

# Season begins this week

By Sharon Corcoran

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The Cowboys basketball team is preparing to dribble, pass and slam their way through a busy season 27 members strong with three returning starters, all-league players, and four returning seniors.

Seniors Brandon Rome and Greg Farris were all-league last season, senior Travis Angelos was all-league in football and senior Adam Duell returns as well. They are a good nucleus, said Coach Brad Bergsma.

Juniors Kevin Amthor and Landon Brenner are returning, Bergsma said, along with a solid sophomore class of nine, which includes Brock Wilkens and David Murray, who played in about half of last season's games, earning letters in their freshman season.

Sophomores Garth Helton and Dillon Trachsel are also expected to be major factors this year, the coach said, adding that he hasn't filled out the complete varsity roster for the Topside Tip-off yet.

The team also has a solid freshman class, Bergsma said, with nine joining the team. Some will be able to contribute at the varsity level, he added.

The coach said he's excited about the season and will be changing some things. Goodland doesn't have a traditional post player, he said, like you see at many area schools but will instead work with a guard-oriented offense.

That will be new to these guys, he said, and there will be some growing pains. With the Cowboys competing in Class 3A this year, Bergsma said, Holcomb will be the team to beat. They only graduated one player from last year's team that finished third at state, he said, but they are beatable.

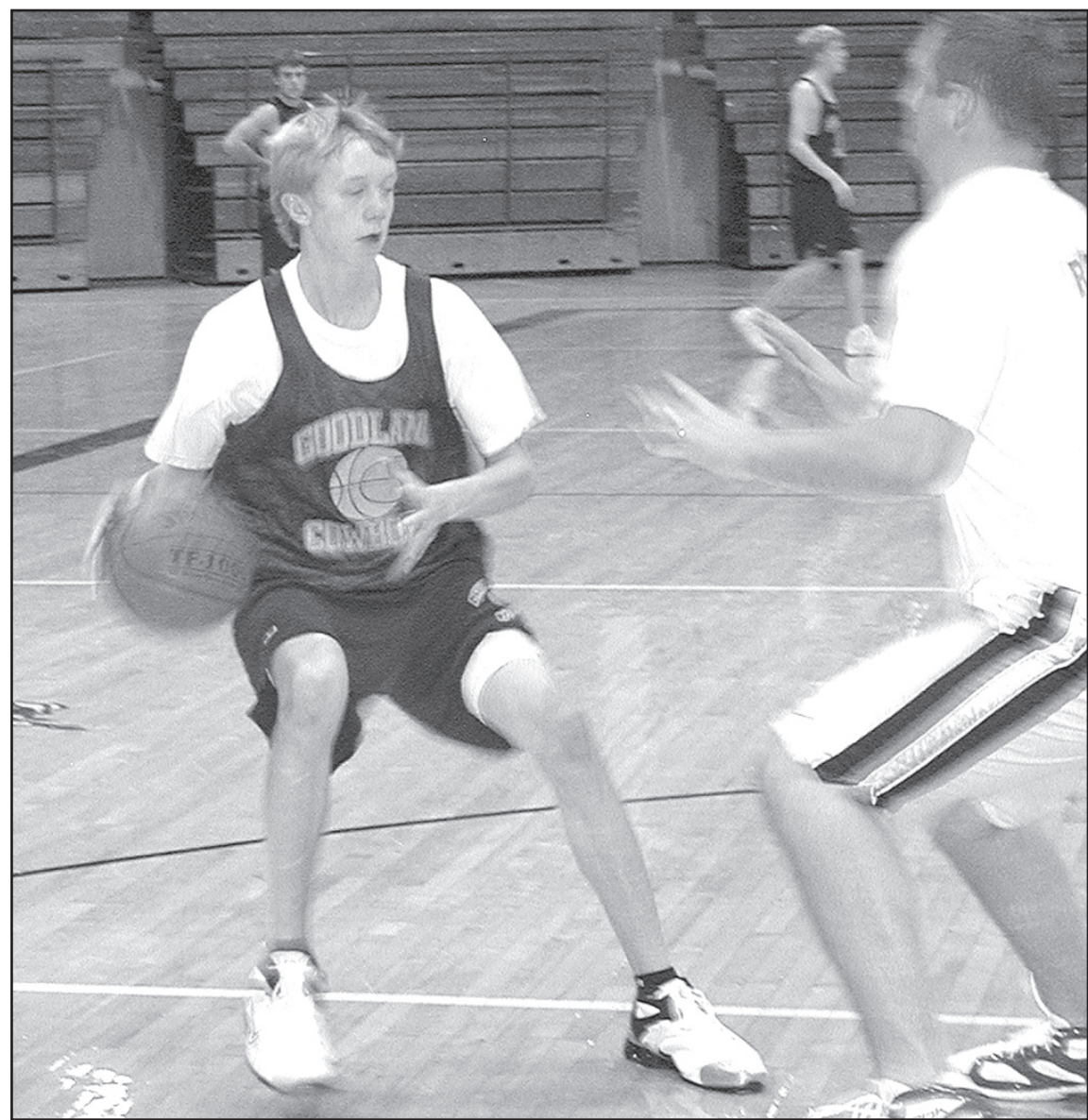
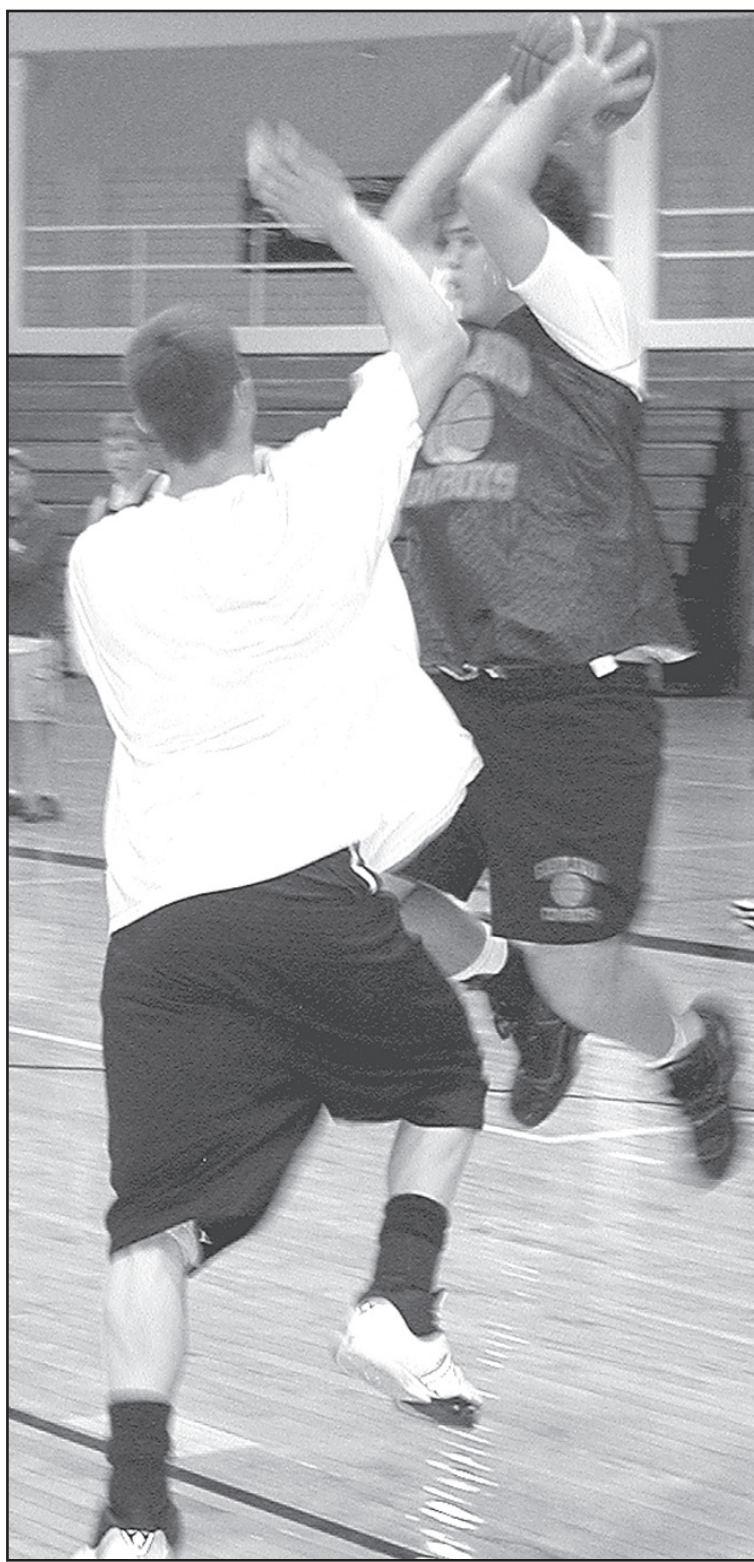
"Someone will have a good night to beat Holcomb," he said. "I think we're capable of that."

The Cowboys are not a small team, Bergsma said, with 11 players 6' and over.

"With the age of the team," he said, "we can expect to have some turnovers, but we have some athletic kids and will do things offensively and defensively to work with their abilities."

The team has had a few early-season injuries, he said, pulls and twisted ankles, but is mostly healthy.

The Cowboys open the season Thursday at home against Ulysses, C-team at 3:45, junior varsity at 5:30



Senior Travis Angelos (left photo) leapt high for a shot Friday in practice. Freshman Reed Bellamy (above) dribbled with Coach Donald Raymer playing defense. Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland

and varsity at 7 p.m. "We beat Ulysses 37-27 last year in the opening round of sub-state," Bergsma said, "and they graduated their two best players who were responsible for 21 of the 27 points. "It will be a good test for us at home. We can get the young guys on the floor and get the nerves worked out."

On Friday, the team travels to Imperial, Neb., to face the Chase County Longhorns. They're an older, more experienced team, Bergsma said, with a 6'9" player who gave Goodland some trouble last year.

"But it's a game we can win," he said. "There's no one on our schedule who is way better than we are. We have a chance in all our games."

The Cowboys have been tremendous in practice, the coach said; they've all worked hard and have great attitudes. Football coach Kent Teeter's work with the athletes in the weight room is carrying over to

Sophomores Hazen Deeds, 5'8"; Michael Pettibone, 5'10"; Stephen Buller, 5'8"; Garth Helton, 6'; Trachsel, 5'8"; Devon Garrett, 5'10"; Murray, 6'2"; Wilkens, 6'3"; and Bryan Guyer, 6'3", and fresh-

men Reed Bellamy, 6'1", and Ryan Bellamy; Hillmer; Blaine Luther, 6'1"; Joel Linin, 6'; Kalyn Weber, 5'10"; Parker Sieck, 6'2"; and Cody Sanford, 5'11".

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## School calendar for December 3-December 9

**Wednesday-Black Day**  
Elementary Black Day  
FCCLA State Officer and SLC Meeting in Hesston  
7 p.m.-Adult Co-ed Volleyball

**Thursday-Gold Day**  
3 PM-High School Scholar's Bowl at Atwood  
3:30 PM-7th/8th basketball (here) versus Oberlin  
3:45 PM-Boys C/9th basketball (here) versus Ulysses High School  
5:30 PM-Boys/Girls Junior Varsity Basketball versus Ulysses High School  
5:30 PM-Boys Varsity/Junior Varsity wrestling at Hoxie High School  
7 PM-Boys/Girls Varsity Basketball (here) versus Ulysses High School

**Friday-Black Day**  
5:30 PM-Boys/Girls Junior Varsity Basketball at Chase County Schools  
7 PM-Boys/Girls Varsity Basketball at Chase County Schools

**Saturday-8:30 AM-Boys Varsity Wrestling at St. Francis**  
9 AM-Boys Junior Varsity Wrestling (here)

**Monday-Gold Day**  
Board of Education Meeting  
3 PM-Boys/Girls Varsity Scholar's Bowl at Colby High School  
3 PM-Junior High Scholar's Bowl at Atwood

**Tuesday-Black Day**  
3 PM-Kansas Communities That Care Survey  
7 PM-5th/6th grade Band Concert

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