

# Cowgirls seek repeat on road

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Daily News*

The Cowgirls are looking to repeat their win in their season opening game at 5:30 p.m. Friday in Imperial, Neb.

Last year at Max Jones Fieldhouse, the Cowgirls defeated the Imperial Lady Longhorns 53-46. The Cowgirls led for most of the game, and while the Longhorns managed to tie the score a couple of time in the third quarter, the Cowgirls pulled away at the end.

The win seemed to signal good things for the Cowgirls, who finished with a 17-8 record and took fourth place in the Class 4A state tournament.

"We've got the talent," says Coach Connie Livengood. "I think this will be a fun season, and I think we are going to surprise some people."

The Cowgirls graduated four starters last year, but Livengood feels there is a good core of talented girls who can more than fill those shoes.

At Tuesday's soap scrimmage, Goodland fans got to see the girls' talent and effort as they played against each other. There were quite a few stolen passes which resulted in fast breaks and scores.

The girls showed tenacious defense

which resulted in several turnovers or blocked shots.

Seniors include Jessica Vignery, Erica Mann, Lacey Brenner, Tranda Ihrig, Abby Scheopner, Stevie Lee Raymer and Hayley Jarmin. Juniors who are stepping up this year include Deanna Livengood, Kendra Billinger, Tress Schultz, Stephanie Fairbanks, Jayci Stone and Amy McCoy.

The sophomores are Jessica Osborn, Megan Leonard, Cortney Schields, Brittney Redlin, Megan McCall and Jennifer Mentzer.

"I was happy with the effort," said Coach Livengood after the scrimmage. "I think we will get better after a few real games."

After the scrimmage Livengood talked to the parents, telling them what to expect during the year, and told them she was excited about the possibilities of returning to the state tournament.

One real plus for the team Livengood said, "We are free of injury, and are a healthy team at this point."

Following the opening at Imperial, the Cowgirls will get ready for the 13th annual Topside Tipoff with their first game at 6 p.m., next Thursday against Burlington at Max Jones Fieldhouse.



Cowgirl Erica Mann looked to take a shot over the outstretched hands of Stevie Lee Raymer during the Soap Scrimmage on Tuesday. The girls open their season Friday against the Lady Longhorns of Imperial, Neb.  
 Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

# Chiefs to battle Eagles

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Here's one where just about any arm-chair quarterback could probably draw up an effective game plan.

The Philadelphia Eagles have the NFL's top-ranked pass defense and the Kansas City Chiefs have the lowest-rated quarterback in the league.

At the same time, the Eagles' run defense rests in the bottom third, while Kansas City's Priest Holmes is third in the AFC with 902 rushing yards.

So when they line up in Arrowhead Stadium Thursday night amid temperatures dipping into the low 20s, the Eagles expect to see plenty of Holmes.

"They're right," Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil said.

Of course, the Eagles (6-4) don't expect the Chiefs to forget they've also got a Pro Bowl tight end in Tony Gonzalez.

"Every week there's a key guy that we have to stop," Eagles cornerback Troy Vincent said. "Gonzalez is a tremendous tight end and Priest Holmes is a great back, but you have that every week."

The Eagles are coming off possibly their worst game of the year, a 13-3 loss at home to Washington where quarterback Donovan McNabb was inconsistent and the offense generated fewer than 190 yards.

The Chiefs (3-7), on the other hand, played their finest game to date with a 19-7 victory over Seattle. Holmes had 190 yards from scrimmage and Trent Green managed not to add to his NFL-high 16 interceptions.

# Shanahan challenges Broncos

DENVER (AP) — Denver Broncos coach Mike Shanahan challenged his team on Wednesday: Win four of the last five games or forget about the playoffs.

After reviewing the standings and the remainder of the schedule, Shanahan believes the Broncos will need a 10-6 record to qualify for the postseason.

At 6-5, the Broncos play three of their last five games on the road, beginning in Miami on Sunday. Their other games are against Seattle, Kansas City, Oakland and Indianapolis.

A 10-6 record has proved to be play-off-worthy for the past nine seasons. Since 1992, 26 teams that finished with 10-6 marks all made the playoffs. In 1991, two 10-6 teams — San Francisco and Philadelphia — failed to make it.

# Crouch wins hands down

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — There was very little dispute in the voting for the Associated Press Big 12 offensive player of the year award.

Nebraska quarterback Eric Crouch ran away with it.

"I think it's very appropriate. I think it's right," Nebraska coach Frank Solich said. "If you watch him play, game after game I think you've got to come away with that feeling — that he's as good as it gets."

Apparently 19 of 20 Big 12 sports reporters agreed. Crouch received all but one of the votes as the league's top offensive player in balloting released Wednesday. Texas Tech quarterback Kliff Kingsbury received the other.

The defensive voting was just as

one-sided, with Oklahoma strong safety Roy Williams getting all but one vote. Teammate Rocky Calmus, last year's winner, received the other.

The newcomers of the year are Iowa State quarterback Seneca Wallace and Oklahoma defensive tackle Tommie Harris.

The award was the latest of many honors for Crouch, who holds the NCAA Division I record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback with 59. Crouch is also a finalist for the Davey O'Brien award, which goes to the nation's top quarterback, and is expected to be a finalist for the Heisman Trophy.

Crouch is Nebraska's all-time offensive leader with 5,510 yards.

"I've said a lot of times I've surprised myself with the team and na-

tional records I've broken," Crouch said. "Those things are all great and I'm just proud to be part of the great history of college football."

It's also something Crouch would feel a whole lot more comfortable celebrating if he and the No. 6 Cornhuskers were preparing for Saturday's Big 12 championship game. Instead, they'll be watching Colorado play Texas.

The Buffaloes knocked the Huskers out of the title game and likely out of the national championship race with a 62-36 blowout last week.

Crouch set a school record for total offense with 162 rushing yards in that game, with two touchdowns and 198 more yards passing, but it wasn't close to enough to topple the Buffaloes.

# Shaq aspires to join police force

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sheriff Shaq?

The towering Los Angeles Lakers center has lofty law enforcement aspirations and has even started taking special classes to be part of a police reserve force that patrols the area's ports.

"I just have a love for policemen because they've always been the real heroes in my life," Shaquille O'Neal told the Los Angeles Daily News in a recent interview. "I would like to have a leadership role."

O'Neal, 29, is attending classes offered by the county's Sheriff's Department for harbor patrol duty. The 7-foot-1, 315-pounder even has a custom uniform and size 22EEE boots. Law enforcement officials know they have a potential recruiting spokesman in the charismatic NBA superstar but say O'Neal has not asked for special privileges.

Law enforcement agencies have been smitten with O'Neal. Oxnard police offered to buy him a custom

Lincoln Navigator if he would wear their uniform. And, the Orange County (Fla.) Sheriff's Department in Orlando has made O'Neal an honorary deputy.

Most departments agree they would love to have the NBA star on their force.

"He would definitely make an imposing officer," said Orange County (Fla.) Sheriff's spokesman Jim Solomons. "I'd love to see Shaq be the first through the door on a drug war-rant."

# Baseball contraction still a tough squeeze

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Baseball's contraction plans could hinge on the Minnesota Supreme Court's willingness to hear an appeal out of turn.

The state attorney general and the landlord for the Minnesota Twins asked the high court Wednesday to deny a quick appeal of a judge's order that forces the team to play next year.

A delay might mean that baseball would not have time to go ahead with its plans to eliminate the Twins before the start of spring training in February.

The state and stadium officials op-

pose a request from commissioner Bud Selig and the Twins to bypass the state Court of Appeals and obtain an emergency hearing by Dec. 7 on the injunction.

Three of the seven justices must agree for the high court to speed up a case. No requests for accelerated reviews have been granted in the last three years.

"The extraordinary procedure of accelerated review is unwarranted," Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch said in papers filed with the

court. "The district court acted well within its discretion."

In case the request is declined, the Twins and baseball have asked for an expedited hearing in the state Court of Appeals, which generally takes 6-to-8 months to rule.

Hennepin County District Judge Harry Seymour Crump issued the injunction Nov. 16, 10 days after owners voted to fold two franchises. Although the teams haven't been picked, the Twins and the Montreal Expos are the likely targets.

# bowling results

**Monday Afternoon Ladies League**  
 Mann's Jewelry over Medical Arts Pharmacy 4-0  
 Clawson's over Bowladium Lanes 3-1  
 Callahan Transport over KLOE 3-1

**Individual high game:** Joyce Sanderson-206  
**Individual high series:** Marilyn Snethen-542

**Team high game:** Clawson's-619  
**Team high series:** Callahan's-1751

**League Standings: No. 1** KLOE 31, 21; **No. 2** Callahan's 29, 23; **No. 3** Clawson's 28, 24.

**Wednesday Night Men's Scratch Classic League**  
**Nov. 28**  
 Fitzgibbon's over L&M Steel 13-7  
 Sigco over Bowladium Lanes 11-9  
 ProLine Inc. over Basgall Construction 11-9  
 Western Kansas Valley over Weber Kennel 12-8

**Individual high game:** Darren Hickson-290  
**Individual high series:** Darren Hickson-1015

**Team high game:** Western Kansas Valley-602

**Team high series:** Sigco-2242  
**League Standings:** 1. Pro Line 61, 39; 2. Fitzgibbon's 60, 40; 3. Sigco 55, 45; 4. Bowladium Lanes 52, 48; 5. Western Kansas Valley 48, 52; 6. Weber Kennels 44.5, 55.5; 7. Basgall Construction 41, 59; 8. L&M Steel 38.5, 61.5.

**Wednesday Night Mixed League**  
**Nov. 21**  
 Mudslingers over Phantoms 4-0  
 Kanorado Coop over D&G Clan 4-0  
 Gamblers over Mueller Grain 3-1  
 Shear Dimensions over Kickers 4-0  
 Phillips Brothers over Blossom Shoppe 3 1/2-1/2  
 Guzzlin Socializers over Goodland Sheet Metal 3-1

**Men's high game:** Travis Gillihan-211  
**Men's high series:** Travis Gillihan and Marvin Matthews tied with 544

**Women's high game:** Alice Nemechek and Marilyn Snethen tied with 195  
**Women's high series:** Marilyn Snethen-515

**Team high game:** Gamblers-819

**Team high series:** Mudslingers-2342  
**League Standings:** 1. Guzzlin Socializers 35, 17; 2. Kanorado Coop 34, 18; 3. and 4. Gamblers and Shear Dimensions 33, 19; 5. Mueller Grain 32, 20.

**Hoot 'N Holler Mixed League**  
**Nov. 26**  
 Lonny's Quality Auto Body over Budweiser 3-1  
 Luci's Aquarium over Kears Quality Liquor 4-0  
 Fitzgibbon's split with Truck & Tractor 2-2  
 Motor Doctor over Western Insurance 3-1  
 Just 4 Bowlers over Rasure Lumber 3-1  
 Accounting & Tax over Pirate's Electric 4-0

**Women's high game:** Elsie Miller-196  
**Women's high series:** Elsie Miller-552

**Men's high game:** Darren Hickson-625  
**Men's high series:** Darren Hickson-257

**Team high game:** Fitzgibbon's-836  
**Team high series:** Just 4 Bowlers-2396

**League Standings: No. 1** Fitzgibbon's 9, 3; **No. 2 and No. 3** Budweiser and Lonny's Quality Auto Body 8, 4.

# Jayhawks defeat Pittsburg State

LAWRENCE (AP) — Roy Williams' longstanding habit of scheduling one in-state opponent from NCAA Division II each season hasn't produced anything remotely resembling a competitive game.

That's not why No. 8 Kansas' coach keeps inviting teams like Pittsburg State to Lawrence, though — and why he'll keep doing it in the future.

"There are a lot of benefits to this for us," Williams said Wednesday night, after No. 8 Kansas beat Pittsburg State 105-62 behind 26 points and 13 rebounds from forward Drew Gooden.

First, there's the goodwill generated by giving small-college teams a chance to soak up a bit of major-college atmosphere — and to take home a \$25,000 payout.

"We pulled up to Allen Fieldhouse and I got really excited," said Tommy Vosseler, a freshman reserve for Pittsburg State. "It was a good experience, and I'm glad I had the opportunity to play here."

For Williams, there's also the chance to give Kansas' backups a little more playing time, and for the Jayhawks to build momentum going into a big game — like the one they play Saturday at No. 4 Arizona.

"I try not to focus on the score," Williams said. "We do try to play a lot of people and get something out of them without doing any damage to anybody."

And though Wednesday night's score might not indicate it, Williams said, there were some challenges for Kansas' starters as well.

"I think it's important for the first five to execute ... to run plays properly," Williams said. "There's no way to simulate that in practice. There's no way that guys in practice have the desire that the other team does."

What Pittsburg State (3-2) didn't have was Kansas' speed, and it showed as the Jayhawks (3-1) forced 30 turnovers, grabbed 21 steals — one short of the school record — and ran off three double-digit scoring runs, including a 19-0 surge in the first half for a 42-13 lead.

"I thought that six or seven minutes into the game, they got us to play faster than we can play," Pittsburg State coach Gene Iba said. "I don't think the atmosphere bothered us. I think their players bothered us."

Gooden's double-double was his third in four games this season.

Kirk Hinrich added three 3-pointers and 18 points for the Jayhawks (3-1), who haven't lost to an NCAA Division II team since dropping a 57-44 decision to Emporia State on Dec. 13, 1947.

The Gorillas were led by Cedric Brooks' four 3-pointers and 19 points.

Jeff Boschee had 12 points for the Jayhawks, and Nick Collison added 10 points before fouling out with almost 11 minutes to go.

"I guess I was ... out of position a few more times than I should have been," Collison said. "I really did not get away with some of the things that normally go uncalled. I know I have to play tougher and smarter in Tucson."

Collison wasn't the first player to pick up five fouls, though.

Dan Stanley, a preseason Division II All-American, scored seven points in the first 6 1/2 minutes for Pittsburg State but got in early foul trouble and fouled out — still with seven points — with 15:13 left.

Oliver Vogt had 10 points, all in the second half, for Pittsburg State.

Kansas led 52-28 at the half, after shooting 64 percent (21-for-33) from the field and holding the Gorillas to 32 percent (10-for-31) shooting.

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