



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press
Colby's Shedric Cole brings the ball up court during the Trojan's 63-62 loss Saturday to Garden City.

Trojan women ease by Garden City

The Colby Community College women's basketball team defeated Garden City Community College 61-33 Saturday in Colby.

The Lady Trojans held the Lady Broncbusters to only eight points in the first half, and led by 19 points.

Jamie Schroeder had a double-double for the Lady Trojans with 18 points and 12 rebounds. Sandra Sormaz also scored in double figures with 14 points. Tamara Thomas had nine points and six re-

bounds. Erin Goodhue had eight points and six rebounds, and Jacci Tinkel had seven points and five assists.

The Lady Trojans (8-15, 4-5) travel to Pratt Community College on Wednesday and then Dodge City Community College Saturday.

Men

Garden City defeated Colby 63-62 Saturday. Statistics were not available by press time today.

Colby men are 1-8 in conference play and 5-18 overall.

Mom's fear of clowns is contagious



Dr. Joyce Brothers
● Ask Dr. Brothers

Dear Dr. Brothers: I have always had an irrational fear of clowns, and I have tried to ignore it, but now that I am a mother myself, things seem to be getting worse. It is almost impossible to be the mom of three little kids and avoid clowns altogether! At the last birthday party I took my 5-year-old to, I had to leave the room when the clown entertainer came in. Afterward, my daughter said, "Mommy, I don't like clowns either — Bubbles was scary." My phobia is contagious! How can I calm her fears while I still have mine? — D.B.

Dear D.B.: The way you phrased that last sentence is very telling. I know you meant to ask how to protect your child from having the same phobia you do, but the question comes across differently: How can you keep her safe from your phobia while still owning it yourself? In other words, perhaps you don't really want to give up that lifelong fear, even though you don't want your kid to "catch" it!

None of us wants our children to be as neurotic as we are. We try to hide the fact that we can barely drive over a bridge, that we are afraid of black cats or that we avoid air travel. We want them to be free of fears and superstitions, and we certainly don't want to be responsible for passing these on. You are one of millions of people who suffer from coulrophobia — fear of clowns — for a variety of reasons. Maybe you can reverse the damage you've done by dressing up like a clown for Halloween — and have your daughter join you. Or bring home a cute and innocent clown video and watch it together; or find a book that explores the issue and discuss your fears with your child. You have good instincts, so use this as

a learning opportunity for both of you.

Dear Dr. Brothers: We are taking a multileg trip that will involve putting our two young kids, 2 and 4, on airplanes several times in three weeks. They are both overactive, hyper kids who like to yell and run around. I've heard that some parents give their kids a dose of an over-the-counter medicine that makes them drowsy enough to sit in the plane for the flight without going nuts. When I mentioned this to my sister, she practically called child protective services. She told me that only a bad parent would do that. Is that really bad parenting? — J.F.

Dear J.F.: Leave it to our closest relatives to be exceedingly blunt with their opinions! Your sister obviously has strong feelings about "drugging" a youngster to keep him or her quiet on a plane trip, and I know this is a controversial subject. Medically speaking, most people agree that even over-the-counter medicines can have unintended bad effects on children. Sometimes they seem to backfire and the child acts even more hyper than he or she would have without the drug, and any medicine not intended for children should not be given to them at all. But let's leave the medical aspect to the doctors and address the rest of it.

A mother facing a long trip with children doesn't want trouble. She is at a severe disadvantage as far as distracting the kids, disciplining them and making this enforced little "prison" seem interesting. But this is really a good time to use your ingenuity and put together a small bag of tricks for the airplane. Let them help put the airplane bag together.

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