

# Freshman girls wind up third at Benkelman tourney

The Cowgirls freshman team placed third at a "C" team basketball tournament in Benkelman, Neb. on Saturday, losing their first game 36-12, but winning 30-13 in the second round.

The Cowgirls faced two Nebraska teams, squaring off against Lakeview Central in the first game and then playing Culbertson in the final round.

Coach Mitch Hixson said the girls performed well defensively against Lakeview, but had trouble sinking shots and had problems with fouling. He said 18 of Lakeview's points came from free throws.

The second game was extremely physical, the coach said, but the Cowgirls held their own and dominated the court. At the end, he said, the game

became too rough and Gami Cloyd was hit in the head in the fourth quarter and later taken to the hospital with a concussion.

Coach Hixson said Cloyd stayed in the Benkelman hospital overnight but was back home this weekend. He said she won't be playing in this evening's home game against the Norton Blue Jays. It will be the Cowgirls final game of the season.

The Cowgirls started off slow against Lakeview, not scoring in the first quarter and ending the half down 11 points, 15-4. The pace was about the same in the second half, as the Cowgirls brought in 8 points, compared to Lakeview's 21.

Coach Hixson pointed out many of

Lakeview's points came from free throws.

"Defensively, we played well," he said. "They only had 9 field goals. The problem is, they shot 35 free throws and made 18. We shot 5 and made 0."

He said the players were disappointed with the inconsistency of foul calls, and became frustrated in the fourth quarter.

"We couldn't get a shot to drop," he said. "We had a couple silly fouls. We dropped our heads a bit."

The coach said it was a whole different story against Culbertson.

"That was the most physical game I've ever been a part of as a coach," he said.

It might have been too physical, as

evidenced by Cloyd's hospital visit.

"There comes a point where a game gets too rough," Coach Hixson said, "and the officials need to call things on both sides."

He said he was proud of the players for not getting frustrated with the referees' calls and keeping their minds on the game.

"They adjusted well to the officials," he said.

The Cowgirls ended the first quarter tied 5-5 with Culbertson, but took off in the second, scoring 12 points and holding Culbertson to 3, to end the half 17-8. Goodland's defense stood out in the second half, allowing Culbertson to score only 5 points, while the Cowgirls brought in 12.

Coach Hixson said Goodland controlled the tempo of the game.

"We kept our energy level up and focused on winning the game," the coach said. "It was a beautiful thing to watch us playing aggressive and being physical."

The freshman will take on Norton at 3:45 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Earlier this season, the Cowgirls beat the Blue Jays 42-40 in overtime.

The coach is hoping this game won't be as exciting, but the Cowgirls still come out with a win.

"I'd like it so I don't have to sweat as much in the fourth quarter," he said.

Against Lakeview, Aubrey Winter scored 6 points, and Abby Murray, Shannon Showalter and Jennifer

Enfield, each 2.

Bailee Guyer had one rebound; Whitney Carmichael, three rebounds, four steals; Ciara Abbey, three rebounds, three steals; Showalter, two rebounds; Murray, four rebounds, one steal; Cloyd, five rebounds, one steal; and Enfield, one rebound.

Against Culbertson, Abbey scored 10 points; Cloyd, 6; Murray, 4; and Winter, Carmichael, Emily Burkett, Showalter and Enfield, each 2.

Sheldon had one steal; Carmichael, four rebounds, seven steals; Abbey, five rebounds, six steals; Showalter, two rebounds; Winter, two steals; Murray, six rebounds; Cloyd, six rebounds, one steal; and Enfield, two rebounds.

## Cowgirls win twice

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Cowgirls added wins over the Hoxie Lady Indians and the Wray Lady Eagles over the weekend, rolling up a 14-5 record with one game left in the regular season.

Friday, the Cowgirls had to come from behind in the third quarter to defeat the Lady Indians, 47-44. Saturday, though, the Cowgirls led from start to finish to trounce the Lady Eagles 45-25.

The final regular season game will be tonight at Max Jones, when the Cowgirls host the Norton Lady Bluejays at 5:30 p.m.

Cowgirl Coach Connie Livengood was toasted by her team following the Wray win Saturday, as they sang "Happy Birthday" and presented her with a cake, a "stop" sign and a special photo of Max Jones Fieldhouse with the Cowgirls playing in the Topside Tipoff.

Talking about Norton, Livengood said, "We are looking forward to playing them, I think we match up very well."

"They may have seven losses, but they have a good team, and have lost to very good teams. They have a 6-foot center who is averaging 24 points a game, and two quick guards. They play a lot of full-court pressure and man-to-man which we have seen a lot this season."

The Cowgirls will tip-off at 5:30 p.m. with the Cowboys to follow about 7 p.m.

At Hoxie the Cowgirls played the Lady Indians tough in the first quarter with the score tied at 14. Cowgirl Jayci Stone hit two 3-point shots in the quarter.

The Lady Indians took a 4-point lead into the locker room at half-time, outscoring the Cowgirls 10-4 for a 24-20 lead.

The Cowgirls went on a run in the third quarter with Cowgirl Lacey Brenner hitting 4 baskets and one free throw for nine of her 13 points. The Cowgirls outscored the Lady Eagles 13-7 to erase the deficit and take a 2-point lead into the final quarter.

The two teams traded baskets in the final eight minutes, but the Cowgirls held on and outscored the Lady Indians 14-13 for a 47-44 win. Cowgirl Anny McCoy scored seven of her 13 in the final quarter.

The win gives the Cowgirls a 7-2 record on the road, which is better than

at home.

Brenner and McCoy led the Cowgirls with 13 each, Stone had 10, StevieLee Raymer 4, Jessica Osborne 3, and Hayley Jarmin 4.

Saturday, the Cowgirls grabbed an early 6-0 lead on baskets by McCoy, Brenner and Stone, and despite efforts to catch up by the Wray Lady Eagles, the Cowgirls soon extended it to a 13-4 lead.

Then Wray's Mary Wisdom hit her first 3-point basket, followed by a basket by Stacie Smith to cut the lead to 13-9 with 3 minutes left.

Both teams traded fouls, but the final two baskets of the quarter belonged to Brenner and Erica Mann to give the Cowgirls a commanding 17-9 lead.

In the final 40 seconds of the quarter, the Lady Eagles had at least three shots at the basket, but couldn't get one to fall.

For the first three minutes of the second quarter, neither team seemed to be able to complete a play, and with 5:32 remaining, Wray's Katie Bohall fouled Goodland's Mann. Mann was called for a technical, but Bohall's free throw was no good.

With 4:10 remaining, Osborn took a shot, but it bounced out was rebounded by Stone, who passed it to Brenner who put it up and in to make it a 21-9 lead.

McCoy got two baskets and Jarmin added two free throws and a basket to give the Cowgirls a 29-13 lead at half time.

Early in the third quarter, the Lady Eagles got a basket from Bohall and a second 3-point basket from Wisdom to cut the lead to 29-18.

The Cowgirls came right back on a steal by Brenner which she took all the way for a lay-up.

Then came a basket from Jarmin plus two free throws and a field goal from Osborn and field goals from Raymer and Stone each gave the Cowgirls a 12-point scoring run to lead 41-18.

In the fourth, Livengood cleared her bench, putting in Stephanie Fairbanks, Kendra Billinger and Tess Schultz.

Schultz hit a free throw with 2:12 remaining, and then got a basket with a minute left.

Osborn got the final Cowgirl point on a free throw with 7.8 seconds left to make the final score 45-25.

Brenner was the leading scorer with 10, Stone 9, Osborn 7, Jarmin and McCoy 6 each, Schultz 3, and Mann and Raymer 2 each.



Cowgirl Jessica Osborn put up a shot on a break while Wray defender Stacie Smith tried to keep up Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News

## Mustangs play two

The Grant Junior High seventh-grade girls basketball team played two games last week, traveling to Atwood and winning 32-15 on Monday, and losing at Colby 43-38 on Thursday.

The games brought the Mustangs' record to 8-2.

On Monday, Dani Bedore led scoring with 10 points, five rebounds, one steal, one block and no assists. Kaylee Billinger followed with 8 points, two rebounds, two steals, no blocks and no assists.

Lindsay Schields was 6, 0, 6, 0, 1; Emily Murray 2, 4, 1, 1, 0; Whitney Archer 2, 2, 2, 0, 0; Nicolette Clancy 2, 0, 1, 1, 0; Amber Cowan 2, 0, 1, 0, 1; Jenna McCall 0, 2, 2, 1, 0; Alicia Studer 0, 0, 1, 0, 0; and Vanessa Crotinger played.

In the 10-minute fifth quarter "B" game, Atwood beat Grant 8-4.

Emily Linden and Steph Sheldon both had two points. Chariss Tatman had one rebound, one steal and one block. Karri Bellamy had one steal. Valerie Macias, Amber Webster, Brooke Tatman and Tiffany Bennett played.

On Thursday, Bedore led with 15 points, four rebounds, two steals and three blocks, followed by Murray with 12 points, three rebounds, five steals, one block and one assist.

Billinger had 6, 6, 2, 0, 0; Archer 3, 3, 3, 2, 2; Schields 2, 2, 1, 0, 0; McCall 0, 2, 0, 1, 0; Clancy 0, 1, 1, 1, 0; Cowan 0, 1, 0, 0, 0; and Shandel Simon played.

In the "B" game, Colby beat Grant 18-14.

Nicole David lead Grant with six points, one rebound, one steal, and one assist.

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## Eighth grade Mustangs beat Atwood and lose to Colby

The eighth grade Grant Junior High girls beat Atwood 17-12 Monday, and lost to Colby 37-21 Thursday.

On Monday, the girls were down by two points at the half and had to come from behind to win. Atwood and Grant tied in the first quarter 4-4, and Atwood led by two points at the half 8-6. The Mustangs held Atwood scoreless in the third and evened things up, and then came out on top, 9-4, in the fourth.

Justeen Koehler had four points, nine rebounds, one assist and no steals, Melissa Swager had four points, eight rebounds, one assist and two steals, and Jordan Frazier had four points, five rebounds, one assist and no steals.

Chelsea Gray had 2, 5, 0, 3; Lisha Tedford 2, 2, 2, 1; Katrina Cotter 1, 0, 0, 1; Megan Rubio 0, 1, 0, 1; Morgan Titus 0, 0, 0, 2; Tatum Schultz 0, 1, 0, 0.

Against Colby, the teams came out even with six points in the first quarter. Colby edged ahead at the half, 16-15. In the third, Colby held the Mustangs to two points and grabbed 12, and Colby outscored Grant 9-4 in the

fourth.

Grant had three scorers, Koehler with 9 points, 11 rebounds, no assists and three steals, followed by Swager with eight points, one rebound, no assists, and two steals, and Gray had five points, three rebounds, two assists and five steals.

Tedford had one rebound, one assist, and three steals. Frazier 0, 4, 0, 0; Rubio 0, 1, 1, 2; Schultz 0, 1, 2, 0; Titus 0,

1, 0, 0; Cotter 0, 1, 0, 0; May Davis 0, 1, 0, 0; Kali Rietcheck 0, 0, 0, 1.

The "B" team came within three points of Colby, falling 24-21. Grant was down 10-4 at the half, and 18-9 at the end of the third. They came back with 12 points in the fourth while holding Colby to 6, but it wasn't enough.

Rietcheck led scoring with six points, three rebounds, one assist and two steals.

**Brewster All-Star Booster Club**

Thursday, Feb. 21 - Parents High School Track Meeting, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 22 - HS BB Regionals  
Saturday, Feb. 23 - HS BB Regionals  
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Tuesday, Feb. 26 - HS BB Sub-State

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