

Kohawks play football for love of the game

Written by Bob Brooks

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It was refreshing on Monday to go to Coe's football media day.

Number one, the program is eminently successful under Coach Steve Straker, but more importantly when 114 players show up for the love of the game without athletic scholarships it gives you a good feeling about the sport.

I sat down for a chat with Coe's All-American quarterback Brad Boyle, a young man from New Sharon who had a wonderful year in 2010, taking the Kohawks to the playoffs. He completed 64 percent of his passes, threw for 24 touchdowns and ran for 19 TDs.

Those are heady figures that bode well for Coe in the 2011 campaign. Aside from the numbers, I asked Boyle questions about what is going on with major college football, particularly the recent problems at Miami, Ohio State and USC.

"They're young men, some not as mature as others," Boyle said, noting some bad decisions that were made for the sake of money. "If they just stick it out, they're going to get money other ways. That's just cheating."

Boyle does not think paying players is the answer. "They bring in so much revenue for the schools, but I don't know about paying them," he said. "That would take away from the integrity."

Boyle would like to see the major colleges adopt a playoff formula to determine a true national champion.

"I'm in big favor of a playoff system in the BCS. I think that would be tremendous," he said.

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The NCAA has a playoff system for Division III schools like Coe and all the others in the Iowa Conference.

"I love that, because each of the last two years we lost one game but still made the playoffs. I really like the system that we have," he remarked.

As you can tell, this young man was a very good interview guest because of his ability to communicate. I'm sure his intelligence will translate to touchdowns for Coe and a great educational experience for Brad Boyle.

Another interviewee at Coe was Frank Weymiller, a preseason All-American in Division III and the anchor of Coe's defense.

Coe has only four home games this year, so I hope if you stop by Clark Stadium, look for No. 99 out of New Albin, Iowa. After missing last year because of back problems, Weymiller is going to be some kind of defensive force for the Kohawks.

The first home game is Sept. 17 against Simpson at 1 p.m., and Luther comes to town on Oct. 8.

These players deserve your interest and support. There are nine Metro products on the roster this year. We wish them well.