

Trojan infielders did a lot of standing around during the sixth inning of Colby's 22-8 game four loss to Hutchinson Sunday at Trojan Field. Hutchinson scored 14 runs in the sixth inning, and the Trojans used four different pitchers.

Trojans must hit the road for playoffs after four straight losses

Free Press Reporter ifalkoff@nwkansas.com

The Colby Trojan baseball team entered the weekend needing two wins to guarantee a home firstround playoff series.

Instead, a four-game sweep at the hands of Hutchinson at Trojan Field means Colby will open the playoffs a long way from home-371 miles away to be exact.

The Trojans will begin the Region VI playoffs with a best-ofthree series at Kansas City, Kansas Community College Saturday. Butler County, who passed Colby for fourth place in the West with a four-game sweep of Dodge City over the weekend, will host Allen County in the first round.

After starting the conference season 8-4, the Trojans ended the year losing 10 of their last 16 games. They finished the regular season 24-26 overall and 14-18 in the conference. Butler finished 15-17 in league play, vaulting over the Trojans who had held on to the four spot for the vast majority of the conference season.

"Sure, it's definitely disheartening," said Trojan head baseball coach Ryan Carter. "When it comes down to it, we just didn't earn it. The cream always rises to the top. I heard somebody say you're only as good as your record says you are. We've had some bad breaks and lost some close ball games. Hopefully, when it's win or go home we can pull out one of those close games.

Although the Trojans are entering the post-season on a down note, past history has Carter optimistic his team can still get hot at the right time.

"Two years ago when we went to the region championship game, we were the #6 or #7 seed," said Carter. "We got hot and put a run together, which they're capable of doing. You work so hard and it's never easy to struggle like this. It's definitely not fun to get beat up this bad, but they say what doesn't kill you will only make you stronger."

KCK, 29-16 (21-15) enters the best-of-three series on a bit of a downer themselves after losing twice to 15-23 Coffeyville Sun-

Given the way his team performed in their regular season series finale, KCK is the last thing on Carter's mind right now.

"We don't know a whole lot about them, but we need to worry more about ourselves than who

we are playing," said Carter. Game times for this weekend have not yet been set. All three games will last nine innings unless the 10-run rule after five or the eight-run rule after seven innings comes into affect. Game one will be played Saturday, game two will be Sunday and game three will oc-

cur later that day, if necessary. "This is only a depressing day for one team, because one team in our conference has to go home and it's not us," said Carter. "You gotta have a short memory in baseball. No woulda, coulda, shoulda's. We have to regroup, lick our wounds, prepare for the playoffs and see how far we can go.'

Game recaps from the Hutchin-

It's definitely

not fun to get beat up

this bad."

Ryan Carter, Trojan baseball coach

son series are below: Game One: Hutchinson 10 Colby 5

Behind starter Sean Lydon, the Trojans carried a 5-0 lead into the fifth inning, but things fell apart from there. Hutchinson scored four in the fifth and two more in the sixth to take a 6-5 lead. Lydon was yanked after 5 1/3 innings, but relievers Max Greve and Sean Walter combined to allow four more Blue Dragon runs in the sev-

Colby's offense failed to score in the last three innings off Hutchinson reliever Jason Borchardt, and the Blue Dragons completed the

stunning come back with ease. Borchardt picked up the victory for Hutch, while Greve was tagged with the loss, falling to 2-4. Lydon got a no-decision after allowing five earned runs and eight hits in 5 1/3 innings.

The Trojans had just seven hits in the game. Scott Hornstra hit his seventh home run of the year and finished 1-3 with an RBI. Sean Caggiano was 2-3 with a run and an RBI. Brennen Peterson, Aaron Dunsmore and Steve Kletke each had a hit and an RBI as well. Kletke doubled in a run in the fourth.

Clint Bieberle and Matt LaGree went deep for the Blue Dragons, who finished with 10 hits.

Game Two: Hutchinson 4

Colby 3 Another game and another late lead went astray for the Trojans. Colby led 3-2 in the sixth only to see the Blue Dragons score two in the inning to go ahead 4-3. Colby failed to score off Hutchinson reliever Ryan Scoles in either the sixth or seventh inning.

Scoles picked up victory. Mark Phillips, who went all seven innings, suffered the loss to fall to 5-3. He allowed just five hits and two earned runs, while striking out five and walking three.

Colby also had five hits. Hornstra had three of them and finished 3-3 with a double and two RBIs. Kletke also had a double and an

Game Three: Hutchinson 6 Colby 2

Once again, the Trojans hung right with Hutchinson into the late innings before things came unrav-

Three Trojan errors opened the door for three Hutchinson runs in the fifth to give the Blue Dragons a 4-0 lead. Brennen Peterson delieverd a two RBI single in the bottom of the inning to cut the deficit to 4-2, but the Trojans wouldn't threaten again as reliever Kyle Rosine worked a perfect final two innings.

Stewart Hoover delivered a two-run homer off Trojan starter Joshn Edwards in the seventh to make it 6-2.

It would be Edwards' last batter as he saw his record drop to 2-4. He worked six plus innings and allowed two earned runs and 10

Tim Statz picked up the win for Hutchinson. He allowed just four hits and two runs in five innings.

Dunsmore, Caggiano and Ziegler each had a hit for the Trojans. Caggiano's double in the fifth was Colby's only extra-base

Game Four: Hutchinson 22 Colby 8

A disastrous weekend couldn't have ended in an uglier fashion for the Trojans. With the game tied at 8 in the sixth, Hutchinson scored 14 runs in the inning and 13 before Colby recorded an out.

The Trojans used four pitchers in the inning. Neither Chad Correa, Chris Urbach or Zach Hays retired a batter. They combined to give up eight hits and all 14 runs.

"Us not being very deep on the mound came back to haunt us," said Carter. "It's baseball. Weird things happen. I tell our players act respectful, because one of these days it's going to come back and you're going to be on the oth- Barton County before beginning with three RBIs and added to her McLaughlin each had two hits and er side. We'll put up an inning like the Region VI Tournament Saturnational home run lead by delieva a pair of RBIs. this before our careers our over. It's just the way baseball is."

All of the damage may have been avoided had normally surehanded second baseman Jerry Hildreth not dropped a ball on a potential double play early in the inning. Hutchinson had no runs in at the time and men at first and second with nobody out.

"Without a doubt, any time you give a team extra outs they're going to hurt you," said Carter. 'That's exactly what happened. The double play is a defense's home run. We had a chance and couldn't capitalize on it. They deserved it. They played better than us today."

Correa took the loss for Colby, falling to 1-1. He allowed four earned runs in an inning plus. Scoles got the victory for Hutchin-

Hornstra, who started the game for Colby, got a no-decision after allowing six earned runs in four innings. All seven of the total runs he gave up came with two outs.

The Trojans rallied from a 4-0 deficit with seven runs in the second inning to take a 7-4 lead. The inning was highlighted by a threerun homer from Aaron Dunsmore. He added another home run in the fifth to tie the game at 8. Dunsmore finished the season with a team-high 12 home runs.

Jaret Chatwood, Hornstra and Eric Sim each had RBIs. Sim was 2-3 with a double.

"Really except for a couple of innings I thought we played pretty decent this weekend," said Carter. "Give credit to Hutch. They're a good hitting team. We just didn't make the plays we needed to

in meet victory at Quinter Colby High's Josh Baden faired finished third in the shot put with

well against several of the top runners in the Midwest last weekend at the KU Relays in Lawrence.

In his first race back in northwest Kansas, it's no surprise the best distance runners in this area proved no match for the Eagle se-

Baden's course record, firstplace time of 09:53.3 in the 3200 meters and his first place finish in the 800 meters and 1600 meters helped the Colby boys capture first place with 98 points Friday at the Quinter meet.

The Eagle boys ran away from second-place Quinter, who finished with 62 points. Golden Plains was eighth with 31 points and Brewster finished at the bottom of the 15-team field with four

The Colby girls finished in second place behind Ellis with 70 points, but didn't compete in any of the relays, the pole vault, discus, 100/110 hurdles, 300 hurdles or the high jump. Ellis won the girls meet with 102 points. Brewster finished in 12th place, totaling eight points.

Baden was the lone Eagle boy to get first place individually. However, Colby's 4 x 100 relay team finished first with a time of

For the Eagle girls, April Gee got first in the triple jump with a leap of 34-11.25. She also finished third in the long jump (15-11), fourth in the 200 meters (:27.8) and fifth in the 100 meters (:13.3).

Katrina Kaus took home two first place medals, topping the field in the 1600 meters (05:51.9) and the 3200 meters (12:48.7). She also got fourth in the 800 meters (02:43.6).

Lissa Mazanec won the discus with a throw of 129-3. She also

a throw of 34-10.5.

Eagle senior sets course record

Full Quinter meet results are listed below:

Boys (DNP=did not place) **100/110 Hurdles** DNP Joseph Hutfles: 18.9 100 Meters

2. Mitchell Tuma:11.3 6. Scott McCoy:11.6 DNP James Bomba:11.9 1600 Meters

5. Christian Wilson 05:14.4 400 Meters 5. Heath Stephens:55.2

1. Josh Baden 04:47.9

300 Hurdles DNP Joseph Hutfles: 48.2 800 Meters 1. Josh Baden 02:09.2

6. Ryan Baalmann 02:15.4 DNP Spencer Young 02:30.8

200 Meters 6. James Bomba:24.6 DNP Ryan Parker: 25.6

3200 Meters 1. Josh Baden 09:59.3 2. Breck Arnberger 11:05.7 5. Christian Wilson 11:32.4

Javelin 2. Brady Rundel 156-8 4. Ethan Stover 151-1

DNP Travis Parker 131-7 **High Jump** 3. Scott McCoy 5-8 **Shot Put**

DNP Matt Ryan 36-3 DNP Brady Rundel 35-5 DNP Jake Rose 29-10.5 **Discus**

5. Ethan Stover 121-9 DNP Tanner Kriss 103-9 DNP Travis Parker 93-4 **Long Jump** 2. Mitchell Tuma 19-9

DNP Ryan McCoy 18-0 DNP Tanner Kriss 17-.5 **Triple Jump** DNP Ryan McCoy 38-5

DNP Tanner Kriss 45-6

4 x 800 Relay (6th, 09:11.7)

1. Ryan Baalmann 02:12.3 2. Spencer Young 2:23

3. Ryan McCoy 02:25.3

4. Breck Arnberger 02:10.4

4 x 100 Relay (1st, :44.95) 1. Heath Stephens:11.5

2. Scott McCoy:11.7

3. James Bomba:11.4

4. Mitchell Tuma:10.8 4 x 400 Relay (4th, 03:45.4)

1. Heath Stephens :53.6

2. Ryan McCoy :58.2

3. Ryan Parker:57.4 4. Ryan Baalmann:56.5

Girls

100 Meters

5. April Gee :13.3 DNP Kelsey Voss:14.4 1600 Meters

1. Katrina Kaus 05:51.9 DNP Katherine Kaus 06:05.7 DNP Kelly Gerstner 06:30.3 400 Meters

DNP Kylie Reitcheck 1:13 800 Meters 4. Katrina Kaus 02:43.6

DNP Katherine Kaus 02:47.3 200 Meters 4. April Gee :27.8

DNP Ashley Standage:31.2 DNP Kylie Reitcheck: 31.5 3200 Meters

1. Katrina Kaus 12:48.7 5. Kelly Gerstner 14:08.6 **Shot Put** 3. Lissa Mazanec 34-10.5

DNP Paige Stephens 30-5

DNP Taylor Young 27-10 **Discus** 1. Lissa Mazanec 129-3 3. Paige Stephens 106-1

DNP Taylor Young 90-4.5 Long Jump 3. April Gee 15-11 DNP Kelsey Voss 13-4.5 DNP Ashley Standage 12-10.5

Triple Jump 1. April Gee 34-11.25 DNP Ashley Standage 28-11.5 DNP Kelsey Voss 27-6

Lady Trojans pummel Cloud

The Colby Lady Trojans won just right at them, but we kept our their third in a row and moved to within a game of .500 after sweeping a doubleheader from Cloud County 9-0 and 9-1 Sunday in

Concordia. Colby, 28-29, has two regular season games remaining today at day in Wichita. Results from the ering her 25th of the year. Barton games will be available in Wednesday's Free Press.

Sunday, Colby outhit Cloud County 14-5 in the two games and committed just one error, while Cloud had five. We played well today," said

Lady Trojan head coach Ryan "We didn't make mistakes and

our pitchers threw strikes. We came out and hit the ball hard up heads up and continued to hit the ball hard" In game one, the Trojans jumped

out to a 2-0 lead after an inning

and added five more in the third, one in the fourth and one in fifth. Ninostka Amaro finished 2-2

Ebert each had RBI hits.

Kat Nickel had Colby's only other extra-base hit with an RBI

Kage was spectacular on the mound for Colby as she evened her record to 6-6. In five innings, Kage allowed only three hits, walked three and struck out three.

In the second game, Trojan starter Karri Panno nearly matched and down the lineup. Some were Kage's dominant game one effort.

Panno surrendered just a a run and two hits in five innings, while striking out seven and walking two. She improved to 13-15. The offense scored at least one

run in all five innings and was helped further by four Cloud errors. Courtney Duell and Mary

Duell, Amaro and Nickel each Amber Cowan and Lynette had a double. Erin Myers had a hit and drove in a run as well.

Cloud County saw its record drop to 1-36 and 0-24 in district play. Colby is 10-12 in the district and a game ahead of Barton County for fourth place entering

today's action. **Note: The Lady Trojans split a** pair of games with Lamar, Colo., Friday at Carl Adams Field. No game statistics were available at press time.

Chiets pick up 12 players in the draft

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — with a second-round selection of As Kansas City's most important Virginia Tech cornerback Brandraft in nearly 20 years drew to a close, smiles abounded.

The owner, the general manager and the head coach all agreed it had been a successful two days for a team desperately in need of help at almost every position group a team whose fan base has become increasingly sullen and disinter-

"I think it's been a very, very fruitful weekend," said president and general manager Carl Peter-

"To have a successful draft, I think you have to have some luck also, and I think we did that."

Luck came into play immedi-All-American defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey of LSU fell to the Chiefs with the fifth pick in the first round, something they had not expected. Then came the trade with Detroit that moved them up two spots to the 15th selection in the second round, netting offensive tackle Branden Albert of

After completing the first day

Baseball & Softball on 91.9 FM @ www.j-rmarketing.net Rich Epp w/ PBP

May 2 - CHS Baseball @ Ulysses (DH) 3-5 p.m. May 8 - CHS Softball @ TMP (DH) 3-5 p.m. All Eagle and Trojan Broadcasts can be heard on the world-wide web @

don Flowers, the Chiefs had three projected rookie starters who take Herm Edwards. direct aim at three of the biggest needs on a team that has already jettisoned many of the aging players who led it to a 4-12 disaster

"We were able to take advantage of a lot of needs without having to stretch, to reach," said head coach

With Sunday's three picks in the third round, the Chiefs went for a safety, a blocking tight end and a fast, shifty running back from

Peoples State Bank

Kansas Community Bank Week is April 28th- May 2nd. As participants in this event, the officers, directors and staff of the bank would like to thank you for your support over the past years.

As a community bank, People State Bank makes it a business practice to place local deposit dollars to use right here in our local area. The deposits entrusted to us are the building blocks of success for our local economy.

Whether we're lending to a business on main street or a farmer or rancher in the country, we put local dollars to work for business start-ups, expansions or just plain operating costs. Of course, the bank also lends to individuals and families for personal loans. We want to be a partner in building this community's success. As we celebrate Kansas Community Bank Week, April 28th -May 2nd we invite our friends and neighbors to stop by our bands and let us thank them in person for their partnership and trust in People State Bank to serve this community.

We will provide refreshments all that week to show our grati-

Thank you, People State Bank

Colby - Goodland - Hoxie McDonald - Oakley- Garden City Service is our business! Equal Housing Lender! Member FDIC

Sports 4/28/08 pg 8 1 4/28/08 12:57:19 PM

www.j-rmarketing.net