

Star pitcher walks out on team

Colby College freshman Holly Denny got upset and walked away from the team before the second half of the Lady Trojans' doubleheader against Garden City Community College Monday at Carl Adams Field.

Coach Ryan Sturdy said he had nothing else to say until he looked into the situation. Denny has been the Lady Trojans most dominant pitcher and most consistent power hitter this season.

On the mound, she is 16-8 with a 1.21 earned run average and 194 strikeouts. Denny is leading the team at the plate at .396 with 10 home runs and 30 runs batted in.

Denny came on in relief in the top of the eighth in the first game. She got on base in the bottom of the inning, but made the second out when she was thrown out trying to steal third. Garden City got the third out and held on to an 8-7 lead as the Colby rally faded.

Apparently, there was an argument in the dugout between games that ended with Denny walking away.

Garden City slipped by Colby 8-7 in extra innings in game one, then hammered the Lady Trojans 21-0 in the second game. That match lasted only five innings because of the 10-run rule. If a team is leading by more than 10 runs after five innings and the opposing team has already batted, the game is called.

Sophomore Jamie Main took the loss in the first game. She gave up seven runs, five of them earned, on 10 hits, while striking out two in 7 1/3 innings.

The Lady Broncbusters' Jennifer Buchwalter clocked a double to left center field in the top of the third, scoring two runs to make it 2-0 Garden City. The team scored two more runs before the inning came to an end, giving Garden City a 4-0 lead.

The Lady Trojans got some runners on base in the bottom of the third, but they were unable to get anyone home.

Garden City's offense kicked off the top of the fourth with a pair of singles. Then Alex Wall ripped a line drive that deflected off the Main's glove of and bounced to sophomore shortstop Kali Brester, who stepped on second for one out and completed the double play by firing it to first baseman Chelsea Kinnett. Moments later, Blair Stalder of Garden City drove in a run with a single, giving her team a 5-0 lead.

The Lady Trojans rallied in the bottom of the fifth. Kinnett walked. Brester and freshman Kaitlin Wright followed with a pair of singles, loading the bases. Then sophomore Ashley Primm ripped a double to left field, driv-



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College sophomore Kali Brester wound up to unload on a pitch during the first half of the Lady Trojans' doubleheader Monday at Carl Adams Field.

ing in three runs and cutting the Lady Broncbusters' lead to 5-3.

Main hit a pitch that found a hole in left field, scoring Primm and narrowing the gap to 5-4. Colby picked up another run in the bottom of the sixth, tying the game at 5.

Neither team was able to get a run in the seventh, and the game went into extra innings. Denny relieved Main with one out and run-

ners on first and second in the top of the eighth. The first batter she faced - Tanna Daley - slapped a single, loading the bases. Denny struck out the next batter. But the following batter hit a bloop that Brester was unable to catch in shallow left, allowing three runs

to score and giving Garden City an 8-5 lead.

A line drive by sophomore Peggie Nichols found a hole in left field at the start of the bottom of the eighth. Later in the inning, with runners on first and second, freshman Courtney Bloski hit a grounder to Garden City's pitcher. She fielded it and fired it to third in attempt to get Nichols. The throw was a little high, allowing Nichols to reach safely when the Lady Broncbusters' third basemen had to jump to catch the ball. Moments later, Kinnett hit a sacrifice fly to center, scoring Nichols from third and cutting Garden City's lead to 8-6.

Garden City got the second out when Denny was thrown out trying to steal. Wright recaptured the momentum for Colby by driving in Bloski with a single up the middle to make it 8-7. Then the Lady Broncbusters escaped with an 8-7 victory when Primm lined out to left.

Brester had an excellent day at the plate, going five for five. Wright went two for four. Both teams had 11 hits.

Bloski took the loss in the second game. She gave up 21 runs, 15 of them earned, on 19 hits in 3 2/3 innings.

Garden City picked up two runs in the top of the second to go up 2-0. The Lady Broncbusters' had a huge inning in the top of the third, scoring nine runs to take an 11-0 lead. Garden City tacked on another 10 runs in the top of the fourth to make it 21-0.

Lady Broncbusters pitcher Lauren Bawler held Colby scoreless in the bottom of the fourth and fifth, and Garden City picked up the 21-0 win. The Lady Broncbusters out hit Colby 20-2.

Brester and Main both went one of two in the game.

Sturdy said momentum plays a big part in how his team performs at the plate.

"It's very momentum for us," the coach said. "Someone has to step up and get us started. We are looking for teammates to pick us up instead of doing what we need to do at the plate."

With the losses, the Lady Trojans dropped to 24-21 and 6-10 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference. This already is a 14 game improvement from last season's 10-34 record. The women will play in the National Junior College Athletic Association double-elimination regional tournament on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8, at Wichita State University.

Colby squad sweeps Ulysses

By Andy Heintz

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Strong pitching and hot hitting helped the Colby Lady Eagles sweep Ulysses on Tuesday at the Colby Recreation Fields.

The Colby High girls were dominant in both games, demolishing the Lady Tigers 16-1 in the first game and crushing Ulysses 12-2 in the second. Both games were called under the 15-run and the 10-run rules. The first game ended in the fourth, because if a team is winning by more than 15 runs after three innings and the opposing team has already batted, the game is called. The second ended after five innings with the Lady Eagles up by 10.

Junior pitcher Skyler Mengel picked up the win in the first game. She gave up only one hit, while striking out three in four innings. The Lady Eagles scored early and often in game one. Ulysses jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the top of the first, but Colby ticked off five runs in the bottom half of the inning, giving them a 5-1 lead. Freshman Kenzie Curry hit a two-run double in the inning. The Lady Eagles scored five more runs in the bottom of the second, stretching their lead to 10-1. Mengel had a two-run single and sophomore Madison Gawith drove in a run with a single in the inning. The girls put up six more runs in the bottom of the fourth and won the game 16-1.

The girls first run of the fourth came when Mengel walked with the bases loaded, allowing senior first baseman Keesa Wright to trot home from third to make it 11-1. Moments later, senior catcher and outfielder Dani Dietz scored from third on a wild pitch, giving the girls an 11-point cushion. Then junior Tera Raymond scored from third after junior shortstop and catcher Caitlyn Wark walked with the bases still loaded, stretching the girls' lead to 13-1.

Freshman Kenzie Curry belted a single past second, scoring two runs to make it 15-1. The Lady Eagles picked up another run and won the game 16-1.

Curry got the win in bottom

half of the doubleheader, allowing just two runs in five innings. She gave up five hits and struck out five batters. Colby won 12-2.

Junior second baseman Bailey Koerperich showed off her fielding skills in the top of first when she made a diving catch on a shallow fly ball.

The Lady Eagles' offense pounced on the Lady Tigers early. Colby picked up one run early in the top of the first to go up 1-0. Then Curry lifted a double to left center, scoring two runs and giving the Lady Eagles a 3-0 lead. Later in the inning, Curry scored on a wild pitch to make it 4-0.

The girls piled on five more runs in the bottom of the second, stretching the lead to 9-0. Koerperich drove in the first run of the inning with a line-drive single over the head of the Ulysses' third baseman. Koerperich eventually scored on a wild pitch, stretching Colby's lead to 6-0.

Curry hit a fly ball in a gap in right center, scoring Wark and increasing the Lady Eagles' lead to 7-0. Curry scored on a wild pitch and a line drive by Wright, which was dropped by the right fielder scored sophomore Madison Gawith to make it 9-0.

Ulysses picked up a run in the third and another run in the top of the fourth, narrowing the gap to 9-2. Catcher Wark caught the Lady Tigers' Jaude Jarnagin sleeping on the base paths in the fourth. She fired off a throw to Wright at first, who tagged out Jarnagin before she was able to get back to the bag.

Colby scored three more runs in the bottom of the fourth, stretching the lead to 12-2. Curry threw a scoreless inning in the top of the fifth, giving Colby a 12-2 victory.

Curry had an excellent day at the plate, going four for five with five runs batted in and two doubles. Colby had 10 hits in both games combined and walked 25 times.

The team plays in a triangular today against Scott City and Lakin at Scott City. The girls play Great Bend in a doubleheader at 4 p.m. Monday at the Colby Recreation Fields.

Colby High senior wins tournament

Colby High senior Ryley Haas took first at the Hoxie High golf tournament Tuesday in Hoxie with a 73, leading the Eagles to first place in the team standings.

Junior Rocque Russell came in second with an 80. Sophomore Konnor Kriss shot an 82 and finished fifth overall and sophomore Paul Schiferl came in seventh with an 85. Senior Dylan Stithem and sophomore Tayte Query both finished with an 87.

Sophomore Trevor Strutt shot a personal best 44 at a junior varsity

meet Tuesday at Scott City. He finished fifth overall.

Junior Connor Stephens took seventh with a 46. The team had five other golfers in the tourney: junior Kade Wark, 47; junior Drew White, 51; junior Cameron Crocker, 53; sophomore Karlton Leiker, 56; and junior Corbin Stephens and freshman Zane Winger, 57.

The varsity team will play again at 9 a.m. Saturday in Atwood while the junior varsity hits the links at 9 p.m. Friday at Oakley.

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