

Trojans nearly swipe win from Lamar

Home game set for Saturday

By R.B. Headley
Colby Free Press
rbheadley@nwkansas.com

Zooming into Colby after a 103-point performance Tuesday night, the Lamar (Colo.) Community College Lopers ran into some stronger resistance Thursday evening.

The Colby Community College women held Lamar to 25 fewer points, and were only a missed layup or free throw from scoring their own big win.

If nothing else, this all-freshman Colby team should have something to build on despite the 78-69 outcome.

"Tonight, they grew as a team. I tip my hat to them," new Trojans coach Antowin Edwards said about his first Colby squad. "They played hard against a team with 20 (players) when we had 11. It says a lot about our girls, and it shows what can happen when they listen to me."

What Edwards described as a "helter-skelter" frenetic game didn't mean Lamar could move Colby's Loren Howard from her powerful post position.

Howard delivered an awesome 21 points on 10-of-13 shooting and pulled down 17 rebounds — both easily game highs.

Guard Victoria Biddle completed the inside-outside punch with 16 points and just two missed shots (six for eight).

The Trojans (1-5 record) shot almost 50 percent compared to Lamar's 30 percent.

However, the Lopers fired up 31 more field-goal attempts (86 total) than Colby's 55.

"They (Lamar) will beat a lot of teams," Edwards confirmed.

"They just beat Dodge City by 18 (103-85) on Tuesday."

Lamar (2-3 record) built an 18-point lead of 60-42 midway through Thursday's second half.

However, the Trojans' terrific comeback attitude was fun to watch all evening.

Ariel Hutchinson's two baskets ignited a 10-0 Colby run to close within 60-52.

Evans' inside putback and a pair of Deja Cato free throws pulled the Trojans even closer at 61-56.

The Lopers regained a 70-58 advantage, only to see those Trojans rattle off seven more unanswered points.

Biddle's lightning-quick steal and layup made it 70-65 with still nearly three minutes remaining.

"We normally hope to improve about two percent every game," Edwards said. "Tonight, I'd say we improved about 10 percent."

Yet Lamar hit just enough timely shots to survive every Colby flurry. A final Biddle triple from beyond the arc capped that final comeback attempt.

The Trojans will get another shot at victory when Mid-Plains Community College of North Platte, Neb., visits Saturday (6 p.m.)

Leaders from Thursday's game: **Colby (69)** — Loren Evans 21 points, Victoria Biddle 16, Ariel Hutchinson 11, Amanda Miller 10, Deja Cato 6, McKenna Ortner 2, Semaj Blanton 2, Sierra Green 1. Rebound leaders: Evans 17, Hutchinson 8, Miller 6. Assists: Cato 3. Steals: Biddle 4.

Lamar (78) — Ellie Stevens scored 17 team-high points for the Lopers.

Watch for more Colby Trojans sports coverage on Monday.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
A grimace appeared from this Lamar Community College Loper as Ariel Hutchinson (0) slaps the basketball free during Colby Community College's home basketball game Thursday evening. Trojan teammate Amanda Miller's arms also have this play well-defended while Brianna Salas (13) was ready to assist. The Trojans rallied but fell short by a 78-69 final score.

Seniors compete in Classic

Rosters for the seventh annual Annual Northwest Kansas All-Star Volleyball Classic have been announced by Colby Community College.

Those were featured in the *Free Press* one week ago.

The all-star classic features high school senior volleyball players and will be held on Sunday beginning at 1 p.m. in the Colby Community Building.

A final look at Colby-area seniors who will be participating.

Team No. 1: Abby Friksen of Colby, Amy Myers of Heartland Christian and Golden Plains' Hailee Spresser.

Team No. 2: Golden Plains' Kylie Jones will play while Bulldogs coach Orba Smith directs this squad.

The Bulldogs finished with a 29-9 record this fall.

Team No. 3: Jordan Christensen of Golden Plains, Colby's Hailey Shull and Kirsten Bandy from Heartland Christian.

Team No. 4: Karly Shull of Colby.

All matches will be held in the Colby Community Building.

The schedule of matches: Team 1 vs. Team 2, Team 3 vs. Team 5 at 2 p.m., Team 4 vs. Team 2 at 3 p.m., Team 3 vs. Team 1 at 4 p.m., Team 4 vs. Team 5 at 5 p.m.

Championship match is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. after the 6 p.m. medals ceremony for all teams.

Eagle girls conquer Goodland

A terrific 11-0 fourth-quarter surge ignited the Colby Middle School seventh-grade "B" girls basketball team to its 21-13 victory over Grant Middle School from Goodland on Thursday.

Coach Todd Kane saw his young Eagles brilliantly dominate the final six-minute period with relentless pressure and hustle.

The Eagles seventh-grade "A" and eighth-grade teams were also in action Thursday afternoon. Unfortunately, other scores were not available by today's press deadline.

A glance at other upcoming Colby sporting events:

Today

Men's basketball — Colby Community College at Air Force Junior Varsity, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Women's basketball — Mid-Plains (Neb.) Community College at Colby Community College, 6 p.m.

Men's basketball — Colby Community vs. either Air Force Prep or Lamar (Colo.) Community College, 3 p.m.

Sunday

Volleyball — Northwest All-Star Classic in Colby, 1 p.m.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press
Colby Middle School's Abby Rose (10) took on a taller player from Grant Middle School in Goodland to gain control of this basketball during seventh-grade competition on Thursday in Colby. Rose and her Eagle teammates won this battle, 21-13.

Trojans make great marks

A few more details about four Colby Community College volleyball players who were recently named All-Jayhawk West and All-Region VI following the tournament in Hutchinson:

For the second year in a row, sophomore setter Maisy Munson was selected to the first Team.

Munson, the only setter named to the first team, tallied 1,498 assists this season and 2,586 assists during her time as a Lady Trojan. With 1,498 assists, Munson led the conference and ranked third nationally in assists.

She was also first in the conference and fourth nationally in assists per set (11.10). Munson is also ranked second on the team for aces and had 99 kills, hitting a .268 over the course of the season.

Sophomore Lorena Rosario was also named to the first team after a phenomenal second season in Colby. Rosario led the Trojans in aces this year with 50, ranking her third in the conference and 21st in the nation for total aces.

Rosario was second on the team with 401 kills and a .244 hitting percentage. She is ranked fifth in the conference for kills and third nationally. Rosario totaled 753 kills during her career at Colby and 88 aces.

Freshman Danielle Rodriguez was selected to the second after being named defensive player of



LINDSEY BAUMAN/The Hutchinson News
Sophomore setter Maisy Munson (10) never backed down from trying for a block like this attempt during Monday's Region VI championship match with the Hutchinson Blue Dragons.

the week five times during her first season at Colby.

Rodriguez had 575 digs total and averaged 4.39 digs per set. She is ranked 15th in the nation for total digs and second in the conference. She is ranked third in the conference for digs per set and 26th in the nation.

Freshman Adrianna Sosnowska was one of three conference girls

selected to the honorable mention team. Sosnowska led the Lady Trojans in kills with 408 overall and a .221 hitting percentage. She ranked fourth in the conference for kills and 31st in the nation.

Fifth-season head coach Carey Jones was selected as Coach of the Year for 2013.

She is assisted with the Trojans by Chelsea Funk.

Pickers say 'Dawgs bite, Texas in trouble

By Ralph D. Russo
The Associated Press

The race to the national championship game has been well defined.

No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Florida State are in control.

No. 3 Ohio State and No. 4 Baylor are on deck.

One-loss teams are hoping for some huge upsets with No. 5 Stanford leading the pack.

However, the Cardinal better look out for surging Southern California Saturday night. The Trojans have been storming along, winning five of six games since cutting coach Lane Kiffin loose.

Oregon, Clemson and former Big 12 rival Missouri are probably the only other possible title-game contenders. Yet all three will need plenty of help while trying to avoid their own potential landmines.

Look for Oregon to still make some noise especially if Stanford

Loses. Missouri has two tough games to close November.

The equally important picker's race is even simpler as portly *Free Press* scribbler R.B. (Rude Bum) Headley (100-32 record) has four weeks to make up eight games against Russo (102-24). Of course, there are about a gazillion bowl games for picking after that.

Saturday's main events
No. 25 Georgia
at No. 7 Auburn

Russo: Bulldogs have won six of seven in the Deep South's oldest rivalry. **Georgia 38-35.** RB: Bulldogs catching speedy Tigers? Can't see it after watching Auburn score 55 last week and Georgia defense has struggled. **Auburn 44-33.**

No. 12 Oklahoma State
at No. 23 Texas

Russo: Longhorns have been keeping the critics off Mack Brown's back. **Oklahoma State 28-27.** RB: Time for critics to jump on Bevo's coach again. Yee-

hah! **Cowboys, 34-28.**

No. 5 Stanford

at Southern California

Russo: Trojans' defense will challenge Cardinal's power offense. **Stanford 23-16.** RB: I love Cardinal smash-mouth approach, so much better than the John Elway days. **Stanford 27-21.**

No. 14 Michigan State
at Nebraska

Russo: Potential season changer for Huskers. **Michigan State 20-14.** RB: Doesn't sound like a potential season changer that Bo Pelini would enjoy. Spartans look like more mature, better football team this year, but as Colby High alum Matt Murray said this week "Once a Husker, always a Husker". Bugeaters 21-17.

Upset specials

Russo takes **Washington 31, No. 13 UCLA 27.** R.B. will take the Bruins by a 34-31 final count.

R.B. stays in the Pac-12 with **Oregon State 28, No. 21 Arizona State 25.** Russo likes the **Sun**

Devils, 45-21.

They do agree on No. 3 Ohio State over Illinois, No. 4 Baylor over Texas Tech, No. 2 Florida State over Syracuse and No. 11 South Carolina over Florida.

But could No. 24 Miami (Fla) suffer its third straight loss, this one to suddenly tough Duke? It isn't basketball but RB says: **Duke 31-30.** Russo takes **Miami 28-17.**

R.B. also expects Kanas State to keep streaking past TCU, though the Horned Frogs could be tough. They won't make a bowl game without an upset win.

Headley's NFL picks are Bears over Ravens, Saints over Niners, Patriots over Panthers (Monday night), Packers over Giants and drum roll, please.

Denver Broncos to deal the Kansas City Chiefs their first defeat, not that R.B. wants this outcome. Remember, the Chiefs get a rematch in Kansas City just two weeks later.

CADILLACS JUST IN!

2004 Cadillac DeVille DTS
White, Leather, 49,315 miles

2008 Cadillac CTS
White, Leather, 77,536 miles

2013 Cadillac XTS
Luxury
Silver Metallic, Leather, 12,032 miles

2013 Cadillac SRX
Performance Collection
Silver, Leather, 13,298 miles

FINLEY MOTORS, INC.

1520 Highway 27, Goodland, KS 67735 • Toll free: (800) 525-3701

"Your volume & variety dealer!"

WWW.FINLEYMOTORSINC.COM