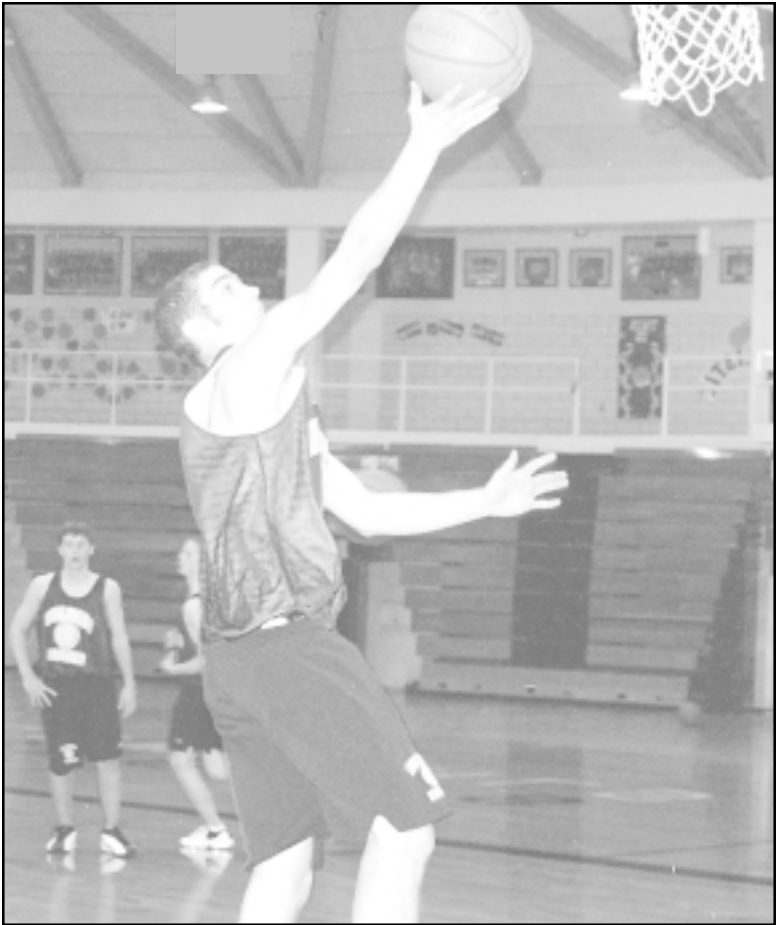


Ready for Oberlin



Jordan Riebel and the Cowboys practiced Tuesday afternoon at Max Jones Fieldhouse. They play Oberlin on Friday and Hugoton on Saturday.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Cowboys and Cowgirls to face hectic weekend

The Goodland Cowboy varsity basketball teams will play Friday in Oberlin, and will face Hugoton Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. The teams have had since Sunday to regroup after the Orange and Black Classic in Colby and prepare for their next opponents. The girls team finished third at the classic, winning two of three games, and the boys team placed seventh, winning their last game against Liberal. Girls coach Connie Livengood says the upcoming games will be a good test for the team. “Oberlin is playing well,” she said. Boys Coach Jon McLean said they have been working on ball handling, passing, man-to-man defense and avoiding mental breakdowns in preparation for the upcoming games.

Iowa falls to un-favorite son

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Ever since he started playing for Kansas, Nick Collison has been a villain in his home state. And a frustrated one at that. A high school All-American in Iowa Falls, Collison has been booed every time he appeared in Iowa State’s Hilton Coliseum, and he never left with a victory — until Wednesday night. No. 2 Kansas withstood a run by Iowa State to win 88-81 and break a five-game losing streak to Iowa State. “It feels good,” said Collison, a 6-foot-9 junior who had 16 points and 10 rebounds. “It’s been pretty tough on me coming up here losing every time, and to finally get one is almost a relief.” His teammates shared in that relief. Kansas (16-2, 5-0 Big 12) blew a 12-point lead in the second half and found itself trailing by four with less than six minutes to play. The Jayhawks managed to claw back, caught a break when Iowa State’s Tyray Pearson missed two free throws and finally went ahead to stay when Jeff Boschee hit a 3-pointer to break an 81-81 tie. “We were very fortunate they missed

Kansas State women beat Jayhawks

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Kendra Wecker missed her first three shots Wednesday night. After that, she was perfect. The resilient freshman was 8-of-11 from the floor, including 3-of-3 from behind the arc, and scored 23 points and grabbed 9 rebounds to lead No. 11 Kansas State to a 72-59 victory over Kansas. “When you get open looks, you’re going to take them and some nights the shots are falling,” said Wecker. “Sometimes they’re not. I got a couple of easy looks on backdoor plays. I was just open and able to knock them down.” Fellow freshman Laurie Koehn added 21 as the Wildcats fought off two Kansas rallies and held the Jayhawks to just two field goals during a 9-minute stretch in the second half. The Wildcats (18-2, 6-1 Big 12) have won 14 of their last 15. Kansas (5-15, 0-7) is 0-4 against ranked opponents this season. Twice the Wildcats led by more than ten points and each time the Jayhawks

Volleyball star named All-American

By Roxie Yonkey
The Goodland Daily News
Volleyball player Ashley Hallagin has been marked as one of the nation’s best in her sport; she was named second team All-American in junior college volleyball. Only 30 junior college volleyball players received that honor in 2001. So it’s really no wonder that Goodland’s Hallagin was surprised to be given the coveted title of All-American. After all, Hallagin said that she was surprised when she was named All-Jayhawk Conference. She didn’t expect to be All-America. She received the news after the regional tournament. But the Barton County Community College freshman had another surprise remaining. Barton County advanced to the na-



Hallagin

tional tournament for the 13th-straight season, placing eighth in the 16-team tournament, and losing to Seward County for the first time that year in the seventh-place game. They opened nationals by beating Arizona Western, but could not win again. Barton County’s relatively low national tournament placing would not have made anyone anticipate that a Cougar would win a tournament honor, but Hallagin picked up the Outstanding Setter Award. “I was very surprised to win this award,” she said, “especially since I played for the eighth-place team.” Barton finished the season with a 33-8 record. They began their season with a 19-0 record before losing to the nation’s top-ranked team, Miami-

Dade. The Cougars posted a 2-3 record in that tournament, losing to all nationally-ranked teams. The losses were a blessing in disguise, she said. “It kind of showed us where we should be on a national level,” Hallagin said. “Being undefeated is a bad thing.” Even though she would have liked to have finished with a win, Hallagin said she had enjoyed her first college season. With such a personal strong finish, it should be no surprise that she also looks forward to next season. “It was stressful at times, but when I look back on it, it was fun,” she said. “But I think next year we’ll be more gelled as a team. We had players on the bench this year that could have started for any other team in the conference.” Hallagin was Kansas high school volleyball 4A Player of the Year in 2000. She graduated from Goodland High School in 2001.

sports briefs

NEW YORK (AP) — Saying he’s not “Mr. Politically Correct,” Mike Tyson made an apology of sorts for his part in a news conference melee that could deny him a license to challenge Lennox Lewis. He did not comment on whether he bit Lewis’ left leg in the brawl at the Hudson Theater on Tuesday. A source close to Lewis’ camp, who asked not to be identified, said Tyson did bite the WBC-IBF champion. Tyson claims the episode was staged to promote the fight, but says one of Lewis’ bodyguards wasn’t with the program, causing the rumble. The Nevada State Athletic Commission is scheduled to consider Tyson’s application for a license on Jan. 29.

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