

# Trojan men closer to the top

**Matt Dickson**  
Colby Community College

The Colby Trojans entered last night's contest with the Pratt Beavers at the bottom of the conference with only two wins.

Afterward they are in the thick of the playoff race in the Jayhawk West with an 89-81 win over Pratt.

Pratt had the opportunity to build a lead atop the West but the Colby upset leaves a wide open race for first place. The Trojans are now 3-3 (10-9) and the former first place Beavers sits at 4-3 (15-6).

Colby grabbed a quick lead in the first half and managed to lead 44-39 by half. The Beavers never let the Trojans out of their sight though and by midway through the second half Colby surrendered their lead by one point.

A quick three-pointer from Hellion Knight put the Trojans back on top by two and that would be as close as the Beavers could get. A foul-filled second half allowed the Trojans to pull away as they went 28-40 from the line compared to Pratt's 11-20.

Trojans Nate Bowie's 27 points and Hellion Knight's 21 points continued to supplant themselves as the

top scoring duo in the Jayhawk but the stats were slightly misleading.

The Beaver team played a zone defense for the majority of the game and despite their best efforts the Trojan guards could not get any consistency from their outside shots. Knight went 3-15 from the floor but after a timeout adjustment where coach John Woods told his players to drive hard to the net. The Trojans managed to get the Beavers out of position and, in turn, began to draw fouls.

Knight went 13-18 from the line and Jorge Canedo went 5-5. The Trojans were aggressive on the boards where they outrebounded Pratt 49-32. Canedo could not be contained as he grabbed 17 boards to go along with his 13 points for a double-double.

The Trojans have made a noticeable turnaround since the Christmas break. The freshman dominated team has become more physical and the sophomores have become leaders. Colby men's and the women's teams travel to Dodge City Sunday to take on the Conquistadors. The Dodge City men are 4-2 (14-6) and the women are 3-2 (15-4). The women's game begins at 3 p.m. and the men begin at 6 p.m.

Colby Community College Lady Trojan Rita Kollo looked for an open teammate while keeping the ball away from Pratt Community College's Bonnie Freestone during their matchup Wednesday at the Colby Community Building.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

# Trojan women breeze by Pratt

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The Lady Trojans improved their record to 6-1 (18-3) overall Wednesday as they handled the Pratt Lady Beavers 101-68.

The win puts them in second place, half a game ahead of Cloud County. Barton County is still atop the Jayhawk West at 5-0 in conference and 18-1 overall. Pratt falls to 1-7 (11-11).

The Trojans jumped out to a 15-0 lead before most spectators had found their seats. The transition game for Colby overwhelmed the Beavers and the ability to always get back on defense made it tough for Pratt to amount any sort of comeback.

By halftime Colby led 53-33 and

the second half provided more of the relentless Trojan attack. Despite the lead Stephens urged his women to push the ball up the court.

The Lady Trojans featured four scorers in double figures including a double-double from a sore Ivana Mijalcevic with 26 points and 11 rebounds.

"Milch," as she is known, has been battling a sprained ankle and she did not receive much of a break in the game as her 6'2" counterpart Ivana Stojadinov rolled her ankle in the first half.

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# Jayhawks win with game on the line

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Poor free throw shooting foiled Kansas in both of its Big 12 Conference losses, but on Wednesday solid work from the line helped the Jayhawks get a 83-73 win over Texas A&M.

Russell Robinson had a career-high 24 points, and made 12-of-13 free throws, to help Kansas improve to 11-0 all-time against the Aggies.

"We focused on that just because it haunted us in a couple of losses early in the season," said Robinson. "Free throws have been a big emphasis in practice."

Kansas lost to Missouri and Kansas State this season after missing key free throws late.

This time, the Jayhawks shot 75 percent from the line, making 27-of-36 in the second half and 33-of-44 overall. Their free throws made and attempted are the most in Big 12 play this season.

It helped them maintain a lead that they captured with a big run to open the second half.

The Jayhawks scored 16 unan-

swered points, thanks to eight points from Robinson and sloppy play by the Aggies. Kansas (12-6, 3-2 Big 12) erased a two-point half-time deficit and had built a 47-33 lead before Texas A&M finally scored five minutes into the half.

Texas A&M's offense in that span featured blocked shots, misses from right under the basket and a slew of turnovers.

The Aggies got hot from 3-point range, hitting two straight and got within 54-50, but Kansas scored eight straight points and put the game out of reach.

"They just whipped us in every phase of the game," said Texas A&M coach Billy Gillispie. "We made so many mental mistakes that it is embarrassing to me as a coach."

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### Game times changed

The scheduled times for Friday's Colby High School home basketball games against Ulysses have changed slightly.

Games at the elementary gym will start at 5 p.m. with the girls "C" team game, which will be two quarters only, followed by the junior varsity boys game at 5:45 p.m., then the boys "C" team game, two quarters only.

The junior varsity girls will play at approximately 8 p.m.

The girls varsity game at the Colby Community Building has been moved to 6:30 p.m.

The boys varsity game will follow.