



Ray Nolan

- From the Dugout

Did someone mention wind?

After living in Colby for five years you would think that I would’ve seen a game canceled by a dust storm, but Sunday afternoon was the first time it has happened since I have been here. We had to suspend our second game against Butler because the players and the umpires couldn’t see. We held a 5-2 lead when we suspended the game. Butler will have to come back to Colby to play if the game matters for playoff seeding.

Here is a question: does anyone get used to the wind? It certainly doesn’t surprise me anymore. When I am not on a baseball field, I don’t think I notice it as much as I used to. On the field though, I definitely notice. Wind changes the face of a game. Players must change their positioning, pitchers have to change their plan, and hitters lose and gain hits.

Saturday the wind was blowing out when we faced Dodge City. Fortunately, we were the ones who benefited the most. But even with a 10-3 lead going into the bottom of the seventh in game one, I was scared that they could make a come-back. They made an effort, scoring three on a three-run home run by their top hitter.

Sunday the wind was crossing the field from right to left. That meant that our right fielder played more shallow than usual and our left fielder played deeper than usual. In the first game the wind didn’t affect the outcome though, we just didn’t get the clutch hits we needed. We lost 5-0.

Game two was a different story because the wind grew stronger and the dust kicked in. We hit two balls in the first inning that Butler’s right fielder had a hard time with. We took advantage of the miscues and scored five in the first. Of course, Kyle Sandusky’s bases loaded double was not a miscue.

Kyle also had a big second game at Dodge, going 3 for 3 with two home runs and a double. He is not

the only one that has been swinging well. Our entire offense has been heating up. Several players have pushed their average over .300. In our sweep of NJC last Tuesday we got several clutch hits. Even in our losses to Hutch, we got some timely hits.

Back to the wind, I think when it is blowing in, it affects the game the same way as rain at a horse race. The underdog is often the beneficiary. When the wind is blowing in, the offense is stifled and pitchers can throw the ball anywhere in the zone and not suffer. Instantly, the offense has been stopped and a poor pitching staff has been helped. With the wind blowing out, it is a different story. Now pitchers must keep the ball down in the zone, which only good pitchers can do, and balls that are usually doubles, become home runs. Therefore, a team who is already playing well is further strengthened. It’s just a theory.

This week we have four double-headers. Tuesday, Otero at home and Wednesday, Brown Mackie at home. Both double-headers will start at 1 p.m. Saturday we go to Pratt and Sunday vs. Garden at home.

Currently we are in third or fourth, depending on the outcome of Barton’s games this weekend. They were 10-6 at the start of the weekend. Our conference record is 11-10, and overall we are 19-21. I have a feeling that the fight for home field in the first round of the playoffs will come down to the last weekend of the season. The top four teams in the east and west get to stay home for the first round of the play-offs. Positions five through eight travel. The first round is a best two of three series. Winners will then advance to Wichita for the Region VI tournney. The winner of the tourney goes to Grand Junction for the NJCAA World Series.

Ray Nolan is assistant baseball coach at Colby College.



Trojan softball ends week with 4th place finish

The Colby Community College Lady Trojan softball team split two league games with Hutchinson on Wednesday and took one of two from Regional rival Johnson County on Friday before finishing 4th in this past weekend’s Allen Wolf Memorial Tournament in Colby..

Colby beat Hutchinson 4-3 in 8 innings before dropping the second game 4-2 in 8 innings. The Lady Trojans had seven hits in the first game and nine in the second game of the double-header. Lindsey Kastanek pitched all 8 in the first game to pick up the win, while Christina Obernolte was the hard luck loser in the second game as she pitched all 8 and allowed just 5 hits.

On Friday, Colby won the opening game with Johnson County 4-3

behind Kastanek’s 9-hit complete game performance. Erica Reitz led Colby going 2-3 as the Lady Trojans had 7 hits. Johnson County beat Colby in the second game 5-2. Sam Wolf led Colby’s 6-hit performance going 2 for 3.

Saturday, the Lady Trojans opened the Allen Wolf Memorial Tournament in fine fashion shutting out McCook 4-0. Corri Ball pitched the complete game 6-hitter. She struck out 8 and walked just 2. Shanae Calkins and Stephanie Egger each went 2 for 3 as the Lady Trojans had 8 hits.

In the second pool play game, Colby fell to Lamar 3-0. Lamar held Colby to just 1 hit as Kastanek was the losing pitcher. Kastanek pitched masterfully allowing 8 hits, but not allowing an earned run. Colby

bounced back in game three defeating Frank Phillips 6-2. Obernolte got the win as Calea Meyer was 2 for 2 with 4 RBI for the Lady Trojans 8-hit attack. Obernolte pitched 6 innings and allowed just one earned run and 4 hits.

In the semi-finals of the championship bracket Sunday, Colby fell in a heartbreaker 6-5 in 8 innings to Otero. Kastanek took the loss pitching all 8 innings. She allowed 8 hits and 5 earned runs. Leann Hirschfeld went 2 for 3 as the Lady Trojans pounded out 11 hits. Colby fell to the third place game and lost to Lamar 6-4. The Lady Trojans had 8 hits led by Lauren Jameson (2 for 3, 2 RBI) and Calea Meyer (2 for 3).

Coch Carl Adams commented, “We beat Johnson County for the second time in 17 years on Friday

night. In the tournament, we played well. Over the past week the team has started to play the best ball of the season. This is the right time to start to peak. We have nine games that are seeding games for the regional tournament this coming week. I feel the team has played hard in all the game in the past week. That is something that we haven’t done for the whole season. I feel good about our chances at the regional tournament the first weekend in May.”

The Lady Trojans travel to Greer Bend to play Barton County Tuesday and have Cloud County at home on Wednesday. Both double-headers are set to begin at 3 p.m.. Colby will travel to Salina to play in the crossover tournament against the northeast Kansas junior colleges this coming weekend.

SportsLine

Colby schools

- **Today** — Junior varsity baseball at Ellis with Ellis and Spearville, 2 and 4 p.m.; 9th/10th track at WaKeeney, 4 p.m.; junior varsity softball at Ellis, 4 p.m.
- **Tuesday** — Varsity boys golf at McCook, 9 a.m.; varsity track at Scott City, 9:30 a.m.; junior varsity boys golf at Goodland, 2 p.m.; Colby High will not be attending the junior varsity boys golf tourney at Scott City on this date; Colby Invitational Junior Varsity Tennis Tournament, matches at Fike Park and Colby College courts, 3 p.m.; junior varsity/varsity baseball at Ulysses with Ulysses and Lakin, 3 and 5 p.m., this was rescheduled from Tuesday, April 6.

Colby College

- **Tuesday** — Baseball at home double-header vs. Otero at 1 p.m.; softball at Barton County, 3 p.m.
- **Wednesday** — Baseball at home double-header vs. Brown Mackie at 1 p.m.; softball at home vs. Cloud County at 3 p.m.
- **Saturday** — Baseball at Pratt (conference); softball at Salina crossover tourney.
- **Sunday** — Softball at Salina crossover tourney; baseball at home vs. Garden City.

MAYB updates

May 14 is the registration deadline for 4th through 12th grade boys and girls basketball tournaments on June 4-6 in the following locations: Hays, Garden City, Arkansas City, Riley County and Leavenworth. Five-game guarantee. Call (316) 284-0354 or (785) 628-0338 for additional information. You can also e-mail mayb@mayb.com.

Coaches needed for swim club

The Colby Swim Club is now taking applications for coaches for sum-

mer swim. Any persons interested in coaching are asked to call Mark and Angie Goudy, Brewster, at 694-2599 or Tracy and Robyn Rogers, Colby, at 462-3128.

E-mail items for this column to td@nwkansas.com, or fax to (785) 462-7749. Thank you!

EAT HEARTY.....
STEAK FRY
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.
Your choice of Potato and Salad

COLBY VFW
MEMBERS & GUESTS
WELCOME!

Sports items
to:
colbysports@nwkansas.com
or fax to:
(785) 462-7749

Check each issue of the Free Press for additional TV Listings

TV LISTINGS sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

WEEKDAYS					APRIL 20 - APRIL 26									
	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30		
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	News		Good Morning America				Mak-over	Mak-over	The View		Holly-wood	News		
KSNK/NBC 8 (9)	News Cont'd		Today						Live With Regis and Kelly		Martha Stewart Living			
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News				The Early Show		The 700 Club		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless			
K15CG (3)	World News	Priscilla-Yoga	Body Electric	Caillou	Boohbah	Barney-Friends	Dragon Tales	Lions	Sesame Street		Clifford-Red	Teletub-bies		
WGN (13)	Chang-ing	Believer Voice	Celebrity Justice	Hillbil-lies	Hillbil-lies	Happy Days	Matlock		In the Heat of the Night		Rockford Files			
NICK (29)	Oddpar-ents	Rocket Power	Rugrats	Spon-geBob	Max & Ruby	Rubba-dubbers	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Little Bill	Maggie-Beast		
FAM (30)	Digimon-Digital	Bey-blade	Power Rangers	Digimon-Digital	Growing Pains	Living the Life	The 700 Club		7th Heaven		Full House	Growing Pains		
USA (31)	JAG	Varied Programs												
TBS (37)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Movie				Dawson's Creek		Dawson's Creek		Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell		
TNT (38)	The Lost World		The Pretender		Charmed		ER		ER		Judging Amy			
DSC (42)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Assignment Discovery		Monster House		Designer Guys	Designer Guys	Rally Round the House			
A&E (47)	Varied Programs		Movie				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		City Confidential			
ESPN (49)	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Outside-Lines	Baseball Tonight		
HBO (7)	Movie		Varied Programs									Movie		Varied
DISN (17)	JoJo's Circus	Stanley	The Wiggles	JoJo's Circus	The Wiggles	Stanley	Rolie Polie	Rolie Polie	Out of the Box	PB&J Otter	Koala Brothers	The Wiggles		
MAX (21)	Movie Cont'd		Varied Programs						Movie			Movie		

WEEKDAYS					APRIL 20 - APRIL 26							
	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Dr. Phil		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC Wid News
KSNK/NBC 8 (9)	News	Family Feud	Days of Our Lives		Passions		Inside Edition	Family Feud	Millionaire	Jeopardy!	News	NBC News
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News	Bold, Beautiful	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		The People's Court		Oprah Winfrey		News	CBS News
K15CG (3)	Reading Rainbow	Mister Rogers	Varied Programs			George Shrinks	Beren. Bears	Liberty's Kids	Cyber-chase	Arthur	Zoom	Busi-ness
WGN (13)	News		In the Heat of the Night		Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Home Improve.	Will & Grace
NICK (29)	Max & Ruby	Dora the Explorer	Rugrats	Rugrats	Varied Programs				SpongeBob	Amanda	U-Pick	U-Pick
FAM (30)	Family Matters	Family Matters	Step by Step	Step by Step	So Little Time	Full House	7th Heaven		Switched!	Knock First	Full House	Full House
USA (31)	JAG		Walker, Texas Ranger		Movie		Varied Programs		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
TBS (37)	Cosby	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Seinfeld
TNT (38)	Law & Order		NYPD Blue		NYPD Blue		Judging Amy		Angel		Charmed	
DSC (42)	Surprise by Design		Surprise by Design		Rally Round the House		Double Agents		Varied Programs			
A&E (47)	American Justice		Movie				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		City Confidential	
ESPN (49)	Varied Programs				NFL Live	Varied Programs			Around the Horn	Interrup-tion	SportsCenter	
HBO (7)	Movie	Movie	Varied Programs							Movie		
DISN (17)	JoJo's Circus	Stanley	Winnie-Pooh	House of Mouse	House of Mouse	Recess	Lilo & Stitch	Recess	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Even Stevens	Sister, Sister
MAX (21)	Movie Cont'd		Varied	Movie				Varied	Movie			Varied

TUESDAY												APRIL 20
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