



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College freshman Tamara Williams (pictured here in a game against Clarendon College from Texas on Nov. 12) scored 10 points against Iowa Western Community College of Council Bluffs on Saturday in the Garden City Classic. The Lady Trojans went 0-2 last weekend in the classic, losing to Frank Phillips College from Borger, Texas, 86-47 on Friday. They play tonight at Pratt Community College.

Lady Trojans squad loses two in tournament

The Colby Community College women's basketball team dropped two games at the Cloud County Community College Thanksgiving Classic last weekend.

The Lady Trojans lost to Iowa Western Community College from Council Bluffs 57-44 on Saturday and got pounded by Mineral Area College from Park Hills, Mo., 86-47 on Friday.

Colby trailed Iowa Western 31-24 at the half. The Lady Reivers outscored the Lady Trojans' by six points in the second half and took home a victory.

Sophomore Danisha Cole led the team in scoring with 15 points and 4 steals.

"It was a good performance by Danisha," said Jasper.

Sophomore Tasha Wagoner posted a double-double, scoring 11 points and grabbing 11 rebounds.

"Her rebounding stats are up this year," Jasper said.

Freshman Tamara Williams chipped in with 10 points and pulled down 8 rebounds.

Cole scored 15 and Wagoner added 14 in a losing effort in the Lady Trojans' game against Mineral Area. Wagoner hit her first six shots, and Williams grabbed 8 rebounds.

Colby was out-rebounded 47-27 and the women hit just 5 of 18 three-pointers. The Lady Trojans trailed the Lady Cardinals 37-24

at halftime, but the Missouri team ran away with the game in the second half.

The coach had mixed emotions about his team's performances this weekend.

"Saturday's game was one of our best performances of the year and Friday was one of our worst performances of the year," he said.

Jasper said freshman Hannah Thornton is feeling better after suffering a concussion during the Colby Ambassadors Classic earlier in the season. She has also been having kidney problems that stemmed from reacting badly to medication. He said there is no timeline for her return, but she could return before Christmas break.

Freshman Kelsey Hubin's left ankle has not been healing like it should, the coach said. He said she may not be returning until the end of the semester. Hubin had to sit out five games earlier this season because of her ankle problems. She had a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) done that revealed stretched ligaments in her ankle. She has been playing on the ankle for the last several games, but Jasper said he has decided she should sit out until her ankle has fully healed.

The Trojans have been plagued with injury problems this season. They still haven't played a game

where everyone on the team is healthy, said Jasper. He said when everyone is healthy people will see an entirely different ball club.

Colby plays tonight at Pratt Community College.

Men's basketball team goes 1-1 in Garden City

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The Colby Community College men's basketball team split two games at the Garden City Classic over the weekend.

Freshman Jose Peña-Benjamin scored 25 points and grabbed 9 rebounds to help the Trojans defeat Highland Community College 76-72 on Saturday. Benjamin was 6-of-10 from the field and 13-of-14 from the free-throw line.

Colby trailed by 10 at the half, and was down by as many as 14 in the second half before the team rallied to take the lead in the final minutes.

"We were so much more aggressive at getting to the basket in the second half," said coach Dustin Pfeifer.

The pendulum swung in the Trojans' direction after a sequence of plays near the end of the game. The shift started when freshman Michael Morris stole the ball at the top of the key, took it down court, and was fouled hard while attempting a layup.

The Scotties' player was whistled for an intentional foul. This

gave the Trojans two free throws and the ball. Morris was unable to shoot the free-throws after coming down hard on his back, so freshman Corey Woofter checked into the game and shot for him. He drained both shots. Then sophomore Jordan Michelson scored on a hook shot to give Colby a one-point lead. Pfeifer said the turn of events that started with Morris' steal sucked the momentum out of Highlands and their fans.

The Trojans expanded their narrow lead by hitting all its free throws in the game's closing minutes and pulled out a victory.

"This team battles and battles and battles," said Pfeifer.

Colby made 25 of 29 free throws in the game. The Trojans didn't miss a free throw in the final three minutes.

Michelson had 14 points and 7 rebounds. Sophomore Dominique Brewer scored 9 and sophomore Kory Slaughter chipped in with 6 off the bench. Freshman Regis Schafer had 7.

On Friday, however, a second-half comeback by Colby fell a little short, as the Trojans fell to Frank Phillips College from Borger, Texas, 77-72.

Colby trailed by 22 at one point in the second half, before they mounted a big rally and took the lead with four minutes left, only to fall behind in the closing minutes.

Schafer scored a team-high 21 and Peña-Benjamin had 16 points and 9 rebounds.

The Plainsmen's DeJuan Plummer was a thorn in the Trojans' side throughout the night, scoring 31 and going 6-of-9 from the three-point line. It was a huge game for Plummer, who averages about 8 points a game, Pfeifer said.

The Trojans' coach said the Plainsmen are "ultra talented." He said he didn't know why his team continues to struggle in the first half of games.

"I don't know what the deal is," said the coach. "It's strange."

The men's record now stands at 6-4. They will play at 8 p.m. tonight at Pratt Community College.

The Trojans will have to hold the Beavers' big man, Illiwa Baldwin, in check if they want to pick up a victory. Baldwin averages 15.3 points and 13.4 rebounds per game. Pfeifer said he's the best big man in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference.

Smith Center's winning streak ends

HAYS (AP) — One of the nation's longest winning streaks in high school football is over.

Centralia High scored on its first overtime possession to defeat Smith Center 20-12 Saturday in the Kansas high school Class 2-1A title game. The Panthers' win ended the Redmen's 79-game winning streak, the longest in Kansas history and believed to be the longest active streak in the nation among 11-man teams.

"We had nothing to do with the 79 in a row," Centralia coach Larry Glatczak said. "These kids don't even know where Smith Center is at. I told the kids last week after we beat St. Marys that all we had to do was win one game. That's all it is. We had nothing to do with the last 79. The kids took that and ran with it."

Centralia's first state football title came in dramatic fashion.

Trailing 12-9, Smith Center kicked a 30-yard field goal to tie the game with 49 seconds left.

On the first overtime possession, Centralia's Tyler Glatczak scored on a 9-yard draw.

Smith Center fumbled on its first play, and Centralia's Tyler Gleason recovered the ball to seal the win.

"It was the greatest feeling in my life," said Gleason, who finished with a team-high 12 tackles.

The win against Smith Center, which dominated the Class 2-1A ranks for several years, was just the latest triumph for the Panthers. Centralia had knocked off perennial Kansas powers Colgan and St. Marys to reach the title game.

"The kids hit them in the mouth," coach Glatczak said. "We told the kids all year to hit them in the mouth, and these kids weren't going to back down from them."

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