

It's all in the wrist



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press
Colby High freshman Haileigh Shull got ready to take a free throw during the Lady Eagles' practice Tuesday in the high school gym.

Women making progress

By Andy Heintz
Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

The Lady Trojans basketball team went into Christmas break riding the waves of a two-game winning streak.

The Colby College women crushed the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture from Curtis 92-36 and pounded Trinidad State Junior College from Colorado 89-66 in their final two games at the Western Nebraska Community College Lady Cougar Classic on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10 and Dec. 11, in Scottsbluff.

With the two wins, the team improved to 5-9.

"We are just starting to play the way we hoped to play," coach Brady Jasper said, adding that it was

kind of a bad time for his squad to have a break because they were beginning to play so well.

The coach said he hoped the Lady Trojans would be able to carry the momentum they gained with them into league play.

The women have endured some tough times this season, including a rough stretch where the team lost six straight games. That transformed a 2-1 record into 2-7.

The Lady Trojans have struggled at taking care of the ball, but they made some serious improvements in their last two games. They only turned the ball over four times against Nebraska Tech.

"Turnovers were our biggest problem in the first 10 games," Jasper said.

Hannah Thornton has been the team's most reliable scorer and

rebounder.

The sophomore forward had 20 points and 13 rebounds in the 70-55 win over the Kansas Wesleyan junior varsity from Salina and 21 points on 8-of-12 shooting in a 70-53 loss to Casper College in Wyoming.

Freshman Liga Vente, the Lady Trojans other starting forward, scored 19 points in a losing effort in the season opener against Lamar Community College in Colorado.

The 6-foot-4 freshman had 19 points against Kansas Wesleyan and 18 points and 10 boards in a 58-52 win over the Hastings College junior varsity from Nebraska.

Freshman Kelli Crittenden had a team-high 23 points in Colby's 89-66 win over Trinidad State and

fellow freshman guard Morgan Rickwartz scored a 14 in a 71-59 loss to Colorado Northwestern Community College from Rangely.

Sophomore Tayler Puttergill had a season-high 23 points against the College of Eastern Utah from Price in a Pizza Hut Classic game. Puttergill made 9 of 14 field goals and 3 of 5 three-pointers in the game. She had 13 against Trinidad State.

Sophomore Brooke Bursiek was the high scorer against Nebraska Tech, finishing with 11.

Freshman Christina Anderson had 9 against Kansas Wesleyan, drilling three three-pointers.

The women resume their season at 6 p.m. next Wednesday against Pratt Community College at the Community Building.

College team has solid start

By Andy Heintz
Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansas.com

The Colby College men's basketball team got off to a solid start this season, despite dropping its last two games.

The Trojans' record currently sits at 9-5. The Trojans' offense features a combination of slick guard play and solid contributions from the team's forwards. The Trojans average 81 points a game.

The team is led by freshman guard Hurley Johnson, who averages about 16 points a game and freshman Carson Konrade, almost 13 a game.

Johnson had a team-high 24 in his team's 90-73 loss to McCook Community College in Nebraska on Dec. 11 and he had 20 in the season-opening 73-67 loss to Trinidad State Junior College in Colorado. Johnson and freshman Vincent Dillard Jr. lead the team in turnovers with 30 each.

Konrade is shooting almost 46 percent from the three-point line, connecting on 32 of 70. The freshman's signature shot is a three-pointer from either corner.

The play of freshmen guards Kevin Jefferson and A.J. Barber has also been critical to the Trojans' success this season.

Jefferson averages about 8 points a game and Barber averages a little over 9 and has a team-high 35 assists this season. Jefferson played a nearly flawless game in the Trojans' 72-63 victory against Southeast Community College of Nebraska at the Ambassador Classic tournament in Colby. He scored 21 points on 9-of-11 shooting, including knocking down 3 of 4 three pointers. Barber has consistently scored in double figures, between 11 and 17, in almost every game. Dillard is averaging about 8 a game and is second in assists with 23.

Sophomores Michael Morris and Terrell Bruce and freshman Corey Billingslea have been the team's top scorers down in the paint.

Morris had 21 points, 15 rebounds and five blocks in an 87-

53 win over the Kansas Wesleyan junior varsity team from Salina in a Western Sprinklers' Classic game on Nov. 5 in Colby. Morris had to sit out a few games after injuring his ankle against Raleigh's Finest from Oklahoma City during a Classic game on Nov. 12. He returned to action against McCook in a home game on Nov. 24.

Bruce has been a steady presence for the Trojans on offense, averaging about 9 points a game. He grabbed a big rebound in the final minutes of a game against Southeast Community College of Nebraska that led to a three-pointer by Konrade that helped seal the win for the Trojans.

Billingslea has shown he has the capability to score and rebound. He had 9 points and 10 boards in Colby's season-opening loss to Trinidad State Junior College in Colorado. Both Bruce and Billingslea have proven they can step out and drill a three-pointer if they are left open.

Colby's defense is allowing its opponents to score a little over 65 points a game. The Trojans' opponents are shooting about 42 percent from the field and 30 percent from behind the arc.

The Trojans get almost 12 steals per game while their opponents get 4. Jefferson leads the team with 29 steals and Barber 24. Colby has 48 blocks this season, Morris accounts for almost half, while its opponents only have 22 rejections. Morris is far and away the teams most effective blocker with 21.

Colby pulls down about 36 rebounds per game, about five more than its opponents. They also turn the ball over almost 13 times a game, about six less than their opponents.

The Trojans are shooting about 35 percent from the three-point line and 62 percent from the free-throw line. Freshman Scott Ochs has the team's highest free-throw percentage of about 89 percent, making 8 of 9 from the line.

The Trojans' next game is at 8 p.m. Wednesday against Pratt Community College at the Colby Community Building.

Kansas star benched

LAWRENCE (AP) — Marcus Morris, the scoring leader for No. 3 Kansas, has lost his starting job after getting kicked out of the last game.

Morris, a 6-foot-8 junior averaging 15.5 points and 6.1 rebounds for the Jayhawks (11-0), was ejected from the game at Cal on Dec. 22 when he threw an elbow at Cal's Harper Kamp.

"Marcus has to be smarter than that," coach Bill Self said Tuesday. "That was a very, very immature play that he made. He's

cost himself a starting position. He'll play. But he certainly has to be more mature than that because he's too valuable."

Thomas Robinson, a 6-9 sophomore who has shown improvement while coming off the past few games, will start in Morris' place on Wednesday night against Texas-Arlington. Robinson is averaging 9.1 points and 6.9 rebounds.

Self said he had no idea when Morris might regain his starting job.

Possible just got more possible.

AT&T is new to your area and covers 97% of all Americans.



FREE
AFTER MAIL-IN REBATE
\$50 mail-in rebate AT&T Promotion Card; with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice and minimum \$20/mo. messaging plan required.
SAMSUNG STRIVE™



\$99.99

with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo. data plan required.
BLACKBERRY® TORCH™



\$49.99

AFTER MAIL-IN REBATE
\$30 mail-in rebate AT&T Promotion Card; with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo. data plan required.
MOTOROLA FLIPOUT™

Unicel has now joined AT&T.

MORE SMARTPHONE USERS
have chosen AT&T than any other wireless network.

UNLIMITED MOBILE TO MOBILE
Call over 85 million AT&T customers free.

ROLLOVER® MINUTES
Keep your unused minutes from month to month.

AT&T A-LIST™
Unlimited calling to up to 10 numbers.

FREE SHIPPING | 1.866.MOBILITY - ATT.COM - VISIT A STORE

AT&T STORE
Colby ♦ 1933 South Range, (785) 462-2092
♦ Formerly Unicel Wireless

Claim based on licensed and roaming areas. **Limited-time offer.** Subject to wireless customer agrmt. Credit approval req'd. Activ. fee up to \$36/line. Coverage & svcs, including mobile broadband, not avail everywhere. Geographic, usage & other conditions & restrictions (that may result in svc termination) apply. Taxes & other chrgs apply. Prices & equip. vary by mkt & may not be avail. from ind. retailers. See store or visit att.com for details and coverage map. **Early Termination Fee (ETF):** None if cancelled during first 30 days, but a \$35 restocking fee may apply; after 30 days, ETF up to \$150 or \$325 applies depending on device (details att.com/equipmentETF). Subject to change. Agents may impose add'l fees. **Regulatory Cost Recovery Charge** up to \$1.25/mo. is chrg'd to help defray costs of complying with gov't obligations & chrgs on AT&T & is not a tax or gov't req'd chrg. **AT&T Promotion Cards:** Samsung Strive price before AT&T Promotion Card; with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$20/mo. messaging plan required is \$49.99. Motorola Flipout price before AT&T Promotion Card; with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo. data plan required is \$79.99. Allow 60 days for fulfillment. Card may be used only in the U.S. & is valid for 120 days after issuance date but is not redeemable for cash & cannot be used for cash withdrawal at ATMs or automated gasoline pumps. Card request must be postmarked by 2/3/2011 & you must be a customer for 30 consecutive days to receive card. **Offer Details:** BlackBerry Torch price with 2-year wireless svc agreement on voice & minimum \$15/mo. data plan required is \$99.99. **Sales tax** calculated based on price of unactivated equipment. **Smartphone Data Plan Requirement:** Smartphone requires minimum DataPlus (200MB); \$15 will automatically be charged for each additional 200MB provided on DataPlus if initial 200MB is exceeded. All data, including overages, must be used in the billing period in which the allowance is provided or be forfeited. **For more details on data plans, go to att.com/dataplans.** **Rollover Minutes:** Unused Anytime Mins expire after the 12th billing period. Night & Weekend & Mobile to Mobile mins do not roll over. A-List: FamilyTalk™ plans 1,400 minutes+ are eligible. Only standard domestic landline or wireless numbers are eligible. FamilyTalk is a registered service mark of Delaware Valley Cellular Corp., an AT&T company. BlackBerry™, RIM™, Research In Motion™, SureType™, SurePress™, and related trademarks, names, and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. Screen images simulated. ©2010 AT&T Intellectual Property. Service provided by AT&T Mobility. All rights reserved. AT&T and the AT&T logo are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property. All other marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.