By EARL WATT

• Leader & Times

For the first 10 minutes, the Colby Lady Trojans gave the Seward County Lady Saints a game Wednesday night at the Green House.

But for the next 30 minutes the Lady Saints went on a scoring frenzy that ended with an 80-46 Seward win.

The Lady Saints remained alive in the Jayhawk West Conference title race. While Seward was dismantling Colby, Garden City ended the perfect season of the Hutchinson Lady Blue Dragons with an overtime win.

Seward is now only two games behind the Lady Blue Dragons with six games remaining in conference play.

The Lady Saints only led Colby 13-10 after Lady Trojan Shantydra Arnold drained a three with 9:59 to play in the first half.

“We were sloppy in the first 10 minutes,” Seward coach Toby Wynn said. “I didn’t feel we were locked in mentally.”

Colby did not score again for six minutes while Seward’s Ricquia Jones scored seven points to go along with three pointers from Bridget Crandall and Fabiana Monte and baskets from Kelsey Blair and Marta Oledzka that sparked a 17-0 Lady Saint run.

Arnold attempted to slow down the Lady Saints momentum with another three-pointer, and then Seward went on a 6-0 run to end the half with a 36-13 lead.

The Lady Saints scored the first nine points of the second half using a full court press that forced Colby into 29 turnovers in the game.

“We went on good run to finish the half,” Wynn said. “In the second half, we had a great start. We changed some things up defensively to create some offense off our defense, and we got some transition points off our defense.”

At one point, the pressure forced Colby to inbound the ball directly to Monte who laid the ball in and went right back to the full court press.

A basket by Shanise Brooks with 17:47 to play capped a 32-3 Lady Saint run that ut the game out of reach, 45-13.

The Lady Saints continued to outpace Colby the rest of the way.

Not only did Seward force turnovers, ut they cut their own to only 15.

“We had a stretch where we were averaging 24 turnovers a game,” Wynn said. “Our kids

understand importance of taking care of the ball. It fuels you, gives you energy in your step to get those turnovers.”

Seward (16-7, 7-3) will travel to Pratt (18-5, 6-3) for a rare Friday game. Tip off is 4 p.m.