



(Above) Coach Mary Kratky made adjustments to the team's strategy during a timeout in the second game of the Mustangs' match against Colby. Colby won 25-18 and 25-11.

(Left) No. 4 Shawnie Butts, No. 21 Jessica Hatfield and No. 50 Ashley Christians prepared to receive a serve from the Colby Eagles during the first game of the Grand Junior High Mustangs' match Saturday morning at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News



Too many bowls spoil the game

First off, before I get to my current gripe, I want readers to know that they can respond to me, for or against, about anything I write about.

Actually, I encourage you to do so. At least it'll let me know you're reading my columns. The only reaction I've received so far concerned my column on retired Gen. Wesley Clark. I was accused of being a "closet Democrat," and that was before the paper hit the streets.

I want to say that when I first registered to vote, it was as an independent. Since Independent is now an official party is some places, I have to register as "no party affiliation" or some similar such phrase. I forgot what I put down last month when I registered at the Sherman County courthouse (and I still haven't received my card yet).

The reason I do this is I want to feel free to vote for whomever or whatever I feel is the best candidate



greg
stover

● greg's gripes

season will get a bid to one.

There are simply too many bowl games today, and because of that, many fans only consider the Bowl Championship Series games meaningful.

Is the general public really that interested in seeing the No. 7 team in the Big 12 Conference play the No. 5 team in the Atlantic Coast Conference in the Tangerine Bowl?

Teams must have a near-perfect season in order to get a bid for a major game. This leads to unnecessary pressure for players, especially from the media. For example, some commentators are already saying that the Kansas State Wildcats are out of consideration because of their upset loss to Marshall on Saturday.

Players shouldn't have to feel that their season is over because of one

or proposition without following the party line. Both major political parties spend far too much time and effort slamming each other at the cost of doing what they were elected to do. That is the main reason I have no intention of ever becoming a member of either one.

Enough about politics and back to sports.

Already college football announcers are talking about the upcoming bowl season and whether a particular team will qualify or not. With 28 bowl games available to NCAA Division I-A teams, just about every team with a winning

matters of record

Goodland Police

The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

September 7 — Joshua A. Ford was the victim of an estimated \$100 in criminal damage to the exterior of a 1989 Dodge at 1417 Cherry Ave.

Milton D. Murray was the victim of an estimated \$80 in criminal damage to a rear tire at 1009 Center Ave.

September 8 — Harold Liebengood, of Quartz Hill, Calif., was the victim of theft of a wind fin, estimated value \$300, and of an estimated \$300 in criminal damage to a fiberglass lid on a trailer at 2519 Enterprise Rd.

September 10 — Benjamin W. Bliss was the victim of burglary, theft and criminal damage totaling

an estimated \$6,790 for a garage broken into, vehicle damaged and several vehicle parts taken at 540 W. 10th St.

Amanda Huffman was the victim of aggravated battery at 522 E. 5th St. Julie C. Bautista was arrested and charged in district court.

September 11 — James L. Shaw was arrested at 1624 Syracuse Ave. and is being held on a warrant from Benton County Detention, Bentonville, Ark.

September 12 — Clarence L. Howard was the victim of theft of a 1998 GMC pickup at 1506 Kansas

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Ave. The vehicle was later recovered.

Kayla D. Swob was arrested at 204 W. 11th St. on a warrant from the Ellis County Sheriff's Office.

Sunflower Computer Service, 210 E. 17th St., was the victim of an estimated \$200 in criminal damage to a glass door.

Broadhead arrow shoot set for Sunday

The Smokey Gardens Archery Club plans a broadhead arrow shoot at 10 a.m. Sunday at the archery range east of the city shop near the railroad tracks.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m.

at \$8 per person.

The shoot should help hunters prepare for the deer season, from Oct. 1 to Dec. 2 and from Dec. 15 to 31.

Arrows must be at least 20 inches

long with non-barbed broadheads with all-metal cutting edges.

For information, call William McKnight at 890-5358 or Chuck Engel at 890-5174.

loss. There is far too much emphasis on the top bowls.

My recommendation would be to cut down on the number of bowl games, which would give more credibility to those that would remain.

The best solution still would be to create a playoff system for Division I-A that would incorporate bowl games into it. That would keep the traditions and the pageantry of the bowl games and add the common sense of the playoff system that all the other classifications of college football use.

Let me know what you think at gstover@nwkanas.com.

Junior varsity brings home gold

The Cowgirl junior varsity golf team came home with pockets jangling, with the top two individuals and two other medalists at the Ulysses Invitational tournament last Thursday.

Sophomore Sami Philbrick finished first and junior Emily Burkett second at the Bentwood Golf Course in Ulysses. Both players finished the nine-hole tournament with a 14-over-par 51. First place went to Philbrick as the player had the best score on the toughest handicapped hole.

"Sami and Emily played to their potential..." Coach Connie Livengood said. "They have always had the ability to score, and they proved that Thursday."

Junior Kelsey Lieker finished sixth with 58 and freshman Stephanie Sheldon was eighth at 60.

"Kelsey made her goal of breaking 60 and it earned her a medal," said Livengood. "Stephanie played very well also. She started the season late and this was her first out of town tournament."

Livengood said that freshman Amber Webster shot a best-ever 64 and sophomore Julie Leiker also had a good day at 61. This was Webster's first out-of-town tournament.

"The day was very successful, and I am so proud of the girls," Livengood said. "It has been very rewarding watching them improve."

The junior varsity was to be in action Monday at the Colby Country Club for the Colby Invitational Girls Golf Tournament hosted by Colby High School.

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