

Cowboys face two Indians

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The Cowboys played two good games this weekend, smashing St. Francis 81-49 on Friday and fighting to the last minute in a 51-49 loss to Hays on Saturday.

The starting lineup was changed Friday due to Aaron Gittinger's week-long fight with the flu-bug. Kris Rubio was put in his place, alongside Jordan Riebel, Lance Tedford, Andrew Melia and Don Raymer. Gittinger did get some playing time, but he wasn't up to his normal three-point shooting, ball-handling self.

Goodland dominated the entire show. Melia scored the first eight points, and pulled down most of the boards on both sides of the court during the first quarter, until he got into foul trouble and was taken out early.

The Indians pulled ahead with a three pointer with three minutes left in the first quarter, 9-8, but it was the only lead they had all night. Rubio came back with a trey of his own to tie it up, and it was all Cowboys, all night, from then on.

Goodland ran up a quick 27-16 lead at the end of the first and start of the second quarters, with back-to-back-to-back buckets from Raymer, a three-pointer from Tedford, and a free throw from Bryan Mai.

The Cowboys grabbed 26 points in the second quarter, capped off with an off-balance buzzer-beating shot by Raymer, and held St. Francis to nine.

Nine Goodland players got on the board in the first half, Raymer leading with 16 points, and Melia following with 10.

The Cowboys ran through St. Francis the rest of the game, scoring 24-20 in the third and 14-7 in the fourth.

Every player on the court scored except Alan Cebula. He was fed the ball at the end of the fourth, but missed

a three-point attempt. Cebula racked up three assists, including one early in the fourth quarter, feeding it to Raymer for his 20th point.

"He (Cebula) is really unselfish; he'll only take a shot when he's got a good chance," said Coach Jon McLean. "I thought he played really well."

"We knew if we came out and played well we could win by a pretty good margin."

Melia ended up as leading scorer with 21, followed by Raymer with 20. Riebel had 13, Rubio 8, Tedford 6, Mai 3, Jace Terry 3, Gittinger 2, Jared Doke 2, Kevin Schulte 2, and Bill Linin 1.

The Cowboys had a much tougher game Saturday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse, coming within two points of the taller Hays team. Rubio again started for Gittinger.

Goodland had come from a 12-point deficit against the larger school at the end of the third quarter. Mai started the comeback with a steal, and took it down for an easy two. Tedford intercepted a pass, but didn't have enough time to do anything with it as the buzzer sounded.

Schulte threw it in to Raymer for an easy bucket to start up the fourth, and cut the lead to 44-37. Gittinger hit a three, closing it to four points. The Hays Indians got a free-throw, and Melia was fed inside to bring it to three, forcing an Indians time-out.

Scott Schumacher of Hays hit a three, and Gittinger answered with one of his own. Rubio faked two Hays players off the floor and put it in, and brought it within one point with 3 minutes left.

The Indians got a bucket, then double-teamed Rubio in the corner, forcing a time-out.

With a minute left, the Cowboys were still down by three. Coach McLean called for intentional fouls.

Raymer fouled an Indian, and Riebel fouled two before any free throws were made.

The Hays player made one of two shots from the line, but Goodland missed their shot. On the Hays possession, the Cowboys played tough defense, knocking the ball loose twice, but couldn't take it away from Hays, who called a time-out.

On the inbound, Riebel fouled, and Hays missed the shot.

Rubio laid it in, making it a one point game with 15 seconds left. Melia intentionally fouled an Indian, who missed the free throw, but Hays got the long rebound.

Lane Winter fouled the Hays player, who missed both free throws, but again Hays got the long rebound. Melia fouled the Hays player in the corner with two seconds left. Hays made one of two free throws, making it 51-49.

Rubio tried a long three-pointer at the buzzer, but it bounced off the rim, no good.

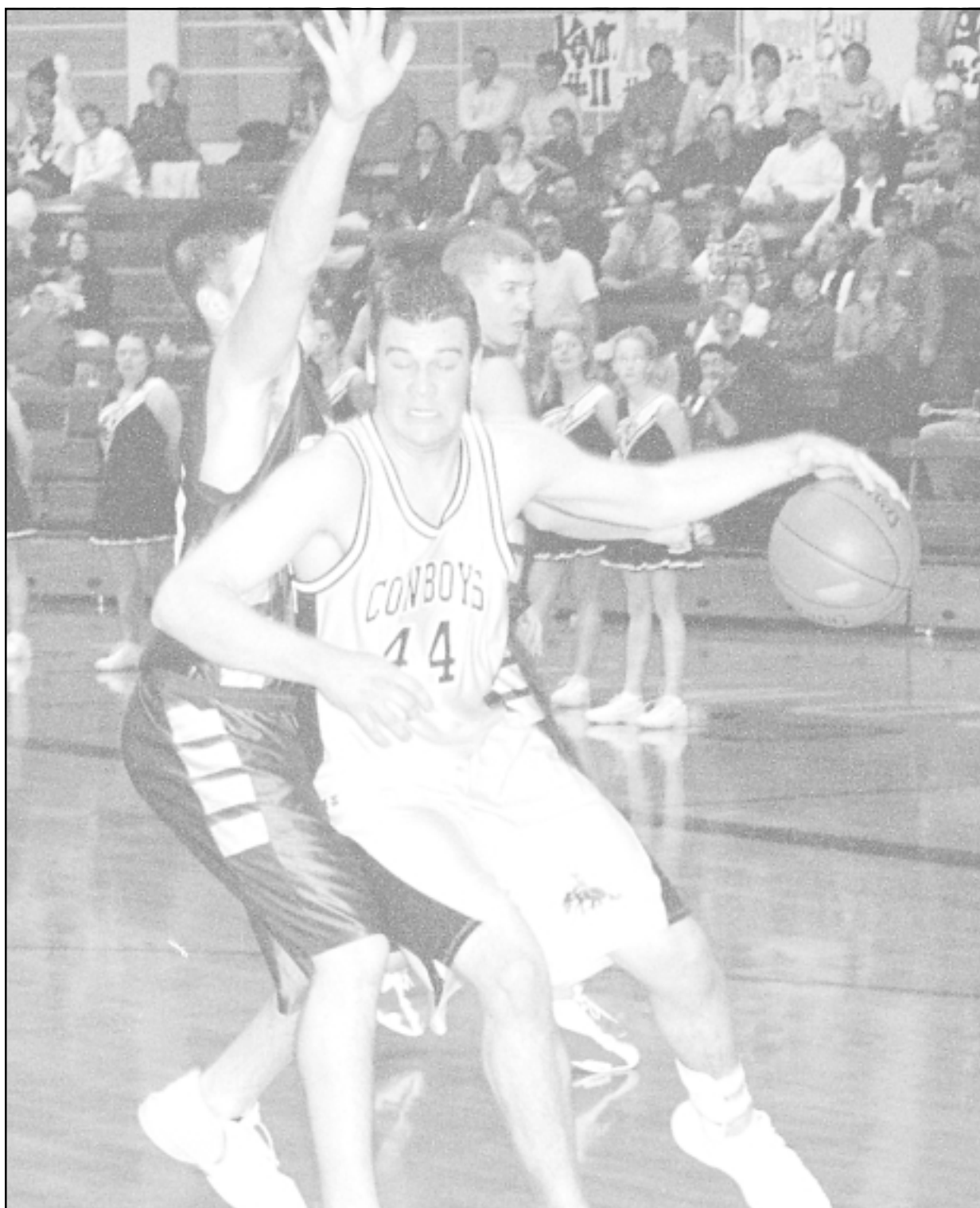
"Obviously we are disappointed with the loss, but we are pleased with the way we played," McLean said. "Hays is a bigger school, and they have a good basketball program."

"We could have done a little better blocking off and getting those long rebounds at the end, but the way the ball bounced off the front of the rim, makes them hard to get."

Melia led scoring with 20 and Rubio had seven. Gittinger and Riebel had six, Raymer 5, Tedford 3, Mai 2. Gittinger and Riebel scored their points with two three-pointers each.

The weekend games bring the Cowboys' record to 6-9. They will play Oakley about 7 p.m. Friday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Oakley is much improved this year, said McLean, but he thinks Goodland has a good shot if they come out and play the way they have been.



Andrew Melia posted up against the Hays defense Saturday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News

Wildcats coach ejected during 23rd straight loss to Kansas

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — The streaks go on for No. 2 Kansas.

Kirk Hinrich scored 26 points as Kansas beat Kansas State 98-71 on Monday night for its 23rd straight victory over the Wildcats, extending the Jayhawks' winning streak at Kansas State to 19 games.

The Wildcats frustrations were evi-

denced by four technical fouls and the ejection of coach Jim Wooldridge.

"We know it's got to end sometime," said junior forward Nick Collison, who scored 15 points as the Jayhawks (20-2, 9-0 Big 12) clinched their 13 straight 20-win season. "We just try to come in here every year and extend it by one more."

Kansas State's last home victory over the Jayhawks came on Jan. 29, 1983, in Ahearn Fieldhouse, and the Wildcats last beat Kansas — then ranked No. 1 — 68-64 on Jan. 17, 1994, in Lawrence.

The Wildcats, who upset then-No. 9 Oklahoma State on Saturday, have

never beaten two Top 10 teams in a row. They haven't defeated ranked teams in consecutive games since beating Oregon State (No. 2) and Illinois (No. 19) in the 1981 NCAA tournament.

"It was very frustrating that things weren't going our way, especially when everyone on the team, the city

and our school wanted us to beat KU," Kansas State forward Matt Seibrandt said. "We wanted to be a lot more competitive, but we never stopped fighting."

"It was one of those things where you try to just keep playing and not worry about the crowd," said Hinrich.

sports briefs

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) — Larry Coker, the Miami Hurricanes' head coach, was rewarded handsomely for winning the national college football championship. He got a five-year, \$5.25 million contract from the school.

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and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes

17th Street Barber Shop

Cynthia Bohl, Master Barber & Stylist, presented the 17th Street Barber Shop with a Grand Opening, Saturday Feb. 2. Goodland Ambassadors, family and guests witnessed the celebration. The new barber shop is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to Noon. Walk-in or by appointment. Bohl is also pursuing a cosmetology degree.

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