

Lady Eagles beat Thomas More 44-34

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After a slow start, the Colby High School girls basketball team took a commanding lead over the Thomas More Prep-Marian Lady Monarchs in their first home game of the season and earned their second win with a final score of 44-34.

The Lady Eagles brought their record to 2-3 Thursday night at the Community Building and evened out the Lady Monarchs' record (2-2).

Colby trailed in the first quarter until junior Lauren Bell scored from the field with 14 seconds left to tie the game at 8-8.

The Lady Eagles then went on a 9-0 run in the second quarter to take the lead, but the Lady Monarchs struck back and went on a 9-0 run themselves to regain the lead. With time ticking down, Bell

made a three-pointer right before the buzzer to give Colby a 20-19 lead heading into the locker room.

Head Coach Parker McKee said on 88.1 FM that his team needs to play a complete game from start to finish as well as take care of the ball more.

The Lady Eagles cleaned up their game in the third and battled Thomas More to keep their lead. A couple of free throws by senior Brenna McKee helped Colby regain the lead at 25-23 and the girls held onto it for the rest of the game.

Sophomore Haileigh Shull had a team-high 13 points for the Lady Eagles followed by Bell with 11. Senior Morgan Bell finished the game with 7 points, sophomore Kenzie Curry scored 5, Brenna McKee and junior Karly Kriss each had 3 points and junior McKenna Ortnier had a single basket.

Coach McKee said Shull had

a great performance and talked about how her size and athleticism helps her in matchups on the court.

He also said Morgan Bell showed her leadership throughout the game and he told her that her leadership led them to this win.

As a whole, Colby shot 15 out of 33 field goals (45 percent), 11 out of 18 free throws (61 percent), and had 27 rebounds.

The main problem hindering both teams throughout the game was turnovers, with Colby having 25 and Thomas More having 18. The Lady Monarchs scored 17 points off of Colby's mistakes, and the Lady Eagles scored 13 off of Thomas More's turnovers.

The Lady Eagles' next game is at 6:30 p.m. next Friday at Hugoton High School, and then they won't play again until after the new year.



Senior Morgan Bell defended a Thomas More Prep-Marian player Thursday during a Colby High School girls basketball game at the Community Building. The Lady Eagles won their first home game 44-34.

KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Kansas State loses in double overtime

WICHITA (AP) — West Virginia coach Bob Huggins knew exactly how he wanted a key play to go near the end of regulation. Kansas State coach Frank Martin said he should have known what his mentor was planning to do.

Kevin Jones hit a tying baseline 3-pointer to force overtime and had 30 points and 12 rebounds in West Virginia's 85-80 double-overtime victory Thursday night over Kansas State.

Darryl Bryant had 25 points for West Virginia (5-2). Deniz Kilicli added 12 points.

Rodney McGruder scored 20 for Kansas State (5-1), while Will Spradling had 16 points and Thomas Gipson added 15.

The game between the future Big 12 foes on a neutral court — the crowd heavily favoring Kansas State — in Wichita brought together Huggins and Martin. Martin took over at K-State when Huggins left for the Mountaineers

job in 2007.

The matchup was originally part of a two-game series but West Virginia is set to leave the Big East, perhaps as soon as next year.

There were 17 ties and nine lead changes between the teams that mirrored each other.

After West Virginia's Aaron Brown hit a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 50.9 seconds remaining in the first overtime, K-State rallied and McGruder lofted in a floater with 6.2 seconds on the clock, leading to a second overtime.

Each team scored on its first three possessions of the second extra period, and the score was tied going into the final minute. The Mountaineers went back to Jones in the post, and his baby hook with 26.6 seconds left gave West Virginia the lead for good at 82-80.

Jones had most of his impact in the interior.

"I was just trying to post as

much as possible, use my size," Jones said.

McGruder tried to answer with a jumper on the other end that rimmed out. Trailing by three 8 seconds later, McGruder missed a 3-point attempt.

"It was an awesome atmosphere here," Martin said. "I'm disappointed we let out fans down."

Spradling scored five straight points to open the second half as Kansas State turned a one-point lead at the break into a 41-34 advantage with 17:22 remaining.

But the Mountaineers looked inside to keep it close. Bruising forward Kilicli scored eight of his 12 points in a four-minute span, and Bryant made two free throws that pulled West Virginia to 48-46 with 12:48 to go.

The Mountaineers took their first lead of the second half with 4:19 remaining, when Jones converted a three-point play from the post.

Sagebrush basketball tourney continues tonight in Brewster

Several teams in the 2011 Sagebrush Basketball Tournament have completed two days of competition, on Monday and Tuesday, at Brewster High School that will help determine the finals schedule for Saturday.

On Monday, the Greeley County girls team played Stratton and won 65-27. The Rawlins County girls basketball team also won its game against Cheylin 66-30. The Stratton boys competed with the Greeley County boys and won 56-47. The last game on Monday was between the Cheylin and Rawlins County boys basketball teams, and Rawlins County was the winner with a score of 54-52.

On Tuesday, the Greeley County girls faced Triplains-Brewster, but they won this game as well 55-38. The Rawlins County girls basketball team played St. Francis and was victorious with a score of 70-46. The Greeley County boys came up against Triplains-Brewster and took them out 66-36. The last game Tuesday was the St. Francis boys basketball

team against Rawlins County, and St. Francis won this time 60-43.

More games will be played today and finals will begin Saturday afternoon followed by the free throw contest, the three-point con-

test and the championship games for both the boys and girls teams.

All-tournament team play will also occur after each championship game.

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