

Trojans stretch winning streak to six

By Andy Heintz

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The Colby College Trojans baseball team stretched their winning streak to six games this weekend by sweeping Brown Mackie College from Salina in a doubleheader Saturday afternoon at the college diamond.

The Trojans clobbered the Lions 12-0 in game one and took the second game 8-2.

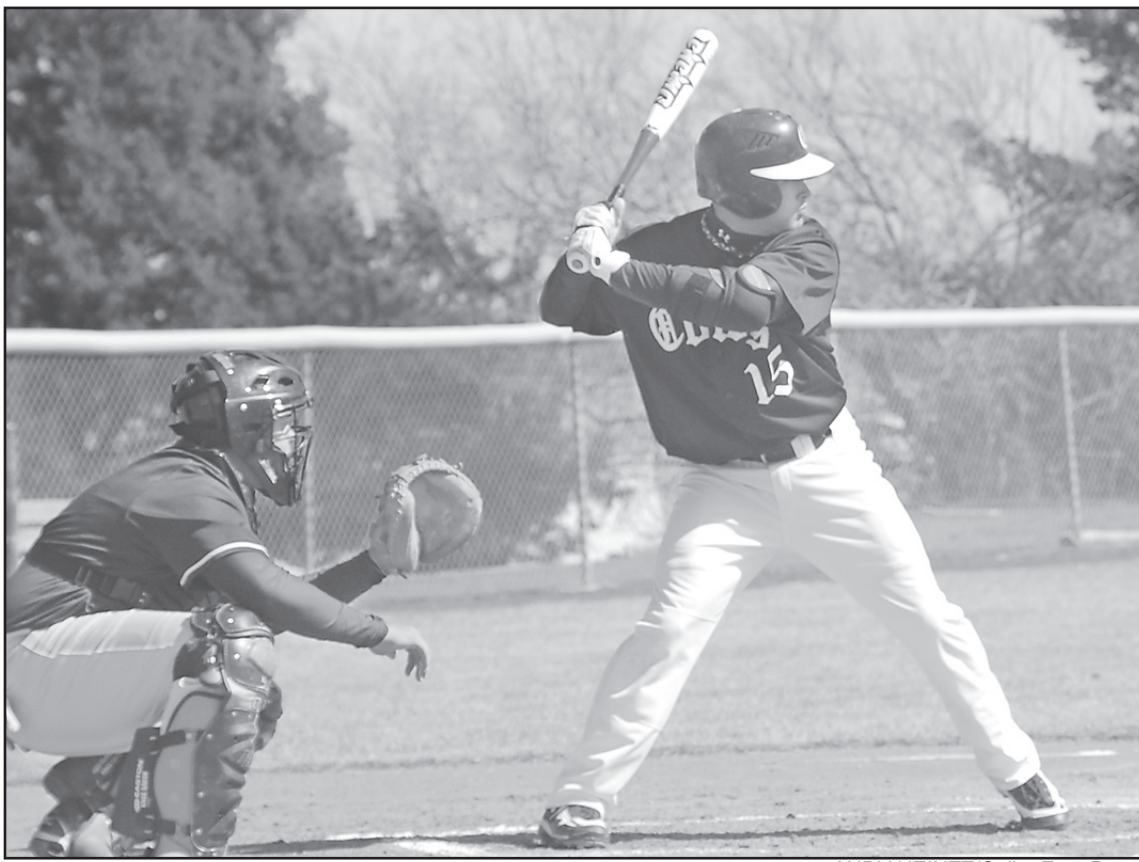
"Our hitting is picking up a lot," said freshman pitcher Marshall Dean.

"Everyone sees everyone else hitting and they want to hit to," added sophomore Brendan Miller.

Freshman Jon Cotter hit a triple between center field and left, driving in sophomore Ariz Garcia to give Colby a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. Then sophomore Jess Cooper drove in Cotter from third with a fly out to left center. Sophomore Boston Langley homered to right centerfield to make it 3-0.

Freshman Matt Balogh singled home a run in the bottom of the second, extending the lead to 4-0. Colby got on the scoreboard again in the bottom of the third when freshman Robert Glover drove s Miller home from second with a single.

The Trojans picked up another



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby College freshman Matt Edwards prepared to hit during the first game against Brown Mackie College from Salina on Saturday at the college diamond.

run, then Garcia drove in two more with a double to left field that boosted Colby's lead to 8-0. The Trojans tacked on two more runs before the inning came to an end.

In the bottom of the fourth, Langley ripped a double that hit the third-base bag before rolling to the outfield, scoring Miller from second and extending Colby's lead to 11-0. Then freshman Matt

Edwards hit a shallow sacrifice fly to right field, allowing Langley to score from third to make it 12-0.

Cotter snagged a sharply hit line drive in the top of fifth. Sophomore Ryan Westover, who relieved

starting pitcher Terry Steiner in the top of the fourth, got the next two outs and the Trojans won the game 12-0.

The game ended early because of the 10-run rule. If a team leads by 10 or more runs in fifth, and the opposing team has already batted, then they are declared the winner.

Steiner picked up the win. He gave up two hits and had three strikeouts in three innings. Westover got a save, allowing no hits and striking out three in two innngs. Langley went 3 for 3 and Garcia, Cotter and Miller all went 2 for 3. Cotter led the team with three runs batted in.

Freshman Will Thomas pitched two scoreless innings in game two, before giving up a run in the top of third. Colby threatened to score in the bottom of the third, but freshman Nathan Wilson got thrown out trying to steal third base to end the inning. Dean relieved Thomas in the top of the fourth. Both teams got runners on base in the fourth, but neither was able to score.

Dean threw a one-two-three inning in the top of the fifth. The Trojans' first two batters walked to start the bottom of the inning. Later, Colby got its first run when Brown Mackie was unable to complete a double play that would have ended the inning. After getting the runner at second, the Lions' infielder fired an errant throw

that got past the first baseman, allowing Miller to score. The Lions scored a run in the top of the sixth to take a 2-1 lead.

The Trojans managed to get runners on second and third with no outs in the bottom of the sixth. Miller came through with a huge ground-ball single between second and first, driving in both runners to put Colby in front 3-2.

Then Langley drove Miller in with a double off the left center field fence to make it 4-2. Langley eventually scored on a wild pitch to give the Trojans' a 5-2 lead.

Later in the inning, Garcia ripped a double in the gap between right and center with the bases loaded, scoring all three runners. Dean pitched a scoreless inning in the top of the seventh and Colby picked up an 8-2 victory.

Thomas got the win. He struck out six batters, gave up one run and walked two in three innings. He is 2-0 this season. Dean got the save. He struck out six batters and gave up one run on two hits in four innings.

"We have good hitters," said Dean. "I never had any doubt we'd win the game."

"It's easy to pitch with a lead." With the wins, Colby improved to 9-6. The team will play Lamar Community College of Colorado at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the college diamond in a nine-inning game.

Jayhawks will be top seed in tournament

LAWRENCE (AP) — Look who's lurking deep in the Midwest bracket where Kansas proudly sits as overall No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

It's none other than Tennessee and Oklahoma State — the teams who account for the "2" in that glittering 32-2 record that the Jayhawks compiled while dominating a Big 12 Conference that sent seven teams into the 65-team field.

As expected, the Jayhawks were given the distinction of being the overall No. 1 and, as hoped, get to play their opening game against Lehigh in Oklahoma City — an easy drive down Interstate 35 from Lawrence. But they

weren't thinking that the only teams to beat them would be right there in their same bracket.

"My eyes got big," said sophomore guard Tyshawn Taylor. "Maybe we'll get a chance to get these guys back."

Tennessee, seeded No. 6 in the Midwest, beat the Jayhawks 76-68 on Jan. 10, while seventh-seeded Oklahoma State — Kansas coach Bill Self's alma mater — beat the Jayhawks 85-77 on a cold night in Stillwater on Feb. 27.

But that was the last loss for a deep and talented team led by Sherron Collins, KU's all-conference senior guard, and Cole Aldrich, the 6-foot-11 junior center who shattered the team

record this year for blocked shots.

Self made it clear they were in no mood to look ahead.

"There's also a team that beat us twice in there last year — Michigan State," Self said. "You would think if we had a chance to play any of those teams, it could mean two things. Either the other team will be confident, or it could mean that we would be angry."

It's the ninth time Kansas has been a No. 1 seed. Self said he would not argue with anyone who claimed the Midwest is the toughest regional.

"I would agree wholeheartedly," he said.

Kansas State Wildcats will play North Texas

MANHATTAN. (AP) — The "firsts" and "bests" keep piling up for Kansas State.

In the same year that Frank Martin wrapped up the best three-year record of any Kansas State coach, the resurgent Wildcats have nabbed their highest seeding in any NCAA tournament.

As No. 2 in the West region,

they will meet No. 15 North Texas in the first round on Thursday.

And, just as they had hoped, the Wildcats (26-7) will play their opening weekend in Oklahoma City, an easy drive for fans who've been jamming Bramlage Coliseum with record crowds.

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