

# Eagle softball brings home two victories

Colby Eagle varsity softball coach Jack Elliott reports that the Eagles won two games at Syracuse last Thursday, 11-5 and 15-1. Whitney Adams got the win in game one, giving up 5 runs, 6 hits, 0 walks, 1 hit batter and struck out 13. Sara Redmond got the game-two victory. She gave up 1 run, 1 hit, 2 walks, 2 hit batters and struck out 9. Getting hits for the Eagles were: Whitney Adams, 1-6 (double); Ciera Rous, 2-6 (2 doubles); Shauna Cox, 4-6 (4 doubles); Jen

Hutflles, 5-8 (1 double, 1 triple); Ivy Ramsey, 3-8 (triple); Sara Redmond, 1-4; Lauren Cox, 3-5; Crystal Herschberger, 3-8; Katie Friesen, 1-3; and Christie Gerstner, 1-2. “Whitney and Sara did a good job pitching when they started changing speeds,” Elliott said. “Our defense was better, but still has to improve. Offense was good again.” The coach added that “our games with Ulysses on April 6 have been moved to April 30. Our next game is here vs. Goodland on Thursday.”



## Ray Nolan

- From the Dugout

# Riding the rails of emotion

This has been a week in which Trojan baseball has experienced every emotion possible. I guess our doubleheader versus Pratt on Wednesday was just preparing us for the weekend ahead. After dropping the first game to Pratt, 7-1, we led the second game 2-0. With two outs and two runners on in the top of the seventh, and a stiff breeze blowing in from left, Pratt’s number two hitter blasted a ball into the wind. I was thinking that it couldn’t leave, but it did. What a horrible feeling that was, to go from a guaranteed win — and a split — to a loss — and a sweep. Well, fortunately enough our guys kept their heads and were able to rally in the bottom of the inning for the victory. Actually, Pratt was a dropped ball away from the win. With one out, and runners on first and second, sophomore Joel Gould hit a line drive to the second baseman, who flipped it to the shortstop for what could have been the game ending double play, but the shortstop muffed it. The play was close, so I don’t know if our runner would have been called out, but you never know. The next hitter, sophomore Brian Hassing, lined a ball to the right-center gap to score both runners and win the game. Like I eluded to, this game probably prepared us for the emotional weekend to come because just like after that Pratt home run, we felt horrible after dropping two to Garden City. In game one we made seven errors, and still held a lead 5-4 in the 11th. Garden came back and eventually won the game in the bottom of the 12th on an infield single. All six of their runs were unearned. If we had made anyone of a number of plays, we probably would have won. The second game was no better as we made four errors and lost 5-3. Saturday was untypical of our team this season. For us to make 11 errors in one doubleheader is unthinkable. The mainstays of our team this season have been pitching and defense,

the two most important parts of baseball. This season it has taken our team close to 11 games to make that many errors. So we left Garden City on a low that it is tough to describe. Little did we know that Sunday would hold better things for us. Barton came to town Sunday as one of the hottest teams in the conference. They were in third place at 7-3, and had just swept Dodge City, 10-0 and 9-2, on Wednesday, and Butler County, 5-0 and 3-0, on Saturday. Our guys were not discouraged after Saturday and came out Sunday and played some of their best baseball of the season to gain the sweep, 1-0 and 1-0. Our defense was tremendous, we had just one error on the day, and both of our starting pitchers, freshmen Conner Bramlet and freshman Dan Neal, were outstanding, allowing just three and two hits, respectively, to each earn a victory. Our closer, freshman Travis Hearne, did a great job in two pressure situations to record two saves. With runners on first and second in game one, Hearne got a ground ball that started a double play, and in game two, with runners on second and third, he induced a ground ball to second to end the game. Hearne now has five saves in conference. It should be noted that our starting pitchers Saturday, sophomore Bobby Van Wieren and freshman Braden Ham, also pitched well. Virtually all the Garden runs the entire day were unearned. Our conference ERA is barely above 1.0, which is amazing. We currently stand in fourth place in conference at 7-7, one game behind Barton, who is 7-5, and face Cloud on Wednesday in Colby at 1 p.m. We then do not play until Monday (April 12) when we will travel to Northeastern Junior College for a makeup doubleheader.

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*Ray Nolan is assistant baseball coach at Colby Community College. His column appears Mondays.*

## Colby College Softball

**Thursday April 1**  
**Game # 1**  
**Barton 4, Colby 2**  
Losing Pitcher - Corri Ball 8H 0K 3BB 4R 1ER 6IP  
Leading Hitter - Alisha Liess 2-4  
Team Hits - 7  
**Game # 2**  
**Barton 2, Colby 1**  
Losing Pitcher - Obernolte 5H 1K 2BB 2R 1ER 4IP; Kastanek 2H 0K 0BB 0R 3IP  
Leading Hitter - Christina Obernolte 1-2 1 RBI  
Team Hits - 3  
**Saturday, April 3**  
**in Wichita**  
**(Crossover tournament)**  
**Kansas City (Kan.) CC 2, Colby 1**  
Losing Pitcher - Obernolte 6H 4K 4BB 2R 2ER 8IP  
Leading Hitter - Mary Egger 1-2  
Team Hits - 3  
**Allen County 6, Colby 5**  
  
Losing Pitcher - Kastanek 9H 3K 0BB 6R 5ER 6IP  
Leading Hitter - Lauren Jameson 2-4  
Team Hits - 5  
**Johnson County 5, Colby 0**  
Losing Pitcher - Obernolte 8H 5K 3BB 5R 5ER 7IP  
Leading Hitter - Erica Reitz 1-2  
Team Hits - 3  
**Sunday, April 4**  
**in Wichita**  
**Highland 5, Colby 3**  
Losing Pitcher - Corri Ball 8H 3K 3BB 5R 4ER 7IP  
Leading Hitter - Calea Meyer 2-3 1 RBI  
Team Hits - 5  
**Fort Scott 1, Colby 4**  
Winning Pitcher - Ball 6H 6K 0BB 1R 1ER 7IP  
Leading Hitter - Erica Reitz 2-3 1 RBI  
Team Hits - 5  
Coach Carl Adams’ comments:

“We need to find a way for the team to pull themselves out of their hitting slump. Our defense and pitching has kept us in the games, but we have been unable to get people on base to score runs. When we get people on we aren’t stringing any hits together to score. We have seen the offensive potential of this team. The question is: when are we going to become consistent with the bats?”

We have the type of team that is capable of entering the region tournament and winning it. That will depend on which team shows up and if the other teams are struggling like we are right now. “The Colby Community College softball team will play at the college on Tuesday against Brown Mackie at 3 p.m. in a regional seeding game.”

Sports news to:  
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## SportsLine

### Colby schools

• **Tuesday** — 7th/8th track at Norton, 10:30 a.m.; junior varsity/varsity baseball at Ulysses, 4 p.m.; the junior varsity/varsity softball games at Ulysses scheduled for this date have been moved to Friday, April 30, 4 p.m.

### Colby College

- Tuesday — Trojan softball with Brown Mackie of Salina, 3 p.m., at home.
- Wednesday — Trojan baseball with Cloud County, 1 p.m., at home.
- Thursday — Rodeo at Southwest Oklahoma State.
- Friday — Rodeo at Southwest Oklahoma State.
- Saturday — Track/field at Colorado Invitational, 9 a.m., Colorado Springs; rodeo at Southwest Oklahoma State.

### Free sports physicals offered

Colby Medical and Surgical Center, Colby, will offer free physical exams for students in Colby, Rexford and Brewster for the 2004-05 school years. All physicals will be given on May 11 with students from Colby Middle School arriving by 5:30 p.m.; Colby High School by 6:15 p.m., and for Golden Plains and Brewster students, 7 p.m. Any student planning to participate in the physical examination is asked to bring the forms with them, which are available at the schools. For questions, call (785) 462-3332.

EAT HEARTY.....  
—STEAK FRY—  
**Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.**  
*Your choice of Potato and Salad*

COLBY VFW MEMBERS & GUESTS  
WELCOME!