

Red-hot pitcher helps Colby get split in cold summer weather

By **Joey Falkoff**

Free Press Reporter
jfalkoff@nwkans.com

On a night that felt more like the middle of November than the middle of June, Colby American Legion pitcher Levi Schlick did his part early on Wednesday at the city fields to get fans back to the warmth of their homes as soon as possible.

Later, a rejuvenated Hays lineup followed suit.

Schlick's complete-game, four-hit masterpiece helped Colby to a 2-1 victory in the first game in just under 90 minutes. Game two took on a much slower pace at first, but a 13-run barrage by Hays in the third and fourth innings led them to a 14-1 victory, which was shortened to just four innings.

Despite being outscored 15-3 in the two games, Colby (11-6) could take cover from the wind with one win under their belt, which was what head coach Jeff Krzycki said they were shooting for.

"The main thing we were looking for was a split, so we did what we wanted," said Krzycki. "Once again, we played another team that was a little older than us and a little more experienced, and we're competing well. When we start playing teams that are at our level, we're going to be able to dominate."

It will be hard for Schlick to be any more dominate than he was Wednesday.

After starting the first inning with a walk, a hit batsmen and a wild pitch that led to Hays's only run, Schlick settled in nicely and didn't allow a free pass the rest of the way. He needed only 96 pitches for his first seven-inning, complete-game victory of the summer.

"I'd probably say that was one of my better starts," said Schlick. "I kinda struggled a little bit up in Columbus and gave up a lot of runs, but after the first inning I told myself I can't let anyone



JOEY FALKOFF/Colby Free Press

Eric Blanton, middle, beat out this ground ball during the sixth inning of Colby's 2-1 American Legion victory over Hays in game one Wednesday at the city fields. Hays earned the split with a 14-1 victory in game two.

get on base because of bad pitching. Even if you throw 90 miles an hour, it doesn't work if you can't throw strikes. My main goal was to make them put the ball in play."

When Hays did put the ball in play, Colby's defense was there to back Schlick up with a spotless performance.

"I had a lot of good defense behind me, and that was nice," said Schlick.

Schlick didn't allow a runner to reach second base until the sixth and seventh innings. Both times, Hays got a runner to second with two outs, and both times Schlick made sure they stayed put.

In the sixth, he got Kelton Rule to ground out to short and after a lengthy battle with Travis Budke in the seventh, Schlick struck him out swinging to end the game. It was his sixth strikeout of the night and likely his hardest earned as well.

"When Cory (Sager) came out to the mound, it was about the ninth or 10th pitch, I just told him I was going to reel back and throw it," said Schlick.

"It was a 1-2 count so if it went high or something, no biggy. That was my goal just to reel back and throw it."

Schlick may have amped it up on the radar gun to get the final

out, but Krzycki credits location for most of his success.

"He threw down and threw at the knees," said Krzycki. "When that happens, you're going to pitch a good game. After that first inning, he got it in gear and took over."

Schlick had to throw up zeros every inning, because the offense never got much off Hays starter Matt Malott, who allowed just five hits in six innings.

But unlike the defense behind Schlick, Malott didn't get much help from his teammates.

Colby scored their only two runs in the third inning with the help of three Hays errors. Chaz

Winger started the inning with a single and later stole second and advanced to third on a wild throw by catcher Jay Sanders. Cade Carter drove him in with an RBI single and stole second as well. Sager then reached on an error by Budke and scored the go-ahead run when second basemen Justin Klaus booted a grounder off the bat of Schlick, who was credited with the RBI.

As it turned out, that would also stand up as the winning run in the game.

"The way the game was going I thought that might hold up," said Krzycki. "Levi was throwing strikes, and we were making the plays. The innings started going boom, boom, boom."

That certainly wasn't the case in game two, especially after the second inning.

Hays broke open a 1-1 tie with a seven-run third inning, which it looked like Colby would be able to get out of with no damage done.

Hays had men at first and third with no outs, but pitcher Brandon Rasmussen was able to induce a groundout from Austin Klaus for the first out with no advance. Kelton Rule followed with a grounder to third and Schlick gunned down Logan Downing at the plate for the second out.

Instead of getting out of the inning unscathed, Rasmussen had his control evade him and the flood gates opened.

Rasmussen walked Ruhleder to load the bases. After getting behind the next batter 3-1, Justin Klaus lined a single to right that scored two. Budke followed with an RBI double to left and Dave Klaus roped a two-RBI single up the middle. Rasmussen gave up another walk to Sanders, which would be his last batter of the game.

Rasmussen suffered his first loss of the summer after allowing eight runs on six hits. He walked just two, but never could locate consistently.

"The strikes weren't there for him," said Krzycki. "He fell behind 2-0 and 3-0 a lot of times. When you do that against a good-hitting team, all you can do is throw the ball down the middle of the plate. When you do that, you're going to give up hits."

Hays batted around in the inning and went on to score two more runs off of Rogers to make it 8-1.

They batted around again in the fourth and plated six runs on just three hits with the help of three Colby errors and two wild pitches.

Hays finished with 11 hits in the game.

Colby's offense never could get in gear and finished with just two hits. There only run came in the first inning on an RBI single by Schlick. Carter started the inning with an infield single and later scored on Schlick's hit.

Dave Klaus worked all four innings for Hays and got the win. He retired Rogers on a strikeout to end the game.

It was Colby's most lopsided loss of the summer.

Fortunately, their best pitching performance also came on the same night.

Colby returns to the diamond 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Ellis.

Game 1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Hays	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	4
Colby	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0

WP: Levi Schlick 7 IP 4H 1R 6K
LP: Matt Malott 6IP 5H 2R 3K

Colby- Carter 1-3 RBI K, Sager 1-3, Schlick 1-3 RBI, Aramberger 1-3 K, Dinkel 0-3, Rasmussen 0-3 K, Blanton 0-2 walk, Krzycki 0-2 walk, Winger 1-3

Game 2

	1	2	3	4	R	H	E
Hays	0	1	6	7	14	11	0
Colby	1	0	0	0	1	2	4

WP: Dave Klaus 4IP 2H 1R 1K
LP: Brandon Rasmussen 2 2/3IP 6H 8R
2B: Ruhleder, Downing, Budke, Malott

Colby- Carter 1-2, Sager 0-2, Schlick 1-1 walk RBI, Aramberger 0-2, Dinkel 0-1, Rasmussen 0-1 K, Blanton 0-1, Krzycki 0-0 walk, Rogers 0-2, Zweygardt 0-1, Winger 0-0 walk, Hutfiles 0-0 walk

UPCOMING EVENTS in Kansas

Brought to you in part by Kansas Department of Commerce Travel & Tourism Division

Art in the Garden
June 20-June 21, McPherson
Fri. - Dinner in secret garden with art exhibits and live entertainment. Sat. - Tour 6 private gardens with local art and classic or antique cars. For tickets call (620) 245-0660

Washunga Days
June 21-22, Council Grove
Live music, Inter-Tribal Pow-Wow & quilt show. Kaw Mission State Historic Site (620) 767-5410, www.kshs.org/places/kaw

Territorial Days
June 27-28, LeCompton
Crafts, re-enactments, demonstrations & tours. Constitution Hall State Historic Site (785) 887-6520

Old West Cowboy Days
June 27-29, Ottawa
Parade, cattle drive, stagecoach rides, stock dog demonstrations, bullrides, contests, food & craft vendors. (785) 242-1411, www.oldwestcowboyydays.com

Wild West Festival
July 3-5, Hays
Fireworks spectacular, open air concerts featuring national recording artists, carnival, parade, patriotic tributes, karaoke & family activities. (785) 623-4476, www.wildwestfestival.com

Summer Splash Kids Day
July 4, Salina
Cool off with fun water games! Kids free into zoo with paid adult. Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure (785) 827-9488, www.rollinghillswildlife.com

Fiesta Mexicana
July 15-19, Topeka
This 75th annual celebration features a carnival, authentic food, music and dancing. Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 201 NE Chandler (785) 232-5088

Live at the Legends
Every Saturday night, 5 PM, Kansas City, KS
Summer concert series featuring live music, an outdoor beer garden and a kid's zone, all surrounding a dancing water fountain. (913) 788-3700, www.LegendShopping.com

KANSAS
as big as you think™
www.TravelKS.com

Colby Swim Club wins second meet in Wray

The Following Colby Swim Club results from the Wray, Colo., Meet are continued from Wednesday's Free Press. Colby won with 236 points.

9-10 Boys
Brennon Overton placed 1st in the 25Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:37.21Y.

9-10 Boys Relays
Colby Swim Club A placed 2nd in the 100Y Freestyle Relay with the time of 1:21.19Y with the following swimmers: Travis Finley, Bryce Butts, Mark Faber and Aaron Faber.

Colby Swim Club A placed 1st in the 100Y Medley Relay with the time of 1:47.15Y with the following swimmers: Aaron Faber, Mark Faber, Travis Finley and Bryce Butts.

11-12 Girls
Lauren Bell placed 2nd in the 50Y Backstroke with a time of :44.37Y; placed 3rd in the 50Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:33.78Y; placed 4th in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of 1:20.34Y.

Randi Cloe placed 13th in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :39.95Y; placed 18th in the 50Y Breaststroke with a time of :53.77Y; placed 9th in the 50Y Backstroke with a time of :54.88Y.

Maura Hansen placed 6th in the 50Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:40.07Y; placed 4th in the 50Y Butterfly with a time of :43.87Y; placed 8th in the

50Y Breaststroke with a time of :47.18Y.

Madison Rogers placed 2nd in the 50Y Butterfly with a time of :36.22Y; placed 1st in the 50Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:23.27Y; placed 1st in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :30.79Y.

Hannah Strange placed 8th in the 50Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:42.81Y; placed 12th in the 50Y Breaststroke with a time of :50.50Y; placed 12th in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :39.35Y.

11-12 Girls Relays
Colby Swim Club A placed 2nd in the 200Y Freestyle Relay with the time of 2:32.37Y with the following swimmers: Hannah Strange, Maura Hansen, Randi Cloe and Madison Rogers.

Colby Swim Club A placed 1st in the 200Y Medley Relay with the time of 2:59.13Y with the following swimmers: Randi Cloe, Maura Hansen, Madison Rogers, Hannah Strange.

11-12 Boys
John Faber placed 2nd in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :34.22Y; placed 3rd in the 50Y Backstroke with a time of :44.58Y; placed 3rd in the 50Y Butterfly with a time of :40.00Y.

Kyle Finley placed 3rd in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :35.49Y; placed 2nd in the 50Y Breaststroke with a time of :43.84Y; placed 2nd in the 50Y Individual Medley with a time of 1:34.58Y.

11-12 Mixed Relays

Colby Swim Club A placed 1st in the 200Y Freestyle Relay with the time of 2:18.10Y with the following swimmers: Lauren Bell, Brennon Overton, Kyle Finley and John Faber.

13-14 Girls
Morgan Bell placed 4th in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of 1:12.47Y; placed 3rd in the 100Y Butterfly with a time of 1:26.49Y; placed 2nd in the 100Y Breaststroke with a time of 1:26.40Y.

Christina Ostmeyer placed 3rd in the 100Y Backstroke with a time of 1:25.30Y; placed 3rd in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of 1:09.60Y; placed 5th in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :31.27Y.

13-14 Boys
Karlton Leiker placed 2nd in the 100Y Butterfly with a time of 1:25.02Y; placed 4th in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of 1:11.96Y; placed 3rd in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :29.81Y.

15-18 Girls
Emilea Finley placed 2nd in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of 1:06.75Y; placed 2nd in the 100Y Butterfly with a time of 1:15.55Y; placed 1st in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :29.01Y.

15-18 Boys
Kalen Rasmussen placed 1st in the 100Y Breaststroke with a time of 1:11.07Y; placed 1st in the 50Y Freestyle with a time of :24.87Y; placed 1st in the 100Y Freestyle with a time of :55.46Y.

15-18 Mixed Relays

NOW SHOWING
June 13th - June 19th

THE STRANGERS
R 1 Hour, 25 Minutes
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

KUNG FU PANDA
PG 1 Hour, 32 Minutes
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

Colby Cinema
1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600
www.colbycinema.com

Affordable Wheat
11 Cents ...

That's the value of wheat in a loaf of white bread - even with current high wheat prices. Right now, Kansas wheat is being harvested, processed into flour and used to help feed people throughout the U.S. and overseas.

Thank you Kansas wheat farmers!
for what you do to help put affordable bread on the tables of millions of Americans.

KANSAS WHEAT
www.kansaswheat.org

This Harvest Salute 2008 is brought to you by the Kansas City Board of Trade, DeBruce Grain, and Kansas Wheat.

Basement Problems Solved

- Waterproofing Home Kits
- Straightening Buckling Wall Home Kits
- Over 40 yrs helping homeowners solve basement problems

Sumps Basins Sealers **Gorilla Wall Braces**

Dry-Up System A Proven System Gorilla Wall Braces Engineer Certified

Installers Wanted (800) 831-2559
www.dryupbasement.com

Flush the Fat
with **INTERNAL FLUSH**

Program Included

"I lost 75 lbs. on this program. It worked for me and countless others and it will work for you too." Gina

Available at **WAL*MART**

VOTE WYRICK

District Judge, Div. 2

I will be visiting Brewster on Friday, June 20th @ 5 p.m. and Hoxie on Saturday, June 21st @ 3 p.m.

"Come on out to the park and enjoy refreshments and conversation! I look forward to seeing you there!"

Integrity, Equality & Respect!

Paid political ad by Wyrick for Judge, Jerry Vincent, Treasurer.