

Right back at you



Colby High senior Megan Dougherty slammed a return to senior Kayla Hockersmith (not pictured) during warm-ups before practice Tuesday afternoon at Dennen Field.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

# Colby High fall sports getting ready to begin

By Andy Heintz  
Colby Free Press  
aheintz@nwkansan.com

The Colby High varsity football team will try to build off its 7-3 record last year when it kicks off season at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 3, at St. Francis.

The junior varsity squad takes on St. Francis in its season opener at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 6, at Dennen Field. The C team's season starts at 5 p.m. next Thursday at McCook, Neb.

Several key players from last year's team will be returning including senior linebacker and running back Andrew Flanagin, senior defensive end Rocque Russell, senior wide receiver Corbin Stephens, senior quarterback Kale Arberger and senior linebacker Ryan Carter.

The Eagles' seventh grade football team starts its season against Kennedy Middle School from Hays at 4:30 p.m. next Thursday at Dennen Field. The eighth grade squad will play Kennedy right after them at 6:30 p.m.

The Lady Eagles varsity tennis team, led by two-time Class 4A State Champion (No. 1 doubles and No. 1 singles) Caitlyn Wark, will start its season at 3 p.m. next Thursday at Hays. Wark, a senior, went 36-0 last season without losing a set. Two-time state qualifier

Kayla Hockersmith is another senior who will be playing a leadership role on this year's squad. Hockersmith and No. 1 doubles partner Barbara Bickner took fifth at state last season.

The Lady Eagles' junior varsity team begins its season at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at WaKeeney.

The Colby boys and girls cross country teams start their seasons at 5 p.m. next Thursday at Goodland. The junior varsity squads will start at the same time and place.

The Lady Eagles' squad will be led by the Kaus sisters, Katrina and Katherine. The two seniors have combined for five state appearances in their three seasons. Katherine will be looking to return to state after not qualifying for the first time last season. Katrina said she wanted to finish in the top 15 or 20 at state because the top 20 runners get a medal.

The cross country boys team has its top three runners – junior Jared Nally and sophomores John Faber and Dustin Reed – from last season returning. Reed took 15th at regionals last year and Nally took third in the league meet.

The Colby High girls golf team begins its season with a tournament on Monday at Garden City with Sublette. This year's team will be led by junior Kaylee Keck and sophomore Karly Kriss, the team's two state qualifiers from

last season's team. The junior varsity and varsity squads will both compete at 3 p.m. next Thursday in a tournament at Hugoton.

The Lady Eagles' volleyball team will head into this season without a lot more experience than they had last year. Last season's youthful squad is now a more mature team with one year of experience under its belt. Coach Leslie Wagoner said the team has had some really good practices so far and she could tell some of the girls had been in the gym over the summer.

The varsity and junior varsity squads open their seasons in a triangular at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday with Osborne and Norton at Norton. The C team's season begins at 4 p.m. Thursday at the high school gym in a quad with Thomas More Prep-Marian from Hays, Norton and Heartland.

The Lady Eagles' eighth grade volleyball team starts its season in a triangular against Goodland and Scott City at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9, at Colby High School. The seventh grade teams will play at the same time, but its matches will take place in the Colby Grade School gymnasium. Only the A teams of Scott City and Goodland will be playing in the matches.

## Son and father share moment

NEW YORK (AP) – Logan Morrison's father remembers exactly what he said when the doctor told him he had inoperable lung cancer.

"Am I going to be around long enough to see my son get his first big league hit?"

Oh, he's seen that and much, much more.

Morrison and his dad, both choking back tears, sat side by side in the Florida Marlins' dugout Wednesday trying to describe their emotions during a cherished reunion at Citi Field.

Words, in this case, could never be enough.

Not for a proud father who traveled 29 hours on a train to see his son play big league ballgames in person for the first time.

Not for a boy who knows all too well it could be their last chance to celebrate his birthday together.

Tom Morrison, 51, was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer in April and spent much of the summer fighting for his life in a hospital. Meanwhile, his son Logan earned a call-up to the majors July 27 and a spot in left field with the Marlins.

"That was killing me, not being able to see him play," the elder Morrison said. "It's just nice to be able to sit in the park and watch him."

Tom Morrison, finally well enough to travel, got the chance to do just that Tuesday night following the long train ride from his Louisiana home. He saw his son go 1 for 5 and score a run in a 6-5 loss to the New York Mets.

"It was an awesome feeling, for

him to see that in person," Logan Morrison said.

Doctor's orders prevent Tom Morrison from flying, but that didn't stop him from making it to the Big Apple this week. And after all the radiation and chemotherapy he's been through, sitting in the left-field stands watching his boy play was quite a treat.

"It's probably the best recreation I have," Tom Morrison said, smiling. "I made him wave at me."

Logan Morrison was in the lineup again Wednesday on his 23rd birthday. His dad was back at the ballpark, too, purple-tinted sunglasses sitting upside down on the bill of a black Marlins cap, with about 20 other family members and friends in attendance. A birthday cake awaited after the game.

"Baseball has kind of brought the family together," Logan Morrison said.

The rookie outfielder, selected to the Futures Game for top prospects during All-Star festivities last month, singled twice, tripled and scored two runs in a 5-4 victory Wednesday night. He's hitting .307 with no homers and seven RBIs, and nobody is happier for him than his father.

"Anytime he's in the stands I kick it up a little bit. He's the reason I'm here," Morrison said. "And with him being sick, there might not be too many more opportunities where he can see me play."

After the game, the Morrison clan met up in a corridor before heading out for a postgame dinner.

"It's kind of surreal. The kid's

## Texas works on running game

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) – Run, run, run. That's all Texas coach Mack Brown wants to talk about. For a program that won 25 games the past two seasons throwing the ball behind one of the most accurate quarterbacks in NCAA history, an iron-fisted commitment to building a punishing running game seems a bit drastic.

Texas will still throw the ball. But what Brown wants is a blood-and-guts running game that will get the tough yards and first downs "when we need it."

Texas couldn't get those against Alabama in a 37-21 loss in the BCS championship game last season. When quarterback Colt McCoy got hurt early in the first quarter, Texas' first drive fizzled at the goal line and the Longhorns settled for a field goal instead of a touchdown.

And when Texas needed to control the ball and reorganize behind backup quarterback Garrett Gilbert, six possessions went three plays or fewer before Texas limped into halftime trailing 24-6.

Since then, Texas has spent many days in spring drills and fall training camp working on building a bulldozing rushing attack, pushing the offensive line to be more physical. Four years of pass blocking for McCoy can put a line on its heels when it's time to lean into a 300-pound defensive tackle.

"The line has really taken it upon themselves and gotten an attitude," Gilbert said. "The running backs have done a great job of getting downhill and being able to get 4 or 5 yards a pop, so that's been really good for us so far."

Texas has often been synonymous with a solid running game in its history.

The Wishbone offense was invented here under coach Darrell Royal in the 1960s. Running backs Earl Campbell (1977) and Ricky Williams (1998) won Heisman trophies.

In the past 10 years, Cedric Benson piled up 5,540 career yards on a school-record 1,112 carries from 2001-2004. Jamaal Charles' 1,619 yards in 2007

stands as the fifth best in school history.

But no Longhorns rusher has come even close to 1,000 yards the past two seasons. McCoy led Texas rushers in 2008. Tre' Newton led the Longhorns in 2009 with 552 yards.

Texas averaged 4.0 yards per rush last season, a solid mark. But in the last two games against Nebraska in the Big 12 championship game and Alabama, the Longhorns totaled just 99 yards on 66 carries, an average of 1½ yards.

The overall drop-off in recent years appears to have hurt Texas on the recruiting trail. Brown, who can usually charm top recruits to Austin with the snap of a finger, has struggled lately to land the traditional big, game-breaking running backs of Texas lore.

That could soon change. Malcolm Brown of San Antonio, one of the top running back recruits in the nation, has verbally committed to sign with Texas in 2011.

Texas started four tailbacks at different times last season and entered training camp with Newton and Fozzy Whittaker battling for the No. 1 role. Whittaker has seen sporadic action the past two seasons while battling injuries. Newton, the son of former Dallas Cowboys offensive lineman Nate Newton, took over the position in the second half of last season.

Cody Johnson, a 5-foot-11, 250-pound bowling ball of a tailback has been a pleasant surprise in training camp and has forced his way into the rotation.

Johnson has 24 career touchdowns and ran for 109 yards in his only start last season against Baylor. Conditioning and weight problems kept him from playing more.

"He's come back and lost 4 or 5 percent body fat this summer. He's still the same weight but he's in great shape," Brown said. "I think we got onto him so much that we got discouraged, very honestly. You can't do it as a coach, the young man has to do it and this summer he did it on his own."

## Rockies' rally leads to victory

DENVER (AP) – The Colorado Rockies overcame a nine-run deficit, matching the biggest rally in team history and stunning the Atlanta Braves 12-10 Thursday on Troy Tulowitzki's go-ahead single in the eighth inning.

Down 10-1 in the third inning, the Rockies chipped away against the NL East leader before taking the lead with four runs in the eighth.

Carlos Gonzalez hit a tying,

two-run single with two outs, and Tulowitzki and Todd Helton followed with RBI singles.

Colorado also came back from nine runs down to beat Florida 18-

17 on July 4, 2008. The NL record for the biggest comeback is 11 runs, and the major league mark is 12.

**40' x 60' x 12' Garage \$21,500**

One 3' Entry Door  
Two 10' x 10' Overhead Doors  
(12" soffit, gutter & wainscot optional)

Prices include: DELIVERY, TAXES, & INSTALL on your level site. Travel charges may apply

**ESH INC.**  
QUALITY STRUCTURES  
Specializing in complete post frame buildings

Richmond, KS (800) 374-6988  
Haven, KS (800) 208-9167  
www.eshqs.com

Call for FREE information and estimates

- Consider the ESH Advantage**
- Free Estimates
  - Free On-Site Consultation
  - Fully Insured
  - Pre-engineered for code laws
  - Licensed ICC General Contractor
  - 3-Ply Laminated Posts (60 year warranty)
  - Steel Roof and Sides (40 yr. warranty)
  - 16 colors available
  - 8' o/c Post Spacing
  - 4' o/c Truss Spacing
  - 90 MPH Wind Load
  - 30lb Truss Load
  - Site Preparation available

\$0 down

and Free Installation

**It's A Whole New Way to Get WildBlue!**  
High-speed Internet just got even easier to get outside the city.

See us at the Kansas State Fair!

**WILDBLUE.**

**Call 877-893-6026**  
or call your local dealer

\*Offer ends 10/31/10. \$24.95 S+H due at time of installation. Visit www.wildblue.com/legal for details and the Fair Access Policy. © 2010 WildBlue Communications, Inc.

Make a Difference - Please Recycle

MOVIES

NOW SHOWING

Digital/3D Cinema  
August 20th - August 26th

SALT

Starring: Angelina Jolie  
PG-13 1 Hour, 40 Minutes  
Genre(s): Adventure/Drama/  
Thriller  
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00  
Sunday -Thursday 7:00

CHARLIE ST. CLOUD

Starring: Zac Efron  
Genre(s): Drama/Romance/  
Science Fiction  
PG-13 1 Hour, 45 Minutes  
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00  
Sunday -Thursday 7:00

COMING SOON

Cats & Dogs  
Dinner for Schmucks  
The Expendables  
Eat Pray Love

Colby Cinema

1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600  
www.colbycinema.com

WINNER OF 2 MOVIE PASSES  
ROBERTA SCHMIDT

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

friends  
don't let friends  
drive drunk.

U.S. Department of Transportation

Ad Council