

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Senior Levi Schlick pitched three scoreless innings in the first game in the Colby Eagles' season-opening double-header against Scott City on Tuesday. The Eagles hammered the Beavers 17-0 and 11-1 at the city recreation field.

Colby Eagles' hot bats lead to wins on cold day

By Andy Heintz
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The Colby High baseball team kicked off its season by hammering Scott City 17-0 in the first game of a doubleheader Tuesday at the city ballfield, then picked up an easy victory in the second game, 11-1.

In the first game, Senior Brent Arnberger slammed a two-run homer over the left-field fence to make the score 17-0 in the bottom of the second inning.

Starting pitcher Levi Schlick, a senior, struck out the side in the top of the third to give the Eagles a victory. Under the third-inning rule, if a team is leading by 15 af-

ter three innings, it is declared the winner.

In game 2, Junior Steve Fyler of Scott City pounded a double, scoring junior Jordan Habiger to give the Beavers a 1-0 lead in the top of the first. The Eagles responded by picking up a run of their own in the bottom of the first when Schlick hit a long sacrifice fly to left field, driving senior Cade Carter in from third base.

Senior Eric Blanton scored on a balk in the second inning to give the Eagles a 2-1 lead. Sophomore Preston Krzycki scored from third on a wild pitch to put Colby in front 3-1 in the second.

Later in the game, Blanton slapped a grounder between first and second, scoring seniors Corey Sager and Brent Arnberger from second and third to make the score 5-1. Another run scored on a wild pitch.

Sager hammered a line-drive triple to right center, driving in two runs and giving the Eagles an 8-1 lead in the fourth. Later in the inning, Arnberger ripped a line-drive double to right, scoring Sager and Schlick from second and third. That made the score 10-1.

The game ended after the fifth inning with Colby leading 11-1. The five-inning rule says that if one team is leading by nine or more points after five, the game ends and the leading team is declared the winner.

"We hit the ball pretty well and played good defense," said Assistant Coach Rick Williams. "We pitched pretty well. We only gave up two hits all game."

The Trojans will face Ulysses at 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Colby Recreation Field.

Colby Trojans softball team loses two to Barton County

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The Colby Community College women lost a home doubleheader to Barton County on Monday on a cold, windy afternoon that you wouldn't describe as softball weather. Both games ended in the fifth inning due to the "mercy" rule, or run limit.

The Lady Trojans lost the first game 9-1. Freshman Charilley Staab led the team at the plate, going 3 for 3.

Colby went down 17-7 in the second game. Staab and freshman Logan Wark both hit home runs. The Lady Trojans had 10 hits in the game.

"The weather conditions weren't ideal for the games," said Coach Ryan Sturdy. "It was cool and

very windy. We hit the ball better in game 2 and scored some runs. We still aren't getting the energy we need to compete."

The Lady Trojans are 7-10 for the season and 0-4 in Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference West.

They were to play Seward County at 3 p.m. today in a doubleheader at Carl Adams Field on campus.

Denver will try to trade quarterback

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — The Denver Broncos said Tuesday they will grant Jay Cutler his request and try to trade the disgruntled Pro Bowl quarterback.

There is no shortage of teams interested in the 25-year-old rocket-armed quarterback whose unhappy offseason began with Mike Shanahan's firing and has haunted new coach Josh McDaniels' budding regime.

Broncos owner Pat Bowlen released a statement saying both he and McDaniels had been unable to get Cutler to call them back over the last 10 days. Bowlen said he spoke with Cutler's agent, Bus Cook, on Tuesday and came away convinced "that Jay no longer has any desire to play for the Denver Broncos."

Cook didn't immediately return messages left by The Associated Press, and McDaniels, through a team spokesman, declined to comment.

Cutler's been unhappy ever since learning that McDaniels failed to inform him about trade talks in which the Broncos showed interest in Matt Cassel. Cassel

wound up being traded by New England to Kansas City, and then Cutler asked to be traded.

Still, McDaniels had faith he could repair the strained relationship with his temperamental quarterback — if only he could get him to call him back. On Tuesday, he became convinced that just wasn't going to happen.

When told the owner was going to try to trade his franchise quarterback, linebacker Spencer Larsen said, "It's shocking. It didn't seem like he was going anywhere. This is the worst-case scenario."

Cutler skipped McDaniels' first team meeting in mid-March and the first 2½ weeks of the Broncos' offseason conditioning program, forfeiting a \$100,000 workout bonus.

Cutler is halfway through the six-year, \$48 million contract he signed as the 11th overall pick out of Vanderbilt in the 2006 draft. He's 17-20 as Broncos starter, although that's misleading because of Denver's dismal defense.

In games that the Broncos have allowed 21 points or fewer, Cutler is an impressive 13-1, and that

only loss was to Green Bay in 2007 when the Packers won the coin toss and Brett Favre threw an 82-yard touchdown pass on the first play of overtime.

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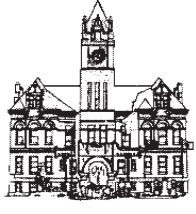
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