

Eagles lose first district game of season, still hope to make playoffs

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

The Colby High School Eagles aren't giving up on making the playoffs just yet. With two more games left in the season, they still have a chance to make it.

The Eagles will head to Clay Center on Friday. Game time is 6 p.m.

It will be Colby's second of three district games.

The Eagles lost their first game of district play last Friday at Dennen Field. The Eagles lost 54-28 to the Concordia Panthers, dropping their record to 0-7.

Colby started the game by receiving but couldn't convert on its first possession.

The Panthers took over with 9:52 left in the first quarter and scored a touchdown on a throw to tight end Chad Palmquist three seconds later. It was the first of Concordia's three unanswered touchdowns in the quarter.

After an extra point attempt, the Panthers took the lead, 7-0.

Their next two touchdowns came with 4:36 and 16 seconds left in the quarter, and both were hand-offs from quarterback Bryant Johnson

to running back Rocky Anderson.

At the end of the quarter, the Panthers lead 21-0.

In the second, Colby finally got on the board with a 62-yard touchdown run by Sam Munderloh, making the score 21-6. Their extra point attempt was no good.

Concordia answered with 4:16 left with a pass from Johnson to Palmquist, bringing the score to 27-6. The Panther's extra point attempt was good, making the tally 28-6.

The Eagles were held scoreless the rest of the half and Concordia scored two more touchdowns, both by Anderson.

He scored twice at the end of the quarter, with two 95-yard touchdown runs. The first came with seven seconds left, making the score 35-6.

The second followed, bringing the score at the half to 42-6 at the end of the half, with two good extra point conversions.

In the third, Concordia scored three more touchdowns, bringing the score to 54-6 by the beginning of the fourth quarter.

Colby got its offense going in the fourth, scoring on its first drive of

the quarter on a 19-yard touchdown run by Mitchell Tuma. The team also attempted a two-point conversion, which was good, making the tally 54-14 with 8:53 left in the fourth.

A little over four minutes later, Tuma scored another touchdown, this time on a 10-yard run off a handoff from quarterback Cole Garcia, bringing the score to 54-20.

Their last tally of the game came at 1:50 left in the fourth off a 53-yard run by Munderloh.

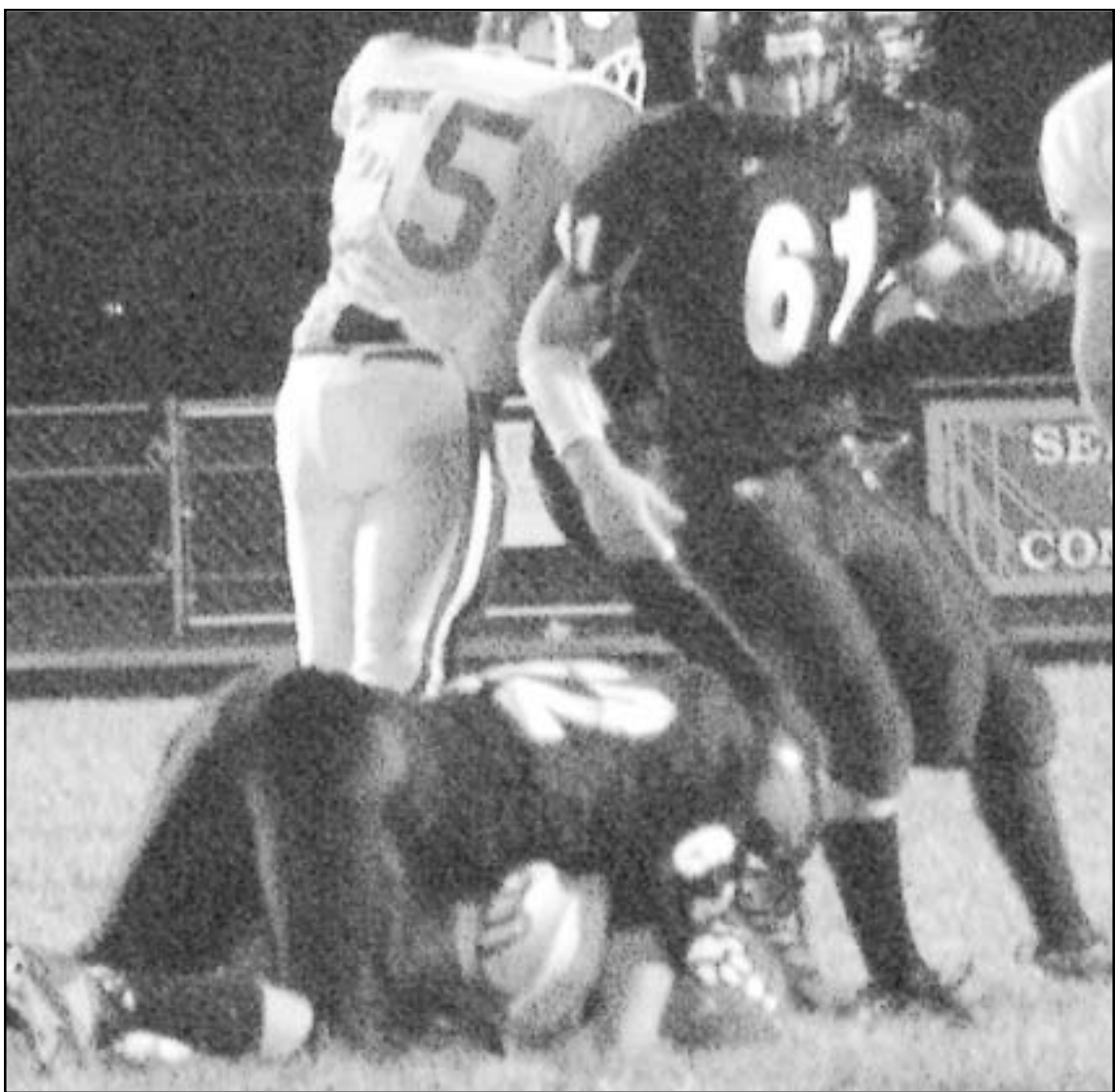
The team also attempted a two-point conversion, which was good, making the final score 54-28.

With only two district games left, the team still stands a chance to get into the playoffs and head coach Greg Koenig hasn't yet given up on that goal.

"I don't want to give up on this thing," Koenig said. "We can still win two ball games but we've got to have a lot better preparation."

Koenig was missing several players from the lineup, and had 15 players gone from practice Tuesday with injuries or illness.

"It's hard to prepare when you have 15 kids gone from practice. . . and that put us way behind," he said



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby High School Eagle offensive lineman Treat Bugbee, right, watched teammate and fellow lineman Josh Johnson tackle a Concordia player in their recent matchup. The Eagles will travel to Clay Center Friday. Game time is 6 p.m.

Middle school football ends on high note

The Colby Middle School eighth grade football team completed their season last week with victories over Quinter and Oberlin.

The Quinter game was played in Quinter on Monday, Oct. 10 in very rainy conditions. The Eagles ran hard and blocked well as they defeated the Bulldogs 40-22. Touchdowns were scored by Adam Weber, Ethan Stickel and Brandon

Rasmussen.

The defense played extremely well. Quinter's last two touchdowns came in the fourth quarter of action. The defensive unit was lead by Dylan Stithem, Kalen Rasmussen, Brandon Gordon and Dalton Garcia.

On Thursday, Oct. 13, the Eagles traveled to Oberlin to take on the Red Devils. Colby won 30-6. The

Eagle offense maintained a couple of long time-consuming drives that culminated in touchdowns. Adam Weber and Ethan Stickel each ran for two touchdowns apiece. Quarterback Kirt Dugger and running back Brandon Rasmussen also got into the endzone for a couple of two-point conversions. The defense played outstanding as well. They were lead by Weber, Stithem, Kalen Rasmussen, Garrett Rogers, Torey Taylor and Jordan Voss.

Safety Ryley Haas also caught a pass for an interception. In fifth quarter action, Preston Kryczki scored on a 40-yard touchdown run and defensive end Chaz Winger returned a fumble 50 yards for a touchdown.

The eighth grade team consists of Ethan Stickel, Kirt Dugger, Nathan Reed, Ryley Haas, Kalen Rasmussen, Preston Krzycki, Adam Weber, Torey Taylor, Garrett Rogers, Dylan Stithem, Shawn Phillips, Brandon Standage, Brock Wagoner, Chaz Winger, Zach Harlow, Bob Schroeder, Stephen Thrower, Jacob Hutfles, Dalton Garcia and Brandon Gordon.

The team finished the season 5-3. They defeated Goodland, Hoxie, Atwood, Quinter and Oberlin. They lost to Oakley, Scott City and Burlington.

SportsLine

Taco tailgate party Friday in Clay Center

There will be a taco tailgate supper before the Colby High School Eagles varsity football game Friday in Clay Center. The tailgate will be located at the north end of the stadium. Please feel free to join in the fun with the kickoff at 6 p.m.

Varsity football on the road Friday

The Colby High School Eagle varsity football squad will face Clay Center on the road Friday. The game starts at 6 p.m.

Sub-State volleyball on Saturday

The Class 4A Sub-State volleyball tournament is in Ulysses on Saturday. Matches start at 2 p.m.

Regional cross country in Hutchinson this weekend

The Colby High School Eagle runners will head to the Class 4A Regional cross country meet which will be held Saturday at Hutchinson Prairie Hills Middle School, hosted by Buhler High School. The girls' race will start at 2 p.m. and the boys' race will start at 2:45 p.m.

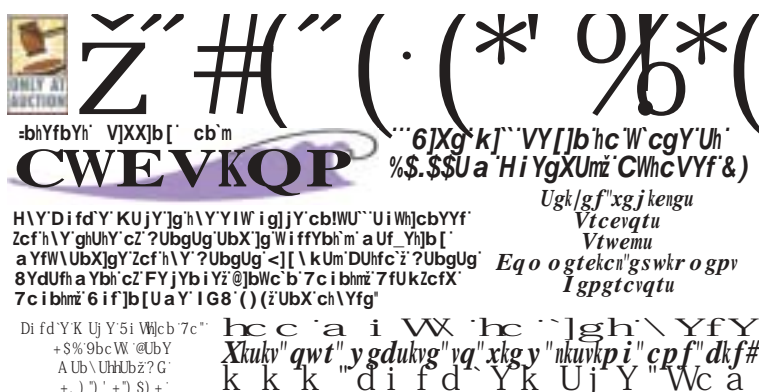
Tennis potluck on Monday

A potluck and awards night for the Colby High School Lady Eagles varsity and junior varsity tennis teams will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the commons area at the high school.

AP Briefs

A National Stock Car Racing Commission panel unanimously upheld the two-race suspension and other penalties handed down by NASCAR to Todd Berrier, Kevin Harvick's crew chief.

Berrier was banished from Talladega Superspeedway on Oct. 1, the day before the Nextel Cup race, after NASCAR inspectors found several technical violations in the trunk area of the No. 29 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet.





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We didn't know who was going to be suiting up, who was going to be doing what."

Koenig added they were moving many players around at different positions.

"Early we should have won two or three ball games," he said. "I thought we had a chance here this week but again, at some point hopefully our kids will get it figured out that football's a team game and it takes the entire team and their commitment."

Koenig said his team did play

hard in the second half.

"We did have some kids really step up in the second half and play hard," he said.

Koenig said replacing the right side of the offensive line helped, and it was encouraging to see.

"There are some things that are encouraging and as I said, we're not going to give up on it," he said. "We're just doing to keep working to get better."

Next up for the Eagles will be a road game at Clay Center on Friday. Game time is 6 p.m.

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Money raised goes towards keeping the fee to play low, training of coaches and referees, improving fields and create a scholarship for AYSO players.

Contact: Any AYSO Soccer Player, Tina Harris Physical Therapy at 270 N. Franklin or Tom Shoaff at 785-220-8539.