

Even with strong quarter, Goodland falls to Broncs

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The Cowboys made a run for it in the third and fourth quarters, but couldn't pull out a win against the Lakin Broncs Tuesday night, losing 66-80.

The Goodland boys shined in the third period, though, outscoring the state-ranked Broncs 22-14.

Two treys by Lance Tedford and one each by Kris Rubio and Aaron Gittinger, and five points by Donald Raymer helped put them within shooting distance of the Lakin Broncs in the last half.

With five minutes left, Goodland was down by 8 and had the ball, and it looked like the momentum could carry them to a victory. But they never got any closer.

Goodland fought right up to the end, scoring their last points with 18 seconds remaining, and holding Lakin scoreless for the last minute. They put up a shot to beat the buzzer from half court, but it spun around the rim and bounced out.

For all their efforts, the boys couldn't

stop Lakin, ranked No. 3 statewide in Class 3A. The Broncs got more rebounds, intercepted more passes, caused more turnovers and got off more shots.

Lakin was lead by Travis Quintana, a quick 5'8" point guard. He led all players in steals with 10.

Lakin, and especially Deven Hammerschmidt, at 6'6" the tallest player, dominated the boards.

Brady Fuller tore up Goodland with his treys, and Derek Ramos dazzled fans with a dunk on a rebound early in the second quarter.

Top players for Goodland were Derrick Raymer with 21 points and 10 rebounds, and Aaron Gittinger with 17 points and four boards. Raymer again showed his rebounding skills, scoring most of his points on offensive rebounds he was able to get away from the Lakin giants.

Gittinger scored the first points of the game in an assist from Kevin Schulte, which was quickly followed for Lakin with one of Fullers three-pointers.

The last lead Goodland had was 6-5, three minutes into the game. Lakin led scoring in three quarters, at one point leading by 26.

Coach Jon McLean said he was disappointed with the loss, but said he thought his team played well.

"With five minutes left in the fourth quarter, I thought we had a good chance," he said. "For us to come back like that really showed that we can be a good team."

He said he was impressed with Gittinger's performance, and said Gittinger needs to step up like he did against Lakin the rest of the games this season.

"It was nice to see him taking it to the basket," said the coach.

Goodland's next game will be Friday against Atwood at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

McLean said Atwood is much improved this year, and that it should be a good game.

"But it is a game we should win," said McLean, "and get us back on the winning track."



Andrew Melia of Goodland tried to get past a Lakin defender Tuesday night during the Cowboys' loss to the Broncs.

Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News

Goodland wrestlers place first

Goodland wrestlers Brandon Nemechek, 189 pounds, and Andy Phillips, 215, placed first at a junior varsity tournament.

The tournament was in WaKeeney on Saturday.

Thirteen of the 21 junior varsity Cowboy wrestlers placed at the tournament, with five taking second, two finishing third and four grabbing fourth.

Chad Normandin, 103; Dusty King, 125; Chance Schilling, 140; Brandon Linden, 160; and David Russell, 171; took second in their weight classes.

Korey Schulte, 125; and Mike Zimmerman, 145; placed third.

Brock Whitmore, 112; Andy Farris, 119; Adrian Hernandez, 171; and Landon West, 189; finished fourth.

In other individual results, Ray Brigham, 112, finished 0-2; Tray Klinge, 119, 0-2; Malcom White, 130, 3-2; Brian Bauman, 145, 2-2; Michael Middleton, 145, 0-3; Brandon Cowen, 152, 3-2; Brett Jarmin, 152, 0-2; and Brian Imel, 160, 0-2.

Cowgirls suffer second straight loss Tuesday

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowgirls suffered their second loss in four days Tuesday, losing to the Lakin Lady Broncs 49-42.

The loss drops the Cowgirls record to 4-3. They will face the Atwood Lady Buffaloes at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse for their third game in seven days.

Against the Lady Broncs, the Cowgirls fell behind early and had to battle back. A shot by Jayci Stone at the buzzer on a fast break pass from Jessica Osborn cut the lead to one point, 11-10.

Twice in the second quarter the Cowgirls were down by five points, but managed to cut the lead back to one. However with 40 seconds remaining, Lakin's Kacy King put up a shot and was fouled by Goodland's Erica Mann. The basket counted and King made the free throw to complete the three-point play, giving the Lady Broncs a 26-22 lead at the half. In the third, the Cowgirls fell behind by six after a steal by King, who drove the floor for a lay-up.

The Cowgirls seemed to come to life as baskets by Stone, Osborn and Mann tied the score at 28 with 5:30 remaining.

Neither team seemed to be playing well for a while, as the next score was a basket by Lakin's King about two minutes later to retake the lead. Thirty seconds later, Stone passed the ball into Mann, who tied the score at 30.

Shots by both teams failed to fall through until

King got a steal and another lay-up with 2:26 remaining.

With 1:20 left, Lakin's Megan Jennings extended the Lady Broncs lead to four points, and with less than 30 seconds remaining King hit a 3-point shot to make it a seven point lead, 37-30. She also got the last point of the quarter on a free throw after Goodland's Anny McCoy picked up her third personal foul.

Starting the final quarter, the Cowgirls got baskets from StevieLee Raymer and Stone to cut the lead. Stone then was fouled and went to the free throw line, where she sank both shots to cut the lead to two, 38-36 with 5:53 in the game.

That was as close as they got as the Lady Broncs extended the lead to 42-36 with 4:19 remaining.

The Cowgirls had some furious action under their basket as Stone put up a shot, got the rebound and passed it to McCoy who took a shot that bounced off into the hands of a Lakin player.

With the lead, the Lady Broncs began to spread out the game. Raymer got a steal and was fouled by Lakin's Darcy Jennings with 3:07 remaining. Raymer made one of the two free throws to cut the lead to five, 42-37.

Shots by Stone and Mann wouldn't fall, and Lakin's King was fouled by Mann with 1:48 on the clock. King hit both free throws to make it 44-37.

The next time down the court the ball was knocked away from a Cowgirl and when Stone went across

the mid-court line to get it a referee blew his whistle. A second referee explained that the ball had been touched by a Lakin player and the Cowgirls got the ball back.

Stone passed the ball into the middle, there was a scramble underneath and the ball was passed back out to Stone who put up a 3-point shot — it went through to cut the lead to four, 44-40, with 1:20 left.

In the last minute, Lakin got four free throws from King and one from D. Jennings to extend their lead to nine.

With less than five seconds remaining, McCoy hit a close shot for the Cowgirls to make the final 49-42.

"Back to the drawing board," said Coach Connie Livengood said. "We are playing with a lack of intensity. That is it, point blank. We played better than Friday, but we are playing the way we ought to be."

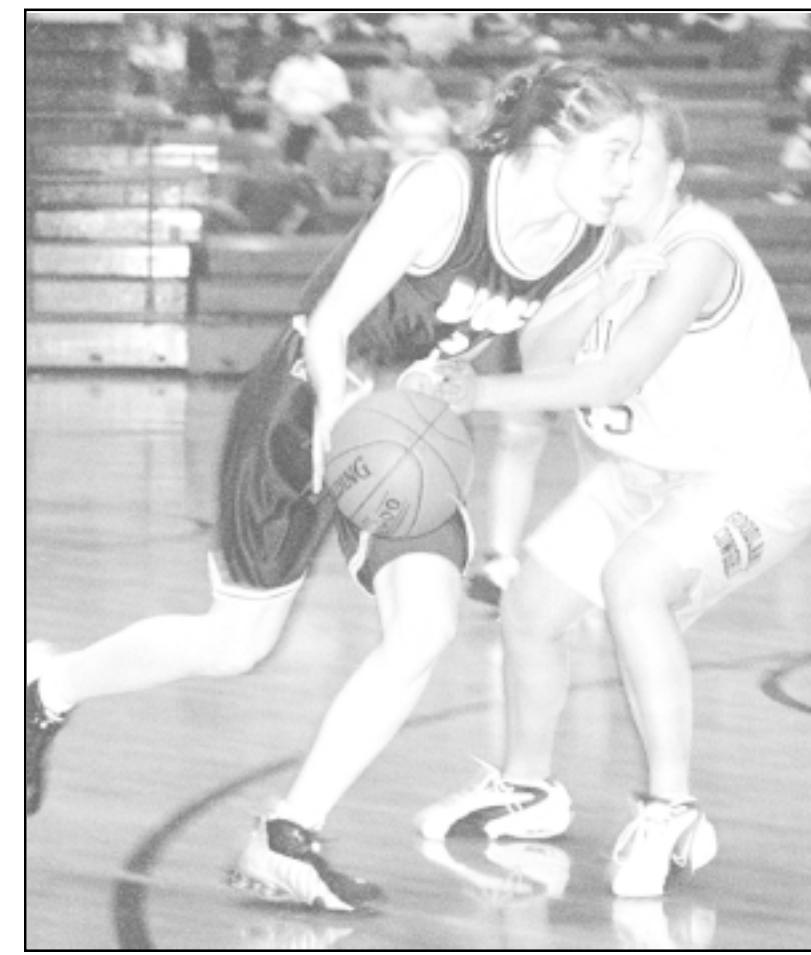
"We tried some different things," she said. "We have to get it together. We need to gel as a team."

Looking ahead to the Atwood Lady Buffaloes on Friday, Livengood said she expects them to be a good team and ready to play.

"I hope we are ready," she said.

Stone lead the Cowgirls with 16 points. McCoy was also in double figures with 10. Osborn had 7; Mann 4; Raymer 3; and Lacey Brenner 2.

The Cowgirls hit 34 percent of their field goals, 15 of 44, and 29 percent of their 3-point shots, 2 of 7. They hit 60 percent of their free throws, 6 of 10.



Cowgirl Danielle Hellerud defended against a Bronc during on Tuesday.

Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News.

Smith inducted into Hall of Fame in first year eligible

NEW YORK (AP) — Ozzie Smith landed with ease, touching down in Cooperstown with the flair of one of his favorite backflips.

Smith, who made a career out of turning difficult plays into dazzling ones, was overwhelmingly elected to the Hall of Fame on Tuesday in his first year of eligibility.

The Wizard of Oz, regarded as the finest-fielding shortstop ever, was the lone player picked. Gary Carter fell just short of election.

"My defense made such an impact, it made people take notice," Smith said.

An acrobatic, 13-time Gold Glove winner while with the St. Louis Cardinals and San Diego Padres, Smith was chosen on 91.7 percent of the ballots.

"To be the only one going in I think speaks to the impact I had at my position," he said.

Not since Reggie Jackson in 1993 has only one player been enshrined. Smith's ceremony will take place July 28 in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Smith took a sip of champagne at his home in St. Louis after getting the good news. He did not celebrate with a backflip, "but I probably could do one today."

Smith became the 37th player picked on his first try. He is the 22nd shortstop overall in the Hall.

"The guys who get into the Hall of Fame are the guys who hit the ball out of the ballpark," he said. "I think my going in is going to reinforce the defensive aspect of the game."

Smith's sure hands were put to use right away. On Tuesday night, he carried the Olympic torch as the relay made its way to St. Louis.

Smith was selected on 433 of 472 ballots. To be elected, players had to be listed on at least 75 percent of the ballots of 10-year members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Carter got 343 votes (72.7 percent) and fell 11 shy of election. The former catcher's totals have dramatically improved over the years, going from 34 percent in 1999 to nearly 49.7 percent in 2000 to 65 percent last year.

"When the anticipation is so high

and it's being talked about so much, there's a letdown," Carter said. "Being this close, you want it to happen."

'World's most famous' player to be divorced

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan may soon be a free agent of a different sort. Jordan's wife of 12 years has filed

for divorce. The Chicago Tribune reported the news about the world's most famous basketball player on its Web site

Japanese player joins major leagues

TOKYO (AP) — The Yakult Swallows have accepted a bid to sell the rights to left-hander Kazuhisa Ishii to a major league baseball team in the United States.

The amount of the offer was between \$11 million and \$12 million, a baseball official with knowledge of the bidding said on the condition he not be identified. The Los Angeles Dodgers bid about \$11.5 million, another baseball official said.

The New York Mets, Texas Rangers and Anaheim Angels were among other teams which reportedly bid to obtain the rights to Japanese left-hander Kazuhisa Ishii.

The Swallows, who won the Central League title last season, notified the commissioner's office last week that Ishii was being formally "posted," the term used when a Japanese player wants to switch to the majors.

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