



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Lady Eagles basketball players Ashley Standage (from left), Kelsie Shields, Rhett Martin and Katherine Kaus sharpened their skills at basketball practice Tuesday afternoon. The team's first game will be at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4, against Great Bend in the Hays City Shootout at Felton Middle School in Hays.

Lady Eagles basketball team looking for scorers this season

By Andy Heintz

Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

The 2008 Colby High girls' basketball team won't look much like last year's successful team.

None of last year's starters is returning this year. Senior Taylor Young is the team's only returning letter winner.

"We lost 94 percent of our scoring," said Coach Parker McKee said.

Last year's team went 24-2. They made it to the semifinals of the Class 4A State Tournament before losing to Holton. But last year's stars, Lissa Maznec, April Gee, Tasha Wagoner and Paige

Stephens, all graduated.

Despite losing so many key players, McKee says he thinks this team will be better than last year's bunch in certain areas.

"I think we're a lot quicker and better defensively," he said.

McKee said for this years team to be successful, they will need to rebound well, shoot free throws well, get more shots off than the opposition and force more turnovers.

He said the girls have shown a lot of energy in practice so far.

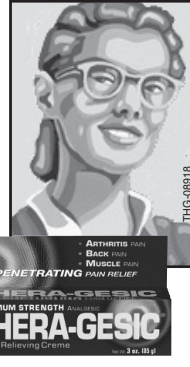
The team's first game will be against Great Bend at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Hays City Shootout at Felton Middle School. The tournament will run through Saturday.

**Classified ads work!
Call 462-3963**

Woman Writes Historic Letter to Her Congressman

BEXAR COUNTY—After applying Thera-Gesic® to her arthritic hands, Mary Ann W. hand wrote a forty-seven page letter to her Congressman explaining the true meaning of life. When asked where she had gathered all the wisdom for writing such a masterpiece and why she sent it to a government official, she painlessly replied, "None of your dang business!"

Go painlessly with Thera-Gesic®



Colorado changes year for hunting, fishing licenses

The Colorado Division of Wildlife has changed the year for hunting and fishing license, with 2008 licenses now valid through March 31.

Beginning April 1, all annual licenses will be valid from April 1 through March 31. Until the change, the license year was Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. This includes fishing, senior fishing, small game, fur-

bearer and combination fish-and-hunt licenses, Colorado waterfowl and habitat stamps and walk-in access permits.

"Annual licenses will no longer expire on Jan. 1," said Henrietta Turner, division licensing manager. "We've changed the calendar-based system to a season-year format, so licenses coincide better with our small-game seasons."

Anglers should continue using the 2008 Colorado Fishing Regulation brochure through March, she said. The 2009 brochure will be available in March, and valid for a year.

All 2009 annual licenses will be available for purchase in January, and will remain valid through March 31, 2010.

Kansas City picks up leadoff hitter

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Royals picked up the leadoff hitter they had been seeking, acquiring center fielder Coco Crisp from the Boston Red Sox for reliever Ramon Ramirez on Wednesday.

Kansas City was 12th among 14 AL teams in runs last season and added power last month, obtaining first baseman Mike Jacobs from Florida.

The switch-hitting Crisp gives the Royals speed at the top of the lineup and a superb defender in center field who has World Series experience.

"The speed aspect of it was very important," Royals general manager Dayton Moore said. "I've talked many times about the importance of a balanced lineup, speed at the top and the bottom, and Coco certainly gives us that."

The 29-year-old was the subject of trade rumors for much of last season following the emergence of rookie Jacoby Ellsbury.

The two split time in center, with Crisp hitting .283 with seven homers and 41 RBIs in 98 games. He also stole 20 bases in 27 attempts, the third straight season he's reached the 20-steal mark.

Ellsbury hit .280 with nine homers and 47 RBIs last season, proving to the Red Sox that he's ready to be an everyday player. Boston also gains financial savings by trading Crisp, who's due to make \$5.75 million next season in a deal that includes an \$8 million club option for 2010 with a \$500,000 buyout.

"He played through injuries. He played hard," Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein said of Crisp. "With the emergence of Jacoby Ellsbury, we felt like we would be able to find a (backup) outfielder on the market easier than we would find a valuable member of the bullpen."

The Royals got Ramirez, a 27-year-old righty, in a trade with Colorado before last season. They were so impressed with his stuff that they projected him to be their closer.

With a fastball that reaches the mid-90s mph, Ramirez is a power pitcher who seems suited for the late innings. He was one of the primary setup men for closer Joakim Soria and flourished in that spot, going 3-2 with a 2.64 ERA and 70 strikeouts in 71 2-3 innings.

"He's very quietly had a tremendous amount of success in the major leagues over the last 2½ years," Epstein said.



FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.
462-6565

MECUM COLLECTOR CAR AUCTION



Friday-Sunday, Dec. 5-7
Kemper Arena, Kansas City
Doors open at 9:00am daily
Consign Today!

BUY, SELL, SPECTATE!

Go to www.Mecum.com • 815-568-8888

• • • CARRIERS WANTED • • •

The Colby Free Press is looking for Carriers!

Offering a **\$25 Sign-on Bonus!!**
(Bonus will be received after 3 months)

A great job for students, moms, or retired people wanting a little "fresh air."

For more information call the Colby Free Press office:
785-462-3963 or stop in at 155 W. 5th Street

