



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby High senior Breck Arnberger got a firm grip on Noel Richardson of Chapman during the championship match at 171 pounds in the Class 4A state wrestling tournament in Salina.

Arnberger and senior Tanner Kriss both qualified for the Senior Wrestling Nationals in Virginia Beach, Va. The tournament starts at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 3, and runs through Sunday, April 5.

Colby wrestlers going to nationals

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Colby High seniors Breck Arnberger and Tanner Kriss are going to the High School Senior Nationals Wrestling Championship in Virginia Beach, Va., where they will face other top wrestlers from around the country.

The tournament, sponsored by the National High School Coaches Association, will be from 10 a.m. on Friday, April 3 until Sunday April 5.

During the tournament, wres-

tlers will get a chance to mingle with college and junior college coaches.

A college coaches' fair will take place from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, April 3, and a college recruiting fair will run from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. that Sunday. According to the website www.nhsca.com, 217 college and university coaches attended the event last year, including coaches from the top 25 Division I programs in the country.

Arnberger and Kriss both went undefeated this season, winning their weight classes at the state Class 4A championships in Salina.

na. Arnberger was 39-0 at 171 pounds and Kriss was 38-0 at 215 pounds.

Coach Matt Simms said 60 wrestlers in each weight class will compete in the national tournament. Any senior who had been a finalist in state competition could participate, he said.

"It's a pretty tough tournament," said Simms. "They have a shot to win some matches."

The top eight finishers in each weight class earn medals, Simms said.

Colby's Pizza Hut sponsored a fund raiser from 5 to 8 p.m. Tues-

day to help raise money for the trip to Virginia. George Tubbs bought pizzas for the wrestling team and the cheerleaders for a party at Meadow Lake Golf Club at the same time.

Simms said the trip would cost the wrestlers about \$600 apiece.

The two will also be competing in the Kansas Senior Classic at 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 27, in Topeka. In that event, wrestlers from Classes 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A compete against wrestlers from Class 5A and 6A schools,

New Royal player hitting well in spring training

SURPRISE (AP) — Coco Crisp practices what Kansas City Royals manager Trey Hillman preaches.

Hillman's most treasured offensive statistic is on-base percentage. Crisp, has a .556 on-base percentage, fourth in the American League in spring training.

In Crisp's last two games, against Cleveland and Milwaukee, he was 3-for-4 with two walks and three runs scored, raising his batting average to .421. He leads the Cactus League with seven walks. He also has a .684 slugging percentage, with a home run and two doubles in 19 at-bats.

"I really like what Coco is doing as the leadoff hitter," Hillman said. "He's seeing a lot of pitches, having good at-bats, taking pitches with men in scoring position, has a minimum number of strikeouts and he's got some walks."

David DeJesus has been Kansas City's opening day leadoff hitter the past four years, but will likely hit third with Crisp at the top in the lineup this season.

Crisp, 29, has been in the play-offs the past two years and provides the Royals with leadership.

"He's a very quiet leader," Hillman said. "He had a day where he could have left early after the fifth inning. It was a long game against Texas. He stayed the whole game and sat there with the kids on the bench. He's outstanding."

DeJesus will move to left field to take advantage of Crisp's speed and defense in center. Crisp said

playing home games at Fenway Park the past three seasons improved his defense.

"You have to learn to play different dimensions every single night out," he said. "In Boston it can kick any which way. That made me a better defensive player."

Crisp, a switch hitter, broke into

the majors with Cleveland in 2002 and hit 15 home runs in 2004 and 16 in 2005, but only three last year with Boston and no more than eight in his three seasons with the Red Sox.

"This isn't a home run field, either," Crisp said of Kauffman Stadium.

"Coming to Boston and I got hurt (a broken finger in 2006). It's 390 down the line. It's just a little too far."

Junior Lady Eagles finish season 11-7

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby junior varsity basketball girls finished their season with a 31-29 loss to Norton at the Colby High gym.

"The ladies did a good job of improving all season and know what we expect of them," said Coach Jack Elliot. "Hopefully, they will work on their games during the off-season and continue to

get better." Sophomore Kylie Reitcheck scored a team-high 8 points on March 3 and sophomore Caitlyn Wark had 6. Junior Rhett Martin hit 5, sophomore Kelsey Shields and freshman Morgan Bell each had 4 and freshman Emilea Finley scored 2.

The junior Lady Eagles finished the season with an 11-7 record.

Elliot said he wanted to thank his team's fans for all the support they gave the girls this season.

Broncos quarterback talks with new coach

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — New Denver Broncos coach Josh McDaniels and Pro Bowl quarterback Jay Cutler talked this week for the first time since their rift became public.

Cutler spoke with McDaniels on Monday in a conference call, but the team would not say what was discussed.

The Denver Post reported on its Web site Tuesday night that the

call only muddied the waters between McDaniels and Cutler.

A team official with knowledge of the discussions, however, told The Associated Press that despite what other sources may be saying, the two sides did not grow farther apart in this conversation.

The conference call was the first step in what could be a long reconciliation process between the new coach and his quarterback.

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