

# Cowboys defeat Broncs for homecoming win

By Tom Betz

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Goodland Cowboys got back on the winning track with a homecoming win over the Lakin Broncs on Friday, 32-14.

The Cowboys will travel to Colby at 6:30 p.m. on Friday for a Great West Activity Conference game against the rival Eagles. The Cowboys now have a 2-3 record and Colby has a 1-4 record after losing to Ulysses, 47-8.

The Cowboys scored 13 points in the first quarter and six in the second quarter to lead 19-0 in the second quarter. The Lakin Broncs scored near the end of the second quarter to make it 19-7 at halftime. The two teams traded touchdowns in the third quarter and the Cowboys scored again in the fourth quarter, but the two-point conversion was no good to make the final 32-14.

Goodland won the toss, but deferred to give the Broncs the ball on the kickoff. On the second play of the game Broncs player senior Joe McCombs was tackled by Cowboy Riley Oharah, and he went down hard. Medics were called in and McCombs was put on a back board and carted off the field and taken to the hospital by ambulance with a possible dislocated hip. He did not return to the game.

When action returned Cowboy Ryan Hillmer picked up a Broncs fumble and returned it 37 yards for a touchdown. The extra point was blocked making it 6-0 with 10:50 on the clock.

Lakin appeared to be driving for a touchdown with a first down inside the Cowboys six yard line, but the Broncs fumbled at the one-yard line and Goodland recovered.

The Cowboys scored on a 99-yard drive that included a 57-yard run by Garrett Taylor to give the Cowboys a first and goal at the seven yard line after a horse collar penalty on Lakin. The touchdown by Dax Ruhs made it 12-0. The two-point conversion was good, but an illegal procedure penalty set the Cowboys back and Austin Avelar kicked the extra point to make it 13-0 with 3:41 left in the first quarter.



Cowboy Tyler Gastineau (above) pushed the Lakin quarterback away from the ball and recovered the fumble in the second half on Friday. Cowboy Riley Oharah (right photo) tackles Lakin senior Joe McCombs on the second play of the game. McCombs was injured and had to be carted off the field. The Cowboys won the homecoming game 32-14.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

The Cowboys recovered the muffed kickoff on the next possession, but were unable to turn that into more points when a field goal try by Avelar went wide right.

The Cowboys got another big play late in the second quarter on an interception by Reed Bellamy who ran it back 87 yards for a touchdown with 2:16 left in the half.

The Broncs seemed to come to life in the last two minutes and drove down for their touchdown with 39 second left in the half. The point after was good to make it 19-7 at halftime.

Goodland got the ball to start the second half but were not able to move and had to punt. On the Broncs possession quarterback Bryant Miller fumbled a snap and Tyler Gastineau recovered to give the Cowboys great field position in Lakin territory.

The Cowboys drove 31 yards after the fumble and scored on a run by Ruhs with 5:04 left in the third

quarter. The extra point kick by Avelar was good making it 26-7.

Lakin took the kickoff and drove down for their second touchdown with 2:48 left in the third quarter.

The final Cowboys score came after a 40-yard pass over the middle from Bellamy to Oharah to set up the Cowboys deep in Broncs territory. The score came on a one-yard run by Bellamy with 10:42 left in the fourth. Again the two-point conversion was no good making it 32-14. With time running out and no time outs left, Lakin tried long passes to move into Cowboy territory, but one deep completion was out of bounds and another went through the hands of the receiver. The Cowboys took over on downs with about two minutes left and Bellamy took a knee three times to run out the clock for the 34-14 win.

Bellamy completed six of 10 passes for 81 yards. His longest was the 40-yard pass to Oharah. Bellamy ran the ball six times for 30 yards,



and his longest run was 20 yards. He scored two touchdowns on the 87-yard interception return and a one-yard run.

Ruhs carried 14 times for 87 yards and his longest was 21 yards. Taylor carried 16 times for 108 yards and his longest was the 62 yard run that set up the touchdown in the first quarter. Oharah carried seven times for 32 yards and his long was eight yards. Hillmer had one carry for no gain.

Avelar caught one pass for 14 yards that gave the Cowboys a first down. Hillmer caught two passes for 17 yards and his longest was 17 yards. Oharah had one catch for 40 yards. Taylor had one catch for 10 yards.

The Cowboys fumbled one time and recovered four Lakin fumbles. The Cowboys had one interception for 87 yards and a touchdown by Bellamy.

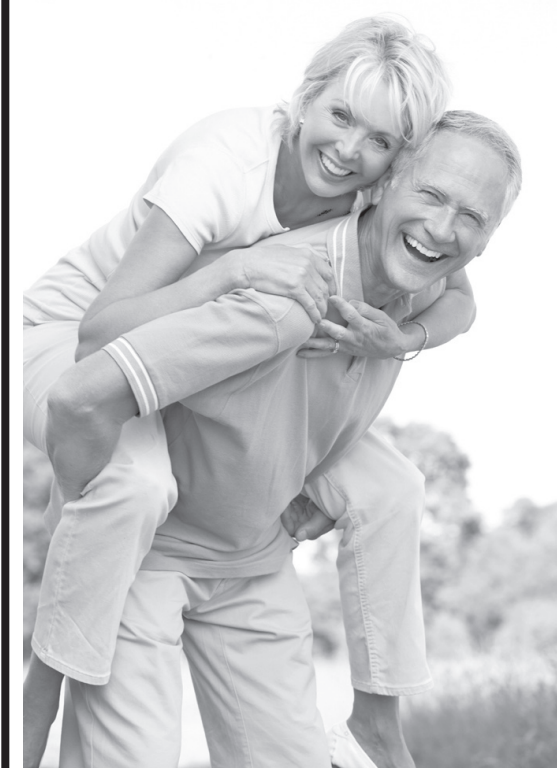
Taylen Smith punted twice for 46 yards with his longest 36 yards. Cy Paxton returned one punt for 10 yards. Avelar returned five kickoffs for 178 yards and his longest was 49 yards. Avelar was two for three on extra point tries and missed his one field goal try.



Defensively Cowboys Garrett Taylor and Laine Herl put a stop on a Lakin running back. The Cowboys won the game 32-14.

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