



# Colby college squad falls to Cloud by five

By Andy Heintz  
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The Colby Community College men's basketball team's Achilles heel this season has been its first half performances. Time and time again the Trojans have fell behind by double digits in the first half, only to claw their way back into the game in the second. Sometimes their comebacks resulted in victories and others have ended in narrow defeats.

Colby's game on Saturday did not follow the same familiar script, however. The men's team started the game like a house of fire and built what was at one point an 11-point lead in the first half, but Cloud County Community College from Concordia rallied and took home a 68-63 victory.

Poor field goal shooting and a glaring disparity in fouls committed between the two teams proved to be Colby's downfall. The Trojans only shot 30 percent from the field and they were called for 36 fouls, while their opponents only had 18. This lopsided statistic can be partly attributed to Colby having to foul towards the end of the game to stop the clock, but there were some Trojan's fans who voiced their displeasure with foul calls made in the game.

Larry McDonald and Ron Boller were kicked out of the game by the referees late in the game for allegedly vocally disagreeing with calls made by the officials. Despite the substantial difference in fouls committed by the two teams, coach Dustin Pfeifer wasn't about to blame the loss on the referees.

"I'm not going to use the refs as an excuse," said Pfeifer. "We had

to foul in the second half to extend the game," he said.

Sophomore Aireus Stephenson fired a beautiful pass to Corey Woofter from the top of the key that Woofter laid in to give the Colby an early 2-0 lead. Moments later, freshman Regis Schafer drilled a three to make it 5-2 Trojans. A reverse layup by Stephenson followed by a jumper from the right baseline by Woofter gave Colby a 15-7 advantage. Sophomore Dominic Brewer tipped in a missed layup by Stephenson to increase the Trojans' lead to 18-7. It would turn out to be Colby's biggest lead of the night.

The Trojans momentum was thwarted by foul problems as freshman Jose Peña-Benjamin and sophomore Jordan Michelson were taken out of the game after they both picked up their second foul. Cloud County took full advantage of their absence, going on a 10-0 run to cut the Trojans' lead to 18-17.

Michelson returned to the game and scored on a layup inside to extend his team's lead to 20-17. Stephenson drained a short jumper near the free-throw-line to make it 22-17. The Thunderbirds scored the games next five points and tied the game at 22. Cloud eventually overtook Colby and led 23-22. But the Thunderbirds' lead would be short-lived. In the half's final moments the Trojans caused Cloud to commit a turnover in the backcourt that led to a layup by Stephenson giving Colby a 24-23 halftime lead.

"Offensive rebounding in the first half was huge for us," said Woofter.

The game went back and forth in the second half. The Thunder-

birds led the Trojans 35-32 with 12:16 left. Cloud's Eric Marshall scored inside to widen his team's lead to 39-34 a little later. Peña-Benjamin drilled a jumper to cut the lead to three. The teams continued to go at each other with the Thunderbirds clinging to a narrow lead. Peña-Benjamin buried a big three-pointer from the left wing to cut Cloud's lead to 48-50 with a little under four minutes left. The Thunderbirds responded by rattling off seven points and taking a 57-48 lead.

In what has become the team's trademark, the Trojans clawed their way back into the game. Freshman Michael Morris gave Colby a big lift in the games final minutes by scoring a few buckets off of rebounds, including a one-hand jam. He made a layup inside the paint to cut Cloud's lead to 63-66 with 5.8 remaining. The Trojans fouled the Thunderbirds' Dewayne Wade to stop the clock. Wade sank both his free throws ending Colby's chance at making a comeback.

Stephenson and Morris led the team in scoring with 12 points each. Morris had a team-high 9 rebounds. Peña-Benjamin and Michelson both had 10 each.

Pfeifer managed to take some positives away from the game.

"We're not shooting well, but we're still playing team's close," said Pfeifer. "One day everything is going to click."

The loss dropped Colby to 6-6 and 0-2 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference West.

The Trojans play Seward County Community College at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Community Building.



MONICA KANE

Colby College freshman Regis Schafer drove to the hoop during Saturdays game against Cloud County Community College. The Trojans lost to the Thunderbirds 68-63.

## Broncos pound Chiefs

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kyle Orton threw an interception in the end zone on the opening drive and lost two fumbles on sacks.

Normally, a game such as that from the quarterback would lead to a loss. This time, it was a 31-point win.

Orton can thank Denver's bruising running game and quarterback-changing defense for that.

The Broncos ran for 245 yards and forced ineffective Kansas City quarterback Matt Cassel from the game, leading to a 44-13 rout of the Chiefs on Sunday.

"We won and that's really how I evaluate it every week," said Orton, who threw two touchdown passes. "I thought we made the plays in the passing game we had to make."

Denver (9-4) didn't need much.

The Broncos ran over Kansas City from the start, busting off one big play after another through huge holes in the line. Correll Buckhalter had 113 yards on just 12 carries and Knowshon Moreno had touchdown runs of 2 and 18 yards to turn the 99th meeting between AFL originals into a laughter.

The defense did its part, too. Denver allowed one sustained drive, chased Cassel after three quarters and held the Chiefs without a touchdown until the

game was already decided.

Still in the AFC West race, the Broncos get a chance to bump off undefeated Indianapolis next week.

"We're peaking at the right time," Buckhalter said. "You want to start peaking in December in order to have a chance to it to the playoffs and that's what we're doing."

The Chiefs (3-9) didn't put up much of a fight on the day they retired Hall of Fame linebacker Derrick Thomas' number.

Kansas City had its second straight defensive debacle, giving up 17 plays of 10 yards or more — 413 total yards — and has allowed 40 points in consecutive games for the first time since 1983.

The offense was again ineffective, plagued by poor pass protection, dropped passes and what may have been Cassel's worst game in Kansas City. He had a 14.6 quarterback rating before being pulled, and the Chiefs finished with a lackluster 222 total yards in their second straight lopsided loss to an AFC West rival.

Cassel and Broncos coach Josh McDaniels were in New England last season, McDaniels as the offensive coordinator, Cassel the capable fill-in after Tom Brady went down in the opener — against the Chiefs, no less.

## Lady Eagles lose two close games in Hays

The Colby High Lady Eagles- varsity basketball team lost two nail-biters in the Hays City Shoot-Out at Hays High School this weekend. They lost to Thomas-More Prep-Marian 43-40 on Saturday and they fell to Newton High School 46-39 in overtime on Friday.

After having a quiet game on offense for the first three quarters junior Katherine Kaus erupted in the final quarter scoring 11 of her 13 points and hitting two three-pointers.

"She had a tough defensive assignment, but I think she felt she had to score some points to give her team a chance to win," said Coach Parker McKee.

The Lady Eagles fell behind 5-0 to start the game. A pair of buckets by Katherine Kaus and junior Kelsey Shields cut the lead to 4-5. Junior Kayla Hockersmith made a shot at the buzzer to give Colby a 13-11 lead at the end of the first.

Both teams struggled offensively in the second and the half ended with teams knotted at 17.

McKee said the lack of points by both teams in the second was probably a mixture of good defense and fatigue stemming from playing three days in a row.

The Lady Monarchs built a

nine-point lead in the third quarter and led 32-23. It was Thomas-More Prep-Marian's biggest lead of the game.

"Thomas-More Prep-Marian was getting a lot of offensive rebounds in the third," said McKee. Shields scored 4 of the Lady Eagles 6 points in the quarter.

Kaus rebounded her own missed shot and was fouled while making a layup in the fourth. She cashed in on the three-point play by making her free throw.

Later in the quarter Katherine Kaus hit a long three-pointer to cut the Lady Monarchs' lead to 35-40 with a little over a minute remaining. The Lady Eagles scored another bucket to make it 37-40.

Junior Katrina Kaus fouled Thomas-More Prep-Marians' Sophia Schippers to stop the clock with 23.4 seconds left in the game. It was her fifth foul, so she had to leave the game.

Chippers hit 1-of-2 free throws to give her team a 41-37 lead. Katherine Kaus hit another long three-pointer with 6.5 seconds left to bring the Lady Eagles within one, 40-31. Colby immediately fouled Kayla Hoffman to stop the clock. Hoffman hit both free throws to make it 43-40 Lady Monarchs. Colby turned the ball

over on offense and Thomas-More Prep-Marian picked up the victory.

Hockersmith scored 10 and Shields added 6. Katrina Kaus chipped in 4. Freshman Lauren Bell had 2.

The girls rallied from 12 points down to take a four point lead against Newton at the end of the third.

McKee said the his team was able to get back into the game because they turned up the tempo on defense.

The Lady Railroaders fought back and tied the game at 39 before the end of regulation.

Colby was outscored 7-0 in overtime and Newton came away with a win.

The Lady Eagles shot 36 percent from field hitting 16 out of 43 shots. They were 6-of-9 from the free-throw-line.

Colby was outrebounded 30-22 in the game.

Freshman Alexa Haas had a team-high 9 and Katherine Kaus added 7.

Hockersmith and sophomore Morgan Bell chipped in 5 and Shields had 6.

Katrina Kaus had 4 and sophomore Lauren Bell had 2.

The losses dropped Colby to 1-2.

They play at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Hays High School.

### MISSION

#### God's Remedy for Our Times

Dec. 13 - 14 7:30 p.m.  
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Dec. 14-17 9:00 a.m.

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Father Tony Stephens, a native of Angelus, presenter.

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## Thank You!

Sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who have reached out to me, in the passing of my Mother, Theresa Solko. Your prayers, thoughts, phone calls, cards, masses, memorials, flowers and special remembrances are very much appreciated during this time. Thanks to the nurses and staff at the Willow Ridge Retirement Community in McCook where Mom called home in the assistant living care for over 11 years. To Dr. Mark Serbousek for his caring and professional medical care that he provided to my mom. To Community Hospital in McCook who took such excellent care of my mom. For the wonderful nurses and staff at the hospital, for everything that they did for her during her stays. Especially to the nurses who were on duty the night she passed away. Your tender care and compassion for her and us as family was outstanding! Special thanks to Rev. Gary Brethour, Rev. Stephen Folorunso and Rev. Dana Clark for all of their prayerful kindness and compassion shown to me and my family. A heartfelt thanks to Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, Rick, Dori and Derek, for their caring support and guiding us through each each step of the services. You made us feel very comfortable and at ease during this difficult time. Thanks to all who attended the vigil and/or funeral Mass. Special thanks to Bob and Liane Martin for offering to and hosting the gathering for us in Oberlin after the Vigil Service. Much appreciation goes to Delpha Sis and the ladies of the St. Mary's Altar Society for preparing and serving the funeral lunch. Every death is a loss... but with the caring support of this community, it makes the journey much easier. Your kindness at my time of loss is heartfelt and so very much appreciated. It is a lasting memory...along with my Mom...that will always be remembered.

May God Bless You All  
Jeannie Solko

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