

# Scott City advances in 3A; Cowboys look back

**By Tom Betz**  
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The Scott City Beavers ended the Goodland Cowboys season on Tuesday, and Saturday the Beavers defeated Smith Center 39-20 to advance in the Class 3A state football playoffs.

Saturday the Beavers will travel to Conway Springs for the next game. Conway Springs defeated Sedgwick 55-13 to advance.

In other 3A playoff action Phillipsburg lost to Beloit, 48-7. Beloit will play Garden Plain on Saturday.

The state Class 3A championship game will be played at noon Mountain Standard Time on Saturday, Nov. 26, at Gowan Stadium, Hutchinson.

Coach Kent Teeter had some thoughts on the Cowboys season and the final game with Scott City.

"I thought we started the game well," he said. "Yes, after the second score by Scott City it went downhill. It was good to see us score in the third quarter.

"Dax Ruhs had a really good second half of the season."

Teeter said Dallas DeLaRosa's injury in the Scott City game was pretty bad. He said DeLaRosa tore his ACL, MCL, PSL and one of his quad muscles.

Looking at the season Coach Teeter said the Cowboys schedule was rated the toughest of all the Class 3A teams.

"We knew coming in our league was really tough, and if we could compete in our league we would have a chance to make the playoffs again," he said. "It was disappointing we didn't win the district."

Dax Ruhs finished the season as the Cowboys leading rusher with 878 yards on 148 carries for an average of 5.93 per carry and 87.8 yards per game. His longest was the 94 yard touchdown run against Thomas More Prep. He had four games over 100 yards rushing with 182 against Colby, 116 against Phillipsburg, 251 against Thomas More Prep and 104 in the Scott City playoff game.

Ruhs caught three passes for 17 yards with his longest being 14 yards. Ruhs had one interception and returned it for 27 yards. He had 19 kickoff returns for 406 yards and his longest was 70 yards. He scored a total of 62 points on 10 touchdowns and a two-point conversion. Ruhs completed the only pass he



Cowboy Dax Ruhs was the team leading rusher with 878 yards. He had four games with over 100 yards rushing, and had a career high 251 yards against Thomas More Prep. His longest run was 94 yards for a touchdown against Thomas More Prep. Ruhs was injured early in the Norton game, but came back the next week.

Photo by Dick Boyd/The Norton Telegram

threw for 20 yards Ryan Hillmer for a first down in the Colby game.

Garrett Taylor, who was injured in the Lakin game, had 273 yards rushing on 73 carries and rushed for 108 yards against Lakin.

Reed Bellamy and Cy Paxton each had 267 yards rushing with Bellamy carrying 64 times and Paxton carrying 43 times. Bellamy's longest run was 58 yards against Colby. Bellamy had two rushing touchdowns with one for 20 yards against Lakin and one for 41 yards against Phillipsburg. Bellamy completed 58 of 128 passes for 1,007 yards and 53 percent completion rate. He threw six touchdowns and had 11 interceptions. His longest pass was for 62 yards.

Paxton came in early in the Norton game and ran for 150 yards on 24 carries. He had two rushing touchdowns in the Norton game

with the longest run 42 yards, and two rushing touchdowns in the Thomas More Prep game with the longest for 36 yards.

Riley Oharah, who was the main blocking back for Taylor, Ruhs and Paxton, carried 53 times for 152 yards scoring two touchdowns on the ground and two receiving against Holcomb with the longest being 51 yards. Oharah caught 11 passes for 244 yards.

Hillmer carried five times for 12 yards and one touchdown. He caught 22 passes for 321 yards and one touchdown on a 62 yard play against Hugoton. Hillmer had seven punt returns for 163 yards and his longest was 65 yards against Thomas More Prep. He scored 20 points on three touchdowns and a two-point conversion.

Austin Avelar had 10 receptions for 211 yards. He recovered two

fumbles. He kicked off 36 times for 1,265 yards the longest was 50 yards. Avelar returned 19 kickoffs for 375 yards for an average of 19.74 per return, and his longest was 55 yards in the first Scott City game. He scored 33 points making 15 points after and five field goals plus three conversion points.

Blaine Luther had six catches for 162 yards and one touchdown for 55 yards against Phillipsburg. He had one kickoff return for 10 yards in the Scott City playoff game.

Taylen Smith had seven catches for 62 yards and one touchdown on a 31-yard catch in the Hugoton game.

On the defensive side Oharah was the leading tackler with 94 total credited with 32 tackles and 62 assists. Sloan Ruhs had 73 tackles with 17 solo and 56 assists. Avelar had 70 tackles with 32 solo and 38 assists. Tyler Gastineau had 59 tackles with 17 solo and 42 assists. Hillmer had 58 with 16 solo and 42 assists. DeLaRosa and Dax Ruhs each had 51 with Dax Ruhs getting 35 solo and 16 assists while DeLaRosa had 12 solo and 39 assists. Jason Cowan had 46 with 12 solo and 34 assists. Gage Ihrig had 44 with eight solo and 36 assists. Laine Herl had 42 with 12 solo and 30 assists.

Herl had one carry for four yards at the end of the Thomas More Prep game.

The offensive line gets much of the credit for the running game the Cowboys had including Sloan Ruhs, Jason Cowan, Dallas DeLaRosa, Tyler Fisher and Gunner Helton.

Coach Teeter said winning the Colby game at Colby was big as was winning the game against Norton at Norton.

"Winning the Thomas More Prep game to make the playoffs was big as well," he said. "It's good to make the playoffs two years in a row, and now the next step is to win some games in the playoffs."

Next year the Cowboys will move back up to the Class 4A level, and Coach Teeter said he did no fee that would make a lot of difference.

"Going to 4A won't change a lot

for our regular schedule," he said. "Competing in the league stays the same. Our district will be Concordia, Clay Center and Colby.

"It will put a little more meaning in the Colby game next year. One of our regular scheduled games will be against Burlington, Colo. That will be a fun rivalry again."

Teeter said the Cowboys had a

really good senior class.

"For me it's been neat seeing them mature from their freshman year to now," he said. "They have had some nice season's. We have a good group of juniors, sophomores, and freshmen returning."

The Cowboys finished the season with a 5-5 record.

## Goodland girl to play in Northwest All-Star Volleyball Classic

Rosters for the fifth Annual Northwest Kansas All-Star Volleyball Classic have been announced by Colby Community College, and will include one senior from Goodland.

The All-Star games featuring high school senior volleyball players will be held beginning at 1 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on Sunday in the Colby Community Building.

Playing on Team No. 1 is Cowgirl M'Lynn Hinger.

The games begin with Team No. 2 playing Team No. 4 at 1 p.m. Team No. 1 plays Team No. 3 at 2 p.m.

The loser of Match No. 1 and Match No. 2 will play at 3:30 p.m. The winner of Match No. 1 and Match No. 2 will play for the championship at 5 p.m.

All matches will be held at the Community Building.

Cowgirl senior M'Lynn Hinger will be on Team No. 1 including Samara Rehfeld (Weskan), Kelli Rourke (Russell), Mackenzie Mense (Hoxie), Molly Schlercher (Stockton), Jenna Lang (Thomas More Prep, Hays), Ashlyn Thibault (Osborne), Jori Mote (Weskan), Kylie Stoecklein (Ness City), and Hayley Pletcher

(Wallace County).

Team No. 2 includes Haley Dinkel (Hill City), Kaitlin Figgins (St. Francis), Megan Heier (Wheatland/Grinnell), Tangie Hileman (Smith Center), Madison Orr (Phillipsburg), Allison Seib (Ness City), Jade Kruse (Heartland Christian, Colby), Mallorie Thibault (Osborne), Kellie Young (Weskan), Michaela Bienhoff (Thunder Ridge), and Emilie Taylor (Thomas Moore Prep, Hays).

Team No. 3 includes Alicia Barnett (Healy), Michaela Sasse (Smith Center), Erin Terrell (Norton), Kiah Blau (Decatur Community), Raegan Vanderplas (Phillipsburg), Kelsey Atchison (Thunder Ridge), Ashleigh Seib (Ness City), Shelby Heim (Hoxie), Brooke Hemmert (Oakley), and Haley Dix (Stockton).

Team No. 4 includes Carrie Pilkington (Oakley), Kelsey Keith (Hill City), Victoria Fuller (Smith Center), Kenzie Stoecklein (Ness City), Lauren Kuykendall (Weskan), Abbey Wolters (Rawlins County), Mackenzie Weiser (Oakley), Haley Thompson (Phillipsburg), Prairee Marlrier (Lakeside), Casie Winchell (Thunder Ridge).

## Mustang wrestlers win 7 medals at Hugoton Invitational on Saturday

The Grant Junior High wrestling team competed on Saturday at the Hugoton Invitational at Hugoton.

"Grant Junior high took just 13 wrestlers to Hugoton for the Hugoton invitational and came home with 7 medalists," said Coach Jim Myers. "The three first place finishers were: Riley Lopez, who went (4-0) on the day, Jacob Strasser (4-0), and Drew House (3-0).

"One second place finisher, Austin Hernandez (3-1) who captured

the second place medal as he battled through the flu. One third place, was Tate Withington (4-1) and two fourth place finishes were: Tristen Cooper (3-2) and Kelby Smith (3-2).

"Other Mustang wrestlers Cade Mayer 1-2 on the day, Casey Stramel (1-2), Simon Bassett (2-2), Luke Avila (2-2), Nolan Deeds (2-2), Cole Knitig (2-2)," said Coach Myers.

The other teams who competed

were Colby, Scott City Junior High, Hugoton Junior High, Holcomb Junior High, Kepley Junior High of Ulysses, Liberal South, Liberal West, Ken Henderson Junior High of Garden City. Team scores were not kept.

The other coach for the team is Gary Winter.

"There was a lot of tough competition in this tournament," said Coach Myers.

## Deer-vehicle collisions peak this month

Deer can be spotted near our state's roadways any time of the year. However, in the fall, motorists should be especially vigilant for deer crossing the highways.

Deer breeding season peaks in mid-November, and this marks the period when deer-vehicle collisions are highest.

That's why the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism are working together to raise awareness and help drivers avoid collisions with deer.

According to wildlife biologist Lloyd Fox, the increase in deer-vehicle crashes is strongly influenced by the deer mating season, called "rut."

During rut, deer focus on mating, he said. They travel more than in other seasons, and pay less attention to hazards such as vehicles. During the fall, many deer move to new locations as crops are harvested and leaves fall from trees and shrubs, so they are less secure than in their summer habitats.

Not only are deer more active during the fall, shorter days mean dusk and dawn – when deer are more likely to be on the move – occur when commuter traffic is highest. Steve Swartz, KDOT spokesper-

son, said there were 9,109 deer-vehicle collisions reported in 2010.

Deer-vehicle collisions occur in every Kansas county. In most cases, counties with high human populations and high traffic volumes record the most deer-vehicle crashes. Sedgwick County recorded the most crashes with 391, followed by Johnson County with 346 and Butler County with 287.

Motorists should observe the following tips to avoid deer collisions:

- Be especially watchful at dawn and dusk when deer are particularly active;
- Watch for more than one deer. They seldom travel alone, so if one crosses the road, others may follow;
- Reduce speed and be alert near wooded areas or green spaces such as parks or golf courses and near water sources such as streams or ponds;
- Don't swerve to avoid hitting a deer – the most serious accidents occur when motorists swerve and collide with another vehicle or run off the road and hit an obstacle;
- Heed deer crossing signs;
- Always wear a seat belt; and
- Use bright lights and slow down whenever the reflective eyes of deer are spotted.

Technical Trooper Josh Kellerman of the Kansas Highway Patrol said, if you hit a deer, pull onto the

shoulder, turn on your emergency flashers and watch for traffic before exiting your vehicle. Do not try to remove a deer from the roadway unless you are certain it is dead; an injured deer could hurt you.

If you have a cellular phone and are on a Kansas highway, dial \*47 (\*HP) for highway patrol dispatcher or \*582 (\*KTA) for assistance on the Kansas Turnpike, or dial 911.

Anyone involved in a vehicle-deer crash that results in personal injury or property damage that totals \$1,000 or more is required to immediately report the crash to the nearest law enforcement agency. Failure to report any traffic crash is a misdemeanor and may result in suspension of driving privileges.

If you are involved in a non-injury crash on an interstate, U.S. highway, or any divided or multi-lane road in the state of Kansas, and if you are not transporting hazardous materials, you are required by law to move your vehicle out of the lane of traffic. This law is intended to help keep drivers and passengers safe by getting them out of the lane of traffic, and away from oncoming vehicles.

Make sure you and your passengers are buckled up and are using the appropriate child safety seats, which are the best ways to prevent injuries or death, Trooper Kellerman said.

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