Goodland opens season with home meet Thursday

The Goodland High and Grant Junior High cross country teams will open their season at home Thursday with the Goodland Invitational at Sugar Hills Golf Course.

There will be six races, starting at 4 p.m. Coach Don Smith said he expects more than 200 runners from 14 schools to participate. The first race will be the freshman and sophomore girls two-mile run, followed by the freshman and sophomore boys, who will run 5,000 meters (3.1 miles).

Next will be the junior and senior girls, who also will run two miles, then the junior and senior boys 5,000-meter race. After the high school races come the junior high events, with the girls running first, followed by the boys. Both will run one mile.

The Cowgirls have seven runners this season, three from Goodland and four from Wallace County High School. Smith said the girls from Sharon Springs will compete as members of Goodland's team until the Northwest Kansas League meet Oct. 16 in Hoxie.

Smaller schools which don't have a cross country program can send their athletes to another school for training and competition. Both school boards must approve the agreement, which also must be approved by the Kansas High School Activities Association.

Junior Tiffany Thomas (center front) lead sophomore Whitney Dautel to the finish line Friday as the football team cheered cross country runners on during halftime of the Soap Scrimmage at Cowboy Stadium. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Five runners return from last year's girls team. From Goodland, they are juniors Chelsea Ontiveroz and Tiffany Thomas along with sophomore Whitney Dautel. From Sharon Springs are junior Kalie Smith and sophomore Mara Sloan. Both freshmen on this year's squad are from Sharon Springs, Nicole Sloan and April Smith, Kalie's sister.

Coach Smith said both Thomas and Dautel had a good race in Friday's scrimmage at Cowboy Stadium. He said he was excited about the improvement Sloan has shown in practice this season.

The Cowgirls may be without three of the runners Thursday, Coach Smith added, due to injuries. Two will need their doctor's approval before competing again.

The Cowboys have five runners back from last year, including seniors Craig Mason, Daniel Blake and James Cearley. Coach Smith said he is hoping the seniors will provide great leadership for the team, mainly by example, since they best understand what needs to be done during practices. He hopes they will help instill a positive altitude towards practice in the younger runners.

Also back this season are junior Brandon Zelfer and sophomore Kerek Mason. Coach Smith said he has noticed improvement from last season in Zelfer during the first two weeks of practice. He also said Mason has shown a more mature attitude toward practice this year and that his performance in practice now match the ability he showed last year during meets.

The three freshmen on this year's squad are Toby Hurst and Dustin Pennington, both from Goodland, and Cody Bussen from Sharon Springs.

Coach Smith is assisted again this year by Richard Schwasinger, who also coaches both teams for the junior high. Senior Kelsi Ihrig and sophomore Nichole Buskirk are the managers-statisticians.

Cowgirls third at Cimarron

The Cowgirls tennis team finished third at the Cimarron round-robin tournament last Thursday to kick off Goodland High's fall athletic season.

The No. 2 doubles team of Kali Rietcheck and Megan Stefan, both juniors, had the best record of the day for the Cowgirls, going 4-1 in the tournament. They first defeated a team from Ulysses 6-0 then a team from Cimarron 6-3. They suffered their only loss to the team from St. John-Hudson High School 6-0. They went on to win their next two matches, defeating Tribune 7-5 and Hays 6-2.

Sophomores Jena McCall and Sandy Johnson, playing No. 1 doubles, went 3-2. They defeated a team from Ulysses 6-0, then beat Cimarron 6-2 before losing to St. John-Hudson 6-1. McCall and Johnson won their next match against Tribune 6-1. In their final match of the tournament, they lost to the team from Hays in one of only three matches decided by tie-breaker 6-6 (7-3).

Senior Grace Langness went 3-2 at No. 2 singles, first defeating a player from Ulysses 6-1 then losing to Cimarron 6-0. She defeated St. John-Hudson 6-2 then won by default against Tribune. In her final match, Langness lost to Nicole VanSittert of Hays High, who went undefeated in the tournament.

Sophomore Jillian Parker had the toughest time for the Cowgirls, going 1-4. After winning her first match against Ulysses 6-0, she lost the next four, 6-1 to Cimarron, 6-6 (7-3) to St. John-Hudson, 6-1 to Tribune and 6-2 to Hays.

Coach Wallace Hansen said his players showed a lot of improvement since the start of practice 10 days before the tournament.

Two more players were added to the Cowgirls roster Monday, sophomore Lauren Hill and freshman Mindy Keith, bringing the total number to nine.

The team will be in action today at 2 p.m. (Mountain Time) in Phillipsburg, where the Cowgirls will face players from Osborne and Victoria as well as the host team.

bowling results

Wednesday Night Mixed League
August 25

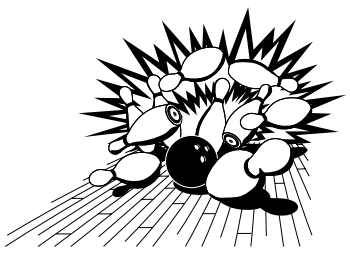
Shear Dimensions over
Guzzlin' Socializers 3-1
Fun Lovers over
Kabredlo's 3-1
The Pits over
D & G Clan 3-1
4 Stars over
Blind as a Bat 4-0

Women's high scratch game:
Laura McClung 171
Women's high scratch series:
Marilyn Snethen 495
Men's high scratch game:
Steven Colby 254
Men's high scratch series:
Travis Gillihan 638
Team high scratch game:
Shear Dimensions 683
Team high scratch series:
4 Stars 1,862

League Standings:

No. 1	4 Stars	4 - 0
No. 2	Shear Dimensions	3 - 1
	The Gamblers	3 - 1
	The Pits	3 - 1

Three-way tie for second



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School calendar for Sept. 1 - Sept. 7

Wednesday - "Gold Day"; PDC meeting 3:45 p.m.

Thursday - "Black Day"; Seminar - FCCLA; Golf at Wakeeney 2 p.m.; Cross Country in Goodland at Sugar Hills 4 p.m.; Tennis at Larned 2 p.m.; seventh and eighth volleyball in Colby 3:30 p.m.; seventh and eighth football in Goodland against Colby 3:30 p.m.; Cheerleader Spirit Spreader in Oakley 8 a.m.

Friday - "Gold Day"; Seminar - Girls Athletic Associaotion; Football in Hoxie 6 p.m.

Saturday - Tennis at Colby 8 a.m.; Kansas Wesleyan vs. Colorado College football scrimmage at Cowboy Stadium 11 a.m.

Monday - No School; Labor Day.

Tuesday - "Gold Day"; Seminar - G-Club; junior varsity football in Goodland against Hoxie 4:30 p.m.; volleyball, quad, in Goodland 3:30 p.m.; golf in Goodland at Sugar Hills 1 p.m.

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