



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby College sophomore Aritz Garcia took a swing during the Trojan’ game against McCook Community College from Nebraska on Tuesday afternoon at the college baseball diamond. Colby rallied late in the game and picked up a 4-3 victory.

Late-inning home run lifts Trojans to 4-3 victory

By Andy Heintz
Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

Colby College sophomore Boston Langley hit a game-winning two-run homer that cleared the fence in right center field in the bottom of the eighth to help the Trojans beat McCook Community College 4-3 on Wednesday afternoon.

The outfielder said he knew the ball was gone as soon as it hit the bat. He called it a “no-doubter.”

The Trojans had to rally late in the game to pull off the victory over the Indians from Nebraska.

They trailed 3-0 going into the bottom of the seventh.

McCook’s Tommy Barnes’ drove home the Indians’ Tyler Vessey with a sacrifice fly to give his team a 1-0 lead in the top of the first. Barnes drove in Andrew Behan with a sacrifice fly to right field that increased the lead to 2-0 in the top of the third.

Colby freshman catcher Nathan Wilson threw out a runner trying to steal second to end the inning in the top of the sixth. A line-drive single to center by the Indians’ Kyle Gamble allowed Behan to score, making it 3-0 in the top of the seventh. Then Wilson threw

out Behan as he attempted to steal second, ending the inning.

Freshman Robert Glover ripped a line-drive single between the first and second basemen to start the bottom of the seventh. He eventually scored on a single to right by freshman Matt Balogh. Then Sophomore Aritz Garcia laid a beautiful bunt down the third baseline that caught the Indians’ defense off guard and allowed Balogh to score from third to make it 3-2. Garcia stole second and third, but his teammates were unable to drive him home.

Later on, in the bottom of the eighth, sophomore Brendan Miller

slapped a single to center field. Then Langley slammed his two-run homer and the Trojans took a 4-3 lead.

Freshman Lucas Sanchez pitched a scoreless ninth inning and Colby picked up the win.

Sanchez got the win in relief. He gave up one run while striking out two in three innings. Freshman pitcher Cory Ridenhour started, giving up six hits and two runs, while striking out two in six innings. Glover, Garcia and Glover all went two for four at the plate..

With the win the Trojans, improved their record to 10-7.

Former Colby High basketball coach leads Wyoming team to third place finish

By Andy Heintz
Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

Former Colby High boys’ basketball coach Beau Sheets had a successful first year as coach of the Wind River High School boys team in Pavillion, Wyo.

The team took third in the Class 2A Wyoming state championships, Sheets said. The boys finished with a 19-11 record. Sheets said he never went into a game all season thinking his team couldn’t win.

He said his team didn’t have too much size, but they were quick and aggressive. The coach said he was expecting the competition to be

weaker at the 2A level, as opposed to when he coached at Colby. He said Wyoming has four classes, while Kansas has six. A 2A basketball team in Wyoming is comparable to a 3A Kansas team, he said.

The coach said he was pleasantly surprised with the competitiveness of the class. The state champion was in the same conference and accounted for five of the Cougars’ losses, he said.

Sheets was the Eagles’ head coach from 2006 to 2009, compiling a 46-22 record. The boys went 11-10 in his first year, 18-6 in the second and 17-6 the third. He had been’ assistant coach in 2005-2006, serving under the late Tom Bowen, who had coached Sheets when he

played at Colby High. Sheets also coached the Colby eighth grade team in 2004-2005.

Sheets left Colby for family reasons. He said the pay was a little better, which allowed his wife Tara to stay home and take care of their children. The couple has three, Kamdyn, 5; Ty, 4; and Clay, 2. Sheets said the family has enjoyed living next to the Wind River mountains.

“It has been tough not living in Colby,” he added. “We really enjoyed being a part of such a positive community.

“The school, staff, students, friends and family will be greatly missed. Colby will always be our hometown and have a special place in our hearts.”

Colby girl’s team won with defense

By Andy Heintz
Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

Defense was the trademark of the Lady Eagles’ basketball team this season. Colby’s suffocating defense helped the girls finish with a 16-7 record, reaching the finals of the substate tournament.

“The defense was the backbone of our team all season,” said coach Parker McKee.

The coach said the girls’ defense was able to create turnovers that led to transition baskets.

While McKee sometimes had five or six players on the floor most of the game, other times he would give eight or nine people significant playing time.

the Cowgirls 45-30, avenging a loss earlier in the season. Bell also scored a team-high 14 in Colby’s 42-30 victory over Clearwater in the substate semifinals.

Junior Katrina Kaus was one of the team’s best defenders. Coach McKee said he always had Katrina guard the other team’s best offensive player. She also used her speed to get out ahead of the defense during fast breaks.

Freshmen Lauren Bell and Alexa Haas both saw a lot of playing time this season. Bell worked her way into the starting lineup during the season and Haas provided the team with a lift off the bench in several games. Haas used her incredible quickness on defense to get steals, and she knocked down three-pointers and mid-range jumpers on offense. Junior Kelsey Shields was an occasional starter on this year’s team. She was a solid passer who could score inside.

Junior Shelby Terrell, senior Rhett Martin and freshman Shelby Gardner all gave the Lady Eagles points off the bench. Terrell knocked down three consecutive three pointers to help Colby whip Scott City 45-27 in the Colby Orange and Black tournament.

Coach McKee said one of his team’s most impressive victories was a 24-22 win at Hoxie earlier this year. The Lady Indians applied an unusual man-to-man defense in the game. The Hoxie girls played way off their people, giving Colby open three-point looks, but denying them the chance to score inside. McKee said he was proud of his team for fighting through the adversity and winning the game.

“It showed how much character the kids have,” said McKee.

The coach said he was happy with his team’s performance against Kingman.

“It was one of our best games

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