Hays players' illness 'not public concern'

HAYS (AP) — School and health officials moved Monday to assure western Kansans that the outbreak of illness among Fort Hays State football players was not a public health concern.

University president Edward Hammond said he was reassured by the Ellis County Health Department that "there's no implication of this being a public health issue." Parents were told not to fear sending their children to classes.

The effort came despite suspicions that the illnesses resulted from mycoplasma pneumoniae, a bacterium that can be spread from person to person.

Symptoms of mycoplasma pneumonia are numerous, and include headache, fever, excessive cough, chest pain and sore throat, along with less frequent symptoms such as skin lesions, muscle pain and rapid heart rates. Called "walking pneumonia," the illness is treated with antibiotics.

If mycoplasma is the culprit, health officials said an incubation period of one to four weeks means more cases could be reported.

About 30 members of the football team were affected by the illness, four of them hospitalized and later released.

"We do not know for a fact that it's mycoplasma," said Dr. Randy Cook of the Hays Medical Center. "We are reasonably certain. We're trying to get more samples to confirm that. It could end up being a viral infection that we haven't recognized yet."

If the sickness is pinpointed as mycoplasma pneumonia, the illness originated from an individual, not a source in the players' locker room, officials said.

"They did not receive this from environmental exposure, if indeed it is mycoplasma pneumoniae," Cook said. "It was a person-to-person contact exposure. We don't know who the sentinel infection was, but we have an idea. The (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) is working with the epidemiologists with that.'

Treatment would begin soon on people who were in close contact with the affected players, Cook said.

"All those people who were initially real sick have probably affected other people around them," he said. "And it's going to be around now or later that we're going to start seeing those infections. We're going to see people that were in close contact with them - like their girlfriends, family, roommates.'

sports **Soap Scrimmage slated for Thursday**

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News The price of admission is a bar of soap, and the action will give people a preview of the Goodland High School football season to come.

The football and cross country teams will kick off the season with the annual Soap Scrimmage at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Cowboy Stadium.

The football team will split into two squads and play a scrimmage, and the cross country athletes will display their running abilities. Football cheerleaders will be on hand to pump up the crowd at the first big sports event of the season, and the band will play the national anthem.

The school is not allowed to charge money for people to watch practices, so instead people are encouraged to bring a bar of soap, which the teams can use in the locker room throughout the season.

The scrimmage lets the players compete in a game atmosphere, and gives the coaches the chance to see what the team needs to work on.

The cross country and football team will be available for pictures before the scrimmage starts.

The football scrimmage will start at 6:30 p.m, and the cross country teams will have their exhibition runs before and after the scrimmage.

The football team will travel to Hoxie next week for its first game at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6.

The cross country runners will compete in their first meet at the Goodland Invitational at 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept.

The teams were allowed to hold their first practices Monday, Aug. 19, and

the Fiesta Bowl in January for another

For now, they'll share in a little his-

Without playing a game, Oklahoma

moved into a tie with the Hurricanes for

No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25

poll.It's just the fourth tie in the 66-year



Assistant football Coach J.D. Hooper gave instructions to the defensive line at a football practice. The team will compete in the annual Soap Scrimmage at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Cowboy Stadium, and their first game will be in Hoxie at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

the football team got the earliest possible start, taking the field at Cowboy Stadium at 12:01 a.m.

They held a week-long camp early both the offense and defense. this month, where the boys worked on

Since practices started, the team has conditioning and fundamentals for been working on plays and footwork

Pitcher impresses Giants

DENVER (AP) — Aaron Cook al- into some double plays.' most didn't make it out of the first inning of his first major league start. By the time he left two batters into the seventh, the Colorado right-hander had more than impressed San Francisco manager Dusty Baker.

Cook allowed three runs in six-plus innings in the Rockies' 4-3 loss to the Giants on Monday night.

David Bell hit a tiebreaking homer with two outs in the ninth inning off reliever Todd Jones to win it for San Francisco.

"The guy showed us something," sinker, but he proved it getting us to hit homer.

The 23-year-old right-hander walked the first two batters he faced and gave up a two-run homer in the first to Jeff Kent before settling down.

choice in 1997 gave up nine hits and four walks overall at the game in Coors Stadium.

"I was nervous warming up and I walked the first two batters, something I have never done," Cook said. "Once I got past Kent's home run I had my bearings and settled down."

Baker said. "We knew he had a good into the left-field seats for his 18th

Hunting safety to be taught

early.

A hunters education class will be given by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks on Monday- Department of Wildlife and Parks, Saturday, Sept. 21.

The classes should be at the 4-H

The Rockies' second-round draft

title. tory.

Bell hit a 3-1 pitch off Jones (1-3)

The teachers are certified by the state

classes under the supervision of an-

history of the poll. "Some people must have snuck in to see how well we played in practice last week," said Sooners coach Bob Stoops, whose team last held the No. 1 spot after winning the 2000 national championship.

Oklahoma can thank Florida State, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 17 and 18, and Hopper said. They have to teach three which began the season at No. 3 but fell Tennessee moved up one spot apiece, to fifth this week after having to hold to third and fourth, respectively. on for a 38-31 victory over Iowa State on Saturday night. Miami, which also hasn't played a game this season, and Oklahoma each received 27 first-place votes and 1,758

Goodland

Miami and Oklahoma tied for first in rankings NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Miami Top 25 teams chosen for upcoming season and Oklahoma, the last two national champions, hope to wind up playing in

By the Associated Press The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Aug. 25, total points based on 25 points for a first place vote through one point for a 25th place vote and previous ranking:

| | Record | PtS | ۲ |
|---------------|---------|-------|---|
| 1. Miami (27) | 0-0 | 1,758 | 1 |
| 1. Oklahoma (| 27)0-0 | 1,758 | 2 |
| 3. Texas (13) | 0-0 | 1,689 | 4 |
| 4. Tennessee | (3) 0-0 | 1,616 | 5 |
| | | | |

points in the media poll. Texas and

5. Florida St. (4) 1-0 1,589 3 6. Florida 0-0 1.327 Colorado 0-0 1.286 8. Georgia 0-0 1.212 8 1-0 1-0 9. Nebraska 1.157 10 10. Ohio St. 1.142 13 11. Washington 0-0 1.127 9 12. Wash. Št. 0-0 1.089 13. Michigan 0-0 1,042 12 14. LSU 0-0 822 14 15. Oregon 0-0 744 15 16. Virginia Tech 1-0 642 16 17. Louisville 583 17 0-0 18. Michigan St. 0-0 458 18 19. Marshall 450 0-0 19

18, 1992, between Washington and number of first-place votes. Miami.

The other ties were Nov. 27, 1939 preseason poll, open their season Fri-

The Sooners, ranked No. 2 in the

building at the Sherman County fair- on their own. grounds, said Conservation Officer Mike Hopper, but could be moved.

Anyone getting a hunting license who was born after July 1, 1957, has to take the class, said Hopper, but it only has to be taken once.

The instructors will teach firearms safety, hunting laws and regulations, basic first aid and wilderness survival. Registration is free, Hopper said, and people are encouraged to sign up

Brewster All-Star Booster Club

Tuesday, August 27th – 6:00 p.m. WKLL Meeting & Dinner at Montana Mike's; 8:20 Yearbook ad sales @ Colby Thursday, August 29 – 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Spirit

Spreader @ Oakley

Friday, August 30 – 8:20 Yearbook ad sales @ Goodland

Tuesday, Sept. 3 – HS VB Quad at Grinnell 3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6 – HS FB @ Tribune 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7 - HS VB (Varsity Only) @ Healy 9 a.m.

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USD 314 Wishes the best to ALI

Brewster Students! Go Bulldogs!



other instructor before they are set off

For information, call Hopper at 899-5199, Thadd Hahn at 899-7157 or Troy Mannis at 899-3380.

In the USA Today/ESPN poll of (Texas A&M and Southern Califorlowed by Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee

and Florida State.

coaches, Miami remained No. 1, fol- nia), and Oct. 27, 1941 (Minnesota and Texas).

This marks the first time the two The last tie in the AP poll came Oct. teams sharing No. 1 received the same

day at Tulsa.

20 Southern Cal 0-0

0-0

0-0

0-0

0-0

1-0

Others receiving votes: Wisconsin 139, Kan-

sas St. 125, Boston College 116, Auburn 109,

Alabama 99, Iowa St. 54, UCLA 53, Illinois 51,

Oregon St. 44, Georgia Tech 42, Arkansas 34

Southern Miss. 27, Clemson 23, Purdue 22, Colo

rado St. 19, Mississippi 10, BYU 7, Utah 6, Notre

Dame 3, Boise St. 2, Bowling Green 2, North

Carolina 2, Syracuse 2, Middle Tennessee 1.

280

264

244

208

161

23

24

21. Maryland

22. S. Carolina

23. Texas A&M

24. Penn St.

25. N.C. State

Miami begins defense of its national championship Saturday night at home against Florida A&M.





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