

Eagles run past Holcomb

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While it wasn't the walk in the park that it looked like early in the game, the Colby High football team was able to bounce back from its first loss of the season and beat Holcomb 35-20 Friday night at Dennen Field.

"We played well enough, but we didn't play great," coach Chris Gardner said.

The Eagles looked like they were on their way to a blowout victory after scoring 21 unanswered points in the first quarter. But much to Holcomb's credit, the Longhorns refused to give up and eventually cut that lead to 21-12.

Colby junior cornerback Konner Kriss said his team laid down a little bit after jumping out to a big lead.

"We shut down for a while," said senior defensive tackle Nathan Quagliano.

The Eagles ran the ball well the entire game. Senior tailback Andrew Flanagin ran for 130 yards and senior fullback Ryan Parker for 122 yards. Gardner said his offensive line did a good job of blocking other than a couple breakdowns on pass protection.

Colby's defensive line prevented Holcomb from establishing a running game, holding the Longhorns to just 92 yards.

"The defensive line did a lot better, even though (Holcomb) scored 20 points," Quagliano said.

The Eagles' defense also had three interceptions and recovered two fumbles.

"We played better defensively," Gardner said. "I was satisfied with the takeaways."

As a linebacker, Parker led the team in tackles with 15 and an interception; senior linebacker Corbin Stephens had 12 tackles and an interception.

Colby has its own turnovers, however. Senior quarterback Kale Arnberger threw two interceptions and Flanagin and Stephens both had fumbles recovered by the Longhorns.

Most of Holcomb's yards came from the air instead of on the ground. The Longhorns gained 173 passing yards in the game.

The Eagles' three touchdowns in the first quarter were scored by



Colby High senior tailback Andrew Flanagin tried to get past a pair of Holcomb defenders during Friday night's game against the Longhorns at Dennen Field.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

sophomore wide receiver Zane Winger, Flanagin and senior defensive end Josh Middleton.

Arnberger found Winger with a five-yard touchdown pass on a slant pattern for Colby's first touchdown. Later, Flanagin motored for a 45-yard touchdown and Middleton recovered a fumbled snap by Longhorns' quarterback Logan Singhisen near Holcomb's goal line and ran it in for a touchdown with 1:29 left in the first. Sophomore kicker Trek Keck nailed the extra point after all three scores.

Playing free safety, Arnberger had a monster hit on a Longhorns' ball carrier for a loss in the first quarter, but Gardner said he was shaken up on the play. The coach said Arnberger was not his normal self for the rest of the game.

Late in the second quarter, Holcomb wide receiver Kyle Walck caught a pass and ran it into the end zone for a 59-yard touchdown to make it 21-6 with less than two minutes left in the half. The two-point conversion was not good.

Stephens picked off a pass in the third and ran it all the way to Holcomb's 26, but Colby's offense failed to capitalize on the turnover. Later in the quarter, Stephens fumbled on a kickoff return and Holcomb's Tyler Lasalle recovered on the Eagles' 22-yard line. Moments later, Walck caught a 22-yard touchdown pass to bring the Longhorns within nine. Holcomb's two-point conversion was not good.

Colby strung together a drive at the end of the third that concluded with a six-yard touchdown run by

Arnberger with five seconds left in the quarter. Keck booted the extra point, extending Colby's lead to 28-12.

Quagliano recovered a fumble on the Longhorns' 26 in the fourth. A few plays later, Arnberger found Winger with a pass in the deep left corner of the end zone. Keck kicked the extra point.

Holcomb scored one more touchdown and had a successful two-point conversion before the game came to an end. Kriss and Parker both had interceptions in the fourth.

With the win, Colby improved its record to 3-1. The Eagles' next game will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Ulysses. The Tigers, also 3-1, have won their last three games.

Winger said Colby will have to be strong all game to win.

Lady Eagles win race at Hill City

Colby High junior Emilea Finley and senior Katrina Kaus finished in the top two spots, leading their team to victory at the Hill City Invitational on Thursday.

Finley finished with 16 minutes and 14 seconds and Kaus in 16:48.

Coach Bob Mannebach said Finley told him she wasn't even tired after the race. He said Finley sets goals for everything she wants to accomplish, and that's why she's so successful.

Colby's squad placed first out of six teams with 40 points. Norton finished a close second with 41. Fifty-five girls ran the race.

Norton, ranked third in the state among Class 3A teams, beat the Lady Eagles by three points at the Hays Invitational on Sept. 16. Mannebach said it's good for his team to run against that sort of competition.

The coach said the girls' times were not as good as they had been at earlier meets, but that was probably due to the weather.

"The girl's team had a solid performance on a windy day," Mannebach said.

Senior Katherine Kaus placed eighth in 17:25. Mannebach said she was the only Colby runner whose time was not slower than last year's at the invitational. He said Katherine is a strong runner who wasn't as affected

by the wind or running hills. Finley and the Kaus sisters all brought home medals. Mannebach said the top 15 runners got the hardware.

Other Coley times included Kayla Hockersmith, 18:37; senior Amy Schroeder, 20:16; junior Sara Martin, 21:05; and junior Christina Ostmeier, 21:28. The other schools with full teams were Osborne, Quinter, Hill City and Oberlin.

The Colby boys finished fifth out of nine teams with 133 points. Sophomore Dustin Reed let the team, finishing 10th out of 71 runners with 19:02.

Mannebach said Reed had been having hip problems and wasn't even sure if he was going to be able to run in the race as late as Wednesday.

Mannebach said that means Reed has a medal from every race this season.

Junior Jared Nally finished the race in 20 minutes; sophomore John Faber, 20:20; and freshman Reed Stephens, 21:12.

Mannebach said his top four runners ran well during most of the race, but most of the boys looked tired. Other times include senior Andrew Ketchum, 22:26; junior Jake Thompson, 23:01; and senior Sam Kendrick, 23:04.

The teams run next at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Oberlin Invitational, at the country club east of town on U.S. 36.

Heartland loses by 12

The Heartland Middle School football team fell to Sharon Springs 34-22 Thursday at the field behind Heartland Christian School.

Coach Steve Ziegelmeier said his team led 14-6 at the end of the first half. He said the boys played great in the first half, but gave up a couple of big plays in the second half.

Heartland's Brent Wilson ran a kickoff back for a touchdown for the Crusaders and Blaine Wertz had two running touchdowns and two interceptions. The coach said Gabriel Shriner kicked a perfect outside kick that was recovered by teammate Brook Ziegelmeier.

The Crusaders play again at 5 p.m. Thursday at Weskan.

Jayhawks' everyman scores three touchdowns

LAWRENCE (AP) — D.J. Beshears was a defensive back last season as a Kansas freshman, but he played multiple roles on offense Saturday night.

Beshears was a running back, wide receiver and kick returner as he scored three touchdowns in the first half, including a 96-yard kickoff return, to propel Kansas to a 42-16 victory over the New Mexico State.

"I guess we've got to have to give him slash, slash," said Kansas quarterback Jordan Webb.

Beshears is glad first-year Kansas coach Turner Gill moved him back to the offensive side.

"I'm very happy," Beshears said. "That's my natural side of the ball. I've always been an offensive guy ever since I was young."

After Seth Smith's 1-yard touchdown plunge for the Aggies (0-3) tied the score at 7-7, Beshears returned the ensuing kickoff, matching the eighth longest return ever for the Jayhawks, now 2-2.

"I just read it out and hit the hole with speed," Beshears said. "It definitely gave us a boost and pumped up a lot of guys."

Webb had been expecting a game like this from Beshears.

"He's electric," Webb said. "He's fast. He wants to get into the

end zone every time he touches the ball. We've been working him in, putting a lot of plays in for him."

Beshears rushed for two touchdowns on carries of 10 and 7 yards, putting the Aggies down 21-7 at halftime.

"We knew he's a good player, but he's an exceptional player," New Mexico State coach DeWayne Walker said.

The Jayhawks scored two more touchdowns in the third quarter, including a Jordan Webb 2-yard pass to Tim Biere to cap off a 99-yard 17-play drive. James Sims had touchdowns runs of 11 and 1 yards in the second half.

Webb completed his first six passes for 104 yards, including 35 yards to Jonathan Wilson and 47 yards to Angus Quigley.

Late Wildcats' touchdown secures victory

MANHATTAN (AP) — Carson Coffman's 7-yard touchdown run with 24 seconds left lifted Kansas State to a come-from-behind 17-13 victory Saturday over Central Florida, giving the Wildcats a 4-0 start for the first time since 2003.

Delayed by thunderstorms for almost 1½ hours in the first quarter, the game was dominated by Central Florida (2-2) for much of the day. But the Knights failed to make good on several touchdown opportunities, and Kansas State took its first lead of the day when Coffman engineered a 13-play, 67-yard scoring march on the Wildcats' final possession.

Daniel Thomas, who came in as the nation's second-leading rusher, totaled only 76 yards on 22 carries but had a key 12-yard gain during the winning drive.

Nick Cattoi, who missed two field goals, connected from 27 yards for a 13-10 Central Florida

lead with 5:14 to play, and Kansas State took over on its own 33.

Coffman, on third-and-10, connected with Andre McDonald for 18 yards to keep the drive going. Thomas picked up 12 yards to the 22, and Coffman connected on another third-down pass to set up a first-and-goal from the 10. Two plays later, Coffman kept the ball and darted through a big hole.

Ronnie Weaver ran for 130 yards for Central Florida and freshman quarterback Jeff Godfrey added 99 yards, often on keepers in which he took advantage of the slower Kansas State defense.

With less than 3 minutes gone in the first quarter, officials halted play because of lightning accompanying a heavy storm bearing down on the area. Dark, boiling, ominous-looking clouds seemed to envelop the stadium before heavy rain pelted the area and caused a delay of 1 hour, 26 minutes.

The Wildcats, with Thomas held entirely in check, managed only three yards the first quarter and 43 yards for the half. Central Florida took a 7-0 halftime lead on Weaver's 8-yard run.

In the second quarter, Godfrey went up the middle for 10 yards on a keeper. He then sped 20 yards around left end and possibly would have scored if Ty Zimmerman's ankle tackle hadn't brought him down on the 25.

A 4-yard loss and a 5-yard penalty pushed the Knights back and Cattoi missed a 42-yard field goal attempt.

Late in the third quarter, Weaver broke a 31-yard run to the 9. But Stephen Harrison broke up Godfrey's pass in the end zone, and Cattoi missed from 23 yards.

A.J. Guyton was all by himself along the sideline when he hauled in Godfrey's pass late in the third period. But after running unop-

posed for a 32-yard gain, he suddenly collapsed onto the turf with an apparent leg injury. The Knights drove on to a first-and-goal but had to bring in Cattoi, who finally made good on a 31-yarder for a 10-3 lead with 12:38 left.

Both of Kansas State's first two scores came off big pass plays to wide-open receivers. Tramaime Thompson got open for a 73-yard catch-and-run, leading to Josh Cherry's 27-yard field goal. Then the Wildcats tied it 10-10 when Coffman found Aubrey Quarles all alone on the sideline for a 58-yard touchdown play.

The Knights again failed to cash in an opportunity when Kemal Ishmael caused and recovered a fumble by Thomas. A 15-yard penalty for a late hit by Zimmerman moved the Knights even closer, but they were stopped on fourth-and-1 from the 10.

Carlos Gonzalez started the winning rally with a one-out single off All-Star closer Brian Wilson (3-3).

Colorado Rockies keep hopes alive with victory

DENVER (AP) — Troy Tulowitzki capped a four-hit night with an RBI double in the 10th inning and the Rockies gave their faint

playoff hopes a boost with a 10-9 victory over San Francisco on Saturday.

Tulowitzki homered, doubled

and had five RBIs to help the Rockies snap a five-game slide and pull within four games of first place in the NL West.

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