

# Tribune wins 1A regionals

The Tribune boys and girls won the top spots at the regional class 1A basketball tournament Sunday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

In the first round Thursday, the Herndon boys, with a record of 11-8, beat 3-14 Brewster 67-49; 5-13 Sharon Springs beat 5-12 Cheylin 61-44; and 14-5 Weskan beat 2-16 Tri-Plains 78-49. Tribune advanced with a bye to the semi-finals.

Tribune beat Sharon Springs 61-25 in the semi-finals Saturday, and Weskan beat Herndon 92-50. Tribune won 74-63 in the finals.

In the girls bracket, 7-10 Brewster beat 6-13 Herndon 50-40 in the first round Thursday; 14-5 Sharon Springs beat 5-12 Cheylin 80-40; 7-11 Weskan beat 7-11 Tri-Plains 52-34; and Tribune advanced on a bye.

In the semi-finals Saturday, Wallace beat Brewster 53-50, and Tribune beat Weskan 89-45 to advance to the finals. Tribune won 69-51.

The Weskan boys will face Grainfield-Wheatland in the sub-state tournament in Hays 6 p.m. Central Time Thursday in Hays. Tribune will play Logan at 7:30 p.m. Central Time in Norton.

In the girls' bracket, Sharon Springs will face Victoria at 6 p.m. Friday in Hays, and Tribune will face Grainfield-Wheatland at 6 p.m. Friday in Norton.



Weskan Coyote Gunner Tope put up a shot while flanked by Tribune's Stacy Cavenee and the Jackrabbits defense on Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

# Freshmen boys end season

By Rachel Miscall  
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowboys "C" team ended its season with a 13-6 record last Tuesday after falling 65-53 to the Norton Blue Jays.

The team placed second at a junior varsity tournament in Benkelman, Neb., the previous Saturday, stomping the Lakeside Falcons 37-28 before losing to the Dundy County Tigers 37-26 in the championship round. Both opponents are from Nebraska.

Earlier that weekend, the Cowboys defeated the Hoxie Indians 62-55 on Friday, Feb. 15.

Coach Travis Witman said it was a great season and the players made big improvements.

"I am very proud of the team and the effort they have given all year," he said.

The coach said the home game against Norton was very up-and-down, as the Cowboys had spurts where they gave up a bunch of points.

"At times we played very well," he said, "but at times our defense would break down and we would give up several baskets in a row."

The Blue Jays took an early lead in the first quarter, but the Cowboys bridged the gap, ending the quarter with a 13-13 tie.

"It seemed like Norton would get ahead and we would make a run at them," Coach Witman said.

In the second quarter, he said, the Cowboys had offensive problems and got into some foul trouble. The Blue Jays outscored Goodland 24-9 and

headed into the second half with a 15-point lead.

The coach said the boys had an excellent third quarter, outscoring Norton 18-13 and cutting the lead, but it wasn't enough to put them on top.

Despite their hard work in the fourth, Witman said, they couldn't quite get it done.

"We made another run at them, getting to within 6 points," the coach said. "However, we had some mental mistakes and turned over the ball at some crucial moments."

Coach Witman said the Benkelman tournament was a good experience for the Cowboys because they played teams that were bigger and older.

"I thought our boys did an outstanding job," he said. "We were forced to play more physical than what we were used to playing."

The coach said the game against Lakeside was close until after halftime, when the Cowboys forged a 15-point lead, ending the third quarter, 30-15. The Falcons outscored Goodland 13-7 in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough.

The championship game against the home team was more physical, Witman said, adding that the Tigers were bigger and taller.

He said the Cowboys had a shaky start.

"We had trouble getting on track to start the game," Witman said, "but had a strong second quarter and were within 7 points (22-15) at halftime."

The coach said the Cowboys were at

a disadvantage heading into the second half because Wade Taylor sprained his ankle at the end of the second quarter.

"The boys gave it a gallant effort," he said, "but Dundy County just overpowered us on the board in the second half."

It was a different story against Hoxie the night before.

"We played well against a very good Hoxie team," Coach Witman said. "We jumped out to an early lead and maintained it throughout."

Playing in Hoxie, the Cowboys ended the first quarter on top, 21-14, and went into halftime with a 14-point lead.

They wavered a bit in the third quarter, with the Indians outscoring them 18-8, but came back in the fourth, 17-14, to win.

"We executed and played good defense," the coach said.

Against Norton, Lane Winter scored 12 points; Brock Lohr, 10; David Livengood, 8; Craig Mason, 7; Derrick Raymer, 6; Drew Wilkens, 5; Jake Johnson, 3; and Dan Melia, 2.

Against Lakeside, Livengood and Winter scored 10 each; Taylor, 6; Lohr and Melia, each 4; Josef Felver, 2; and Jason McClung, 1.

Against Dundy County, Melia and Winter each scored 13; Lohr, 5; Mason, 3; and Taylor, 2.

Against Hoxie, Lohr scored 16; Livengood and Taylor, each 11; Melia and Wilkens, each 6; Raymer and Hamilton, each 4; and Winter and Mason, each 2.

# Eighth graders win league tourney

The Grant Junior High Mustangs girls basketball team won the first round of the Northwest Kansas League tournament Thursday at home, beating St. Francis in the first round 35-17 and Quinter in the finals 35-29.

"We played our best basketball of the season," Coach Andy Scheopner said. Grant outscored St. Francis in the first three quarters, 7-4, 9-7, 15-2, and tied 4-4 in the fourth.

Justen Koehler led scoring with 17 points, nine rebounds, one assist and

five steals. Chelsea Gray had eight points, no rebounds, one assist and five steals.

Melissa Swager was 4, 2, 0, 2; Jordan Frazier 3, 1, 1, 5; Morgan Titus 2, 2, 0, 0; Lisha Tedford 1, 2, 6, 1; Katrina Cotter 0, 4, 0, 2; Megan Rubio 0, 3, 1, 1; Courtney Deines 0, 0, 1, 1; Tatum Schultz 0, 0, 0, 2; Kali Rietcheck 0, 1, 0, 0.

In the second round, Grant outscored Quinter 11-9 in the first quarter and 7-6 in the second. Quinter scored 8 to

Grant's 7 in the third, and the Mustangs topped the fourth 10-6.

Three Mustangs scored. Koehler led scoring with 22 points, 13 rebounds, no assists, and one steal. Swager had seven points, 10 rebounds, three assists and no steals and Frazier had six points, six rebounds, three assists and no steals.

Tedford had two rebounds, one assist and no steals. Gray had 0, 1, 0, 4; Rubio 0, 1, 1, 0; Cotter 0, 1, 0, 1; Schultz 0, 1, 0, 1; and Deines 0, 0, 1, 0.

# Rockies' players ready to start exhibitions

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Players are more eager to get into the exhibition phase of the spring than coaches, Rockies manager Buddy Bell said.

"I think as players you always want to get into the games right away," he said. "As coaches, you want to make sure you have pretty much covered all that you can."

"We won't be able to cover everything before our first game, but we will have done most of the important fundamentals."

The Rockies will play an intrasquad game on Wednesday, then meet the University of Arizona on Thursday. They will open their exhibition season Friday against the San Diego Padres at Hi Corbett Field.

"Intrasquad games mainly benefit the pitchers," Bell said. "Pitchers are way ahead of the hitters at this point."

"Most of our hitters are pretty much arm-weary at this point, so I don't see them doing much for another week or so in terms of being productive."

Hitters will catch up soon, Bell said, because "we've probably taken more swings in this camp than in any other camp I've been around."

Bell said a few Rockies regulars will play against the local college team.

He wasn't sure if the Wildcats will be allowed to use aluminum bats.

"I don't know what the history has been," he said.

The Rockies planned to consult with the Atlanta Braves, who play the University of Georgia, also on Thursday.

# Topeka native could come back to majors

HAINES CITY, Fla. (AP) — Rick DeHart was pitching for a Topeka semipro team last summer, but could be pitching in the majors again this year down Interstate 70 with the Kansas City Royals.

DeHart, a Topeka native who went

to Washburn University and grew up a Royals fan, was a left-handed reliever for parts of three seasons, 1997-99, with the Montreal Expos.

He went to spring training in 2000 with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"I got hurt pitching against Kansas

City. Four days later, I pitched against Montreal in a night game and on my first pitch I felt a sharp pain through my arm," DeHart recalls.

# Knight denies being 'hungry to get back in'

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton says Bob Knight was "hungry to get back in" after being out of coaching for a year.

But Knight, whose remarkable transformation of the Texas Tech program has made him a top candidate for Big 12 coach of the year, says it's not true.

"I don't think so," said Knight, whose Red Raiders are 20-6 overall after winning just nine games a year ago.

Knight sat out a year after he was fired at Indiana for violation of a zero-tolerance policy. He agreed to become head coach at Texas Tech primarily because his old friend Gerald Myers is athletic director.

Now everyone is scratching their heads over the way Knight has turned the Red Raiders around in just one year. He and Roy Williams, whose No. 1 Kansas team is two wins away from a perfect conference season this year, have emerged as the leading candidates for Big 12 coach of the year.

"Everybody's surprised. But I don't think a lot of people realized that Bob inherited a couple of outstanding basketball players," said Sutton, who went head-to-head with Knight for many years as head coach at Kentucky.

"Then he did an excellent job of going out and getting some recruits. He has done an excellent job of blending that talent together. They're running that talent offense as well as I've seen any of his teams."

"The year off made him hungry to get back in and I think he's probably done a better job of coaching. It has to be one of his best jobs of coaching anyway. He's much more intense than I saw him the last couple of years at Indiana."

Knight takes issue with him, however.

"One of the great things about coaching college basketball is you have a considerable amount of time from the end of one season to the beginning of the next. I think it makes it easy to get going again," he said.

"You have a lot of time off, you can leisurely work on plans for the next season. That's never been a problem for me."

It seems that everyone is talking about No. 1 Kansas' chance of going unbeaten through the Big 12 season but one person.

"I said all along we'll talk about that when we have no more than one game left," Williams said. "Our team is not talking about going undefeated."

The Jayhawks have one last home game, Wednesday night against Kansas State, then finish on Sunday at

Missouri, where they've not had much success in recent years.

"We haven't said one word about our going undefeated in this league," Williams said. "If and when that one comes up with one game left, then we'll have that as a goal."

The Jayhawks, 25-2 overall, seem to be growing with each close win, such as the nail-biter they survived on Sunday at Nebraska.

"I never felt like we were going to lose," Williams said. "That's just how I felt. I think our kids felt confident down the stretch that some how, some way, we were going to get it done. If you don't have those feelings, it's hard to get over the hump."

On the subject of players having good seasons but getting overlooked because their team isn't winning, Larry Reid jumps off the page.

Kansas State's point guard has been a steady beacon, averaging almost 15 points and six assists for a team struggling to find its own identity.

"I think he's been our all-everything from an offensive standpoint," said Kansas State coach Jim Wooldridge. "Some of the things he does doesn't show up on the stat sheet. He's a good ball-handler, a great initiator of our offense. We rely on him to do a lot of things that don't show up on the stat sheet."

# University of Kansas speaker grew up in poor neighborhood

**SPEAKER**, from Page 1

students that she understands the obstacles they are facing.

"When Dad got laid off," she said, "we had to get food from the government. I know what it's like to be poor, to have to overcome."

But, she said, it's not impossible to do whatever you want, if you work hard and get an education.

Her brother Carlos is the first latino federal district judge in Kansas and Ramon graduated from Harvard Law School and is board chairman of La Raza, a prominent Hispanic organization.

Her other siblings are college-educated and have successful careers.

"I want you to recognize and understand that if my brothers and sisters can do it," she said, "there's no reason why you can't do it."

Murguia said for five years she was deputy director of congressional affairs for President Bill Clinton and had

an office in the west wing of the White House.

She said she worked on Al Gore's campaign in 2000, and when he lost she had opportunities to stay in Washington, but decided to come home to Kansas.

Murguia said the reason she wanted to work in higher education is because it's the key to a better life.

She told the students that they don't have to hate their job. They can go to college and find something that makes them happy.

"You can work, or you can look for other opportunities that are more rewarding," she said.

"Dream about what it is that you want to do. Anything is possible in this country," she said.

Being poor or Hispanic is no excuse, she said.

"Get scholarships, loans, grants, work study," she said. "You may feel cultural obstacles, but being latino, that was no burden for me."

A few girls said they feel like teachers treat them unfairly and have the attitude that they don't belong in the U.S.

Murguia said the students should try to see things from the teachers' point of view.

"Sometimes people are scared of change and of different people," she said.

"Sometimes we need to take on more than we should."

"First you're a woman and then you're a latino. Use that as an opportunity to show them that they shouldn't be scared," she said.

"I know it sounds unfair, but you can show them that you can be successful. People will understand that and appreciate it," she said.

If that doesn't work, she told the students, they need to take the problem to

the principal, or anyone who will listen and help.

"You all have a voice," she said, "and when you put them together, it sounds pretty loud."

A boy named Lucas asked Murguia if she has a younger sister.

She said she has a female cousin about his age.

"Is she hot?" he asked.

"She's hot and she's smart," Murguia replied. "What about you?"

A girl in the audience said Lucas doesn't try to get good grades. Lucas said the teachers are mean.

A lot of the students agreed with him, but had changed their minds after talking with Murguia.

"In some classes I felt like I wasn't wanted," sophomore Crisy Hernandez said after the session, "but now I feel like I should be there. You have to show them you're not better than they are, but you are equal."

# Brewster All-Star Booster Club

- Tuesday, Feb. 26 - HS BB Sub-State
- Wednesday, Feb. 27 - NWKESC Gifted Seminar "Ancient & Modern Marvels"
- Friday, March 1 - End of 3rd Quarter; HS BB Sub-State Tournament.
- Saturday, Feb. 23 - HS BB Sub-State Tournament.
- Monday, Feb. 25 - State Basketball Tournament at Hays

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