

# Chiefs' casualties run high in camp

By Doug Tucker  
*The Associated Press*

RIVER FALLS, Wis. (AP) — Tackle John Tait, whose teammate slammed him in the face with a helmet, is the latest casualty in a Kansas City camp that seems beset by new problems almost daily.

Tait, the starting right tackle, will miss two weeks after receiving about 17 stitches over his eyebrow ridge and the bridge of his nose following a bloody fracas with rookie defensive lineman Eddie Freeman. Coach Dick Vermeil had originally thought Freeman hit Tait with his fist.

"He had my helmet and hit me with it. It wasn't his fist," Tait said Wednesday, waving photographers away from his badly swollen face.

"It's common knowledge he had my helmet in his hand and he swung it back and hit me with it. I have a broken nose."

Vermeil said Wednesday he didn't know what caused the injuries.

"I still don't know if there was a helmet to the face," Vermeil said. "I'm not going to get involved in that."

Asked about disciplinary action, Vermeil said no, cursed and stomped away.

Freeman, a second-round draft pick out of Alabama-Birmingham, has been involved in several scuffles since the Chiefs opened practice on Friday.

Wednesday morning, about 14 hours after the fight, Freeman seemed out of sorts and was not playing well. Later, when talking with reporters, the 310-pound tackle was subdued.

"I'm the young new guy on the

block. It was just in the heat of battle," Freeman said. "I'm going to talk to him today."

Asked if he regretted the incident, Freeman said, "Oh, very much so. You don't want to get in no scrapes and look bad upon your teammates. I've got to work with those guys. I've got to eat with those guys."

He would not say what he planned to say to Tait.

"We'll keep it among ourselves," Freeman said.

Vermeil said he had not talked with Freeman, whom he called "a hothead."

"But I talked with the team about it," Vermeil said. "Fights happen in football. You never know who threw the first punch."

Vermeil has said he did not plan any disciplinary action against Freeman, but Tait wasn't sure he agreed.

"He apologized to me yesterday. But it was right after it happened and I couldn't talk to him at the time," Tait said.

"It's not like I want to kill Eddie. But I definitely think perhaps some disciplinary action should be taken. Maybe even for myself."

"Hey, fights happen. People's adrenaline is going. I don't know if you ought to hit people with their helmet."

"I don't think Eddie's a bad person down deep inside. Everybody makes mistakes. This one happens to be maybe a little bit costly."

Losing Tait for two weeks is a blow to the Chiefs, who are already missing All-Pro tight end Tony Gonzalez and No. 1 draft pick Ryan Sims in bitter contract disputes.



# Getting ready for the season

Quarterback Derrick Raymer (left) pitched the ball to Josh Perez during a football camp Wednesday at the Goodland High School practice field. Both are sophomores. Later, Raymer (below) called out a play to his squad as they practiced a running play.

Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News



# Offense works on running plays

By Doug Stephens  
*The Goodland Daily News*

On the third day of football camp at Goodland High School, the offense worked on running plays, and some of the players got to play in a scrimmage.

Under assistant coach Jon McLean, the offense focused on running plays. The quarterback handed off the ball, faked hand-offs, faked to one player and handed to another, and on some plays didn't bother to fake — he just took off behind his blockers and headed for the end zone.

McLean told the blockers where they were supposed to be for each play, and how to position themselves so the runners could break through the gaps in the defensive line.

"What foot did you step off with

here?" McLean asked a player. "We've got to remember to use the correct one. It will save you half a step, and you'll be moving in the right direction."

Not only did the coach explain what the players were supposed to do, he told each one why it was important. He acted out a play in slow motion, and demonstrated what would happen if the play was carried out correctly, and what would happen if somebody missed a beat.

"You want to be there," McLean told a player, pointing to a spot down the field. "You better get there, or that fullback might waste you."

The squad tried a play where the quarterback pitched the ball, and the players mixed up on their signals three times.

"That's OK," the coach said. "That's why we are going to work on this like crazy."

Although McLean told the athletes what plays he wanted them to practice, they went into a huddle before every run-through so they could get used to communicating as a team.

"Go ahead and call it in the huddle," McLean said, "then come back and we'll talk about what you are supposed to do."

The offense worked on a few passing plays. Only about two were caught, but that wasn't what McLean was worried about on.

"Where should we be on this play?" the coach asked. "If you move over about half a foot, you'll have a better shot at protecting the quarterback."

After working on three passing

plays, head coach Tony Diehl called everyone together, and split the big people and little people into groups.

The big people, tackles, fullbacks and blockers, practiced blocking plays, while the quarterbacks, cornerbacks and other smaller players played a scrimmage.

The team is not allowed to practice in uniform until regular practices start, so the scrimmage was a touch game, and on the other side of the field, the offensive blockers used huge foam pads to protect themselves from the defense.

The camp started Monday and ends Friday. About 50 high school players practice from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. until Friday. Grant Junior High players have a separate camp from 8 to 9 a.m.

# Short-staffed Rockies lose

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Colorado Rockies manager Clint Hurdle is seeing a lot of creativity. What he's not seeing is a lot of winning.

On a night the Rockies repeatedly came up short — starting with their bench, where they had only three players available — their bullpen quickly turned a two-run lead into a 7-6 loss to Pittsburgh on Wednesday.

Hurdle has new players Gabe Kapler, Jay Payton and Mark Corey on the way following two deadline-day trades, but he is frustrated by an eight-game losing streak.

"We've kind of spiced it up through these eight games. We've dabbled in mediocrity in all areas," Hurdle said. "Through this trip, we haven't pitched, hit and played defense together in one game. You're not going to win at the major league level unless you just do a whole lot of one of them."

What Hurdle didn't have was a whole lot of players.

After dealing pitchers John Thomson and Dennys Reyes and outfielders Todd Hollandsworth and Mark Little, the Rockies had only 21 in uniform, four under the limit.

# baseball scoreboard

By the Associated Press

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	69	38	.645	—
New York	55	51	.519	13 1/2
Montreal	53	54	.495	16
Florida	52	55	.486	17
Philadelphia	50	56	.472	18 1/2
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
St. Louis	59	45	.567	—
Cincinnati	55	51	.519	5
Houston	54	52	.509	6
Pittsburgh	49	58	.458	11 1/2
Chicago	44	61	.419	15 1/2
Milwaukee	38	69	.355	22 1/2
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	65	42	.607	—
Los Angeles	60	47	.561	5
San Francisco	59	48	.551	6
Colorado	48	59	.449	17
San Diego	45	62	.421	20

St. Louis (Simontacchi 7-2) at Atlanta (Glavine 13-6), 5:35 p.m.  
Cincinnati (Fernandez 1-1) at San Diego (Lawrence 9-6), 8:05 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	67	39	.632	—
Boston	63	43	.594	4
Baltimore	49	55	.471	17
Toronto	46	59	.438	20 1/2
Tampa Bay	35	71	.330	32
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	65	43	.602	—
Chicago	51	57	.472	14
Cleveland	47	59	.443	17
Kansas City	44	63	.411	20 1/2
Detroit	40	66	.377	24
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	66	42	.611	—
Anaheim	63	43	.594	2
Oakland	61	47	.565	5
Texas	45	62	.421	20 1/2

**Tuesday's Games**

**Pittsburgh 4, Colorado 1**  
Montreal 5, Arizona 4, 10 innings  
St. Louis 5, Florida 0  
San Francisco 10, Philadelphia 3  
Houston 16, N.Y. Mets 3  
Cincinnati 12, Los Angeles 4  
Atlanta 3, Milwaukee 2  
San Diego 6, Chicago Cubs 5  
**Today's Games**  
San Diego 8, Chicago Cubs 6, 11 innings  
Atlanta 9, Milwaukee 1  
**Pittsburgh 7, Colorado 6**  
Arizona 5, Montreal 1  
Florida 8, St. Louis 5  
Philadelphia 8, San Francisco 6  
N.Y. Mets 10, Houston 0  
Los Angeles 11, Cincinnati 5  
**Thursday's Games**  
Los Angeles (Od.Perez 10-7) at Cincinnati (Dessens 7-5), 10:35 a.m.  
San Diego (Peavy 2-4) at Chicago Cubs (Lieber 6-8), 12:20 p.m.  
Arizona (Schilling 18-3) at Montreal (Ohka 8-6), 5:05 p.m.  
**Colorado (Jennings 10-5) at Pittsburgh (Meadows 0-0), 5:05 p.m.**  
St. Louis (Finley 2-0) at Florida (Burnett 10-7), 5:05 p.m.  
San Francisco (Ortiz 7-7) at Philadelphia (Wolf 6-7), 5:05 p.m.  
Houston (Oswalt 11-6) at N.Y. Mets (Astacio 10-3), 5:10 p.m.  
Milwaukee (Rusch 5-10) at Atlanta (Maddux 10-3), 5:35 p.m.  
**Friday's Games**  
**Colorado (Hampton 5-13) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 9-5), 1:20 p.m.**  
Houston (Miller 8-3) at Montreal (Reames 0-2), 5:05 p.m.  
Milwaukee (J.Wright 3-10) at Florida (Tavarez 7-8), 5:05 p.m.  
Los Angeles (Daal 8-5) at Philadelphia (Padilla 11-6), 5:05 p.m.  
San Francisco (L. Hernandez 7-11) at Pittsburgh (J.Anderson 8-11), 5:05 p.m.  
Arizona (Patterson 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Leiter 9-8), 5:10 p.m.

**Tuesday's Games**  
Seattle 5, Detroit 4, 10 innings  
Tampa Bay 10, Baltimore 3  
N.Y. Yankees 9, Texas 6  
**Toronto 13, Kansas City 4**  
Chicago White Sox 3, Minnesota 0  
Boston 6, Anaheim 0  
Cleveland 5, Oakland 4  
**Today's Games**  
Oakland 6, Cleveland 4  
Baltimore 12, Tampa Bay 2  
Texas 17, N.Y. Yankees 6  
**Toronto 9, Kansas City 2**  
Minnesota 2, Chicago White Sox 1, 10 innings  
Boston 2, Anaheim 1  
Seattle 5, Detroit 2  
**Thursday's Games**  
**Toronto (Halladay 12-4) at Kansas City (Ru.Hernandez 1-0), 2:05 p.m.**  
Baltimore (Ponson 4-5) at Tampa Bay (Sosa 1-3), 5:15 p.m.  
Boston (Burkett 10-3) at Texas (Park 3-5), 6:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (D.Wright 7-8) at Minnesota (Milton 12-7), 6:05 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees (Weaver 7-9) at Anaheim (Washburn 12-3), 8:05 p.m.  
Detroit (Sparks 5-10) at Oakland (Harang 3-2), 8:05 p.m.  
Cleveland (Sabathia 6-9) at Seattle (Pineiro 11-4), 8:05 p.m.  
**Friday's Games**  
Baltimore (Erickson 4-10) at Toronto (Loaiza 4-6), 5:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Glover 4-5) at Tampa Bay (Sturtz 1-11), 5:15 p.m.  
Boston (Lowe 14-5) at Texas (Valdes 5-7), 6:05 p.m.  
**Kansas City (Suppan 8-9) at Minnesota (Reed 8-5), 6:05 p.m.**  
Cleveland (Baez 8-7) at Seattle (Moyer 10-4), 8:05 p.m.  
Detroit (Redman 6-9) at Oakland (Zito 15-3), 8:05 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 5-4) at Anaheim (Appier 9-8), 8:05 p.m.

# High school senior shares 4-H knowledge

## 10-year member takes over sheep project responsibilities from her mother

WEETER, from Page 1

tic with every day until the fair is over. "Kids are calling, panicked that their lambs aren't ready for the fair yet," Weeter said. "Every day, I'm getting more calls. They want to be ready."

She makes house calls to look at sheep and offer tips on feeding and grooming, and has a regular appointment every Sunday night to work with a girl in the program, weighing the lamb and checking its progress.

All of this has to be scheduled around a part-time job and school activities, including playing softball and volleyball, and singing in the choir. Not to mention going to school.

"It's not too bad. I don't spend all my time doing this," she said, adding that although some kids call her every week, others don't call at all.

On average, she says she spends four

to six hours a week helping 4-Hers with their animals, but that doesn't include training sessions.

"I've given two clinics where I talk about sheep," Weeter said. "We go over most of the basics and some good techniques for raising them, how to feed them, and how to care for them."

She said she was a little nervous the first time she had to give one of the clinics, which draw out-of-county visitors, but it wasn't too bad because she could draw on what she learned from her mother.

"I just thought back to all the times Mom has talked about it," she said, "and I had no problem."

Under her mom's eye, Weeter has won grand champion and reserve ribbons for her sheep, which is good experience for the kids she is trying to help.

The better a lamb does at the fair, the

more money it can bring at auction. A grand champion can be sold for about \$5 a pound, she said, while a reserve winner might bring \$4 to \$5. Other sheep might be bought for \$3.25 to \$4 per pound, she said, adding that the ideal weight for a lamb is 120 to 135 pounds.

"Kids can definitely make some money if they are good at doing this," Weeter said. "I made money every year I did it."

Not every one who sells a champion lamb will make money, she said, because some families buy specially-bred animals, which can cost over \$500.

Weeter said the sheep she showed were always animals her family already owned.

Besides sheep, Tammy has shown shorthorn steers and Pomeranian dogs. She is still showing the other animals

this year, but she isn't allowed to exhibit sheep.

"It wouldn't be fair to show in the category and be a leader at the same time," she said.

Weeter plans on going to college when she graduates, possibly at Fort State Hays University, and wants to come back every summer to help at the fair.

When she's not around, she said, her mom will pick up the slack for her.

"I'm not completely retired from it yet," Dee Weeter said. "As long as the kids want the help, I'll be glad to give it to them."

Tammy said she's glad she was able to help the 4-H program after all the help she got from it over the years.

"I've had a blast all the time I've been in it," she said. "I've learned a lot, and I like the thought that I am helping pass it on to younger kids."

# Family fixes up park fountain in memory of son

FOUNTAIN, from Page 1

anywhere. The original eagle had spread wings, but Mann was told those aren't made anymore because the wings break off too easily.

All of Craig's family have helped on the fountain, Sharon Mann said, including she and her husband Darrell, Craig's sisters Dana Murray and Joni Guyer, brother Brad, all the spouses and kids, and Craig's family, Julie and children Chad, Erica and Aaron.

"We have had the whole family out here working," Mann said. "From age 5 to 65, we had all ages. We've spent quite a few Sundays here."

The family still has to paint the bottom of the fountain's pool, Mann said, and they've been thinking about putting in a new pump which recycles water.

"The one in there now doesn't recycle," Mann said. "If we put in one that does, we can run the fountain in the summer."

They even have some ideas on improving the rest of Chamber's Park, where Chad got married in May.

While the eagle was being placed, Sharon Mann said, she noticed there were no trash cans around and mentioned it to the city crew. She said the family has thought about planting trees to replace some that are dying.

"This is a lovely park," Mann said.

"We want to help keep it beautiful to honor the memory of our son."

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