

Cowboys shut out Bluejays, 17-0, in district game

By Tom Betz

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Goodland had another young running back step up and use his legs to lead the Cowboys to a 17-0 shut out of the Norton Bluejays in the first district game on Friday and raise Goodland's record to 4-3.

For the third game this season a Cowboy has given the team and fans something great to watch and this week it was junior Cy Paxton, 5'6", 120 pounds, who came off the bench to carry the ball 24 times for 150 yards and two touchdowns at Norton.

Paxton came in early in the first quarter when Cowboy Dax Ruhs went out with an apparent rib injury. Ruhs had run for 182 yards the previous week in the Cowboy win over Colby, 27-18. Ruhs carried for about six yards on four carries in the first two Cowboy possessions, but was apparently injured on a two-yard run.

After the game Coach Kent Teeter said he felt Ruhs could have come back in the second half, but was pleased with Paxton's performance and was glad he could rest Ruhs.

"The junior varsity coaches Don Raymer and Joe Sramek had been saying Paxton was a great runner," Teeter said. "He got a golden opportunity and he made a great job of it. He showed he can run through the tackles and ran behind Riley Oharah.

"Paxton has a ton of guts, and it shows no one can't be replaced. It is good to be able to put kids in different spots."

Neither team could score in the first quarter and in a turnaround from past games it was the Cowboys scoring in the last minute of the second on a 68 yard seven play drive with Paxton scoring from the two to give the Cowboys a 6-0 lead. Austin Avelar's extra point was good to make it 7-0 at half.

The third quarter was scoreless as the Cowboys had a great goal line stand to keep the Bluejays from scoring.

Coach Teeter said the goal line stand was the turning point in the game and the Cowboy defense really came together.

In the fourth quarter the Cowboys drove down for an Avelar field goal to make it 10-0, and near the end of the quarter the Cowboys got an interception and drove down for another Paxton touchdown to make it 17-0.

The Cowboys win gives them a 1-0 record in district play, and they will travel to Phillipsburg on Friday in another district game. Phillipsburg has a 4-2 record and is 1-0 in district play defeating Thomas More Prep 47-7.

Last year the Cowboys lost the opening district game to Norton



Paxton G. Helton Cowan Gastineau

40-9 at Cowboy Stadium, and defeated previously unbeaten Phillipsburg 48-28 to even their district record and won the final game over Thomas More Prep 54-13.

Coach Teeter said he expects Phillipsburg to remember the game last year and be looking to avenge the loss.

The turning point of the game at Norton came early in the second half when the Bluejays took the kickoff and on a third and eight had a big pass over the middle for 46 yards from Jordan Wahlmeier to Jacob Brooks to give them a first down at the Cowboy 23. Trey Millan got Norton a first down at the Cowboy 13.

A sweep by Wahlmeier got them to the five, and Tye Nickell ran for a first and goal inside the 3. On first down Nickell managed to get to the one, but no touchdown. On second down Nickell was thrown for a two-yard loss by Tyler Gastineau. On third and goal Nickell was again thrown for a one-yard loss by Oharah and Jason Cowan making it fourth and goal from the four. A dead ball unsportsmanlike call on Norton moved the ball back 15 yards to the 19 yard line. On fourth and 19 Wahlmeier threw over Brooks in the end zone to end the Bluejays scoring threat.

Norton won the toss, but deferred giving the ball to the Cowboys. Ruhs ran twice for five yards, but Reed Bellamy's pass went off Oharah's hands and the Cowboys had to punt with Taylen Smith kicking 44 yards as it rolled down inside the Norton 20.

The Bluejays handed off to Millan who got a first down at the 38, and the Wahlmeier passed to Robert Blecha for a first down at the Cowboy 44. The Bluejays could not move, but on third down Wahlmeier got six to make it fourth and four at the Cowboy 38. On fourth down Millan got to the 35, but was a few inches short and the Cowboys took over.

The Cowboys were unable to move and Smith punted to the Norton 35 where Nickell returned to the 45.

Norton was unable to move and had to punt. Paxton called for a fair catch at the Cowboy 15.

With Paxton in the backfield Oharah carried for two yards and Bellamy

kept for a first down at the 26.

Oharah ran for three yards, and on second and seven Paxton followed Oharah and broke free for 32 yards and a first down at the Norton 38. On the last play of the quarter Paxton ran for a first down at the Norton 25.

Opening the second quarter Oharah got six to the 19. On third and three Paxton cuts inside and gets a Cowboy first down at the 13.

The Bluejays stopped Oharah and on third down Bellamy was dragged down at the seven. On fourth down Avelar tried for a field goal, but it was a line drive that went under the crossbar from 28 yards.

Norton took over at the 20 and Brooks ran for a first down at the 30. Millan ran out to the 36, and the Cowboys were penalized for 15 yards for a horse collar tackle that moved the ball to the Cowboy 49.

Norton got a first down at the Cowboy 35 on a 12 yard pass from Wahlmeier. Norton got a first down at the Cowboy 23 on a 17 yard run by Brooks. On first down Brooks was thrown for a seven yard loss. The Cowboys declined an illegal motion penalty making it second and 18. Wahlmeier threw to the 22, but a push in the back penalty brought it back to second and 23 at the 36. Millan gained four to the 32. On third and 19 Wahlmeier passed into the end zone and it went off Brooks hands at the goal line. Norton went for a fake punt and Wahlmeier threw over the middle, but it was incomplete turning the ball over to the Cowboys.

On second and 20 Bellamy rolled out and threw to Avelar at the Norton 45 and he ran down to the 30 for a first down.

On second down Paxton gets to the corner and down 21 yards to the Bluejays eight for a first and goal.

Bellamy had trouble with the snap, but carried it down to the five. Paxton ran to the two and on third down went in for the touchdown to give the Cowboys a 6-0 lead with 57 seconds left. Avelar added the extra point to make it 7-0 at halftime.

Paxton had 76 yards on nine carries in the first half and the Cowboys had 163 yards of offense to 90 for Norton.

The weather was perfect to start the second half at 55 degrees and no

wind. Norton got the kickoff, and drove down for an apparent score, but the Cowboys stopped them and a penalty on Norton made it hard for them to score.

The Cowboys took over and on second down Oharah carried and fumbled, but Ryan Hillmer recovered for a first down at the 30. Paxton ran for a first down out to the 46, and Norton was called for a horse collar moving it to the Norton 39.

On first down Goodland was called for a false start moving them back five yards. On the next play Paxton gained two yards. Norton's leading tackler senior Campbell was injured and had to be helped off the field.

The Cowboys drive stalled and with fourth and 18, Smith punted 31 yards to the Norton 10.

On second and 11 Millan appeared to get loose and ran to the 46, but an illegal procedure flag took away that 38 yard run and moved the Bluejays back to the 5. On second down Wahlmeier was almost sacked in the end zone, but fell out to get to the one. The Cowboys held and on fourth down Wahlmeier punted from the end zone. The Cowboys misjudged the kick and the ball hit a Cowboy with Norton recovering

at the 46. The Cowboys defense stepped up again moving the Bluejays back and Cowan getting a sack to make it fourth and 16. On the punt Hillmer called for a fair catch, but muffed the kick and was able to recover as the third quarter ended.

The Cowboys started at their 30 and Paxton ran for a first down at the 48 to put him over 100 yards rushing in the game. On third and six Bellamy passed to Hillmer for 30 yards and a first down at the Norton 18. Paxton ran down to the five for another first down.

On first and goal Oharah made it to the four. Paxton gained a yard to the three, but on third down Bellamy was dropped for a three-yard loss at the six. Avelar came out for his second field goal try from 20 yards and this time it was inside the left upright to make the score 10-0 with 7:33 left. It was a 10-play 74-yard drive.

The two teams traded possessions without making a first down.

On first down with about four minutes left Wahlmeier was in the shotgun, but his pass was intercepted by Gunner Helton who returned it to the Bluejay 10.

On three running plays Paxton got down to the two. On fourth down

Norton took a time out with 2:38 left. On fourth down Paxton was the lone running back and he escaped a tackler in the backfield to go in for the touchdown with 2:32 left to make it 16-0. Avelar added the extra point to make it 17-0.

The Cowboys went into a prevent defense and Norton ran out of downs at their 42 with 1:40 left. Oharah ran twice for two yards, and Paxton was stopped for no gain on third down. The Cowboys went for the first down, but Bellamy fell down at the 43.

Again the Cowboys were in prevent defense with 43 seconds left and Norton at their 43. Millan ran for 27 yards and a first down at the Cowboy 30. Cowboy Coach Teeter had a conference with the referee.

Norton had two illegal formation penalties to move them back. Norton tried to set up a hook and ladder, but the pass was incomplete. On fourth and 20 with two seconds left Wahlmeier threw for the end zone and Avelar was called for pass interference. On the one un-timed play from the Cowboy 25 Wahlmeier's pass was intercepted by Avelar who kneeled down to seal the win 17-0.



Coach Travis Jones with the Northwest Tech Maverick Women's Golf Team who placed second.

Maverick golf team wins award

The Northwest Tech Maverick Women's Golf team finished together as a team for the first time this season and got a second place team award at the Warrior Invitational a Central Christian last week.

The Maverick women playing in the tournament included Kalee Konecne who had rounds of 125 and 111 for 236, Jenice Hartman with 122 and 121 for 243, Loni Hoots 136 and 130 for 266, and Jeniffer Hernandez with 166 and 170 for 336.

Maverick Coach Travis Jones said he was proud of the girls for finishing as a team, and was pleased they won the second place team award.

Northwestern Oklahoma State was the tournament women's team winner.

A familiar Goodland name, former Cowgirl golfer Chelsie Gausman of Kansas Wesleyan was the top golfer in the tournament with rounds of 77 and 79 for 156. Another familiar name in the tournament was former Cowgirl Heidi Yonkey of Kansas Wesleyan who was 13th with 116 and 104 for 220. Kansas Wesleyan did not have enough players for a team score.

Maverick Men's team

The Northwest Tech Men's Golf team placed ninth at the Warrior Invitational.

Coach Jones said it was the best

tournament for the men of the year.

Joel Weis, former Cowboy, tied for 18th. Tyler Jones tied for 42nd. Tyler Boeugher was 49th, J.P. McCool was 57th and Broderick Highberger was 60th.

Jones said he has been taking the teams to some higher level tournaments, and feels it is giving the players a chance to see tougher competition and play different courses.

This was the last scheduled tournament of the fall and Jones said they will start again in March or April.

He said he has been trying to organize a women's tournament to be held at Sugar Hills, but is having trouble getting at least five teams to come.

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West Elementary School • Central Elementary School



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Wednesday: Black Day
Early Childhood Development Screening
4 p.m.: Varsity/Junior Varsity Volleyball Triangular, here

Thursday: Gold day
End of First Nine Weeks

Friday: NO SCHOOL-Teacher Professional Day
6 p.m.: Varsity Football at Phillipsburg

Saturday: Regional Cross Country
Girls Sub-State Volleyball
8 a.m.: ACT Test date

Monday: Black day
Board of Education meeting
Marching Festival at Fort Hays State University
3:30 p.m.: Junior High Scholar's Bowl, here

Tuesday: Gold day
4 p.m.: Parent/Teacher Conferences



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