



Takedown!

Eagles pin down state win

By Andy Heintz

Colby Free Press aheintz@nwkansas.com

The Colby High wrestling team saw all its hard work at practice and in the weight room pay off Saturday, as the boys won the state Class 4A tournament with 129 points overall.

"The thing about this team is they deserved it," said Coach Matt Simms. "They have put in an extreme amount of time and they are the hardest-working team I've ever coached."

Seniors Tanner Kriss and Breck Arnberger maintained their undefeated streaks, finishing first in their weights.

Kriss won his first three matches by pinning his opponents, then took a 8-1 decision over Taylor Wuthnow of Abilene in the finals at 215 pounds.

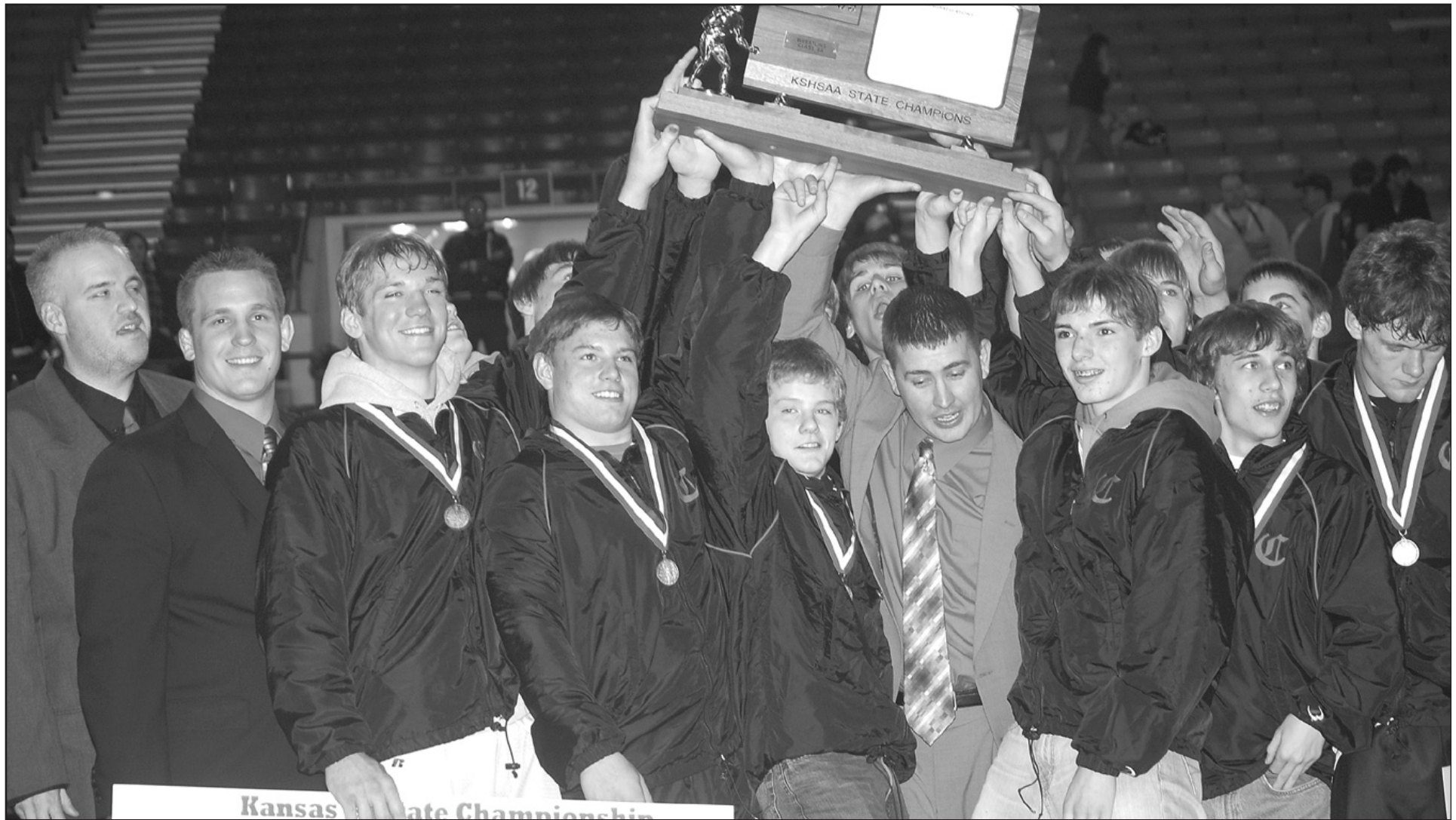
Arnberger won his first match by a pin and his second in a 9-3 decision at 171 pounds. He won his next match 5-2 and defeated Noel Richardson in the finals in a 7-3 decision.

Arnberger finished the season 39-0 and Kriss finished 38-0.

Senior Treat Bugbee came up big for the Eagles, too. He won a 4-3 decision over defending champion Joel Marrs of Clay Center at 189 pounds. The victory gave Colby a surge at an opportune time.

"It was big momentum swing for us," Simms said. "Before the match, the guys were feeling like we were not having our best day."

The momentum Bugbee gained with the win was not quite enough to propel him to a first-place finish, as he lost a 3-0 decision to Darell Bortz of Pratt in the finals.



The Colby High School wrestling team (above) gathered around coach Matt Breck Arnberger (below) finished a perfect year at 39-0 by whipping his opponent Simms to hoist the Class 4A state championship trophy on Saturday. Senior in the finals. Senior Tanner Kriss also finished undefeated at 38-0.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

That left him in second place

Bugbee won his first match in a 5-0 decision and his second match 7-5.

"It was redemption for his whole career," said Simms. "Treat Bugbee never seemed to get the close calls at the end of matches, but this time he got two close calls that helped him win two matches."

"It was an example of what I always tell the guys: If you work hard enough, you will eventually see that hard work pay off."

Freshman Konner Kriss rebounded from a second-round defeat at 103 pounds by winning four straight to take third.

Junior Adam Weber, a favorite

among Colby fans, finished fifth in the 285-pound class, going 4-2.

"Adam is so fun to watch, because it's always like watching David vs. Goliath," Simms said.

Junior Nathan Reed also took fifth, at 112 pounds, with a 4-2 record.

In other action, sophomore Andrew Flanagin finished 2-2 in the 160-pound class and freshman Dalton Snyder was 2-2 at 130.

Senior Heath Stephens went 1-2 at 140 pounds and sophomore Dryden Baumfalk was 1-2 at 119. Senior Garrett Zweygardt finished 0-2 at 145 pounds.



Genesis needs donations to boost challenge giving

By Marj Brown

Colby Free Press colby.society@nwkansas.com

Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank has been chosen for the Alan Shawn Feinstein \$1 Million Challenge, making donations over the next couple of months worth a lot more than just what people give.

The Feinstein Foundation will split \$1 million among organizations nationwide that pass out food to the needy, but depending on how much they all raise, it might increase the pot.

Feinstein, a multimillionaire, has been giving \$1 million each year for the past 11 years to anti-hunger agencies throughout the country. A nationally known philanthropist and writer, he says he believes each of us was put here on earth to do what we can to help those in need. His foundation is based

in Cranston, R.I.

"This news came at a time when we were in the greatest need, since our case load of families needing food has increased tremendously this year," said Kathy Ryan, a member of the Genesis board. "Also, this is the first year that any organization in western Kansas has been chosen to take part in this challenge. Participants are usually from the larger cities."

"All of the organizations will split the \$1 million Feinstein gift evenly. However, it will be possible for each one to receive even more. That will be based on how much each group can make in total donations between March 1 and April 30."

"This is not a matching donations-type of program, because we will have no idea what

See "FOOD BANK," Page 3

Author to talk at library meal

Save your lunch hour Wednesday, when the Pioneer Memorial Library will have author Nancy Pickard reviewing her novel, "Virgin of Small Plains."

The Library Journal Review says, "Cold case, indeed: a blizzard with too many parallels to a long-ago storm shocks 33-year-old Abby Reynolds into unraveling the mystery behind a 17-year-old homicide."

Kansas author Nancy Pickard divides her time between Prairie Village and Florida. She has won the Agatha, Macavity, American Mystery, Anthony and Shamus awards and is a three-time Edgar nominee — including for "The Virgin of Small Plains." This book was on the 2007 Kansas Notable Books List.

"Lunch is always served," says librarian Melany Wilks, "so come and enjoy it with us."

Severe storms week will focus on safety

By Marj Brown

Colby Free Press colby.society@nwkansas.com

It is that time of year again, when the National Weather Service prepares for severe weather and begins to train people to help them watch for storms.

David Floyd, warning coordination meteorologist for the Goodland Weather Station, says Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week will be next week, March 9-13. During the week, storm spotter workshops will be held around northwest Kansas.

"We will also have a statewide and countywide tornado drill at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, during Kansas Severe Weather

Awareness Week," said Susan McMahan, Thomas County emergency preparedness and dispatch director.

Alarms will sound throughout the county and state, she said, and practice alerts will be sounded on all television and radio stations. Tornado drills will be held at Colby's hospital, both nursing homes and all schools in the county around Kansas.

"We hope people will use this time to have practice drills in their own homes and businesses," McMahan said, "to discuss with their children and employees what to do in case of tornadoes."

See "STORMS," Page 3

Briefly

Buy pizza; help students

Support the Colby Community College Massage Therapy student association. Pizza Hut will donate 20 percent of every purchase with a flier from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday to the group. Flier must be presented to receive credit; good for dine-in, delivery or carry out. Call (785) 462-8206 for questions.

Two 'Pickin' bands here Friday

Two bluegrass bands that headlined the Pickin' on the Plains Festival last year will be back in Colby on Friday at the Frahm Theater at Colby Community College. Marshall Allen Bailey and the Silver Bullets will perform at 7 p.m. and Gold Wing Express at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at Plum Creek downtown, Farmers and Merchants Bank at Dillons and the Colby Convention and Visitor's Bureau at \$15 for adults and \$10 for youths. For information, call

(800) 611-8835 or 460-7643.

Gem Lions cooking soup, chili

The Gem Lions Club will have its annual winter soup day on Saturday at the Gem Community Building. The menu includes homemade vegetable, chili and potato soup, plus crackers, corn bread and home-baked cakes. Donations will be accepted, with profits used for community betterment. Bring used eye glasses and hearing aids for recycling. Everyone is invited.

Soccer camp set for Sunday

A soccer skills camp for boys and girls age 6 to 12 will be held at Heartland Christian School from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Fee for the program, sponsored by the American Youth Soccer Organization, is \$5. For information, call Greg Griffin at (785) 460-0647 or Samantha Schnider at (785) 460-0661.

Radio Control club plans race

The Racing for Christ radio controlled car club will meet at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the First Baptist Church, 615 W. Webster. The club will be giving an RC car away in April. Come find out how to win. For information, call Kent Higerd, 462-3440.

Farm Bureau has scholarships

The Thomas County Farm Bureau is offering three scholarships to high school seniors whose parents are members. County coordinator Sue Draper said applications are available at Thomas County high schools and at the Farm Bureau office, 550 N. Franklin. They are due by Thursday, March 12.

Safety posters could win prizes

Thomas County students in the first through sixth grades can enter a safety poster contest sponsored by

Thomas County Farm Bureau. County coordinator Sue Draper said the poster can be about anything to do with safety. The top three will be chosen from each of three age divisions. Posters must be turned in to the Farm Bureau office, 550 N. Franklin, by Thursday, March 12. Winners will be submitted for statewide competition.

Meal volunteers needed

The Senior Progress Center is looking for two volunteers to help deliver meals to the homebound. Deliveries are from 10:30 to noon every Monday for every other month beginning in April. For questions, call director Kaila DeBoer at 460-2901.

