

Cowboys open on road against the Buffaloes

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News
Thanks to Mother Nature and a much-needed rain storm Friday, Cowboy fans will have to wait two weeks to see the new football team in action — or travel to Atwood on Friday for the opener at 6 p.m. (Mountain Time).

First-year Coach Jonathan Dansel said Sunday he had been counting on the Soap Scrimmage on Friday, which had to be canceled after more than an inch of rain fell in Goodland.

"The players were pretty disappointed," Dansel said. "We did not want to tear up our field, and another factor was we did not want any injuries on

a wet field. We are not very deep, and need to keep our guys healthy."

Opening on the road shouldn't be a problem, the coach said.

"It doesn't bother me," he said. "I don't have a preference. We have to get the boys prepared and be ready to take on what is in the schedule."

Dansel said he expects Atwood to have a solid team like always with Coach Dan Lankas in his 30th season, even though the Buffalos were 3-7 last year.

"We beat them last year," Dansel said, "but that doesn't mean much. We are not looking past them. We want to be 1-0 going into St. Francis."

Dansel said one of his assistants, Joseph

Sramek, lives in St. Francis and was going to go watch the Indians scrimmage on Saturday.

Dansel said the Cowboys have to be ready to play on the road because they have a tough away schedule that will sort of set the tone for the season.

The Cowboys are out of town for four of their first five games. They open Friday at Atwood, then travel to St. Francis (Friday, Sept. 8) before coming home to play Hoxie (Friday, Sept. 15). The Cowboys are back on the road for games in Scott City (Sept. 22) and Hays (Sept. 29).

Dansel said he had hoped to evaluate some players and make decisions after the scrimmage, but now he will have to watch them during the next week of practice.

"Lots of positions are set," Dansel said,

"but a few key ones are up in the air. I needed the scrimmage to evaluate some of those.

"This week of practice will be telling. We have to put the people we feel will win in the positions.

"I have to do some thinking and put some people in the places where we think they can do the best."

He said the players were as disappointed as he was.

"They were ready to be out there and show the people what we are going to be about," Dansel said.

Asked about the quarterback position, Dansel said he was getting closer to a decision.

"Monday and Tuesday practices will be pretty important," he said. "Going into

Wednesday, we will probably name our starters."

At other positions, Dansel said the key to success will be to stay healthy and keep from minor injuries that keep a player out a week or two. He said the team is smaller this year, with 41 players on the roster compared to 54 last year.

He said there are a lot of young players, and he hopes the big eighth-grade class will help build the numbers back for the future.

The final four games of the season begin with homecoming on Oct. 6 against Oakley. District play will begin on Oct. 13 with Ulysses at Cowboy Stadium. The Cowboys travel to Hugoton on Oct 20, and the final district game is at home against Colby on Thursday, Oct. 26.



Winged Sprint cars highlighted the races at the Sherman County Speedway for the 14th annual Bill Gray Memorial on Saturday, Aug.

19. Races will start at 6:30 p.m. this Saturday.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Sprint cars highlight speedway races

The Sherman County Speedway was a bit slippery for the 14th annual Bill Gray Memorial on Saturday, Aug. 19, and there was at least one spectacular wreck in the United Rebel Sprint Car main event.

This was the first appearance of the larger 305 series winged Sprint cars, and the crowd got a great show as series points leader Jon Johnson got his seventh victory of the season. Johnson, starting in ninth place, took the lead on lap six and led the rest of the way.

Pole sitter Travis Decker from WaKeeney led the first two laps before being overtaken by eighth-place starter Justin Schwien on lap three.

The red flag came out on the fourth lap when something appeared to break on Decker's car as he came out of turn four, sending him hard into the wall and flipping the car several times. Decker was unhurt, although the same couldn't be said for his car, said Rick Salem of Oberlin, founder and promoter of the series.

Schwien from Russell looked to be a definite contender for his first win of the season, but behind him was Johnson, who stole the lead on lap six and won in convincing fashion.

Schwien then had a race-long battle with Tommy Williams, a veteran driver from North Platte, Neb., for the second spot. Williams worked his way past Schwien on the high side, coming out of turn two on the last lap only to have Schwien dive under Williams coming off turn four and beat him to the flag by a wheel.

Hometown favorite Mark Bantam finished fourth after starting in the rear due to a wheel-banging altercation with brother Randy Bantam, which ended his brother's night with a bent front axle.

Tim Perkins of Parker Colo., continued to show improvement, as he had his best showing of the year at fifth.

Heat race winners were Schwien and Williams with Decker taking the B main.

Next on the schedule for the Rebels will be a two-day duel on Labor Day weekend at Elmwood Park Speedway in Norton on Saturday, Sept. 2, and then to the Oberlin Speedway on Sunday Sept. 3.

In the mini stock class on Saturday, Jacob Long (car 71) of Burlington won his third main event and has

tied point leader Brian Kleine (1) of Burlington with 275 points. Don Kleine (21) of Burlington was fifth in the main, and is in third place in the standings with 264 points.

Roger Snethen (S5) won the econo class main — where all the drivers are from Goodland — and holds first place in the standings by one point over Justin Colby (17), who finished seventh. Snethen has 261 points to 260 for Colby. Jason McClung (2) was second and Diana Ross (81) third.

Jeremy Blackwell (25) of Gem looked to have a lock on the bomber class as he went for his fourth straight win, but Mat Morris (21M) of Lamar, Colo., ended his streak by taking the bomber main. Blackwell remains in first in the standings with 278 points. Tyler Henderson (7T) of Goodland was third and Kyle Rohleder (3R) of WaKeeney was fourth.

In the stock class, Randy Tipton (9) of Weskan won his second stock main, and stretched his lead in the standings to 224 points. Mike Mattox (100) of Aurora, Colo., was second in the race and is fourth in the standings. Tom Nelson (30) of Aurora, Colo., was third and is third in the standings with 149 points. Jason Stevens (77) of Colby was

fifth, and is in second in the standings with 186 points.

Modified leader Darren DeLoach (21) of Lamar, Colo., won the main, and leads the track standings by 10 points over Jeff Tubbs (37) of Colby, who finished seventh. DeLoach has 257 points to 247 for Tubbs. Mark Zorn (21Z) of Russell finished second, but is 18th in the standings with 82 points. Third was Chris Remetes (10) of Denver, seventh in the standings with 225 points.

Sherman County Speedway Sprint Feature results (A) Aug. 19

1. Jon Johnson
2. Justin Schwien
3. Tommy Williams
4. Mark Bantam
5. Tim Perkins
6. Darren Berry
7. Cody Keiswetter
8. Smokey Fairbanks
9. Travis Decker
10. Randy Bantam
- Billy Smith (Did Not Start)
- Larry Radcliffe (Did Not Start)

MINI STOCK

1. — 71 Jacob Long, Burlington
2. — 07 Larae Reese, Lakin
3. — 1 Brian Kleine, Burlington
4. — 6 Cory Navarro, Burlington
5. — 21 Don Kleine, Burlington
6. — 9 Christopher Klein, Burlington
7. — 16 Josh Frecks, Stratton, Colo.
8. — 5 Dawn Kleine, Burlington
9. — 12 Tyrell Smith, Goodland
10. — 73 Jason Schwarz, Colby

ECONO (All from Goodland)

1. — S5 Roger Snethen
2. — 2 Jason McClung
3. — 81 Diann Ross
4. — 74 Brandon Nemechek
5. — 4 Lee Hageman
6. — 13 Ricky Pummer
7. — 17 Justin Colby
8. — 44 Donovan Nichols
9. — 07 Adrienne West
10. — 11 Jr Wolfrum

BOMBER

1. — 21M Matt Morris, Lamar, Colo.
2. — 25 Jeremy Blackwell, Gem
3. — 7T Tyler Henderson, Goodland
4. — 3R Kyle Rohleder, Wakeeney
5. — R38 Robbie Wilger, Holly, Colo.
6. — 12 Steve Arntt, Goodland
7. — 11X Ron Haremza, Colby
8. — S98 Joey Snethen, Goodland
9. — 53 Don Strecker, Wakeeney
10. — 21 Allen Snethen, Colby

STOCK

1. — 9 Randy Tipton, Weskan
2. — 100 Mike Mattox, Aurora, Colo.
3. — 30 Tom Nelson, Aurora, Colo.
4. — 15 Brad Wagoner, Colby
5. — 77 Jason Stevens, Colby
6. — 1 Brian Kleine, Burlington
7. — 44 Derrick Braudaway, Oakley

MODIFIED

1. — 21 Darren DeLoach, Lamar, Colo.
2. — 21Z Mark Zorn, Russell
3. — 10 Chris Remetes, Denver
4. — 86 Justin Beakley, Lamar, Colo.
5. — 41 Ronnie Hill, Sharon Springs
6. — 3 Brady Coen, Holly, Colo.
7. — 37 Jeff Tubbs, Colby
8. — 19 Keith Stegman, Lamar, Colo.
9. — 16Z Jeremy Zorn, Russell
10. — 4S David Schemm, Sharon

Volleyball scrimmage tonight at Max Jones

The Goodland High School volleyball team will start its season with a "Pop Scrimmage" at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Fans are asked to bring a bottle of soda or a sports drink for admission.

The first home quad meet will be at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, with Burlington, Hays and Thomas More-Marian of Hays.

The Cowgirls this year have eight seniors, five juniors, four sophomores and 13 freshman going out.

Returning seniors include Kaylee Billinger, Lindsay Schields, Nicolette Clancy, Emily Murray, Whitney Archer, Shandel Simon, Amber Cowan and Nicole David.

Juniors include Shawnie Butts,

Ashley Christians, Andrea Wolak, Jessica Swager and Jennifer Cole.

Sophomores are Whitney Schields, Shelbi Herl Hall, Erika Gonzales and Julica Bonsall.

Freshmen out for volleyball include Ashley Garza, Elaine Reiter, Lexi David, Kamisha Nonamaker, Brandi Bahe, Jessi Geist, Alexis Bateman, Angie Hillmer, Jessica Lake, Rosa Sandoval, Savanna Short and Freda Barber.

The coaches are Jerry McKee, Emily Braxmeyer and Aimee Stofel.

Last year, the Cowgirls finished 15-18, the team's first losing season in the last eight years.

Cowgirls tie for first at Cimarron tournament

The Cowgirls opened the season with a win, tying for first with the host school at the Cimarron tennis tournament Thursday.

Goodland scored 35 point without even having a No. 2 singles player.

In No. 1 singles, senior Jillian Parker finished second with a 4-1 record. She defeated Eveleigh of Ulysses 6-2, Gleason of St. John 6-3, Wineinger of Tribune 6-1 and Settle of Hays High School 6-1. Her lone defeat was to Smidt of Cimarron.

In No. 1 doubles, seniors Sandy Johnson and Jena McCall won the gold medal with a 5-0 record. They defeated Kreie and Brecheisen of Ulysses 6-1, Burns and Ketener of Cimarron 6-0, Norton and Moore of St. John 6-1, Fuller and Wendt of Tribune 6-1 and Mermis and Pfannenstiel of Hays High 6-1.

In No. 2 doubles, sophomores Kaitlin Fugelberg and Shonna Webster were second with a 4-1 record.

They beat A. Shore and S. Shore of Ulysses 6-4, Rivera and Harman of Cimarron 6-1, Garcia and Kilgore of St. John 6-2 and Moritz and Crittenden of Tribune 6-2. Their loss was 6-3 to Harris and Kuhn of Hays High.

The Cowgirls' next meet is at 2 p.m. today at Phillipsburg. The team should have someone ready to play No. 2 singles, Coach Wallace Hansen said, as the less experienced players continue to improve and show they can compete for the varsity.

Their first home meet will be a varsity meet Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Steever and Chambers parks. A junior varsity meet will be a week later, Sept. 19.

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School calendar for August 30 to September 5

Wednesday: Black Day, First day of competition for FB and Cross Country after 14 days of practice.

Thursday: Gold Day, Spirit Safety Meeting at Oakley, 2 p.m. Girls Varsity Golf – Trego Community High School, 4 p.m. Boys/Girls Cross Country – Goodland Invitational Meet. 7/8 VB – Colby 3:30 p.m., 7/8 FB – Home – against Colby at 3:30 p.m.

Friday: Black Day, 6 p.m. Varsity Football – Rawlins County High School

Saturday: 8 a.m. Girls Varsity Tennis – Colby High School.

Monday: Labor Day, NO School

Tuesday: Black Day, 1 p.m. Girls Varsity Golf – Goodland Invitational; 3:30 p.m. Varsity, Junior Varsity and C Team Volleyball – Goodland Volleyball Quad.

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