

# Former Eagle signs with college

By Andy Heintz

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The Colby Community College baseball team has signed a number of players this off-season, including one from Colby who played on last springs Colby High School team.

Chaz Winger will be joining several former high school teammates including sophomores Cade Carter, Stephen Dinkel, Brent Arnerberger and Eric Blanton when he dons a Trojans' baseball jersey this spring. Coach Ryan Carter said he has been watching Winger play for a long time.

Winger is one of three players from Kansas that have agreed to come play for the college. The Trojans' coaching staff also successfully recruited eight players from Colorado, one from Nebraska, two from Guam, a United States Island Territory; and four from outside the country.

The other two players from Kansas are Easton Schawe, an outfielder, and Caleb Fox, a right-handed pitcher, both from Wichita.

The players the college recruited from Colorado include Kyle Matusoff, a left-handed pitcher (an all-state player in Class 3A) from Kent Denver High School; K.J. Morales, a right-handed pitcher from Aurora; Joe Brienco, a right-handed pitcher from Johnston; Drew Posegate, a right-handed pitcher and infielder from Loveland High School (the same school former Trojans' player Westin Lewis went to); David Bauer, an infielder from Thorton; Daniel Bolte, an infielder from

Highlands Ranch High in Littleton; and brothers Brandon and Zach Wilson, first baseman and outfielder from Milliken. Brandon and Zach are brothers of sophomore Nathan Wilson, the Trojans' regular catcher for most of last spring.

"Denver is more local than Wichita," the coach noted, looking at the heavy Colorado list. He said his staff recruits a lot in Denver and eastern Colorado.

The only other player from the U.S. who signed with Colby is Tremain Meier, a right-handed pitcher and outfielder from Alliance, Neb.

The international players coming to Colby include Andres Gimeno, a left-handed pitcher from Barcelona, Spain, and Austin Russell, an infielder; Ryan Reine, a right-handed pitcher; and Scott Jones, another pitcher, all from British Columbia, Canada.

Russell, Reine and Jones' team won the British Columbia Premier Baseball League championship this summer, which is the equivalent to their high school season, the coach said.

Assistant coaches Matt Dickson and Michael Hunt are both from Canada and Carter said this helps the Trojans' recruiting efforts in the country. Carter said many times the players they recruit from the country our people his assistant coaches know personally.

Jay Joe, a right-handed pitcher; and Calvert Alokoo, a catcher, are two cousins from Guam who will be playing for the team. Carter said the college learned about the two players when Dickson worked at a baseball camp on the island this summer.



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press  
Colby Community College freshman Nora Roth went up to try and block a hit during the Lady Trojans' home opener against Garden City Community College on Wednesday at the Community Building.

# Women's team wins three of six

The Colby Community College Lady Trojans volleyball squad split its games 3-3 in the Subway tournament in North Platte, Neb., last weekend.

Colby beat Cloud County Community College from Concordia, McCook Community College from Nebraska and Williston State College from North Dakota. The women lost to Northeastern Junior College from Sterling, Colo., North Platte Community College, and Eastern Wyoming College from Torrington.

Colby received solid contributions from sophomores Emily Lubbers, who led the team in assists, and Jordyn White, who led in digs. Freshman Ana Calito led Colby in kills in each victory.

The Trojans lost to Northeastern in three sets 16-25, 11-25, 7-15. Northeastern won all six of its games in the tourney. Jones said sophomore Gabrielly Cardoso sprained her ankle in the second set and didn't play for the rest of the tournament. She said her team had to adjust to playing without her. The coach said it took her team until its next match against Eastern Wyoming to figure out its new rotation.

Colby dropped two of three matches to Eastern Wyoming in their second game. The Lady Trojans lost the first 10-25, but they bounced back and won the second set 25-22. Eastern Wyoming got

the better Colby in the final set, handing the Lady Trojans a 6-15 defeat.

Sophomore transfer Danqi Li and Calito led the team with six kills each. Calito also had three service aces and libero White had 12 digs.

Colby picked up its first win of the season against Cloud County, beating the Lady Thunderbirds in two out of three sets, 25-14, 23-25, 15-8. Sophomore setter Emily Lubbers had 25 set assists, Calito had 11 kills, freshman Ashley McMullen, seven kills, and White eight digs.

The Lady Trojans fell to North Platte 25-23, 8-25, 8-15. Li had six kills to lead the team and Calito had 12 digs.

Colby bounced back, sweeping McCook 25-20, 25-20, 15-11 in the next match. Lubbers had 20 assists, freshman Nora Roth had three blocks and Calito had a team-high seven kills.

Colby finished the tournament with a victory in a close match against Williston State. After dropping the first set 24-26, the team picked up a 25-19 win in the second and a 18-16 victory in the third. Lubbers had 28 assists, Calito had 11 kills and 15 digs and McMullen and Li both had eight kills.

Jones said her team could have done better, but it had done fine considering the injury to Cardoso.

# Colby softball team hires assistant coach

By Andy Heintz

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A familiar face will be returning to the Colby Community College softball team in a different capacity.

Mary McLaughlin, a catcher on the Lady Trojans' squad from 2006 to 2008, has signed on as an assistant coach.

"She is very knowledgeable about the game and she has played competitive softball her whole life," Coach Ryan Sturdy said.



McLaughlin

McLaughlin went on to play for the University of Nebraska-Kearney after graduating from Colby. She said she batted fourth on the team and hit about 340, Sturdy said.

"She's young, energetic and she just went through the same thing these kids are going through," the coach said, adding that her contacts in Nebraska should help the recruiting process in that state.

McLaughlin said she loves the game and just wanted to be around it. She said she thinks the Lady Trojans will be good this season.

# Big 12 quarterbacks lack big name-status

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

Quick, name a Big 12 quarterback being mentioned as a Heisman Trophy candidate.

Sam Bradford is now in the NFL after the 2008 Heisman winner's injury-shortened time at Oklahoma. So is Colt McCoy, a two-time Heisman finalist who set the NCAA record with 45 victories at Texas.

Zac Robinson? Todd Reesing? Nope, they're gone too after becoming the most prolific passers at their schools and helping Oklahoma State and Kansas get into the Top 10.

"A few years ago, we had the perfect storm with quarterbacks," Missouri coach Gary Pinkel said. "I always said at that time it was hard to imagine that any league could have the number of high-level quarterbacks that there were. I think it's a little bit more typical now."

This season, most of the Big 12 quarterbacks are relative unknowns outside the conference - and sometimes even outside their own schools.

That is much different from past years, when the likes of Bradford, McCoy, Chase Daniel, Graham Harrell, Brad Smith and Vince Young created plenty of national preseason hype.

"From a competitor's stand-

point, I'm a little excited about it that we don't have those high-profile guys to worry about and lose sleep over," Iowa State coach Paul Rhoads said.

Texas coach Mack Brown is careful to separate experience from talent.

"We've got some great quarterbacks maybe that haven't played as much as that little run on quarterbacks we had," he said. "But I think at the end of the year we'll be talking about how great this quarterback group is."

There is dynamic dual-threat quarterback Robert Griffin at Baylor. But he is coming back from right knee surgery that limited him to only three games last year after his sensational freshman season in 2008 (2,934 total yards, 28 touchdowns).

Coach Art Briles won't be able to blow the whistle Saturday night to keep Sam Houston State defenders from tackling Griffin, who got a medical redshirt and is still considered a sophomore.

"When he's out there and the bullets are live, he'll know how to respond," Briles said. "Robert has good instincts and great talents to go with it."

The league's most experienced starters are Iowa State's Austen Arnaud and Texas A&M's Jerrod Johnson. Both seniors have started 23 games.

# Lady Trojans prevail at home

By Andy Heintz

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After splitting its first six games in a tournament in Nebraska, the Colby Community College volleyball team made quick work of Garden City in its home opener Wednesday, sweeping the Lady Broncbusters 25-9, 25-15 and 25-19.

The Lady Trojans jumped out to an early 6-1 lead in the first set. A little later, freshman Ashley McMullen scored on a tip shot, extending the team's lead to 10-3.

Colby continued to dominate, stretching its lead to 15-4 after a double block by freshmen Ana Calito and Nichelle Erskine. A few minutes later, a thunderous spike by sophomore transfer DanqiLi increased the Lady Trojans' lead to 19-4.

"We expect her to be aggressive," coach Carey Jones. "We were able to get her the ball consistently."

Jones said Li had been fighting a cold going into the match.

The women went on to win the set 25-9 and jumped out to a 10-5 lead in the second. The Lady Trojans continued to widen their lead and won that set 25-15.

The Lady Broncbusters really

battled Colby in the final set. At one point, the two were tied at 9. Colby managed to inch ahead 15-12, but Garden City responded with three unanswered points.

A spike by Calito gave the Lady Trojans a 16-15 advantage. Later, a double block by sophomore Emily Lubbers and Erskine stretched Colby's lead to 19-16. The Lady Trojans continued to expand their lead and won 25-19.

Jones said that probably 12 of the Lady Broncbusters' points were due to Colby errors.

"Our main problem last night was staying focused the entire match," she said, adding that the first two sets her team played well, but the women were not mentally focused in the last set.

Sophomore Gabrielly Cardoso returned to action for the first time since suffering an ankle injury on Friday, Jones said.

The Lady Trojans will put on the Colby Classic Tournament on Friday and Saturday at the Community Building. The team will play its first game against McCook Community College from Nebraska at 2 p.m. Friday, then will play Otero Junior College from La Junta, Colo., at 9 a.m. on Saturday and North Platte Community College from Nebraska at 4 p.m.

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