

# VICTORY

## Trojan baseball team wins Sub-Regionals

### Saturday

By Kevin Bottrell

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The Fort Scott Greyhounds jumped out to an early lead in the first game of the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference Sub-Regional Tournament on Saturday in Colby, but once they lost it, they could never get it back.

Fort Scott ended up losing the early game to Butler County Community College 9-3. Despite Fort Scott's first-inning lead, the Grizzlies shut down the Greyhounds until the eighth and capitalized on 16 hits to pull far ahead.

Colby Community College faced Highland Community College Scotties in the second game of the tournament. Sophomore pitcher Marshall Dean threw a one-hitter, striking out 8 batters in nine innings.

It was a tight game defensively for both teams. Colby dropped most of the Highland batters in order, but didn't score a run until the fifth inning. Freshman Austin Russell was the first to get on in the bottom of the first, reaching first base on an error, but he was left on base.

Dean threw three straight strike-

outs in the top of the second, but the Trojans also fell in order. Sophomore Nathan Wilson got to third on a balk, but was left on base after sophomore Matt Balogh grounded and out and Russell popped out.

Colby runners got into scoring position again in the bottom of the fourth. With two outs, freshman Nick Bata was hit by a pitch to load the bases for Wilson. Wilson hit a grounder to the Highland third baseman, who threw Bata out at second to end the inning.

Highland's only hit of the game came in the top of the fifth, when pitcher Gabriel Wallmeyer hit a single to left field. He advanced to second base on a bunt. Another Highland player grounded into a double play that left Wallmeyer on third. Dean threw a wild pitch, but beat Wallmeyer to the plate to catch the throw and tag him out.

Colby scored in the bottom of the fifth with a solo home run by Balogh. Sophomore Jon Cotter scored on a single by sophomore Robert Glover to make it 2-0.

In the top of the sixth, Highland was in danger of scoring when a runner got to third on two errors and a ground out, but a fly ball and a strikeout got Colby out of the in-

ning with no damage done.

Colby scored again in the bottom of the sixth when Bata got home on a base hit by Balogh. Balogh was caught stealing second and Russell popped out to end the inning.

Colby and Highland both went down in order in the seventh, but the Trojans doubled their lead in the eighth. Sophomore Josh Jurado opened things up with a long fly ball. The Highland outfielder got turned around in the warning track and the ball dropped behind him. Bata got hit by a pitch and a sacrifice bunt by Wilson moved the runners to scoring position. Balogh walked to load the bases and Russell hit right to the shortstop. The second baseman missed the tag and one runner scored, putting Colby up 4-0.

With the bases still loaded, Cotter hit a double to center field, allowing Colby's final two runs to score. Highland took their pitcher out of the game, and a fly out ended the inning.

In the top of the ninth, two ground outs and Dean's eighth strikeout sealed the deal for the Trojans with a final score of 6-0.

The losing teams of both games went on to play each other that



Colby Community College freshman Brandon Wilson slid into third base during the Trojans' 6-0 blowout of Highland Community College on Saturday.

evening. Highland led Fort Scott 7-3 after five innings, but the Greyhounds had a back to back

five-run innings in the sixth and seventh to steal the lead. They kept the Scotties from scoring any

further runs, winning the game 13-7 and eliminating Highland from the tournament.

### Sunday

The Trojans looked like they were in danger in the first half of Sunday's semifinals, but found their rhythm in the fourth inning. They faced Butler County in the winner's bracket.

Sophomore Matt Stevens got the win, striking out 8 and giving up 2 runs on 10 hits in 9 innings of play.

Butler got in a run early in the first on a double to center field, driving home a runner who got on base through an error. The Trojans got out of the inning with a fly ball and a strikeout. In Colby's half of the inning, Austin Russell singled to left, but was caught stealing a

few plays later.

The Grizzlies struck another blow in the top of the second with a bases-loaded base hit, making the score 2-0. The Colby offense started to come alive in the bottom of the fourth. Sophomore Kurtis Baker hit a ground rule double over the wall, driving in Jon Cotter. In the bottom of the fifth, Cotter hit a sacrifice fly that brought freshman Tyler Hayes across the plate, tying the game at 2.

Colby took the lead in the bottom of the sixth with a solo homer by Baker. The Trojans were able to run up the score in the seventh with a 2-run hit by Robert Glover.

The Grizzlies got men in scoring position in the top of the eighth and again in the ninth, but Colby was able to keep them from scoring. Stevens struck out Brennan Murphy to end the game with a 5-2 win for Colby.

Butler County had to come right back and play a rematch with Fort Scott for the second game of the day. Fort Scott broke a tie again in the sixth and added runs in the seventh and eighth to win the game 10-4.

As the winner of the losing bracket, Fort Scott would need to win twice in Monday's championship bracket.



Fort Scott infielder Stuart Jeck was tagged out at home by the Butler County catcher in Saturday's first round game. Butler County went on to win the game and faced Colby on Sunday.

### Monday

The Trojans had a tough final game in Monday's championship bracket. They trailed the Fort Scott Greyhounds until the final four innings.

Sophomore pitcher Cory Rideour started the game for the Trojans. He gave up 5 runs on 8 hits and struck out 4.

Both teams began scoring runs right out of the gate. Fort Scott got in 3 runs in the top of the first on a pair of doubles and a wild pitch. Colby answered with 2 runs in the bottom of the first. Austin Russell hit a double to left field, driving in Matt Balogh. Russell got to third on missed catch and then scored on an error.

Colby tied the game at 3 in the third when Russell scored again on a single by Brandon Wilson, but Kurtis Baker grounded into a double play before the Trojans could get any more runs.

The Trojans got within sight of the lead in the fourth. After dropping the Greyhounds in order in the bottom, Colby had the bases loaded, but Russell hit a grounder right to the first baseman that ended the inning.

The Greyhounds widened their lead to 4-2 in the top of the fifth

and to 5-2 in the top of the sixth, with Colby unable to answer with any runs.

Things looked dire for the Trojans coming into the bottom of the sixth. Scott Jones walked and was picked off trying to steal. Robert Glover walked and got to second on a passed ball. Nathan Wilson was hit by a pitch and Tyler Hayes singled to center field to load the bases. Balogh walked, bringing Glover home.

With the score at 5-4, Fort Scott made a pitching change, but it didn't help them much. Russell was hit by a pitch, bringing Nathan Wilson home to tie the game at 5. Colby took the lead a few minutes later when Jon Cotter singled

to left field, scoring Hayes. The Trojans increased their lead when Brandon Wilson made a sacrifice fly, scoring Balogh. Baker struck out looking to cap a 4-run inning that ended up winning the ball game for the Trojans.

The Trojans held Fort Scott in place, allowing no more runs in the seventh, eighth and ninth innings, but were unable to score any more themselves. Pitcher R-Jay Joe, who came in during the top of the fifth, effectively shut down the Greyhound offense, allowing only 1 more hit and struck out 2 batters. The game ended at 7-5 in favor of Colby, who will advance to the Region VI Super-Regional Tournament in Wichita.



Trojan freshman Robert Glover took a big swing in the bottom of the seventh inning in Colby's 7-5 championship win over Butler County on Monday.

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