



ROBIN TUBBS/Colby Free Press  
Colby High junior Braden Sager got ready to make an inbounds pass during the Eagles' season-opening game against Great Bend in the first round of the Hays City Shoot-out on Thursday in the Felton Middle School gym at Hays.

## Shooting woes cost Colby team

Poor field-goal shooting led to the Colby High boys basketball team dropping their season opener to Great Bend 48-26 in the first round of the Hays City Shoot-out on Thursday at the Felton Middle School gym in Hays.

Colby trailed 11-9 at the end of the first quarter, but the Panthers outscored the Eagles 14-2 in the second quarter, giving them a 25-11 halftime lead. The third was pretty even, as Great Bend outscored Colby 13-11 and led 38-22 going into the final period. They went on to win 48-26.

The Eagles only connected on a bout 24 percent of their shots, 11 for 46, which was about 17 percent lower than Great Bend. The Eagles were just three for 12 from the free-throw line and made only one of five three pointers.

Senior Kale Arnberger led the team with nine points, including one three pointer. Junior Braden Sager added six and dished out a team-high three assists. Seniors Corbin Stephens and Spencer Tubbs both scored four points.

Stephens had a tough shooting night, going two for 12 from the field, but he led the team in steals with three.

Tubbs also struggled from the field, going two for nine, but he grabbed a team-high six rebounds and had the team's sole block. Sophomore Todd Kane had two

points and sophomore Zane Winger had one. Senior Christian Wilson had three steals.

The Eagles turned the ball over 18 times, but they forced 20 Panthers turnovers. Great Bend did a much better job of capitalizing on Colby's errors, scoring 21 points off turnovers compared to four for the Eagles. On a positive note, Colby got 13 steals in the game compared to Great Bend's 11.

Coach Jerad Johnson said he saw a lot of things he liked, but also a lot of things the team needed to work on. Johnson said Colby's inside game was good, but they missed some low-post shots and put backs. He said the team didn't box out well, allowing the Bulldogs to get some extra shots on offense. Great Bend won the rebounding battle 34-29.

The coach said the Panthers were able to get points toward the end of the game by flashing to open spots on the backside of their offense.

Colby will play its second Shoot-out game against Thomas More Prep-Marian High at 5:45 p.m. tonight at the Felton gym. To get there, go east on I-70 to the U.S. 183-Vine St. exit, then south to 27th Avenue. Turn left at the light at 27th and go about three blocks west to Front Street. Turn right (north) and the school is about two blocks.

## College men's squad trounces opponent

The Colby College Trojans men's basketball team trounced the Kansas State University, Salina club team for the second time this season in a 100-55 beating Thursday night in Salina.

The Trojans only led first-year team 46-34 at halftime, but they ran away with the game in the second half. Freshman Vince Dillard led the Trojans with 17 points on 5-of-7 shooting from the field. He had five assists and four steals.

Freshman Carson Konrade had 15 points, freshman Kevin Jefferson added 14 and freshman Scott

Ochs chipped in 11 points. Freshman Corey Billingslea added eight points and pulled down 10 boards.

The Trojans shot 56 percent from the field on 36-of-64 shooting and connected on 21 of 28 free-throws. Colby held the Salina team to 37 percent shooting and had 12 steals.

With the win, the Trojans improved to 9-3. Colby's next game is against Trinidad State Junior College from Colorado at 7 p.m. Monday at the Community Building.

high school gymnasium.

The Colby High wrestling team's dual against Burlington High School from Colorado will follow the Trojans' dual.

# Late surge lifts Lady Eagles

The Lady Eagles offense awoke from its slumber in just the nick of time Thursday, outscoring Great Bend 16-4 in the fourth quarter on the way to a 35-21 victory in the first round of the Hays City Shoot-out at Felton Middle School in Hays.

The game remained close until the final minutes of the fourth quarter. Colby led by just 2, 19-17, at the end of the third.

The first half was a low-scoring affair. The teams were tied at four after one quarter and Colby led 11-9 at the half. Both teams struggled on offense in the first half, but the Lady Eagles out-rebounded the Lady Panthers 13-4

in the half.

"Our girls were in good position," said Coach Parker McKee. "They did a good job boxing out."

Colby was a little sloppy with the ball in the first half, giving up 12 turnovers while forcing Great Bend to turn the ball over nine times. The coach said the Lady Panthers play solid defense.

"They have great backside help and good ball pressure," McKee said.

Senior Kayla Hockersmith made her first bucket of the game, giving Colby a 9-8 lead, in the second quarter. Sophomore Lauren Bell hit two free throws to make it 11-9

at the half.

Junior Emilea Finley made a transition layup in the final seconds of the third to put Colby up 19-17. Senior Katherine Kaus drilled a big three pointer, giving Colby a 26-21 lead with 5:37 left in the fourth.

The girls extended their lead to 30-21 when Morgan Bell fed senior Kelsey Shields, who banked in a shot off the glass. The Lady Eagles were able to get some transition buckets off turnovers in the fourth. They applied a full-court press the entire quarter. Coach McKee said his team eventually wore the Lady Panthers down.

The girls went on to win 35-21. McKee said his team's success in the final quarter stemmed from the girls catching the ball in places where they could pose a threat to the Lady Panthers' defense. He said the girls were hungry for a victory at the end of the game.

Kaus, and her twin sister Katrina, led the team with seven points each and Hockersmith and Shields both added six. Bell had four and junior Morgan Bell, Lauren's sister, scored three.

The Lady Eagles were to play in the semifinals of the Shoot-out against Newton today in the Hays High gym. The final round will be played Saturday.



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