

Steve Sigafoose's Scorekeeper Column: Peterson goes indoors

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One of the last times I saw Kyle Peterson, the former Lynx star was crossing over the middle of the field and catching the ball in traffic during Abraham Lincoln's first prep football playoff game.

That was 1999. Fast forward to 2006 and Peterson was back on the field. But this one is indoors. Peterson is a member of the Iowa Blackhawks, preparing for Saturday's 7 p.m. game against Wichita.

In between, Peterson played college football at Simpson. He also served his country. This time last year, he was in Iraq as a member of a reserve unit. (Very glad to have you back). He hasn't played organized football since college.

"I'm 25 and I'm sore," said Peterson, but he was smiling. "I don't know how the guys on the team who are 30 or 35 years old are doing it."

The indoor game is "a lot quicker," said Peterson. "I feel like my head is on a swivel. Instead of looking for the ball after doing downfield 10 or 15 yards, you're looking for it after five yards."

The biggest part of getting "the rust off" was "getting my cuts down," said Peterson. "It took a couple of weeks to get sharp. That was the big thing."

Peterson was introduced to the Blackhawks by former prep friends and current Blackhawks Nick Freet and Kurt Ferguson.

"They got me here," said Peterson. "They said I could play this game."

Peterson gave a steady performance in last week's opener, the 42-32 win over Missouri. He caught three passes for 21 yards and a touchdown.

Off the field, Peterson, who majored in physical education at Simpson is working on getting his teaching certificate.

"I want to get into coaching," said Peterson. "I would be happy with football, basketball or baseball."

As for the Blackhawks "I can see myself," said Peterson, "playing as long as I stay healthy and I have fun."