

Cowgirl doesn't slow down because season is over



Senior Kayla Rasure filmed the Cowboy football team's win over the Kingman Eagles Tuesday night at Cowboy Stadium.
Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News

Goodland High School senior Kayla Rasure has earned a fourth athletic letter in the same sport — her favorite golf — and that's something few students achieve.

This season Rasure earned medals at five of the nine tournaments she played in. At the regional tournament she finished 12th and was the sixth best player not on a qualifying team therefore missed qualifying for the state tournament by one position.

"She is a very good golfer," Coach Connie Livengood said. "She had her best 9-hole round here, at Goodland, this year and her best 18-hole round at Ulysses last year."

Kayla, the daughter of Kevin and

Christie Rasure, has been a member of the Cowgirls golf team for the past four seasons, ever since girls' golf became a varsity sport at Goodland High.

"I've grown up around golf," Kayla said when asked why she chose the sport. "Everyone in my family plays."

Kayla said her best performance with the Cowgirls was this season's Goodland Invitational at Sugar Hills Golf Course, where she shot a 10-over-par 45. She finished third in that tournament and helped the Cowgirls win their second straight tournament to open the season.

She said her best memory with the Cowgirls is all the fun they had making a video about the team's season this year which might be

shown to the incoming freshman class at the end of the school year during orientation.

Rasure is involved in other activities. In addition to belonging to the Girls Athletic Association for all four years in high school, she has been a member of the National Honor Society for two and active with Science Olympiad for three.

She films Goodland's football and basketball games. She said her older brother Danny did it when he was in school and the coaches asked her to take on the job.

"I have had a lot of good fun filming games and going on all the road trips," she said.

Rasure was born and raised in Goodland. She works part-time for the Goodland Public Library, about

eight hours a week, and also helps out at her family's hardware and lumber business.

One of her hobbies for the past eight years has been playing the piano, which she says relaxes her.

After high school, she will be headed to college. Although she has been accepted to Baker University, and been invited to try out for their golf team, she favors Wichita State University.

Kayla said she likes Wichita State because of its size and its dentistry program. She will visit Baker later this month and hopes to visit Wichita State before January.

Right now, her plans are to become a dentist and work in a large clinic. However, Rasure admits that might change.

Bulldogs outscore Huskies 86-66, advance to next round

By Jay Kelley
Colby Free Press

Leland Francis doesn't coach basketball, but it might look that way if you saw the 86-66 score after his Brewster High Bulldog football team beat Northern Valley in Almena Tuesday night in bi-district play.

"Anytime you win by 20, you're happy," said Francis after a nail-biter which saw the lead change eight times in the first half and the 'Dawgs unable to take the lead for good until the middle of the fourth quarter.

Weather and offensive capabilities were the big factors in the score. Both teams came in with several fast running backs and a credible passing game, so points weren't going to be the problem.

A coating of frost on the field was tough on both defenses, however. The lush grass of Northern Valley's field became slick, and once the first defender lost his footing, both team's running backs were more than capable of taking advantage.

The game started slowly, with only one Brewster touchdown in the first quarter. After forcing the Huskies to punt on their first drive,

Brewster engineered a seven-play drive culminating in a one-foot run by Sean Swanson, the first of his seven rushing touchdowns.

Branson Gilley found Heath Baird open in the end zone to make the score 8-0.

Brewster threatened again on their next drive, but neither team was able to string together a scoring drive until Northern Valley took over on the Brewster 25 after pinning the 'Dawgs back on their five on the previous drive.

The Huskies scored on four plays, three by Jesse Hilbum, who also scored the touchdown. Hilbum passed to Thomas Ostmeyer for the conversion and tie with 9:09 left in the half.

Brewster came right back, putting together a 60-yard drive that ended with Swanson's second rushing touchdown. The conversion failed, but Brewster led again 14-9 with six minutes left in the half.

Four big plays later, three of them first downs, the Huskies regained the lead on a 15-yard run by Ostmeyer and a 2-point conversion, also by Ostmeyer. The score was 16-14 Huskies with 5:06 left in the half.

A good kick return by Jake Long set the Bulldogs up on the Northern Valley 11 and Joel Selby got the call to score on first and goal three plays later. He was stopped short on the conversion, but Brewster led 20-16 with 3:54 on the clock.

Northern Valley marched 56 yards for their next score, a 10-yard pass from Joey Copper to Ostmeyer on fourth down. The conversion succeeded, giving the Huskies a 24-20 lead with 1:43 left.

Brewster's next drive was again set up by a good kick return, this time by Swanson. Starting on the Northern Valley 30, Gilley found Baird for 15 yards, then two offside calls in a row put the 'Dawgs on the 25 with first and 20.

Gilley found Swanson in the end zone on the next play for Brewster's only passing touchdown. Jarrett Carpenter was stopped inches short on the conversion, but Brewster led 26-24 with 39 seconds in the half.

Scoring wasn't done for the half, though. The Huskies moved down field from their 15, scoring at the buzzer with a Copper-to-Ostmeyer pass that threaded through Baird's hands. Long brought Ostmeyer down, but not before he crossed the

goal. Ostmeyer ran the conversion to make the score 32-26 Huskies at half-time.

Momentum shifted to the Bulldogs in the second half. The first drive of the half ended with another Swanson touchdown with 9:20 left in the quarter. The conversion failed and the score was tied at 32.

Three plays into Northern Valley's drive, Paul Flanders intercepted Copper and ran 40 yards for a score. Swanson scored the conversion and Brewster led 40-32 with 8:33 left in the quarter. Although Northern Valley would tie the game again twice, they would never again lead.

Copper ran the ball into the end zone for Northern Valley with 2:29 left in the quarter. The conversion worked for a 40-point tie.

Brewster answered on the next drive, taking a 48-40 lead with 12 seconds in the quarter on a 21-yard run by Long and a 2-point conversion by Swanson.

The fourth quarter opened with a Northern Valley score by Clarke Nelson, who also ran the conversion to tie the score at 48 with 10:31 left. It was the last tie.

Swanson had a 15 yard touch-

down on the next drive and Gilley ran the conversion to take a 56-48 Brewster lead.

Nelson found the end zone for the Huskies on the next drive, with 6:40 left. The conversion failed, however, and Northern Valley still trailed 56-54.

Brewster made it 64-54 with three big runs by Swanson, who also ran the conversion in with 5:44 left in the game.

Nelson answered back with another Northern Valley touchdown with 5:16 left, but the conversion failed again and the Huskies trailed 64-60.

Swanson got the call on the next drive, this time scoring with 3:22 left. He also ran the conversion in, making the score 72-60.

Copper ran Northern Valley's last touchdown with 1:46 left. The conversion failed and the Huskies trailed 72-66.

Brewster took over on their 40 and Swanson scored on the first play. The conversion failed, but the Bulldogs still led 78-66 with 1:36 left.

The Huskies fumbled on the first play of their next drive, giving the ball back to the 'Dawgs at midfield

with 1:13 left. Two plays later, on third and six, Long broke free for the last score of the game with 42 seconds left.

Brewster had 388 yards rushing, 53 in the first quarter, 34 in the second, 83 in the third and 218 in the fourth. Gilley went 7-for-10 (6-for-7 in the first half) for 128 yards (118 in the first half) and a touchdown.

The Huskies had 341 yards on the ground and went 4-for-12 for 90 yards passing. Rushing offense by quarters was 27 in the first, 129 in the second, 43 in the third and 142 in the fourth.

For Brewster, Swanson had 210 yards and seven touchdowns on 24 carries. Gilley had 92 yards on 19 carries. Long had 65 yards on three carries and a touchdown. Selby had 19 yards on eight carries and a touchdown.

Baird had four receptions for 83 yards, Long had three for 30 yards and Swanson had one for 25 and a touchdown.

The Bulldogs (8-2) advance to the next round in the Eight-Man state playoffs, hosting the Mustangs of Sylvan High School 3 p.m. (Central Time) Saturday.

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