

Cowboy wrestlers get first at tourney

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowboys made their coach proud this weekend, finishing on top of 23 teams from Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico and Kansas to earn the top spot at the annual Southwest Classic wrestling tournament in Liberal.

Coach Randy Bahe said this is the first time Goodland has won the two-day tournament, which is typically one of the toughest the Cowboys attend.

Jordan Bedore placed first in the 215-pound weight class, and while no other wrestlers took first, five placed second and every Cowboy won at least one of his matches.

Facing some larger schools, the team scored 210.5 points, almost 40 points more than the second-place team.

Bahe said he was on Cloud 9 after the semi-finals Friday, knowing that the Cowboys were in a good position to take the tournament.

"I knew we had a big step in that direction," he said. "It was hard to sleep. I was elated."

The team was missing 135-pound Nick Gray because he was injured, Bahe said, but the wrestlers were able to compensate for the loss. He said every Cowboy worked hard for the championship.

"Every kid on the team scored points for us," he said. "That's what it takes to win a tournament."

Bahe said freshman Blake Saint did an excellent job filling in for Gray, winning one of his three matches.

"Blake gave 110 percent," the coach said. He said Taylor Brack, who placed second in the 152-pound weight class, and Chris Zimmerman, who took second in the 171-pound class, had the best performance of their lives.

"They both really stepped up," Bahe said. "They had a tournament like they've never had before."

He said every wrestler had a great

tournament.

"I was proud of the whole team," the coach said, "top to bottom. They performed better than what I ever anticipated at this point in the season."

So how did they do it? Bahe said they believed in themselves.

"They finally believed in what I've been telling them they could do," he said.

The coach said they're going to work hard to stay on top. "The key will be if we can keep climbing upward," he said, "without falling back."

The way they will do that, he said, is to focus on correcting problem areas.

He said he reviews videotape of the matches each Monday to find mistakes and has the managers take notes while the Cowboys are wrestling. That helps determine what the team will be working on in practice, he said.

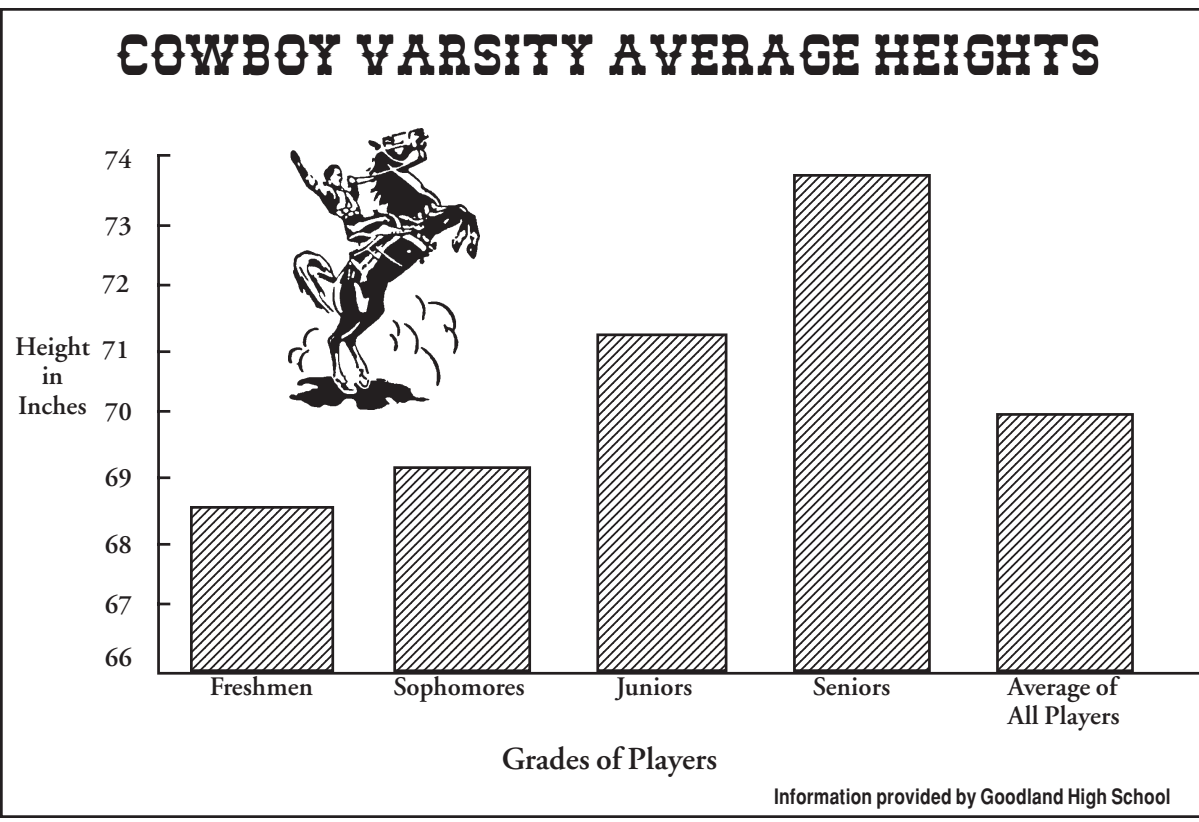
Bahe said the Cowboys are facing another tough two-day tournament this weekend in Basehor, west of Kansas City. He said 21 teams will attend the Basehor-Linwood tournament, including a tough competitor from a school in Iowa.

It will be the first time the Cowboys have attended the tournament, the coach said, and Goodland will likely be facing larger schools from more urban areas.

Bahe said the wrestling enthusiasts club, is paying for a good portion of the trip and has been raising money for the team. "Without their financial help," he said, "there's no way we could attend."

Individual results from Liberal include Dexter Deeds, 103, 2nd, 3-1; Blayne Bahe, 112, 3rd, 4-1; Mathias Goodley, 119, 1-2; Kyle Schulte, 125, 2-2; Bryce Bahe, 130, 2nd, 3-1; Saint, 135, 1-2; Dustin Klinge, 140, 2-2; Max Saint, 145, 3-2; Brack, 152, 2nd, 3-1; L.J. VonLintel, 160, 1-2; Zimmerman, 171, 2nd, 3-1; Thomas Tompkins, 2nd, 3-1; Bedore, 215, 1st, 4-0; and Alan Briney, 275, 2-2.

Young Goodland basketball team to face Lakin



A young Goodland team faces Lakin tonight.

The Cowboys will take a 2-4 record into the game with Lakin, ranked No. 1 in Class 3-A, at 7 p.m. tonight at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Coach Jon McLean said the match "will be a good barometer of how well we're doing as a team."

Of the 27 players on the varsity basketball team, only three are seniors. There are seven juniors, seven sophomores, and 10 freshmen.

One underclassman was in the starting line-up Friday against Colby, Lance Tedford, a sophomore.

Other starters were Kevin Schulte, Donald Raymer and Aaron Gittinger, all juniors, and Bryan Mai, a senior.

Because Goodland is such a young team, the average height is about 5'10".

Average height of the seniors is about 6'1", for juniors about 5'11", sophomores at 5'9", and freshmen at 5'8".

Freshman girls lose to Eagles after strong first half

The freshman Cowgirls played a strong first half against Colby on Friday, ending the second quarter just one point behind the Eagles, but slumped in the third quarter, finally losing the basketball game 44-29.

The Cowgirls faced the Eagles at home Friday and will compete against Lakin today at 3:45 p.m. at the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

At the half, Coach Mitch Hixson said, the score was 17-18 in favor of Colby. The Eagles were able to widen the score in the third quarter, holding the Cowgirls to just 4 points.

Goodland did better in the fourth quarter, scoring 8 points, but couldn't make a comeback.

"What hurt us with Colby," Hixson said, "is that we didn't take care of the

basketball. In the third quarter, we made a lot of mistakes. We need to work on playing two good halves."

The coach said a couple of players got into foul trouble, which hurt the team, but the Cowgirls adjusted well to a different style of defense.

"We played man-to-man for awhile," he said, "and it wasn't too bad."

Goodland has some work to do offensively, the coach said.

"We need to be patient on offense," he said, "not throw the ball away."

He said he's not sure what to expect from Lakin.

Scorers included Gami Cloyd, 8; Whitney Carmichael, 6; Abbey Winter and Abby Murray, 5; Ciara Abbey, 3; and Bailee Guyer, 2.

Jayhawk coach not impressed by his school's top ranking

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Being ranked No. 1 never has impressed Roy Williams and probably never will.

Even as his Kansas Jayhawks slipped past Duke on Monday for the top spot in The Associated Press poll, Williams was busily downplaying the significance.

"I really do not pay any attention to it whatsoever," Williams said during the Big 12 coaches call.

"I didn't even know AP waited until this afternoon to come out (with its poll). It really makes no difference to me."

The Jayhawks, who are 12-0 since losing to Ball State in the season opener, moved ahead of Duke after the Blue Devils were upset on Sunday by Florida State.

"If I were voting, I'd still vote Duke," Williams said. "Duke lost on a last-second shot on the opponent's court of a conference team. Whatever it comes out, that'll be fine. We still have to play in college basketball."

There's no BCS to worry about."

Kansas' Drew Gooden was chosen Big 12 player of the week after two monster games against Valparaiso and Colorado. His feeling about being No. 1 may not be exactly the same as his coach's.

"Winning 12 games in a row is a big-time thing," said the junior forward. "Yeah, we deserve to be No. 1. Kansas is a program that can always sneak up there and be No. 1."

While the Jayhawks were moved up to No. 1, officials at Texas and Oklahoma State were still trying to sort out what happened in the melee at the end of their game in Gallagher-Iba Arena on Saturday.

A Texas player, T.J. Ford, was choked by a young man in the crowd after Ford had accidentally crashed into his pregnant wife and knocked her down. But Texas coach Rick Barnes said he did not expect any suspensions to come out of the incident.

"I don't think there'll be any suspen-

sions. I talked to our team about it (that) when something like that happens ... you can't be throwing punches. I don't think there'll be any suspensions."

Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton called Barnes to apologize for the behavior of the fan. But Barnes says there are no hard feelings.

"I think Gallagher-Iba is one of the great arenas to play in," Barnes said. "And they have great fans and they do a great job with crowd control. It was just an unfortunate thing that happened. I don't think it's a reflection at all on how they do things."

Just barely coming short of cracking the national rankings are the surprising Red Raiders of Texas Tech. In Bob Knight's first season, the Red Raiders, who were 9-19 last year, are 12-1.

"It really hasn't surprised me," said Knight. "I've been very pleased with the effort our players have given and the way they've worked. There's a lot of improvement our team needs to make to be competitive in this confer-

ence. They understand that. We'll just have to see what we can accomplish by working to improve."

Buying into Knight's system means the Red Raiders are thinking team, not individual.

"The players have worked hard at trying to do what we want to do," Knight said. "Players have been unselfish in their approach and they've worked to get to know one another as players."

"We have a long way to go in terms of being where we would want to be as a basketball team throughout the course of the conference season."

How hard the Red Raiders are playing for Knight has not gone unnoticed by his fellow coaches.

"Teams that really, really play hard have great respect for their coach," said Oklahoma's Kelvin Sampson.

"Those kids understand who coach Knight is. They have great respect for him and they're playing their tails off for him."

Chiefs get better deal in free agent switch-off

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Let's see now — Baltimore got quarterback Elvis Grbac from Kansas City and Kansas City got running back Priest Holmes from Baltimore.

Had this been a trade, it would've been one of the most one-sided skinnings any city slicker ever pulled on a poor, ignorant country bumpkin.

But it wasn't a trade. Both players changed teams this season as free agents. Nevertheless, Chiefs fans who haven't had much to feel good about in a just-completed 6-10 season are having a barrel of fun with this one.

Boy, did they come out ahead on the deal. Grbac has had the same problems in Baltimore he had in Kansas City — interceptions, poor decisions, discontent among teammates.

Holmes, on the other hand, had the greatest season of any running back in Chiefs' history. Not only is he the NFL champion in rushing and all-purpose yardage, he has also given hope for better days ahead.

He's the best free agent signing the Chiefs have ever had, and the best by any team for this season.

Not bad for a guy who came into the league as an undrafted free agent and lost his starting job at Baltimore last season to Jamal Lewis.

The pressure of being so close to what is likely to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to write his name in the record book was intense leading up to the season finale at Seattle on Sunday. Holmes entered the game trailing

Curtis Martin of the New York Jets in rushing. But by the end of the day, he had a team-record and NFL-leading 1,555 rushing yards to Martin's 1,513.

"It can get to you. It really can," said Holmes. "The reason why it can get to you is that ... there's an award sitting right in front of you and it's within your grasp. Whenever you have a chance to have something, it's worth grabbing."

Holmes' season total eclipsed the former team record of 1,480 yards set by Christian Okoye in 1989.

Holmes, who did not become the focus of the offense until the season was well under way, also led the NFL with a team-record 2,169 all-purpose yards. Another team record was receiving yards by a running back (614).

Unselfish almost to a fault, his success was popular among his teammates.

"The guy's a real pleasure to block for," said tackle Marcus Spears. "You know if you can just get him a crack, he can take it to the house. He's something special."

One has to wonder what kind of numbers he would have had if coaches had not begun the season envisioning quarterback Trent Green as the focal point of the offense. It wasn't until near mid-season, with Green struggling with a punchless wide receiver corps, that Holmes was given the lion's share of the load.

Typically, he never complained — something else that set him apart from Grbac.

Chiefs' Gonzalez won't need surgery, loses chance to try out for NBA

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Pro Bowl tight end Tony Gonzalez has only a knee sprain and won't need surgery, doctors told the Kansas City Chiefs.

However, Gonzalez's dream of getting an NBA tryout is shot, possibly forever. He will wear a light cast for 4-6 weeks, taking him out of next month's Pro Bowl. His opportunity for

a 10-day tryout with an NBA team following the Pro Bowl has almost certainly been dashed.

The injury might also have an affect on contract negotiations. Gonzalez, who was unhappy with his reduced role in coach Dick Vermeil's new offense, is in his contract year. If he is unhappy with the Chiefs' offer, he would be-

come a free agent unless the team chooses to give him the franchise tag.

Following an MRI exam on Monday, doctors said there was only a sprain of the medial collateral ligament on Gonzalez's left knee, which he injured in Sunday's regular-season finale at Seattle. There is no cartilage damage and surgery will not be needed, said

Chiefs' spokesman Bob Moore.

Vermeil said after the game that the accident would have no impact on the Chiefs' interest in re-signing their tight end.

"No impact whatsoever. We've already made a very, very handsome offer to Tony," Vermeil said. "This won't change a thing."

University of Kansas tops list in college basketball poll

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 6, total points and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Kansas (34)	12-1	1,722	2
2. Duke (26)	12-1	1,697	1
3. Florida (11)	12-1	1,686	3
4. Maryland	11-2	1,490	8
5. Oklahoma	11-1	1,362	10
6. Oklahoma St.	13-1	1,303	5
7. Virginia	9-1	1,283	4
8. Kentucky	9-3	1,235	6
9. Illinois	12-3	1,171	7

10. Cincinnati	13-1	1,170	13
11. UCLA	11-2	1,026	14
12. Syracuse	13-2	988	16
13. Iowa 12-4	8-2	9	—
14. Alabama	13-2	736	18
14. Stanford	8-3	736	12
16. Boston College	12-2	710	11
17. Missouri	11-3	623	17

18. Gonzaga	12-2	61	22
19. Wake Forest	11-3	451	23
20. Arizona	9-4	381	15
21. Miami	14-1	378	21
22. Mississippi St.	14-1	241	—
23. Pittsburgh	14-1	227	—
24. Butler	13-1	186	20
25. Michigan St.	9-5	168	19

Behind Enemy Lines (PG-13)
PG-13: War violence, some language.
7:00 • Ends Thursday

Ads Work! Call 899-2338

Brewster All-Star Booster Club

Tuesday, Jan. 8 - WKLL BB Tournament at Wallace County.
Thursday, Jan. 10 - JH BB at Sharon Springs, 3 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11 - WKLL BB Tournament at Colby (Hosted by Jennings at Triplains)
Saturday, Jan. 12 - WKLL BB Tournament at Colby (Hosted by Jennings at Triplains)
Monday, Jan. 14 - 4-H Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 15 - HS BB at Tribune, 6:30 p.m.

USD 314 BREWSTER
Wishes the best to ALL Brewster Students!
Go Bulldogs!

S&T Telephone Coop wishes all Students Success!
S&T Telephone Cooperative Association
P.O. Box 99 • Brewster, Kan. 67732
(785) 694-2256

The Goodland Daily News
1205 Main
Goodland, KS
(785) 899-2338
Check our On-Line Site at nwkansas.com

KLOE 730am
Full Service Radio

Bowladium Lanes has 2 short season leagues beginning soon

9-pin no tap league on Friday nights starting on Jan. 18th
Nascar League on Sunday nights starting on Jan. 13th.
Get a free Nascar ball and bag for participating.

For sign up or details come in or call 899-6246

BOWLADIUM LANES
509 Caldwell Ave • Goodland
785-899-6246

