



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Colby Eagle receiver Jordan Harris waited for the snap during last Friday's game with Scott City. The Eagles lost 57-21.

Eagles face must-win situation Friday

By DARREL PATTILLO

Colby Free Press

The Colby Eagle football team is looking at a must-win game Friday night in order to have a shot at moving out of the district playoffs.

As if that wasn't enough, it's the Goodland Cowboys coming to Dennen Field. The Cowboys (4-3 overall, 1-0 in district play), are coming off of a big win over the Ulysses Tigers last Friday night. The Eagles (2-5, 0-1) are coming off a big loss to the Scott City Beavers.

Colby has beat Goodland two years in a row, but this game has new significance. With the new playoff system, two teams are going to come from Colby's district. Scott City is almost a lock for the #1 spot, and Colby must win at least one of its two remaining games to advance. In case of a tie in the win/loss category in district play, the number of points each team has won by in district play will determine a winner. Goodland holds the edge right now, having beat Ulysses by 33 points. So the Eagles will not only have to win,

they will have to do it by a large point margin, in case district play does go down to a tie breaker.

"Goodland is playing real well this year," Eagle head coach Brad Wildeman said. "We've gotta have a win."

Friday night before the game is Senior Parent's Recognition Night. Drill team, Football, Golf, Tennis, and Volleyball players and their parents will be recognized at 7 p.m.

Kick-off for the Eagles-Cowboys will be at 7:30 p.m.

Regional bound



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Colby Eagle runners Marcia Kaus (left), and Emily Sloan (right), headed for the first turn at Colby's cross country course last Saturday, during the Northwest Kansas League cross country meet. The Eagle girls and boys will be in Pratt Saturday for the regional meet.

Colby Middle School girl's hoops meeting set for next Tuesday

All Colby Middle School girls in grades seven and eight who will be playing basketball this season, along with their parents, are invited to a Parent/Player meeting with coach

Raenette Martin. The meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. in the Colby Elementary School gymnasium. For more information, you can reach Coach Martin at 462-3400.

Last-minute scrimmage tonight for Colby Trojan basketball teams

A last minute call from Otero, Colo., to Colby Trojan basketball coach Brian Ostermann netted the Trojan men and women an extra scrimmage, which will be tonight at

the Colby Community Building, with the women scrimmaging at 5 p.m. and the men at 7 p.m. Admission for tonight's scrimmages will be free.

Chiefs' Anderson plans to keep kicking

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Twenty-five years ago when Morten Andersen left Denmark for America, Mrs. Andersen figured her husky blond boy would be home in 10 or 12 months.

Now, the way his 42-year-old leg keeps driving through the football with strength and precision, he's fooling Father Time.

And while Andersen has kicked more field goals than anyone in the history of the NFL, he still gets as excited as the day he kicked his first.

"If you lose your desire to compete, that's going to get you faster than age," he said with a grin.

Until he came up a few inches short on a 43-yarder Sunday in Kansas City's 37-34 loss to Denver, the former exchange student had made 25 field goals in a row.

No. 25, in fact, was No. 479 of his 21-year career, nudging him past Gary Anderson into first place on the NFL's all-time list.

It's true that a sore hamstring has been hampering him of late. But this amiable linguist and workout zealot sees no reason to think he won't reach his goal of being the only 50-year-old ever to play in the National Football League.

His immediate target is George Blanda, who at 48 is believed to be the current NFL age record-holder.

"I think I can do it," Andersen said.

With nary a thought toward retirement, Andersen joined the Chiefs this year as an unrestricted free agent when salary cap issues caused the New York Giants to let him go. He spent his first 13 years in New Orleans, then kicked six years for Atlanta before going to the Giants in 2001.

Throughout, his zeal for his craft has never dimmed.

"It's just a lot of fun. It's an art. It's a skill," Andersen said. "It's unique to the sport, but very important. I enjoy doing it and I think I still do it well."

He takes good — and smart — care of his body.

"I don't need to be a weightlifter. I don't need to bench press 400 pounds. My offseason training and in-season training is geared to being a better kicker," he said.

His only serious health issue was in 1990 when his left knee underwent arthroscopic surgery.

"It was nothing, just an oil change," he said.

Fluent in English, German, French and Danish, he has provided Super

Bowl analysis for Danish television numerous times.

Now he is battling to become the oldest player and most productive kicker in NFL history.

"I have a lot of respect for Morten," said Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil. "Morten can add to the chemistry of a football team because of his experience, the respect the other players have for him, his skill, his knowledge of the game, and his presence."

Said his deep snapper Kendall Gammon, "He's Hall of Fame-bound. It's a great honor to play with him."

Kicking in the NFL for 21 years, Andersen has seen a world of change.

"Fundamentally, it's the same game," he said. "But the offseason program is year-round now. It's a year-round job where in the early '80s, offseason programs were less structured. Guys are bigger, stronger, faster now. And they take their jobs seriously, very seriously."

"I came in a little after the money was starting to get better in '82, '83. But it was still to the point where some guys contemplated having a job in the offseason because they were just making 30, 40 grand a year. Now, that's limo money."

Jayhawks preseason pick to win Big 12 again

DALLAS (AP) — Kansas, which returns three starters from last year's Final Four team, is favored to repeat as Big 12 champion, according to the conference preseason coaches poll released Wednesday.

The Jayhawks received seven first-place votes and were followed in the poll by Oklahoma, which also made the Final Four last year. The Sooners got three first-place votes. Texas was third and received the other two first-place votes.

UT was followed, in order, by Missouri, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State, Iowa State, Baylor, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas State and Texas A&M.

Oklahoma senior Hollis Price is the coaches' preseason Big 12 player of the year. Price was the most outstanding player of the Big 12 tournament and the NCAA West Regional.

Other players receiving votes were

Nick Collison and Kirk Hinrich of Kansas, and T.J. Ford of Texas. Price, Hinrich, Collison, Ford, and Texas Tech guard Andre Emmett were the coaches' preseason All-Big 12 team selections.

Preseason newcomer of the year honors went to Nebraska guard Nate

Johnson, who was the JUCO Division II national player last season at Penn Valley Community College in Kansas City. He averaged 26.5 points per game.

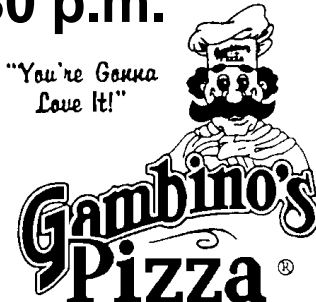
Forward/guard Antoine Wright was the coaches' preseason freshman of the year.

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