



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Colby High junior Kelsey Shields prepared to take a shot during Lady Eagles' basketball practice last Tuesday at the high school gym. The girls will play Riley County High School at 4 p.m. on Thursday in the Hays City Shoot Out at Hays High School.

Four starters will be returning to Lady Eagles squad this year

By Andy Heintz
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Coach Parker McKee has to be excited about the group of girls returning to his team this season at Colby High School.

This year's squad will include four players from last season's starting five, and all four are juniors.

The Lady Eagles went 15-6 last season, an impressive feat considering that they were 1-3 at one point in the season.

Forward Katherine Kaus returns for her junior year. Katherine was the team's leading scorer last season and one of the Lady Eagles'

leading rebounders. She is effective around the basket and a good finisher on fast breaks.

"Katherine worked really hard over the summer," said McKee, who is a cousin of boy's coach Jon McKee. "She has looked good so far in practice. All the girls from last year's team have looked good in practice."

Junior point guard Kayla Hockersmith was another one of the team's top scorers last season. She always wears her competitiveness on her face and is good at using her speed and quickness to get past defenders. Freshman Alexa Haas may be backing up Hockersmith at point guard this season. "She has the ability to make

plays and she sees the court well," said McKee.

Katherine's twin sister, Katrina, and junior Shelby Terrell are the other two returning starters. Both guards, they are threats from three-point range and they are able to consistently knock down mid-range jump shots.

Sophomore Morgan Bell returns to the team after getting a lot of playing time her freshman season. McKee said her play continues to improve.

"Morgan was successful last year because she is extremely athletic," he said. "She understands the game at a higher level now."

The Lady Eagles will miss Taylor Young, who graduated last

spring. Young was arguably the team's best rebounder and one of Colby's leading scorers. McKee said junior Kelsey Shields will be trying to fill the role Young held last season. Shields was the girl's "seventh man" last year.

McKee said if his team continues to get better every day in practice and is able to build on the success of last year's squad, they will have a successful season.

The Lady Eagles will open their season against Riley County High School at 4 p.m. Thursday the Hays City Shoot Out at Hays High School. The tournament will last through Saturday, Dec. 5, and Colby will play one game each day.

Colby women's cross country runner takes second in national championship

Colby Community College sophomore Scarla Nero took second out of 64 runners with a time of 1 hour and 25 minutes at the National Junior College Athletic Association Half-Marathon championships Nov. 21 at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park.

The half-marathon is a 13.1 mile race. Coach Crystal Berndt said the top three runners all

ran together for the first eight miles. She said the half-marathon is tough because after the women finish the first eight miles, they have to run up a 600-meter hill.

Five Lady Trojans' runners ran the race, and the team's top three times were counted in the squad's overall score. Colby came in eighth out of 13 teams with a time of 4:46:17.

"They ran well, especially Scarla," said

Berndt. "She ran really well."

Sophomore Breana Yost finished 25th with 1:36. The other Colby times were sophomores Tatiana Bartruff, 1:44:39; Reba Scheisser, 1:52:38; and Autumn Preston, 2:02:20.

Cowley County Community College from Arkansas City took first with 4:23:27.

Eagles alum inspired to write book about history of Colby High sports

By Andy Heintz
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Colby resident Gary Adrian chronicles the history of Colby High School sports from 1902 to the present in his upcoming book, "Flight of the Eagles."

The author said the book will be completed soon after the boys and girls track and field seasons end this spring.

Adrian, a loyal follower of Colby High sports, said he got the idea to write the book after finding a program and some records in a cedar chest that held some of his late uncle's mementoes. Adrian said his uncle, Duane Adrian; was killed by a sniper while serving in the army during World War II. Adrian said his uncle drove for a general during the war.

In the chest, Adrian found a program from a football game between Colby and Goodland High

School in 1940. It also contained all the Colby football results from 1902 to 1939.

The pictures and program gave Adrian the idea to write a book about the history of Colby football from 1902 to the present time.

He said he eventually decided he might as well write a book about all Eagles sports. The book covers all 15 Colby High sports teams, boys and girls basketball, football, boys and girls track and field, boys and girls cross country, wrestling, girls softball, boys and girls golf, boys and girls tennis, girls volleyball and baseball.

The book features pictures of league, district or regional championship teams and any squad that finished first, second or third

in state competition. It will also include pictures of the 10 Colby athletes who earned 12 letters during their time in school, he said, plus comments from eight of the 10. Adrian said he was unable to get comments from two because they had died.

The author said his book is more than just statistics.

"It's not just going to be a book of scores," Adrian said. "It's about the people."

Adrian estimates the book will end up at 100 or more pages. He started writing in January. He said wants people to start ordering books as soon as possible so he knows how many copies he will have to print. Adrian said he wants to get as much printed as

he can, so he won't have to add too much once the track and field season ends. He said he has spent more than 1,500 hours working on the book, but he's had a great time writing it.

"It's been so much fun because I know these people," he said.

Adrian said any money he makes off the book will go towards building two new locker rooms, two bathrooms and a storage area for storing football and track and field equipment at Dennen Field. The locker rooms will be for Colby and opposing football teams, part of a building south of the concession stands.

The high school booster club is in charge of raising money for the project.

Colby takes 11th in half-marathon

Colby Community College red-shirt runner Anthony Luna finishing 28th place out of 83 runners at the National Junior College Athletic Association Half-Marathon championships Nov. 21 at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park.

"For him to come out and run that well makes us excited that he's coming back next year," said Coach James Ortiz. Luna's time was 1 hour, 17 minutes.

The Trojans finished 11th out of 16 teams with a time of 3:57:57. Only three Trojans ran in the 13.1 mile race. The other two were freshman Lendon Harshorn, who fin-

ished in 1:19:30, and sophomore Ryan Baalman, who ran the race in 1:20:36.

Sophomore Albert Mong'ony and freshman Trey Dunsirn both planned to run the half marathon, but Mong'ony had an ankle injury and Dunsirn was sick, Ortiz said.

Ortiz was pleased with his team's performance.

"I thought we did great considering our situation," the coach said. "Everyone did what they were expected to do."

South Plains College from Levelland, Texas, took first with 3:29:52.

College in Goodland starts new golf program

The Northwest Kansas Technical College has added women's golf as its second sport and hired two coaches to start the program.

President Ed Mills said the college has hired Tammy Neal as women's head golf coach and Travis Jones as assistant coach.

Steve Lampe of Colby will be the director of athletics and wrestling coach.

"We feel honored to have talented and dedicated individuals leading these athletic teams," said Dr. Mills.

The decision to add women's golf, she said, was made based on the number of requests for athletic programs and the goal of the college to enhance pride both in the campus and in the community.

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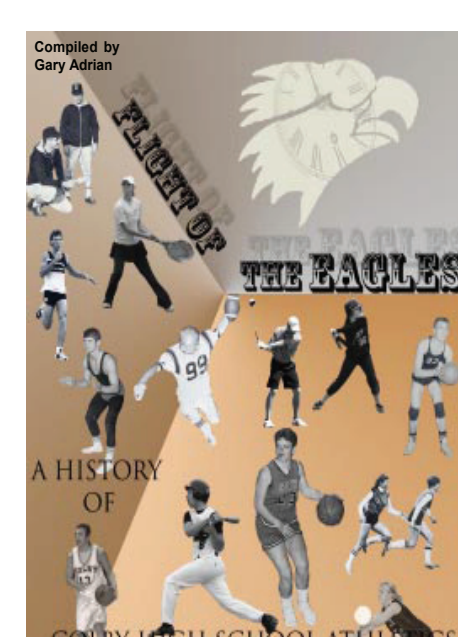
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FLIGHT OF THE EAGLES has been created to coincide with the end of the Northwest Kansas League era for Colby High School activities. Results, records, and selected photographs from 1902 to May 2010 will be included. Since track, softball, and baseball will not be completed until 29 May 2010, **FLIGHT OF THE EAGLES** will not be printed until early June 2010. It will be printed and available before the CHS Alumni Reunion in June 2010. As soon as the book is available, announcements will be made concerning sites where you may pick up your copy(ies) of the book. Proceeds will be applied to the construction of a new building at Dennen Field which will include: rest rooms, home and visitor locker rooms, and equipment storage for football and track.

CHS All-Sports Booster Club wishes to THANK YOU for your support in all of our projects.

BE PROUD - BE AN EAGLE

Order your copy of **FLIGHT OF THE EAGLES** to enjoy and appreciate the history of Colby High School athletics.

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