

Cowboy defends league cross country title



Junior Kerek Mason held on to his Northwest Kansas League cross country title Saturday at the league meet in Hoxie.

Mason ran the five-kilometer course in 17 minutes, 9 seconds to earn the gold medal for the second year in a row. Last year in Quinter, his time was 17:36. Saturday's win was Mason's fourth of the season.

Sophomore Toby Hurst placed 12th, finishing the race in 19:40, and sophomore Dustin Pennington was 18th in 20:22. Senior Wanja Runkel ran it in 21:37 for 26th place and sophomore Chris Geeseka ran a 28:43 for 33rd.

That put the Cowboys third in the team competition.

Junior Kerek Mason won his second straight Northwest Kansas League cross country championship Saturday in Hoxie.

Photo by Jeff Mason
The Goodland Star-News

"I was pleased with the third-place finish for the boys," said Coach Don Smith. "I thought we would have a difficult time beating some of the teams, but our runners came through."

The Colby Eagles, the defending boys team champion, won the title again this year with 26 points. Quinter finished second, scoring 64, followed by Goodland with 79. Hoxie was fourth with 90 points and Decatur Community High of Oberlin fifth with 104. Oakley did not have enough runners for a team score.

Junior Whitney Dautel led the Cowgirls with an eighth-place finish, running the two-mile course in 13:32.

Senior Tiffany Thomas finished 11th in 13:57 and freshman Brittaney Medrano was 13th in 14:15. Freshman Cassie Cooper ran the race in 15:48 finishing 27th.

Coach Smith said he thought Medrano ran the best race of her high school career.

Neither Goodland nor Hoxie had enough girls for a team score.

The Lady Eagles of Colby successfully defended their team title led by Jessica Stephens, who won her fourth straight league championship in 12:26.

Oakley finished second, just three points behind Colby. Oberlin was third with 79 points and Quinter fourth with 92.

The top 10 runners in both races earned medals and were named to this year's all-league team.

Both teams from Goodland and from Colby will head to Buhler on Saturday for the state Class 4A regional meet. The teams will report to the Prairie Hills Middle School, with the girls race starting at 1 p.m. (Mountain Time) and the boys around 1:45.

The top three teams and the top 10 individual runners at each of the four regional meets will qualify for the state meet on Saturday, Oct. 29, at the country club in Wamego.

Lopers win seventh straight

The Lopers of the University of Nebraska at Kearney won their seventh straight football game Saturday, beating in-state rival Chadron State College 20-14.

Nebraska-Kearney improved to 7-1 overall and a perfect 5-0 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. The Lopers stay at home again on Saturday to face the Skyhawks of Fort Lewis College from Durango, Colo.

The Skyhawks lost to the Colorado School of Mines this past weekend 42-41. On Saturday, the Orediggers travel to Las Vegas, N.M., to take on the Cowboys of New Mexico Highlands University.

The Grizzlies of Adams State College in Alamosa, Colo., needed two overtime periods Saturday to

beat Mesa State College of Grand Junction. 34-31. Next Saturday, the Grizzlies play host to Oklahoma Panhandle State University in a non-conference matchup while Mesa State faces the visiting Tigers of Fort Hays State.

The Tigers, who had last weekend off, are 2-5 overall and 2-3 in the conference.

The Mountaineers of Western State College in Gunnison, Colo, won their first game of the season Saturday, beating New Mexico Highlands 24-20. The Mountaineers return home after three straight road trips to take on the Eagles of Chadron State.

In other NCAA Division II football action around Kansas, the Ichabods of Washburn University

improved to 7-1 for the season Saturday with a 21-14 win over Truman State University of Missouri. The Ichabods were ranked No. 13 by the American Football Coaches Association going into Saturday's game.

Pittsburg State University defeated Southwest Baptist University (Mo.) 70-38 Saturday and is now 6-2 for the season. The Gorillas were ranked No. 20 in last week's poll.

Brock Lohr, a 2004 graduate of Goodland High, is a freshman at Pittsburg State. Lohr, recruited as a linebacker, is redshirting this season.

Lohr led the Cowboys in tackles last year with 108 and was a first-team all-league pick at linebacker.

Good luck at state!



Junior tennis player Jillian Parker (center in white) and Coach Wallace Hansen (second from left) got a good luck sendoff from Goodland's Ambassadors on Thursday for their trip to the state Class 4A tennis championships which started Friday. Photo by Mona Carver/The Goodland Star-News

Brewster Bulldogs beat Triplains 68-32, Weskan Coyotes are next

By Jay Kelley

Colby Free Press

Brewster High School won their final meeting with Triplains before the two schools combine their football teams next season in convincing fashion 68-32 Friday night.

The Bulldogs opened the game with a kick-off return to the end zone by Kyle O'Connor and followed it by forcing the Vikings to punt and a two play drive on the next possession which ended with Andrew Starns rambling 60 yards to score.

Triplains' next drive also ended in a punt, which Seth Carpenter ran back for the third Bulldog touchdown in less than five minutes.

The 'Dawgs went 1-3 on conversions, with Starns scoring the only points on a run, and led 20-0

The Vikings' next drive also ended short of a score when, after nine plays and 52 yards, they were stopped just inches short on fourth and nine.

Brewster took over on their seven and scored again four plays later on a keeper by Branson Gilley. The conversion failed, but Brewster was up 26-0 with 2:22 left in the first quarter.

The next Triplains drive, however, was different. Instead of inches short in the red zone, the Vikings found themselves on the Brewster eight with first and goal after only five plays.

On the next play, Bryant Plummer crossed into the end zone. The conversion failed, but the Vikings had cut the Bulldog lead to 26-6, where it would remain for another 10 minutes.

Brewster continued to run a mix of run and pass plays in the second quarter, but a fumbled snap stopped one drive and Triplains was unable to convert on third and fourth downs consistently.

The Bulldogs' next score came with 3:08 left on the halftime clock. Starting on their six-yard line, Brewster had an incomplete pass, a seven-yard run by Gilley, then a 68-yard touchdown by Starns.

The conversion failed, but Brewster led 32-6.

Triplains came right back, engineering a long clock-eating drive ending in a touchdown pass from Aric Grob to Plummer with 17 seconds left in the half.

They took advantage of another Brewster fumble on the snap to take

over at the beginning of the third quarter and drive for another touchdown, this one on a pass from Plummer to Taylor Barrett.

Neither conversion worked, but the Vikings had cut the lead to 32-18.

It looked like the Vikings would score again after they had forced Brewster to punt and were driving at midfield, but Seth Carpenter came up with a big interception.

That led to a seven-play drive from the Brewster 36 which ended with

a Gilley-O'Connor combination for 21 yards and a touchdown with 1:18 left in the third quarter.

Brewster's defense shut the Vikings down on two drives in the fourth quarter and the offense scored quickly on big plays to put the 'Dawgs up 54-18. Triplains scored twice more in the fourth, but the Bulldogs matched them.

Gilley went 14-for-27 in the air for 294 yards and four touchdowns. O'Connor was again the leading

receiver with eight catches for 150 yards and two touchdowns.

Karman Selby had four catches for 79 yards and a touchdown. Carpenter had two catches for 35 yards and a touchdown. Starns had a single catch for 15 yards.

Starns was also the leading rusher with 11 carries and 206 yards with three touchdowns. Gilley had seven for 25 and a touchdown. O'Connor had one for three. Carpenter had one for minus 1 and Cory Grantz had

one for five yards.

O'Connor also had a kick return and Carpenter had a punt return, each for touchdowns.

Gilley and Garrett Smith had six tackles and five assists each. Starns had five tackles and five assists.

Grantz had four tackles and five assists. Tyler O'Connor had four tackles and one assist and Cory Siruta had four tackles.

Selby, Chris Williams and Carpenter had three tackles each. Car-

penter had three assists and Selby had two.

O'Connor, Phil Gralla and Ethan Kammer had two tackles each. Gralla had two assists and O'Connor had one. Chance Cranston had one tackle and two assists and T.J. Preston had an assist.

Selby also had a fumble recovery and Carpenter had an interception.

Brewster travels to Weskan on Friday for varsity action starting at 3:30 p.m.

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School calendar for Oct. 19 - Oct. 25
Wednesday - "Gold Day"; FCCLA District A Fall Leadership in Colby; City/county recreation at fieldhouse.
Thursday - "Black Day"; Electric Car Race in Hays, 8 a.m.; eighth grade league volleyball in St. Francis, 2 p.m.; seventh grade league volleyball in Colby, 2 p.m.
Friday - "Gold Day"; Football game in Concordia, 6 p.m.
Saturday - ACT Test, 8 a.m.; Substate volleyball at Ulysses, 1 p.m.; Regional cross country at Buhler, 1 p.m.
Monday - No school, junior high Scholar's Bowl at Rawlins County, 3 p.m.; Board of Education meeting 7 p.m.
Tuesday - "Gold Day"; American Field Service Halloween party, 7 p.m.

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