



Trojans rout Dodge

Men continue win streak

By Andy Heintz

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The Trojans men's basketball team continued its hot streak on Wednesday, hammering Dodge City 81-58 at the Community Building on coach Dustin Pfeifer's first game back from a two-game suspension.

It was just about a week ago that the Colby College team was suffering through an eight-game losing streak in a pattern that began to look eerily familiar to last season. The coach and the team's leading scorer had both been suspended due to an alleged incident with officials that had taken place after a heartbreaking 73-65 loss to Pratt on Feb. 2. The Trojans looked like they were on their way to a disappointing season that had started out promising.

What a difference a week makes. The Trojans are now riding a wave of momentum after winning three straight home games against teams who beat them earlier in the season. A sense of newfound confidence was evident in the Trojans' thrashing of the Conquistadors.

Colby played fundamentally sound, high-intensity basketball from the opening tip to the final buzzer. Unlike in some past games there were no scoring droughts or periods of stagnation.

In a reversal from the previous time the two teams met, Colby outrebounded Dodge City 40-28. The Conquistadors won the battle of the boards 37-25 in Dodge City's 74-64 victory over Colby earlier this season.

"They killed us on the boards in Dodge," freshman Marty Wendel said.

The Trojans tenaciously attacked the glass on both ends of the court throughout leading to second chance points on offense and a lot of "one shot and out" possessions for the Conquistadors.

"Our main goal tonight was to rebound," sophomore Terrell Bruce said.

Colby's stifling defense held Dodge City to an abysmal 25 percent from the field on 7 of 28 shooting in the first half and about 32 percent for the game. The Trojans shot well from the field, making 50 percent of their field goals on 30 for 60 shooting.

Two quick three pointers by A.J. Barber gave Colby an early 9-5 lead. Freshman Corey Billingslea drilled a three of his own, giving the Trojans a seven-point cushion.

Later in the half, sophomore Michael Morris missed a shot that freshman Carson Konrade tried to tip in. The tip was off the mark, but Billingslea was there to clean up with a tip in of his own to make it 18-9. Morris got a bucket down in the paint that upped Colby's lead to 24-12 with 8 minutes left in the half.

Bruce nailed a three-pointer, stretching Colby's lead to 29-14. The Trojans led 37-20 at the half.

Freshman Scott Ochs and Morris both scored on hook shots in



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Colby College freshman Terrell Bruce called out a play during the Trojans' game against Dodge City Community College on Wednesday night at the Community Building.

the first portion of the second half. The Trojans' led 53-34 with 10:52 left. Bruce darted into the passing lane and stole a pass in backcourt, which led to Ochs scoring inside while drawing contact from a defender several seconds later. He missed the free throw, but his bucket extended the Trojans' lead to 57-38.

Things got a little intense with less than 8 minutes remaining when Dodge City coach Steve High was hit with a technical foul for objecting to a no call after an Ochs' screen near the halfcourt line laid out the Conquistadors' Jordan Wilcox.

Wilcox remained down and play continued. The Dodge City coach walked out on to the floor to tend to his fallen player before the action had stopped. After checking on his player a visibly irate High loudly protested the call before the referee whistled him for the

technical. One of the Conquistadors' players attempted to hold High back to keep him getting a second technical.

The Conquistadors' Yves Sainelo was given a technical for voicing his complaints about the non-call. Wilcox eventually made it to his feet and was helped to the bench by teammates.

The Trojans' offense continued to click on all cylinders. Freshman Kevin Jefferson stole a pass and pushed the ball downcourt before dishing it off to freshman Vincent Dillard who scored while drawing a foul. He made his free throw, broadening Colby's lead to 72-46. The Trojans went on to win 81-58.

Barber led all scorers with 19 points on 6-of-8 shooting. The Trojans' point guard knocked down both his three-pointers.

Pfeifer said Barber has played well in all three of Colby's recent

victory's.

Ochs finished with 12 on 5-of-6 shooting, freshman Carson Konrade added 11 and Bruce chipped in 10.

Pfeifer said the secret to Colby's success in the game was toughness and effort.

"The guys have bought into the team concept," the coach said.

Pfeifer said the this groups success was much deserved.

"They have faced a lot of adversity," he said.

"Coach has got us believing," Wendel said. "I thank God for being on this team and being able to put on the Trojans' jersey."

With the win, the Trojans' improved to 13-13 and 4-8 in the Jayhawk Western Division.

They will be back on the road in their next game at 8 p.m. Saturday at Garden City.

Womens' team wins at home

By Andy Heintz

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On the surface, warm worms and Lady Trojans basketball seem to have nothing in common.

But the players on the Colby College women's team explained the role the slimy creatures played in their 75-62 victory over Dodge City on Thursday at the Community Building.

Colby held a slim 31-27 lead at halftime and coach Brady Jasper wanted to emphasize to his players that they needed to do whatever it takes to pick up a victory. Sophomore Hannah Thornton said the coach told them a story about two fishermen who were trying their luck at the same fishing hole on a cold day. Even though they were both using the same worms and the same hook, one of the fisherman was pulling in fish after fish while the other wasn't catching anything. Finally, the guy who wasn't catching anything asked the other person what his secret was. The fisherman pulled a worm out from under his lips and said warm worms.

The sophomore forward said the fisherman was willing to do whatever it took to catch fish, just like the Lady Trojans needed to do whatever it took to get a victory.

The worm tale appeared to get through to the Lady Trojans as they shot a blistering 55 percent from the field and outscored the Lady Conquistadors' 44-35 in the second half. Jasper said Dodge City was really crowding his team's dribble handoffs, which set the Conquistadors up to get beaten on backdoor cuts.

Thornton rebounded her own miss and scored inside and sophomore Tayler Puttergill buried a midrange jumper early in the second half. Colby led 47-38 with 13:29 left. Later, freshman Kelli Crittenden grabbed a defensive rebound and took it the length of the court for a layup, giving Colby a 56-47 edge with 9:31 left. The Lady Trojans stretched their lead to 61-47 before Dodge City called a time with about 7:20 remaining.

Things didn't get any better for the Lady Conquistadors fol-

lowing the timeout. Sophomore Elena Gutmane faked like she was going away from the basket and cut sharply to the hoop where she received a pass from sophomore Brooke Bursiek for a layup, extending Colby's lead to 66-47. The team went on to win 75-62.

The start of the game didn't go smoothly for the Lady Trojans. Dodge City's Kayla Payton hit a jumper after Colby had given up an offensive rebound off a missed free throw to make it 7-2 Lady Conquistadors. Crittenden drove the length of the floor, beating a couple Dodge City defenders off the dribble on her way to a layup. She was fouled on the play, but she missed her free throw and Colby trailed 9-4. Then Crystal Kinderknecht drilled a three-pointer, narrowing the gap to 9-7.

Later in the half, Thornton split the defense and scored inside the paint, tying the game at 13. Colby couldn't get anything to fall on offense, allowing Dodge City to cling to its narrow lead. The Lady Trojans finally overtook the Lady Conquistadors' lead when Crittenden drove in and made a left-handed layup that put Colby out in front 22-21. Puttergill drained a shot just inside the free throw line, stretching the Lady Trojans' lead to 24-21. Freshman Brittany Schamberger hit a tough turnaround jumper from the baseline with less than 30 seconds left in the half and Colby went into the locker room with a 31-27 lead.

The Lady Trojans outrebounded their opponents 37-32. They turned the ball over 18 times while Dodge City committed 21 turnovers. Colby made about 42 percent of its field goals on 12 of 38 shooting. They only shot about 32 percent in the first half, but redeemed themselves with a hot shooting second half.

Freshman Morgan Rickwartz led the team with 14 points on 7-of-12 shooting and Puttergill added 14. Crittenden finished with 12 on 4-of-6 shooting and Thornton had 10.

With the win, the Lady Trojans improved to 9-17 and 4-8 in the Jayhawk Western Division. They play at 6 p.m. Saturday at Garden City.

Colby girls win tourney

The Lady Eagles junior varsity basketball team crushed Oakley 46-21 in the championship of their home tournament Monday at the high school.

Coach Jack Elliot said his team used its defense to build a 16-3 lead in the first quarter. The coach said he was pleased with the way the girls played in all aspects of the game.

Freshman Haileigh Shull scored

a team-high 17 points and sophomore Karly Kriss added 11. Junior Brenna McKee finished with 6 points, sophomore McKenna Ortner and senior Caitlyn Wark both scored 4 and the Mengel sisters, freshmen Haley and Morgan, had 2 each.

With the win, the Lady Eagles improved to 11-1. They will play at 8 p.m. tonight at Dodge City.

Slow start hurts Lady Titans

The Triplains/Brewster Lady Titans couldn't overcome a 16-point first half deficit in their 49-37 loss to Wheatland/Grinnell in Winona on Friday.

Coach Stacia Whittecar said the game was a tale of two halves. Her team had 9 turnovers in the first quarter and 15 in the half. Triplains/Brewster shot 21 percent from the field, 4 of 19.

The Lady Titans trailed 29-13 at the half.

The coach said the girls scored 11 of their 16 third-quarter points in the last 3:15.

"Our rebounding picked up in the third quarter as well, grabbing 11 boards, and we had four on our six made shots," she said.

Whittecar said the fourth period was an OK quarter, but the team didn't shoot as well and had only one assist. She was happy about

the decline of turnovers in the second half.


"The second half showed signs of improvement because the girls had only six turnovers compared to the 15 in the first half," Whittecar said.

The girls outscored the Lady Thunderhawks 24-20 in the second half.

The Lady Titans shot almost 30 percent from the field on 14 of 47 shooting. The girls shot 36 percent in the second half on 10 of 28 shooting.

Kasey Hoyt scored a team-high 17 points, Brittany Plummer finished with 8, and Sheena Rall chipped in 6.

With the loss, the Lady Titans dropped to 2-12. The girls will play Wallace County at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Sharon Springs.



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