-stor-news 12 The Goodland Star-News / Tuesday, November 11, 2003 Wellington ends Cowboy's season 40-20

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News The Crusaders of Wellington High School showed why they are the two-time defending state champions Saturday afternoon, ending Goodland's season 40-20 in the second round of the Class 4A playoffs.

The Cowboys closed their season as district champions with an 8-3 overall record. Wellington is now 9-2 and the regional champion. The Crusaders face the Wildcats of Holton High School, 10-1, in the next round.

The Crusaders scored first after a Cowboy turnover and took a 7-0 lead. Less than two minutes later Goodland tied the score. The Cowboys took the lead 13-7 early in the second quarter only to have the Crusaders quickly retake the lead 14-13. Wellington increased their lead to 20-13 before halftime.

With their first possession of the second half Goodland tied the score at 20. The Crusaders regained the lead 27-20 on the next offensive series. Wellington scored two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter while holding Goodland scoreless winning the game 40-20.

Coach Tony Diehl said three things decided the game, first was the Crusaders got a short field to start the game which put Goodland behind early. Second was the Cowboys gave up some yards on penalties during two of Wellington's scoring drives and third was the Crusaders team depth. Wellington was able to use non-starters on its special teams and keep fresh players in the line positions.

"This really wore on us in the fourth quarter," said Diehl. "We gave them big chunks of yardage on a few critical penalties during scoring drives and they are too good a team to give yardage to."

The Cowboys won the coin toss Saturday and elected to receive, but their luck changed quickly. Senior Malcolm White took the kickoff and returned it to the Cowboy 31yard line, where he fumbled the ball. It was recovered by Wellington.

The Crusaders then marched 21 yards in seven plays and Wellington quarterback Zane Aguilar ran 10 yards for a touchdown. With the extra point, Wellington had a 7-0 lead.

White took the ensuing kickoff to Doke scored on a 1the 38-yard line, where the Cow- yard plunge to give boys started their first offensive se- Goodland its only ries of the game. Four plays later, lead of the game, 13-



Three Cowboys gang-tackled Crusader quarterback Zane Aguilar in the fourth quar- in to help finish the play. Junior wide receiver Derrick Raymer caught a pass from ter. Making the tackle, from left to right, is junior Bret Jarmin, junior Derrick Raymer senior guarterback Jared Doke for 12 yards and a first down in the third guarter. and senior Jared Doke. Seniors Ian Scherling (No. 12) and Matt Heiter (No. 62) closed Raymer finished the game with three receptions for 53 yards. Photos by Dennis Saint

Bedore.

After an exchange of punts, the the lead 14-13. Cowboy defense held Wellington to

its second three-andout series deep in its own territory. After a short Crusader punt and a 15-yard return by junior Drew Wilkens, the Cowboys started their second scoring drive on the Wellington 24.

Eight plays later,

by senior running back Jordan Aguilar to Garret Brinkmeyer. With its own 41-yard line when the Cowthe extra point, Wellington regained

> White returned the Crusader kickoff 21 yards to the Cowboy 32. From there, Goodland drove down to the Wellington 17, where the drive stalled. A 22-yard field goal attempt by Scherling hit the left upright and the Crusaders went back on offense with firstand-10 from the 20.

boys failed to convert on fourthand-five. Wellington took over, but two plays later Wilkens intercepted had a first-and-10 on their own 17 with 54 seconds left in the half.

The Cowboys managed to drive down to the Crusader 2-yard line, but time ran out and Wellington led at halftime 20-13.

Goodland kicked to Wellington to open the second half. For the third time in the game, the Goodland defense held Wellington to a threeand-out series and forced a punt.

Starting from their own 45-yard Wellington then line, the Cowboys mounted a 55drove 80 yards in yard drive, highlighted by a 20-yard

The rest of the game belonged to passing. Both teams had one turnthe Crusaders. Wellington regained over. the lead 27-20 late in the third quarter on another pass play from Aguilan Aguilar pass and the Cowboys ar to Brinkmeyer, this time for 13 yards

> The Crusaders scored two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter, including a fourth touchdown pass for Aguilar, missing on their last extra point attempt to make the final score 40-20.

Wellington outgained Goodland 403 to 327 yards of total offense, 255 to 184 rushing and 148 to 143 were champions because of it."

Bedore led the Cowboys in rushing with 140 yards on 26 carries and one touchdown. Doke completed 9 of 20 passes for 143 yards.

Scherling had four receptions for 55 yards and Raymer three for 53.

"I am really proud of our kids this season," Diehl said. "They are a classy group who know that to be successful you have to work your tail off and be committed to the team above yourself. They did that and

senior quarterback Jared Doke ran 7. The extra point seven yards for a touchdown. Se- kick failed. nior Ian Scherling's extra point kick tied the score at seven.

plays, highlighted by a 48-yard run

The Crusaders responded with a six-play, 73-yard drive, helped missed and the score was now 20-The drive went 62 yards in three along by a Cowboy personal foul, 13. scoring on a 3-yard pass play from

nine plays, scoring on a 20-yard pass play from Aguilar rick Raymer. to Joel Farris. The extra point kick

Goodland's next drive stalled on

pass play from Doke to junior Der-

Bedore finished off the drive with a 1-yard plunge and with Scherling's extra point, the Cowboys tied the game at 20.

Northwest Kansas League

St. Francis 26, Stanton County 14

Wellington 40, Goodland 20

Smith Center 18, Oakley 0

Hoxie 52, Meade 6

area high school football

Western Kansas Liberty League

Sylvan 52, Brewster 6 Hanston 48, Weskan 0

