

Four athletes make nationals

The Colby Community College men's track team competed in the Polardog Indoor Meet on Saturday in Concordia, Neb., and three Trojans reached the National Junior College Athletic Association national qualifying standard in their respective events.

Athletes who qualify are eligible for association's national meet.

Freshman Jason (Chris) Theriot set a personal best in the triple jump with a qualifying mark of 14.46 meters. The Houston native finished second.

Jay Carey, a sophomore from Nassau, Bahamas, set a personal best time in the 600-meter run with a qualifying time of 1:22.04. Carey finished in second place.

Crosby, Texas, sophomore James Leonard finished third overall with a time of 2:39.60 in the 1,000-meter run.

Kristen Mitchell, a sophomore from Houston, ran the 60-meter dash in 7.05 to win the preliminaries and repeated his time to win the finals. Mitchell's time was the second fastest in the school's history.

"It was a decent first meet," said Coach James Ortiz. "I think three national qualifiers following a first competition are the most we've had during my tenure at CCC. We just need to keep adding qualifiers."

"However, our goal isn't qualifiers; it is point scorers and All Americans at the national meet. Considering we left two

returning All-Americans at home – Edward Limo and Raymond Velazquez – I believe this should lead up to a good season."

The Lady Trojans track team qualified one athlete for the national meet in the women's competition in Seward, Neb. Freshman Oslin Melissa Collins, Guyana, qualified with a fourth-place finish in the mile (5:26.02) and third in the 1,000-meters (3:08.48).

Sophomore Gabby McIntosh, Freeport, Bahamas, finished third in the 60 meters, just missing the qualifying mark while setting a personal best time of 8.16. McIntosh moved into third in the all-time record on the school's Top 10 list. She also finished third in the 200 meters (26.96). The time was a personal best for her and also the third all-time record on the school's Top 10 list.

Sophomore Shauntae Miller, Nassau, finished fourth in the 200 meters (27.92) and second overall in the 400 meters (1:03.53).

"This was an OK meet for us," said Coach Crystal Berndt. "I told the ladies that since we haven't had much time to get in the practices that we need, they should look at this meet as a really good practice. We have a lot of work to do to reach the goals that we set this season. We're hoping to qualify a few more ladies on Saturday at Highland Community College."

Lady Bulldogs lose on the road

By Hailee Spresser
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains High School Lady Bulldogs traveled to Logan to play the Lady Trojans on Jan. 6, but came home without the win.

The Lady Bulldogs started out crawling, only putting up 4 points in the first quarter. Logan, having trouble with the Lady Bulldogs' pressure, had multiple turnovers, and Golden Plains come close by halftime. At the break, Logan led 15-14.

Starting the third quarter out a little rusty, the Lady Bulldogs sent the Trojans on a seven-point run. By the end of the third quarter, the score was 34-24. Golden Plains

scored 16 points in the fourth quarter, but couldn't detain Logan. The final score was 52-40.

"We played hard all the way through the game and played them a lot closer than last year," sophomore Kylie Jones said. "If we keep working, we can keep improving, and take a place at the (Western Kansas Liberty League) tournament."

Scoring in this game were Jones with 11 points, Jordan Christensen with 9, Angela Ritter and Hailee Spresser with 7, and Leea Juenemann, Paulita Ramirez and Brooke Wark, 2 each.

The Lady Bulldogs will play Brewster-Triplains at home tonight.

Lady Eagles advance in Orange and Black tourney

By Kayla Cornett
Colby Free Press
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The Colby High School girls basketball team found success on the first day of the Orange and Black Classic on Thursday, beating the Liberal Lady Redskins 51-21 at the Community Building.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to an early lead with a score of 7-2 at the end of the first quarter. Liberal kept up with Colby in the second quarter and was only outscored 11-8 for a halftime score of 18-10.

The Colby girls stepped up their game even more in the third quarter, scoring 21 points, and in the fourth, they held the Lady Redskins to just 2 points for the 51-21 win.

Senior Morgan Bell led the Lady Eagles in scoring with 14 points, including 4 three-point field goals. Junior Kenzie Curry followed with 11 and made 3 out of 3 free throws. Sophomore Haileigh Shull had 9, junior McKenna Ortnr 6, senior Brenna McKee and junior Karly Kriss had 4 apiece, sophomore Morgan Mengel 2 and junior Lauren Bell 1.

The Lady Eagles are in the winner's bracket tonight and face Palmer Ridge from Colorado, who beat the Scott City girls 52-41 Thursday. Colby's game is at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building.

The other girls game results from Thursday are Holcomb over McCook, 55-54 and Blue Valley Northwest over Hugoton, 45-29. Holcomb will take on Blue Valley Northwest in the winner's bracket at 3 p.m. at the Community Building while McCook will play Hugoton in the consolation bracket at 3 p.m. at the high school gym. Scott City will also compete in the consolation bracket against Liberal at 6:30 p.m. at the high school gym.

The Colby boys did not find success Thursday as they fell to the McCook Bison 57-33 at the Community Building.

The Eagles were still missing sophomore Luke Cox, who is out with a broken hand. Head Coach Jerad Johnson said Cox won't be back until after the Orange and Black Classic.

"He got the pin out of his hand and the cast off, but we want to save him for after the tournament," Johnson said.

The Bison dominated Colby's defense early on, cruising to a 27-5 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Colby picked up their efforts on both sides of the ball throughout the rest of the game, even outscoring McCook in the fourth quarter



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Senior Morgan Bell went for a field goal in the Colby High School girls basketball game Thursday at the Orange and Black Classic at the Community Building. The Lady Eagles beat Liberal 51-21 to advance to the winner's bracket. They play Palmer Ridge tonight at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building.

10-7, but the damage was already done.

Senior Dalaan Organ had a team-high 12 points, including 5 of 6 field goals and 2 of 3 free throws. He also had 3 rebounds and 2 steals. Senior Braden Sager finished the game with 6 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists and 1 steal. Juniors Zane Winger and Daniel Myers had 4 points, sophomore

Reed Stephens 3 and juniors Todd Kane and Wiatt Binder 2 each.

The Eagles are in the consolation bracket tonight and meet Holcomb, who lost to Wichita South 51-47 on Thursday. Colby's game is at 8:15 p.m. at the high school gym.

The other boys game results from Thursday are Liberal over Hugoton, 52-35 and Scott City

over Palmer Ridge, 59-41. Liberal will face Scott City in the winner's bracket at 4:45 p.m. at the Community Building while Hugoton will play Palmer Ridge in the consolation bracket at 4:45 p.m. at the high school gym. McCook will compete in the winner's bracket against Wichita South at 8:15 p.m. at the Community Building.

Odds of a child becoming a professional athlete:
1 in 16,000

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism:
1 in 110

Some signs to look for:
No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months.
No babbling by 12 months.
No words by 16 months.

To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org

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