

Waiting for the ball to drop



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College Lady Trojan volleyball players (from left to right) Sara Ritchey, Cynthia Danthon and Kori Tagetmeyer waited for the ball to come down during their match against the Hutchinson Community College Blue Dragons Tuesday at the Colby Community Building. The Lady Trojans will play again at 6:30 p.m. Friday at home against Garden City Community College.

K-State facing reversal of fortunes

MANHATTAN — Sixteen years after Bill Snyder began the work of lifting Kansas State from the depths of college football to a place among its elite, and just two years after the Wildcats won the Big 12, the “Miracle in Manhattan” is showing some wear.

The Wildcats (4-4) haven’t won since Oct. 8 and face the prospect of missing the postseason for a second straight year — something that hasn’t happened since 1991-92.

“It’s big for me personally, and I know from talking to the other guys that it’s big for them too,” senior offensive tackle Jerome Clary said Tuesday. “We don’t want to go out the way we did last year.”

Especially frustrating to the Wildcats is that after going 4-7 in 2004, they started this season 3-0 and could easily be 6-2. Their last two losses were by a total of five points — 30-28 to Texas A&M and 23-20 to Colorado — and both were preventable.

A slow start kept Kansas State from taking advantage of mistakes by the Aggies, and a muffed punt set up Colorado’s game-winning field goal last weekend.

“It’s not a lack of effort that’s holding us back,” defensive tackle Quintin Echols said. “It’s penalties

and doing dumb things.”

Snyder’s job would appear to be secure, even if Kansas State doesn’t make it to a bowl. Who, after all, is going to fire the architect of what has been called the greatest turnaround the game has ever seen?

Even if Kansas State doesn’t win again this year, Snyder’s 135 victories since he took over in 1989 would still match the Wildcats’ total wins from the 53 seasons before that.

The evidence of Snyder’s successes are everywhere in Manhattan, including the Powercat logo he designed that adorns everything from license plate holders to sweat shirts to the occasional tattoo.

While Snyder might not have drawn up the blueprints for the expansion of KSU Stadium to 50,000 seats, or for the motels and restaurants that sprung up along Tuttle Creek Boulevard in the 1990s, the fans who fill them only began to turn up when the Wildcats started winning.

Even highway contractors got in on the boom. Kansas Highway 177, north from I-70 into Manhattan, had to be widened to four lanes to accommodate traffic — and the state had to build bigger toll booth stations in Topeka, 40 miles away, to

handle all the cars coming in from the Kansas City area on game days.

The out-of-state recruits Kansas State needs to maintain its success don’t care how wide the roads are, though, or how pretty the Flint Hills can be on a fall Saturday. They want one thing: to play for a winning program.

“That’s the whole reason you pick a school,” fullback Victor Mann said. “You want to win those championships. You want the opportunity to do what other people don’t have the opportunity to do.”

And over the years, one playmaker after another followed that opportunity to Manhattan.

Stars such as Michael Bishop, Ell Roberson, Darren Sproles, Mark Simoneau, Chris Canty, Terrence Newman and David Allen made Kansas State a top-10 staple.

But this year, K-State hasn’t found those type of players.

Thomas Clayton had the nation’s best rushing average after two games, and in the Wildcats’ third game, Parrish Fisher became the first freshman in school history to rush for more than 100 yards. But the ground game has been missing since, producing just 279 yards in five Big 12 games.

And while the defense has produced a respectable 16 turnovers, the offense has committed 21 — often at crucial times.

“We have those types of guys, but we haven’t put them in the right situation to get the job done,” Mann said. “We haven’t paved the way for our running backs to get one-on-one with the safeties and make them miss and make spectacular moves to give the crowd that ‘Ooh’ and ‘Ahh.’ We do have the players that can break open games, but we just haven’t been a sound enough football team to put them in those situations.”

The Wildcats still control their postseason destiny, but now they need to at least gain a split in upcoming road games against Iowa State and Nebraska before closing out the regular season at home against Missouri.

Snyder remains his usually stoic self.

“I think it’s important for young people to understand that you don’t just float in the wind, that there is a staple, that there is something that is, for lack of a better term, grounded,” he said. “Understand that whatever the ups and downs are, we’ll get through it all.”

“I think they need to be able to look at something that allows them to understand that,” he said. “Stay the course, and something good eventually will happen.”

Defensive tackle Derek Marso agreed.

“Kansas State’s going to be Kansas State again,” he said. “No doubt about that.”

The question is which form will KSU revert to — the pre-1989 Wildcats who were the laughing-stock of the Big Eight or the ones who became perennial contenders in the Big 12?

TV LISTINGS

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COLBY FREE PRESS

SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 5

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	La Gente	BusinessWeek	Good Morning America (CC)		Lilo & Stitch	Buzz-Maggie	Proud Family	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Phil of Future	PGA Golf: The Tour Championship	
KSNK/NBC 9 (8)	Today (CC)				Paid Program	Paid Program	Tutenstein (EI)	Time Warp	Trading Spaces	Darcy's Wild Life	Flight 29 Down	Endurance (EI)
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	Saturday Early Show (CC)				Lazy-Town	Go Diego	Backyardigans	Dora the Explorer	Little Bill (EI) (CC)	Blue's Clues	Paid Program	Harvest of Hope
K15CG (2)	Business	Market-Market	Thomas-Friends	Jay Jay the Jet	Bob the Builder	Real Wheels	Dragon-flyTV	Kids A Cookin'	Score-board	Seasonings	Food	Victory Garden
ESPN (28)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)	College Gameday (Live) (CC)
USA (37)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	WWE A.M. Raw	Coach (CC)	Coach Upsized	Movie: Sabrina ★★½ (1995) A chauffeur's daughter awakens love in a rich workaholic.				
TBS (38)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Movie: Christmas Rush ★½ (2002, Action) (PA) Dean Cain. (CC) (DVS)				Movie: The Thomas Crown Affair ★★★ (1999, Adventure) Pierce Brosnan.				Movie: Entrapment ★★ (1999) (PA) (CC)	
WGN (39)	Enter-prise	Adelante Chicago	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Winning Edge	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Health Corner
TNT (40)	Movie: Enemy at the Gates ★★½ (2001) Two snipers face off during the Battle of Stalingrad. Jude Law. (CC)				Movie: Three Kings ★★★½ (1999) Four American soldiers go off in search of Gulf War gold. (CC)						Movie: Deep Blue Sea ★★½ (1999)	
DSC (42)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Walking With Cavemen: First Ancestors				Walking With Prehistoric Beasts		Walking-Prehistoric Beasts	
A&E (47)	Murder, She Wrote Truck Stop (CC)	Biography: Angela Lansbury	Ask This Old	Ask This Old	Old House	Old House			More Haunted Houses: Tortured Souls & Restless Spirits (CC)			
HIST (48)	Automobiles Jeep (CC)	20th Century With Mike Wallace (CC)	The Last Days of WWII April 29-May 5		Heavy Metal P-51 Mustang (CC)				Battlefield Detectives (CC)	Mail Call (CC)	History Making	
NICK (55)	Rocket Power	Rugrats (CC)	Grown Up	Jimmy Neutron	Spon-geBob	Cats-cratch	Oddpar-ents	Danny Phantom	Avatar-Last Air	Grown Up	Teenage Robot	Chalk-Zone
DISN (56)	Koala Brothers	Higgly-town	Ein-steins	JoJo's Circus	Doodle-bops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Lilo & Stitch	Lilo & Stitch	Whis-kers	Ameri-can Drgn	Buzz-Maggie
FAM (58)	Digimon-Digital	Battle B-Daman	W.I.T.C.-H. (CC)	Dragon Booster	Get Ed Fizzled	Kong-Series	Power Rangers	Super Robot	Spider-Man	Tick Heroes	Full House	Full House
HALL (60)	Little House on the Prairie	Charles and Jonathan become disenchanting with city life. (CC)			Little House on the Prairie	Almanzo refuses to exercise to regain the use of his legs.					Thorn Birds (Part 1 of 4) (CC)	

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	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	(11:00) PGA Golf: The Tour Championship -- Third Round. From Atlanta. (Live)					College Football: Regional Coverage -- California at Oregon, North Carolina State at Florida State, Wisconsin at Penn State or Big 12 Game TBA. (Live)						
KSNK/NBC 9 (8)	Jeop-ardy!	Paid Program	Paid Program		College Football: Tennessee at Notre Dame. (Live) (CC)						Paid Program	NBC News
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	(11:30) Harvest of Hope			Cycling: Volvo	Football Today	College Football: Alabama at Mississippi State. (Live) (CC)						
K15CG (2)	Yankee Shop	This Old House	Ask This Old	Home-time (N)	Wood-wright	For Your Home	Paint! Paint!	School-Fine Art	Love of Quilting	Piano Guy	Cabin Country	Rare Visions
ESPN (28)	(11:00) College Football: Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)				College Gmday	College Football: Illinois at Ohio State. (Live)						College Gmday
USA (37)	(10:00) Movie: Stargate ★★½ (1994) An artifact found in Egypt is the doorway to another world. Kurt Russell.					Movie: The Hulk ★★½ (2003, Action) Scientist Bruce Banner transforms into a powerful brute. Eric Bana. (CC)						
TBS (38)	(11:00) Movie: Entrapment (1999)		Movie: Back to the Future ★★½ (1985, Fantasy) A boy travels through time to his parents' teenage years. Michael J. Fox. (CC)			Movie: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ★★ (2001, Adventure) Angelina Jolie. (CC)						
WGN (39)	Soul Train (N)		Movie: The Last Warrior ★★ (2000, Science Fiction) Dolph Lundgren. (CC)			Farscape Thank God It's Friday Again			Farscape Picture if You Will (CC)		Ultimate Arena Paintball	
TNT (40)	(11:00) Movie: Deep Blue Sea		NASCAR Racing: Busch Series -- O'Reilly Challenge. From Fort Worth, Texas. (CC)			LAPD: On Beat			Movie: The Negotiator ★★★ (1998, Action) Samuel L. Jackson. (CC) (DVS)			
DSC (42)	Walking With Prehistoric Beasts	Walking With Dinosaurs	Walking With Dinosaurs	Walking With Dinosaurs	Walking With Dinosaurs	Walking With Dinosaurs			Dinosaur Face-Off: Tyrannosaurus		Dinosaur Face-Off: Velociraptor	
A&E (47)	Criss Angel Mindfreak (CC)	Airline (CC)	Airline (CC)	Airline (CC)	Airline (CC)	Random 1 Bruce; Kim (CC)			American Justice Traces in Blood (CC)		Investigative Reports (CC)	
HIST (48)	Shootout! Raid on the Makin Atoll. (CC)	Shootout! WWII Assault on Germany			Shootout! Swat Team Shootouts	Shootout! Iraq's Ambush Alley (CC)			Houdini: Unlocking the Mystery Host Lance Burton. (CC)			
NICK (55)	Rock Star	Cats-cratch	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV
DISN (56)	Movie: Life Is Ruff (2005) A teenage slacker adopts a stray dog. Kyle Massey.		Ameri-can Drgn	Ameri-can Drgn	Ameri-can Drgn	Kim Possible	Kim Possible	Buzz-Maggie	Buzz-Maggie	Naturally Sadie (N)	Life With Derek	
FAM (58)	Full House	Full House	Movie: Beethoven's 3rd ★★½ (2000, Comedy) Judge Reinhold. (CC)			Movie: Dr. Dolittle ★★ (1998) A surgeon regains his ability to talk to animals.			Movie: The Sandlot ★★½ (1993)			
HALL (60)	(11:00) Thorn Birds (Part 1 of 4) (CC)				Thorn Birds A tragic fire brings Father Ralph back to Drogheda; Meggie agrees to marry Luke O'Neill. (CC)				Thorn Birds (Part 3 of 4) (CC)			

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	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	News (CC)	The Insider	Movie: Catch Me if You Can ★★★ (2002) A teenage scam artist poses as a pilot, surgeon and lawyer. Leonardo DiCaprio. (CC)						News (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Enter-prise
KSNK/NBC 9 (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Law & Order Obsession (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order Flaw (CC)		News	Saturday Night Live (CC)		
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	CSI: Miami Killer Date (TV) (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		48 Hours Mystery Blind Justice (CC)		News (CC)	Drew Carey	Alias Color Blind (CC)	
K15CG (2)	Antiques Roadshow Portland	Keeping Up	As Time Goes By		The Lawrence Welk Show	Red Green		Austin City Limits The Killers; Spoon		Soundstage Chris Isaak, Greatest Hits	Tavis Smiley	
ESPN (28)	College Gmday	College Football: Miami at Virginia Tech. (Live) (CC)						SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		College Gameday Final (Live) (CC)		
USA (37)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU	
TBS (38)	Movie: The Matrix Reloaded ★★★ (2003, Science Fiction) (PA) Freedom fighters revolt against machines. Keanu Reeves. (CC)							College Football: Teams to Be Announced.				
WGN (39)	Race Car Driver	Race Car Driver	Movie: Planes, Trains and Automobiles ★★★ (1987, Comedy) Steve Martin. (CC)			America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Sex and the City	Becker (CC)	Home Improve.	Movie:	
TNT (40)	(4:00) Movie: The Negotiator (1998)		Movie: Rules of Engagement ★★½ (2000) An old friend defends a Marine accused of killing civilians.			Movie: Rules of Engagement ★★½ (2000) An old friend defends a Marine accused of killing civilians.						
DSC (42)	Before the Dinosaurs	Creatures before the dinosaurs. (N)			Rise of Man	Evolution of Homo sapiens. (N)			Before the Dinosaurs	Creatures before the dinosaurs.		
A&E (47)	City Confidential (CC)		City Confidential (N) (CC)		Cold Case Files		Red Light Districts	Prostitution. (N) (CC)		City Confidential (CC)		
HIST (48)	Busting the Mob (N) (CC)		Movie: The Siege ★★½ (1998) The FBI attempts to hunt down terrorists in New York. Denzel Washington.			The Day the Towers Fell (CC)		Infams Murder		Movie: The Siege ★★½ (1998) (CC)		
NICK (55)	Oddpar-ents	Spon-geBob	Ned's School	Drake & Josh	All That (CC)	Amanda	Foxwor-thy	Foxwor-thy	Foxwor-thy	Rose-anne	Rose-anne	
DISN (56)	Zack & Cody	That's-Raven	Movie: Angels in the Outfield ★★½ (1994, Fantasy) Danny Glover. (CC)			Zack & Cody	Naturally Sadie	Phil of Future	That's-Raven	Life With Derek	Buzz-Maggie	
FAM (58)	(5:00) Movie: The Sandlot (1993)		Movie: The Sandlot 2 (2005) Baseball-playing friends must outwit a fearsome dog.			Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Home Videos	Home Videos	Movie: I Do, They Don't ★★ (2005)		
HALL (60)	(4:30) Thorn Birds (Part 3 of 4) (CC)		Thorn Birds Cardinal de Bricassart takes Meggie's son to Rome to study for the priesthood; Justine finds love. (Part 4 of 4) (CC)					M*A*S*H Hey, Doc	M*A*S*H The Bus	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H The Kids	



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