# **Cowboys defeat Tigers 40-7**

#### By Rachel Hixson

The Goodland Daily News The Goodland Cowboys accomplished several things by stomping the Ulysses Tigers 40-7 in their first district game of the season on Friday night.

They extended their winning streak to three games, pushed their record to 4-3, were victorious in the first round of district play and, most importantly, put themselves in a good position to advance to the playoffs — something the Cowboys haven't done since 1996.

The playoff system was changed this year to allow two football teams from each district to advance. In the past, only one team was allowed to advance, but people felt that kept too many good teams out of the playoffs. Goodland's district includes Ulysses, Colby and Scott City.

If Goodland can pull off another win against their rivals the Colby Eagles on Friday, they will have secured a playoff spot even before facing undefeated Scott City in their last district game on Halloween, Thursday, Oct. 31.

The Eagles, who have a 2-5 record, fell to the Scott City Beavers 57-21 on Friday, putting the Beavers and Cowboys at the top of their district. Heading into district play, Cowboy Coach Tony Diehl said the Beavers had the best chance of advancing because they finished the regular season undefeated and are a strong team.

If the Cowboys lose to Colby on Friday, they still won't be completely out of the running. If they can defeat Scott City, they will end district play with a record of 2-1. If either Colby or Ulysses finishes with the same record, Coach Diehl said, it will then come down to the number of winning points each team scored during district play.

That means the Cowboys did themselves a favor by getting such a huge win over the Tigers, who ended the game 33 points under Goodland.

Coach Diehl said Ulysses' defense came out strong, but was just no match for the Cowboys' offense. It took

awhile for the Cowboys to get down the field, but they scored a touchdown on their first drive with 3:56 left in the first quarter.

The Cowboys started off a little slow, the coach said, but gained momentum in the middle of their first drive with a fourth-down fake punt pass to Kris Rubio, who sprinted 22 vards for a first down.

Ulysses' offense made mistakes that helped Goodland into the end zone.

At the end of the first quarter, the Figers fumbled the ball on the Ulysses 27-yard line and Donald Raymer recovered it for the Cowboys. The mistake led to Cowboy Jordan Bedore scoring a touchdown and Bobby Miller running in the two-point conversion, bringing the score to 14-0 with 30 seconds left in the first quarter.

Before the clock ran out, Cowboy Drew Wilkens intercepted the ball during an attempted halfback pass trick play by Ulysses. The interception led to another Cowboy touchdown early in the second quarter, which brought the score to 21-0.

The Cowboys capitalized on another Ulysses fumble before the game was over, and the Tigers didn't do themselves any favors by flubbing a few attempted trick plays.

Coach Diehl said Goodland didn't play perfectly either.

He said the Cowboys had several penalty calls for holding, false start and illegal procedure, which cost the team yards. The players weren't concentrating hard enough on execution, he said.

"You get in a big game and lose the mental precision you need to play with," the coach said.

Diehl said the Cowboys worked all week on their ball-handling skills and it paid off during the game. Goodland fumbled the ball eight times during the previous game against Oberlin, and the game last season, have really turned Red Devils recovered five of the fumbles.

The coach said the Cowboys only fumbled the ball once against Ulysses and kept control.

'We took care of the ball," he said. The players also tried to take care of each other, Diehl said.

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Quarterback Jared Doke, who scored two touchdowns for the Cowboys, got a helmet in his knee at the end of the first half and was out for the rest of the game. Sophomore Derrick Raymer did a good job of stepping in, the coach said, gaining a total of 40 yards and scoring Goodland's fifth touchdown late in the third quarter.

Diehl said the other players did their best to help Raymer.

"The offense certainly rallied around him as well," he said. "I was really proud of our kids for that."

The coach said the condition of Doke's knee is on a day-to-day basis and he's not sure if he will be able to play against Colby. Miller has a minor bruise on his thigh, Diehl said, and Bedore, who has been wearing a padded cast after breaking a bone in his right hand, has no new injuries.

The Cowboys basically dominated the entire game, only letting the Tigers into the end zone once in the second quarter.

After Doke scored his second touchdown, the Tigers had a 48-yard kickoff return to Goodland's 45-yard line. A couple of big runs and a successful extra-point attempt put Ulysses on the board, 27-7.

It's not that the Tigers didn't play hard, Diehl said, it's just that they couldn't compete against Goodland. "I think we're just a better football

team than they are," he said.

Bedore was the leading scorer, gaining 142 yards and making three touchdowns, and Doke was right behind with two touchdowns and a total of 43 yards gained. Miller gained a total of 106 yards for the team.

The Cowboys, who didn't win a around in a year. Diehl, who took over this year, said it's mostly mental.

"I think our kids are believing in what can happen for them," he said.

### Freshmen Cowgirls lose in Colby

#### By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News The freshman Cowgirls ended their volleyball season with a 17-14 record Thursday after losing three matches in Colby

Coach Dave Hardy led the freshmen, and he said he was pleased with the way the girls improved their skills through the year.

some of the girls will have to work on during the season.

They fell to Hoxie 5-15 and 12-15, and then to Colby 8-15 and 10-15.

"It wasn't one of our better games," Hardy said.

The team didn't have all its star players, the coach said. Some of the freshmen played a few matches on the jun- other grade level. Of the 38 girls who ior varsity level, he said, and they are went out for volleyball this year, 17 They play a tough game, he said, but only allowed to play so many matches were in their first year of high school,

On Thursday, the Cowgirls lost their games though the year as Head Coach first match to Scott City 7-15 and 8-15. Jerry McKee would have liked. Not every school the varsity and junior varsity teams played had a freshman team, he said, making it hard to give the girls a lot of time on the court.

Goodland, on the other hand, had almost as many freshmen as every a fact which McKee said will help the



## **Broncos take Chiefs in overtime**

#### By Doug Tucker

AP Sports Writer KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The record books and Kansas City's woeful defense took a beating.

Shannon Sharpe, his 34-year-old legs churning like a youngster, set an NFL record for tight ends with 214 yards receiving, and his two secondhalf touchdown catches helped the Broncos rally to beat the Chiefs 37-34 in overtime Sunday.

Sharpe, who made 12 catches, set a

### ap top 25

By The Associated Press The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 19, total points based on 25 points for a first place vote through one point

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| for a 25th place vote an         | a previous r | anking: |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------|
|                                  | Recor        | Pt      |
| 1. Miami (61)                    | 6-           | 1,83    |
| 2. Oklahoma (13)                 | 7-           | 1,78    |
| 3. Virginia Tech                 | 7-           | 1,67    |
| 4. Ohio St.                      | 8-           | 1,60    |
| 5. Georgia                       | 7-           | 1,58    |
| 6. Notre Dame                    | 7-           | 1,47    |
| 7. Texas                         | 6-           | 1,32    |
| 8. Michigan                      | 6-           | 1,21    |
| <ol><li>Washington St.</li></ol> | 6-           | 1,21    |
| 10. LSU                          | 6-           | 1,11    |
| 11. Florida St.                  | 5-           | 1,10    |
| 12. N.C. State                   | 8-           | 1,02    |
| 13. Iowa                         | 7-           | 97      |
| 14. Oregon                       | 6-           | 96      |
| <ol><li>Southern Cal</li></ol>   | 5-           | 75      |
| 16. Tennessee                    | 4-           | 68      |
| 17. Iowa St.                     | 6-           | 62      |
| 18. Penn St.                     | 5-           | 61      |
| 19. Alabama                      | 5-           | 45      |
| 20. Kansas St.                   | 5-           | 42      |
| 21. Colorado                     | 5-           | 41      |
| 22. Air Force                    | 6-           | 36      |

league mark for tight ends. Smith had 212 vards on nine catches for the St. Louis Cardinals against Pittsburgh on Oct. 13, 1963.

Sharpe's career-long 82-yard touch- from Brian Griese. down jaunt in the third quarter ignited a Broncos offense that had eked out just everything went my way today," he Jason Elam's two field goals in the first half

"All of a sudden, we have six points," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said. "When it counted, we found a way to make a play.'

Denver improved to 5-2, while the Chiefs dropped to 3-4. Kansas City scored 34 points in each of its last two games, but lost both.

Against a Denver defense that was No. 1 against the run, Kansas City's Priest Holmes ran for 113 yards and three touchdowns. That gave the NFL's leading rusher and scorer 14 TDs for the year, the most through seven games since at least 1970, when the NFL started keeping such records.

Kansas City's Morten Andersen kicked two field goals, running his streak to 25 in a row and also denting the NFL record book. Anderson has 479 field goals, one more than the Minnesota Vikings' Gary Anderson for the career lead.

But it was the 43-yarder in the fourth neath.



Sharpe also scored on a 28-yard pass

"It was just one of those days where said.

Griese threw for just 98 yards in the first half, Sharpe caught just three balls for 34 yards, and the Chiefs had a 13-6 lead.

But then in the second half, they looked like different players. Griese wound up with a career-best 376 yards on 30-of-50 passing against the NFL's worst defense.

It started when Sharpe burst free over the middle for the 82-yard catch-andrun, outrunning three defenders who were on his heels the final 25 yards.

"I think right there before the half, I caught a couple of passes and I think that I have been around enough that Mike could tell I was in one of those zones," Sharpe said. "They came out in the second half looking to get me the ball and it worked out pretty well for me."

After Sharpe's first TD, he bent down in the end zone, unfastened some tape from his shoe and showed Kansas City's fans what was written under-



their serving before they move to the next level.

"I'm not complaining about how we played," Hardy said. "not Thursday and not through the season. We made good progress and we played well."

"We played pretty solid volleyball, except for our serving," Hardy said.

"Some of the girls need to work on that, our varsity team in upcoming years," and we know it. That's something we need to focus on."

The freshmen didn't play as many

varsity team in the future.

"We have a broad base to draw on for he said. "The skills they learn and practice as freshmen will help them when they make varsity.'

23. Arizona St 24. Bowling Green 25 25. Minnesota Others receiving votes: Florida 85, Marshall 66, Colorado St. 38, Washington 27, California 26, Texas Tech 21, Virginia 21, Mississippi 17, Boise St. 13, Boston College 12, Texas A&M 10, Kentucky 7, Maryland 6, Pittsburgh 3, TCU 2, Wisconsin 1.



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