

# Colby College women lose two over weekend

By Andy Heintz

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The Colby Community College women's basketball team lost by 41 points to No. 20-ranked Independence Community College, 105-64, on Saturday in the team's final Ambassador Classic game at the Community Building.

The Lady Pirates' Katie Moyer and Sadie Webb savaged the Colby defense with a barrage of three pointers, sinking 16 of 28 for 48 points just on threes.

"You can't give up that many threes against a team like that," said coach Brady Jasper.

The lights-out shooting of the Lady Pirates was not the only thing going against Colby on Saturday. Freshman Hannah Thornton, the team's leading scorer, had to leave with 8 minutes left in the first half due to dizziness. She returned briefly in the second half.

The Trojans were trailing by only five points when she left, and Jasper said losing Thornton really hurt his team.

"There are a lot of different types of offenses we can run when Hannah is in there," he said.

The coach said Thornton apparently suffered a concussion, probably during last Friday's game against Colorado Northwestern Community College. He said he didn't think she would be playing this weekend.

Colby started the game well, with Thornton scoring a bucket inside. Moments later, she caught the ball with her back to the basket, spun to her left and made a layup while being fouled by a defender. She knocked down the free throw to complete the three-point play.

Then Sophomore Danisha Cole buried a three-pointer as the shot clock expired to tie the game at 8.

Webb hit a three and got a stick back to give her team a 13-8 lead with a little over 16 minutes left in the half. A finger roll by Cole and a couple of layups by Thornton kept Colby in the game. The duo

scored the teams' first 12 points. Sophomore Alecia Palm hit a three-pointer to cut Independence's lead to 27-22. The Lady Pirates hit a few more threes, however, and led 46-37 at the half.

Sophomore Tasha Wagoner gave her team a lift offensively at the beginning of the second half, knocking down a three-pointer and drilling a few jumpers. Moyer and Webb continued burying three pointers with deadly accuracy, and the Lady Pirates began to build their lead. Independence dominated on the offensive glass in the second half, which led to several second-chance baskets. Jasmine Poteete was especially active on the boards.

Independence led 79-54 with nine minutes left, and The Lady Pirates continued to widen their lead.

"We weren't rotating quick enough when they were shooting three pointers," said freshman Tamara Williams.

The Lady Trojans were plagued by turnovers and foul trouble in a 71-57 loss to Colorado Northwestern Community College of Rangely on Friday at the Community Building in the team's second game of the Classic.

The women committed 24 turnovers and Cole had to sit out for the opening minutes of the second half because she picked up a third foul late in the first.

Cole had been effective on both sides of the court in the first half, making a couple of transition layups and driving past her defenders for high-percentage shots around the basket. Her absence at the start of the second helped the Lady Spartans build a lead.

Colby was most efficient on offense when the women were able to get the ball inside to Thornton. Some nice passes by Wagoner and Williams led to easy layups by Lady Eagles' post player in the second.

"We have to establish Hannah inside first," said Jasper. "We have an inside-out offense."

Cole picked off a pass and took

it down court for a layup to give her team a 2-0 lead to start.

Later, Freshman Destiny Stewart banked in a three pointer from the right wing to put the team up 13-8 with 13:52 remaining in the half. The Lady Spartans Da'naiveia McDade tied the game at 13 with a stick back with a little over 11 minutes left. Cole knifed her way into the lane, then made a finger roll that hit the back of the rim and dropped in to give the Lady Trojans a 15-13 lead.

Colby led 27-23 with 2:31 left in the first. Then the Lady Spartans went on a 7-0 run and led 30-27 at halftime. Cole picked up her third foul with less than 45 seconds left.

The Lady Spartans applied a full-court press at the start of the second half that gave Colby trouble and caused the women to commit turnovers.

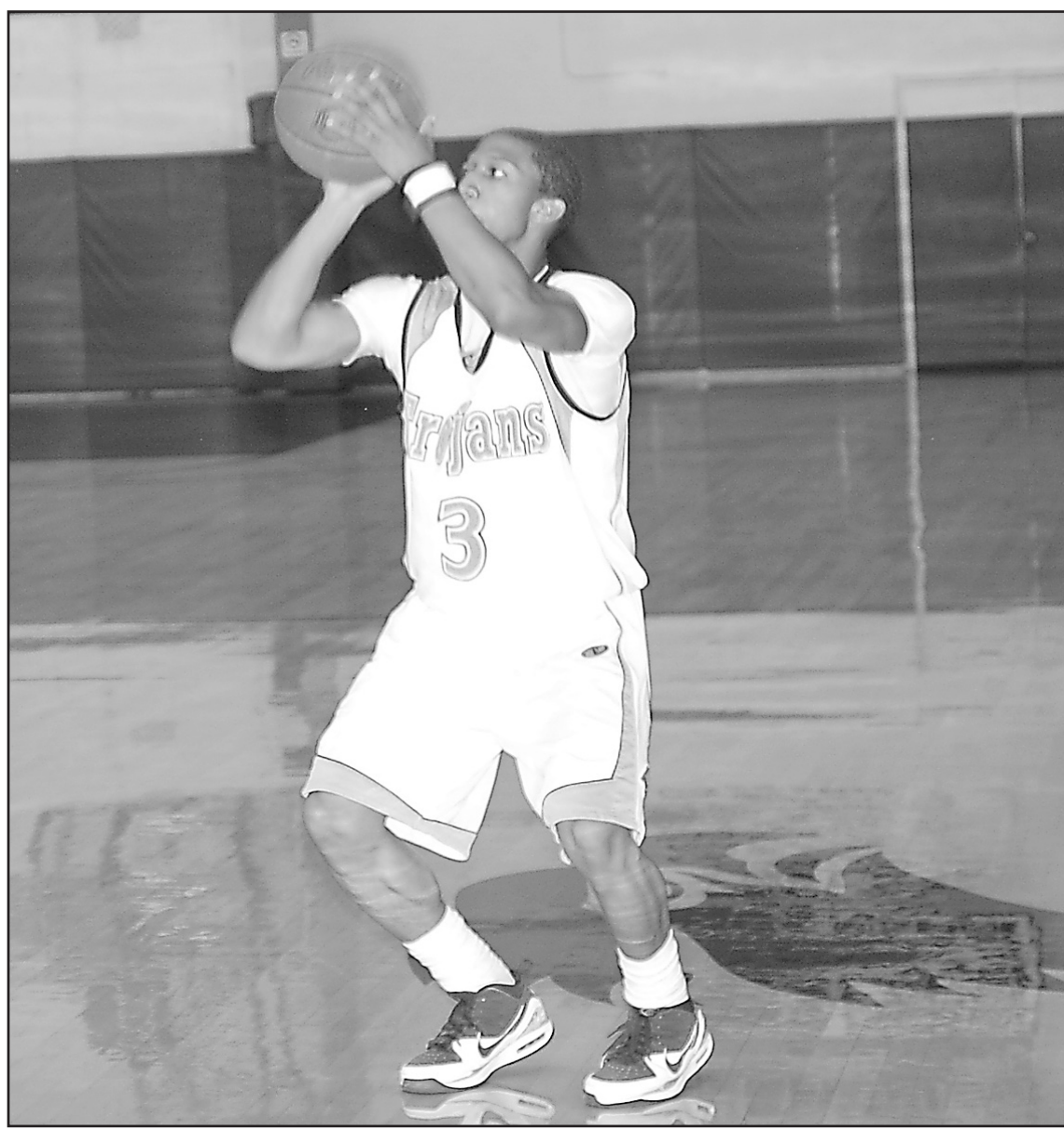
Independence built up a double-digit lead, but Colby mounted a comeback. Thornton was able to get good position inside, allowing her to make some shots and take some trips to the foul line. Freshman Alecia Palm nailed a three-pointer to cut the Lady Spartans' lead to 47-49.

Colorado Northwestern went on a 9-2 run to give them a 58-49 lead, then extended it to 69-53 with less than two minutes left.

"We had way too many turnovers," Jasper said.

The loss left the Lady Trojan's record at 1-4. They will be playing in the Casper Classic in Wyoming from Thursday through Saturday. The team's first game will be against Miles Community College of Miles City, Mont., at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. The women will play Casper Community College at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and will take on the College of Eastern Utah from Price at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Jasper said freshman Kelsey Hubin should return to action Thursday after sitting out a few games with a left ankle injury. He said she is going to have a magnetic resonance image done on the ankle.



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College sophomore Aireus Stephenson prepared to take a three during the Trojans' game against the Sterling College junior varsity Saturday at the Community Building. Colby defeated the Warriors 86-52.

# Men's basketball team overpowers opponent

By Andy Heintz

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The Colby Community College men's basketball team played like it was on a mission Saturday night and wasted no time imposing its will on the Sterling College junior varsity.

The 4-0 Trojans picked up an easy 86-52 victory in the team's last game of the two-weekend Ambassador Classic at the Community Building. From the opening whistle, the Trojans took control.

Sophomore Jordan Michelson used his size to dominate the action inside. He led the team in scoring with 25 points and 12 rebounds. The 6-foot, 8-inch forward had 3 inches on the Warriors' tallest player.

"We wanted to get our post players a touch on every possession," said Coach Dustin Pfeifer.

Michelson scored on a right-hand hook shot off the backboard to give his team an early 4-0 lead. A few minutes later he made a layup to make it 10-4 Colby.

Then Sophomore Regis Schafer hit a three pointer from the left baseline. Sophomore Aireus Stephenson missed a three, freshman Michael Morrison pulled down the rebound and missed a stick back, but freshman Jose Peña-Benjamin rebounded the miss and laid it in. Michelson hit another hook shot, this time from the middle of the lane, to extend the Trojans' lead

to 19-7.

Later, sophomore Marcel Lewis electrified the crowd by stealing the ball and taking it down court for a two-handed jam to make it 36-10. Lewis picked off another pass and took it down for a one-handed jam before the half. led 50-15 at halftime.

As the second half began, Stephenson streaked down court and appeared to heading in for a layup, but at the last second he fed a trailing Michelson a no-look pass that he slammed in.

The Trojans substitutes saw a lot of action in the second half. The Warriors were didn't fare much better, despite the absence of the Colby starters for most of the half.

"We want to come out with intensity every game," said Ste-

phenson.

Pfeifer said he was proud of the way his team played together in the game.

"This would have been an easy game to get into a lot of one-on-one stuff and to be selfish," he said.

Schafer finished with 12 points. Freshman Tate Bruggemann gave his team some strong minutes off the bench, finishing with 9.

"He is by far our most improved player since the beginning of the year," said Pfeifer.

Freshman Michael Morris added 9 and 8 rebounds. Stephenson dished out 6 assists. He has 16 assists and one turnover this season.

The team will play McCook (Neb.) Community College at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Community Building.

# Kansas State small forward leads team to blowout victory

MANHATTAN. (AP) — After spending all of last season at power forward, Jamar Samuels was asked to learn the small forward position to make room for Curtis Kelly, a transfer from UConn who sat out last year due to NCAA transfer rules.

Samuels had little trouble at his new position on Sunday, scoring 19 points to lead Kansas State past Western Illinois 82-50. Despite leading his team in scoring, Samuels' primary concern after the game was getting the team ready for the O'Reilly Auto Parts Puerto Rico Tipoff, a four-day tournament in San Juan, Puerto Rico that starts Thursday.

"We have a day off tomorrow and then practice on Tuesday. We have to pick it up before we go to Puerto Rico because the competition is going to be a lot better than this weekend," Samuels said.

Samuels was one of five Kansas State players to reach double figures in scoring. Denis Clemente added 13 points, Rodney McGruder and Wally Judge, former high school teammates, each had 11 and Jacob Pullen added 10 for the Wildcats (2-0).

The Leathernecks (0-2) were led by Matt Lander with a game-high 20 points. He was the only Western Illinois player to reach double figures.

Both teams stumbled out of the gates and neither squad could seem to gain an advantage until a 7-0 run by Western Illinois gave the Leathernecks a slim 10-7 lead. But the lead would be short-lived as a layup by Judge sparked a 14-2 Kansas State run that put the Wildcats on top for good.

Kansas State held the Leathernecks to just four points in the final seven minutes of the first half en route to a 31-20 halftime lead. Western Illinois couldn't capitalize on scoring opportunities, hit-

ting just nine of 33 field goal attempts before the break.

After struggling offensively in the first half, Kansas State's shooting improved after intermission. The Wildcats opened the second period on an 11-2 run to put the game well out of reach. They remained hot from the field, connecting on 60 percent of their shots compared to 41.9 percent in the opening period.

"I think in the first half, we were lackadaisical," said Kansas State coach Frank Martin. "We had some turnovers where we were trying to dribble the ball early in the shot clock in the paint. That's not going to work because of how (Western Illinois) plays."

While Kansas State's offense

flourished down the stretch, the Leathernecks' offense remained stagnant in the second half. Lander exploded for 14 points after being held to six before the break, but it wasn't enough to mount a comeback, as Western Illinois managed just three field goals after a two-point bucket by Davud Gebru with 13:07 left in the contest.

"When you look at it, they just overpowered us inside," said Western Illinois head coach Jim Molinari.

After being outbounded in their first game, the Wildcats won the battle against Western Illinois, grabbing 48 boards to the Leathernecks' 31. But Martin still wasn't pleased with the rebounding effort.

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