

Cowboys beat Oberlin Red Devils, 17-7

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News
With renewed confidence, the Cowboys football team took a ride to Oberlin Friday to face the undefeated Red Devils of Decatur Community High and came home with a 17-7 win.

The Oberlin team had been ranked fourth in the state in class 2-1A by the *Wichita Eagle*.

"It was a really good win for us," said Coach Jon McLean. "We've improved a lot over the past two weeks."

After receiving the opening kickoff, the Cowboys drove 57 yards down to the Oberlin 7 yard line.

The drive stalled, but sophomore kicker Ren Scherling hit a 25-yard field goal to give Goodland a 3-0 lead about halfway through the first quarter.

The Cowboys increased their lead to 10-0 in the second quarter on a 1-yard touchdown plunge by senior quarterback Wyatt Dautel. Scherling kicked the extra point.

With about four minutes left in the third quarter, the left side Goodland's offensive line made a hole for senior running back Derek Fenner, who escaped for a 64-yard touchdown.

Scherling kicked his second extra-point of the game and the Cowboys led 17-0.

About a minute later, Oberlin wide receiver Joe Mondero took a reverse to the right side broke back to the left and ran into the end zone, but an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty nullified the score.

Coach Trevor Williams called a timeout to have a word with his players, who about a minute later responded with a 43-yard pass play from quarterback Denton Bailey to running back Jason Thomas for a touchdown.

Jesse Juenemann kicked the extra point and the Red Devils were on the scoreboard.

Neither team could find the end zone in the fourth quarter and the game ended with the score 17-7.

Both teams are now 3-1 for the season.

"I felt we dominated the game, but just could not score points," McLean said. "There were a couple of times we should have scored but didn't."

The running game proved to be the big difference, as the Cowboys rushed for 274 yards and a pair of touchdowns while holding the Devils to minus 14 yards.

Oberlin held the advantage in the passing game, outgaining Goodland 142-76 yards.

Goodland had the edge in first downs 15-9.



Sophomores Forest Trachsel (No. 3), Tom Terry (No. 78) and Tanner Smith (No. 81) took the field with the rest of the Cowboys on Friday at Smick Field in Oberlin. Coach Jon McLean (above) encouraged his team along the sideline prior to the kickoff. Goodland beat the Red Devils of Decatur Community High 17-7.

Photos by Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News



"The defense played really, really well," said McLean, "except for a couple breakdowns on pass coverage."

After the opening kickoff gave Goodland a first-and-10 on its own 36, the Cowboys drove 57 yards on 15 plays, with Scherling kicking a 25-yard field goal for a 3-0 lead.

Oberlin could not get going on its first drive and was forced to punt after four plays.

Starting from their own 31, Goodland drove to the Devils' 44 but on fourth-and-7 Dautel could only gain six and the Cowboys turned the ball over on downs.

Again, Goodland's defense held Oberlin to just four plays, forcing another punt.

A few plays later, on third-and-13 from the Goodland 41, Dautel con-

nected with senior Jase Herl for a 58-yard pass play, giving the Cowboys first-and-goal on the one.

Dautel bulled straight ahead on the next play for the touchdown and, with the extra point, the Cowboys led 10-0 with over seven minutes left in the half.

On their next possession, the Red Devils were able to sustain a longer drive, but on fourth-and-11 on Goodland's 38, Oberlin was stopped for a two-yard loss and the Cowboys took over on downs.

From its own 40, Goodland drove down to the Oberlin 15, where Scherling tried a field goal of about 32 yards but missed right.

The Cowboys turned the ball back over on downs with less than a minute left in the half.

Neither team could keep its ini-

tial drive of the second half going, then Oberlin returned Goodland's punt to its own 46. However, a 15-yard face mask penalty on the return gave the Devils a first-and-10 on the Cowboys 39. Then an unsportsmanlike penalty against Goodland on the next play put Oberlin on the Cowboys' 24 with a first down.

The Cowboys defense rose to the challenge and on fourth-and-20 stopped Oberlin.

Two plays later, Fenner broke through for a 64-yard touchdown and the Cowboys led 17-0.

However, this time the Red Devils responded, and seven plays later Bailey hit Thomas with a 43-yard touchdown pass to make the score 17-7.

Goodland's next possession stalled and the Cowboys were

forced to punt, but two plays later Oberlin fumbled and with an unsportsmanlike flag against the Devils, got a first-and-10 on the Oberlin 18.

However, four plays later the Cowboys turned the ball over on downs.

Starting on their own 15, the Red Devils drove to the Goodland 38, where on fourth-and 10 Bailey was sacked by senior Jon Cook and the Cowboys took over with about four minutes left in the game.

Goodland drove from its own 41 to the Oberlin 19, picking up a pair of key first downs along the way and running out the clock for the win.

Fenner led the Cowboys' ground attack with 161 yards on 25 carries. Senior Bob Miller gained 69 on 14 carries and Dautel ran 17 times for

41 yards.

Coach McLean gave a lot of credit to Goodland's offensive line-men for success of the ground game Friday, especially tackles Mark Starr and John Mosbarger, guards Brandon Tatman and Jon Beeson, center Aaron Deeds and tight end Casey Henderson.

Dautel competed three of eight passes, all to Herl, for 76 yards.

Sophomore Josh Doke led the Cowboys' defense with nine tackles, followed by Herl with seven. Fenner and Cook both had six tackles.

The Cowboys will try to keep their two-game win streak alive on Friday when Oakley visits Cowboy Stadium for homecoming. The Plainsmen are now 4-0 after defeating St. Francis 18-14.

How do others stack up?

Area High School Football
September 23

Northwest Kansas League
Goodland 17, Oberlin 7
Ness City-Dighton 28, Colby 20
Oakley 18, St. Francis 14
Hoxie 22, Atwood 13
Ellis 26, Quinter 19

Western Kansas Liberty League
Tribune 42, Bird City 14
Grinnell-Grainfield 36, Rexford 34
Weskan 48, Healy 0
Brewster did not play
Sharon Springs did not play
Winona did not play

Future Goodland Opponents
Ulysses 55, Pratt 14
Marysville 26, Clay Center 20 (ot)
Chapman 27, Concordia 0

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School calendar for Sept. 28 - Oct. 4

Wednesday - "Black Day"; PDC Screening at Central school, 3:30 p.m.
Thursday - "Gold Day"; Junior varsity golf at Syracuse High School, 3 p.m.; seventh and eighth volleyball in Goodland against Oakley, 3:30 p.m.; seventh and eighth football in Goodland against Oakley, 3:30 p.m.; decorate of Homecoming Dance, 7 p.m.; Homecoming Parade, pep rally and bonfire, 6:30 p.m.
Friday - "Black Day"; Homecoming Football game in Goodland against Oakley, 6 p.m.; Homecoming Dance in the high school gym, 9 p.m. to midnight.
Saturday - Volleyball in Oakley, 8 a.m.; tennis in Garden City, 8 a.m.; seventh grade "B" football in Colby, 9 a.m.; junior high "B" volleyball round robin in Goodland, 9 a.m.; golf in Lakin, 8:30 a.m.; junior varsity tennis in Colby, 8 a.m.
Monday - 9 and "C" Volleyball in Goodland 4:30 p.m.; junior varsity football in Oakley, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday - "Black Day"; Picture day at North and West 8 a.m.; volleyball in Goodland, 3:30 p.m.

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