

Inside Charlie's Corner

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE QUARTERBACKS

Football, especially college football, has become all about the quarterbacks. Who creates the “media buzz”? Quarterbacks. This past weekend was all about Arch Manning, Avery Johnson, Rocco Becht and, yes, even Shadur Sanders though he is a third-string quarterback for the Cleveland Browns.

There is no doubt that quarterback is a key position in football but it is not always the quarterback that causes a team to win or lose. Right, Bill Belichick? Before the season started most “experts” told us Arch Manning would win the Heisman Trophy. For crying out loud, he was making just his third start in his collegiate career! Those same expectations have been put on Kansas State’s Avery Johnson in this part of the world. Both of those quarterbacks are a prime example that points out that there is much more to winning than a good quarterback as both teams have gotten off to a mediocre start.

On the flip side of those hyped expectations is Iowa State’s Rocco Becht. He receives almost no national attention. Very little hype outside of Ames, Iowa. Yet, he is a terrific passer, piling up the yards and beating teams that the Cyclones weren’t expected to beat.

These Heisman trophies haven’t always been a lock to be awarded to quarterbacks. In days gone by, most of the time they went to a running back and, occasionally, a receiver. Hardly ever is it awarded to a defensive player. Mark Ingram, who won the Heisman in 2009, is the last running back to win the award. However, in days gone by, especially before the 1990s it was the running backs who won. Jim Brown, Barry Sanders, Bo Jackson, Herschel Walker and Marcus Walker are all previous winners who played the important position of running back.

In today’s football, where teams regularly throw the ball 30, 40 and even 50 times a game, the pendulum has swung towards the quarterback but it is still true that if you don’t have a running game.....well, you just don’t win! The television cameras might always point at the quarterback but remember, there are ten other guys out there that make it all work!

..... Kansas State hosts Army Saturday. The Cadets were 12-2 last year and, before this past weekend, I thought that Army would be a stiff test for the Wildcats. Then Army went out and lost in two overtimes to an unheralded Tarleton State. The Black Knights were black and blue after that one, both physically and emotionally! Counter that with the fact that Kansas State has looked underwhelming in their two games so far this season and you have a game that’s hard to figure. Who will the soldiers at nearby Fort Riley root for? K-State SHOULD have more athletic talent than Army but that was also true of the North Dakota game. Still, you’ve got to like the Cats. KSU 31, Army 21.

The Kansas-Missouri Border War game in Columbia makes one wish that former KU coach Don Fambrough was still alive. The man was famous for his anti-Missouri rhetoric. It was a life and death issue for him and he could deliver incredible speeches on the subject of their games. This is a big game for both teams and could catapult the winner to a big season. Kansas has a lot to prove and Missouri is coming off of two straight ten-win seasons. Big 12 reputation vs. the SEC hype. This will be a high scoring affair but you have to give the edge to the home team. Missouri 41, Kansas 33.

Why the NFL would send two of their best teams to Brazil for the season opener is beyond me. It sets up both for a bumper game on the second weekend! Still, the Chiefs are the better team whether they are playing in Kansas City, California, Iceland or Brazil! Senor Mahomes and his Chiefs 27, Chargers 20.

BEST OF THE REST:.....Great Bend gets by a game McPherson, 30-18.....Larned 20 Smoky Valley 15.....Ellinwood 30 Syracuse 20.....Pawnee Heights 50 Chase 18.....Central Plains 56 Macksville 18.....Hays 33 Derby 21 and in a game that looks more like a late-round playoff game, Hoisington 27 Pratt 21.

“There’s no such thing as a must-win game..... and this is one of them!”--Soccer Manager Alan Wright

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DID YOU KNOW.....That Larned High School officially fielded a football team in 1921? Their first game was against Lyons that year.



Smoky Valley Here Friday Opening Game of Indian Football Season

BY: C. TABLER

The Larned Indian football season gets underway Friday evening as they host the Smoky Valley Vikings in the season opener for both teams. Both teams are coming off of disappointing 2-7 seasons in 2024.

Last year Larned jumped out to a 14-0 lead and then held off the Vi-

kings for a 36-24 victory in the season opener at Lindsborg. Senior quarterback Ty Heitschmidt (6’4”-210lbs.) returns for the Vikings but, like Larned, the Vikings have a number of significant holes to fill from graduated seniors.

10th year coach, Tim Lambert, who owns a career record of 212-120

will guide the Vikings. Lambert has also coached at St. Francis and Concordia.

Senior quarterback Mason Miller (6’-175lbs.) returns to guide the Indian offensive attack as does running back David Colgazier (5’ 10”-175lbs.) Larned’s leading receiver from 2024, Tristan Re-

gan (6’4”-175lbs.) also returns. He had 527 yards receiving.

Larned coach, Brady Keith begins his third season as leader of the Indian football program with an 8-10 career record.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7pm at Earl Roberts Field.

Larned Goes Winless at CKL Volleyball Tournament

HESSTON–Larned’s Lady Indian Volleyball team had a rough go of it Saturday at the Central Kansas League Volleyball Tournament in Hesston as they lost all of their matches.

For their first match of the season in Pool Play, Larned drew defending 3A State Volleyball Champion, Halstead, and dropped both games to the Lady Dragons, 25-12 and 25-7. In the second round of Pool Play, Larned dropped two games to Smoky Valley, 25-15 and 25-14.

“We knew it was going to be tough, especially kicking off pool play facing the defending 3A State Champions, Halstead. Our team’s inexperience definitely showed. With only 2 returning varsity players, we have our work cut out for us in getting the girls to learn how to play with each other and gel, so we can be competitive in this league”, said Larned Volleyball Coach Amy Simmons.

In the Consolation Bracket, Larned dropped their contest to Haven, 25-19 and 25-16 and, in their final match, fell to Pratt 25-19 and 25-16.

All the Lady Indians contributed in some way



throughout the day. For the 4 matches combined, Jadyn Crosby led the Indians with a total of 17 kills for the day. Brooke Simmons led assists with a total of 19. We had 3 players that served 90% and above, Jadyn Crosby, Brooke Simmons, and Brenna Burger. Defensively, Brooke Simmons led in digs with 24, followed by Emma Creamer with 21 and Jadyn Crosby with 20. Brooke Simmons had 5 blocks and Jadyn Crosby had 4.

The Lady Indians will be in action Thursday, September 4, on their home court as they host an invitational with Victoria and Russell beginning at 5pm.

FOOTBALL GAMES FRIDAY



- McPHERSON @ GREAT BEND
- HAYS @ DERBY
- SMOKY VALLEY @ LARNED
- PRATT @ HOISINGTON
- HALSTEAD @ HESSTON
- HILLSBORO @ HAVEN
- CONWAY SPRINGS @ NICKERSON
- RUSSELL @ TMP
- BELOIT @ LYONS
- ELLINWOOD @ SYRACUSE
- CENTRAL PLAINS @ MACKSVILLE
- PAWNEE HEIGHTS@CHASE
- LACROSSE @ ST. JOHN
- KINSLEY @ STANTON CO.

Pawnee Heights Volleyball Loses Three at Satanta

The Pawnee Heights Lady Tigers Volleyball squad kicked off their season last Friday with a Triangular meet at Satanta. It was a rough start to the season for the Lady Tigers as they dropped both matches.

In their first match, Pawnee Heights started strong winning 25-22 over Ashland but dropped the next two, 11-25 and 20-25.

Against Satanta Pawnee Heights dropped both games by scores of 20-25.

- ATTENTION -  
Deadline for Ads, Legals and Articles is  
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(for office drop-off)  
OR  
2:00 PM Tuesdays,  
(via emails) for  
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