

Cowgirls blow out Liberal

Team hitting and pitching well

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowgirls blew away the Liberal Redskins in a road doubleheader Monday, 18-6 and 17-7.

The Cowgirls got 15 hits and kept Liberal to one in the first softball game, and held the Redskins to two hits in the second while getting nine.

The wins bring the Cowgirls' record to 7-1. The varsity has only played six games, but the junior varsity's first games were against the Syracuse varsity team, and count toward the varsity record.

"The girls are really hitting and pitching well," Coach Terry Daise said, "and that's really the whole game right there."

Britney Pettibone pitched both games, and brought her record to 5-0. She allowed one earned run in the first game, and struck out six and walked four. In her five trips to the plate she got a double, a single, and three walks, driving in two runs.

Shanae Calkins hit a triple, double and a single and drew a walk, batting in three runs in five at bats. Stephanie Fairbanks hit a double and a base hit in six at bats, and drove two runs. Jessica Osborn got five singles in five tries, driving in two runs. Colleen Koehler hit two singles and drove in two runs in five at bats.

StevieLee Raymer got a base hit and a walk, driving in a run in five tries. Alissa Schields got a single and two

walks in five tries, driving in two runs. Tomi Windell and Tammy Weeter were walked once. Windell drove in two runs and Weeter one.

The second game was ended under the mercy rule. Pettibone threw for five innings, allowing three earned runs on two hits. She struck out four and walked six. She took five turns at the plate, getting a single, a double and driving home two runs.

Osborn drove in two runs in four tries at the plate, hitting a double and a single and drawing a walk along the way. Koehler got a double and a base hit and drove in two runs. Calkins got a double and a walk and brought home two runs. Fairbanks got a double and batted in one run.

Weeter got a base hit and two walks, driving in two runs. Mentzer got in base three times on one base hit and two walks. Adreinne Garcia and Raymer were walked three times each. Garcia drove in two runs and Raymer three. Lauren Gray had one at bat.

Daise said the Cowgirls are playing well, but one thing the team could work on is their defense.

"It seems we always have one bad inning of defense," he said. "We need to work on that. There seem to always be three to four errors in a row."

The Cowgirls next face the Class 6A Garden City Buffaloes at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Centennial Field. The varsity won one and lost one against the Buffaloes last week.



Cowgirl pitcher Britany Pettibone was met on the mound by teammates (from right) StevieLee Raymer, Alissa Schields and Shanae Calkins after an out at Centennial Park. Pettibone won two games pitching on Monday in Liberal.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Junior varsity Cowgirls capture doubleheader

Goodland's junior varsity walked all over the Redskins on Monday in Liberal, sweeping a doubleheader 18-5 and 20-2 with both games ending under the mercy rule.

Lauren Gray allowed three earned runs on six hits in the first softball game, ending it after five innings. She struck out nine and walked one, and at the plate got a double and a single in five at bats.

Courtney Schields put one over the fence, and got a single and a walk on her way to driving home two runs. Jessica Vignery hit a triple and two singles and drew a walk, bringing home two runs in five at bats. Yvette Acosta hit a double and two singles and drove home two runs in five tries.

Megan Sheldon got three base hits and drove home three runs in four at bats. Joyce Armstrong got on base twice with a single and a walk and drove in one run. Aubrea Winter drove in two runs with a base hit and a walk in three at bats. Deanna Livengood got a single in four at bats, and Emily Burkett drove in one

run with a walk. In just two times at the plate, Leslie Knitig drove in two runs with two singles.

Winter took the mound for the second game. She allowed two runs on two hits and struck out five. In the batter's box, she got three singles and drove in four runs.

Tomi Windell got three hits with empty bases, slugging two round-trippers and a double. Jody Armstrong drew three walks and hit a single to drive in four runs. Schields hit a triple and two singles, driving in two runs. Winter and Knitig got three base hits and drove in three runs. Vignery got on base with a double and a walk, driving home two runners. Acosta batted in three runs with two base hits and a walk. Cloyd and Hernandez each hit singles in three at bats, Cloyd bringing in a runner.

The Cowgirls will see their next action against the Garden City Buffaloes at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Centennial Field. The girls dropped two games to the larger Class 6A school last week.

Fans welcome Jayhawks

LAWRENCE (AP) — Kansas fans were not in the mood to mourn. They were buzzing.

From two flybys from a supersonic jet to a chilly north breeze to Drew Gooden's teasing about next season, fans were abuzz Tuesday about next season and what could be.

About 10,000 screaming fans turned out at Memorial Stadium to welcome the Jayhawks home from their trip to the Final Four. The stadium scoreboard played highlight from the season, evoking a roar with each Gooden dunk or Jeff Boschee jump shot.

Kansas finished a historic season 33-4. Jayhawk faithful though this might be the year that coach Roy Williams added a national title to his resume.

"I hope you enjoyed it," Williams said. "I was the most fun I've had as a college basketball coach."

The Jayhawks lost to eventual champion Maryland 97-88 Saturday. But Tuesday's crimson and blue clad crowd was brimming with pride about

the year, a season during which the Jayhawks became the first school to finish the Big 12 schedule 16-0.

"It's a celebration," said Rae Anderson, a sophomore from Overland Park. "We want to welcome them home and tell them that we are proud of them."

Anderson said it was a great season and that she was looking forward to next year's season with or without Gooden. The All-America forward and co-player of the year has yet to announce whether he'll stay in school for his senior year or leave for the NBA.

Williams and his players took turns going to the microphone. Following cheers from the crowd of "One more year," Gooden used the word "we" as he talked about the next season.

"Like coach said, come October 15 we have something to look forward to," Gooden said.

Asked later whether that meant he might not leave early for the NBA draft, he said, "I don't know, it might be."

Volleyball may switch to faster scoring

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

If a Goodland volleyball coach has his way, Kansas high schools may soon be playing a different style of volleyball.

The National Federation of State High School Associations is considering making a switch from standard side-out scoring to rally scoring, and offered states the chance to experiment with rally scoring next year.

Jerry McKee, Goodland High head coach, thinks it would be a good idea to try it out.

"With rally scoring, it'll be easier to get more kids in the game," McKee said.

Under side-out rules, a team can only score after it has gained control of the ball. A team can score after every play under rally rules, making the games faster and more challenging.

"Every time a team makes a mistake, there will be another point on the board," McKee said, "but under stan-

dard side-out, you can play good defense and keep the other team from scoring."

The way it is now, a team can be up 14-0 and still get beat, McKee said, so the best defenders would be kept in the game as long as possible. Under rally rules, the team ahead has a great advantage, he said, and it would be easier to put other girls in the game.

McKee said several of his players are on a United States Volleyball Association team, which plays by rally rules. At junior varsity and freshman games, the third game in a match is played by the quicker rally scoring, he said.

"They are already familiar with that style of play," he said. "I don't think it will affect their playing."

Some colleges play rally rules, McKee said, because it is more fun for fans and easier to keep track of scoring. It also makes it easier for television to broadcast games.

To make the change, teams would

have to follow national guidelines. Matches would be best three of five and games would go to 21 points. Under the side-out rules teams play now, matches are best two of three and games are played to 15 points.

Substitutions would be easier to make and serves which hit the net would still be in play under rally rules. When experimenting, schools would have to keep track of the length of games, scores and number of net serves and report them to the national organization.

The Kansas State High School Activities Association asked its member

schools if they want to try rally points. About 52 percent said yes, McKee said, and 48 percent said no. McKee was one of those who said yes.

At the March meeting, several members were concerned about switching the girls' style of play, the length of rally scoring matches, and athlete play time. They will continue the discussion at the April meeting.

McKee said that while he would like to be part of the experiment, it doesn't really matter what he thinks.

"We won't have much say," he said. "We'll follow whatever way the vote goes."

Polevaulter dies at meet

WICHITA (AP) — A 17-year-old high school senior who died two days after a pole vaulting accident had dreamed of becoming a collegiate competitor in the event, his father said.

Samoa Fili II, a senior at Wichita Southeast High School, died Monday of head injuries suffered at the Wichita East Relays.

"He was such a one-of-a-kind, special kid," Fili's father said. "He is a special child. The best son any man could have."

The elder Fili was photographing his son at the time of the accident, which occurred as he was attempting a 12-foot vault.

"He planted the pole and went up, but he went up at an angle," Fili said. "I could tell he tried to stop it, but he was just going too fast and too strong."

His son's body hit the back side of the mat, but the back of his head hit the pavement on the edge of the mat. He was knocked unconscious.

"Something happened with his form," Fili said. "He let go and hit the cross bar, but his momentum just carried him farther."

Fili said he immediately ran to his son, who was taken by ambulance to

the hospital.

"I just held him in my arms and told him I loved him," Fili said. "But he never answered."

Susan Arensman, a Wichita school district spokeswoman, said the district is still reviewing the accident. But she said East's pole vault pit met the state activities association's guidelines, including the dimensions of the mat.

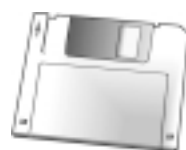
The National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research recently reported that 15 fatal pole vaulting accidents occurred at American high schools from 1983 through 2000. Seven other accidents resulted in permanent disabilities.

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