

Running with the pigskin

Injury-plagued Cowboys score three touchdowns

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

The injury-plagued Goodland Cowboys lost 46-22 to the state-ranked Indians at St. Francis' homecoming Friday, despite making three touchdowns, more than the Cowboys had in their first two games combined.

The team showed a little improvement on the offensive side. Coach Chris Walters said, especially the passing game, but the boys still have a lot of things to improve, including running.

"When they have only five or six in the box," he said, "we need to be able to run it."

The defense is giving up too many yards after contact, Walters said, and needs to make stronger tackles.

"We just need to focus on getting better each week," the coach said, "and that all starts with practice on Monday."

The hot St. Francis team was ranked fourth last week in Class 2A, while Goodland, a larger school, plays in Class 4A. Size did not help the Cowboys much, however.

The first half was all Saintry, down to the final two minutes, with the Indians scoring two touchdowns in the first quarter and three touchdowns in the second along with two two-point conversions, but the Cowboys came to life in the second half.

Goodland got on the scoreboard with a touchdown with only three seconds to go in the half. It took four

plays and one time out for Goodland to get to the end zone, but finally Sean Greenlee ran the ball in, making the score 34-6.

Goodland had possession to start the second half, but three sacks of quarterback Jared Doke forced the Cowboys to punt. The Indians followed up with another touchdown, 40-6.

The Cowboys made another trip to the end zone in four plays, starting at the end of the third quarter and scoring in the fourth. Greenlee took the hand-off from Doke and ran it in. Goodland got the two-point conversion, making the score 40-14.

The Cowboys held the Indians back on their next possession, forcing them to punt. Bryan Mai returned the punt 65 yards, touchdown! A two-point conversion made the score 40-22.

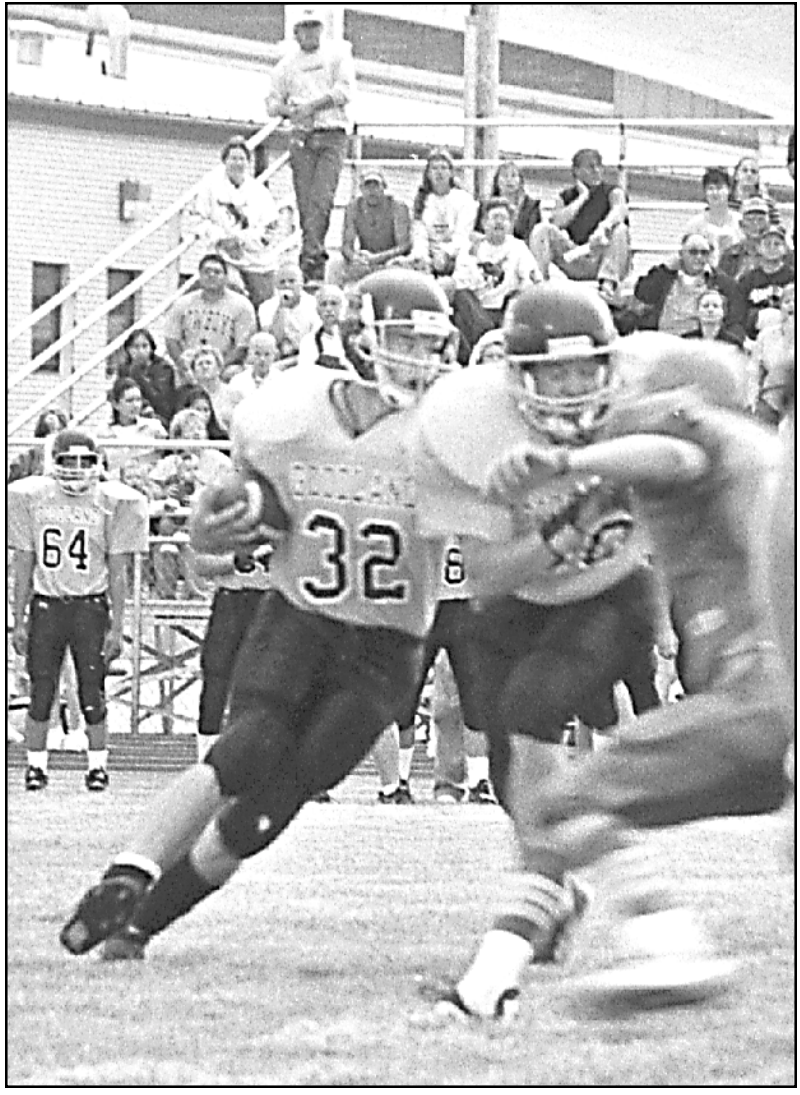
The Indians scored one more touchdown in the fourth, making the final score 46-22.

Greenlee led the Cowboys in rushing with 18 runs for 39 yards and two touchdowns. Mai ran twice for 13 yards and Doke had 14 runs for 13 yards. Doke threw 12 complete passes for 126 yards.

Mai led in receiving with three catches for 60 yards and Andrew Melia caught three for 33 yards.

Greenlee scored two touchdowns and two two-point conversions and Mai scored the other Cowboy touchdown on his 65-yard punt return.

Donald Raymer, who suffered a knee injury against the Holcomb Longhorns, is out for the season. Coach



Sean Greenlee, No. 32, carried the ball for the Cowboys in just one of his 18 carries for 39 yards and two touchdowns Friday in St. Francis. Photo by Karen Krien/The St. Francis Herald

Walters said. Landon West is out for the season. Jordan Bedore had knee surgery and may be able to play later in the season and Kris Rubio was not able to play against St. Francis.

The Cowboy freshman team will face Atwood at home at 4:30 p.m. Thursday and the varsity will play the Buffaloes at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Goodland's homecoming game.

Chiefs' schedule a unique situation

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—As the NFL struggles to get back to normal, the Kansas City Chiefs find themselves in a unique, uncomfortable spot.

They host the New York Giants this Sunday in the Giants' first game since terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center in New York City Sept. 11.

The following week, the Chiefs will be in Washington for the Redskins' first home game since that same day when a hijacked commercial airliner crashed into the Pentagon.

"We were actually thinking about that today," defensive end Eric Hicks said following Monday's practice. "It is unique. The Giants have to practice in the shadow of the smoke rising from the rubble. That's going to be tough."

Washington is at Green Bay next Monday night before hosting the Chiefs.

Hicks figures the Redskins and both New York teams must be glad they are on the road this week.

"I would bet they are," he said. "It's got to be nerve-racking."

The Chiefs, who took three days off when games last week were canceled, returned to practice focused on football, said coach Dick Vermeil.

"They came back and did what they

do for a living," he said.

Vermeil said he thinks the Giants will be at the top of their game on Sunday.

"I think they'll be just like everyone else who went back to work in New York. They'll do what they do. They'll go to work," he said.

Wide receiver Chris Thomas, a native of the Washington area, had also noticed the unique position the schedule puts the Chiefs in.

"It's weird. I don't know what to make of it," he said. "We'll console everybody after the game. During the game, we'll have to go about our business. But it's got to be tough for them. I couldn't imagine what those guys are going through."

Veteran cornerback Ray Crockett has friends with the Giants and Redskins.

"It is difficult situation for them. At least we can get back into our routine, what we've done in the past. But they really can't because they're there," Crockett said. "We're watching it on TV, but they're waking up every day and driving through it or riding by it."

"I think it will be a lot more difficult for them to get back in their routine than it will us."

Cowgirls second seed, finish fourth

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowgirls were headed for the top at a tournament in Denver on Saturday — winning their pool and ranked No. 2 going into final matches — but injuries held the girls down and the team finished fourth.

The Cowgirls dominated the tournament at Overland High School for the past two years, finishing first above many competitive teams from Colorado.

Coach Jerry McKee said he's not disappointed by the lower placing because the young team, which has only one senior, played like they were older and more experienced.

"It's the way the ball bounces," the coach said. "The girls wanted to get into the championship pool and they were able to obtain that. I was very pleased with our showing."

The Cowgirls surprised their opponents, McKee said, because the team had moves they weren't expecting.

"A lot of the teams were surprised," he said. "We lost our line-up from last year, but we came in strong — a lot stronger than they expected."

Goodland easily defeated teams from Aurora Central and Broomfield — ranked in the top 10 in Class 4A in

Colorado — but had more trouble against players from Sierra High School, which McKee didn't consider a threat going into the tournament.

"Broomfield was not too much of a problem," the coach said, "but Sierra pushed hard. They were very aggressive and attacked in a different way. Their style of playing was different."

The Cowgirls finished Aurora Central in two short games, 15-0 and 15-7, and easily toppled Broomfield 15-6 and 15-2.

It was a different story with Sierra, which Goodland managed to defeat in three games, despite falling in the first 14-16.

The Cowgirls made a quick comeback, rising to the top 15-3 in the second and 18-16 in the third.

The team was seeded second heading into the final matches against Overland and Chatfield High School, McKee said, but two injuries during the first game against Overland and exhaustion stunted the Cowgirls.

"We were able to win our pool," the coach said, "but then we ran into Overland, a senior-dominated, very seasoned team that is ranked seventh in Class 5A in Colorado."

Overland basically shut out Goodland, Class 4A in Kansas, taking the

first game 4-15 and the second 0-15.

It didn't help, McKee said, that two of Goodland's best players were out for the rest of the tournament. He said sophomore Alisha McKee, a blocker and hitter, sprained her ankle, and sophomore Janae McKee, a setter, collided with another player, injuring her head and neck.

The coach said Janae McKee will go to the doctor this week and should be OK, despite being stiff and sore.

"I would assume all of the girls are sore today," the coach said, noting that the tournament lasted about 12 hours. He said fatigue was a factor in the Cowgirl's loss to Chatfield in their last match of the tournament.

Missing two of its best players, Goodland fell to Chatfield in two games 8-15 and 2-15. Overland, Weld Central (Class 3A) and Chatfield were the top three teams.

Injuries are never good, the coach said, but the Cowgirls were able to adjust, with some players moving into positions they hadn't played before.

He said it helps teach the girls how to handle unexpected changes — something that's important in sports and life.

"You never have ideal situations," McKee said. "Part of training with ath-

letics is learning how to deal with changes."

The coach said the team managed to pull together despite the injuries, and Alisha McKee was picked as an "All-Tournament" player by the coaches.

With a season record of 8-3, the varsity Cowgirls will travel about 150 miles to Holcomb on Thursday to take on Holcomb and Ulysses. McKee said the triangular has always been tough for the Cowgirls.

"We're always coming in a little tired," he said, "or the teams are a little better."

If the team is still missing two girls, the coach said, the match will be even tougher.

"We won't know if they'll be OK until Thursday," he said. "We will have people filling in."

The coach added that the players' minds may not be on the match, but at home, where there peers will be participating in the annual Homecoming Parade.

"It's going to be a tough meet," McKee said. "There will be homecoming distractions."

After all, he said, he's pleased with the young Cowgirls' season so far.

"We're making good progress," he said.

Rockies lose to Arizona in return at Coors Field

DENVER (AP) — Baseball returned to Coors Field on Monday night as Randy Johnson earned his 19th victory and Steve Finley drove in four runs for the Arizona Diamondbacks, who restarted their season with a 7-3 win over the Colorado Rockies.

The teams provided 3 hours and 15 minutes of "diversion" for the fans, but focusing totally on baseball was next to impossible for the players.

"I pitch with emotion and adrenaline," Johnson (19-6) said. "I was very subdued today. It was kind of hard to be completely focused. I kind of sensed that from both sides. The fans were into it. I think they enjoyed the three hours that they were here."

In one of six scheduled games as baseball resumed play following last week's terrorist attacks, Johnson pitched eight innings. He was effective but not sharp, giving up three runs and nine hits and striking out six.

With their third straight win, the Diamondbacks increased their NL

West lead to two games over idle San Francisco.

Colorado lost its third in a row and was officially eliminated from the division race. The Rockies are 62-81 and, with 19 games remaining, are 19 1/2 games out of first place.

Damian Miller's two-run homer highlighted a three-run seventh, spoiling a standout performance by Rockies starter Denny Neagle.

Neagle went six innings, allowing one hit and one run, and left with a 3-1 lead.

Mark Grace led off the seventh against reliever Gabe White with an infield single. Matt Williams walked, and both runners advanced when

catcher Sal Fasano threw wild attempting to catch Grace wandering off second.

Grace scored on Finley's sacrifice fly, and Miller greeted Kane Davis (1-4) with his 13th homer.

Finley added a two-run double off Jose Jimenez in the eighth, and another run scored on a wild pitch.

best thing about GHS is being with all of my friends. All of my classes interest me.

Activities involved in at school: Football, Wrestling, FCCLA, G-Club, Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout)

My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite books are anything to do with hunting & restoring cars. My favorite movie is Animal House. My favorite music is Led Zeppelin.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...: Go to Com-Tech at Northwest Kansas Technical College.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: Healthy Wealthy, and Wise

Favorite Quote: "The reason grandparents and grandchildren get along so well is that they have a common enemy." - Sam Levenson

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student of the week

Name: Max Saint
Parents: Dennis & Linda Saint
Grade: Senior
Age: 18
We've nominated this student because: Max has taken much initiative in the classroom this fall by displaying his leadership ability, his willingness to help his peers and by working diligently in class. We wish Max a very successful senior year.
Student Comment: The

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