

Mustangs stomp Oakley

Eighth-grade team sweeps through games

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

The Grant Junior High Mustangs had three outstanding games when they went up against Oakley on Tuesday night.

The eighth-grade team walked away with two wins, taking the first game 53-25 and the second 42-34. The seventh-grade A team won their game 43-33 but the B team lost 40-10.

The eighth-grade team drew praise from their coach.

"We played outstanding in both games, especially on the defensive end," said Terry Daise.

Leading scorer in the first game was Drew Wilkens with 21, nearly half the points. Derrick Raymer had 12 points, followed by Lane Winter, Craig Mason, Brock Lohr and Wade Taylor, all with four apiece. Joe Kaup and David Livengood each scored two.

Wilkens grabbed four rebounds and two steals with one assist. Raymer also got four rebounds and six steals with one block and two assists. Taylor had

four rebounds two steals and one block.

Leading scorer in the B game was Bret Jarmin with 12 points. A.J. Shields, Josh Perez and D.J. Sparks all got six points apiece. Dexter Deeds, Craig Mason and Jake Johnson got four points.

Jarmin got two rebounds and three steals. Perez saved five boards and managed two steals. Mason took three rebounds and managed two steals with one assist. Deeds got four steals and two rebounds with one assist.

In the A game for the seventh grade, the score at half time was 29-16 in Goodland's favor.

"Our team was able to withstand a special defense played by Oakley in the second half," said coach Wallace Hansen, "and win the game by 10 points."

Leading scorers for Goodland were Bobby Miller with nearly 65 percent of the score at 28 points and Jase Herl with 8. Rebound leaders were Miller with 13 and Jon Beeson with four.

Beeson had two steals to lead in that category and Herl and Dautel led in assists with three a piece.

Fourty five percent shooting from the field aided the Mustangs, said the coach, noting that Oakley shot 33 percent.

Goodland outbounded Oakley, said Hansen, 24-20. From the free throw line Oakley was 1 for 10 while Goodland was two for five.

Brandon Zelfer helped the Mustangs overcome Oakley's special second half defense, he said, with good play at point guard. Robert Cooksey led Oakley in scoring with 14 points.

In the B game, Tarrin Keith and Kalen Lambrecht led Goodland in scoring with four points apiece.

The seventh-grade A team remains unbeaten with four victories and games versus Scott City — Tuesday — and Oberlin — Thursday — coming up, both away. The next home action will be Tuesday, Dec. 12, when Burlington comes calling.

Jayhawks face up to a losing season

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Another football season, another losing season for Kansas.

Apparently, the only way to get thousands of happy Jayhawk fans into Memorial Stadium is to call a news conference and announce that Roy Williams is staying on as basketball coach.

Terry Allen, increasingly under fire from Jayhawk followers who feel they've been patient long enough, ended his fourth season with four consecutive losses for a 4-7 record.

Hired four years ago to clean up the mess left by Glen Mason, Allen is a disappointing 18-27. Bob Frederick, as fair-minded as any athletic director in the country, said weeks ago that Allen would not be fired no matter how badly the season went.

Nevertheless, all those fans calling for Allen's scalp almost got their wish anyway.

"It's human nature that you go through those frustrations and think, 'Boy, is it all worth it?'" Allen said in the aftermath of Saturday's 38-17 loss to Iowa State.

"Then you look at the people in your program. We do feel strongly we've had some good recruiting classes. You start looking at those guys and say, 'Hey, stop feeling sorry for yourself and get to work with that group.'"

The group Allen has next year will be a mixed bag, to be sure. Gone are 10 starters, including quarterback Dylen Smith, running backs avid Winbush and Moran Norris, and star defensive back Carl Nesmith. Also missing will be most of the starting offensive linemen.

But the changes in the players may not be as significant as changes on the staff. Allen is under pressure to get rid of some assistant coaches.

"You always have change when you

have a nine-man staff. There are a lot of jobs out there and a lot of opportunities out there," he said. "I think that is something we have to look at and address in the span of the next couple of weeks."

By the time spring practice rolls around, a defensive front that got beat up in the latter part of the season should be healed and ready to go back to work.

In addition, two-sport star Mario Kinsey will get a long look at quarterback and could give fans something to take interest in.

"I think that those guys in there will get much better physically. The defensive line will get that much better and stronger," Allen said.



Chiefs fail to get takeaways

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — It can't be mere coincidence.

For three straight games, the Kansas City Chiefs have failed to get a single takeaway, and for three straight games they have lost.

It's a very uncharacteristic position for Gunther Cunningham's team. In fact, it's the first time in the 41-year history of the franchise that Kansas City has gone three consecutive games without a takeaway.

Throughout the 1990s, while becoming one of three NFL teams to win 100 games in the decade, the Chiefs were the NFL's undisputed king of the giveaway/takeaway ratio.

Now, they stand 5-6 and their play-off hopes are dangling by a thread.

Through 11 games, the Chiefs have created 21 takeaways, on 12 interceptions and nine recovered fumbles.

In 11 games last year, they had 33. So what's the matter?

Perhaps as much as anything, the Chiefs miss the late Derrick Thomas, who was among the best in the league at sacking and stripping the ball from quarterbacks. In his 11-year career, Thomas had 126.5 sacks and forced 45 fumbles.

"When things went bad when Derrick was there, you knew he was going to make a play," Cunningham said.

Another factor is a lack of experience in the secondary, where the Chiefs start three rookie defensive backs in their nickel package. Rookie cornerback Pat Dennis has one interception and rookie strong safety Greg Wesley has two.

And another factor may be just plain old bad luck.

"It's a combination of those things,"

Cunningham said Tuesday during his weekly media session.

"Sometimes you'll get a guy to mishandle a ball on offense, or a quarterback will lose the ball on a sack. Those are all things that are done by your opponent," he said. "What you have to do is be more exact on your details, especially in the blitz scheme."

The failure to get any takeaways was especially frustrating in Sunday's 21-17 loss to Buffalo. Linebacker Donnie Edwards had what looked like a sure interception slip through his hands and into the chest Bills' tight end Jay Riemersma in the end zone for a touchdown. Wesley and cornerback James Hasty dropped balls they could have caught.

"We're missing about an inch on every play. And to me, that's (the coaches') job," Cunningham said.

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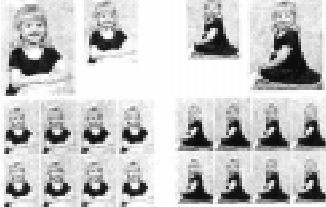




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