

Tennis players ready for season

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News
The Cowgirls tennis team is gearing up for another season and will hold a sports drink scrimmage on Tuesday at 5 p.m.

The varsity team's first meet will be in Larned on Thursday and the junior varsity team will be playing in Scott City at the same time. Both meets will start at 2 p.m. Mountain Time. On Saturday, Sept. 7, the varsity players will compete in Colby.

Wallace Hansen, coach of the Cowgirls tennis team, said a total of 15 girls are on the team this year, including three seniors, three juniors, five sophomores and four freshman. One of the team's most experienced players, he said, is junior Jennifer Mentzer, who lettered both her freshman and sophomore years.

Hansen said the team started practice on Aug. 19, but he gave players individual lessons the week before that. He said the players have been working on the fundamentals of the game, including serving, forehand and backhand volley shots and net play.

Last year, Hansen said, the team won a meet in Norton and tied for first at their home meet. He said the Cowgirls placed second or third in most other meets. He said the team will work to end this season with a better record.

There are no outstanding players on the team this year, Hansen said, but it's

a good group as a whole.

"We don't have what you'd call a really top-notch player," he said, "a girl that will win all of her matches. There are a couple that are close to that if they keep practicing."

He said an Osborne tennis player who graduated last year had a 134-0 record, winning every high school match.

"We're glad she graduated," he said. The coach said he expects the team's first meet in Larned to be one of the toughest this year.

"There are some real good teams down that way," he said.

People who attend the team's scrimmage on Tuesday at Steever Park are asked to bring sports drinks, such as Gatorade or Powerade, for the players to drink during matches.

Hansen said he doesn't have an assistant coach this season because the school board cut back on coaches to save money. He said the team will get by with help from parents.

When the varsity and junior varsity teams play at the same time on Thursday, Hansen said, a mother of one of the players, a teacher in the school district, has said she will drive the junior varsity players to Scott City.

The coach said learning how to play the game well and having fun is just as important to the players as winning.

"They're learning a lifetime sport," he said.



Junior Megan McCall ran to hit a shot during the Cowgirl's tennis practice on Thursday at Steever Park. The team will hold a scrimmage on Tuesday and varsity players will travel to Larned on Thursday for their first meet.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Kansas State could possibly be in trouble

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — According to conventional wisdom, Kansas State could be in trouble.

Coach Bill Snyder has talked all summer about the heated competition he has not only at quarterback, but many other positions as well.

And when a coach says he's having trouble deciding who his best players are at many positions, it usually signals a lack of talent at many of those contested spots.

"There may be as many as 16 or 17 positions on our football team that were truly competitive enough that we could have named a starter from one or two people at each position," Snyder said as he wrapped up preparations for Saturday's season opener against Division I-AA Western Kentucky.

"Every single spot across the defensive front four could have gone either way as far as who is No. 1," he said. "Tight end was very competitive between Thomas Hill and Travon Magee, and that's a battle that is not over. It was very, very competitive."

Kansas coach sleeping well

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Mark Mangino says he hasn't been losing any sleep as his big day draws near.

Perhaps he should, though. When Kansas launches year 1 of the Mangino era with an 11:30 a.m. kickoff at Iowa State on Saturday, just about every "intangible" that supposedly works against a football team will be at work against the Jayhawks.

To start with, Mangino and his team are on the road in his debut as a head coach. In addition, it will be the opener for Kansas but the Cyclones already have a game under their belts — and what a game it was.

This factor could be magnified by the fact that not only is this the Jayhawks' first game of the year, it's their first under a wholly new staff.

Stir into this mix the fact Iowa State came within one play of possibly sending their opener against then-No. 3 Florida State into overtime and it all shapes up as a long day for Kansas.

baseball scoreboard

By the Associated Press

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	83	49	.629	—
Philadelphia	66	66	.500	17
Montreal	66	67	.496	17 1/2
Florida	64	68	.485	19
New York	61	70	.466	21 1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
St. Louis	73	59	.553	—
Houston	71	62	.534	2 1/2
Cincinnati	66	67	.496	7 1/2
Pittsburgh	60	74	.448	14
Chicago	56	76	.424	17
Milwaukee	46	87	.346	27 1/2

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	84	49	.632	—
Los Angeles	77	56	.579	7
San Francisco	75	58	.564	9
Colorado	61	73	.455	23 1/2
San Diego	56	77	.421	28

Thursday's Games

Pittsburgh 4, Atlanta 1
Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 0
Chicago Cubs 13, Milwaukee 10
San Francisco 10, Colorado 6
Houston 5, San Diego 0
Philadelphia 2, Montreal 1

Today's Games

St. Louis (J. Wright 5-13) at Chicago Cubs (C. Zambrano 2-5), 1:20 p.m.
Atlanta (Moss 8-5) at Montreal (Armas Jr. 8-11), 5:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (K. Wells 12-11) at Florida (Tavarez 9-10), 5:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Padilla 13-8) at N.Y. Mets (Astacio 11-7), 5:10 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 5:10 p.m.
Los Angeles at Houston, 6:05 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 7-8) at San Diego (Tomko 7-8), 8:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games

San Francisco at Arizona, 8:05 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 11:05 a.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 11:15 a.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 2:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Montreal, 5:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Florida, 5:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 5:10 p.m.
Los Angeles at Houston, 6:05 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 6:05 p.m.
Colorado (Cook 0-0) at San Diego (Tankersley 1-3), 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 10:35 a.m.
Pittsburgh at Florida, 11:05 a.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 11:10 a.m.
Atlanta at Montreal, 11:35 a.m.

St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 12:20 p.m.

Los Angeles at Houston, 12:35 p.m.

Colorado at San Diego, 3:05 p.m.

San Francisco at Arizona, 6:05 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	83	49	.629	—
Boston	74	57	.565	8 1/2
Baltimore	63	69	.477	20
Toronto	58	75	.436	25 1/2
Tampa Bay	44	89	.331	39 1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	80	55	.593	—
Chicago	63	70	.474	16
Cleveland	58	74	.439	20 1/2
Kansas City	53	81	.396	26 1/2
Detroit	50	83	.376	29

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Oakland	83	51	.619	—
Anaheim	79	54	.594	3 1/2
Seattle	79	55	.590	4
Texas	60	72	.455	22

Thursday's Games

Seattle 2, Minnesota 0
Toronto 7, N.Y. Yankees 4
Texas 9, Baltimore 6
Anaheim 6, Tampa Bay 1

Today's Games

Boston (Lowe 17-6) at Cleveland (Wright 0-2), 5:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Weaver 7-11) at Toronto (Walker 7-3), 5:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (D. Wright 9-11) at Detroit (Maroth 5-5), 5:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Texas, 6:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Anaheim, 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Byrd 14-10) at Seattle (Garcia 14-9), 8:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Minnesota at Oakland, 8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (O. Hernandez 7-3) at Toronto (Miller 5-4), 2:05 p.m.
Boston (Burkett 10-7) at Cleveland (Westbrook 1-3), 5:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Detroit, 5:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Texas, 6:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Oakland, 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Anaheim, 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Kansas City (Asencio 3-4) at Seattle (Franklin 5-3), 8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 11:05 a.m.
Boston at Cleveland, 11:05 a.m.
Chicago White Sox at Detroit, 12:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Oakland, 2:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Seattle, 2:35 p.m.
Baltimore at Anaheim, 6:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Texas, 6:05 p.m.

Back-to-back homers knock out Rockies

DENVER (AP) — The Jeff Kent and Barry Bonds show is as predictable as a summer rerun, but, unless you're a Rockies fan, a whole lot more fun to watch.

Kent and Bonds hit back-to-back homers in the third straight game, and the San Francisco Giants beat the Colorado Rockies 10-6 Thursday.

"They are unbelievable," Hernandez said. "When Jeff hit his home run, we waited for Barry to hit one, and he did."

Bonds hit his 40th homer and Kent went deep twice as the Giants won their

fifth straight game. Bonds hit his fifth homer in three games and Kent homered in his fourth straight game.

Greg Norton had a three-run homer and Todd Zeile a two-run shot for the Rockies, who lost their sixth straight.

After a 38-minute delay in the bottom of the ninth because of a power outage and a subsequent thunderstorm, the game was called. A tornado warning also was posted in the area.

With the specter of a strike hanging over baseball, the Giants found it hard to talk about their play.

"We're fighting for a playoff spot,

and this cheapens the thrill of beating a good team," Kent said. "Guys really aren't focused on the wins. They're focused on whether we're going to play."

Fans, upset at the possibility of a strike Friday, displayed several signs during the game, including one reading "Field of Greed." The crowd of was the smallest in Rockies' history.

The Rockies committed back-to-back errors in the third and fourth innings, upsetting the fans even further. Zeile, the Rockies player rep, had two of the errors.

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