

Baseball team receiving recognition

The Colby Community College baseball team is receiving national votes in the polls in recognition of their record after having won six of its last seven games.

The Trojans are currently in first place in the Jayhawk West Community College Conference with a record of 9-3 in conference games and 17-6 overall.

The Trojans, coached by Ryan Carter, swept a doubleheader with Butler Community College March 13 with scores of 4-2 and 16-5 (seven innings). Last Thursday,

they defeated Cloud Community College 4-2.

Over the weekend, the men defeated Barton Community College in a doubleheader 10-0 (five innings) and 6-3. On Sunday, the Trojans defeated Barton again 2-0 and lost the final game 5-4 to the Cougars.

The baseball team was on the road on Tuesday at Sterling, Colo. Their next home game was Wednesday at the baseball field on campus.



Stephen Curry was on the mound for the Colby Community College baseball team Sunday during a game against Barton Community College at the baseball field on Colby's campus. The Trojans are in first place in the Jayhawk West conference with a 9-3 record.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Colby basketball player scores in all-star game

In a couple of wild-scoring affairs at the Third Annual Sunflower Shootout in Smith Center on Saturday, the North Central Kansas girls won 103-77 while the Mid-Continent League boys held on to win 96-92.

Colby High senior Todd Kane scored 11 points for North Central Kansas boys and Golden Plains senior Angela Ritter chipped in 8 points for the girls.

In the girls game, the North Central Kansas girls jumped out to a 55-38 halftime lead and went on to win 103-77 behind the one-two punch of Brittany Kirchhoff of Thunder Ridge and Hanover's Claire Bruna, who scored 22 and 21 points, respectively.

Kora Bergstrom of Pike Valley and Devin Nutsch of Republic County also scored in double figures with 12 and 10 points. Hoxie's Danel Stithem chipped in 9 points, Ritter of Golden Plains 8, LaShae Hedstrom of Republic County 7, Washington County's Samantha L'Ecuier 6, Danica Casey of Natoma 4 and Megan Stegman of Washington County 3.

Coaches were Scott Romeiser of Washington County and Ryan Doebele of Hanover.

"I appreciate LaShae coming on late to play," said Recreation Director Mike Hughes. "Erin Schroeder of St. John's Beloit-Tipton was slated to play, but had to withdraw late due to an injury and LaShae filled her spot."

Smith Center's Sydney Benoit led the Mid-Continent League scorers and all scorers with 28 points. Norton's Tawny Griffey chipped in 15 and Trenna Cox of Smith Center 11. Also scoring were Alexis Ryan of Smith Center with 8, Plainville's Shelbe Pywell

6, Hannah Friend of Plainville and Hill City's Shelby Stewart 3 points apiece, Bailey Hensley of Ellis 2 and Trego's Bailee Fritts 1. McKenzie Cooper of Hill City did not score.

Perry Mick of Ellis and Osborne's Brad Roadhouse were the coaches.

"Three records were set in the girl's game," Hughes said. "The 101 points scored by a team, 178 points scored between the two teams and Benoit's 28 points were all records."

The Mid-Continent League boys held off the North Central Kansas boys to snap a two-game losing streak, 96-92.

The Mid-Continent League squad led 49-31 at halftime, but the North Central Kansas boys outscored its opponent 61-47 to get close at the end.

Norton's Jacob Brooks led the Mid-Continent League attack with 15 points, while Tyler Walters of Ellis and Stockton's Koby Beougher added 13 points apiece. Trego's John Griffith and Seth Derr of Phillipsburg scored 9 points each, Hill City's Solomon Wilson and Luke Lohrmeyer of Ellis 8 points apiece, Phillipsburg's Sean Newlan and Payton Buckmaster of Smith Center 7 each and Nolan Weiser of Plainville 6.

Coaches were Keith Sides of Phillipsburg and Trego's Lance Ziegler.

Trenton Kuhlman of Republic County led the North Central Kansas boys with 19 points, while Wyatt Flinn of Rock Hills scored 13, Colby's Kane 11 and Chase Wilkens of Washington County and Palco's Seth Armbrister 10 points apiece. Also scoring were

Quinton Isaacson of Pike Valley 9, Tyler Bruggeman of Decatur Community 6, Trevor Lowe of Thunder Ridge 5, Cade Huncovsky of Pike Valley 4 and Natoma's Phillip Murphy 3.

Their coaches were Kurt Grafel of Natoma and Palco's Chris Drees.

"The 96 points scored by the MCL was a record, as was the 188 total points scored," said Hughes.

Winners of the three-point contests were Danica Casey and Koby Beougher.

"These were a great group of kids and represented their schools and communities well," Hughes said. "We appreciate them giving up their time to participate, as well as the coaches, and to all the fans that turned out to support these athletes."

"We want to thank USD 237 for use of their facilities, the Smith Center Chamber of Commerce for their support, the SonShine Church for the concession stand, the Smith County Kiwanis Club and Smith Center Rotary Club for taking tickets, to the SCTV crew for filming the game for the DVDs that go to the athletes, the Smith County Bank for providing the noon meal and the SCHS IHT class for doing our programs," Hughes added. "Also to all the volunteers that give of their time to pull this event off as we couldn't do it without them."

The Sunflower Shootout was sponsored by the Smith Center Recreation Commission.

Time to see if tourney really up for grabs this year

By Paul Newberry

AP Sports Writer

Brad Stevens is amused by all this talk of parity in the NCAA tournament.

The coach who guided little Butler to the national championship game two years in a row wonders why everyone seems to be saying all at once: Hey, there's some pretty good teams beyond the glamour conferences.

Stevens remembers his first basketball job, as Butler's director of basketball operations in 2001, when the Bulldogs easily won their first-round game as a No. 10 seed. They cruised past Wake Forest, an entry from the mighty Atlantic Coast Conference, after leading 43-10 at halftime.

Yep, 43-10!

It's time to find out just how evenly matched these teams really are.

The prelims were wrapping up with two more first-round games in Dayton, plus a glimpse of college basketball's future with the official unveiling of the new Big East Conference.

But, as everyone knows, the tournament really gets started today.

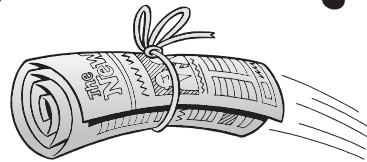
Sixty-four teams. Thirty-two contests. All going down in an exhilarating – and, yes, exhausting – two-day mosh pit of hoops.

By the time it's done late Friday, we should have at least some answers to the most pressing questions: Can a 16th-seeded team beat a top-seeded team for the first time? Will the selection committee look smart for inviting so many of the so-called little guys at the expense of more established programs? Will the refs call more fouls than they did during a low-scoring regular season that often resembled wrestling more than basketball?



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<p>Great Bend Tuesday, March 26 @ 6:30 pm Barton Community College 245 NE 30 Rd Fine Arts Building, Room F30</p>	<p>Colby Thursday, March 28 @ 6:30 pm Colby Community College 1255 S. Range Ave. Student Union, Room 108</p>
<p>Scott City Tuesday, April 2 @ 6:30 pm Scott County Library 110 W. 8th St.</p>	<p>Hays Thursday, April 4 @ 6:30 pm Fort Hays State University Robbins Center One Tiger Place</p>

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