

Cowboys ready to take on the Colby Eagles

By Michelle L. Hawkins
The Goodland Daily News
Although the Goodland wrestling season has been plagued with injuries, head coach Randy Bahe is optimistic his team will be back in full force for tomorrow's dual with the Colby Eagles.
"There will be some great matches tomorrow night, no doubt," said Bahe.

So far, the Cowboys have won four duals, and only lost two, one to Hoxie and the other to Scott City. They are currently ranked second in the state behind Clay Center, last year's 4A state champions.
Ten of the 14 weight classes will remain unchanged for the Cowboys. Brandon Zelfer will be at 103, Blayze Bahe at 119, Matthias Goodley at 130, Kyle Schulte at

135, Dustin Klinge at 140, Mike Zimmerman at 152, Taylor Brack at 160, Brandon Linden at 171, Landon West at 189 and Jordan Bedore at 215.
Four weight classes will have a change in the roster. At 112, Dexter Deeds, who has been out with a broken hand, will again wrestle for the Cowboys. At 125, Brock Whitmore will be wrestling due to the fact

Tyrel Rall has decided not to wrestle this season. In the 145 pound weight class, Chris Baumfalk injured his shoulder during the Holiday Classic. His replacement on the mat will be Blake Saint. And finally, in the heavyweight division, Andy Phillips, will again be wrestling varsity after an injury during the Holiday Classic.
"This could be a close dual," said Bahe.

"This is one the crowd will definitely enjoy."
The dual is scheduled to begin at 5:30 Mountain Time at Colby High School.
Coach Bahe encouraged the fans to get out and support the Cowboys as they continue through the season with their sights set on another state championship.

Junior College teams resume training as conference play starts

By The Associated Press
When All-American Robert Whaley told his Barton County teammates to stay in shape over the long holiday break he knew he had to practice what he preached. He did—and now he hopes it pays off with a Jayhawk Community College Western Division championship.
Ten of the 19 JCCC schools, including Barton County, opened conference play last weekend and the other nine will see their first action Wednesday.
The nine Western Division schools play 16 conference games, the East teams 18, in two months.
"I told our guys that everyone had to come back in shape," said Whaley, whose Barton County team was stunned by Seward County 80-59 in their Western Division opener Saturday night. "But I knew when I said that that I had to do the same or it wouldn't look too good. I just didn't eat as much and I watched what I ate."
That and daily workouts helped him to drop five pounds, to 258, from his 6-10 frame.

Herkelman, whose team is the defending Eastern Division champion, says the JCCC season is actually two seasons: non-conference and conference.
Herkelman said his team, as any doing well in the non-conference, could do without the break.
"Of course if you were having a hard time, a break isn't all that bad," Herkelman said.
Herkelman said his team will be working out the kinks from the long break for a couple of weeks.
"Our guys all came back out of shape," Herkelman said. "As much as the players talked about how they were going to play and run, when they get home they don't. It's too easy to get on the couch and not do anything and that's what most of them did."
"When they left for the holidays they all told me there were going to work out and I said, 'Yeah, right. I've heard this before.' Over time we have learned to gear our practices after the holidays to conditioning and getting back in game shape."

Barton County coach Ryan Wolf said he put his team through two-a-day workouts for a week before the Cougars played their conference opener.
"Most of our guys are fresh and ready to go," he said. "Your biggest worry after such a long break is being able to pick up where you left off, especially execution-wise."
Seward County coach Dave Brown said a few days of two-a-day practices helped whip the Saints into shape quickly.
Seward County's upcoming flurry of games is typical of all JCCC teams. The Saints have eight games in 23 days, a week off and then eight more games in 21 days before the season closes on March 1.

nfl playoff glance

Wild-card Playoffs	
Saturday, Jan. 4	(FOX)
AFC — N.Y. Jets 41, Indianapolis 0	AFC — N.Y. Jets at Oakland, 2:30 p.m. (CBS)
NFC — Atlanta 27, Green Bay 7	Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 5	Sunday, Jan. 19
AFC — Pittsburgh 36, Cleveland 33	AFC Championship and NFC Championship
NFC — San Francisco 39, N.Y. Giants 38	1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Divisional Playoffs	
Saturday, Jan. 11	Super Bowl
AFC — Pittsburgh at Tennessee, 2:30 p.m. (CBS)	Sunday, Jan. 26
NFC — Atlanta at Philadelphia, 6 p.m. (FOX)	At San Diego
Sunday, Jan. 12	AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 4:18 p.m.
NFC — San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 11 a.m.	Pro Bowl
	Sunday, Feb. 2
	At Honolulu
	AFC vs. NFC, TBA (ABC)

kansas prep rankings

Boys	Girls
Class 4A	Class 4A
1. Ottawa, 5-1.	1. Topeka Hayden, 6-0.
2. Andale, 4-0.	2. Andale, 4-0.
3. Marysville, 6-0.	3. Spring Hill, 5-1.
4. Colby, 6-0.	4. Santa Fe Trail, 5-0.
5. Chanute, 6-0.	5. tie. Labette County, 4-1; Colby, 5-1.
Others rated: Kingman, 4-1; Andover 6-0.	Others rated: Burlington, 6-0; Marysville, 4-1.
Class 2A	1. Circle, 4-1.
1. Jackson Heights, 4-0.	Class 2A
2. Olpe, 6-1.	1. Moundridge, 6-0.
3. Pittsburg Colgan, 4-1.	2. Sublette, 6-0.
4. Salina Sacred Heart, 5-0.	3. Olpe, 7-0.
5-0. Oberlin, 6-0.	4. Osborne, 4-1.
Others rated: Quinter, 5-1; Claflin, 5-1; Ellis, 5-1; Sedan, 6-0.	5. Salina Sacred Heart, 5-0.
Class 1A	Class 1A
1. tie. Hartford, 7-0; St. Paul, 6-0.	1. Ness City, 5-0.
3. tie. Cuba-Hillcrest, 7-0; Hanover, 5-0.	2. Little River, 6-0.
5. Macksville, 6-0.	3. Baileyville B&B, 5-0.
Others rated: Ashland, 5-1; Ness City, 5-0; Hanston, 4-1; Pike Valley, 4-1; Frankfort, 6-0.	4. Waconda East, 6-0.
	5. Norwich, 4-0.
	Others rated: Tribune, 5-1; Centralia, 6-1.

sports briefs

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Chuck Finley almost certainly won't be part of the St. Louis Cardinals' rotation next season.
Wednesday is the last day for free agents offered arbitration to re-sign with their former teams, and general manager Walt Jocketty said there's been no movement mainly because Finley has been involved in a child custody dispute with his former wife.
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant made an NBA-record 12 shots from 3-point range, including nine straight, in scoring 45 points as the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Seattle SuperSonics 119-98. Bryant, who had never made more than five 3-pointers in an NBA game, broke Dennis Scott's 1996 record of 11.
DENVER (AP) — Denver Broncos running back Clinton Portis beat college teammate Jeremy Shockey for The Associated Press NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year award.
Portis ran for 1,508 yards, fourth overall in the NFL.



Nebraska looks at possible coaching shake-up

By Eric Olson
Associated Press Writer
LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Frank Solich and Steve Pederson go way back.
They have known each other for 22 years, ever since they had offices next to each other when Solich was Nebraska's freshman football coach and Pederson was the program's recruiting coordinator.
"We've always had a great relationship," Pederson said.
While Pederson's recent hiring as Nebraska's athletic director has been hailed as a homecoming for the North Platte native, some Cornhuskers faithful wonder how he will handle personnel issues affecting his old friends if the football team's slide continues.
Pederson has been vocal in his support of Solich, the team's fifth-year head coach who just finished a 7-7 campaign that was the Huskers' first non-winning season since 1961.
"I want to work side by side with Frank to get this right," Pederson said Tuesday.

Failing that, would Pederson have the courage to fire Solich?
"My track record speaks for itself, meaning we've done what we've had to do to be successful," Pederson said, referring to his six years as athletic director at Pittsburgh.
Pederson, 45, was roundly praised for his hirings at Pittsburgh. Less than a month after Pederson's arrival, football coach Johnny Majors resigned after four straight losing seasons, and Pederson passed on a search committee's recommendation and hired Walt Harris.
"If you make decisions that are in the best interest of the program, then they're not that tough," Pederson said. "You always have to put the program first and make sure the program is great. If your personal feelings override that, then you have a problem."
Pederson also made a controversial but successful hire in basketball coach Ben Howland and, not long after arriving at Pitt, eliminated

seven jobs within the athletic department.
"We had to make tough decisions every day about people we worked side by side with," Pederson said. "If you can't do that, you can't do this job."
But at Pitt, Pederson was an outsider. At Nebraska, he supervises people he worked for when he started as an assistant in the sports information office in the 1970s.
Pederson said he knows his job is on the line if the athletic program isn't successful.
That means football, the department's meal ticket, must win.
"The chancellor has expectations for how I'm going to do my job, and if I don't live up to those expectations, I understand the outcome," Pederson said. "All of our coaches know that when you start in this business, there's an anticipation you're going to be successful. If you're not, then you have to deal with the consequences."
To be sure, a 7-7 season is not successful by Nebraska standards.

Pederson senses the 2002 season was an aberration and that the Huskers can bounce back because of the team's level of young talent and the new energy that will be created by new defensive coordinator Bob Pelini and other assistants yet to be hired.
Pederson said he has become involved in the search for football assistants. He said he talks with Solich several times a day about his progress in finding an offensive coordinator and two defensive aides.
Pederson has met with some coaching candidates personally and talked with others on the phone.
"I want to help Frank make sure he gets the best staff possible," Pederson said.

The new athletic director hasn't set a deadline for hiring the rest of the football staff. There is some pressure to make moves, however. Letter-of-intent signing day is Feb. 5, and a number of prospective recruits have said they're waiting to make a decision until they know who their coaches would be at Nebraska.
"It has taken on urgency," Pederson said, "but it's really important to get the right people."

bowling results

Happy Our Bowling 1/02/03	
B&B Electric split with Rasure Do It Center 2 to 2; Collinwood over KMA 3 to 1; Pocket Rocks over Blind Team 4 to 0	
High Game Team Collinwood 857	
High Game Ind. Chris Spchepst 242	
High Series Team Collinwood 2472	
High Series Ind. Chris Spchepst 540	
Standings:	
Collinwood	20 4
Rasure Do It Center	16 8
KMA	12 12
B&B Electric	12 12

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that could extend the contract through 2008.
But that new deal — coupled with a knee injury that's expected to sideline Wolff until at least April — is more than the Fire can afford.
MLS allots each team about \$1.7 million to spend on salaries, and the Fire has had to juggle its roster to stay within budget this season. They traded veteran captain Peter Nowak to the New England Revolution last week and sent Dema Kovalenko to D.C. United last month.

Colorado Avs lose to Calgary Flames, 4-2

DENVER (AP) — Craig Conroy and Jarome Iginla had a goal and an assist each as the Calgary Flames beat the Colorado Avalanche 4-2 Tuesday night to remain unbeaten in five games under new coach Darryl Sutter.
Calgary had just 17 shots, but still scored four goals for the third time in five games. Roman Turek stopped 31 shots as the Flames improved to 4-0-1 since Sutter was hired on Dec. 28.
Colorado lost for just the third time in 10 games under coach Tony Granato, who played his last four years in the league for Sutter in San Jose.
The Avalanche played without top defenseman Rob Blake for the second time in three games due to a sore back. He was missed.
Colorado allowed a goal in the

first minute of the game, gave up several odd-man rushes and had three defensive miscues that led directly to goals.
Calgary's Rob Niedermayer scored his third of the season 30 seconds in after splitting two defenders near the blue line. He whiffed on the shot, but Patrick Roy was caught leaning the other way and the puck trickled under his stick.
Conroy made it 2-0 at 10:19 of the first, keeping it on a 2-on-1 and beating Roy between the pads after Colorado's Adam Foote got caught pitching in on offense. It was Conroy's 11th of the season.
Colorado cut the lead to one 1:56 later when Dean McAmmond beat Turek with a one-timer, but Calgary made it 3-1 midway through the second on another mistake by a Colorado defenseman.

The Avalanche had consecutive power plays, but Iginla scored a shorthanded goal on a 2-on-1 after Colorado's Greg de Vries couldn't keep the puck in Calgary's zone.
Roy stopped Conroy's shot from the left circle, but the puck trickled behind him and Iginla tapped it in for his 12th of the season.
Colorado's Milan Hejduk made it 3-2 with 23 seconds left in the second, beating Turek gloveside after a slick drop pass by Peter Forsberg. It was Hejduk's 19th of the season.
Colorado's Martin Skoula had the final miscue, dropping a pass to no one that led to a 3-on-1 rush the other way.
Former Avalanche forward Stephane Yelle kept the puck and clanged in his sixth goal of the season off the crossbar with 9:47 left in the game.