COLLIN KLEIN

By EARL WATT

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Collin Klein didn’t know where he would end up playing college football, he just knew he wanted a chance to compete at the highest level.

As a home-schooled student who played for Loveland High School in Colorado, the offers didn’t exactly come pouring in.

“I wasn’t highly recruited,” Klein said. “K-State was my only offer. I was at peace about it. It wasn’t where I wanted to go, but God made it clear.”

Klein’s faith and love for football will be shared Sunday during the Super Bowl Party sponsored by Faith Tabernacle and the Liberal Ministerial Alliance that will begin at 5 p.m. at the Seward County Ag Building. Klein will speak during halftime.

“I’m going to be sharing my story, my testimony and the journey God brought me on before K-State, my time at K-State and some lessons along the way.”

Some of those lessons included attending a school that he really didn’t think would be his choice, but earning the starting quarterback position there and finishing his college career as a Heisman finalist.

His football career in high school allowed him to be home schooled and to play for his local high school team.

“Colorado’s rules are different,” he said. “You can play sports for the school in your district as long as you submit grades every quarter. It is a great opportunity.”

Klein followed the typical route, starting a couple of games as a sophomore before becoming a starter as a junior. His team finished as state runner-ups that year and qualified for the playoffs his senior year.

Then came the offer to become a Wildcat.

“Coach (Bill) Snyder is awesome,” Klein said. “No one competes or works harder than coach. He cares about the people around him. It is really special.”

Now, Klein is keeping himself in shape and ready to attend some NFL camps in an effort to break into the highest level of football.

At least this year, on Super Sunday, he will be in Liberal, sharing his Christian walk.

There is no admission to attend, and refreshments will be provided.

Klein will also be speaking earlier in the day at 10:30 a.m. at Faith Tabernacle Church across the street from Memorial Library. The public is welcome.