

Cowboys win league meet

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowboys snagged first place Friday and the Cowgirls came in second at the Northwest Kansas League track meet in St. Francis.

The boys won four events and took 26 medals, outscoring all other teams with 134 points.

The girls came in first in five events and placed in 17 for 114 points. The Colby Lady Eagles earned 130 1/3.

Aaron Gittinger won two events, Andrew Melia one and the 400-meter relay team came in first for the boys. Rachael Hagerman won three events, and Kendra Billinger and Alisha McKee each won one for the girls.

Before the meet, Dennis Stone, one of Goodland's head coaches, had predicted that the girls' contest would come down to Goodland and Colby, and gave the boys an even chance with four other teams.

The Colby girls are close in talent to the Cowgirls, he said, and it came down to who had a better day. The boys' team is large, he said, and its depth helped them Friday.

Stone said the teams are getting ready for the regional meet Friday and Saturday in Chapman.

"We are where we should be at this point," he said. "Regionals and state are very important."

The state finals start Friday, May 24, in Wichita.

Boys' results for St. Francis
Anthony Benavides earned third in the 100-meter dash with 11.62, Sam Smith fourth with 11.74, and Josef Felver finished with 11.84.

Smith placed fifth in the 200 with 24.11, Sean Greenlee sixth with 24.21, and Dusty King came in at 24.68. Benavides finished fourth in the 400-meter with 53.07, Felver 57.23, and Lane Winter 57.77.

Gittinger won the 800-meter in 2:07.21, Jared Duke earned fourth with 2:17.6, and Craig Mason 2:22.31.

Smith, Lance Tedford, Felver and Benavides finished the 100-meter relay in 46.78 for third.

Benavides, Smith, Bryan Mai and Gittinger won the 400-meter relay on 3:33.27. Daniel Blake, Timothy Kafka, Mason and Duke earned fourth in the 800-meter with 9:51.25.



Cowboy Jared Duke got ready to receive the baton from Craig Mason in the 800-meter relay at the Northwest Kansas League Tournament on Friday in St. Francis. The Goodland boys took fourth in the event.

Photo by Betty Winston/The Saint Francis Herald

Mai earned third in the high hurdles with 15.66, Dan Melia fifth with 15.87, and Wilkens 16.46. In the intermediate hurdles, Mai finished third with 42.11, Dan Melia sixth with 43.69, and Wilkens 44.36.

Gittinger won the 1,600-meter run in 4:50.01, and Speedy Aguilar came in third with 5:10.37. Blake finished third in the 3,200-meter with 11:18.58, Aguilar fifth with 11:39.51, and Kafka 12:09.94.

Andrew Melia earned fourth in the

shot put with 44-5 1/2, Matt Heiter finished with 39 1/4, and Tom Cotter 38-7. Dan Bagnell came in second in the discus with 131-2, Jordan Bedore third with 129-6, and Heiter 98-3.

Andrew Melia won the javelin with 173-6, Landon West earned fourth with 153-4, and Brett Jarmin 129-3.

Dan Melia placed fifth in the pole vault with 10-6, and Taylor Brack did not qualify.

Tedford jumped 18-7 1/4 for fourth in the long jump, and Sean Greenlee

came in at 17-9.

Greenlee finished with 37 1/4 in the triple jump, and Tedford 35-11 1/2.

Winter placed third in the high jump with 5-6, and Donald Raymer did not qualify.

Girls' results

Hagerman won the 100-meter dash in 12.62 seconds, Rebecca Gattshall came in third with 13.15, and Whitney Carmichael sixth with 13.37.

Gattshall placed fourth in the 200-meter with 28.28, Carmichael sixth with 29.04, and Clemisha Yarbrough finished in 29.62.

Lacey Brenner ran the 400-meter in 1:06.6 for fourth, and Kendra Billinger sixth in the 800-meter with 2:40.49.

In the 100-meter relay, Gattshall, Carmichael, Brenner and Stone were disqualified.

The Cowgirls earned second in the 400-meter relay with Brenner, Carmichael, Stone and Hagerman finishing in 4:18.78.

Hagerman won the high hurdles with 14.97, Kara Angelos finished in 17.66 and Megan Leonard 18.28.

Hagerman won the intermediate hurdles with 47.81, Angelos finished with 53.05, and Leonard 55.81. Billinger came in second in the 1,600-meter run with 5:56.23, and Wendy Keith crossed the line in 6:40.46.

Billinger won the 3,200 meters with 13:00.3 and Keith finished with 14:50.

In the shot put, McKee walked away with first place with a throw of 34 feet, 1 1/4 inches, Andrea Finner earned fifth with 31-10 1/4, and Hayley Jarmin 31-5. Jarmin came in second in the discus throw with 106-0, Fenner was fifth with 104-2, and Mandi Bellamy sixth with 104-0.

Jarmin threw the javelin 90-6. Jayci Stone did not receive a score in the pole vault. Brenner and Stone tied for first in the high jump with 5-0.

Team results

The Goodland boys walked away with the meet with 134 points. Atwood came in second with 100, Oakley had 97, Colby 95 1/2, Oberlin 57, Quinter 36, St. Francis 27 1/2 and Hoxie 7.

The Cowgirls finished with 114, second to Colby with 130 1/3. Oakley came up with 107, St. Francis 60, Atwood 58 1/3, Hoxie 42 1/3, Quinter 23 and Oberlin 21.

Goodland athlete to go to national competition

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

A Goodland basketball player is trying to make a national name for himself.

Aaron Gittinger, a junior, is going to Columbus, Ohio, to compete in the USA Junior Nationals Championship.

He played in the state tournament April 7 in Wichita, and was chosen to represent Kansas at the national tournament.

The USA Junior Nationals is an amateur basketball program based out of Madison, Wis. which holds competitions in 35 states. The state competitions are tryouts for the nationals, said Jennifer Rude, an assistant in the program. Athletes who demonstrate playing skills, leadership and sportsmanship at the state level are invited to move to the next level.

The competition is tough, Rude said, because only high school varsity players are allowed to enter the program.

The program is important to high schoolers, Rude said, because college coaches direct the players, and college scouts often check out the contests.

"We have colleges from Divisions II, III, and even some Division I schools checking out the action," Rude said.

During the 2001-2002 high school basketball season, Gittinger led the Cowboys in assists with 73, and shot 46.2 percent from the field for 191 points, third most for the team.

Kyle Elliott, Gittinger's mother, says her son hopes to play basketball after high school.

"He really wants to get a shot in college," Elliott said, "and hopefully this program will help."

Elliott says she's not sure how the trip to Ohio is going to be paid for.

"This is going to be very expensive," she said. "If anyone wants to help out with the cost, we would be grateful."



Gittinger

Rockies win in 13th, beat Mets with homer

NEW YORK (AP)—Larry Walker wasn't sure what was going to happen in his sixth plate appearance Sunday against the New York Mets and reliever Kane Davis had no idea how his pitches were going to behave.

Walker liked the results of their encounter a lot better.

Walker hit a two-run homer in the 13th inning and the Colorado Rockies beat the Mets 4-3.

"I don't know what the heck I did," he said after his eighth homer broke a 2-2 tie.

"All the bad swings I had all day, if you added them up and times it by 10, maybe you get a hit that way."

Juan Uribe drew a four-pitch walk

from Davis (1-1) to start the 13th. Walker followed with his homer, a drive into the Mets bullpen.

Walker had been 0-for-4 with a walk in the game before homering. He got an off-day Saturday.

"I had no idea where the ball was going on any pitch," said Davis, who didn't retire a batter.

After Walker homered, Davis walked Todd Helton and was pulled.

"We tried to start off (against Walker) away but the ball was all over the place. The next pitch was right down the middle," Davis said.

The Rockies have won four of their last six games and finally made it to their first one-run victory in nine tries.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

| NATIONAL LEAGUE | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|-------|
| East Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Florida | 21 | 16 | .568 | — |
| Montreal | 20 | 17 | .541 | 1 |
| New York | 19 | 18 | .514 | 2 |
| Atlanta | 19 | 19 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Philadelphia | 17 | 20 | .459 | 4 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Cincinnati | 21 | 15 | .583 | — |
| Pittsburgh | 18 | 17 | .514 | 2 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 17 | 20 | .459 | 4 1/2 |
| Houston | 15 | 21 | .417 | 6 |
| Chicago | 13 | 22 | .371 | 7 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 12 | 25 | .324 | 9 1/2 |
| West Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| San Francisco | 23 | 13 | .639 | — |
| Arizona | 23 | 14 | .622 | 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 21 | 16 | .568 | 2 1/2 |
| San Diego | 18 | 19 | .486 | 5 1/2 |
| Colorado | 16 | 21 | .432 | 7 1/2 |

Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 6:10 p.m.
Florida (Penny 3-1) at Colorado (Stark 0-0), 7:05 p.m.

Montreal at San Diego, 8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Los Angeles, 8:10 p.m.
Atlanta at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.

| AMERICAN LEAGUE | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| East Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Boston | 25 | 9 | .735 | — |
| New York | 24 | 14 | .632 | 3 |
| Baltimore | 18 | 19 | .486 | 8 1/2 |
| Toronto | 12 | 23 | .343 | 13 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 11 | 25 | .306 | 15 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Minnesota | 22 | 16 | .579 | — |
| Chicago | 21 | 17 | .553 | 1 |
| Cleveland | 17 | 20 | .459 | 4 1/2 |
| Kansas City | 12 | 22 | .353 | 8 |
| Detroit | 11 | 25 | .306 | 10 |
| West Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Seattle | 26 | 11 | .703 | — |
| Anaheim | 20 | 16 | .556 | 5 1/2 |
| Oakland | 18 | 19 | .486 | 8 |
| Texas | 18 | 19 | .486 | 8 |

Minnesota at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.
Seattle at San Diego, 8:15 p.m.
Texas at Los Angeles, 8:15 p.m.

Oakland at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.
Seattle at San Diego, 8:15 p.m.
Texas at Los Angeles, 8:15 p.m.

Oakland 7, Toronto 4
Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 4
N.Y. Yankees 4, Minnesota 2
Cleveland at Kansas City, ppd., rain
Texas 10, Detroit 6
Seattle 3, Boston 1
Anaheim 6, Chicago White Sox 3

Sunday's Games
Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 3
N.Y. Yankees 10, Minnesota 4
Kansas City 4, Cleveland 1
Texas 5, Detroit 1
Toronto 11, Oakland 4
Anaheim 5, Chicago White Sox 4
Boston 10, Seattle 4

Today's Game
Minnesota (Radke 4-2) at Kansas City (Affeldt 1-1), 6:05 p.m.

League sends official to inspect Rockies' ball humidior

DENVER (AP) — Major league baseball has sent an official to investigate a temperature-controlled environmental chamber used by the Colorado Rockies for storing baseballs, according to a published report.

Though baseball is satisfied with the chamber's purpose of preventing the balls from drying out, the commissioner's office indicated that it was disappointed the Rockies built and used the chamber without taking necessary

steps for approval. The Denver Post reported Sunday. The Rockies didn't disclose that they were using the device until Tuesday.

"The secretive nature was unfortunate," said Sandy Alderson, vice president for the commissioner's office and a member of baseball's rules committee. "It contributed to the perception that the Rockies have done something wrong. Had they informed us of their intentions, we would have given our

approval because what they are doing is in compliance of what the ball manufacturer would recommend."

The chamber, which works much like a cigar humidior, is designed to keep balls from drying out and shrinking in the low humidity of Denver. The idea is to make the balls easier to grip for pitchers and harder for batters to hit out of the ballpark.

To maintain the baseballs at specifications, the Rockies set the chamber at

40 percent humidity. The chamber is designed to hold 500 dozen baseballs, which are dated and rotated.

The Rockies have been using the chamber for about three weeks.

The humidior has set off a national debate, with critics citing statistical evidence that the humidity-stored baseballs have greatly affected games at Coors Field and proponents saying it's a great way to combat the effects of altitude.

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Goodland All-Star Booster Club
Monday, May 13 - Regional Softball; Regional Boys Golf; Regional Boys Tennis; Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 14 - Junior High/High School Band Concert in the park, 6 p.m.; Regional Softball; Regional Boys Golf; Regional Boys Tennis.
Wednesday, May 15 - Last Day for Seniors; Regional Softball; Regional Boys Golf; Regional Boys Tennis; Technology Comm. Meeting, 3:45 p.m.
Thursday, May 16 - Regional Softball; Regional Boys Golf; Regional Boys Tennis; G Club Banquet.
Friday, May 17 - Regional Track; State Boys Tennis; West School Track Day.
Saturday, May 18 - High School Graduation, Max Jones Field House; Regional Track; State Boys Tennis.
Monday, May 20 - State Boys Golf.

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