



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Colby Little League Football Association players had their game faces on while preparing to beat Goodland Saturday afternoon at Dennen Field.

Eagles powering to football playoffs

By R.B. Headley
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Colby Little League Football Association teams flexed their muscles with three big wins last weekend and are building momentum for the upcoming Western Kansas Football League playoffs.

Few league foes can top the Colby sixth graders, who are now 3-1 according to wkfl.net after trouncing Goodland, 22-0, in Saturday's home finale at Dennen Field. They also beat Burlington, Colo., 18-6, one week earlier.

One more triumph over Oakley this weekend would clinch a "Tournament of Champions" spot for the Eagles at Hays on Sunday, Oct. 20. The Eagles currently trail only league co-leaders Great Bend Black (5-0 record), McPherson I (5-0) and Hays Gamblers (4-1). Great Bend Red, Hoisington and Ellenwood are also taking 3-1 records into Saturday's regular-season finales. Only the top eight teams advance into that Tournament of Champions.

Colby sixth-grade players are Rathe Aschenbrenner, Calvin Stapp, Bryson Metcalf, Darick Fisher, Davontai Robinson, Jadon Siruta, Ryan Voss, Mason Wright, Jonathan Ortner, Konnor Griffin, Thane Wildeman, Bradyn Blackhart, Elijah Shepherd, Lewis Haines, Neo Brown, Cade Lanning, Blaise Vrbas, Aaron Kurth and Aden Basgell.

Tyrone Robinson, Dustin Vrbas, Dusty Kibel and T.J. Aschenbrenner coach the Colby sixth-graders.

Fifth grade

The Colby fifth graders doubled up Ellsworth, 40-20, for their first league win on Saturday.

While the record is just 1-3, these Eagles have only been outscored by six points total all season. One of those defeats was a 27-26 overtime decision to Norton.

A victory over the Hays Outlaws (2-2 record) on Saturday would still send Colby into the Tournament of Champions. The boys are currently seventh among 11 league teams. A loss would drop Colby into an eighth-place tie with Larned and Smoky Valley

(both 1-4).

Various tie-breakers like season points differential would determine the last playoff spot. Larned has scored 16 fewer points than its opponents while Smoky's been outscored by 36.

Colby fifth grade players are Ryan Myers, Steele Brown, Jason Krannawitter, Cejay Bond, Wyatt Tubbs, Matthew Schritter, Collin Geihlsler, Braden Thummel, Jaren Rush, Hagan Booi, Braden Schritter, Rolis Loya, Peyton Wahlmeier, Shawn Brown, Declan Ryan, Nathan Hurst, Wade Rush, Tobin Gardner, Dustin Coffman and Kelby Garrett.

Lance Krannawitter, Chris Schritter, Ed Geihlsler and Brandon Booi are coaching the Colby fifth-grade Eagles.

Fourth grade

The Colby Eagles celebrated a pivotal playoff-spot deciding 12-7 win over Goodland Saturday afternoon.

Both teams were 2-2 entering this showdown, but now Colby (3-2) holds seventh place among 19 league teams. Goodland (2-3) tumbled all the way to 12th place, which means no Tournament of Champions tournament for these Cowboys.

Colby's other conquests were 24-12 over the Hays Gamblers and 32-6 against Norton. Their 16-point victory margin for the season earns a tie-breaker edge over four other 3-2 teams battling for those final tournament spots.

Colby fourth-grade team members are Carson VanEaton, Aiden Cook, Shane Puckett, Conner Lanning, Tyler Voss, Roberto Loya, Caelen Arendt, Bryce Myers, Ethan Zerr, Mac Haines, Mason Kersenbrock, Breon Barton, Beau Mettlen, Brayden Imhof, Alec Wildeman, Aaron Lindsey, Hunter Vaughn, Dawsyn Lemman, Prestyn McCarty, Parker Todd, Nick Rehmer, Tyler Rehmer, Isaac Smith, Collin Carrol, Kaden Solorio, Jud Rose, Ian Rosales, Thomas Norris and Deagan Andrews.

Jason Cook, Ross Volkmer, Steve Todd and Mark Zerr are coaching the Colby Eagle sixth graders.

Watch for more details in upcoming editions.

Norton will streak into Colby

By R.B. Headley
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Are there any Colby High football foes not on a winning roll this season?

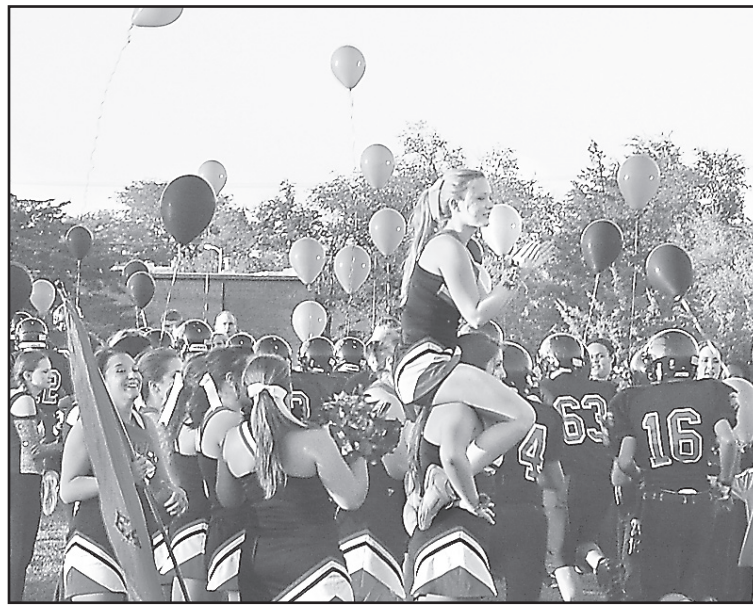
Check out the Norton Bluejays entering Friday night's showdown at Dennen Field (7 p.m. kickoff).

The Bluejays (3-2 record overall) dropped their first two games by a 64-20 total margin.

But since their Friday The 13th struggle at Goodland (30-7 defeat), Norton has scored 110 points while knocking off three consecutive opponents.

None was bigger than a 61-13 demolition of the Ellis Railroaders last weekend.

"We played well and with more energy than usual," Bluejays coach Lucas Melvin told The Norton Telegram. "We made some little adjustments at halftime and I was very happy about how we came out and got after it. We held



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press

Colby High fans and cheerleaders greeted the Eagles with plenty of enthusiasm during their previous home game against Ulysses on Sept. 20 at Dennen Field.

them to 20 offensive yards in the second half."

The Eagles (0-5 record) also

posted a second-half shutout at Holcomb last weekend, and have to feel like there's been more than

enough happiness on opposing sidelines this season.

In order to end Norton's recent good mood, the Eagles must contain senior tailback Tanner Furbush.

Furbush only rushed for 49 yards against Ellis, but averaged 50 yards during his three kickoff returns — including an 88-yard touchdown.

The Bluejays' special teams played up to their unit name. Kicker Austin Hager delivered one special hustle play where he literally stole the football from an Ellis returner and took another six-point journey to pigskin paradise.

Norton tallied 61 points despite "only" 330 total yards (247 rushing, 83 passing).

Don't expect any emotional let-down in Colby.

"They (Colby) will be hungry for a win since they haven't gotten one so far," Melvin concluded. "We'll get their best shot."

Detroit recruit leads Trojans

By Rusty Grafel
Colby Community College

Preseason is over and official practice is underway for Colby Community College men's basketball.

We are now 10 practices in with only 21 days until our first official game.

The team has continued to work hard every practice as we are putting in our base defense and offense along with getting through a regular practice routine.

Not all practices go as planned but a motto we have picked up as a team is not every player can have a bad practice on the same day. That way we can help pick each other up and get something out of practice.

One thing you realize as a coach is you're only as good as the people you put around you.

Our assistant coaches have done a tremendous job of getting

our guys prepared for the season. They have a lot of duties that don't get talked about and are hidden but without them, nothing would get accomplished.

One thing we would like to do is spotlight some of our sophomores in each column, so everyone can get to know them a little better.

I am going to start with Jeremiah Ingram.

Jeremiah is one of our captains on this team as well as our returning leading scorer (13.4 points per game) and leading rebounder (6.9 per contest).

He is a great leader for our team and if you like watching basketball, he is one of those players that will get you up out of your seat!

Here is a little more about Jeremiah:

Hometown: Detroit, Mich. Previous school: Southfield Lathrup Senior High School. Birth date: Oct. 5, 1993. Parents: Andre and ShaJuan Ingram.

Major: Communications. Favorite quote: "You're facing a man who will die before he lets you win."

Favorite Food: fried tilapia.

Favorite feature of Colby Community College: the coaching staff. Favorite movie: anything with Denzel Washington. Favorite athlete: Kobe Bryant. Role model: my father. Favorite Song- Land Of The Snakes.

It's a great time to be a Colby Trojans fan with all the athletics that are going on and the ones that are getting ready to start!

Good luck to the men's and women's cross country teams, women's volleyball team, rodeo team, equestrian team and golf team.

Until next time, go Trojans!

Editor's note: Rusty's column is a twice-monthly feature for fans to learn more about Colby Community College athletes, teams and programs.



DAVID SCHREIBER/candnews.com
Jeremiah Ingram developed his dunk and other basketball skills while playing for Detroit Southfield Lathrup High School. Now he's a sophomore team leader for the Colby Community College Trojans.

Schedule

A glance at upcoming area sports contests and meets:

Today

Golf: Colby at Syracuse, 1 p.m.
Cross country: Colby at Phillipsburg Invitational, 4:30 p.m.
Junior high football: Colby at Norton, 4:30 p.m.
Junior high volleyball: Norton at Colby, 4 p.m.
Junior high volleyball/football: Brewster at Damar, 4/5:30 p.m.
Junior high football: Cheylin at Golden Plains, 4 p.m.
Junior high volleyball: Golden Plains at Western Plains, 4 p.m. (Balzine)

Friday

Tennis: Colby at Regionals, TBA
Football: Norton at Colby, 7 p.m.
Football: Brewster at Golden Plains, 7 p.m.
Football: Heartland at Sunrise Christian, 7 p.m. (Wichita)
College volleyball: Colby at Missouri West Plains Tourney, TBA

Trojans back on track at Pratt

Sophomore Lorena Rosario's 24 kills and strong team defense put the Colby Community College Trojans back in first place with a 23-25, 26-24, 25-18, 25-17 road triumph over Pratt Community College Wednesday evening.

The Trojans (16-5 record overall) briefly shared their Jayhawk Conference lead after losing to top contender Hutchinson Community College on Saturday.

However, Hutch (16-6, 9-2 league) promptly dropped its next match Monday night, meaning Colby (9-1 league) holds the top spot exclusively once again.

"Teams are preparing to beat us, and we can't take anyone lightly at this point," Colby coach Cary Jones said while traveling to a tournament in Missouri Thursday morning. "Pratt came out and played real scrappy, which I'm not sure we were necessarily expecting that. But our defense became a

real strong point. We had 16 block assists and six solo blocks."

The great blocking beautifully complimented 44 kills from Rosario, sophomore Andjela Reljic (12 kills) and freshman Adrianna Sosnowska (eight).

Sophomore setter Maisy Monson delivered 42 assists to follow up a week where she earned both conference and national Player Of The Week honors.

"We also had a lot of digs and some other numbers we haven't seen for awhile," Jones said. "There were definitely some positives from this match."

Colby's moving on to play at the Missouri West Plains Tournament this weekend.

The Trojans will meet host Missouri West Plains Friday afternoon (2 p.m.) before a 4 p.m. non-league match against Hutchinson.

Both Hutch and Colby continue to be top contenders for an Na-

tional Junior College Athletic Association Top 20 ranking.

The Colby spikers conclude their tournament play at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Jefferson College of Missouri will provide this final challenge.

Then it's back to Jayhawk League home matches with Seward County (7-3 league record) Tuesday night and Cloud County (6-5) Thursday evening. Both will start at 6:30 p.m. in the Colby Community Building.

"We really need our fans to support us," Jones concluded. "We have four league matches left, and I have a feeling they could all be tough."

The updated Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference standings: 1. Colby 9-1, 2. Hutchinson 9-2, 3. Seward 7-3, 4. Cloud 6-5, 5. Barton 4-6, 6. Garden City 3-7, 7. Pratt 2-8, 8. Dodge City 1-9.

Join us in our Defending Our Freedoms Section

Bring in your family member's Military photos with the information below. We will publish all the photos and information on Veteran's Day November 11.

All photos must be submitted by October 25 to be included in our section. If you submitted information for anyone on active duty in our last section, please let us know if we need to update any information.

Help us honor those who have served our country.

NAME _____
BRANCH OF SERVICE _____
THEATRE OF OPERATION _____
YEARS OF SERVICE _____

God bless all those
who answer our nation's
call to defend our great country's freedoms!

Vet, SSgt. Matthews USMC 3rd Recon Bn.



Please bring in or mail photos and information to The Colby Free Press 155 W. Fifth St., Colby KS, 67701. Photos and information may also be emailed to khunter@nwkansas.com



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