

Colby softball girls pound Scott City

The Colby Lady Eagle softball team started the season with two wins at Scott City, 15-2 and 12-3.

In game one, Logan Wark got the win going five innings and allowing two runs on four hits. She struck out two, walked one and hit two batters.

Offensively, freshman Caitlyn Wark led the way with a 3-4 day that included a double. Jordan Krzycki, Logan, Lindsey Frahm, Tara Powell and Laura Dougherty were all 2-4.

Krzycki and Frahm had a triple. Logan and Powell each doubled. Kiri Kendrick and Sara Martin were each 2-3. Kendrick had a double.

Chanelle Staats was 1-3 as the Eagles totaled 18 hits altogether.

Freshman Sklyer Mengel got the start in game two and picked up her first career victory. Men-

gel worked all seven innings, allowing three runs on six hits. She struck out two, walked one and hit a batter.

At the dish, Kendrick had a big game, going 2-3 with a double and a triple.

Caitlyn was 2-3 as well with a triple and two sacrifices. Powell was 2-4 with a double.

Mengel, Logan, Frahm and Staats each had a hit. Mengel also had two sacrifices to her credit.

"It was a good start to the season," said Lady Eagle head coach Jack Elliott. "Our pitching was on track, our defense was a little shaky and our offense was good in spots. We need to execute when the opportunity presents itself. Overall, I'm very pleased, but we need to get better."

The Lady Eagles return to action 4 p.m. Tuesday at Ulysses.

Eagle baseball team starts season strong

The Colby Eagle baseball team came out of the gates smokin' as they hammered Scott City 12-0 and 15-1 to capture both games of a doubleheader Tuesday in Scott City.

In addition to outscoring Scott City 27-1, the Eagles committed just two errors and allowed three hits.

"We played really well for our first action of the year," said Eagle assistant coach Rick Williams. "Kevin and Stephen pitched great and our defense was very good as well. When you give up only three hits and commit just two errors in two games, you will be hard to beat."

The Eagles jumped on Scott City in the first game with two runs in the first inning and added an eight run third inning to go ahead 10-0. Colby tacked on two more runs in the fifth for insurance.

The Eagles had 12 hits in the

game with seven different players tallying at least one.

Centerfielder Stephen Dinkel led the way going 3-4 with two doubles. Catcher Cory Sager, pitcher Kevin Lang and designated hitter Brent Aramberger each had two hits. All three had an RBI a piece.

Leftfielder Eric Blanton was 1-2 with a double and two RBI's. Third baseman Chaz Winger and shortstop Cade Carter were each 1-3. Winger added an RBI.

On the mound, Lang was dominant.

He fired a five inning complete game, allowing just a single for his only hit and no runs. He struck out five and walked three.

Game two saw Scott City take a 1-0 lead they held until the fourth inning.

Colby scored three runs in the top half of the fourth to take a 3-1 lead. The Eagle tacked on another

in the fifth before exploding for 10 runs in the sixth to blow the game open.

Sager had another big game, going 3-4 with two RBI's. He finished the day 5-8 with two doubles and a team-leading four RBI's.

"Sager was very productive in the two hole," said Williams. "We put him in the two hole because of his ability to handle the bat and move runners, but he came up with runners in scoring position a couple of times and got the big hit to get those guys in."

Lang also had three hits to finish the day 5-8 with three RBI's. Dinkel was 2-2 with three RBI's and a double.

Carter, Levi Schlick, Aramberger and Chaz Winger each had a hit.

Schlick delivered a two-RBI double in the sixth for his only hit of the day. However, he was walked four of the eight times he came to the plate.

"They were very careful pitching to Levi, especially in that second game," said Williams.

Blanton was 0-2, but added an RBI.

"We did a good job overall of moving runners and getting them in," said Williams. "Several guys came up to the plate with a job to do like laying down a bunt, or moving a guy over to third with a ball in play to the right side or hitting a sacrifice fly, and we came through in those situations with great consistency."

Dinkel escaped some early control problems and followed Lang's effort with an impressive stat line of his own.

The Eagle junior worked all six innings, allowing just one unearned run on two hits. He struck out 10 and walked four.

Colby (2-0) plays a doubleheader at Plainville beginning 4 p.m. Thursday.

Closed-door meeting rallies Jayhawk squad

LAWRENCE (AP) — The Kansas Jayhawks had just lost for the second time in three games, committing 21 turnovers in a disheartening setback to an Oklahoma State team that was struggling to stay above .500.

Perhaps some friendships were becoming a bit frayed. According to one player, things had been said during the long, demanding season that had caused feelings to be hurt.

So on a cold night in February, the Jayhawks got together at a Lawrence restaurant to let everybody speak their minds. Coaches were not invited.

No one wants to say who said what to whom, but since getting together that night at Henry T's Bar and Grill, Kansas has won nine straight games and played some of its best basketball of the year. A victory over 11 1/2-point underdog Villanova on Friday night will put the deep and well balanced Jayhawks just one win away from their first Final Four under coach Bill Self.

"Everybody just got their feelings out," sophomore guard Sheron Collins said. "I know feelings was hurt. Somebody had told something to somebody, it was a little harsh. We knew it was no good for the team. Everybody was just trying to talk about it. Once we got over that stuff where everybody listened to each other and didn't take things the wrong way, that's what turned the team around."

Nobody is saying the Jayhawks were in crisis that night. But two straight road losses to Texas and Oklahoma State had created a sense, said senior guard Russell Robinson, that it was time to let everybody have their say.

So while munching on hot wings and turkey club sandwiches, everyone did.

"The main thing was to get everybody on the same page, get everybody pulling the same direction," said Robinson, a senior guard and team leader. "We were going through a tough time. We needed to come together. That meeting helped us come together as a team, helped everybody focus their energy toward winning. It wasn't too serious."

The meeting lasted only about an hour.

"We were all upset about the

way we were playing," freshman center Cole Aldrich said. "We felt we hadn't been playing as good as we should have been, could have been. So we talked about changing some things. We said, 'Hey, we need to have some more enthusiasm, do this, do that.' It definitely helped. I don't think some people even ate."

Somewhat surprisingly, other diners left the players alone. The entire Kansas basketball team sitting together in a Lawrence restaurant is a sight that's certain to draw attention. But people must have sensed the Jayhawks were not simply enjoying a night on the town.

"There were some kids who came up," said Robinson. "But for the most part, people respected us and just let us be."

In their next game, the Jayhawks won 75-64 at Iowa State, always a tough place for them to play. Then they whipped Michael Beasley and Kansas State 88-74, avenging an earlier loss. And with the exception of a few isolated patches here and there, they've been near the top of their game ever since, including an 85-61 trampling of Portland State and a crisp 75-56 dispatching of UNLV in the opening rounds of the NCAA tournament.

Now it's onto the round of 16 and a late-night date on Friday with 12th-seeded Villanova.

The February meeting emphasized the point, Collins said, that "we're here to love each other."

"I think once people understood we were all here together, and they didn't take it the wrong way, they took it the right way, we were all right," Collins said. "The meeting really just let everybody know we were just reaching out with love and nobody should hurt each other's feelings."

When Self heard the players had met, he was relieved.

6	2	5	8	9	1	7	4	3
9	7	3	4	2	6	5	8	1
4	8	1	5	7	3	2	9	6
7	6	9	3	5	8	1	2	4
1	5	4	2	6	7	9	3	8
8	3	2	1	4	9	6	7	5
5	4	8	9	1	2	3	6	7
3	9	7	6	8	5	4	1	2
2	1	6	7	3	4	8	5	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

Applicants for Wyandotte County casino listed

TOPEKA — Golden Gaming Inc., of Las Vegas. A \$662 million complex, south of I-70, two miles west of its junction with I-435, with the site split between the cities of Bonner Springs and Edwardsville. Includes a 300-room hotel, 2,500 slot machines, 98 tables.

— Pinnacle Entertainment Inc., of Las Vegas. A \$649 million complex near the speedway, but across I-435 from existing development. Includes a hotel with 200 five-star rooms and 300 four-star rooms, 2,300 slots and 85 tables.

— Legends Sun. Partners are Olympia Gaming, of Las Ve-

gas; the Mohegan Tribe, of Connecticut; and RED Development, which has offices in Kansas City, Mo., and Scottsdale, Ariz. A \$770 million complex near Kansas Speedway and the Legends shopping center. Includes a 1,000-room

hotel, 3,500 slots and 90 tables. — Sands Kansas LLC, Proposal I, from the Las Vegas Sands Corp. A \$500 million complex near The Woodlands dog and horse racing park, off of I-435. Includes a 300-room hotel and 5,000 slots.

gas; the Mohegan Tribe, of Connecticut; and RED Development, which has offices in Kansas City, Mo., and Scottsdale, Ariz. A \$770 million complex near Kansas Speedway and the Legends shopping center. Includes a 1,000-room

Correction

In Monday's *Free Press*, Luke Cox was listed as one of last year's senior baseball players. Cox was not a senior. Jesse Hawk was the other senior baseball player not listed.

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