

Goodland wins first-round match

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The Cowboys basketball team held on in overtime to beat the Ulysses Tigers 67-63 in Ulysses Tuesday night in the first round of the sub-state tournament.

Goodland advances to the semi-finals and will play fourth-seeded Scott City at 5 p.m. Mountain Time Friday at Pratt Community College. Scott City beat Colby High, a problem for the Cowboys all season, 63-57 to advance.

If they win, Goodland will go to the finals at 5 p.m. Mountain Time Saturday and play either Pratt or Hugoton. Pratt upset no. 1 seeded Norton on Tuesday.

Ulysses was the third-ranked team in the sub-state bracket with an 11-8 record, and Goodland was ranked sixth at 9-11.

In what Activities Director Dick Liess called "a great high school basketball game," the Cowboys held a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter, but had it chiseled away by turnovers to the Tigers' man-to-man defense and a rash of bad free-throw shooting.

"I don't know what to say about it," said Coach Jon McLean. "We hung on for the win. We made some crucial mistakes and missed some free throws in the last two minutes of the game, which put us into overtime.

"We'll be shooting some free throws in the next two days," he said, "but our boys will tell you there's not another team in the state which shoots more free throws in practice than we do."

With 1:22 left and the Cowboys up by five points, Andrew Melia threw a pass inside which Raymer had to scramble to get, and he was called for traveling going to the basket.

Ulysses missed the shot on their possession. Raymer went up to get the rebound and came down with the ball at his middle. A Ulysses player tried to tie Raymer up for a jump ball, but fouled him. Raymer missed his free throw attempt.

Ulysses' Zach Anderson came up with a bucket to drop the lead to three. On the Cowboy possession, Ulysses stole the ball but missed the shot.

On the Goodland rebound, Ulysses almost got a steal, knocking the ball out of bounds. Riebel got the next inbound and was fouled by Anderson. He

missed his free throw, and Bryan Mai fouled a Tiger going for the rebound.

Ulysses made both free throws, cutting the lead to 58-57. Gittinger came down the floor with the ball and was fouled. He made his first free throw, but missed the second, not even hitting the rim, giving the ball to the Tigers.

A turn-around jumper tied it up at 59 with 23 seconds left. The Cowboys tried to get it down court, and called a time-out with 15 seconds left. Melia missed his shot and Ulysses got the rebound and called a timeout with .2 seconds, which the officials bumped up to a full second. On the Tiger rebound, Raymer stole the ball and put up a wild shot, but it was no good.

The Tigers controlled the jump in overtime, but Melia tied up the ball and forced a jump ball, which went to Goodland under the alternate possession rule. Tedford tried to pass inside and threw it out of bounds. Anderson came down court and charged into Melia for another turnover.

Goodland was fouled on four straight possessions, and made only 3 of 7 free throws, but with a basket from Raymer, they put the Cowboys up by 5. Ulysses cut the lead to three with a quick basket, then turned up the defense on the Cowboy inbound. Rubio couldn't find an open player to get it in to, and tried to call a time-out, but wasn't fast enough, giving the Tigers possession.

Ulysses couldn't put any points on the board, though, and Goodland came back down court, where Rubio was fouled. He made his first free shot, but missed the second. Ulysses came up with a turn-around jumper that put the score at 65-63 with :45 seconds left.

On the inbound, Raymer stepped over the line, and gave the ball back to the Tigers. They missed their shot, and Goodland called a time-out with 25 seconds left. Rubio came up with a foul when they came back, and made one of his free throws. Ulysses tried to even the score with a three-pointer, but missed and Bryan Mai got the rebound and drew a foul with just over a second left. He made one free throw and put Goodland up by four.

Melia had 30 points, 16 in the first half. Raymer had 13, eight in the first half. Mai had 9, Tedford and Gittinger 5, Riebel 4, and Rubio 4.

Rod Smith gets \$40 million

DENVER (AP) — Receiver Rod Smith and the Denver Broncos agreed to a seven-year, \$40 million contract, scrapping the last two years of his existing deal.

The new package includes an \$11 million signing bonus, Smith's agent, Tom Mills, said Tuesday. Mills said the agreement saves the Broncos \$3.6 million against the salary cap.

Smith led the NFL with 113 catches for 1,343 yards, despite playing on sprained ankles the last two months.

He has five straight seasons with at least 1,000 yards receiving.

The signing bonus is the second-largest in franchise history, behind the \$12.6 million given quarterback Brian Griese last year.

Smith was scheduled to make \$3.4 million in base salary next season. The new deal pays him \$650,000 in base salary for the coming season.

"This brings him in line with the other elite receivers in the league," Mills said.

basketball scoreboard

Kansas High School Regional Basketball
By The Associated Press

Results of games Tuesday night:

Boys:

Class 2A:

Plainville (3-15) at Quinter (16-4)

Atwood 62, St. Francis 51

Hoxie 91, Stockton 57

Leoti 61, Syracuse 48

Class 3A:

Oakley (4-15) at Lakin (19-0)

Medicine Lodge 82, WaKeeney 50

Class 4A:

Atchison 63, Perry-Lecompton 47

Kingman 74, Wellington 45

Chaparral 55, Nickerson 53, OT

Pratt 48, Norton 46

Hugoton 58, Larned 49

Goodland 67, Ulysses 63

Scott City 63, Colby 57

Girls:

Class 2A:

Hoxie 56, Quinter 52

Hill City 48, St. Francis 42

Atwood 55, Stockton 28

Class 3A:

WaKeeney 53, Oakley 38

Class 4A:

Colby 54, Hugoton 42

Scott City 65, Ulysses 57

Larned 37, Pratt 28

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Taking a break from wrestling



Brett Bahe of Goodland (right), Hunker Olsen of Colby (left) and Taylor Moeder of Colby (on ground) rode down the grounds at the Kansas Colliseum in Wichita on cardboard boxes during the state wrestling tournament on Saturday.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Kansas to host Wildcats

LAWRENCE (AP) — Barring one of the greatest upsets of the year, No. 1 Kansas will beat Kansas State for the 24th time in a row Wednesday night amid an emotional lovefest.

As luck would have it for the underdog Wildcats, it's Senior Night for the Jayhawks. Tossing flowers onto the court, fans will pay homage to six graduating seniors, including starting guard Jeff Boschee.

The 16,300 fans crammed into Allen Fieldhouse will also know they're probably saying goodbye to junior Drew Gooden, the Big 12's leading scorer and rebounder, who admits he's probably going into the NBA a year early.

"It's hard not to think about the fact this could be my last game in the fieldhouse," said Gooden.

The Jayhawks (25-2, 14-0 Big 12) are coming off one of their closest calls of the season, an 88-87 escape from Nebraska that brought them to within two games of the first unbeaten conference season in the brief history of the Big 12.

Kansas State (11-14, 5-9), got caught on the other side of a nail-biter. After leading almost all day, the Wildcats lost 73-71 to Iowa State on a last-second shot on Saturday.

In other words, the luckless Wildcats draw the top-ranked Jayhawks — a team they've lost to 23 times in a row — on the heels of one of their most demoralizing losses.

"We've just got to work on things that are going to make us a better team and draw from each kid's competitive nature to play as well as they can play," said head coach Jim Wooldridge. "We'll look forward to the next opportunity to compete."

The fact that Kansas played raggedly at Nebraska should not necessarily give heart to the Wildcats. Every time they've stumbled this year, the Jayhawks have returned right back to the top of their game the next time out.

"I don't think (the Nebraska game) will affect us on Wednesday night," said Kansas coach Roy Williams.

"Against UCLA, we really played poorly physically and mentally, but we bounced back from that pretty well," Williams said. "There have been some ups and downs, but the downs have not been for long periods of time."

Nuggets sign Chinese All-Star MVP

DENVER (AP) — Menk Bateer, MVP of the Chinese Basketball Association All-Star Game, has rejoined the Denver Nuggets.

General Manager Kiki Vandeweghe said Tuesday that Bateer has been signed to a contract for the rest of this season. Terms were not announced.

"We're extremely excited to have Bateer back with us," Vandeweghe said. "We know this means a great deal to him, the NBA and basketball fans in China."

Bateer, 26, a native of Inner Mongolia, becomes the second Chinese player in the NBA, joining Wang

Zhizhi of the Dallas Mavericks.

On March 3, the Nuggets will play the Mavericks and Chinese National TV will have a four-hour live special. It will be the first time two Chinese players will play in an NBA game and an estimated 300-400 million people will tune in, the Nuggets said.

Employee of the Month February

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Sherman County's Employee of the Month is Kathie Thomas. Kathie is office manager of JC Penney's. She has held this position for over ten years, and has been with Penney's here for 17 years.

Kathie grew up in Colorado Springs as a child, but came to Kansas in time to spend two years of High School in Colby and her last two years here in Goodland, at the Sherman Community High school.

Mrs. Thomas was nominated for her winning personality, her help with catalog orders or problems, and the fact that on snowy days you can find her out front shoveling snow at 6 a.m.

Hats off to you Kathie.

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