

# Lady Trojans fall to No. 15 Western Nebraska squad

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Colby Community College freshman Hannah Thornton scored 24 points, but it wasn't enough to get the Lady Trojans a victory as they fell to No. 15 Western Nebraska Community College of Scottsbluff 87-68 on Saturday night at the Community Building.

Colby looked sharp at the start of the game. Sophomore Danisha Cole beat her defender off the dribble and made a layup to give her team an early 6-4 lead. Freshman Kelsey Hubin drilled a three-pointer from the top of the key to make it 9-6

Colby. Freshman Tamara Wagner made a layup a few minutes later to give her team a 13-8 lead.

Western Nebraska scored six unanswered points to go up 14-13. The Lady Cougars took control of the game and built a 35-18 lead later in the half.

Thornton caught the ball with her back to the basket and spun past her defender and banked in a layup to cut the Lady Cougars' lead to 35-20. Freshman Destini Stewart hit a three a few minutes later to decrease Western Nebraska's lead to 39-25. The Lady Cougars led 46-34 at halftime.

Western Nebraska widened its lead at the start of the second and led 58-39 with

14:20 left. Stewart buried two three pointers later in the half to cut the Lady Cougars lead to 66-53.

"She's a good shooter, said Coach Brady Jasper. "She can get her shot off quickly."

Moments later, Hubin drilled a three to bring Colby within 12 points of its opponents. The Lady Trojans eventually got within 10 points of Western Nebraska, trailing the Lady Cougars 68-58 with 7:26 left.

Western Nebraska put an end to Colby's rally by scoring nine of the next 11 points to take a 77-60 lead. The Lady Cougars went on to pick up the win.

The Lady Cougars Thais Pinto, a 6'7

forward from Brazil gave the Lady Trojans trouble throughout the game. Western Nebraska took advantage of Pinto's size advantage by getting her the ball inside the free throw line as much as possible. Pinto was able to score off of high percentage shots right around the basket throughout the game.

"We shot and rebounded better than we did against Lamar," said Jasper. "Western Nebraska is a good team."

Hannah led the team with 24. She went 7 of 12 from the field and made 10 of 10 free throws. Stewart had 17 and went 5 of 12 from the three point line. Hubin made two of three three-pointers and finished with 11.

With the loss the Lady Trojans dropped to 0-2. They will play Clarendon College of Texas in the Ambassador Classic at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Community Building. Jasper said the Lady Bulldogs play at an extremely fast pace.

"They press and trap you all the time," he said.

The team will play its second Ambassador Classic game at 7 p.m. on Thursday against Colorado Northwestern Community College at 7 p.m. and the Lady Trojans will play its last Ambassador Classic game at 5 p.m. on Saturday against No. 20 Independence Community College. Both games will take place at the Community Building.

## Heartland team sets standard for school's volleyball program

The Heartland High varsity volleyball team's season will go a long way towards building a solid volleyball program at the high school.

Going into its sixth season the Lady Crusaders volleyball program still hadn't won a match. That all changed this year. Coach Melissa Regier's team not only won a match, they one eight of them.

"I was very pleased with the way they came along this season," said Regier. "They were a fun team to coach."

The Lady Crusaders finished their season by going 1-2 at the Kansas Christian Athletic Association tournament that ran from Oct. 29 to Oct. 31. Heartland was a No. 7 seed in the tournament. They took on the No. 2 seeded Wichita Defenders, a home school team, in the first round. The girls

lost the match 25-16, 25-15, but their coach was happy with the way the girls had played.

"We played better than we had all year," said Regier. "We hit really well and adjusted to their offense. We blocked really well and played good defense."

Regier said the team had no serving errors in the match.

The Lady Crusaders lost to Cair Paravel Latin School, a Christian school in Topeka, 25-21, 25-22 in its second match. The girls jumped out to early leads in both sets, but the Lady Lions were able to rally and win both sets.

"We had a few serving errors we didn't have in our first match," said Regier. "We had three serving errors in the first set and one serving error in the second."

The team recovered from the loss and won their final match against the Derby Invasion, a

home school team, 25-5, 19-25, 15-13. Regier said her team played very well in the first set.

"We served, hit and blocked well in the first set," said Regier.

The coach took out some of her starters and put in the players who had been sitting on the bench in the second. Derby took advantage of the starting players absence and won the set.

"We lost momentum in the second set," said Regier.

She put her starters back in for the third set. They were able to eek out a close victory and win the match.

Regier said coaches at the tournament had told her how much better her had gotten since the previous years tournament.

With the loss the Lady Crusaders ended their season with a 8-16 record.

## All tied in knots



Freshman Colby Community College freshman wrestler Brent Luedke (pictured here at the Daniel Cormier Open on Oct. 31) took fifth place in the 133 pound class on Sunday at the Baker University Open in Baldwin City. Luedke went 6-1 at the open.

## Jayhawks hammer Pittsburgh State

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Bill Self spent years scouting, courting and signing the current Kansas Jayhawks. He's still getting to know them.

After watching his prize fresh-

men help dismantle Division II Pittsburg State 103-45 on Tuesday night, the coach of No. 1 Kansas admitted he's surprised at how well Xavier Henry, Thomas Robinson and Elijah Johnson are

performing.

"They're better than I thought they'd be," Self said.

Robinson, a muscular 6-foot-9 power forward, had his best game so far with 17 points.

## Referees call gives Nuggets a victory

CHICAGO (AP) — Chauncey Billups sat and laughed, figuring the Denver Nuggets would celebrate soon enough. In the meantime, the Chicago Bulls were having their moment.

Billups hit the go-ahead free throw with six-tenths of a second

left and Denver beat Chicago 90-89 on Tuesday night after a potential winning jumper by Brad Miller was overturned following a lengthy replay review.

"As soon as I saw the flight of the ball, I knew it was good," Billups said. "Then, I was sitting and

laughing. Not so much about the shot, but looking at their reaction. They were dancing and jumping around like they had just made the Sweet 16. The longer it took, the better I felt. It was a great ending."

And a nerve-racking one.

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