

# Goodland graduate welcomed at tourney

By Doug Stephens  
The Goodland Daily News

Wrestling fans welcomed a Goodland native who is making his mark in college wrestling at the Kansas Kids district wrestling tournament Saturday.

Bryce Abbey, son of Mike and Lorie Abbey of Goodland, is a freshman wrestler at the University of Nebraska, Kearney.

He took first at regional competition in Alamosa, Colo., and fourth place at the national tournament in Kenosha, Wis.

Abbey was home on Saturday. The Goodland Ambassadors, a welcoming division of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, presented him with a basket of fruit during a brief ceremony at the tournament.

Abbey is considered a "true freshman," his mother said. He is a full member of the team and wrestles in meets, rather than a "red-shirt" who just goes to practices.

She isn't surprised her son has done so well in college wrestling.

"He is very self-disciplined," she said. "He has a true love of the sport."

Abbey says her son, who was a four-time high school champion, wrestled in the Kansas Kids program for 10 years.

"I imagine the kids' program has helped him all the way through," she said.

The coaches in the program helped teach him fundamentals and basic moves, she said, but they also inspired him to do his best.

"He had some good coaches in the program," she said. "They helped him find the drive to succeed."

Bryce was dedicated to wrestling, Abbey said. He had a hard time getting down to his weight at one point, she said, but he did what he had to do and didn't complain about it.

"He is very driven," Abbey said.

"He'll succeed no matter what he does, just because he tries so hard."

"Way to go, Tammy!"



Tammy Weeter was met by her teammates at home plate after slugging a homer Friday against Colby at Centennial Park. The Cowgirls play an away doubleheader against the Garden City Buffaloes at 3 p.m. Mountain Time today.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

# Pitcher tunes up

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Mike Hampton tuned up for his opening day start by pitching 5 2-3 innings Wednesday as the Colorado Rockies beat the Anaheim Angels 8-6.

Hampton gave up four earned runs and six hits in his final spring start. He will open against St. Louis when the season begins Monday.

"He should be pleased," Rockies manager Buddy Bell said. "His ball looked good. He was crisp. He had good command."

Hampton came into the game having allowed 20 hits and 12 earned runs in his last two starts, a total of nine innings.

The Angels got two runs in the third when David Eckstein hit an RBI double and scored on a single by Darin Erstad.

Benji Gil hit his first homer of the spring, a two-run shot in the sixth, off Hampton.

Anaheim's Ramon Ortiz, the fifth starter, allowed five earned runs.

## dart results

**Goodland Dart League March 27**  
Can't Get Started over Silver Bullets 12-4  
Just Us over No Luck 11-5  
Bad A's over 3MTA3 12-4  
**Fourth round outs:** Paul Simons (3), Eric Smith, Melody Abbott, Duane Hanke  
**Nine dart outs:** Melody Abbott, Kevin Delano  
**Eight dart outs:** Duane Hanke  
**Most tons:** Kevin Delano (9), Paul Simons (6), Duane Hanke (6), Mark Wear (6), Melody Abbott (4), Mel Bracelin (4)  
**Most wins:** Kevin Delano (7), Paul Simons (7), Duane Hanke (5)  
**Womens' top shooters:** Melody Abbott 20.83, Tina Wilson 15.44, Kim Gonzales 15.23  
**Men's top shooters:** Paul Simons 24.79, Mark Wear 22.77, Kevin Delano 21.9  
**Standings:** Just Us 284, 116; Can't Get Started 227, 173; Bad A's 189, 211; Bad A's 189, 211; No Luck 186, 214; Silver Bullets 179, 221; 3MTA3 135, 265.

# Jayhawks' coach says players should 'enjoy the journey'

By Doug Tucker  
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Roy Williams reached the Final Four twice in his first five seasons and decided what the heck, this is bound to happen every couple of years or so.

But the years raced past and one NCAA tournament disappointment followed another.

"How stupid I was," the Kansas coach said Wednesday during a teleconference of Final Four coaches.

He knew he should have given himself more time to enjoy an experience that was actually much more rare than

his early success had led him to believe.

Four times since his 1993 team played in the Final Four in New Orleans, his Jayhawks had entered the tournament as No. 1 seed only to suffer an early exit.

Now, nine years later, he's back. His dark hair has turned a distinguished middle-aged gray.

And it's a wiser coach who is in Atlanta for Saturday's national semifinal against Maryland.

About 100 fans greeted the Jayhawks Wednesday night when they arrived at their hotel.

Williams said his team went through "a short but spirited workout" on Wednesday afternoon before leaving Lawrence.

"I think they are a little tired right now but they're in good spirits," Williams said. "Who wouldn't be in good spirits in a time like this?"

Williams has come up with a whole new philosophy this season.

While the Jayhawks were losing only twice in the regular-season and going 16-0 through the Big 12 schedule this year, he kept repeating, "Enjoy the journey."

"That's what I tell the youngsters,"

he said once. "Enjoy your career because it goes by so fast. Be sure you enjoy the journey."

It worked all year, and Williams is determined to make sure it remains the motto despite all the hoopla and hectic demands in Atlanta.

"I'm going to work very hard to," he said. "Once we get past the ticket requests and room requests from everybody in the world I think it will be a lot of fun."

"We'll push the team to enjoy it, allow them to do and see everything. But when I'm watching tape or on the court, I'm really going to concentrate.

We'll try to enjoy ourselves but play as hard as we can."

While going nine years without a Final Four appearance, Williams acquired one of those common "can't-win-the-big-one" labels that afflict so many successful coaches. A national championship coupled with his overall winning percentage of over 80 percent would dispel any such notions for good.

It's a situation Williams is familiar with. As a longtime assistant at North Carolina, he was there when Dean Smith finally won his first national title.

# Fair board will discuss connection

COUNTY, from Page 1

Steve Duell, head of the Sherman County fair board, will talk about the status of the steer wash rack and sewer hookup project. The county and fair board have been working on the job since the city threatened to cut off the water supply days before the fair last August. The city, county and fair board approved a program to install a new steer wash rack and sewer connection.

Crystal Linsner is to update the commissioners on the status of Sherman County being allowed to join the regional household hazardous waste program operated out of Ellis County.

Curt Way, public works director, wants to discuss updates to the road and bridge five-year plan. He will also present chip seal bids for Country Road 64.2 (old U.S. 24), and bids for a loader for the transfer station.

Jim Stewart will discuss location of a new road in the Sappa Creek Development south of Eighth Street and west of K-27. He has purchased a lot in the area, but says there is no access road to the property.

The commissioners will discuss paying a daily allowance for county employees instead of requiring receipts.

Bruce Gleason, who is planning to attend paramedic training in Garden City beginning in July, will appear to discuss additional expenses. The hospital board, hospital foundation, Eagle Med of Wichita and the county have agreed to pay a portion of his educational expenses, but Gleason is asking the commissioners to consider raising their share to allow him to attend the classes over the next year.

The commissioners will consider a new carpet cleaning system for the courthouse, and approve the March claims vouchers.

The commissioners meet at 8 a.m. in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

# Young fencer suspended

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — A 14-year-old fencer, Keri Byerts, of Webster, N.Y., has been suspended for three months after testing positive for the banned substance pseudophedrine, found in cold medicine, during last month's U.S. Fencing Junior Olympics Championships.

# Great news for Goodland!

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