

# Goodland has five of top 10 golfers in WaKeeney

**By Sharon Corcoran**  
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The Cowgirls golf team got off to a great start, blowing away the competition its first meet at WaKeeney by taking five of the top 10 varsity medals.

Senior Sammie Raymer was the top golfer, finishing in 43 strokes. Senior Eryn Topliff was third in 47, sophomore Natasha Hillman fourth in 48 after winning a tie-breaker with golfers from Dodge City and Trego County, junior Chelsie Gausman seventh in 49 and sophomore Amber Douglas 10th in

52. Senior Heidi Yonkey finished with 56 strokes. Freshman Kirsten Topliff placed first in junior varsity competition. Goodland's team score was 187. Second and third were Larned and Russell, each with 220. Hoisington was fourth with 231, Dodge City fifth at 231 and Oakley sixth with 234. Colby, Hays, Scott City and Trego County had individual golfers but no team score.

The girls played very well against the course, said Coach Connie Livengood; most of them shot better than last year — and they know

they can improve. Raymer improved by two strokes over last year's round on the course and won the tournament overall with a 43, Livengood said. What is good about that, the coach added, is that she knows she can cut down a few errors and score better than that, as well as the rest of the team — they know they can do even better. Gausman shot five better than last year, the coach said, and Hillman 12 better, which is outstanding. Douglas shot four better, Yonkey one better and Eryn Topliff the same, Livengood said, so that is really a

great improvement over last year's team total of 202. Kirsten Topliff did a good job for her first high school tournament and not ever seeing the course, the coach said, and she had a birdie on one hole for a highlight of the day. "It is really exciting to start off the season like this," Livengood said. "The girls know they will have some tougher competition down the road, but I believe they are going to show up for the challenges that they have coming. "I believe the one thing that stands out the most was the effort

given during this tournament on doing the best they can. I thought Natasha's performance was great, as well as Sammie winning the tournament and the effort of the whole team. That's fun and it was fun watching them." Kirsten Topliff was Goodland's only junior varsity competitor as Melanie Pierce and Ashley Garza had just joined the team. Garza plans to compete at the home meet today, but Pierce has had to drop out. "Mel is not going to continue due to a back injury from a car accident

last summer," Livengood said, "but she tried it, and I am proud of her for trying." The girls had a fantastic day for golf at WaKeeney, the coach said, no wind, only 86 degrees — you can't ask for better conditions than that. The course was in great shape, she said, as they have had a lot of rain. The Cowgirls were to compete at 12:30 p.m. today at the Sugar Hills Golf Club. Their next match will be 8 a.m. Monday at Garden City.

# Cowboys' defense shuts down Buffaloes in football season opener

FOOTBALL, from Page 1

southeast gusting to 27. By the end of the game, the temperature was down to 69, and the wind was down to a pleasant 10 mph.

"I definitely felt our kids were much stronger and in better shape," Dassel said. "Atwood had problems all night with cramping and we didn't have a single kid cramp up, which is impressive for our first game and it being pretty warm. The weight room and summer conditioning really pays off when you get the whole team to buy into it."

Atwood got the kickoff and Atwood's junior running back Drew Basgall looked like he was going to run over the Cowboys as he scampered around left end for a 32-yard gain and a first down on the third play.

A series of penalties took the Buffaloes backward until they had to punt on fourth down with 44 yards to go.

The Cowboys were unable to move and had to punt. Three plays later, the Buffaloes gave the ball back on a fumble recovered by Goodland senior Josh Duke at the 48.

The Cowboys ran behind junior running back Fernando Martinez and senior Casey Henderson for a first down at the Buffalos 37. Penalty flags helped stop the drive and senior Cowboys punter T.J. Hawkins had to kick for the third time, pinning the Buffaloes with the ball out of bounds at their 27.

The Cowboys defense stiffened and did not allow the Buffaloes to gain any yardage as the first quarter ended.

The Buffaloes' punter fumbled the snap on the first play of the second quarter and the Cowboys recovered it at the 4-yard line. On the second run by Henderson, the Cowboys had their first touchdown of the season and led 6-0. The try for 2-points was no good.

The Cowboys defense held the Buffaloes to three plays and a punt. Senior Tanner Smith returned the punt to the 43 to give the Cowboys



Cowboys junior running back Fernando Martinez leaped over the pile to score Goodland's first touchdown against the Rawlins County Buffaloes at Cowboys Stadium on Friday. The Cowboys

won the season opener 25-8, and will face the St. Francis Indians at 6 p.m. on Friday here.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

good field position.

Cowboy's junior quarterback Travis Angelos ran twice for 6 and 2 yards. Henderson carried on third, but was inches short after the officials measured.

Martinez got more than a few inches on fourth down, giving the Cowboys a first down at the Buffaloes 46. Six plays later, Martinez ran around left end for the second Cowboys touchdown for a 12-0 lead. Henderson tried to run for two, but was stopped short.

The Cowboys drive went 57 yards in 10 plays, with one fourth-down conversion and two penalties. With less than four minutes left

in the half the Cowboys forced the Buffaloes to punt and Henderson returned it to the 49.

Martinez carried for a first down at the Buffaloes 36. Angelos completed his first pass of the season, hitting Smith, and he carried it for a first and goal at the 5. However, the 31-yard pass seemed to be wasted as the Cowboys fumbled on the next play and the Buffaloes recovered at the 5 with less than two minutes left in the half.

Buffaloes running back Basgall went off tackle for no gain on first down, and Buffaloes junior quarterback Jackson Grafel tried to run on second down again with no gain.

On third down, when Grafel turned to pitch the ball to Basgall, he saw it going off the hands of the Cowboys' Hawkins, who was in the backfield. The Cowboys recovered the ball in the end zone for their third touchdown with under 30 seconds remaining. The two-point try by Henderson again was no good, but the Cowboys went to the locker room leading 18-0.

Midway through the third quarter, the Cowboys mounted another long drive, starting at their own 20. On third and three, Angelos completed a pass to senior Forrest Trachsel for a first down at the Cowboys 47.

Martinez ran for 30 yards for another first down at the Buffaloes 23. He got the ball again for a first down at the 11, then was stopped short at the 7. On fourth down, the Cowboys came out in field goal formation for senior Ren Scherling to try, but the Buffaloes were off sides.

The penalty left the Cowboys short by inches, but Martinez was stopped for a one-yard loss and the Cowboys turned the ball over on downs with 3:11 left in the third period.

The Buffaloes got loose and on third down Grafel hit junior receiver Elijah Kastens across the middle for a deep pass. The Cow-

boys caught up with Kastens at their own 11. On the next play, Basgall ran through the middle for a touchdown to make it 18-6 with 1:15 left in the third. The Buffaloes went for two, and Grafel scampered in to make it 18-8.

In the first part of the fourth quarter the Cowboys had to punt and gave the Buffaloes the ball at their 45. With under 10 minutes left, the Buffaloes appeared to be moving the ball as they converted a fourth down at the Cowboys 46, but two plays later they fumbled and the Cowboys recovered.

Three plays later, the Cowboys gave the ball back to the Buffaloes on a fumble at the Atwood 33. The Buffaloes again started driving, getting a first down at midfield with less than six minutes to go. The Buffaloes again converted on fourth and inches with Grafel getting a first down inside the Cowboys 40.

The Cowboys defense stiffened again as senior Jake Kling tackled Grafel for a loss of 7. On the next play Grafel went back to pass, but it was intercepted by the Cowboys junior Andrew Taylor at the 47.

With about two minutes left, the Cowboys gave Martinez the ball for six plays and he got them to a first down at the Buffaloes 15 with 25 seconds left.

The snap was fumbled on first down, but the Cowboys recovered and took a time out with 19 seconds left.

On second down, faking to Martinez, Angelos handed off to Henderson, who went off right end for the touchdown. Scherling kicked the extra point to make the final 25-8.

The Cowboys will be at home at 6 p.m. Friday to face the St. Francis Indians at Cowboys Stadium. St. Francis won its opener against Oberlin 51-7.

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## School calendar for September 1 to September 7

**Wednesday:** Gold Day

**Thursday:** Black Day. 2 p.m., Girls Varsity Tennis at Ulysses High School. 4 p.m., Goodland Activities Center Flag Football at North. 5 p.m. Boys C and Freshman football at Colby. 6:15 p.m., Parent - football team meal.

**Friday:** Gold Day, 6 p.m. Varsity Football vs. St. Francis.

**Saturday:** Girls junior varsity volleyball at 8 a.m. in at Leoti. Girls varsity volleyball at 9 a.m. at Machebeuf Catholic High School in Denver. Young Guns football at 9 a.m. at Cowboy Stadium. Boys and girls junior high cross country at 9 a.m. in Tribune

**Monday:** Girls varsity golf at 8 a.m. in Garden City. Junior varsity football at 4:30 p.m. in St. Francis.

**Tuesday:** Gold Day. 1 p.m. Girls junior varsity golf at 2 p.m. in Ulysses. Varsity and junior varsity volleyball at 3:30 in Goodland Quad. West Site Council meeting at 4 p.m. at West Elementary. Balfour meeting with senior class officers at 10:30 a.m. in high school cafeteria. Balfour meeting with sophomore class at 11 a.m. in art room. QSP magazine sales meeting for junior class at 11:15 a.m.

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