

The Community Page



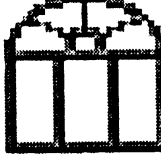
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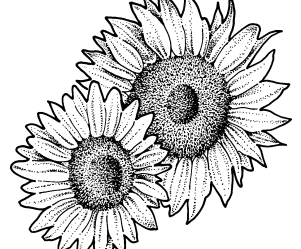
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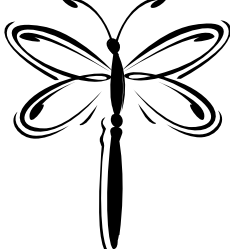


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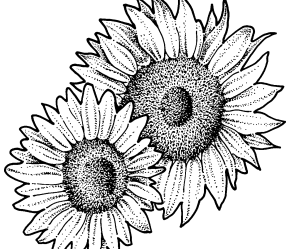


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Junior Cowboys prepare for football season



Coaches Cleve Trachsel (above left) and Ponch Avelar directed members of the Junior Cowboys fifth grade team to line up to practice a play Thursday, Aug. 23. Zach Miller (far right), a member of the sixth grade team, practiced punting. Ian Bonsall, John Peden and Gannon Ihrig, also sixth graders, practiced catching. The teams' first games will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Cowboys Stadium.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News



Fifth, sixth graders to play Sept. 8 at home

By Sharon Corcoran
slcorcoran@nwkansas.com

The Junior Cowboys fifth and sixth grade football team will kick off their season at home Saturday, Sept. 8, against Colby.

Goodland's team, part of the Western Kansas Football League, was started last year as the Young Guns. Goodland's fifth grade team was third in the tournament of champions last year, and 16 members returned to play for this year's sixth grade team; the team has 17 members. This year's fifth graders have 20 players on the team.

Coaching sixth grade are Mike Ruhs, Dusty Gastineau, Terry Taylor and Grady Bonsall. Coaching fifth are Cleve Trachsel, Cesar Miller, Ponch Avelar and John Murray.

The Junior Cowboys is a private organization, Ruhs said, and is paid for by sponsors. The parents only have to pay the league fees, he said.

The games will be on Saturdays in September and October. Goodland's fifth grade will open at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at home against Colby. The sixth grade opener will follow at 11:30 p.m. also against Colby. They will play at Cowboys Stadium.

On Sept. 15, the fifth grade will play Norton at 10 a.m. at home, and the sixth

grade will play Atwood at 11:30 p.m. at home.

On Sept. 22, the fifth grade will play at 10:30 a.m. at Felten Middle School in Hays, and the sixth grade will play at 11:30 a.m. at Decatur Community High School in Oberlin.

On Sept. 29, both teams will play at Norton, the fifth grade at 10:30 a.m. and sixth at noon.

On Oct. 6, both teams will be at home against Phillipsburg, the fifth grade at 10 a.m. and sixth at 11:30.

On Oct. 13, the fifth grade plays Colby at 10:30 a.m. at Colby High School, and the sixth grade gets a bye.

The football league was started in Hays 21 years ago and has expanded to include Goodland, Colby, Oberlin, Norton, Phillipsburg, Victoria, Hoisington, Ellsworth, Pratt, Lyons, Great Bend, Lindsborg, McPherson, Ness County, Larned, Stafford County and Rush County.

The league requires that all players who practice be allowed to play on game day. The focus of practices and games is helping youths learn sound fundamentals and enjoy themselves, the league's web site says.

The web site has team rosters and schedules available at www.wkfl.net.

Junior Cowboys Roster

Sixth grade

Brook Bahe, 93 pounds, No. 18.
Ian Bonsall, 126 pounds, No. 7.
Colton Cooper, 96 pounds, No. 12.
Tyler Gastineau, 111 pounds, No. 32.
Gage Ihrig, 99 pounds, No. 3.
Gannon Ihrig, 75 pounds, No. 26.
Zach Miller, 108 pounds, No. 20.
John Peden, 105 pounds, No. 8.
Dax Ruhs, 87 pounds, No. 22.
Conner Simpson, 100 pounds, No. 9.
Taylen Smith, 155 pounds, No. 52.
Garrett Taylor, 115 pounds, No. 44.
Aiden Crosby, 140 pounds, No. 37.
Holton Whitman, 90 pounds, No. 11.
Cody Hooker, 119 pounds, No. 10.
Austin Rains, 105 pounds, No. 47.
John Hendrich, 93 pounds, No. 82.

Fifth grade

Kyler Anthor, 88 pounds, No. 23.
Matt Murray, 134 pounds, No. 32.
James Dinkel, 74 pounds, No. 72.
Ricky Milke, 80 pounds, No. 24.
MaKayla Kennedy, 90 pounds, No. 5.
Matthew House, 93 pounds, No. 98.
Aaron Avelar, 60 pounds, No. 21.
Tanner Helton, 99 pounds, No. 11.
Jonah McClung, 106 pounds, No. 10.
Tyler Neufeld, 82 pounds, No. 28.
D.J. Glassman, 100 pounds, No. 81.
Kolt Trachsel, 86 pounds, No. 31.
Tanner Schmidt, 99 pounds, No. 7.
Gerrell Miller, 78 pounds, No. 15.
Thatcher Jones, 120 pounds, No. 1.
Coy Johnson, 71 pounds, No. 85.
Josh David, 61 pounds, No. 3.
Seth Garza, 74 pounds, No. 82.
Jonathan Stevens, 71 pounds, No. 19.



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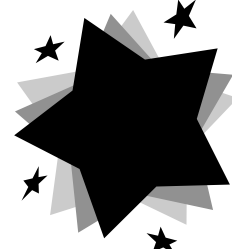
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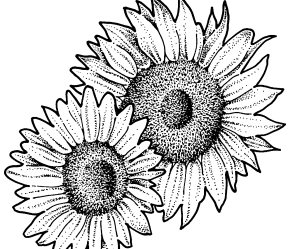
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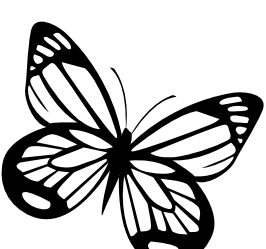
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