



Colby senior Taylor Young tried to keep the ball away from a Hoxie Lady Indians defender during a close game Friday at the Community Building. The Lady Eagles hung on to whip the formerly undefeated Indians 32-30.

## Guard leads team to win

By Andy Heintz

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Sophomore point guard Kayla Hockersmith willed her team to a victory over the undefeated Hoxie Indians on Friday at the Colby Community Building, scoring all nine of the Lady Eagles' points in the fourth quarter as the girls held on for a 32-30 victory.

"She is a fierce competitor who will do whatever it takes to win," said Coach Parker McKee.

The win brought the Colby girls' record to 6-3 while Hoxie – which had been ranked No. 4 in Class 1A – fell to 8-1.

While Hockersmith's performance proved to be the difference, the team got help from some of the other players as well.

Shelby Terrell did a good job helping Hockersmith handle the Indians' defensive pressure, McKee said. Hoxie pressed the Lady Eagles for most of the game, forcing the girls to make quick decisions and smart passes.

The first half was intensely contested, with both teams playing well. The Indians employed a suffocating zone defense that made it tough for the Lady Eagles to get off good shots. Colby countered by playing an up-tempo game which led to some transition baskets. Sophomore Katherine Kaus managed to beat her defender down the court on several occasions for some easy buckets. The half ended with the

Lady Eagles clinging to a 16-15 lead.

Both teams came out even more intense in the second half. The Indians' pressure defense remained sharp, but Colby did a good job of handling it. Neither team was able to gain a clear advantage and the game remained in doubt going into the last minute.

In the final 10 seconds, Hockersmith got a wide open lay-up to put the Lady Eagles ahead 32-30. A last-second half court heave by a Hoxie player was off the mark and Colby picked up the win.

Hockersmith scored a team-

high 14 points and Katherine Kaus added eight. Colby's next game will be against Thomas More Prep-Marian High School at 6:15 p.m. Friday at the community building.

## Eagles overwhelm Indians, cruise to an easy 72-46 victory

By Andy Heintz

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The Colby High School boys basketball team looked sharp in a 72-46 victory over Hoxie on Friday at the Colby Community Building.

The Eagles made the game look like a walk in the park. While it became clear early in the game that Colby was the more talented of the two teams, it was still impressive to watch how fluid the team looked. They seemed to be in a good rhythm all game.

Hoxie kept the Eagles' lead under double figures early in the first half, but the Eagles went on a 16-2 run to give them a 39-17 lead with two minutes remaining before the break.

Things did not improve for the Indians in the second half, however, as Colby kept pouring it on. Seniors Brent Arnberger and Levi Schlick used their quickness advantage over Hoxie's big men to get easy buckets around the basket. Junior Ryley Haas drilled several shots from the outside on his way to an 11-point game. Seniors Stephen Dinkel and Cade Carter

consistently buried shots from the perimeter throughout the game on their way double digit nights.

Coach Beau Sheets took all of his starters out with a little less than six minutes left in the game.

Schlick scored a team-high 17 and grabbed 11 rebounds. Carter added 12 and Dinkel had 11. The Eagles shot 52 percent from the field.

The win improved Colby's record to 6-3. The Eagles' next game will be against Thomas More Prep-Marian High School at 8 p.m. on Thursday at the Colby Community Building.

## Veteran guard leads Jayhawks to win

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Leave it to Sherron Collins to settle down a team where the top 11 scorers of Kansas are either freshmen or sophomores.

Kansas appeared unraveled. The Jayhawks had watched their seven-point halftime lead whittle down to two in the first four minutes of the second half.

No problem!

Collins got the ball to teammates Marcus Morris for a 3-pointer and Tyshawn Taylor for a conventional 3-point play, then hit a trey himself and the Jayhawks were back on track.

"Settling down the team is the role I accept," said Collins, a junior. "I am the old man, the guy that has been around here for three years and the guy that has to keep us settled.

Unranked Kansas beat Colorado a 12th straight time Saturday, winning 73-56 with Collins scoring 18 points and Cole Aldrich having 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The Buffaloes hurt themselves with 18 turnovers, seven of them by point guard Nate Tomlinson. Kansas used the turnovers to score 25 points.

It was the Jayhawks that had

trouble handling the ball at the start of the second half.

The Buffaloes took advantage of a jump shot from the corner by Austin Dufault, a 3-pointer by Higgins and some sloppy play by Kansas to get within 34-32 of the Jayhawks. Kansas turned the ball over five of its first six possessions to help tighten the game.

"Coach said at halftime that we could be real good, get out and pressure them and make them turn the ball over and get rebounds off missed shots at the start of the second half or do what we did," Aldrich said. "And it wasn't very good."

Then came the 11-0 run capped by Collins' 3-pointer with 13:43

left that put Kansas ahead 45-32.

Colorado stayed within striking distance. Colorado trailed 45-36 on Dwight Thorne's layup.

Kansas' response was another run.

Kansas outscored the Buffaloes 17-5 in the final 6:56 to lead 34-27 at the half. Higgins put Colorado ahead 22-17 with two free throws, but Collins answered with a pull-up jumper ahead of a 13-1 run that included a 3-pointer by Collins to give the Jayawks up 30-23.

Higgins, who was 10-for-10 on free throws in the half, ended the drought with two free throws. Collins' 3-pointer with 3:04 left made it a 33-25 game.

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