

Thriller in the Building Trojans lose to Hutch by 3

By TOM (TD) DREILING
Free Press Publisher

It was everything everybody thought it would be.

But when it was all over, the hometown Colby Community College Trojan men's basketball team let the Hutchinson Community College Blue Dragons sneak out the Colby Community Building with a 3-point, 91-88 victory.

The Saturday night clash pitting two respected Jayhawk West Conference programs was a homecoming-of-sorts for Hutch coach and Colby native Chad Wintz. Coming into the game Wintz & Co. were 3-2 in the West, they left 4-2. On the other hand, Trojan coach Brian Ostermann and his troops stepped onto the court with a West record 3-3, slipping to 3-4 at the buzzer.

It was a wild and woolly encounter, physically draining and there was no argument that the large crowd, estimated at 1,400, got its money's worth. It was anybody's game with Hutch leading at the half by just 4 points, 54-50. Colby managed to outscore the visitors in the second half by a razor thin 38-37 but that mere 1 point wasn't enough to close the last leak in the dike.

At one point in the second half the Trojans moved in front of the Blue Dragons by 10—70-60—but then the walls collapsed as Hutch went on a stinging 15-2 run and never looked back.

But from there on in it was a battle of the fittest, and unfortunately the Trojans were just unable to cash in on several golden opportunities in the closing minutes. Simply put: the ball just refused to drop in.

With less than 20 seconds left, Hutch was on top 89-85 with Colby's Pierre Tucker at the line for two, hitting the first and missing the second but slicing the Hutch lead to 89-86. With the clock

showing just 0:9.6 seconds remaining, Hutch connected on two at the charity stripe for a 91-86 lead. Just before the buzzer the Trojans managed one more from the field, but it wasn't enough.

Hutch shot 54 percent overall and Colby almost matched that, with 53 percent shooting from the field. Both teams were hot from 3-point land with the Trojans connecting on 8 of 18, and Hutch on 8 of 13.

Pierre Tucker was Colby's leading scorer with 22 (a career high) and had 8 rebounds; Keyon Williams scored 21 and had 4 assists; Dedric Spooner scored 14 and pulled down 5 rebounds; and Eric Fowlkes scored 10, grabbed 5 rebounds and had 3 assists. Billy Williams and Stuart Keltner added 9 points apiece and Brent Brooks scored 3.

For Hutchinson Dainmon Gonner scored a game-high 25 and Josh Gonner followed with 19 points.

One thing the game proved is that the Trojans can play with anybody in the West. And they'll get another shot at still another much respected program when they travel to Great Bend on Wednesday night to play Barton County at 8 p.m.

Saturday's boxscore:
HUTCHINSON 91, COLBY 88 HUTCHINSON (16-4 (4-2))

Dainmon Gonner 10-17 5-7 25; Josh Gonner 7-11 0-0 19; Modibo Niakate 5-9 6-6 17; Aaron Lashley 4-8 2-2 11; Reggie Golson 4-7 0-0 8; Maurice Findley 2-4 1-1 6; Sasha Mijajlovic 1-4 1-2 3; Coco Cofield 1-30-0 2. Totals 34-63 15-18 91.

COLBY (14-7 (3-4))
Pierre Tucker 8-11 5-8 22; Keyon Williams 7-24 5-6 21; Dedric Spooner 7-9 0-0 14; Eric Fowlkes 3-5 4-6 10; Billy Williams 3-4 2-2 9; Stuart Keltner 3-5 0-0 9; Brent Brooks 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 32-60 16-22 88.

First half dooms the Lady Trojans

The Colby Community College basketball ladies played Hutchinson Community College close in the second half, but their inability to barely get on the scoreboard in the first half spelled defeat.

The final score of the game played Saturday night in the Colby Community Building—70-43—doesn't necessarily tell the whole story. At the buzzer ending the first half of action, Hutchinson hadn't set the scoreboard afire with their 24 points, but the Trojans' mere 6 points hardly caused the lights on the tally board to flicker.

In that first half, the Trojans managed only 3 of 18 shooting.

The Trojans, for the game, were outrebounded, but not significantly—30-26—but they did commit 25 turnovers.

In the second half Hutch banged in 46 points vs. 37 for the Trojans.

Serra Sanger led the charge for the Lady Trojans with 15 points and she also bagged 3 rebounds. Andrea Stephens scored 9 points and pulled down 4 rebounds.

The lady Trojans are now 7-14 overall and 1-6 in the Jayhawk West. They play Barton County at Great Bend at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Saturday's boxscore:
HUTCHINSON 70, COLBY 43



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

Summar Stephens went after a second shot in a Colby High School girls basketball shelling of the Ulysses Lady Tigers. The Colby girls are at home again Tuesday, when they take on Garden City at the High School gym. Varsity action starts at 6:30 p.m.

Eagle boys lose in closing minutes

By JAY KELLEY
Colby Free Press

The Colby High School Eagle boys basketball team watched victory slip from their grasp in the final minutes of

a heart-breaking 47-43 loss to the Ulysses Tigers at the Colby Community Building Friday night. The loss dropped Colby to 5-9 on the season.

The Eagles jumped out to a 12-5 lead in the first quarter and led 21-9 at one point in the second period. Ulysses, however, came back and trailed by only five at half-time.

The third quarter found the Eagles pulling away early, but again Ulysses came back to trail by three at the buzzer.

The Tigers tied the score at 40 with 5:55 left in the game and took the lead to stay with a 3-pointer with one minute to go at 45-42.

Colby was forced to foul and although Ulysses didn't hit their shots, their stingy defense wouldn't give up a basket. Leading the way for the Eagles was Jordan Harris with 16 points, while Shane Stover dropped in 12. Clayton Kaiser hit for 8, while Landon Stover scored 5 and Carson McKee, 2.

For the Ulysses Tigers, Dane

Lady Eagles post 11th straight win

By RALPH WOLF
Colby Free Press

The Colby Lady Eagles wrapped up another win as they beat Ulysses 73-48 on the home floor on Friday night. It was the Eagles' 11th straight win and moves their record to 12-2.

The Eagles came out on fire to take an early 23-4 lead by the end of one period and at the half-time break they held a comfortable 44-25 advantage. The Tigers of Ulysses fought back in the third quarter, holding Colby to just 6 points while adding 10 of their own.

Summar Stephens lead the way for the Lady Eagles with 21 points, 9 rebounds and 4 steals. Brianna Swafford had a season high 20 points, grabbed 2 boards, and 6 steals. Bethanie Linden recorded a double-double, scoring 16 points, hauling down 10 rebounds and blocked one shot. Ivy Ramsey finished the game with 12 points, 5 boards, 2 assists, and 1 blocked shot before fouling out with just over three minutes left to play in the game.

Marcia Kaus added 2 points and 1 rebound. Emily Sloan recorded 6 boards, 1 steal and 1 assist, while, Samantha Wolf had 2 assists.

The Eagles shot 42 percent from the floor, and 89 percent from the free throw line.

They host the Garden City Lady Buffaloes Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the high school gym.

Junior varsity

The Colby junior varsity team added another win to their record by defeating Ulysses 48-45. Colby trailed after the first period 5-8 and at half-time found themselves down by 10 points (13-23).

Coach Shaun Kidder made some adjustments during the break and the Lady Eagles came out in the third period, out scoring the Tigers 29-8.

Jennifer Hutfles, Marcia Kaus, Emily Sloan and Breann Hart all finished the game with 8 points each. Kaus pulled down a team high 8 rebounds and recorded 3 take aways. Sloan was also credited with 6 boards, 2 steals and 3 blocked shots. Hutfles added 5 rebounds and blocked 2 shots, while Hart finished the game with 2 boards and 2 assists. Desiree Sharp had 6 points, 7 rebounds, 3 steals and 2 assists. Crystal Mannebach contributed 5 points and 1 rebound. Samantha Wolf added 4 points. Shawna Cox had 1 point, 3 rebounds, 3 steals, 1 assist and 3 blocked shots. Layla Woodall had a rebound.

C-Team

The Lady C-team Eagles fell to Ulysses 41-20. The Eagles could only manage to score 10 points in the first half and trailed 20-10 at intermission.

Tasha Fromholtz led the team with 6 points and 2 rebounds. Clarissa Unger tossed in 5 points, hauled down 7 boards, and had 3 steals. Layla Woodall added 4 points and 5 rebounds.

Shawna Cox finished the game with 3 points, 1 board and 1 steal. Crystal Mannebach recorded 2 points, 5 rebounds and 2 steals. MacKayla Dougherty pulled down 4 rebounds and had 1 steal. Jennifer Hutfles also had 4 rebounds, 1 steal and 1 blocked shot. Regina Heier was credited with 2 rebounds and Kristi Schroeder had a blocked shot.

The C-team will look to improve on their 2-5 record Tuesday night as they host Garden City at the high school; tip off is slated for 4:30 p.m.

Area Schedule

Tuesday, Jan. 29

Colby High School varsity and junior varsity wrestling dual at Goodland at 6:30 p.m. Varsity, junior varsity and C-team basketball hosts Garden City at the high school and elementary gyms. C-team at 4:30 p.m. varsity at 6:30.

7th/8th girls basketball at Oberlin, 4:30 p.m. 7th/8th wrestling at Scott City with Hoxie, 4:30 p.m.

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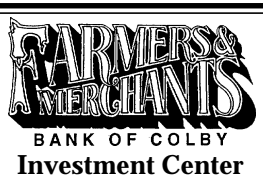


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