at the Colby Invitational.

Eagles finish third in home tourney

In their final regular season tournament, the Colby Eagle tennis team finished third at the Colby Invitational Saturday at Fike Park.

Liberal won the tournament with 47 points and WaKeeney finished second with 30 points. The Eagles ended with 28 points.

Colby's #2 doubles team of Tim Howard and Geoffrey Rohr, who was filling in for Jared Bixenman, had the best day. They went 3-1 and finished second.

They defeated Satran and Olson of WaKeeney 8-2, Rivera and Haro of Ulysses 8-2 and Krause and Vonlahe of Russell 8-5. Their lone defeat came at the hands of Liberal's Dinh and Schaffer 6-8.

Colby's #1 singles player, Jeremy Harter, and the #1 doubles team of Gray Henry and Jordan Hockersmith finished third.

After losing his first match to Katt of WaKeeney 6-8, Harter won consecutive matches over Lubbers of Ulysses 8-5 and Kilian of Russell 8-1. Harter fell to Alvarez of Liberal 1-8 in his fourth match, but defeated Irvin of Goodland 8-2 for third place.

Henry and Hockersmith won their first match over Pfeifer and Kroeger of WaKeeney 8-1 only to drop their final two matches to Fagala and Prusa of Ulysses 4-8 and Canfield and Chance of Liberal 0-8.

Colby's #2 singles player, Cody Anderson, went 1-4 and finished

fifth. His lone win came in his final match over Deeds of Goodland 8-1.

He lost his first four matches to Schlegel of WaKeeney 1-8, Dillon of Ulysses 4-8, Morris of Russell 7-8 (4-8) and Harp of Liberal 1-8.

"I thought we kind of struggled on Saturday, but I think that our guys are starting to understand the level that they need to be at and that is what we are gonna focus on in practice," said Eagle head coach Jordan Sharp. "Our two doubles our playing probably the best tennis on the team right now. Tim is the only senior on the team and I know he wants to do something this year. I think him and Jared are capable of it, if they keep playing like they are right now."

With the regular season complete, Colby will now turn its attention to the post-season. The Eagles will host the regional tournament beginning Thursday morning at Fike Park. No times have been announced.

Teams participating in the regional are Goodland, Pratt, Ulysses and Russell. The top four players or teams in each bracket move on to SubState next week in Pratt.

"We are going to have to have confidence going into regionals," said Sharp. "All of our kids have the potential to do great things this year, but its like I tell them all the time: They have to believe in themselves before they can make believers out of anybody else."

Colby High softball manhandles Plainville

In less than one full game's time, the Colby Eagle softball team won their 13th and 14th consecutive games to start the season, 26-0 and 21-3, at Plainville Tuesday.

Both games lasted just three innings because of the 15-run rule.

"We took care of business today with the bats," said Lady Eagle head coach Jack Elliott.

The Lady Eagles saw success up and down the lineup, but the star of stars was Caitlyn Wark, who finished the day 4-7 with three home runs, a double and 10 RBIs.

In game one, Wark was 3-5 with two home runs, a double and eight RBIs. Brena Jones finished 2-3 with a double, four RBIs and a walk. Logan Wark also had two hits, finishing 2-2 with three walks and an RBI.

Chanelle Staats and Skyler Mengel each had a hit. Staats also walked twice and drove in three. Jordan Krzycki was 0-1, but walked four times.

Logan worked just two innings

on the hill, but picked up the win to improve to 7-0. She allowed no runs, one hit and struck out one. Caitlyn pitched the final inning, allowing a hit and a walk. She struck out one.

The Eagles didn't let up in game two.

Tara Powell led the way, going 2-4 with five RBIs. Mengel was 2-3 with two doubles and three RBIs. Caitlyn, Krzycki, Logan, Jones, Laura Dougherty and Lindsey Frahm each finished 1-2.

Caitlyn hit her third home run of the day. Logan had an RBI and Jones added two. Dougherty doubled and drove in three runs. Frahm also had an RBI.

Mengel worked all six innings to improve her record to 6-0. She allowed one earned run, six hits, walked none and struck out two.

The Lady Eagles, 14-0, return home for the first time since April 7, 4 p.m. Friday when they host Larned at the city fields. It will be Colby's final home date this season.

Spurs advance past Suns

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tim Duncan was not all smiles after the San Antonio Spurs eliminated the Phoenix Suns yet again from the playoffs. Written on the big man's face was only one thing: relief.

"Just happy we're done with them," he said. Really, was there ever any doubt?

The Spurs dispatched the Suns with a 92-87 Game 5 victory Tuesday in what has become almost a postseason ritual for the defending champions. The veter-

an team moves on to the Western Conference semifinals against the No. 2 seed Hornets, led by playoff rookie Chris Paul, in a series that begins Saturday in New Orleans.

The Suns go home again, falling to their postseason nemesis for the second straight year and the fourth time in five playoff appearances.

The Hornets finished off their series with the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday, also in five games.

"We went up against a team that knows how to win," Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said.

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