



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Senior Levi Schlick rose above defenders and took a shot during Tuesday's game against the Hays Indians. Schlick scored a team-high 20 points in the game despite being sidelined with a leg injury for much of the contest. The Eagles ended up losing to Hays 58-56.

Eagles lose heartbreaker to Indians

By Andy Heintz
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For the Colby High boys basketball team Tuesday, it was a case of so close and yet so far. After mounting a fierce rally that erased a 13-point deficit, the Eagles fell to the Hays Indians 58-56 at the Community Building.

Colby's game against the Indians could be divided into three parts: Before Levi Schlick's injury, when he was on the bench injured and when he returned to the game.

Schlick came down hard while battling for a rebound in the second quarter. He remained on the floor, clutching his knee in obvious pain.

Before the injury Schlick had been a force to contend with down low. He had blocked three shots and scored some easy buckets around the basket. But as he hobbled off the court with the help of

his teammates, it didn't look like he would be seeing any more action that night.

Shortly after Schlick's departure, Indians player Paul Schiferl threw an alley-oop to teammate Braden McKee, who made a lay up to tie the game at 19 with a little over three minutes left in the second quarter.

Eagles senior Stephen Dinkel quickly responded with a bucket to give Colby a 21-19 lead with less than two minutes remaining in the half. The Indians answered by scoring the games next six points to take a 25-21 lead.

Dinkel cut into the Indians' four-point cushion when he made a great spin move and nailed a jumper to make it 25-23. The Indians scored the half's last two baskets, though, and headed to the locker room with a 29-23 advantage.

Hays gradually widened its lead in the second half to double dig-

its. One of the keys to the Indians' success was clutch three-point shooting. They hit 5 of 6 three pointers in the second half.

Schlick eventually returned to the game in the middle of the third quarter and immediately changed the style of the Eagles' play. His presence inside ended the Indians' rebounding edge as he controlled the defensive glass with some monster rebounds. On the offensive end, the Indians seemed unable to stop Schlick, and he scored at will inside.

With Schlick's return, the Eagles got new life and began cutting into the Indians' lead. They would eventually tie the game at 54 when Schlick scored on a breakaway layup while drawing contact from a Hays defender. The Indians responded with a three-point play of their own with less than two minutes remaining.

On the Eagles' next possession, senior Corey Sager was fouled. He

drilled both free throws, cutting the Indians lead to one with less than a minute to go. The Eagles immediately fouled, sending Hays to the line. The Indians' player banked in his first free throw but missed his second, giving the Indians a 58-56 lead.

Colby was unable to get anything going on offense, as Sager turned the ball over to the Indians with 8.7 seconds remaining. He immediately fouled the Hays player after making the turnover. Hays missed the front end of a one-and-one and the Eagles rebounded the ball and headed down court with one more shot.

Dinkel missed a tough driving lay-up and Schlick missed a put-back as time expired.

The loss leaves the Eagles with a 2-2 record.

Schlick scored a team-high 20 points and Dinkel added 13.

The team will play again at 8 p.m. Tuesday at St. Francis.

Lady Trojans outlast Highland 64-60

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby Community College women's basketball team went 1-1 in the Jayhawk Shootout in Coffeyville over the weekend.

The Lady Trojans (3-8) outlasted national ranked Highland Community College (7-3) on Saturday 64-60. Colby jumped out to a 37-25 lead at halftime. The Lady Trojans were 4 for 8 from three-point range in the first half.

The Scotties battled back in the second half, but Colby was able to hold on to the lead and pick up a

victory.

Freshman Danisha Cole scored a team-high 19 points.

"Danisha attacked the rim really well," Coach Brady Jasper said.

Sophomore Nikki Welsh had 15 points and Tasha Wagoner added 13.

Jasper said he was pleased with his team's performance.

"We executed well on Saturday, and we rebounded better than we had on Friday," he said.

Jasper said he thinks his team is as confident as they've been all season.

"We're doing some very good things right now," he said. "I think

the team feels better about themselves they have any other time this season."

Highland was the No. 18 team in Division II going into the game.

The Lady Trojans suffered an 80-63 loss to Neosho County on Friday. Cole led the women with 17 points. Wagoner added 12 and sophomore Jaime Alexander hit for 11.

The Trojans led the Panthers 38-30 at halftime due to some fabulous shooting from beyond the arc. Colby made 8 of 15 three-point field goals in the first half.

Neosho mounted a ferocious rally in the second half, outscoring

Colby 50-25. The Trojans never could find anyone who could stop Ashley Millian, and she ended up scoring 31 points for the Panthers.

Even though his team was unable to pick up a win, Jasper was still happy with the effort.

"They played hard and never quit," he said.

The Lady Trojans will play again at on Thursday in Scottsbluff, Neb., against the Community College of the Air Force at the Western Nebraska Holiday Classic.

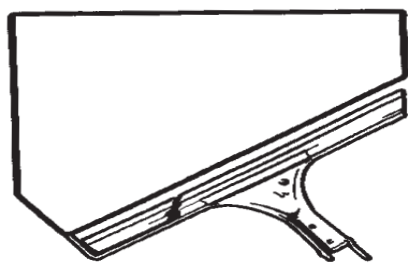
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