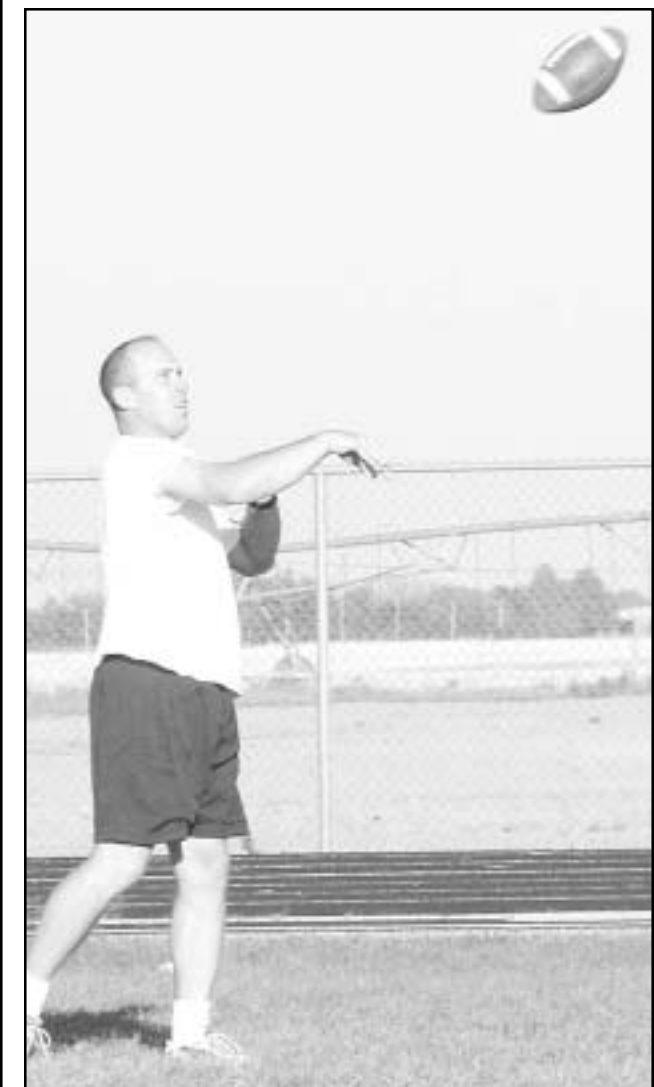


Cowboys at work



Coach Tony Diehl (above) threw a pass during a practice Wednesday at the Goodland High School practice field. The Cowboys (right) tried a new play for their game against Atwood Friday.
Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News



Goodland coach trying to focus on the positive

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

The 2-1 Goodland Cowboys face the 2-0 Atwood Buffaloes at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Atwood.

After the Cowboys' loss to St. Francis last week, Coach Tony Diehl said the team needs to take the positives and the things they need to learn and go forward.

"We need to focus on who we are and what we do instead of our opponents," he said.

Diehl has emphasized the need for the team to have a positive attitude and to work together since taking over the team this year, and his approach hasn't changed. The Cowboys need to stay unified, he said.

In last week's loss, the team's enthusiasm

was affected early in the game, Diehl said, when Jordan Bedore was injured in the third play of the game. Though he did not know how long Bedore would be out, the coach said the team would not give up.

The Cowboys found some focus later in the game, he said, and played pretty well. That focus will be needed to beat Atwood who, although a 2A school, fields a tough team.

The Buffaloes beat the Colby Eagles 33-14 Sept. 6 and the Oakley Plainsmen 20-14 on Sept. 13. Last week's game against Quinter was canceled.

Goodland lost the season-opening struggle with Hoxie 26-14, came back for a resounding victory against Holcomb 39-0 and lost to St. Francis 30-0 last week.

Plenty of sports at fall festival

A foot race, a basketball tournament and a Punt, Pass and Kick contest are three opportunities for sports lovers to enjoy themselves at the Flatlander Fall Festival on Saturday.

Runners will have to up and out by 8 a.m. to register for the Flatlander 5 race series at the Goodland Activities Center. The first part of the series was in July and was a five-kilometer run, about 3.1 miles. This race will be a five miles, although people can compete in the one-mile run, two-mile walk or 1/2-mile kids fun run.

The series is organized by Richard Schwasinger, high school DECA teacher and junior high cross country coach. The event will include a one-

mile Grant Junior High Cross Country exhibition run, which has to be kept separate from the other races to follow Kansas State High School Activities Association rules, Schwasinger said.

It costs \$10-\$30 for adults to run in the race, and all the money collected goes to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Kids can enter for \$5.

Schwasinger usually runs in the race, he said, and ran in July, but he might have to sit this one out. He hurt his leg since the first part of the series.

"I'll just have to wait and see," he said, "but it looks like I might have to watch from the sidelines."

Basketball players can head down to Herl Chevrolet for a three-on-three

tournament open to boys and girls in third through eighth grades. This is the tournament's first year, and the teams' schedules will be worked around another event, the Punt, Pass and Kick competition.

The contest is run by the Goodland Activities Center and sponsored in part by the National Football League. Kids see how far they can throw and kick a football, and the winners of the Goodland contest will go on to sectional, regional and possibly national competitions.

Last year Bobby Miller, then 13, finished fourth in the country, while Erika Gonzales got as far as the regional contest in Kansas City.

The Goodland competition starts at 9:30 a.m. and winners in each age/sex division will be announced at 12:15. Kids between 8 and 15 can participate.

Those who like their action a little faster can go to the Sherman County Speedway, where the stock car racing season will be wrapping up at 6:30 p.m. Friday and 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Modifieds, stocks, bombers and cruisers will compete for some big purses.

Patsy Gresty, public relations chairman for Sherman County Stock Car Racing Association, said more cars will be on the track this weekend than any other race of the season.

"This is our big one," she said. "It's going to be a lot of fun."

Seventh grader scores four touchdowns

Seventh grader Casey Henderson celebrated in the end zone four times Monday against Burlington when the Mustangs dominated their host team 28-6.

Grant Junior High's other two points came from a successful two-point conversion pass from Jance McKee to Jake Kling.

The Mustangs came up with 298 yards against Burlington, 255 of them

from rushing. McKee threw two passes, both of them completed, for 43 yards.

Henderson gained 73 yards in nine attempts to lead the Goodland team. Forrest Trachsel followed with 67 yards in six tries.

Hawkins had 53 yards in four tries, Spenser Windell 23 in four, Kling 22 in four, Allen Normandin 11 in three, McKee seven in two, and Ben Davis

one yard in two attempts. Michael Klinge ended up losing two yards in one run.

At his turn as quarterback, Scherling threw one unsuccessful pass.

On the defensive side, Ben Davis had an interception.

Henderson led tackles with 7, and Hawkins followed with four. Kling had

three, Jason Krayca, McKee, Aaron Deeds, A.J. Stephens, Nathan Brady and Danny Hackmeister had two, and Tanner Smith, Jonathan McClung, Nick Smith, Levi Coon, Preston Dautel, Michael Ledesma and Trachsel had one.

The Mustangs next play at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3 in Oakley.

Kansas State changes starting quarterback

MANHATTAN (AP) — Eli Roberson was convinced that he would get his chance. He was right. And the chance turned out to give Kansas State's junior quarterback the starting position he wanted.

After Roberson came off the bench to lead the No. 15 Wildcats over then-No. 11 Southern California last week, head coach Bill Snyder was impressed enough to give Roberson the starting job over senior Marc Dunn.

"If everything is status quo as it is and nothing changes, then certainly Eli will start the ballgame against Colorado," said Snyder.

Still, Roberson's performance won't be enough to completely solve the ever-changing quarterback controversy between himself and Dunn, who started in Kansas State's first four games.

"I didn't count Eli out when Marc was our No. 1 quarterback and I am not going to count Marc out with Eli in the No. 1 spot," said Snyder.

The pair have been battling for the No. 1 spot since last year when Roberson started nine games and Dunn

started in three. But Dunn's off-season preparation put him in the lead and he was named the starter. Dunn completed 15 of 20 passes and threw five touchdowns in three Kansas State wins.


But Dunn never could settle down against the Trojans. He completed just 3 of 7 passes and nearly threw an interception to safety Troy Palomalu. After Kansas State couldn't score a point, Snyder pulled him in favor of Roberson at the start of the second quarter.

"With the three series I was in, I wish we could have moved the ball a little better, and I wish I could have taken back a couple of the decisions that I made," Dunn said.

Roberson played the final three quarters and led the Wildcats on four scoring drives. The dual-threat quarterback ran and passed for a touchdown. He finished the game completing 10 of 15 passes for 134 yards.

"They did some things that made me shine," Roberson said of Southern California's defense. "I was a little hyper to start."

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Two-run rally silences Rockies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — September really has been the cruelest month for pitchers who've gone after the Dodgers' Brian Jordan.

Jordan's two-out single in the ninth inning capped a two-run rally and Los Angeles beat Colorado 3-2 Wednesday night to stay three games behind San Francisco in the NL wild-card race.

Jordan had a pair of RBI singles, giving him 26 RBIs in 23 games this month, which leads the major leagues. He's driven in 23 percent of the Dodgers' 105 runs so far this month.

"They put it all on my shoulders and I love the challenge," a smiling Jordan said.

The Dodgers desperately needed Jordan's latest heroics because a loss would have put them on the brink of elimination. Los Angeles and the Giants each have four games left.

"I told the guys after the game we still got a pulse," Jordan said. "We just got to win our games and hope for the best."

With the Dodgers down 2-1, Alex Cora singled off Jose Jimenez (2-10) to lead off the bottom of the ninth and moved up on Jeff Reboulet's sacrifice. Marquis Grissom tied it with a double inside first base.

After a flyout and an intentional walk to Shawn Green, Jordan singled up the middle.

"They chose to pick on Brian Jordan and there he is again," Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said. "I know our heart-beat is faint, but we're still breathing."

Eric Gagne (3-1) got the victory. Los Angeles won for just the seventh time in 18 games. Colorado had won four in

a row.

"We've been doing this all year," Gagne said. "Every time our backs are to the wall, we just keep going out there and keep battling. Grissom had another huge base hit and BJ's been carrying the team for two months. It's awesome. We just got to pray now."

Jordan was looking to make up for misplaying a two-out single to left field by Gary Bennett that tied the game.

"I took my eye off it for one second and looked up to see what was going on and the next thing you know I booted the ball," he said. "I felt like if we'd have lost this game it was on me."

Jordan also made a headfirst slide into first base for an infield single to keep the first inning going.

Colorado rookie Jason Jennings allowed one run on five hits, struck out three and walked two.

"That was my last start and overall I'm pleased with the way I finished," he said. "I wanted to finish strong, not necessarily with a win, but just a good outing. And I feel like I did that."

Jennings had a two-out single that gave Colorado a 2-1 lead in the second. His 12 RBIs are the most among major league pitchers.

"We were hoping we could close that thing out in the ninth and that Jennings could tie a franchise record with his 17th win," Colorado manager Clint Hurdle said. "But that's why we play nine innings and that's why that team's in a pennant race."

Making his first start of the season, Giovanni Carrara gave up two runs on four hits in five innings, struck out five and walked one for the Dodgers.

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