

Cowboys to open baseball season today

By Tom Betz
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The Goodland High Cowboys open their fourth baseball season at 3 p.m. today with a doubleheader in Burlington, and hope to improve over their first season under Coach Devin Mull.

Mull said he has 18 players on the team, with seven returning starters including four seniors, two juniors and a sophomore. He said the team includes five seniors, four juniors, four sophomores and five freshmen.

"We are going to struggle with pitching," he said, noting the graduation of Andrew Pettibone and Tyler Hillmer. "We will depend on senior Preston Dautel and junior

Brandon Rome, plus a couple of freshmen, Garth Helton and Michael Pettibone."

Mull said he will have junior Vance Johnson and Helton and freshman David Murray play at first base.

At catcher will be Rome when he is not pitching, Mull said, and senior Tanner Smith may do some time behind the plate.

He said he expects senior Josh Doke to play second base and junior Rory Kling at third base. For shortstop, Mull said, Dautel will play there when he is not pitching, though he was not sure who would be the backups.

In the outfield it will be senior Forrest Trachsel in left, Smith in center when he is

not catching and sophomore Kevin Amthor in right.

He said freshmen Devin Garrett will be a utility player.

"I am pleased with his play," Mull said. "He will play some outfield or shortstop or third base if we need him to."

Another player Mull feels will play is junior Brad Geist. He said Geist has been looking good, and he has been pleased with his efforts. Mull said he thinks Geist will play some in the outfield.

Mull said it will take a game to see where the team is.

"I am not sure where we are at this time," he said. "We have quite a few returning, but

our young kids are going to have to play quite a bit this year.

"We will have to manufacture runs like we always have to. The key is going to be throwing strikes.

"Burlington is always a good team and they hit the ball well. It will be a tough opening game. It will be a tough schedule again this year. I hope we can improve on our record from last year. It is the fourth year, and we should be doing better, but we will have to see."

The opening game of the doubleheader will begin at 3 p.m. today, with the second expected to start at 5:30. Both games will be seven innings.

The baseball field in Burlington is on West Colorado Avenue. To get to it, take the Rose Avenue exit from I-70 and go west to 15th Street. Turn north on 15th and follow it north and cross the railroad tracks. Colorado is the first left after the tracks and the field is about four blocks west. The field can be reached from the west side of town by taking the second Burlington exit from I-70 and driving north to the railroad tracks. Crossing the tracks, turn right on Colorado, and the field is about four blocks east.

The Cowboys' home opener will be at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 4, against the Colby Eagles at Memorial Field.

Goodland Wrestling Club advances 11 to state

Eleven members of the Goodland Wrestling Club placed fourth or better in the district tournament Saturday in Hays and advance to the Kansas Kids state tournament Saturday and Sunday at the Kansas Expocentre in Topeka.

Twenty-one members wrestled in the district tournament at Hays, and Goodland came out with three first-place finishes, one second, four thirds, three fourths, two fifths and three sixths. Those placing fourth or higher are eligible for state.

Taking first were Aaron Avelar at 64 pounds, and John Peden at 115 pounds in the 12-and-under division, and Keegan Smith at 150 pounds in the 16-and-under division.

The lone second went to Austin Avelar at 95 pounds in 14-and-under. Placing third were Drew House at 130 pounds in 10-and-under, Taylen Smith at 165 pounds in 12-and-under and Kade Sheldon at 125 pounds and Lorenzo Delgado at 140 pounds in 16-and-under.

Taking fourth were Evan Peter at 76 pounds in 8-and-under and Tanner Gastineau at 73 pounds and Coy Johnson at 76 in 10-and-under.

Just out of the state list at fifth place were Tate Withington at 52



Goodland's Colton Cooper won his match over Paul Kolterman of Oberlin, 9-1, in the 110-pound division of the 12-and-under class at the Kansas Kids subdistrict wrestling tournament Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photos by Liz West/The Goodland Star-News

pounds in 8-and-under and Brook Bahe at 100 pounds in 12-and-

under. Taking sixth were Austin Hernan-

dez at 85 pounds in 10-and-under, Ian Bonsall at 130 pounds in 12-

and-under and Seth Miller at 115 pounds in 14-and-under.

Other members who wrestled were Chase Johnson at 55 pounds and Dawson Ensign 70 in 8-and-under; Josh David 67 pounds and Ricky Milke 82 in 10-and-under; and Garrett Geist at 140 pounds in

14-and-under.

The state tournament starts at 7 a.m. Saturday in Landon Arena and Exhibition Hall. To get to the Expo-centre, take I-70 east to Topeka, then I-470 east to the Topeka Boulevard exit. Take Topeka north about 1 1/2 miles to the center.

Wrestlers garner seven gold medals

The Goodland Wrestling Club took 14 wrestlers, the Gray County Kids Wrestling Invitational in Cimarron on Saturday, March 8, and they came back with seven first-place medals, five seconds and two thirds.

Placing first were:

- Tayton Weeter, 6 and under, 55 pounds.
- Tanner Gastineau, 10 and under, 73 pounds.
- Drew House, 10 and under, 130 pounds.
- John Peden, 12 and under, 115 pounds.
- Taylen Smith, 12 and under 165 pounds.
- Austin Avelar, 14 and under, 95 pounds.
- and Keegan Smith, 16 and under, 150 pounds.

Taking second place were:

- Tate Withington, 8 and under, 52 pounds.
- Dawson Ensign, 8 and under, 70 pounds.
- Aaron Avelar, 12 and under, 64 pounds.
- Ian Bonsall, 12 and under, 130 pounds.
- and Riley O'Harrah, 14 and under, 175 pounds.

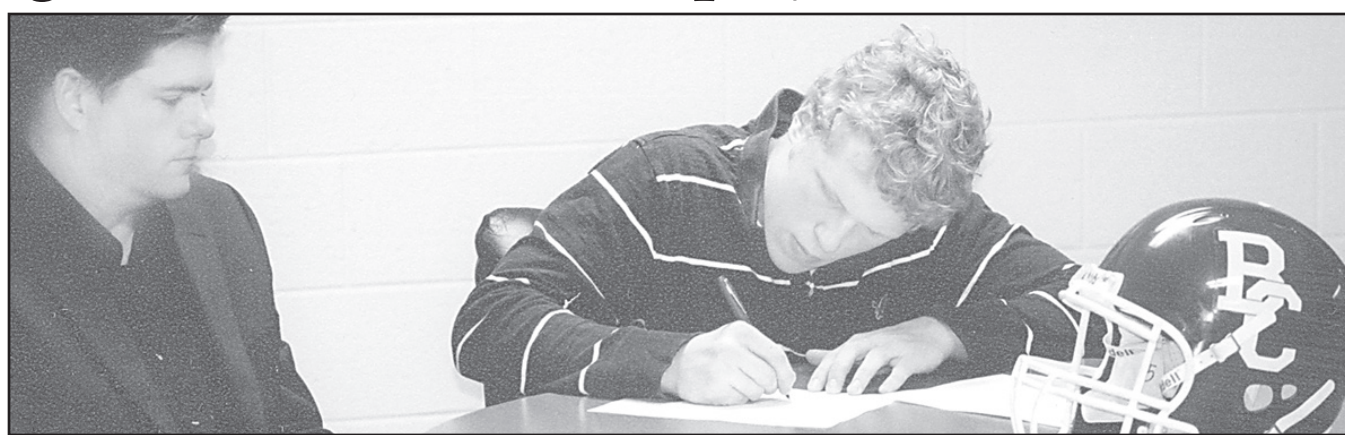
Taking third were Evan Peter, eight and under, 75 pounds and Jason Cowan, 14 and under, 150 pounds.

Goodland senior signs letter of intent to play for Bethel

Goodland High senior Ren Scherling, son of Dane and Micki Scherling of Goodland, signed a letter of intent to play football this fall for Bethel College in Newton on Sunday, Feb. 17, with Coach Michael Moore watching.

Scherling will kick extra points and field goals for the Threshers. He was the first-team Northwest Kansas All League kicker his sophomore, junior and senior years and got honorable mention for the Class 4A All State Team from the Topeka Capital Journal.

Bethel, an NAIA Division II school, plays in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, which includes Bethany, Friends, Sterling, Tabor, St. Mary, Ottawa, Southwestern and Kansas Wesleyan. Bethel tied Friends for the conference title the last two years and finished the year ranked 17th in the nation.



Goodland High senior Ren Scherling signed a letter of intent to play football this fall for Bethel College in Newton on Sunday, Feb. 17, as Coach Michael Moore watched.

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School calendar for March 25 to March 31

Today: Spring Break. No school. 3 and 5:30 p.m., varsity and junior varsity baseball at Burlington.

Wednesday: Spring Break. No School. PDC screenign.

Thursday: Spring Break. No school.

Friday: Spring Break. No school. 3 and 5 p.m., varsity and junior varsity softball at Garden City.

Monday: 3 and 5 p.m., varsity and junior varsity softball against Liberal.

Tuesday: Gold Day. 10 a.m., junior high track at Burlington Invitational. Northwest Kansas League Art Show at Atwood.

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