

Alexander enters America's grandest sports stage

DETROIT (AP) — There is somebody who can beat NFL MVP Shaun Alexander at his own game. Erik Anderson, the founder of the American Foundation for ... Chess? Alexander said the Seattle-area entrepreneur is the last person to beat him at one of his many loves outside of football.

"Yep, first or second week of the season. But he got lucky," Alexander said, feigning disgust.

Alexander is at the top of his day-job profession this week, a potential Seahawks free agent, league rushing champion and NFL record holder with 28 touchdowns this season. And he is about to play in its ultimate game, Sunday's Super Bowl against Pittsburgh.

Yet chess is just one of the many sides to Alexander that the nation never sees.

Much of it remembers Alexander for lashing out at Mike Holmgren after the 2004 regular-season finale, after the coach called a quarterback kneel-down instead of one additional run that could have given Alexander the rushing title.

Instead, Alexander finished 1 yard behind the New York Jets' Curtis Martin and infamously said Holmgren "stabbed me in the back" — an incident both men now say was overblown.

Much of the nation doesn't know Alexander has a foundation in his name that focuses on leadership and character modeling for fatherless, teenage men.

"I love seeing young men go finish high school, going to college, getting married. It's a great honor to help kids do that," he said.

It doesn't know the 28-year-old Alexander is in many ways a kid himself. That he loves Eddie Murphy movies and puts them on one of the four DVD players aboard the team plane for each Seahawks road trip.

That he devours M&Ms just before he slithers past defenders on one of his many cutback runs or ducks his heads for first downs and touchdowns each week.

That there is more than pawns and bishops to Alexander's relationship with Anderson.

Anderson's nonprofit chess federation has also started a program to teach chess to grade-school children across the country to improve critical thinking, math and problem-solving skills.

Hanging with kids — now that's another game Alexander loves to play.

During a recent midweek off day, Alexander was inside a children's playroom in suburban Seattle. A television camera caught him working up a sweat while rolling around on mats, dancing, clapping to music and playing miniature basketball with a small group of kids who treated him like just another playmate instead of a multimillion dollar NFL star.

Before that, he hosted a young cancer patient from a Seattle suburb at a Seahawks practice and told him, "Man, I see more people win that battle than lose it."



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby High School Lady Eagle Tasha Wagoner kept the ball away from a Garden City player during their matchup Tuesday at the Colby Community Building. The Eagles will travel to Oberlin Friday.

Colby defeats Garden City

A strong third quarter proved to be the difference in the Colby Eagles boys 65-47 win Tuesday over Garden City in Colby.

Tied at 24 at halftime, the Eagles exploded for 21 points in the third quarter and allowed Garden City to score just nine points. The teams traded baskets in the first two quarters. Colby led at the end of the first quarter 13-12. Garden City answered back with a 12-11 advantage in the second quarter.

The third quarter was too much for Garden City. Colby continued its offensive output in the fourth quarter with 20 another 20 points. Garden City scored 14 points.

Colby coach Derek Bissitt could not be reached for comment this morning. Leading the way for Colby was Trey Barnett with 26 points. In addition to the points, he also had 11 rebounds for the double-double. Behind Barnett was Trevor Siebert with 11 points. He also had

eight assists. Shooting was key for the Eagles offense. As a team, they shot 61 percent from the field making 22 of 36 attempts. The successful shooting is the product of a team total of 19 assists.

Colby's defense was solid allowing only one Garden City player to score in double digits.

Garden City's leading scorer had 13 points.

The Eagles improve to 2-13 overall.

Colby girls also defeated Garden City Tuesday. Complete results were not available by press time. Colby girls are 12-3 overall.

Colby plays Friday at Oberlin. Varsity begins at 6:30 p.m.



Contributed photo

Dee Hovda, left, was honored by the Kansas Cross Country and Track and Field Association as the assistant coach of the year, for distance runners. Hovda started the girls track program at Colby in 1973. She also started the girls basketball and volleyball programs and has served as head coach of each of these programs. Hovda served as head girls track coach from 1973 until 1998, when she retired from teaching and coaching. The following spring she decided to help with track as an assistant coach. She has been in charge of the distance runners since then. In the past five years she has coached 19 state qualifiers, 14 state placers, and two state champions. Hovda and John Miles also were honored for having coached track and field for over 30 years in Kansas.

Sportsbriefs

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The NFL will contribute up to \$20 million to the effort to repair the Hurricane-battered Superdome in time for Saints games next season.

The decision was made last week at a league meeting in Orlando after a request by team owner Tom Benson and talks between Superdome officials, the NFL and the team.

The Superdome was used as a shelter for between 25,000 and 30,000 people following Hurricane Katrina. Repair costs are estimated at about \$140 million and most of that is expected to be covered by the state's insurance and FEMA.

On Monday, FEMA announced it was providing \$6.3 million to the Superdome to be used for the removal of standing water and water-related damaged items.

The Superdome's structural frame was not affected by the hurricane. The building lost 70 percent of its roof, however, which resulted in major damage as rain poured into

the building.

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Kurt Schottenheimer is returning to the Green Bay Packers as secondary coach.

Schottenheimer, the brother of San Diego head coach Marty Schottenheimer, was the Packers' secondary coach in 2004.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Sooners state will be the New Orleans Hornets' home away from home for another season.

The Hornets will play most of their home games next season in Oklahoma City, with plans to return to New Orleans full-time in the 2007-08 season.

The NBA announced that the Hornets will play 35 games in Oklahoma City and six in New Orleans in 2006-07.

But Hornets owner George Shinn, team president Paul Mott and NBA commissioner David Stern all said they anticipate New Orleans being the team's only home in 2007-08.

Trojan relay team qualifies for nationals

By Matt Dickson

Colby Community College's track team participated at the Iowa State University Open last weekend in Ames, Iowa.

There was no team scores kept in this very large meet. The Trojans competed against athletes from over 50 different colleges and universities from across the Midwest.

"Our runners did very well this meet. The men's DMR had a great performance qualifying for nationals by over 20 seconds," said coach Jeff Becker.

Colby Community College Athlete of the meet were Carlan Arthur and Christa Perue

Individual Results-women

Track:

60m: Lauren Kaiser, 8.88, seventh all time at Colby

200m: Lauren Kaiser, 28.62

400m: Carrie Rice, 68.22

600m: Amanda Daugherty, 1:37.16

800m: Jenna Faimon, 3:11.36;

Marissa Thomas, 3:15.76

3000m: Christa Perue, 11:52.60;

Mary Nyambura 12:29.95

60 high hurdles: Marissa Thomas, 12.30; Jenna Faimon, 12.80

All-time @ Colby

4 x 400m: 4:29.98; Daugherty, 65.51; Kaiser, 64.07; Rice, 66.05; Faimon- 74.35

Men-

60m: Chris Griggs, 8.02

600y: Brenden Files, 1:16.72,

10th All Time at Colby; Shawn Hunter, 1:19.96

800m: Carlan Arthur, 1:54.44,

National Qualifier, second all time at Colby; Carlo Figlio, 2:15.46

1000m: Mark Porter, 2:53.32;

Anton Sandoval, 2:54.22

1 Mile: Derrick Monson, 4:35.36

3000m: Denzel Ramirez, 9:00.99, fourth all time a Colby;

Anton Sandoval, 9:54.77

4x400: 3:29.27, Files; 52.83;

Arthur, 49.84; Sroufe, 53.70;

Hunter, 52.90

sixth all time a Colby

DMR: 10:27.24; Monson, (1200) 3:17.46; Files, (400) 52.38;

Arthur, (800) 1:55.41; Ramirez (1600) 4:21.96, national qualifier,

third all time at Colby

Women

High Jump: Megan Moyer, 4'11"

Pole Vault: Megan Unruh, 7'10"

Shot Put: Cassy Hamilton, 38'

Sara Moore, 34'8"

"This was one of the toughest meets we have been to and most preformed really well. We are starting to come around.

If this improvement continues we will have a very successful year," Becker said.

Colby competes Thursday at the Highland Invitational in Highland.

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STRIKE ZONE

~ League Bowling Results ~

January 29 - King & Queen

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Phillips - Finlay	30	10	1
Brewer - Schwanke	26	14	2
Barton - Kreutzer	24	16	3
Sturdy - Branum	22	18	4
Moeder - Lee	20	20	5
Kern - Wark	16	24	6
Schissler - Koehn	11	29	7
Rondeau - Johnson	11	29	8

Men's First high Individual game: Aaron Rondeau, 232
Men's First high Individual series: Aaron Rondeau, 654
Women's First high Individual game: Jennifer Phillips, 204
Women's First high Individual series: Robin Schwanke, 490

Team	Won	Lost	Place
NW Vacuum	7	5	3
4 4 Fun	5	7	4
Bowlerettes	4	8	5
Van's Merry Four	3	9	6

First high Individual game: Margaret Dennler, 177
First high Individual series: Margaret Dennler, 490

January 27 - Ten Pin League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Classic Trojans	10	2	1
Cal Williams	8	4	2
Satan Haters	7	5	3
Hurt Enterprises	6	6	4
KNEA/S.P.	5	7	5
Comfort Inn	4	8	6
Colby Bowl	4	8	7

First high Individual game: Bobbi Barton, 209
First high Individual series: Bobbi Barton, 487

January 25 - Ladies Nite Out

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Lobo Liquor	11	5	1
Strike-Outs	11	5	2
Who-No's?	9	7	3
Don's Electric	8	8	4
Bottle Gallery	8	8	5
Straight Line	8	8	6
Sunflower Bank	8	8	7
Twisters	7	9	8
Camouflage Lawn Care	5	11	9

First high Individual game: Jody Tubbs, 219
First high Individual series: Lesley Wagoner, 514

January 24 - Early Bird Ladies League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Jean's Rollers	9	3	1
www.strike	8	4	2

January 25 - Powderpuff League

Team	Won	Lost	Place
Service Oil	10	6	1
Farm Credit	8	8	2
Weiser	7	9	3
Golden Harvest Seed	7	9	4

First high Individual game: Dee Hovda, 187
First high Individual series: Dee Hovda, 531

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