

Cowboys end Indians' shut-out streak

By Sharon Corcoran

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Even down 34-0, the Cowboys were able to bring drama in the last minute of Friday's game against the St. Francis Indians.

Would Goodland be the first team to score against St. Francis this year? Could they? Would they? Yes, they did, making it into the end zone with 17 seconds remaining on the clock.

The Indians still won, but they will not be the defense no one scored against, as the final score was 34-6.

"It was a real tough one," said Coach Kent Teeter, "especially the first half. We didn't start the game with confidence and it really showed.

"Their defense was really tough the first half. We didn't help ourselves either with a fumble after getting a first down and a penalty on fourth and short."

The second half was a different story, Teeter said, as Goodland's defense played a lot better, and the team generated a lot of offense.

"Even though the outcome of the game was determined," the coach said, "we did a good job of getting on the score board. We made some really nice plays.

"They are the best team that we have played so far, and we still made improvements in the second half. We are really close to becoming a good team. We need to continue to work hard and limit mistakes."

The Cowboys face the Trego Golden Eagles from WaKeeney at 6 p.m. Friday at Cowboys Stadium.

"It's going to be really nice getting to play at home again," Teeter said. "It will be an exciting game for us."

The Cowboys began the game against St. Francis minus two members of their regular starting line up due to illness, as sophomore Nathan Deeds, wide receiver and linebacker, and junior Jay Cotter, offensive line and defensive line, were both under the weather. Cotter did play part of the game, but senior Vance Johnson replaced him in the opening line up, while sophomore Kelly Pearson replaced Deeds.

The Indians won the coin toss and elected to start on defense. Sophomore Devon Garrett returned the kick, and the Cowboys started on the 32 yard line. Senior Fernando Martinez ran the first two plays for short gains, and on third and five, senior Travis Angelos threw an incomplete pass. Goodland punted.

For the Indians, quarterback Matt Raile, a junior, handed off frequently to his cousin Trent Raile, also a junior, and the combination resulted in a lot of yards. St. Francis also made liberal use of the fake,



Goodland Cowboys senior Vance Johnson (left photo) put pressure on St. Francis quarterback Matt Raile during Friday's game. The Cowboys didn't put on enough pressure, however, as the Indians won 34-6. Cowboys quarterback Travis Angelos (above) went back for a pass as another Cowboy tried to take off some St. Francis pressure.

Photos by Casey McCormick/The St. Francis Herald

leaving everyone guessing who had the ball.

Within minutes, the Indians made four first downs and gained five yards on a Goodland penalty. A holding penalty against the Indians backed them up 10 yards when they were first and goal at the nine, but Matt Raile pretended to hand the ball to sophomore Adam Guthmiller but instead gave the ball to his cousin, who ran 19 yards for the touchdown.

The two-point conversion failed, but St. Francis was up 6-0.

Senior Brandon Rome returned the kick for the Cowboys, and they started their next drive on the 20 yard line. The Cowboys got a short gain on the first down, and then Angelos ran to the 31, giving Goodland a first down. On the next play, Angelos kept the ball again, but lost two yards, putting them at second and 12.

Angelos' fake to Pearson was not as successful as St. Francis' fakes, and he only gained a yard on the quarterback keeper. The next play was a pass to freshman Riley Oharah, which got the Cowboys to fourth down and a yard and a half.

Angelos ran another quarterback keeper and had the first down, but the Indians hit him high in the arms,

knocking the ball out, and recovered the fumble.

Taking over at the Goodland 46 yard line, the Indians were backed up five yards by an illegal procedure penalty.

A quarterback keeper and a Goodland penalty got St. Francis their next first down. The Cowboys stopped them with no gain on the next play, but the Indians then gained seven yards on a hand off from Raile to Raile. At third and three, Matt Raile handed off to junior Drew Zwegardt. A holding penalty by the Indians backed them up to third and 15.

A pass to senior Jesse Pacheco got them to fourth and five at Goodland's 34. St. Francis made the first down. Two running plays got the Indians to third and six, and a fake to Guthmiller before the handoff to Zwegardt got St. Francis into the end zone. They got the two-point conversion and were up 14-0.

Rome returned the kick, and the Cowboys again had the ball at the 32. Angelos carried the ball for a couple of yards before being hit by a tribe of Indians. A pass to Rome got them to third and two. Martinez ran to within an inch of the first down. On the fourth down, a false start for Goodland backed them up five

yards, and they punted.

St. Francis immediately got a first down on a Raile to Raile handoff. Guthmiller carried for five yards and senior Trevor Hilt for four. At third and one, the Indians made the first down by an inch. On the next three drives, they took the first downs a few yards at a time.

Then Trent Raile got the touchdown on two carries. A quarterback keeper for the second-down conversion failed, but the Indians were up 20-0 with six minutes left in the half.

Garrett returned the kick, and the Cowboys had the ball at the 34 yard line. Angelos threw an incomplete pass under pressure, overthrew Rome then threw a pass off the fingertips of Pearson. Goodland punted.

St. Francis started at the 38 yard line. An illegal participation against Goodland put the Indians at first and 10 at the 47. Hilt carried twice, then Trent Raile twice. The Indians were backed up four yards, but then Zwegardt ran in for the touchdown. Trent Raile made the two point conversion, and the Indians were up 28-0.

Pearson returned the kick, and Goodland again started from the 32. Martinez gained a yard, and a pass to Rome gave Goodland three more. On third and six at the 34, Goodland fumbled, and the Indians recovered.

St. Francis chipped away at the first down and then with 38 seconds to go in the half, threw a long pass to Trent Raile, who got the touchdown. They missed the extra-point kick but went into the locker room up 34-0.

Pearson returned the kick with 22 seconds remaining in the half. Martinez carried twice, but the Cowboys ran out of time. St. Francis made 16 first downs in the half, while Goodland made only one.

Pearson returned the opening kick in the second half, running 26 yards before being knocked into the

St. Francis bench. Goodland started at the 45 yard line. Martinez was hit immediately by a tribe but powered forward for three yards.

At second and seven, a pass intended for Pearson fell incomplete. On the third down, Oharah broke a tackle to get the first down. At first and 10 at the St. Francis 38, Angelos threw an errant pass intended for Rome, then carried for five and handed the ball to Martinez, who gained two. At fourth and three, Martinez carried and ended up about two inches shy of the down, giving St. Francis the ball at their own 30 yard line.

The Indians chipped away at the first down and just made it, then made another first down in two plays. Matt Raile tried to pitch the ball to Zwegardt, but the Indians fumbled. They fell on the ball, but it squirted out, and Goodland recovered.

Oharah carried for four yards, then Angelos threw to sophomore Brock Wilkens and then Rome for the first down plus some, as Rome ran for 20 yards after catching the 20-yard pass.

On the next drive, Goodland went nowhere, then lost yards and ended up giving St. Francis the ball on downs. Trent Raile carried for a first down, then Zwegardt got nine and sophomore Cody Sherlock made the first down by inches. The Indians opened the final quarter at third and five at the 45 yard line. After no gain on the down, they punted.

Goodland got a first down on one play with a pass to Oharah. Another pass to Oharah yielded only a yard, the next play only a yard and Martinez was hit at the line of scrimmage on third down. At fourth and eight at the 50, the Cowboys went for it, and a pass to Oharah, who then broke a tackle and fell across the Indians' 24, more than made the down. On the next drive, an incomplete pass to Oharah and a loss of five on the next play put Goodland at third and

15 at the 30. A holding call against Goodland put them at third and 25. The Indians nearly intercepted, but Goodland retained the ball to attempt the fourth down.

A pass to Wilkens was caught at the 20 but then fumbled and recovered by St. Francis. The Indians made two first downs but were called for holding, putting them at first and 20 at Goodland's 37. They were backed up on the next two plays and then came up short on fourth, giving the Cowboys the ball on downs at the 45.

Martinez ran for three yards, then a pass to Rome got Goodland the first down. Then Angelos dropped a low snap and picked it up but was immediately hit by Indians. On second and 16, Wilkens broke a tackle to pull ahead for five yards before being clobbered, and the Cowboys were third and 11 with just over a minute remaining in the game.

Goodland got the first down at the 20, then on the next play, Rome tried to dive for Angelos' pass at the goal line, but it fell incomplete. The next pass to Rome moved the Cowboys up to first and goal at the nine. Rome broke tackles but was met by a tribe, and Goodland was at second and goal at the 10.

A Goodland penalty backed the Cowboys up to second and goal at the 15. A pass to Oharah gained Goodland 10 yards. At third and goal at the five, an incomplete pass to Rome left the Cowboys at fourth and goal. On the next pass, though, Rome got the touchdown. The extra point failed, but Goodland was on the scoreboard.

The Indians returned the onside kick and then their quarterback took a knee to end the game.

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School calendar for September 24-September 30

Wednesday-Black Day
Academic Awards Assembly
Thursday-Gold Day
12 p.m. Girls Varsity Tennis at Russell High School
3 p.m. Girls Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman Volleyball, Goodland Volleyball Quad
4 p.m. Boys/Girls Varsity, Junior Varsity Cross Country at Ogallala
Friday-Black Day
6 p.m. Boys Varsity Football vs. Trego Community High School
Saturday- Flatlander Festival, Car Rally at Central School
7 a.m. Girls Varsity Tennis at Garden City High School
8 a.m. Girls Freshman Volleyball, Oberlin Tournament
9:30 a.m. Goodland Youth Football Club game, 5th grade
11 a.m. Goodland Youth Football Club game, 6th grade

29-NO SCHOOL
Teacher Professional Day
5 p.m. Boys Junior Varsity Football at Norton Community High
Tuesday-Gold Day
West School Picture Day
Family Career and Community Leaders of America State Officer & SLC Meeting, Hesston
9 a.m. Girls Varsity Golf at Ulysses High School
3 p.m. Girls Varsity Tennis, Colby Tennis Tournament
3 p.m. 7/8 Football at Garden City
4 p.m. Boys/Girls Varsity, Junior Varsity Cross Country, Oberlin Cross Country Meet
4:30 p.m. Varsity/Junior Varsity/Freshman Volleyball (H) vs. Oberlin
4:30 p.m. Girls Varsity/Junior Varsity/Freshman Volleyball vs. Dundy County High School



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