



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College sophomore Dominique Brewer went up to take a short shot inside the lane during Tuesday's game against North Platte Community College from Nebraska on Tuesday at the Community Building. The Trojans lost to the Knights 76-73.

## Trojans wrestlers take first in Greeley

Colby Community College wrestling sophomores Bekzod Abdurakhmonov and Ganbayar Sanjaa both took first in their weight classes at the Northern Colorado Open in Greeley on Saturday.

Abdurakhmonov went 4-0 in the 165-pound class and Sanjaa went 5-0 at 157.

Freshman Pat Fletcher finished third in the heavyweight division

and sophomore Nick Kriss took fourth at 197 pounds.

Freshman Luis Camacho went 4-2 in the 133-pound class.

Freshmen Cody Wark went 1-2 at 125 pounds, Brent Luedke finished 1-2 at 133 and sophomore James Hirsch was 0-2 at 141.

Freshman Jonathan Hill went 1-2 at 174 freshman Eli Jackson finished 1-2 at 184.

# Colby Trojans' rally falls short in 76-73 loss to North Platte

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The Colby Community College men's basketball team just a little off its rhythm Tuesday at the Community Building.

The game against North Platte Community College from Nebraska was similar to others the team has played this year.

Colby got off to a slow start, allowing the Knights to build up a big lead, only to come roaring back in the second half. But this time, Colby was unable to erase what was at one point a 20-point lead, and ended up losing 76-73. That leaves the men 5-3, with the other two losses both in overtime.

"We didn't value every possession," said coach Dustin Pfeifer. "We played selfish basketball in

the first half."

North Platte jumped out to a 15-5 lead in the first five minutes of the game. Then Jordan Michelson slammed in a missed one-handed shot by fellow Colby sophomore Aireus Stephenson. A few minutes later, freshman Regis Schafer grabbed a rebound and stuck it back in. But the bright spots were few and far between for the Trojans in the first half. Colby turned the ball over more than usual, and the Knights were taking advantage these mistakes.

Colby trailed 39-19 with three minutes left in the half. Schafer drilled a three pointer from the left corner to make it 39-22. Stephenson nailed a jumper and scored on a nice drive to the hoop with only a few seconds left in the half to cut North Platte's lead to 26-41.

Colby looked a little sharper

at the start of the second half. Michelson and freshman Corey Woofter were able to make a couple of shots inside, and the Trojans trailed the Knights 51-65.

Freshman Jose Peña-Benjamin hit a three to make it 56-67. He followed with a tough layup that cut North Platte's lead to single digits. Peña-Benjamin whipped a cross-court pass that somehow made it past the Knights' defenders and into the arms of freshman Michael Morris, who jammed it in to make it 60-67.

Schafer scored on a left hand layup while being fouled to cut North Platte's lead to four. The Knights were able to score a couple of points to increase their lead to 71-64. Schafer drilled another three and sophomore Dominique Brewer knocked down two free throws and the Trojans only

trailed 71-69.

The Knights clung to a narrow lead in final minutes, but Colby was able to get the ball with 9.4 seconds left and a 75-73 deficit to erase.

Stephenson tried to hit Woofter with an inbounds pass from under the basket, but his toss was picked off. Colby quickly fouled North Platte's Dorian Williams to stop the clock, but he hit one of two free throws and the Knights picked up the win.

Schafer had 26 points. Michelson posted a double-double, scoring 10 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Stephenson also had 10.

The Trojans will play in the Garden City Classic this weekend. They will take on Frank Phillips College of Borger, Texas, at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

## Losing streak wears on Denver Broncos

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — The Denver Broncos have lost four straight games, and now, their cool.

So, among the things they're hoping to fix during their short week of preparation leading up to their game against the New York Giants (6-4) on Thanksgiving is their loss of composure.

Coach Josh McDaniels said the Broncos (6-4) need to channel their emotions in more positive ways.

"Like I said after the game, it's an emotional sport, we have a lot of emotional players. I show a lot of emotion sometimes and I think we've just got to understand what's good and what's not good in terms of showing that and letting that out," McDaniels said Tuesday.

While McDaniels addressed his players' behavior against San Diego, he declined again to discuss his own actions in exchanging trash talk Sunday with some Chargers linebackers during warmups.

After telling the Chargers defenders, "We own you," McDaniels watched the main target of his taunt, Shaun Phillips, sweep around fill-in right tackle Tyler Polumbus to force Chris Simms to fumble away the ball on Denver's first pass attempt.

The Chargers converted the takeaway into a touchdown and the Broncos fell apart, committing

a rash of silly penalties and fighting among themselves during their 32-3 loss that knocked them out of first place in the AFC West.

The Broncos say everything is fine between running back Knowshon Moreno and wide receiver Brandon Marshall, who berated the rookie after his fumble at the goal line only to get shoved in the chest as he continued the smack-down on the sideline.

Neither player was in the locker room Tuesday during the only player availability this week.

Their teammates and coaches said the sideline spat was no longer an issue.

"We are on the same page," tight end Daniel Graham said. "There were a lot of emotions out there. No one likes losing. Frustrations came out a little bit. This team will stick together. We are going to fight through this together."

Instead of with each other.

Although McDaniels said his emotional team needs to keep its poise, he again refused to address his own trash-talking incident that critics suggest revealed some immaturity on the part of the 33-year-old rookie coach.

"I have no comment on that," McDaniels said. "I've moved on to the Giants."

One thing McDaniels did say was that frustration can't continue to affect the team.

Among the Broncos' nine pen-

alties Sunday were two 15-yard personal fouls whistled on Marcus Thomas and Ronald Fields on extra points.

The Broncos have fallen apart in all phases over the last month as they've allowed 125, 173, 174 and 203 yards rushing, been outscored 77-17 in the second half and drawn 22 flags for 170 yards.

Their biggest concern is their run defense as teams have decided to just run it up the gut at the Broncos, who put together a patchwork defensive line in their transition to the 3-4 scheme while spending their pool of free agent money on upgrades in the secondary.

Vonnie Holliday said the problem is the players are vacating their gaps, and that lack of discipline has led to a loss of composure.

"It's frustrating when you're out there and you're playing hard and things aren't going your way and things like the personal fouls, the

flags keep flying, the refs, every time you turn around, somebody's jaw-jacking with the opponent," said Holliday, a veteran who was signed in part to police these very things.

"It's like, look, we can't talk. Look at the scoreboard," Holliday said. "That's the kind of things we were trying to tell our guys: Look, we have to focus. That's not working for us. We need to focus on playing the downs."

But what about his own coach "jaw-jacking" with the opponent?

"Coach? Well, I didn't know that," Holliday said before giving a passionate defense of his boss.

"The thing about Josh is that he's a very competitive guy, too. He's right there in that fire with us. When we go out on that field, he's right in it with us. Emotionally, he's as charged as we are, and as a player you love that in your coach. He's right there beside you."

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