

# Cowboys fall hard with five key players out of the game

**By Rachel Miscall**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
As five of the team's best players stood on the sidelines dressed in street clothes, the Goodland Cowboys fell hard to the undefeated Atwood Buffaloes Friday night with a 48-0 loss.

Before the game, Cowboys' Coach Chris Walters said if they wanted a win, the team would have to stop the Buffaloes, who are ranked third in Class 2-1A schools in Kansas, from scoring early and hold them to a total game score of less than 20 points. The Cowboys just couldn't do it.

Though Goodland, a Class 4A team, started strong, making big advances by rushing through holes in the middle of the Atwood defense, the team's confidence faded as the Buffaloes scored a touchdown early in the first quarter.

Coach Walters said the team's confidence was shot after Atwood's Barry Schmidt intercepted a Cowboys' pass at the Goodland 25-yard line, running in another touchdown and quickly

racking up 14 points for the Buffaloes. The first half ended with the score 35-0 Atwood.

"It's a mind set thing," said the coach. "They were wondering if they could do it. It was one of those things; they had a good drive, but Atwood made good adjustments and made an interception."

The Cowboys' confidence was already low going into the game, as five of the team's starters weren't able to play, though they were not injured. Coupled with the team's loss to the St. Francis Indians the week before, which gave the Cowboys a 1-2 season record, and having to face state-ranked Atwood on their turf, for their homecoming game, Goodland was definitely the underdog.

Coach Walters said Quarterback Luke Stone, son of assistant coach Dennis Stone; Mickey Steiner, a tailback; Jeremy Stefan, a wide receiver and cornerback; Matt Mentzer, a tight end and defensive end; and

Tyler Billinger, a cornerback and tailback, weren't allowed to play. He wouldn't say why.

"We're not going to talk about it," he said. "It's something that's just between the team."

He admitted not having the five players in the game hurt the Cowboys. "All of the guys are key players," Coach Walters said. "We need them, that's for sure."

The coach said he expects the five players to be suited up when the Cowboys take on the Class 3A Phillipsburg football team this Friday at home. It'll be another tough game, Coach Walters said, as the Panthers are ranked in the top 5 in Class 3A schools.

He said a win will help the Cowboys build up their confidence. After Friday, they may need it.

Late in the third quarter, after the Buffaloes had scored their sixth touchdown, and the scoreboard read Atwood 42, Goodland 0, the announcer said the league's "mercy rule" would be put into effect. That means the clock ran continuously for the rest of the game, which didn't stop the Buffaloes from scoring a final touchdown to end it 48-0.

Quarterback Andrew Melia, filling



The Cowboys' Bryce Abbey tried to avoid an Atwood Buffalo during Friday night's game in Atwood, but didn't make it too far before he was tackled. The state-ranked Buffaloes beat the Cowboys 48-0.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/ The Goodland Daily News

# Freshman runner takes home a medal

**By Janet Craft**  
*The Goodland Daily News*

Freshman cross country runner Michael Mangus won a medal at Tuesday's meet in Ulysses, but Coach Don Smith came away from the meet with mixed feelings.

"I was happy for Michael," Coach Don Smith said. "He has been working hard in practice. He did an outstanding job in the last part of the race."

He said Mangus moved up and passed several runners.

"We're always pleased when an individual gets a medal," Smith said, adding that team times were slower on the whole this week and he's not quite sure what they need to do to improve.

He said the Ulysses course had been adjusted since last year. It's tougher than the Oakley course the team ran last week, he said.

There were three inclines that were close together, so that could explain the difference in times between Oakley and Ulysses.

"I give these kids credit," he said. "This sport is not an easy one."

Senior Matt Gattshall was unable to run due to sickness and three other runners couldn't compete because of injuries, Smith said.

"We're still wanting to improve. We were able to pack better together. I thought they did a nice job of trying to react in a positive way."

The biggest disappointment, he said, was that there was not a significant improvement with the girls.

"On the girls' side, if we look at the group, we didn't run well," he said.

"We didn't have the times we had at Oakley. We didn't start well as a team."

"The only girl I felt ran a better race was Tiffany Schwasinger. She looked a lot more fluid in this race."

"If you're going to continue to improve, you find people near your speed and stay with them. Since we didn't start well, we ran against people who were slower than us."

"We just have to learn and see if we can do better because it was not a good performance for us."

He said the team would need to look at where they can improve.

In the varsity girls' race, there were seven runners for Goodland. Kelsey Cooper had a time of 16:25 to take 16th place, Anny McCoy had 16:34 for 17th, Deanna Livengood had 16:42 for 18th, Schwasinger had 16:59 for 19th, Rebecca Gattshall had 17:27 for 22nd, Wendy Keith had 17:55 for 23rd, and Chelsea Phillips had 18:20 for 25th.

In team scores, Goodland had 95 points to finish fourth out of four teams. The individual champion in this race was Brittany Hill of Hugoton who ran the distance in 12:38.

In varsity boys' competition, Goodland also had seven runners. Lee McCoy had a time of 20:23 for 18th place, Timothy Kafka had 20:33 for 20th, Shawn Weber had 20:36 for 22nd, Speedy Aguilar had 20:44 for 24th, Adam McCoy had 21:45 for 29th, Lance Tedford had 22:05 for 30th, and Alan Cebula had 22:27 for 31st.

Goodland finished fifth with a team score of 113 points out of five teams. The first place individual in that race was Nick Geyer of Guymon, Okla., with a time of 18:09.

"Matt's been our leading runner for three years," said Smith. "I was looking to see who would step forward to take the lead."

Smith said Kafka took the lead, but Lee McCoy ended up as the top Goodland finisher when he sprinted towards the end of the race.

Goodland had three runners in the freshman boys race. Mangus had a time of 22:44 for ninth place, Jordan Zwegardt had 23:36 for 12th, and Josef Felver had 24:17 for 13th. Mangus won a medal.

The first place runner was Bryce Forulel of Hugoton with a time of 19:59.

"With the boys, we're still trying to get the first mile a bit faster and still not have a drastic drop-off in the second mile," said Smith.

The varsity and junior varsity teams will compete next at 4 p.m. Tuesday in Oberlin.

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## baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

| National League  |    |        |         |
|--|----|--------|---------|
| East Division  |    |        |         |
|  | W  | L      | Pct. GB |
| Atlanta  | 92 | 63.594 | —       |
| New York   | 89 | 67.571 | 3 1/2   |
| Florida  | 73 | 82.471 | 19      |
| Montreal   | 67 | 88.432 | 25      |
| Philadelphia   | 63 | 92.406 | 28      |
| Central Division   |    |        |         |
|  | W  | L      | Pct. GB |
| St. Louis  | 91 | 65.583 | —       |
| Cincinnati   | 82 | 74.526 | 9       |
| Milwaukee  | 70 | 86.449 | 21      |
| Houston  | 69 | 87.442 | 22      |
| Pittsburgh   | 65 | 91.417 | 26      |
| Chicago  | 62 | 93.400 | 28 1/2  |
| West Division  |    |        |         |
|  | W  | L      | Pct. GB |
| San Francisco  | 93 | 63.596 | —       |
| Los Angeles  | 83 | 73.532 | 10      |
| Arizona  | 82 | 73.529 | 10 1/2  |
| Colorado   | 78 | 77.503 | 14 1/2  |
| San Diego  | 75 | 81.481 | 18      |
| x-clinched division title  |    |        |         |
| y-clinched playoff berth   |    |        |         |
| Sunday's Games   |    |        |         |
| Cincinnati 4, Houston 3  |    |        |         |
| N.Y. Mets 3, Philadelphia 2  |    |        |         |
| Atlanta 14, Montreal 5   |    |        |         |
| Milwaukee 8, Pittsburgh 5  |    |        |         |
| Chicago Cubs 10, St. Louis 5                                       |    |        |         |
| Colorado 9, Florida 3  |    |        |         |
| Arizona 8, San Francisco 3   |    |        |         |
| Los Angeles 1, San Diego 0   |    |        |         |
| Monday's Games   |    |        |         |
| Atlanta (Glavine 19-9) at Montreal (Vazquez 11-7), 5:05 p.m.       |    |        |         |
| Philadelphia (Person 9-5) at Chicago Cubs (Quevedo 2-9), 6:05 p.m. |    |        |         |
| Arizona (Johnson 18-6) at Colorado (Rose 4-3), 7:05 p.m.           |    |        |         |

| American League   |    |        |         |
|---|----|--------|---------|
| East Division   |    |        |         |
|   | W  | L      | Pct. GB |
| New York  | 87 | 67.565 | —       |
| Toronto   | 82 | 73.529 | 5 1/2   |
| Boston  | 81 | 75.519 | 7       |
| Baltimore   | 69 | 87.442 | 19      |
| Tampa Bay   | 63 | 91.409 | 24      |
| Central Division  |    |        |         |
|   | W  | L      | Pct.    |
| GB  |    |        |         |
| x-Chicago   | 93 | 62.600 | —       |
| Cleveland   | 84 | 70.545 | 8 1/2   |
| Detroit   | 75 | 80.484 | 18      |
| Kansas City   | 73 | 83.468 | 20 1/2  |
| Minnesota   | 67 | 88.432 | 26      |
| West Division   |    |        |         |
|   | W  | L      | Pct. GB |
| Seattle   | 87 | 69.558 | —       |
| Oakland   | 85 | 69.552 | 1       |
| Anaheim   | 80 | 75.516 | 6 1/2   |
| Texas   | 70 | 86.449 | 17      |
| x-clinched division title                                     |    |        |         |
| Sunday's Games  |    |        |         |
| Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 0  |    |        |         |
| Baltimore 1, Boston 0   |    |        |         |
| N.Y. Yankees 6, Detroit 3                                     |    |        |         |
| Kansas City 9, Cleveland 0                                    |    |        |         |
| Minnesota 6, Chicago White Sox 5                              |    |        |         |
| Anaheim 9, Texas 2  |    |        |         |
| Seattle 3, Oakland 2  |    |        |         |
| Monday's Games  |    |        |         |
| Chicago (Garland 4-7) at Cleveland (Woodard 3-10), 11:05 a.m. |    |        |         |
| Minnesota (Kinney 2-2) at Cleveland (Burba 15-6), 5:05 p.m.   |    |        |         |
| Tampa Bay (Wilson 0-4) at Toronto (Loaiza 10-11), 5:05 p.m.   |    |        |         |
| Detroit (Sparks 6-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Gooden 6-4), 5:05 p.m.  |    |        |         |
| Anaheim (Belcher 4-3) at Oakland (Zito 5-4), 8:05 p.m.        |    |        |         |