

Trojan men climb to 10-1

The Colby Community College men's basketball team went 3-0 at the Air Force Prep Classic in Colorado Springs, Colo., from Nov. 17 to 19.

The Trojans defeated Adams State College's junior varsity from Alamosa, Colo., Trinidad State Junior College from Trinidad, Colo., and Air Force Academy Preparatory School, the home school.

"They were all very good and much needed victories as it was the first time the team had left the friendly confines of the Colby Community Building," Head Coach Dustin Pfeifer said.

They defeated Adams State with a score of 93-69, Trinidad State 85-74 and Air Force 78-63.

The Trojans then traveled to Garden City to compete in the Garden City Thanksgiving

Classic on Friday and Saturday.

On Friday, they once again played Trinidad State, winning 70-67. Leading scorers for the game were Vincent Dillard with 16 points, Jamie Adams and Kristan Rolle both chipped in 13, and Rolle led the team with 9 rebounds.

The following day, the team lost a close one to Laramie County Community College with a score of 67-68. Adams lead the team with 17 points and 8 rebounds, while Dillard scored 12 points.

The team also received votes in the national top 20 poll for the first time since 2004. The Trojans currently sit at a 10-1 record. They will travel to Salina on Monday to play Kansas State University-Salina beginning at 8 p.m.

Lady Eagles varsity prepares for new season, challenges



By Kayla Cornett

Colby Free Press
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The Colby High School girls basketball team is gearing up for a new season, which may prove to be an uphill battle.

The Lady Eagles finished last season with an outstanding 21-3 record and lost five seniors from last year's team. Katherine and Katrina Kaus, Caitlyn Wark, Kelsey Shields and Kayla Hockersmith all graduated in May.

Head Coach Parker McKee said that losing these girls has already affected his team this year.

"I think that it's really affected us more in practice because we're not able to have the competitive numbers," McKee said. "So we're having to find ways to be creative in practice to challenge those top seven kids."

The team has seven players that will be playing the majority of the minutes for the varsity: two seniors, four juniors and one sophomore. Colby has just one starter returning to the squad, but five other players are returning that didn't have large roles in terms of minutes played last season.

McKee said he's not sure what goals the Lady Eagles will have for the season, but they are focusing on making their team better for now.

"We've not sat down and talked about it, but we want to make sure that we're playing competitive all season and just develop our younger kids into better players," McKee said.

The Lady Eagles start their season today at the Hays City Shootout tournament and will play through Saturday. Their first home game will be at 6:15 p.m. next Thursday against Thomas More Prep-Marian High School at the Community Building.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Brewster High holds tournament

Brewster High School is holding the 2011 Sagebrush Basketball Tournament on Monday and Tuesday, and Friday and Saturday, Dec. 9 and 10.

The teams in girls' and boys' pool A play are Rawlins County, Cheylin and St. Francis, who are seeds 1, 4 and 5.

In the girls' and boys' pool B, the schools competing are Greeley County, Stratton and Triplains-Brewster, and they are seeds 2, 3 and 6.

The schedule for all of the games follows. The first team listed will be the home team and the home teams need to provide an official bookkeeper.

Monday

6 p.m., Girls, South Gym, Greeley County vs. Stratton
6 p.m., Girls, North Gym, Rawlins County vs. Cheylin
7:30 p.m., Boys, South Gym, Stratton vs. Greeley County
7:30 p.m., Boys, North Gym, Cheylin vs. Rawlins County

Tuesday

6 p.m., Girls, South Gym, Greeley County vs. Triplains-Brewster
6 p.m., Girls, North Gym, Rawlins County vs. St. Francis

7:30 p.m., Boys, South Gym, Greeley County vs. Triplains-Brewster
7:30 p.m., Boys, North Gym, St. Francis vs. Rawlins County

Friday, Dec. 9

6 p.m., Girls, South Gym, Stratton vs. Triplains-Brewster
6 p.m., Girls, North Gym, Cheylin vs. St. Francis
7:30 p.m., Boys, South Gym, Stratton vs. Triplains-Brewster
7:30 p.m., Boys, North Gym, Cheylin vs. St. Francis

Saturday, Dec. 10

3 p.m., Boys, North Gym, Pool A No. 3 vs. Pool B No. 3
3 p.m., Boys, South Gym, Pool A No. 2 vs. Pool B No. 2
4:30 p.m., Girls, North Gym, Pool A No. 3 vs. Pool B No. 3
4:30 p.m., Girls, South Gym, Pool A No. 2 vs. Pool B No. 2
6 p.m., South Gym, Free Throw/Three-Point Contest
6:30 p.m., Girls, South Gym, Pool A No. 1 vs. Pool B No. 1
After Girls, South Gym, Girls All-Tournament team
8 p.m., Boys, South Gym, Pool A No. 1 vs. Pool B No. 1
After Boys, South Gym, Boys All-Tournament team

K-State nears 10 wins

MANHATTAN (AP) — After throwing an incompletion at the end of Kansas State's near-upset of Oklahoma State, Collin Klein dropped to one knee on the turf.

Head bowed, one hand on the ground, the other on a knee, the junior quarterback looked frozen in devastation as his roommate and center, B.J. Finney, knelt over him, patted him on the shoulder and gently prompted him to his feet.

Clearly, Klein has moved on, and so have the Wildcats.

A win over Iowa State on Saturday would give Kansas State (9-2, 6-2 Big 12) its first 10-win season since the Wildcats beat Oklahoma in the 2003 Big 12 title game. It also would give the Wildcats a

share of the championship if the Sooners beat Oklahoma State on Saturday night.

Not bad considering the team had been picked to finish eighth in the Big 12.

Klein's rise to national prominence has been just as unexpected.

Coach Bill Snyder sees Klein as proof that the strategy of constant improvement is a sound one.

A proven workhorse who often takes hits as he stays in the pocket — and one who rarely slides at the end of runs — Klein has battled injuries throughout the season, often going long periods without even participating in practice just so that he's ready to play come Saturday.

Jayhawks whip Florida Atlantic 77-54

By Dave Skretta

AP Sports Writer

LAWRENCE — Kansas coach Bill Self masked his frustration, his downright disdain, for a poor performance against Florida Atlantic with the kind of sarcastic wit that leaves folks in stitches.

Asked about the 15th-ranked Jayhawks' 77-54 victory Wednesday night, Self said that he thought it looked like his team had a "Maui hangover" from its trip to the tournament in Hawaii, in which they played well in losing to Duke in the championship game.

Asked whether the "Maui hangover" contributed to 17 turnovers against the Owls, Self said he thought the Jayhawks were just as good at turning it over inland as they were in Hawaii.

Asked about the play of Elijah Johnson, who had seven turnovers without scoring against Florida Atlantic, and Self said it had nothing to do with the "Maui hangover."

"He's still in Hawaii," Self said. "He didn't get hung over, he got left behind."

It was a good thing Thomas Robinson caught the flight back to Kansas.

The bruising big man had 19 points and 17 rebounds for his sixth straight double-double, the

longest streak to open a season in school history, helping Kansas overcome its sloppy execution against the reigning Sun Belt regular-season champions.

"We're not a good team yet, to the point where we're a good team for 40 minutes," said Robinson, the reigning Big 12 player of the week. "That'll get better, just keep our focus and not catching ADD halfway through the game."

Tyshawn Taylor added 18 points, Travis Releford had 11 and Jeff Withey 10 for Kansas, which hadn't played at Allen Fieldhouse since a season-opening win over Towson on Nov. 11.

Since then, the Jayhawks lost to top-ranked Kentucky at Madison Square Garden, beat Georgetown and UCLA in the Maui Invitational, and then lost to the third-ranked Blue Devils in the championship game.

"We had plenty of time off since Maui," Withey said. "We definitely came out slow in the first half, and even in the second half. We definitely need to change that."

Pablo Bertone had 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Owls (4-4), despite giving up 9 inches to the 7-foot Withey. Dennis Marvin also had 17 points, most of them in the second half.

"I would have loved to have had

a closer game," Florida Atlantic coach Mike Jarvis said. "We had a couple of chances to get it into single digits and that would have been a lot more fun."

Florida Atlantic started off on a 9-3 run, forcing Self to call a timeout less than 4 minutes into the game. It seemed to serve as a wake-up call, and Withey scored the first field goal when play resumed to start an 11-2 run that Taylor capped with a basket with 11:29 left in the half.

Raymond Taylor hit a deep 3 for the Owls, but it hardly slowed the Jayhawks' momentum. Connor Teahan hit the first of his three first-half 3-pointers, Justin Wesley scored his first basket and Teahan knocked down another 3 as the Jayhawks extended the lead to 29-16 with 6:08 left.

Tyshawn Taylor added a circus-like scoop layup after Florida Atlantic snapped a 4-minute scoring drought, and his deep 3-pointer from the top of the key pushed the lead to 16, the Jayhawks' biggest of the first half. Taylor hit two foul shots with 1.2 seconds left for a 42-26 advantage.

"We missed too many layups and free throws and didn't rebound," Jarvis said simply.

The Jayhawks briefly extended the lead to 19 when Robinson con-

verted a three-point play early in the second half, but their sloppiness nearly allowed Florida Atlantic back in the game.

On consecutive trips, Johnson threw the ball away, Kevin Young was stripped under the basket and Tyshawn Taylor was stripped by Mavin, who had 12 points in the second half.

The Owls got the lead down to 13 on a 3-pointer by Raymond Taylor with 7:14 left, but Withey scored at the other end and added another basket moments later to extend the lead, and Kansas cruised over the final 5 minutes to its 53rd nonconference home win in its last 54 games.

"I knew they'd be flat," Self said. "You look at those teams coming back from Hawaii, nobody has looked very good. UCLA beat Pepperdine, otherwise everyone got their clock cleaned pretty good."

"We just didn't have it," Self said. "That's OK, to be in a grind-it-out mode. That's OK to be in that mode. But you have to enjoy that. If we don't have as much energy or whatever, you have to enjoy playing the best way to give us a chance. And I thought we took a step backwards tonight."

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