

# Colby football team loses to Concordia

By Kayla Cornett  
Colby Free Press  
colby.sports@nwkansan.com

The Colby High varsity football team couldn't hold back the Concordia Panthers Friday night, losing 37-6 at Dennen Field.

The Eagles (2-5 overall, 1-3 Great West Activities Conference) are heading into the last two weeks before postseason play, and Coach Chris Gardner said these games will be the most important of the season.

"I guess when it comes down to it in Kansas, it comes down to these last two weeks," he said. "Do we want to be in the playoffs or do we not? Did this hurt, sure. Did we play well, at times we did. But in Kansas' system, it comes down to the last few weeks.

"We're 0-1, we gotta finish 2-1 if we wanna be in the postseason."

Gardner said he wasn't sure what was off for Colby that night because overall, he thought the boys played well.

"I know we gave up a couple big plays defensively," he said. "Offensively, we stopped ourselves with a penalty. But other than that, I thought we played well."

Colby received the ball to start the game. On their first possessions, both the Eagles and Panthers were forced to punt.

Colby was able to put together a good drive on its second possession, however. With 4:31 left in the first quarter, senior quarterback Zane Winger ran in a 35-yard



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press  
Senior running back Beau Brown straight-armed a Concordia defender Friday night during the Colby High varsity football game at Dennen Field. Brown worked hard for the Eagles despite Concordia grabbing the win 37-6.

touchdown. Senior Todd Kane attempted the extra-point kick, but it was no good, so the Eagles led 6-0.

On the next drive, Concordia kicked its offense into high gear and scored a touchdown of its own with 1:16 on the clock. The Panthers completed a two-point conversion to take the lead 8-6 at the end of the first.

Colby and Concordia each had unsuccessful drives on their next possessions to start the second quarter and each punted back to their opponent.

The Eagles began to start something on their following drive, but a catch by Macen Shull for a first down was called back due to a holding call on Colby. The boys turned the ball over on downs af-

ter an incomplete pass on fourth and 11.

When Concordia's offense got back on the field, it took advantage and drove down the field.

The Panthers capped off the drive with a 20-yard rushing touchdown with 3:43 left in the half. They tried for a two-point conversion, but it was short, leaving the score at 14-6 in favor of

Concordia.

Both teams had two more drives in the remaining minutes before the break, but neither was able to put more points on the board.

Concordia started the second half with the ball and capitalized after burning four minutes off the clock.

The Panthers scored a 4-yard touchdown and completed a two-point conversion with 7:50 left in the third to lead 22-6.

Colby started slowly on its first drive of the half and was forced to punt on fourth and 20. However, a Panther defender was called for roughing the kicker, which is an automatic first down, so the Eagles were able to continue their drive with 5:40 on the clock.

Another Concordia penalty gave Colby another first down and Winger ran for almost 20 yards to grab another. But a couple plays later, a holding call on the Eagles put them at third and five. Winger's pass was incomplete to bring up fourth and 5, and Colby decided to go for it.

The boys couldn't get the play off in time, though, causing a delay of game and adding five more yards to the down. Winger's pass was broken up and the Eagles turned over the ball with 3:59 on the board.

The Panthers had the ball for the rest of the quarter, but were unable to score and punted back to Colby at the beginning of the fourth quarter.

The Eagles couldn't score on their next possession either and

punted to Concordia.

The Panthers worked hard for the rest of the game, scoring two more touchdowns which were about two minutes apart. A successful two-point conversion on the first touchdown and extra-point kick gave Concordia 37 points to Colby's 6.

"Their team is gonna grind it on ya and grind it on ya and grind on ya," Coach Gardner said, "and they did that tonight. It showed more in the second half than the first half."

The Eagles weren't able to score again, but Gardner said he was still proud of the way they played.

"I thought our kids played their guts out tonight," he said. "We had a chance to take the lead 14-6 in the second quarter, so I felt good about that. I thought we played pretty well up and down the field... I think our defense played well all game and I think our offense played well, so the encouraging thing is we found some creases.

"We did some things good, and at this time, that's what you've gotta do. You gotta make sure that you're consistent in what you do."

Colby heads to Clay Center for its next game at 7 p.m. Friday, and Gardner said Clay Center is very different from Concordia.

"They're a total opposite of this team," he said. "That's our district. They're a spread team... they're gonna run three wide receivers, one back."

## Colby girls golf team second at regionals

By Kayla Cornett  
Colby Free Press  
colby.sports@nwkansan.com

The Colby High girls golf team wound up in second place at the regional tournament after a three-way tie at the top last Monday, and the entire six-person team was off to play in the state tournament today in Hesston.

Varsity players include seniors Karly Kriss and McKenna Ortner, juniors Andrea Barton and Haley Mengel and freshmen Miranda Kern and Elissa Zerr.

Coach Rick Williams said Colby tied with Ulysses and Goodland at regionals, with all three teams posting a 413 team score.

"When it came down to tie breakers," he said, "Goodland took first, Colby second and Ulysses got third."

The Lady Eagles had three individual medalists at the tourney: Barton took fifth, Kriss seventh and Kern 10th.

Williams said this is the third time in Colby High history that Colby has qualified as a team for the state golf tournament.

"The program began in 1995, and the previous two team qualifiers were the 1998 team coached by Ray Higley and the 2010 team coached by (me)," he said.

Williams said that Kriss is making her fourth trip to state while the other five girls will be making their first. He said the team had a solid performance last week.

"At regionals, we got a great team effort," Williams said. "We just posted four solid scores. Miranda Kern had a career day and becomes the first freshman to medal at the regional tournament in Colby High history."

## College volleyball squad loses in five sets on road

The Colby Community College volleyball team lost to Garden City Community College in a five-set match Wednesday in Garden City.

The Lady Trojans lost the first set 25-20, won the second and third 8-25 and 18-25 and then lost the final two 25-22 and 15-10.

However, volleyball stand-out Maisy Munson was recognized for the second week in a row by the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference as the Division I Outstanding Player of the Week.

Munson once again led the Lady Trojans in a big way, notching her sixth double-double in a row. Munson helped Colby fight through a five-set loss to Hutchinson where she had 4 kills, 13 digs

and 53 assists, along with an ace.

Then the freshman from Anthem, Ariz., led Colby to a huge win against Seward County, where she again had 2 kills, 14 digs, an ace and 48 assists.

Munson averaged 11.22 assists per set along with 3 digs a set in the 9 sets that she played in Week 7.

The next home match for the Lady Trojans will be at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday against Dodge City Community College at the Community Building.

The girls will have another home match at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, for Sophomore Night, against Pratt Community College.

The Lady Trojans are 19-10 overall and 5-5 in the Jayhawk West conference, putting them in fifth place in the division.

## Kansas State emerges alone atop Big 12

By Luke Meredith  
AP Sports Writer

AMES, Iowa – The upcoming matchup between Kansas State and West Virginia was supposed to break up the tie between the Wildcats and Mountaineers for first in the Big 12.

There's no doubt who leads the league now. No. 4 Kansas State (6-0, 3-0) emerged from Saturday's hard-fought 27-21 win over Iowa State (4-2, 1-2) as the Big 12's only unbeaten team, both overall and in the conference.

Though the Wildcats would quickly lose their grip on the league lead with a loss at No. 17 West Virginia – which is no doubt smarting after a 49-14 shellacking by Texas Tech on

Saturday – they woke up on Sunday as the unquestioned class of the conference.

Just don't tell coach Bill Snyder that.

Kansas State's winning formula has been remarkably simple: Play sound, disciplined defense and let Collin Klein handle the offense.

Klein was brilliant again on Saturday, with 292 total yards and three rushing TDs against an Iowa State defense that entered the weekend ranked third in the Big 12 at less than 16 points allowed per game.

Klein converted a series of crucial third downs on a key drive in the fourth quarter. It produced a field goal and, more importantly, ate up over eight minutes at a time when the Cyclones desperately needed to make some-

thing happen on offense.

Klein also responded with a quick touchdown drive after Iowa State had seized momentum with a 30-yard touchdown pass from Jared Barnett to Ernst Brun in the first half.

Kansas State's defense allowed the Cyclones to score three touchdowns even though they had the ball for barely 19 minutes. But when the Wildcats needed stops, they got them.

Iowa State had the ball at its own 40 with 4:17 left, trailing by six points, but Kansas State forced Barnett into three incompletions and got the ball back. The Wildcats also stopped Iowa State on its final possession two minutes later, with Barnett misfiring on three straight passes with pressure in his face.

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