

Trojan spikers love good fight

By R.B. Headley
Colby Free Press
rbheadley@nwkansas.com

Volleyball's version of ultimate fighters even left coach Carey Jones somewhat staggered with amazement last weekend.

"I'm not sure I've ever seen a score that high," the Colby Community College leader said about her Trojans' 38-36 contest against Northeast (Colo.) Junior College.

Remember, volleyball sets are designed to end when one team reaches 25 points.

Yet the Trojans also played 27-25, 26-24 and seven other sets decided by three points or less during a dramatic debut at the North Platte, Neb., Community College tournament.

All this intense action confirmed what Jones already knew.

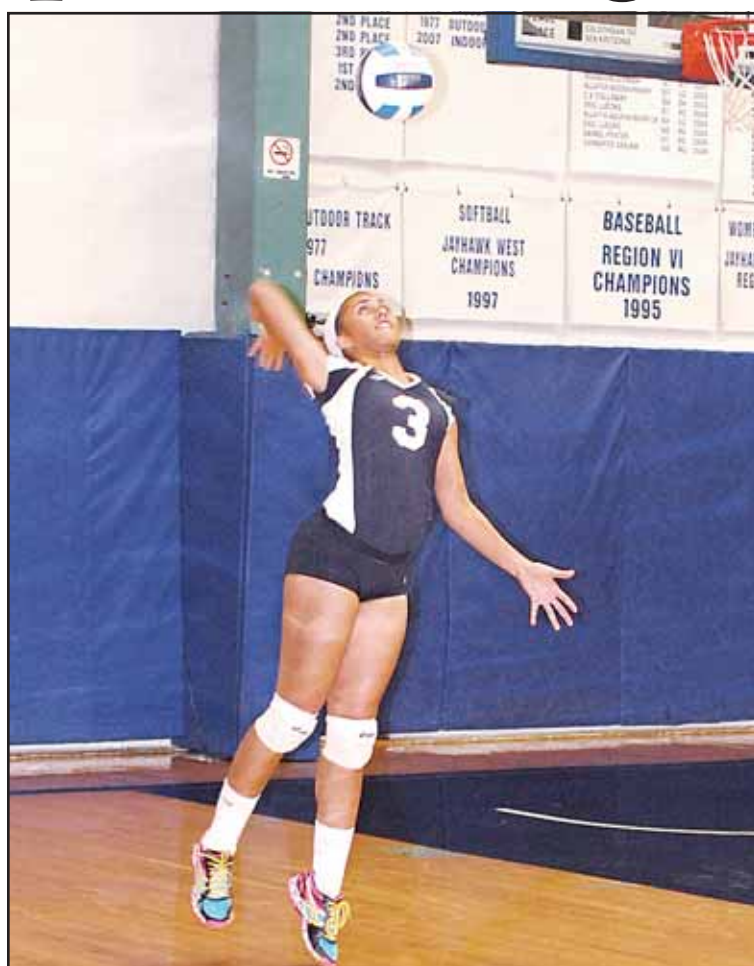
"We fought, we fought hard and we fought hard every single time we played," she explained. "You don't always see that right away with a new team. But I said last week there was something very special about these kids. I saw it this weekend."

The Trojans split four intense matches all played within a 24-hour time period.

They started on Friday afternoon by conquering a five-set match over Sheridan (Wyo.) College that wasn't decided until the final point: 25-23, 14-25, 25-23, 18-25 and 15-13.

Returning all-region setter Maisey Munson delivered 40 assists while teammate Taylor Alderson-hustled to 31 digs. Outside hitters Lorena Rosario (10 kills) and Ariana Jacquez (nine) overcame some first-match errors to lead the Trojans' offensive attack.

Barely 20 minutes later, Colby



FREE PRESS PHOTO

Sophomore Lorena Rosario crushed 66 kills during Colby Community College's first four matches last weekend.

was starting another showdown against Northeast Junior College from Sterling, Colo.

The ensuing two 25-22 defeats sandwiched around that 38-36 classic left Jones even more impressed about her team.

"We came back 20 minutes later and played an even better team tough," she said. "We came back from set point several times and that shows a lot."

Rosario ripped 18 kills with

Jacquez (eight) and Taryn Lee smashing another 14.

"We know Lorena's our go-to girl, but we found some other hitters as well," Jones said.

Munson made 38 assists and Danielle Rodriguez added 30 digs en route to 100 that currently ranks No. 1 in all of National Junior College Association Division I.

Another trio of Trojans appear among the top five. They're fea-

ured in a story below on today's sports page.

Colby came back for a 9 a.m. match on Saturday and needed only four sets to down Williston (N.D.) State College 25-18, 25-18, 22-25, 25-22.

Rosario's 19 kills featured just two hitting errors, and Lee drilled 12 lethal shots past the defense. Freshman Kamryn Forrest (11 kills) stepped up to give the Trojans a trio of double-digit killers.

Forrest also made two stuff blocks and assisted six other stops at the net. The Trojans totaled 16 block assists during this match.

"That hasn't always been one of our strongest points, so that could prove to make a big difference," Jones remarked.

Munson's 49 assists were her weekend best. Rodriguez (23 digs) and Munson (16) also teamed for 39 digs.

Colby's weekend finale was one more five-set, back-and-forth match against host North Platte. The hosts finally prevailed 25-22, 25-27, 26-24, 20-25, 15-9.

Freshman Adrianna Sosnowska became another top Trojans hitter (12 kills), joining Rosario (19) and Jacquez (10).

Forrest served four ace serves added five block assists. Rodriguez reached 30 digs again.

The Trojans (2-2 overall) will get a rematch with North Platte during Saturday's Colby Classic.

Before then, they'll face another challenge at Dodge City Community College Wednesday night in their Jayhawk League opener.

"We'll have to work hard to prepare, because it's different playing a league match and playing in North Platte," Jones said. "It's a small gym, and I expect they will get a good crowd there."



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Unlike this pre-season practice last week, Colby High players will put on the pads and give fans a preview of their 2013 team during Thursday night's Gatorade scrimmage at Dennen Field. The 7 p.m. performance follows a 5 p.m. Colby High volleyball scrimmage in the CHS gymnasium.

Eagles' opening foe earns state ranking

By R.B. Headley
Colby Free Press
rbheadley@nwkansas.com

The Oakley Plainsmen will bring a No. 4 state football ranking into Dennen Field for their season opener against Colby on Friday, Sept. 6.

VarsityKansas.com awarded Oakley the 2-1A No. 4 position as the Plainsmen return 15 starters from last year's 7-3 team. Junior

defensive lineman Ryan Kuhn and tight end Austin Baalman are two of the top players listed.

However, Oakley will need a better effort than the 2012 contest with Colby. The Eagles earned one of their two wins by a 20-15 final score.

Centralia, Meade and LaCrosse hold the top three 2-1A positions ahead of Oakley. Centralia has won two of the past four 2-1A state championships.

Golfers get big wins

Results scrambles at Meadow Lake Golf Course last week.

Ladies Night

The 2-lady scramble attracted 11 participants.

Flight one: 1. Audrey Hines, 2. Anita Beckman, 2. Susan Wark. Flight two: 1. Becky Herrman, 2. Lynette Ball, 3. Shari Oren.

Couples Night

A field of 15 couples played the 2-couple scramble Friday night.

1. Kerry and Leesa Wark-Taylor and Tawnia Bange. 2. Doug and Wanda Brown-Andy Lee and Denita Rogers. 3. Blake and Kathy Arnberger-Steve and Kristin Ostmeyer.

Colby women enter nation's top five

The Colby Community College volleyball team's effort last weekend has resulted in four players being ranked top five nationally.

Danielle Rodriguez's 100 digs and 5.88 per set leads all of National Junior College Ath-

letic Association Division I, according to njcaa.com.

Setter Maisey Munson's 10.47 assists per set has earned No. 3 national ranking, and she's teamed with the nation's No. 5 hitter

in sophomore classmate Lorena Rosario (66 kills, 4.12 per set).

The Trojans split their first four matches at last weekend's North Platte (Neb.) Community College tournament.

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