



# Football

WESTERN KANSAS FOOTBALL WEEK 2

## Pick Six



KSHSAA Covered

## Pick Six: Week 2's football games to watch in Western Kansas

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### HOLCOMB (1-0) AT SCOTT CITY (1-0)

The Longhorns and Beavers are coming off hard-fought wins ahead of the rivalry matchup in Week 2. Scott City's Jace Thomas ran for 204 yards on 26 carries to help the Beavers take a 36-27 win over Ulysses. Holcomb notched a 23-16 win over Cimarron. Khai Cosner scored three rushing touchdowns while quarterback Kaden Johnson threw for 160 yards for the Longhorns. Scott City is coming off a 6-4 season while Holcomb went 7-2 last year. Scott City returned just 10 letterwinners from last year, but they have a playmaker in Thomas, who rushed for 793 yards and 13 touchdowns a year ago. Holcomb returned a total of 12 starters including Johnson and Levi Knoll, who had over 700 yards receiving last year with nine touchdowns. The Longhorns took a 30-13 win over the Beavers in last year's matchup.

### BELOIT-ST. JOHN'S (1-0) AT OSBORNE (0-1)

The Blujays opened with a 38-22 win against Sylvan-Lucas. Ben Thompson and Cooper Jenmark each ran for two scores, while quarterback Jaret Eitzmann also had a rushing touchdown in a balanced ground attack. The Blujays recovered four fumbles. Noah Greenwood returned a fumble for a touchdown. Osborne is coming off a 28-6 loss to Hill City. The 2019 Eight-Player Division II champs are looking to get back on track after going 4-5 last year following an undefeated season. Junior Connor Schurr rushed for 67 yards and scored the Bulldogs' lone touchdown last week. Senior Mason Schurr is Osborne's top returning playmaker from a year ago after rushing for 1,057 yards and 15 touchdowns last year. St. John's is coming off a 7-3 season in 2020. Osborne handed the Blujays a 56-42 loss in Week 2 last year, but St. John's reeled off seven straight victories before falling to Frankfort in the playoffs.

### **LA CROSSE (0-1) AT HOXIE (0-1)**

Both teams are looking to rebound after taking lopsided losses to Eight-Player powers in Week 1. La Crosse fell 52-26 while Hoxie took a 56-6 loss to Leoti. Colby Stull ran for 147 yards and a TD while also catching a touchdown pass in the La Crosse's loss to the Knights. Caden Morgan threw for a pair of scores for the Leopards. La Crosse is entering their second season of Eight-Player football after going 5-4 in 2020. Hoxie went 9-2 last year and finished a game short of the state title game in Eight-Player Division I. The Indians lost a few key seniors including lineman Harlan Obioha, but they returned senior quarterback Ashton Dowell, who threw for 1,632 yards and 22 touchdowns in 2020.

### **HILL CITY (1-0) AT NESS CITY (1-0)**

Both the Eagles and Ringnecks were impressive in Week 1. Ness City notched a come-from-behind 32-20 win over Macksville behind four rushing touchdowns from Jose Guzman, who finished with 102 yards on the ground. He also threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Danny Guzman. The Eagles trailed 20-6 at halftime before scoring 26 unanswered in the second half. Hill City shutdown Osborne, holding the Bulldogs scoreless for three quarters before surrendering a late touchdown. Aiden Aimrein, Kaleb Atkins and Jaden Nuss each rushed for a touchdown, while Derek Keith caught a touchdown pass from Amrein. Hill City went 4-4 last year while Ness City was 3-5. The Eagles won a defensive struggle against the Ringnecks a year ago, pulling out a 7-6 win.

### **WAKEENEY-TREGO (1-0) AT LEOTI-WICHITA COUNTY (1-0)**

Leoti rolled to a 56-6 win over Hoxie behind a huge night from junior quarterback Ehrik Hermosillo, who rushed for 238 yards and four touchdowns on 26 carries, and completed 11 of 14 passes for 164 yards and two TDs. Leoti reached the Eight-Player Division I title game in 2020, suffering its only loss of the season in a 70-58 shootout against Little River. The Indians returned three starters from that team. Wakeeney was credited with a 1-0 victory by forfeit against Chase last week. The Golden Eagles are coming off a 1-6 season last year. They return several players with starting experience, including James Kreigh, who rushed for 529 yards and six touchdowns a year ago.

## **OAKLEY (0-1) AT PLAINVILLE (1-0)**

The Cardinals made a statement in Week 1, cruising to a 34-7 win over Phillipsburg. Kyle Werner rushed for 153 yards on 16 carries. Ben Hansen had two rushing touchdowns while Ethan Hamilton threw touchdown passes to Carter Cellmer and Anders Dewey. The Cardinals returned key weapons at the skill positions from last year's 5-5 team. Oakley, which is coming off a thrilling run to the Class 1A title game last year, opened with a 31-13 loss to TMP-Marian. The Plainsmen, 10-3 a year ago, lost their top playmaker in Ethan Abell but return two key cogs in lineman/linebackers Christian Koch and Johnathan Temaat. Oakley took a 10-7 win in last year's meeting with Plainville.