

Goodland earns medals; league at Sugar Hills next

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Four Cowboys and three Cowgirls brought medals back from the Lakin Invitational Cross Country Meet on Saturday, and the combined team finished fifth in the last event of the regular season.

Saturday, the Cowboys and Cowgirls will host the Northwest Kansas League meet at Sugar Hills Golf Club for teams from Colby, Oberlin, Oakley, Hoxie, Quinter and Goodland.

“I was very pleased with the team performance,” Coach Don Smith said. “It was a good showing in a part of the state where they take their cross country seriously.”

Kerek Mason won the freshman-sophomore race with a time of 18:34. Kyler Knobbe was 38th with 22:31.

“I want to give Kerek Mason a lot of credit for his performance,” Smith said. “Earlier in the week, he told me winning the race was his goal, and we talked about the kids he was going to have to beat and worked out a strategy. I don’t know who got the most satisfaction out of this winning, him or me, but he followed the strategy exactly as we had worked it out. It was a great victory, and hopefully the first of his running career.”

Speedy Aguilar was second in the junior-senior race at 17:35. Craig Mason was 16th at 19:46; Daniel Blake 19th, 19:52; and James Cearley 29th, 20:35.

“Speedy ran a good race, and Craig Mason got his first individual medal with his finish,” Smith said. “I was really proud of the gutsy performance of Blake because during practice earlier in the week he developed some blisters on his feet. It is something to watch a young man run through the pain and do well.”

Aguilar was 25 seconds behind the winner, Bryce Forward of



Cowgirl cross country runner Mara Sloan (above, center) placed 18th in the girls' freshman-sophomore race. Goodland's Daniel Blake (at left in right photo) lead Craig Mason around the corner just before the mile mark at Lakin on Saturday. Mason eventually passed Blake, finishing 16th and Blake 19th in the varsity race.

Photos by Jeff Mason / The Goodland Star-News

Hugoton, who ran the course in 17:10. Conditions were 55 degrees and winds of up to 25 miles per hour.

Kalie Smith finished ninth in the freshman-sophomore girls race with 13:58. Tiffany Thomas was 16th at 14:08; Mara Sloan 18th, 14:22; and Chelsea Ontiveroz 30th, 14:54.

Sloan's finish won her an individual medal, the first she has won.

Jessica Stephens of Colby won the girls race with a time of 12:40.

Charlie Short was 34th in the junior-senior girls race with 16:41. Britney Hill of Hugoton was the winner with 12:07.

Boys and girls scores were combined for the team totals, and Hugoton won the meet with 19 points.

“It was real important, as the top seven finishers were combined to make up the combined team score,” Coach Smith said. “Having seven medal finishers helped us tremendously.”



Colby was second, 55; Johnson third, 59; South Gray fourth, 72; Goodland fifth, 81; Lakin sixth 84; Ulysses seventh, 93; Syracuse eighth, 103; Scott City ninth, 141; Garden City junior varsity 10th, 207; Sublette 11th, 212; Cimmaron

12th, 221; Oakley 13th, 231; and Dodge City junior varsity 14th, 238.

Saturday the league meet will begin with the girls varsity 2-mile run at 10 a.m. The boys varsity 3-mile run will be at 10:30 a.m. The combined junior varsity run will be at 11 a.m., and the awards ceremony

will be around 11:30 a.m.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to see the heart and desire of these kids,” Smith said. “If you have never seen a cross country race, this is a perfect time to come out and support the Cowboys and Cowgirls.”

Conference expansion bad idea

In the Sept. 19 edition of *The Goodland Star-News*, I wrote about my dislike for oversized conferences, especially those that have to be divided into two divisions.

One of the reasons conferences do this is so they can have a conference football championship and thus increase the revenue schools receive from their football programs. An example I cited was the possibility of the Atlantic Coast Conference expanding from nine teams to 11 or 12 and dividing into two divisions.

Well it's no longer a possibility. The University of Miami (Fla.), Virginia Polytechnic University and Boston College accepted invitations to join the Atlantic Coast Conference. Miami and Virginia Tech will become members on July 1. A date has not yet been established for Boston College.

I say this is wrong for two reasons. First, it weakens the prestige of being a conference champion when a team doesn't play each other member of the league. Although NCAA Division I-A has gone to a 12-game schedule which would allow 12-team conferences to play each, this isn't going to happen. A championship game between the divisions' first place team helps to



greg
stover

• greg's gripes

It creates the possibility of a conference champion undefeated in conference play but which ends up with a losing season overall.

On a different subject, I rarely get a chance to say “I told ya

so,” but today I do.

Last issue in my sports column, I predicted that Texas would lose to Oklahoma, which in reality was a “no-brainer.” However, I also predicted Kansas State would lose to Oklahoma State.

“Told ya so.”

Kansas State has dropped out of the USA Today/ESPN Top 25 (and deservedly so), but two other Big 12 teams have moved in. Oklahoma State, conquerors of the Wildcats, reenter the poll at No. 24, and the Red Raiders of Texas Tech enter for the first time this season at No. 23.

Television sports commentators kept calling last Saturday “separation day,” or some variant of that. The reason seemed clear: of the 11 undefeated team in Division I-A, only five survived. With the regular season now half over, last Saturday separated the real teams in the hunt for the national title from the pretenders.

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sports short

Goodland swimmer has first meet of season Saturday

Morgan Hagerman, a senior finance major at St. Bonaventure University in New York, will swim in his first meet of the season Saturday at Syracuse University.

bowling results

Happy Our
October 9, 2003

Rasure Do It Center over B & B Electric 3-1
KMA over Urban Designs 3-1
Miller's tied Sam's 2-2

High Handicap Game Individual:
Anthony Amack 245

High Handicap Series Individual:
Larry Minner 689

High Handicap Game Team:
Rasure Do It Center 825

High Handicap Series Team:
Rasure Do It Center 2,353

League Standings:

Tied 1st. B & B Electric 21-7
Rasure Do It Center 21-7
3rd. KMA 13-15

Hagerman, the son of Mark and Sue Hagerman of Goodland, is in his third season with the Bonnies. He transferred to St. Bonaventure for his sophomore year after spending a year at Iowa State University. Hagerman is a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll.

St. Bonaventure finished second at last season's Atlantic 10 championships, where Hagerman was a member of the winning 200-meter free, 400-meter free, 400-meter and 800-meter medley relay teams.

The college swimming season begins in mid-October and lasts until late February.

Cowgirl golfers place third at Syracuse

The Cowgirl golf team, led by Jessica Osborn's second-place finish, took third Thursday at a tournament hosted by Syracuse High School held at the Tamarisk Golf Course.

Osborn finished with a 14-over-par 86. She, along with Ulysses' Val Gustafson, had the best score on the back nine, with 42 among the 37 players participating. Gustafson finished fifth with a 89.

Goodland's other medalists included junior Bailee Guyer, 12th with a 103, and junior Amy Cebula, 15th at 105. Senior Kayla Rasure finished with 106.

“The top four girls stepped up their game,” Coach Connie Liven-good said. “This is the first time Amy and Bailee broke the 50s in competition for nine holes.” Cebula scored a 47 and Guyer a 49 on the back nine.

Livengood said she has enjoyed watching the team improve throughout the season. She said it was especially rewarding for her to see one of her players achieve a personal goal or other milestone, such as

shooting par or a birdie on a hole for the first time.

Ulysses won the team title with a score of 367. The Tigers had three of the top six individuals including the champion, Abby Tejo, who shot an 85. Holcomb finished second with 390. Goodland's score was 400.

The regional tournament was to be Monday at the Colby Country Club. The top three teams will qualify for the state tournament Oct. 20 at the Salina Municipal Golf Course.

The top five individual players at the regional not on a qualifying team also will be invited to play at the state tournament.

Livengood said that Goodland in is a tough region. At Syracuse, she said, the Cowgirls beat one of the teams they have to defeat at the regional to advance, and came close to beating another.

“The girls have improved and I have enjoyed the season more than I could ever express,” she said. “The whole team is a great bunch of girls.”

The South shall rise again

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Brewster All-Star Booster Club

October 15- October 21, 2003

October 15 - Basketball coaches meeting in Oakley 7:30 p.m.

October 16 - Junior high volleyball 3 p.m. and junior high football 4:40 p.m. at Triplains, cross country at Grainfield 3 p.m.

October 17 - End of first quarter, football at home against Grinnell 7:30 p.m.

October 18 - Western Kansas Liberty League Volleyball tournament at Brewster 10 a.m.

October 20 - Junior varsity football at Grinnell 5:30 p.m., Board of Education meeting 7 p.m.

October 21 - Volleyball Regionals

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