

Let 'er rip!



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Senior John Wark took a turn at bat during one of the home baseball games for the Colby Eagles. The team will be playing locally once again on Saturday after a long stretch on the road. The Eagles will host Holcomb at the Colby Recreation Department's fields on East Ninth Street. Games will begin at 11 a.m.

Top four-year schools visit
Trojan basketball program

By **CHAD OSTERMANN**
Colby Community College

The Colby Community College Trojan men wrapped up the second best season in Trojan history winning 26 games and finished second in the rugged Jayhawk West Conference.

The Trojans advanced to the National Junior College Athletic Association Region VI Final Four before bowing out of the tournament. Six sophomores will receive scholarships this season and several freshman are already garnering interest from many National College Athletic Association Division I schools.

Highlighting the evaluation period for National College Athletic Association Division One coaches came Tuesday, April 29, when legendary coach Bob Knight visited

the Colby Community College campus. Knight currently is the head coach at Texas Tech University. Other Big 12 schools making their way to Colby included Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Nebraska.

Three Conference-USA schools (Charlotte, Marquette, DePaul) also attended spring workouts. Marquette won Conference-USA this past season and went to the National College Athletic Association Final Four, while Charlotte has won two of the past five Conference-USA tournaments and has signed Trojan 6'8" Sophomore Dedric Spooner.

Wisconsin State University, Virginia Commonwealth, Eastern Kentucky, Creighton and Indiana State rounded out the schools that visited the Trojans in April.

Creighton was home to former Colby Trojan star Larry House the past two years and has won the past two Conference Tournaments and advanced to the National College Athletic Association Tournament the past five seasons under former Kansas State mentor Dana Altman.

Coach Ostermann commented on hosting 12 National College Athletic Association Division One schools during the April evaluation period, "Hosting several schools this spring is great for our community and obviously our basketball program. Coaches add a little bit to our local economy and certainly add a degree of credibility to our basketball program. It's really a credit to the quality of people we have in our basketball program."

Colby Community College relay
gears up for national competition

The Colby Community College 4 x 800 meter relay team that placed tenth at the indoor national is now gearing up for the more important outdoor national meet to be held on Friday in Levelland, Texas.

The relay team has improved 13 seconds from its best indoor time

and is really running fast.

"We are running really fast right now," said head coach Jeff Becker. "This is the best time of the year to be running fast this shows that we are doing something right with our training."

The relay team consists of Tom

King of Little Suamico, Wisc.; Alex Mahundi of Tanzania; Justin Marquardt of Oconto Falls, Wisc.; and Travis Sauer of Salina. The alternate will be Ray Longoria of Scottsbluff, Neb.

Community Prevention
Consultant

The Regional Prevention Center of Northwest Kansas has a job opening for a **Community Consultant** in the Colby office. This position is ideal for someone with a bachelor's degree, excellent communication skills, a basic knowledge of computers and a desire to work on drug prevention efforts with individuals and community organizations in Northwest Kansas. Training will be provided for the right applicant. Send resume no later than 5/14/03 to:

**Regional Prevention Center
990 S. Range, Suite 7, Colby,
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The Regional Prevention Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Royals lose to Boston at home

By **DOUG TUCKER**

AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Perhaps Kansas City fans should try polite applause when Johnny Damon comes to bat against the Royals. Booming doesn't seem to do any good.

It might even rile him up.

Booed every time he came to bat in a three-game series with Boston, the once-popular Royal hit a two-run homer and an RBI double as the Red Sox rallied for a 9-6 victory Wednesday.

"Maybe he got tired of listening to those people getting on him," Boston manager Grady Little said.

Damon was a fan favorite when he was the cornerstone of a youth movement in Kansas City. But he refused to sign a long-term contract and was traded in 2001. He insisted the fans' disapproval goes almost unnoticed.

"I really don't mind it," he said. "They have some false information on how this team is run."

The Royals, who have lost two straight at Kauffman Stadium after

an 11-0 start at home, built a 6-1 lead before Boston scored four runs in the seventh and four more in the eighth.

Damon was right in the middle of it all, hitting his two-run home run in the seventh off rookie Kyle Snyder and the RBI double in the eighth against Albie Lopez (4-1).

Damon said Royals fans "will see what happens" when stars Mike Sweeney and Carlos Beltran become eligible for free agency. Sweeney can void the final three years of his five-year, \$55 million contract if the Royals fail to reach .500 this year or next, and Beltran could be eligible after next year.

"They're still talking about cutting payroll," Damon said. "So (the Royals) are trying to stay in the race through July and see if (owner) David Glass goes and gets people who help them down the stretch."

The Royals cut about \$4 million this year, bringing their payroll to about \$40 million, one of the lowest in the major leagues. Boston's is around \$97 million, one of the highest.

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Sandhill Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine

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Will continue outreach 3rd Tuesday of the Month

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