



Colby High freshmen Ashley Coleman (left) and Brady Colson locked up during Eagles' wrestling practice Wednesday on the mezzanine at the high school.

Eagles Invitational set to begin on Friday

By Andy Heintz
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Colby High School will hold the annual Eagle Invitational wrestling tournament starting at 2 p.m. Friday at the high school and elementary school gyms and at the Community Building.

Eighteen schools will compete in the dual tournament: Liberal; Wray, Colo.; Pine Creek from Colorado Springs; Valley Center; Oberlin; Concordia; Chaparral from Parker, Colo.; Eagle Crest from Aurora, Colo.; Garden City; Hoxie; Scott City; Goodland; St. Francis; Phillipsburg; Hutchinson; Oakley; Hays; and Colby.

The Eagles' first dual on Friday will be against Wray at 2 p.m. in the high school gym. Colby will have three other duals in the

same gym: Oberlin at 5 p.m., Pine Creek, 6:30 p.m.; and Liberal, 8 p.m.

The invitational will start up again at 8 a.m. Saturday. Colby's first dual will be against Valley Center at 9:30 a.m. at the high school gym.

The tournament is divided into three pools and the top team from each pool faces the top teams from the other two one time to determine the winner. In a dual tournament, each team wrestles the other five teams in its pool, then the teams wrestle each other for places.

The duals to determine first through sixth place will start at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Building, those to determine seventh through 12th at the high school gym, and those for 13th through 18th at the elementary gym.

Colby opened its season with a

44-24 win over Burlington from Colorado on Friday at the high school gym. The team finished third in the Gabel-Jenkins tournament in St. Francis on Saturday.

Senior Dryden Baumfalk, sophomore Zell Bieberle, junior Konnor Kriss and sophomore Dustin Reed all took first in their weight classes at St. Francis. Senior Andrew Flanagan finished second.

Colby finished 6-1 in team matches to take second out of 18 teams at last year's Eagle Invitational, taking all the matches by 17 points or more. Garden City won the tournament and Phillipsburg came in third.

Before the tourney, the boys have a triangular against Oakley and St. Francis tonight at the high school gym.

Junior varsity team beats Hays Middle school girls team wins 38-7

The Colby High Lady Eagles junior varsity team cruised to a 52-30 victory over Hays in the girls' season opener Tuesday at the high school gym.

Coach Jack Elliott said he was pleased with his team's effort.

"It's clear we don't have the conditioning we need to get through the season," he said, "but that will come."

Sophomore Kenzie Curry led Colby with 16 points and junior Emilea Finley added 11. Freshman McKenna Ortner scored 8 and senior Caitlyn Wark, junior Brenna McKee and sophomore Morgan Bell had 4 each. Freshmen Haileigh Shull and Madison Rogers

each had 2 and junior Paige Roopchan had 1.

The Colby girls' C-team lost to Hays 44-21 at the Community Building on Tuesday.

"The girls are still figuring things out," coach Kacie Goetz said, "and things are getting better."

The junior varsity plays at 8 p.m. tonight against Thomas More Prep-Marian at the school's 12th Street Auditorium. To get to the gym from Marian High School, take a right out of the building parking lot and head south to 13th Street. Go left at 13th and the gym will be on the corner of 13th and Ash Street.

Five former Kansas officials to appear in court

WICHITA (AP) — Five former University of Kansas officials accused of conspiring to steal more than \$2 million in tickets to athletic events are expected to appear in court Wednesday.

The defendants are scheduled to appear before U.S. Magistrate Judge Kenneth Gale in Wichita, nearly three weeks after a federal grand jury returned an indictment alleging they conspired to steal individual and season tickets to sporting events. They face federal charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

It's likely that Gale will set bonds for all five and enter their pleas during Wednesday's hearing. At this stage of the federal proceedings, the only plea that can be entered is not guilty.

Prosecutors allege that former associate athletic director Charlette Blubaugh, who was in charge of the ticket office, began stealing tickets in 2005 and gave them to other employees to sell to third parties in violation of university policy.

Blubaugh, 43, of Medford, Okla., was indicted along with her

husband, Thomas Blubaugh, 46.

Women lose road game to Nebraska college

The Colby College Lady Trojans' basketball team hit seven three pointers in the first half and took a 38-33 lead into the locker room Saturday at McCook Community College, but the women were unable to hold on to the lead and ended up losing 78-62.

Coach Brady Jasper said his team trailed the Indians from Nebraska by four or five for most of the first half, but they made a run in the last four or five minutes. He said the rally was the best the Lady Trojans have played all season.

The coach said his team went cold from the field — making no three-pointers — in the second half. Defensive lapses compounded the problem. He said the Lady Trojans lost their players on defense twice and the team was beaten down the court once. McCook

played a zone for the majority of the second half, the coach said.

Jasper said the Indians took their first double-digit lead with about six minutes left in the second half.

With the loss, Colby dropped to a 3-9 record. They will play in the Western Nebraska Community College Lady Cougar Classic tonight through Saturday in Scottsbluff. The Lady Trojans face undefeated Western Nebraska, the 17th-ranked junior college team in the nation, at 7 p.m. tonight and take on the Nebraska All-Stars at 5 p.m. on Friday. They are to play their last tournament game against Trinidad State Junior College from Colorado at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Bulldogs fall to Tribune

By Judy Rogers
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The Golden Plains Bulldogs lost to the state-ranked Greeley County Jackrabbits 58-30 on Friday at Tribune.

"We weren't prepared to work together as a team," senior Tate Preston said.

The Bulldogs' 5 first-quarter points all came from senior Rilee Spreser. Improving their offense, the boys scored 13 in the second quarter with contributions from several players, but Greeley County led 27-18 at the half.

The Bulldogs scored 6 points in the third and in the fourth, while allowing the Jackrabbits to score 13 and 18.

Senior Aaron Emigh and junior Cole Christensen led the Bulldogs

with 6 points apiece. Preston and Spreser each scored 5 and junior Kalyn Weber had 4. Rounding out the Bulldogs' scoring were junior Ethan Walter and senior Devinn Ritter with 2 each.

"We beat ourselves," Emigh said. "We need to work on our shooting as many of our shots didn't go in."

"We need to get the chemistry going," Preston added.

The boys B-team lost 67-27 after allowing the 'Rabbits to pull ahead 22-5 in the first quarter. The boys played better in the second quarter, scoring 9 points while holding Tribune to 11. Golden Plains trailed 33-14 at the half.

The Bulldogs only managed 8 points in the third and 5 in the fourth while allowing the 'Rabbits to run the floor in the second half. Greeley County scored 13 in the

third and 21 in the fourth.

Juniors Trey Schwarz and Tyler Stevenson each put in 5 points for the Bulldogs while sophomore Andrew Luna and freshman Tristan Schwarz had 4 apiece. Freshman Jacob Griffith put in three free throws, while freshman Grant Spreser and Weber each scored 2.

The A team's season continues today at the Castle Rock Tournament, when they take on Word of Life, a Christian school from Wichita, at 7:30 p.m. at the junior varsity gym at Quinter High School.

If the Bulldogs win, they will play the winner of the Hoxie-Oakley game at 4:30 p.m. Friday in the varsity gym. If they lose, they play the loser at 4:30 p.m. at the junior varsity gym.

Young Bulldogs crush Healy

By Judy Rogers and Kalyn Weber
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The Golden Plains Middle School boys A team fell to Triplains 42-27 in Winona.

Even though the Bulldogs lost to the Vikings, they gave it their all throughout the game.

Triplains led 17-5 at the end of the first quarter on Nov. 30. The 'Dogs only managed to get 4 points to fall in the second quarter and another 6 in the third. They scored 12 in the fourth.

Braden Korte led the Bulldogs in scoring with 8 points and Joseph Koerperich added 7. Kade

Wessel had 6, Benny Martinez 4 and Feliciano Bermudez 2.

"We played hard but they just beat us down the court," Korte said.

Triplains didn't have enough kids to play a B team game, so the teams played a fifth quarter. Although it wasn't a whole game, it gave the B team some valuable experience.

The A team crushed the Healy Eagles 42-11 on Thursday at Rexford.

The boys started out strong with a 16-2 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Bulldogs continued to play tough in the second quarter, putting in an additional 8 points and allowing only 3, giving them

a 24-5 halftime lead.

Golden Plains scored 12 in the third and 6 in the fourth, while Healy made 2 free-throws in the third and scored two buckets in the fourth.

Koerperich led the scoring with 14 points and Koi Wessel pumped in 10. Martinez, who brought the ball down the floor most of the night, added 8 points, Korte scored 6, Kade Wessel 2 and Bermudez 2. Other players who contributed were Luke Wessel, Lucas Hapke and Cole Ziegelmeier.

"We worked on running our plays to prepare for this game," Martinez said. "Everyone put in good effort and it felt good to win."

Junior guard helps Missouri keep streak alive

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — A day after his cousin died of a gunshot wound in Kansas City, Marcus Denmon understandably hit the court in a funk.

By the end, the junior guard made the biggest play that kept Missouri's homecourt winning streak alive at 51 straight.

Denmon scored all but two of his 21 points after halftime and made a three-point play off his steal and layup with 5.8 seconds to go in overtime as the Tigers beat Vanderbilt 85-82 on Wednesday.

"At home, you want to come out with a comfortable win," said guard Michael Dixon.

10. Taylor Peterson had 6 and Taylor Todd and Ana Bermudez 2 each.

"We played better and worked as a team," Bermudez said. "We did better protecting the ball and bringing it down the court. It feels good to get our first win."

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