

Cowgirls to defend No. 1 rank

The No. 1 ranked Goodland Cowgirls volleyball team, coming off an amazing undefeated season, will travel to Scott City on Saturday for the Class 4A sub-state tournament.

Because of Goodland's record they are the top seed, which means that they receive a bye in the first round.

The Cowgirls' first game will start at 5 p.m., and they will compete with the winner from the match against fourth-seeded Hugoton (11-19) and the fifth-seeded Ulysses (10-20).

Second-seeded Scott City (29-5) will play Thomas More Prep (9-23), seeded seventh, at 3 p.m. and third-seeded Larned (15-7) will play sixth-seeded Colby (9-18) at 4 p.m.

The winners of the two matches will go on to compete against one another at 6 p.m., and the winner from the match against Goodland and the other match will compete at 7 p.m. for the sub-state title.

Whatever team wins at sub-state there will go on to compete in the state tournament next Friday and Saturday in Salina.

The Cowgirls won their first seed with an undefeated season, including a great performance at the Northwest Kansas League Tournament last weekend, where the girls took home the champion title for the fourth year.

The girls won the first match against St. Francis with a 15-8 and a 15-1 win, in the second match against Colby they walked away with two 15-5 wins, and then they went on to defeat the Oakley Plainsmen 15-2 and 15-9.

In the final two rounds of the tournament, Goodland brought down



Evan Hardy got under the ball while No. 7, Jara McKee, waited to assist in Goodland's match against Oakley last Tuesday during a quad match in Grinnell. Goodland swept the meet against Oakley, Weskan and Grinnell to set a record for the longest winning streak, which the team extended to 34 wins last weekend in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

Hoxie 15-3 and 15-5 and Atwood, 15-12 and 15-9.

Coach Jerry McKee said the tournament was a good test before state,

which the girls passed with flying colors, and he felt that after this week's practices, they are ready for sub-state.

Offensive player topping himself

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Somehow, Marshall Faulk keeps topping himself. He's coming off a career game against the Falcons, and Wednesday was named NFC offensive player of the week for the second time this year and the fourth time in two seasons since joining the St. Louis Rams.

He's never had a better rushing day than his 208 yards on 25 carries against Atlanta last Sunday, or his 286 total yards.

And he's on pace for 2,888 yards, which would obliterate his total offense record of 2,429 yards set last year.

Just don't ask him to cook the numbers and compare whether this year's Faulk is better than last year's version, which was named NFL offensive player of the year.

Because that's not part of his focus. When Faulk watches game tape, he's not watching himself — he's watching the people opening the holes for him.

"Every once in a while I do it just to see where I'm at, to see if I'm consistent," he said. "But never do I watch to say, 'OK, where was I last year? Are my numbers better, are my numbers

worse?" "The main thing I care about is how I feel compared to last year, and I feel pretty good."

The numbers show he's feeling great.

He leads the NFL with 1,083 total yards and nine touchdowns, and he's first among running backs in receptions and receiving yards.

Last season he became only the second player to accumulate 1,000 yards rushing and receiving in a single season, joining Roger Craig, and he's well on the way to a repeat with 621 yards on the ground and 462 in the air.

"He never surprises me," quarterback Kurt Warner said. "To me, he plays great every week."

"No matter what the deal is, whether he's touching the ball 30-40 times or he's back there blocking or whatever he's doing, he does a great job. We've been spoiled."

There was a time earlier in Faulk's career when the numbers would have meant a lot more. Now, he said, they just happen.

Coach Mike Martz has often said that Faulk thinks like a coach, not a player. He often credits Faulk for do-

ing the little, unnoticed things like stepping up to take on a blitzing linebacker or pointing out weaknesses in the defense on the sideline while waiting for the next drive.

"I found out there's a bigger picture than what's on paper," Faulk said. "There's hidden things you can do that makes the things you do to support the team better than anything anybody could see. With that, you leave the stats behind you."

This is Faulk's second year in Martz' go-go offense, so familiarity could explain his outlandish numbers. The Rams are averaging 43.6 points, also on record pace.

"It helps with preparation," Faulk said.

"There's a lot of things I don't have to think about compared to last year going into the game."

"When you have a base, and you've been with that base and you have something solid to stick with, there are a lot of little details you don't have to look at all the time."

All Martz knows is he'll never take Faulk for granted.

"People are always trying to find a nick in his armor," Martz said. "Like, 'Oh, he can't run inside. Inside, outside, wherever you want to go, this guy's magnificent.'"

Rivals meet on football field

Game will determine who travels to state playoffs

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

When two rivals meet at the Colby football field on Friday, they won't only be battling for a win, but the chance to enter state competition.

The outcome of the Goodland Cowboys' game against their district competitor and biggest rival, the Colby Eagles, will determine whether the Cowboys will advance to the state playoffs.

After a 27-20 loss to the Ulysses Tigers last week, Coach Chris Walters said the Cowboys, who went into district play with a 3-3 season record, must snatch a win from the Eagles to stay in contention.

"If we don't win," he said, "we're pretty well out of the picture."

But even if the Cowboys do grab a victory, he said, it has to be a substantial win.

The team must beat the Eagles by at least 13 points to stay in the running, Walters said, explaining that if one team in the four-team district doesn't pull off a sweep, the 2-1 team that accumulated the most points will be the



one to advance.

A team can gain or lose a maximum of 13 points during each district game. Going into the second district game of the season, Colby is in the worst position with -13 points after losing to Scott City 28-0, and Scott City is in the best position with +13 points.

After last week's loss, the Cowboys are down by seven while Ulysses is up by seven. One of the teams will advance to the playoffs, which could lead to the state championships, something Goodland hasn't seen since 1993 when the Cowboys lost to Sebetha.

Coach Walters said after a hard week of practice focusing on their goal line offensive and defensive play, the Cowboys are ready to face the Eagles.

He said the team played well against Ulysses, but broke down in the fourth quarter at the goal line.

"We had the ball on the one," he said, "and we couldn't score."

But, Walters added, in the end it's going to come down to desire.

"It's a big rivalry," he said, "because it comes down to what team wants it more."

While the Cowboys are facing the Eagles, the Tigers will be battling against the Scott City Beavers.

Coach Walters said the outcome of that game will also affect the Cowboys. Goodland will square off against the Beavers at home next week. Walters said the Cowboys are hoping to face Scott City with playoff hopes.

The best way to achieve that, he said, is for the Cowboys to score big against the Eagles and for the underdog Ulysses to come out on top Friday night.

"We're hoping Ulysses wins," Walters said.

Wildcats try to regroup after loss

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Kansas State might not have an easy time forgetting about Josh Heupel's passing in Oklahoma's 41-31 win over the Wildcats last week.

Texas Tech comes in this week, and coach Mike Leach — a former Oklahoma offensive coordinator — brings a near-identical offensive formation against a Wildcat team that will attempt to regroup from its first loss at home since 1997.

Heupel threw for 374 yards and completed 76 percent of his passes against Kansas State, whose defense was ranked first in the country.

Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said the Wildcats missed both assignments and tackles — 17 tackles altogether. Eight of those were on two plays, a 77-yard touchdown pass from Heupel to Antwone Savage and a 17-yard TD run by Quentin Griffin.

The performance has Snyder focusing on fundamentals.

"My concern is that we become a better tackling football team," he said. "I think what I am going to have to put my faith in is that our players see it as what I consider to be a critical issue."

The Wildcats still have a shot at the

Big 12 championship game, but their next test is against Leach's passing offense.

Although Kliff Kingsbury isn't Heupel, with him at the helm the Red Raiders are averaging 285 passing yards per game. Like Oklahoma, Texas Tech uses multiple receivers and passes 66 percent of the time.

"They are a near mirror image of Oklahoma's offense," linebacker Ben Leber said. "All facets are the same. They have a pretty wide open offense. We have to protect from the deep ball. They have the personnel to pass well."

In just seven games, Kingsbury has moved to fourth on the Texas Tech career passing yardage list and ranks 10th in the country in passing yards.

Kingsbury has completed 62 percent of his passes for 11 touchdowns. Against Utah State he passed for 456 yards and broke the school completions record with 42.

"We have to help out our secondary by putting pressure on the quarterback," defensive end Monty Beisel said. "We didn't do that against Oklahoma."

Running back Ricky Williams, who averages 42 yards a game, and wide receiver Tim Baker, who leads the team

with 471 yards and four touchdowns, give the Red Raiders added weapons.

Texas Tech marks the third time this season that the Wildcats have faced a passing-oriented attack. Kansas State was successful against Louisiana Tech quarterback Brian Stallworth in a 54-10 win.

Louisiana Tech passed 54 times for 319 yards against Kansas State, but the Wildcats contained Stallworth by intercepting him four times.

"Number one, we just have to be assignment sound and not make mistakes on who covers who," Snyder said. "You get that part of it solved, which I think we have, it allows us not to make it look like a catch and throw play."

Broncos practice Wednesday without starting backfield

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Broncos practiced Wednesday without their starting backfield but were hopeful of getting two of the three players back for Sunday's game at Cincinnati.

Terrell Davis won't be one of them, however.

Coach Mike Shanahan said Davis, who already has missed all or parts of six games with a sprained left ankle and foot, will miss Sunday's game as well.

Because the Broncos (4-3) have a bye week after the Cincinnati game, the plan is to give Davis the next two

weeks off in hopes of finally getting him healthy.

Davis, the league's MVP in 1998 when he rushed for 2,008 yards, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee last October. After a steady recovery from that injury, he hurt his ankle and foot in the season opener.

"Terrell will not play this week," Shanahan said. "He's still a little bit sore. I think he needs a little bit more time. Not only is he not in football shape, I think he's a little apprehensive about testing it right now."

baseball scoreboard

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| By The Associated Press Postseason Baseball World Series | Wednesday, Oct. 25 N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 6:18 p.m. |
| Saturday, Oct. 21 N.Y. Mets (Hampton 15-10 or Leiter 16-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Petitite 19-9 or Clemens 13-8), 6 p.m. | Thursday, Oct. 26 N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 6:18 p.m., if necessary |
| Sunday, Oct. 22 N.Y. Mets (at N.Y. Yankees, 6 p.m.) | Saturday, Oct. 28 N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 6 p.m., if necessary |
| Tuesday, Oct. 24 N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 6:18 p.m. | Sunday, Oct. 29 N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 6 p.m., if necessary |



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