

Lady Trojans split doubleheader in Liberal

The Colby Community College Lady Trojans decisively won the first game of a doubleheader against Seward Community College Wednesday in Liberal.

Colby grabbed the lead early against the Lady Saints, recording a 10-0 victory. Five runs in the first three innings allowed

Colby to put the game away early.

A 2-run home run by Kendra Trussel and a 3-run home run by Gabi Palacios during the second inning supplied the early offense for Colby Lady Trojans softball.

Palacios recorded 4 RBIs on 3 hits.

Pitcher Natalie Elmgreen kept Seward off the scoreboard, pitching a five-inning shutout.

The Lady Trojans added 4 more runs in the top of the fifth. Trussel doubled, bringing home Sasha Duran-Fong and Courtney Kinnett to start the inning. That

was followed by Elmgreen's double, scoring Trussel.

In the second game, the Lady Trojans ended up on the wrong side of a 17-0 score.

Duran-Fong was hot from the plate for Colby, going 1 of 2. She doubled in the

first inning.

The next game for the Lady Trojans was Friday against Northeastern Junior College. Game time is 2 p.m. at the Carl Adams Softball Field located on the southeast corner of campus.



GOLDEN PLAINS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jacob Ritter practiced his long jump abilities while the middle school team gets ready for the upcoming track season. Jacob, a sixth grader, will be competing for Golden Plains Middle School for his first track season.

Golden Plains middle school prepares for first track meet

By Maddy Walz

Golden Plains High School

Thursday, May 2, 10 a.m. – Logan Invitational
Friday, May 10, 9:30 a.m. – Western Kansas Liberty League meet in Logan

Golden Plains Middle School is hard at work preparing for its first track meet. This year there are 34 athletes out, including 21 girls and 13 boys.

Due to the bad weather, the first meet scheduled to be on Thursday was postponed. Still determined to do well, the team practices for the next one planned for Friday, April 12, in Logan.

"I like to see hard work. Improvement and progress is what I ask for of this season as a team and personal goal," Coach Russ Aumiller said about the season.

"My goal for this season is to bring home as many gold medals as I can," added Dawson Spresser.

This year's schedule includes the following meets:

- Friday, April 12, 10 a.m. – Northern Valley Invitational in Logan
- Friday, April 26, 10 a.m. – Quinter Invitational

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Final Four set after blowouts, big injury

By Paul Newberry

AP National Writer

ATLANTA – After a season of uncertainty, there's a clear favorite heading to the Final Four.

The Louisville Cardinals.

While the other No. 1s have fallen by the wayside, the top overall seed romped to the Georgia Dome with four dominant wins in the NCAA tournament. And, if the Cardinals need any extra motivation, they've got it.

Sophomore guard Kevin Ware, who played his high school ball in the Atlanta suburbs, sustained a gruesome injury in Sunday's regional final against Duke. Before he headed off to surgery, he courageously urged his teammates to finish the job.

Now, they would like nothing more than to win it all for Ware.

Next stop, the A-T-L, where three rather unlikely teams will be looking to knock off the mighty Cardinals.

First up, the surprising Shockers from Wichita State in the semifinals Saturday. The No. 9 seed has already pulled off two major upsets, but this would be the biggest stunner yet.

If Louisville makes it through to next Monday night's title game, the opponent would be either Michigan, sporting a new group of Fab Wolverines, or Syracuse, which comes at you with the stingiest zone defense in college basketball. The two No. 4 seeds will meet in the other semifinal game.

All are underdogs to the Cardinals, who are winning by an average of nearly 22 points a game in the tournament.

"I thought we had a chance there, and then boom," said Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, who watched Louisville pull away for an 85-63 victory in the Midwest Regional final.

In the other game Sunday, Michigan captured the South Regional with a 79-59 rout of Florida, leading from the opening tip. A day earlier, Syracuse shut down Marquette 55-39 to win the East Regional, while Wichita State punched its Final Four ticket with a 70-66 upset of Ohio State out West.

In the final year of the Big East before it splits into two new conferences, Louisville and Syracuse provided a fitting send-off to a league that quickly became a basketball powerhouse after it was founded in 1979.

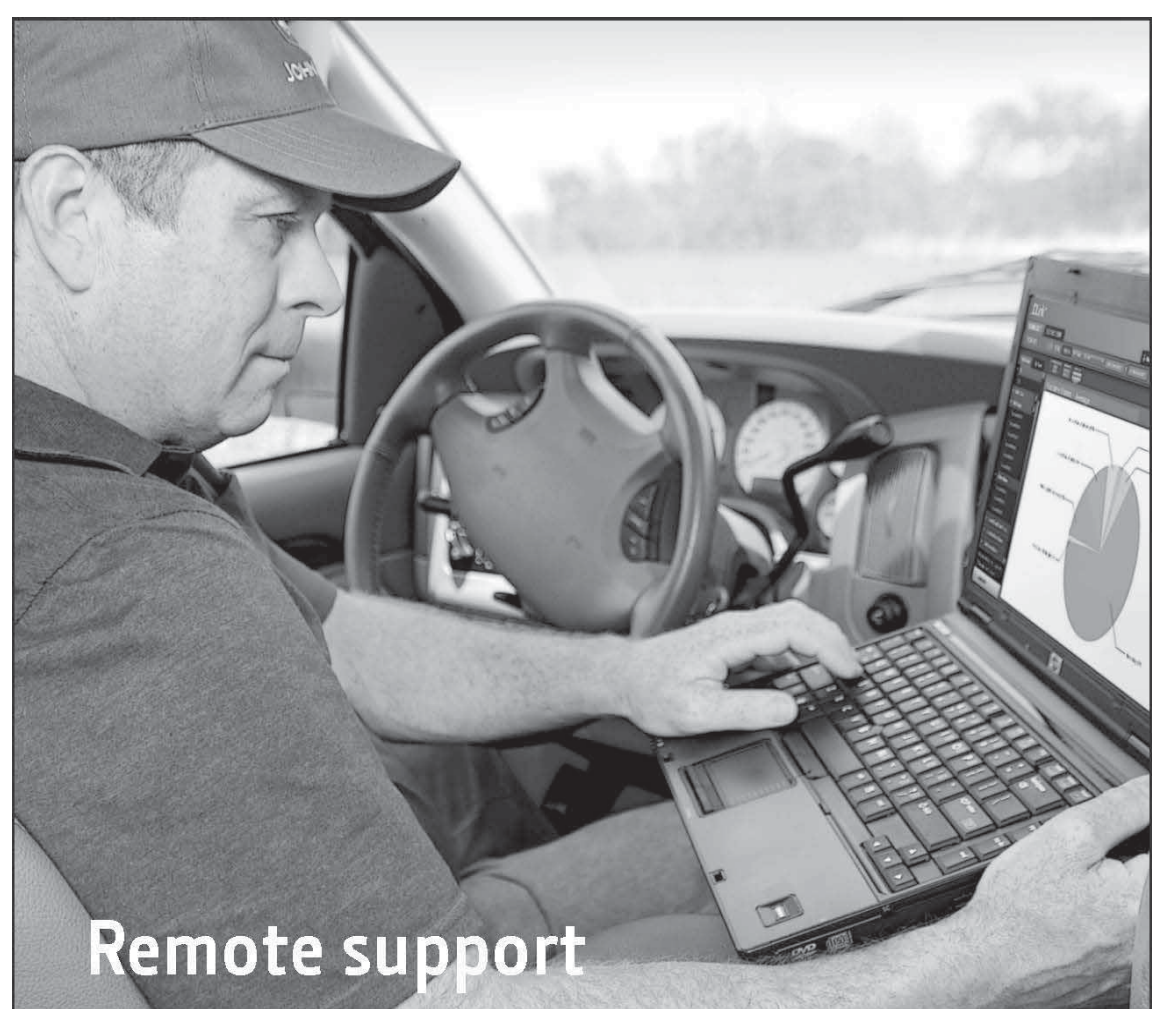
Before it goes, this version of the Big East has a shot at one more national title.

With two teams, no less.

The Cardinals – who, like Syracuse, are moving to the Atlantic Coast Conference – shook off the incredible shock of Ware's injury with about 6 1/2 minutes to go before halftime and blew out the second-seeded Blue Devils. The sophomore snapped his lower right leg after coming down awkwardly while defending a 3-point shot. The injury occurred right in front of the Louisville bench, where the players gasped and turned away quickly at the sight of Ware's dangling leg, which was broken in two places.

Russ Smith collapsed onto the floor, along with several players, and was crying as doctors attended to Ware. While Ware was loaded onto a stretcher, the Cardinals gathered at midcourt until Pitino called them over, saying the injured player wanted to talk to them before he left.

"All he kept saying – and remember, the bone is 6 inches out of his leg – all he's yelling is, 'Win the game! Win the game!'" Pitino said. "I've never seen that in my life. We're all distraught and all he's saying is, 'Win the game.' Kevin is a special young man."



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