

Cowgirls prepare for basketball season

By Sharon Corcoran

slcorcoran@nwkansas.com
Being stuck on the bench will not be a concern of members of the Goodland Cowgirls basketball team this year, but if illness or injuries should strike, putting a full team on the court might be.

The Cowgirls start the season with only 14 members and will be working to gain experience and depth. Coach Don Smith hopes the team won't be judged on the early season but that fans will be patient and give support to help boost the girls' success as the season progresses.

The team is trying to fill holes from experience, he said; it takes time to gain experience and depth. The Cowgirls started last season with an inexperienced team, he said, and gained experience as the season went on, but unfortunately, some of last year's players chose not to join this year.

"I hope we're not judged by what happens in December," he said. "By January, we'll see what kind of progress we've made."

The Cowgirls open the season at home Thursday (Dec. 4) against Ulysses. The games begin at 3:45. The boys and girls varsity and junior varsity will play and the boys C-team. The girls won't have a C-team this year, Smith said; there aren't enough out to field three teams.

The coach said he is happy to have sophomore Jade Herl join the team after she missed the volleyball season due to surgery. She joined the team Monday for the first time, Smith said, and it will take time to be sure she is really back.

The coach said he's happy to have seven freshmen out, but it will take time for them to be ready for high school basketball. It's a change in pace from junior high, he said, and they were overwhelmed this week.

"But we're pleased they will be able to jump right in," he said, "and get some junior varsity experience, maybe some varsity experience."

The early games will be a tough test, Smith said. The Cowgirls played much better toward the end of last season, he said, but were disappointed to not play well in the first game of sub-state, losing 62-38 to the Kingman Lady Eagles.

Goodland will open against Ulysses, the coach said, who will be tough competition and a tall team. The Cowgirls are not a tall team, he said, adding that Goodland hasn't



Freshman Sydney Winston passed the ball under pressure from freshman Jakalyn Van Allen in practice last week. Sophomore Jennifer Rome was ready to get in on the play.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

had a tall girls' team since he can remember.

There will be some trouble with positions, he said, since the girls don't have a lot of size inside. A lot of girls who have been perimeter players are going to have to learn to be inside players, he said.

For the Topside Tip-off, the girls' bracket is loaded, Smith said; it will be a good tournament. The Cowgirls will open against Ottawa. Also in the tournament will be Wray and Burlington, Colo., McCook, Neb., Weskan, Norton and Wallace County (Sharon Springs).

The girls have been learning in practice, he said, and it's a little

frightening how soon Dec. 4 will get here. A lot of schools are probably in the same position, though, he said; it's hard to look sharp in the first week of practice.

In basketball, he said, you can't stop and think about what to do — you need to do it naturally. Goodland is not at that point yet, he said.

"I am pleased with the ones who came out," he said, "and I think all the girls will get to play; some will probably be on the court more than they want to be."

The team appreciates the support they get from the community, he said, adding that he would like to see more support from the student

Soap scrimmages tonight

The Cowboys and Cowgirls basketball teams will have their annual Soap Scrimmage tonight at the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The Cowgirls will begin at 6

p.m., and the Cowboys will follow, beginning between 6:30 and 7 p.m.

The teams will open the season at home Thursday in the fieldhouse

against the Ulysses Tigers. The boys C-team will play at 3:45, the varsity girls and junior varsity boys at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity boys and junior varsity girls about 7 p.m.

Cowboys, Cowgirls prepare for full basketball schedule

The Cowboys and Cowgirls basketball teams open the season at home against Ulysses Thursday. The C-team games will start at 3:45 p.m., girls varsity and boys junior varsity follow about 5:30 and boys varsity and girls junior varsity about 7 p.m.

The rest of the schedule will be: **Friday, Dec. 5:** Chase County, Neb., on the road, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls.

Thursday, Dec. 11-Saturday, Dec. 13: Topside Tip-off at Max Jones Fieldhouse, varsity boys and girls.

Monday, Dec. 15: Goodland junior varsity tournament, boys and girls.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: at Hays High varsity and junior varsity boys and girls and C-team boys.

Thursday, Dec. 18: Goodland junior varsity tournament, boys and girls.

Monday, Dec. 22: at home vs. Scott City, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls, C-team boys.

Tuesday, Dec. 23-Saturday, Dec. 27: No sports practices or games.

Thursday, Jan. 8: at home vs. Syracuse Christian, C-team boys.

Friday, Jan. 9: at Lakin, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls, C-team boys.

Tuesday, Jan. 13: at home vs. Quinter, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls, C-team boys.

Friday, Jan. 16: at Atwood, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls, C-team boys.

Monday, Jan. 19: at home against Syracuse Christian, C-team boys.

Thursday, Jan. 22-Saturday, Jan. 24: Orange and Black Classic in Colby, varsity boys and girls.

Tuesday, Jan. 27: at Norton, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls.

Thursday, Jan. 29: 5:30 p.m. at Cheylin (Bird City) C-team boys.

Friday, Jan. 30: vs. Oberlin at home, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls, C-team boys.

Monday, Feb. 2: junior varsity

boys and girls at the Colby JV tournament.

Tuesday, Feb. 3: at Burlington, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls and C-team boys.

Thursday, Feb. 5: junior varsity boys and girls at the Colby JV tournament.

Friday, Feb. 6: vs. St. Francis at home, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls and C-team boys.

Monday, Feb. 9: C-team boys vs. Cheylin junior varsity team 6 p.m. at home.

Friday, Feb. 13: at Oakley, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls.

Tuesday, Feb. 17: vs. Colby at home, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls and C-team boys.

Friday, Feb. 20: vs. Hoxie at home, varsity and junior varsity boys and girls.

Monday-Saturday, March 2-7: Sub-state tournament.

Wednesday-Saturday, March 11-14: State tournament.

State football championships finished Saturday

The high school state football championships for Classes 2-1A through 6A concluded Saturday.

Eight of Goodland's nine opponents this year went to the playoffs, three advanced to the second round and one to the third round, but none of the Cowboys' opponents remained for the state championships.

Scott City, who beat Goodland in the first week of district play, beat Holcomb in the first round of Class 3A playoffs. The Beavers beat Lyons in the second round but lost to Garden Plain in the third.

Also in Class 3A, Norton beat Lakin in the first round. The Blue Jays lost to Beloit in the second round. Beloit lost to Conway Springs in the third and Conway Springs beat Garden Plain in the fourth. Conway Springs beat Silver

Lake 22-14 Saturday for the state title.

Colby, who beat Goodland in week two, lost to Andale in the first round of Class 4A playoffs. Andale beat Wellington in the second round and beat St. George-Rock Creek in the third but lost to Topeka-Hayden in the fourth. Topeka-Hayden beat Perry-Lecompton 42-21 for the state title.

The Oakley Plainsmen, who beat Goodland in their first game of the season, beat Atwood, who lost to Goodland, in the first round of the Class 2-1A playoffs. Oakley lost to Meade in the second round. Meade beat Ellis in the third round.

Also in Class 2-1A, Smith Center beat Trego Community (W-Keeney), who lost to Goodland. Smith Center beat Salina Sacred Heart in the second round and beat

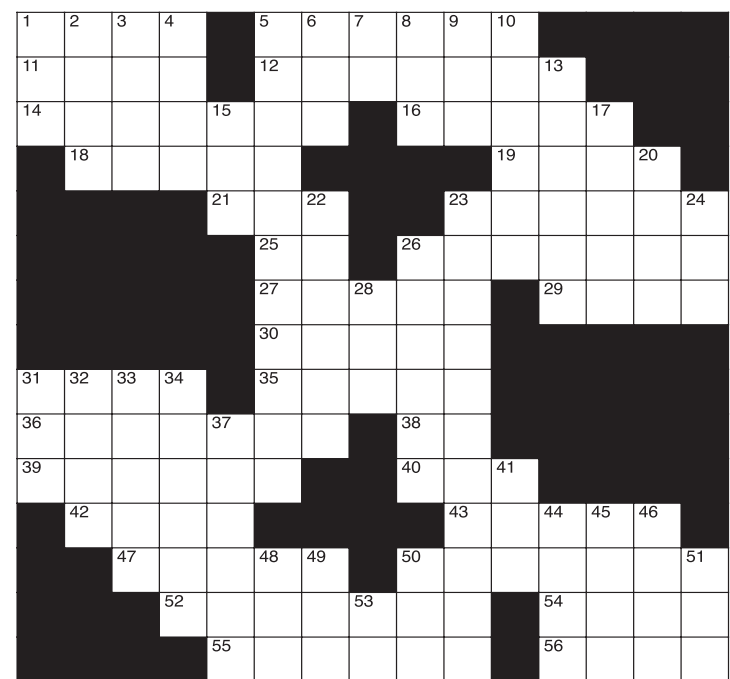
LaCrosse in the third round and Meade in the fourth, continuing their fifth consecutive undefeated season.

St. Francis, who beat Goodland in week three, beat Oberlin, who lost to Goodland at homecoming, in the first round of Class 2-1A playoffs. St. Francis lost to LaCrosse, who lost to Smith Center.

Smith Center beat Olpe 48-19 for the state title.

In Class 5A, St. Thomas Aquinas faced Hutchinson at Emporia, and Hutchinson won 38-0 for the title. In Class 6A, Lawrence-Free State faced Junction City at Topeka. Junction City won 19-14.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Peer of the highest rank
5. So. Am. camel relations
11. In a short time
12. Modernized
14. Picket fences
16. Nacred gem
18. _____nified: foolish
19. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
21. Political action committee
23. Roam aimlessly
25. Peach state (abbr.)
26. Walls covered with wood
27. Pismire
29. Lowest feudal class
30. End
31. Mama Mia group
35. Change or modify
36. Mountain lions
38. Atomic #22
39. Sharp verbal reply
40. Autonomic nervous system
42. Fiddled while Rome burned
43. Computer oddballs
47. Latin ballroom dance
50. Gum arabics
52. Tissue cancer
54. One of the suits
55. A native of the island of Samoa
56. Young woman (French)

CLUES DOWN

3. Cologne
4. _____ Blyton, children's author
5. Airport conveyance
6. Lasting records
7. A public promotion
8. A diagrammatic representation
9. Dined
10. Mariner
13. Male bees
15. Lightly bite
17. Punch or soup server
20. Brewed beverage
22. Even-toed ungulates
23. Spouted garden container
24. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
26. Former Spanish coin
28. Pad at the door
31. Air Control Radar
32. Terminator psychologist actor Earl
33. Attri_____: qualities
34. Greek marketplaces
37. Odors
41. Large body of water
44. Electronic counter-counter-measures
45. Cause to die
46. First king of Israel
48. Women's undergarment
49. Assoc. for Computing Machinery
50. Doctors' group
51. Point one point E of due S
53. Bond's agent status

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