

# Huge plays + massive yards = 35-24 win

By Sharon Corcoran

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It was a heart-stopping, jaw-dropping game as the Goodland High School Cowboys used huge plays and a lot of offensive yards to out-pace the Rawlins County Buffaloes Friday in Atwood.

Rawlins County got the first score, but Goodland was not to be outdone, and senior quarterback Travis Angelos used big plays to fuel drives and get the Cowboys on the scoreboard. Goodland won 35-24 after a back and forth war of momentum with the Buffaloes that ended with an interception.

Angelos ran for 215 yards and passed for 137. Senior Fernando Martinez ran for 159 yards. Senior Brandon Rome had 342 yards as a receiver, and freshman Riley Oharah had 118, sophomore Brock Wilkens 116, Martinez 54, sophomore Kelly Pearson 36 and sophomore Nathan Deeds 34.

"Without a doubt, the win was awesome," said Coach Kent Teeter. "We really had to work for it, which makes us a better team. Each time they scored, we responded quickly to get a score ourselves. I thought it was a really hard-fought game by both teams. It was a really fun game."

"I am very pleased with our offense. Atwood's defensive game plan was to not give up any big plays in the passing game, and our offense adjusted to running the ball more this week. Our offensive line did a great job of opening up some big holes, and Travis and Fernando had some big runs."

"We gave them some offensive formations that they hadn't seen on film yet, which really helped in the running game. Our offense has a ton of options, and we are still working on getting better at what we have in and are slowing adding some things each week."

"Our execution is also getting better each week. We also don't know how teams will play us defensively, so we won't know from game to game if they are trying to take away the passing game or the running game."

Defensively, the Cowboys didn't play as well as last week, Teeter said; Atwood gave them more things to defend, and that gave the guys some problems.

"We didn't always have players where they needed to be based on their blocking assignments," he said. "We didn't always tackle real well either at times."

Special Teams were not as good either this week, the coach said; Goodland didn't have as good of returns as usual and didn't cover kickoffs as well either. Atwood won the field position battle in the kick-



Senior quarterback Travis Angelos scrambled for some yards on a play against the Colby Eagles Friday, Sept. 12. He ran for 215 yards

and passed for 137 Friday against the Rawlins County Buffaloes. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

ing game, he added. "I was pleased with Simon making the point after our first touchdown," Teeter said. "We got the next one blocked, which hurt, but did a good job of getting a couple of two-point conversions after our next scores."

The Buffaloes wanted to win their homecoming game and scored on their first drive, but the Cowboys were not to be outdone. The Buffaloes took four plays to get into the end zone, even being at 4th and 1 at one point, and then had an unsuccessful two-point conversion attempt.

On Goodland's first possession, with Rawlins County up 6-0, Angelos ran for 71 yards to the Buffaloes 10-yard line. On the next play, an errant snap almost went over Angelos' head, but he got his hands on the ball and ran for the touchdown. Senior Simon Grunfeld kicked the extra point, putting Goodland ahead 7-6.

On the kick return, the Buffaloes ran back to the Cowboys 45 yard line. Rawlins County quarterback Kevin Wolters handed off to James Remley for a short gain and then to Drew Basgall, who was stopped at the line of scrimmage. Then Wolters was hit behind the line and fumbled. The Cowboys recovered.

Angelos threw an incomplete pass, handed off to Martinez for a 1-yard gain and handed off to Oharah. Goodland got a penalty on the play that backed them up to third and 15, and on the next play, Atwood's Greg Solko knocked the ball loose, and the Buffaloes recovered.

Basgall was stopped behind the line of scrimmage on the first down, then the Buffaloes gained 9 yards

on a pass, but at third and 2, the Buffaloes got an illegal procedure penalty. They didn't quite make the 7 yards needed, and at fourth and 1, Cowboys senior Keegan Smith broke up the play, and Goodland took over on downs.

The Cowboys fought their way from their own 40 yard line to the Atwood 49 and then were helped by an Atwood penalty to get to first and 5 at the Buffaloes 44. Atwood's Elijah Kastens intercepted, but both teams were called for off-setting penalties, and the down was replayed.

Angelos ran to the Atwood 34 for the first down, then Martinez ran for 5, and on the next play, Angelos delayed his handoff to Martinez and saw an opening and ran for the touchdown. The extra point was blocked, but Goodland was up 13-6.

Wolters returned the kick to give the Buffaloes good field position at their own 32. The Buffaloes gained 4 yards on the first down, Basgall was nailed behind the line of scrimmage on the second and fumbled. It was recovered by the Buffaloes and they were at third and 7 as the first quarter ended.

A big run got them into Cowboy territory, but Rome stopped the Buffaloes before they could get to the end zone. On the first down, Basgall ran to within an inch of the goal line. At second and an inch, Goodland was called off-sides, and the Buffaloes were given half the distance to the goal line, making it second and a half inch.

Wolters handed off to Basgall, who got the touchdown. Martinez tackled Basgall for a loss on the two-point attempt, and the Cowboys maintained the lead, though it was cut to 13-12.

Pearson returned the kick and then runs by Martinez and Rome got the Cowboys to fourth and 1. Angelos tried to draw the Buffaloes off-sides; he failed in that but was able to run five yards for the first down.

The Cowboys fumbled on the next play, though, and Atwood recovered. A pass to Marcus Cahoj and hand-offs to Remley and Jayce Cook got the Buffaloes the first down. Hand-offs to Basgall and Gremley got Atwood to first and goal at the 5. A hand-off to Cook got the touchdown and Atwood's only lead at 18-13. Goodland intercepted the two-point pass attempt.

Smith returned the kick, and a Goodland penalty put the Cowboys at first and 15 at their own 5. A pass to Rome got them to second and 2, and Angelos ran for the first down. Martinez ran for a 79-yard touchdown on the next play, and Goodland was up 19-18. They missed the two-point conversion and after an unsuccessful drive for Atwood and running out of time on their own drive, the Cowboys went into half-time with a one-point lead.

The Cowboys had the first possession of the third quarter and didn't waste it. Starting from their own 35, Martinez ran for 3, then Angelos faked a pass and ran for the first down, breaking a tackle.

Angelos threw a pass to Martinez, but he was hit immediately, then Angelos ran, but a penalty put Goodland at third and nine. Martinez made a long run into Atwood

territory, Angelos ran for 6 yards and a personal foul by Atwood put the Cowboys inside the red zone. Martinez ran for 7, Angelos was tackled for a loss and Angelos ran to within inches of the goal line.

At fourth and inches, Angelos ran and lunged for the first down. At first and goal at the 1, he ran for the touchdown, putting Goodland up 25-18. Grunfeld missed the extra point, but a personal foul against Atwood set up a successful two-point conversion, and Goodland was up 27-18, and the drive had eaten up nearly half of the third quarter.

Basgall fumbled on the first down, and Goodland recovered. The Cowboys didn't get far before an illegal procedure penalty forced them to punt. The Buffaloes didn't get far either and soon punted back to Goodland.

The Cowboys were three up, three down, however, and punted again. Basgall ran for eight, then at second and 2 at their own 48, Atwood had a short loss and a penalty for offensive holding backed them up to second and 17. Basgall ran, then Remley for the first down.

Cook carried twice and lunged forward to get the first down inside the Goodland 29. Remley ran for

three yards with two Cowboys on his back, then Basgall ran until being knocked out of bounds at the 15.

The Buffaloes got to first and goal, and Wolters ran for the touchdown. Basgall fumbled on the two-point attempt, and Goodland recovered, but the Cowboys' lead had been cut to 27-24.

Passes to Pearson and Martinez got the Cowboys a first down, but a penalty brought the play back, and they were at third and 10 at their own 35. Sophomore Nathan Deeds ran but not enough for the first down, and Goodland punted.

The Cowboys defense shut down the Buffaloes and took over on downs. Angelos ran for three yards, drew Atwood off-sides for five more and then at second and 2, Martinez ran for the first down and then some, ending up inside the red zone. A Goodland penalty brought them back to second and 12 with just over two minutes remaining in the game.

At third and six, Martinez ran and lunged forward for the first down, refusing to be taken down. The measurement showed he made it.

With a minute and a half on the clock, Martinez ran down the sideline for the touch down, then took the hand-off and lunged forward for the two-point conversion, putting Goodland up 35-24 with under a minute remaining. Rome intercepted a Wolters pass with about 30 seconds remaining, sealing the win.

"Even though we didn't play perfect, we played really hard," Teeter said. "Our effort was great and our execution and enthusiasm decent. It's really nice to play a game like that and walk away with a win. We couldn't have done that a few weeks ago, which shows how much we are improving."

"Atwood is coached really well, and we had a hard time stopping everything they did. I really have a lot of respect for what they are doing."

"We are still a team that can still improve, and it's really exciting to see how things are starting to come into place. If we are willing to continue to work hard and learn, we will continue to show improvement."

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## School calendar for October 8-October 14

**Wednesday-Gold Day**  
High School Gifted Seminar at Oakley  
Family, Career and Community Leaders of America District A Fall Leadership Academy at Hoxie  
4 P.M.-Central Site Council

**Thursday-Black Day**  
Girls Varsity Tennis, Regionals  
Children's Theatre Afternoon Performance for K-6 at Max Jones Field House  
12 P.M.-Girls Varsity Golf at Syracuse  
3:30 P.M.-7/8 Volleyball at Oberlin  
3:30 P.M.-7th football (home) versus St. Francis  
4:30 P.M.-8th grade football at Oberlin  
6 P.M.-Parent's football team meal

**Friday-Gold Day; North School Picture Day**  
6 P.M.-Homecoming, Varsity Football (here) versus Oberlin  
9 P.M.-Homecoming Dance

**Saturday-Girls Sub-State Tennis**  
8 A.M.-Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball at Hays High School  
8 A.M.-Girls 9/C team Volleyball at Hays High School  
9 A.M.-Boys/Girls Varsity Cross Country at Lakin High School  
11 A.M.-Goodland Youth Football club game (6th grade)

**Monday-Black Day**  
Girls Varsity Golf, Regionals  
Board of Education Meeting  
West School Pie Sales end  
3 P.M.-Senior Classmeeting at High School Cafeteria  
4:30 P.M.-Boys Junior Varsity Football at Oakley High School

**Tuesday-Gold Day**  
3:30 P.M.-Girls Varsity, Junior Varsity and C-team Volleyball at Oakley Triangular

**5:30 P.M.-West Site Council**

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