



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community college freshman Casey Dirkes fired a throw to third base during the bottom half of a doubleheader between the Lady Trojans and Cloud County Community College Wednesday at Carl Adams Field.

Lady Trojans team prevails over Cloud

The Lady Trojans' softball team swept a doubleheader with Cloud County Community College on Wednesday at Carl Adams Field.

They won game one 7-3 and game two 7-5. Freshman Holly Denny was the winning pitcher in both games. Denny gave up three runs on three hits, while striking three in seven innings in the first game. She allowed no runs on one hit, while striking out five in three and a third innings in the second game.

Colby scored five runs in the bottom of the first inning. They maintained a 5-0 lead over the Lady Thunderbirds from Concordia until the top of the fifth. During the inning, Sarah Stutts of Cloud slammed a home run off Denny, cutting the Lady Trojans' lead to 5-1. Denny briefly lost control of her pitches in the fifth, hitting two straight batters. Then the Lady Thunderbirds' Kacy Schroeder hit a lazy line drive single into right field scoring two runs and narrowing the gap to 5-3. But Denny settled down and got out of the inning without giving up anymore runs.

Freshman Chelsea Kinnett blasted a line drive double down the left field line in the bottom of the fifth. Sophomore Logan Wark drove her home with a double into gap between left and centerfield. Later in the inning, freshman Kaitlin Wright scored on a sacrifice fly by sophomore Peggy Nichols, extending the Lady Trojans' lead to 7-3. Denny pitched two scoreless innings and Colby won the game 7-3.

Denny and freshman Casey Dirkes went two for four, Wright went two for two and sophomore Logan Wark went two for three.

Freshman Courtney Blosski started the second game for Colby. She allowed 11 hits and five runs in three and two-thirds of an inning before she was replaced by Denny.

The Lady Thunderbirds went up 1-0 on the Lady Trojans in the second game when Julia Zelinski of Cloud drove in Erin Heaven with a ground ball single between the shortstop and third basemen.

The Lady Trojans responded to the early deficit

by scoring three runs in the bottom of the first, giving them a 3-1 lead. The Lady Thunderbirds scored one run each in the top of the second and top of the third, tying the game at 3. Kaitlin Frerking slapped a single to right field, scoring two runs and giving Cloud 5-3 lead.

Denny relieved Blosski at pitcher with two outs in the inning. She struck out the first batter she faced, ending the inning. Sophomore Ashley Primm ripped a line-drive triple down the right field line in the bottom of the fourth. Kinnett slapped a single to right field, narrowing the margin to 5-4.

Primm scored from third on a sacrifice fly by Nichols, tying the game at 5 in the bottom of the sixth. Colby threatened to take the lead in the inning, but sophomore Charlie Stabb grounded out to the pitcher with two outs and the bases loaded. But Denny bashed a walk-off two-run homer in the bottom of the seventh to give Colby a 7-5 victory.

Dirkes and Denny went two for four, Primm went two for two and Kinnett went two for three. Cloud out-hit Colby 12-10.

Denny said not throwing too many pitches in the first game allowed her to have enough gas to pitch in game two.

"I thought Holly threw better in game two than she did in game one," said Coach Ryan Sturdy.

Primm said her team made good end game adjustments against the Lady Thunderbirds' slow pitchers. Sturdy said Colby hasn't had any trouble hitting fast pitchers this year, but they have struggled against slower pitchers.

With the win, the team improved to 16-10 and 7-3 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference Western Division. They play Butler County Community College from Council Grove at noon on Friday, North Central Missouri College at 2 p.m. and Allen Community College at 6 p.m. They take on Iowa Central from Fort Dodge at 9 a.m. Saturday and they play Johnson County Community College at 11 a.m.

Eagles start season; split doubleheader

The Colby High School baseball team started their season by splitting two games Tuesday at Scott City.

Colby fell to Scott City 12-8 in the first game, but they recovered from the loss and pounded the Beavers 15-5 in game two.

Senior Preston Krzycki allowed nine runs, only four of them earned, in four innings before he was relieved by sophomore Braden Sager. Sager gave up three earned runs in three innings.

Scott City jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the first inning. Coach Rick Williams said Colby's defense committed a few errors in the first two innings, but then they settled down and started playing better.

The Beavers led 9-4 going into the fifth inning. Krzycki slammed a three-run blast, cutting Scott City's lead to 9-7. The Eagles were only able to score one more run, while the Beavers tacked on

three more runs and won the game 12-8.

Krzycki and senior Garrett Rogers both went two for four. Krzycki had three runs batted in and Rogers had two. Senior Brandon Rasmussen went one for three with two runs batted in.

Rasmussen picked up the win in Colby's 15-5 victory over Scott City. He allowed five runs, three of them earned, while striking out eight in six innings. Rogers pitched the seventh inning. He allowed no runs and struck out two batters.

Krzycki hammered a two-run home run in the top of the first, giving the Eagles an early 2-0 lead. A double by senior Chaz Winger extended Colby's lead to 4-0 in the top of the second. Colby continued to shine on offense throughout the game.

Winger, Brandon Rasmussen and Krzycki all had tremendous

games at the plate. Krzycki had four hits including a two-run home run, a double and two singles. Winger went three for five including a home run, two doubles and five runs batted in. Rasmussen went three for four with a triple, two singles and two runs batted in. Krzycki and Winger both had six runs batted in the two games.

"We hit well with runners in scoring position," Williams said.

The coach said a lot of their big hits came with two outs. He said the only aspect of the game his team really needed to get better at was decreasing the amount of strike outs, specifically strike outs on called third strikes.

"We have too many guys going down looking," the coach said.

The Eagles' record now stands at 1-1. Colby will play in a doubleheader starting a 4 p.m. Tuesday at Ulysses.

College baseball squad wins three of four in series

The Trojans baseball team picked up three big wins over Barton County Community College on Monday and Tuesday at the baseball diamond.

The Trojans slipped by The Cougars from Great Bend 8-7 in their first game on Tuesday, and they won game two 9-7. Colby eeked out a 5-4 win over Barton on Monday, but they lost a 19-16 offensive battle in game two.

The wins should give Colby a much-needed boost of confidence after they were swept by Butler County Community College in the previous series.

"This was a huge win for us after the last series," said freshman pitcher Griffin Campbel.

The Cougars' squad featured Levi Schlick and Cory Sager — two key players on last year's Colby Eagles' baseball team.

Sophomore Keith Carey got the win at pitcher in game one on Tuesday. He struck out two in over an inning of work. Freshman Cory Ridenour got the save.

Schlick drove home Lance Woltenmath to give the Cougars a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning. The Trojans tied the game at one after freshman Matt Balogh scored on a passed ball in the bottom of the first. Colby picked up another run during the inning when an error by the Cougars' third baseman allowed freshman Jon Cotter to score, giving Colby a one-point edge.

Barton responded by scoring two runs in the top of the third to go up 3-2. A single to left field by Balogh scored freshman Nathan Wilson in the bottom of the second to make it 3-3. Later in the inning, Cotter drove in freshman Matt Edwards with a single to put Colby out in front 4-3.

The Trojans tacked on another run in the bottom of the third, but the Cougars scored two unearned runs in the top of the fourth to make it 5-5. But Colby got two unearned runs of their own in the

bottom of the fourth, giving them a 7-5 lead. Barton scored two runs in the top of the fifth to tie the game at 7.

Sophomore Brendan Miller drove in sophomore Jess Cooper with what ended up being a game-winning single to left field in the bottom of the sixth, giving Colby an 8-7 lead.

The Cougars threatened to score in the top of the seventh. Freshman Cory Ridenour replaced sophomore Keith Carey at pitcher with two outs and the bases loaded. He managed to get Mitch Slautert of Barton to fly out and the Trojans escaped with the 8-7 win.

Freshman Will Thomas picked up the victory in Colby's 9-7 win on Tuesday. He allowed one run in two innings.

The Cougars got on the scoreboard first and led 1-0 after the first inning. Barton's offense scored two more runs in the top of the second and tacked on two runs in the top of the third, stretching their lead to 5-0.

Colby got things going on offense in the bottom of the third. Cotter singled to centerfield, scoring Garcia. Cotter eventually scored on a single by Cooper. Later in the inning, Langley bashed a two-run homer that cut Barton's lead to 5-4. Colby got a run in the bottom of the fourth, tying the game at five.

The Cougars scored a run in the top of the fifth and led 6-5. A Sophomore Ryan Beecroft single in the top of the fifth drove in two runs, putting Colby out in front 7-6.

Campbel replaced Thomas at pitcher in the top of the sixth. Barton scored a run in the inning, tying the game at 7. Campbel went on to pitch three scoreless innings. Colby picked up another run in the bottom of the eighth and won the

game 9-7.

"Our whole pitching staff did good today," said Campbel.

Sophomore Terry Steiner picked up the win in Colby's 5-4 victory over Barton in game one on Monday. He allowed four runs in six innings while striking out five. Schlick started on the mound for Barton. He gave up three runs, two of them earned, while striking out three in five innings.

Freshman Nathan Wilson went two for three.

An error by the Cougars' third basemen allowed Miller to score from third base in the bottom of the second, giving Colby a 1-0 lead. Neither team scored again until the bottom of the fifth, when a double by Garcia drove home freshman Kurtis Baker. Garcia eventually scored on a sacrifice fly by Langley, extending the Trojans' lead to 3-0. Colby scored two more runs in the bottom of the fifth, stretching their lead to 5-0.

The Cougars almost ruined what looked like an easy victory for Colby when Nathan Miller hit a grand slam homer off of Steiner in the bottom of seventh, cutting the Trojan's lead to 5-4. But Campbel relieved Steiner at pitcher and got out of the inning without allowing another run and the Trojans escaped with a 5-4 win.

The Trojans never recovered from the Cougars 11-run inning in the bottom of the third in game two against Barton on Monday. Colby made a nice comeback, but they couldn't quite get over the hump as the Cougars picked up a 19-16 win.

Colby's record now stands at 15-12 and 8-4 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference Western Division.

They play Dodge City in double headers at 1 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at the baseball diamond.

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