

# Colby radio station manager moving to Nebraska

**Andy Heintz**  
aheintz@nwkansas.com

Mike Fell, general manager of KXXX and KQLS radio in Colby the last 4 1/2 years, is heading back to his native Nebraska — with Colby in his rearview mirror. Fell accepted a job running radio stations in Alliance and Chadron, Neb., for Eagle Broadcasting out of Hays. Fell, an Omaha native, grew up in Nebraska.

"It's been 10 years since I left Nebraska, and I'm happy to be going back there," he said. "It will be an exciting challenge."

In Nebraska, he'll be responsible for five stations, KCNB-FM, KCOW-AM and KHAQ-FM in Alliance, and KCNB-FM and KQSK-FM in Chadron.

He did his final broadcast for KXXX Sunday, though he will be in and out over the next few weeks, helping with the transition in management. The station's owner, Rocking M Broadcasting out of Manhattan, is looking for a new manager here, he said.

While he is excited about returning to the state he grew up in, Fell said he has countless memories about the good times he has had broadcasting in Colby.

He said one of his most memorable moments with the station was being able to cover all the Western Kansas Liberty League basketball

tournament games on the Colby and Goodland radio stations for the first time in January 2006.

"I dreamed about doing it and we did it," Fell said. "I was relay proud of that."

He said he wanted to thank Rich Epp, an independent broadcaster who now appears on Colby Com-

munity College radio station KTTC; Terry Ostmeyer, athletic director at Wheatland High School in Grinnell, and Marty Melia, general manager of the Goodland radio stations, for making covering all the games possible.

Another memorable broadcasting moment for Fell was when the Wal-

lace County High boys from Sharon Springs defeated Brewster in double overtime in the Liberty League basketball finals in 2007.

Fell said it was the greatest game he had a chance to cover while broadcasting in northwest Kansas.

Other memorable moments for Fell include when the Oakley and

Colby girls won state basketball championships in 2007, and when this year's Colby Eagles football team made the state playoffs.

He said his all-time favorite team to cover was the 2005 Hoxie Indians girls' basketball team. The Lady Indians team that year, lead by J.C. Hoyt and Dani Pratt, finished 25-1.

"That team played some killer defense," he said.

Fell said one of his proudest moments broadcasting in Colby was when his station won the Kansas Association of Broadcasters Severe Weather Coverage Award for its coverage of the tornado outbreak in May.

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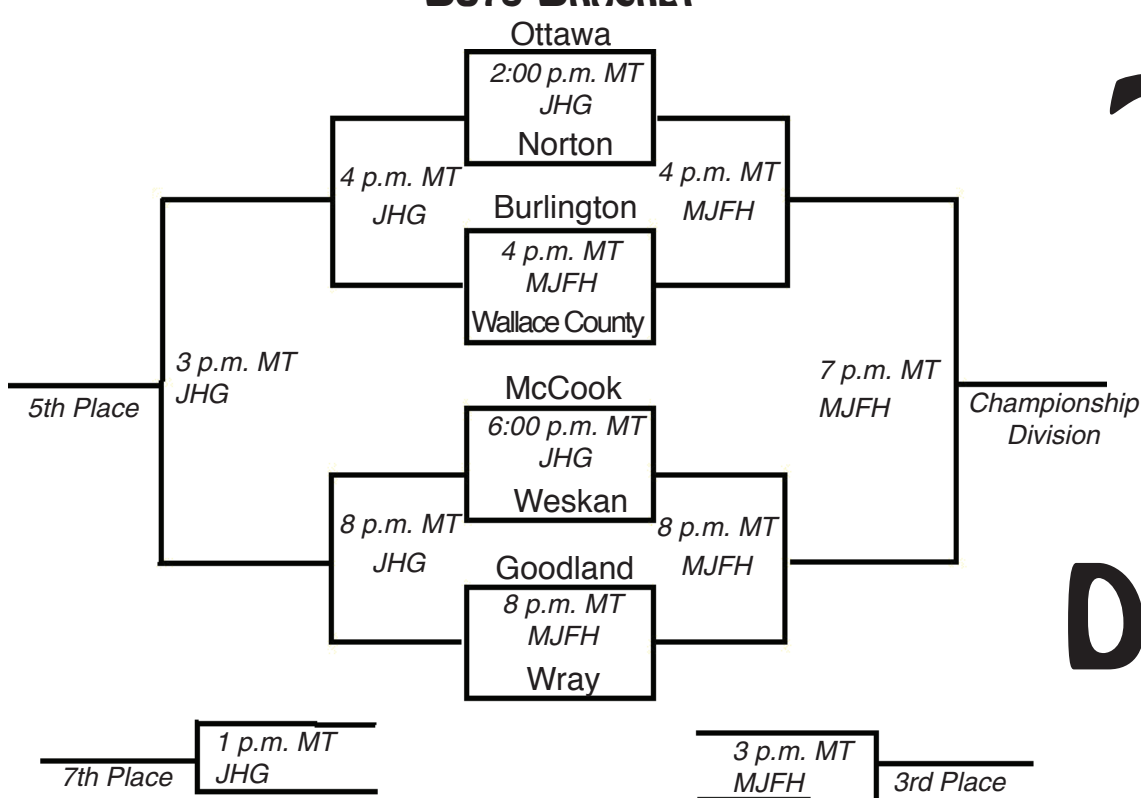


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