



# Eagles to face big test

Colby will play 5-0 Longhorns on road Friday

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The Colby High basketball boys will have their work cut out for them when they go on the road to face Holcomb at 8 p.m. Friday. The Longhorns come into the game with an unblemished 5-0 record. Holcomb is averaging an eye-opening 87.8 points a game. The Eagles will have to control Holcomb's triple scoring threat of Jordan Wilcox, No. 12; C.J. Brau, No. 3; and Matt Heydman, No. 23. Wilcox is averaging 17.2 per game, Brau 16 and Heydman 15.8. The Eagles (4-2) will need another solid effort by senior Levi Schlick in order to pull out a victory. Schlick has had a tremendous year so far, averaging 17.8 points per game and pulling down 11.7 rebounds. Colby will also need strong games from seniors Stephen Dinkel and Cade Carter. The two average 11.2 and 8.5 points per game respectively and are the teams top two assist men. Dinkel has doled out 12 assists this season and Carter 11. The Eagles are averaging 57.3 points per game this season. In order to pick up a win on Friday,



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press  
Junior Ryley Haas caught a pass while sophomore Corbin Stephens looked on from the three-point line at a Monday afternoon basketball practice. The Eagles will go on the road to face the Holcomb Longhorns at 8 p.m. on Friday.

they will either have to increase their scoring output or really clamp down on the Longhorns on defense. The Eagles will have momen-

tum heading into the game, as they have won their last two games in blowouts. Colby pummeled St. Francis 61-38 and trounced Oak-ley 70-45. The victories improved

the Eagles' record to 2-0 in North-west Kansas League play. No matter what the outcome Friday, it looks like fans will be in for an exciting game.

# Jayhawks survive Siena rally on way to 91-84 win

LAWRENCE (AP) — Hitting shots from the perimeter, on the break, in the lane, Kansas clearly wasn't going to have a letdown on the offensive end. At the other end? That was a different story — and it nearly cost the Jayhawks what should have been a runaway victory. Cole Aldrich had a career-high 24 points and 13 rebounds, and Kansas held off Siena 91-84 Tuesday night after nearly blowing a 20-point lead. Kansas was hoping to avoid a letdown after knocking off then-No. 14 Tennessee on Saturday and jumped on Siena early with a 25-1 run to go up 30-10 in the first 10

minutes. The Jayhawks let Siena back in it with poor perimeter defense, particularly on ball screens along the perimeter. Instead of fighting over the screens, Kansas' guards tried to slip under and the forwards didn't step out, leaving Siena's shooters open. The Saints made most of them, forcing the Jayhawks to hit 12-of-14 free throws in the final 3:23 to pull out their 33rd straight win at Allen Fieldhouse. Sherron Collins had 18 points for Kansas and Tyrel Reed added a career-high 14. "They fought back and we had some defensive lapses that you

just can't have. That allowed them to get back in the game," Reed said. "Defensively, we played really dumb."

Despite falling into the huge early hole, Siena never gave up, staying close by hitting 10-of-21 from 3-point range.

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# Sooners and Gators ready to square off

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Standing next to the crystal football, Bob Stoops was the picture of Mr. Agreeable. Any pose the photographers wanted, the Oklahoma coach gave them. Looking to the right, gazing to the left, smiling straight ahead. That is, until a shutterbug told Stoops to hold up one finger — a "we're No. 1" shot. No chance, pal. "Too soon," Stoops said. On Thursday night, his hurry-up Sooners and speedy Florida meet for the BCS championship and the right to hoist that glistening prize. It's a matchup that includes a pair of Heisman Trophy winners, an SEC vs. Big 12 debate and more than its share of trash talk. Besides, there was no need for Stoops to stake his claim Wednesday inside a hotel ballroom. Enough teams already have done that. Southern California, Utah and Texas were vocal in the past week, hoping their bowl wins impressed enough voters in The Associated Press poll, which will be released in the wee hours Friday. Heck, how about New Hampshire? The Wildcats beat Army, which beat Louisiana Tech, which beat Mississippi State, which beat Vanderbilt, which beat Mississippi, which handed the No. 1 Gators their only loss. No wonder college fans from President-elect Barack Obama on down want to see a playoff system. "I think at some point in time it might happen," Florida coach Urban Meyer said Wednesday. "I didn't believe that a few years ago, but I feel now the discussion is out of control. I can't imagine any guy that enjoys football not discussing that wherever he's at. So I imagine at some point that might happen now." As to whether it should be a tournament for four, eight or 16 teams, that's someone else's department.

"It's not my job to figure that out," Meyer said. "I think it would be hard. I don't know how you do it." Echoed Stoops: "That's not for me to do. They're all good football teams; everyone realizes that. So again, that's for you guys to choose." There's plenty of time to think about it. The BCS' latest TV deal with ESPN ensures there won't be a playoff until at least 2014. Meanwhile, there's a pretty attractive game brewing at Dolphin Stadium between 12-1 teams. The winner takes home the crystal, and that could come in handy for the Gators — they won the trophy two years ago, but a recruit accidentally bumped into it in April, shattering the \$30,000 football. Fortunately for them, it was insured. Tim Tebow was a freshman backing up Chris Leak when Florida stomped Ohio State for the title. Tebow won the Heisman last season and now will try to add a second title. The Rambo-style quarterback will soon explore his NFL options, deciding whether to enter the draft or return for his senior season. Tebow is not exactly elegant with his left-handed tosses, and some scouts project he'll wind up as a tight end in the pros. "I'll hear something about Tim's throwing motion or the NFL is looking for — I sometimes get confused," Meyer said. "Do they want a guy that's going to lead a team to win games? I don't know if there's any better than Tim." Tebow drew the most first-place votes in the Heisman balloting last month, but finished third overall. Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford took home the trophy — he said his parents now have it somewhere in their house. Bradford, a sophomore, also has submitted paperwork to the NFL's advisory board to see how highly he could get picked in the draft.

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