



Colby High senior Nathan Reed and sophomore Dalton Snyder worked on their fundamentals during wrestling practice on Nov. 18 on the mezzanine at the high school. The Eagles will open their season at 6 p.m. on Friday in a dual meet at Burlington High School in Colorado.

Eagles wrestling team returns six state qualifiers

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby High varsity wrestling team will try to repeat as Class 4A state champions this season.

The Eagles' squad includes six athletes who helped win the state championship last year, and three of them placed. In all, nine wrestlers have varsity experience.

Coach Matt Simms, 2008 class 4A coach of the year, said he thinks the experience factor will help his team because his veteran wrestlers will want to improve on what they did last year.

Simms said this year's team was full of really hard workers. "They don't want to be outdone," he said.

Sophomore Konner Kriss returns after an outstanding freshman season. Kriss took third at state in the 103-pound class. He finished the season with a 38-4 record.

Seniors Adam Weber and Nathan Reed both finished fifth at

state last season. Weber, a favorite among Colby wrestling fans, wrestled at 285 and Reed at 103. Weber's popularity springs from the stocky wrestler's ability to defeat (and sometimes pin) wrestlers much bigger than him. Weber finished the season with a 29-12 record and Reed went 35-5.

Junior Andrew Flanagin went undefeated in the early part of last year's season at 160, and he went 2-2 at state. Flanagin went 36-7 last season.

Sophomore Dalton Snyder went 2-2 at state at 130 and junior Dryden Baumfaulk went 1-2 at 119.

Seniors Ethan Stickel, Torey Taylor and Bob Schroeder all have experience wrestling at the varsity level. Stickel and Taylor both wrestled at 152 and Schroeder wrestled at 125.

Three of last year's wrestlers will be switching weight classes this season. Simms said Konner Kriss will be wrestling at 119 and Flanagin will move up to 171. Taylor will replace Flanagin at 160 and freshman Dustin Reed,

brother of Nathan Reed, will wrestle at 103.

Another person who will be a newcomer to wrestling at the varsity level is sophomore Michael Tubbs. Tubbs will be competing at 130. He went 25-6 on the junior varsity team last season.

The Eagles will certainly miss some of last year's seniors. It's hard to replace a Breck Arnbarger or Tanner Kriss. The two state champions went undefeated last year at 171 and 215 pounds respectively. Arnbarger was 39-0 and Kriss went 38-0. Today, Kriss is wrestling at the University of Indiana.

Treat Bugbee, another senior last season, took second at state last year at 189. Despite the departure of these three and several other talented wrestlers, this year's team has a good blend of experience and talent.

The team opens its season at 6 p.m. Friday in a dual meet at Burlington High School in Colorado.

Trojans wrestlers rally to win duel in Wyoming

The Colby Community College wrestling team rallied to beat Western Wyoming Community College from Rock Springs 27-19 in a dual meet on the road Nov. 22.

Colby freshman Cody Wark was pinned by Kasey Bertagnolli in the 125 pound weight-class to give Western Wyoming an early 6-0 lead.

Freshman Brent Luedke lost to Jacob Bassett 8-5 at 133 to make it 9-0 Mustangs. Freshman Luis Camacho lost 15-4 to Justin Schumacher at 141 and freshman James Hirsch fell to Hayden Petersen 6-2 at 149 to give Western Wyoming a 16-0 lead.

Colby Sophomore Ganbayara Sanjaa finally got the Trojans on the scoreboard by crushing Jerod Hammond 18-4 at 159 to cut the Mustangs' lead to 16-4. Dominant sophomore wrestler Bekzod Ab-

durakmanov kept the the team's momentum going by beating Rodney Dollar in a technical fall at 165.

A technical fall, or pin, occurs when a wrestler scores 15 or more points than his opponent. The two wins narrowed the Mustangs' lead to 16-9.

Freshman Jonathan Hill suffered a 5-2 loss to Cole Evans at 174 to make it 19-9 Mustangs. Freshman Eli Jackson gave the Trojans a big lift by pinning Steven Nash at 184 to cut Western Wyoming's lead to 19-15. Trojans' sophomore Nick Kriss had no one to wrestle at 197, giving Colby six more points and a 21-19 lead, and freshman Pat Fletcher pinned Rusty Farnsworth in the heavyweight division to give the Trojans a 27-19 victory.

The team will wrestle in the Fort Hays Open at 9 a.m. Saturday in Hays.

Brewster basketball squad will rely on senior leadership

By Bonnie Holm
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The Brewster High boys varsity basketball team will rely heavily on senior leadership this season, as the Bulldogs return three starters from last year, Ryan Allen, Devan Selby and Spencer Holm.

Senior Seth Ackerman will play starting in January. He is recovering from surgery following a knee injury last season. The rest of the team includes seniors Erik

Roeder and Troy Albers, sophomore Aaron Luckert and freshmen Damon Hanley, Eric Lowe, Michael Schmidt, Ben Baird and Dan Brown.

Adding to the mix is new head coach Tom Stephens. He coached the Bulldogs in the '90s and says he is looking forward to taking up the reins again. Assistant coach, Mike Doll, also is new to the team. Doll, a Goodland High graduate, played basketball at Colby Community College. He is also the head coach for the junior

high boys team. Stephens said he stresses teamwork and hustle in practice that will carry over when facing their opponents. He looks for the team to play hard and get better every game.

The Bulldogs open their 2009-2010 season Friday as they travel to McDonald to take on the Cheylin Cougars. The junior varsity boys play at 5 p.m. and the varsity at 8 p.m.

Lady Bulldogs have size advantage

By Bonnie Holm
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The Brewster Lady Bulldogs basketball team is short on numbers, but long in stature, as they will start two girls who measure 6 feet tall.

Returning starters are seniors Nichelle Erskine and Rose Bear and junior Kasey Hoyt. Junior Nicole Connell and freshmen

Jasmine Staten and Amber Barrie make up the rest of the team. Connell and Erskine bring height to the team, while Bear and Hoyt have varsity experience.

New head coach Trisha Carpenter says she feels her girls can be competitive in the Western Kansas Liberty League. She said that many others teams are low in numbers, and it shouldn't be a detriment to the Lady Bulldogs.

Dallas Schnurr is the new assistant coach for the girls. He is from Sterling and played four years at Sterling College.

Coach Carpenter said her girls have been working hard and are looking forward to their first game. They will open the season against the Cheylin Cougars at 6:30 p.m. Friday in McDonald.

Cats coach gets contract

MANHATTAN (AP) — Deb Patterson, the all-time winningest coach in Kansas State history, has agreed to a new five-year contract.

The deal will run through the 2014 season. She is 267-150 in 14 seasons, has won two Big 12

championships and made 11 appearances in the NCAA tournament.

The school said the contract is retroactive to April 15 and will pay Patterson a base salary of \$485,000 in the 2009-10 contract year.

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