

Cowboys fall from sub-state in overtime loss

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The buzzer-beater missed, and the season is over. The varsity Cowboys lost in overtime to the Scott City Beavers 57-55, in the sub-state semi-finals Friday in Pratt.

With Goodland down by five points and 20 seconds left, Kris Rubio came up with a three-pointer. Scott City tried to bring the ball down court, but faced full-court defense from Kevin Schulte, and Rubio managed to tie up the ball. The Cowboys got the ball under the alternate possession rule with 13 seconds left.

They got it down court through the Beaver defense, but had the ball knocked away on a pass. Bryan Mai picked it up off the floor and, surrounded by Scott City defenders and with time running out, put up a short jumper. It missed.

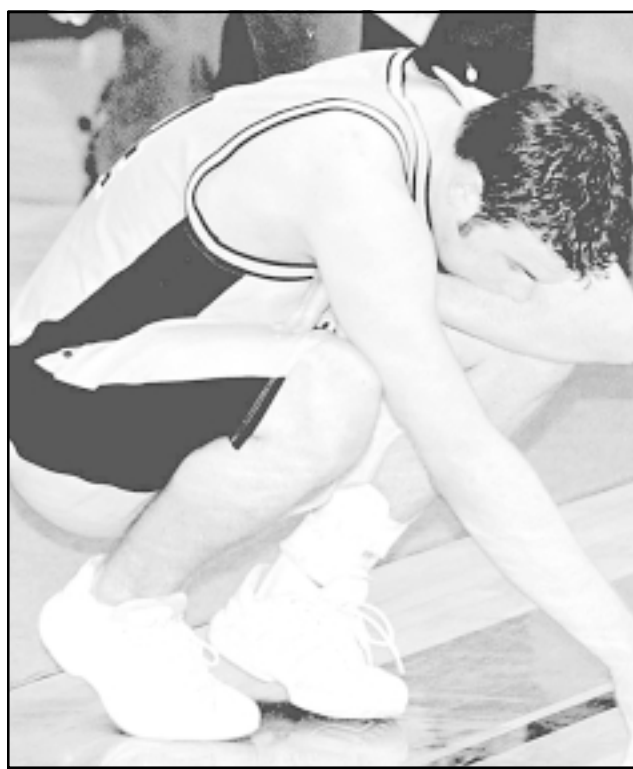
The loss finished off Goodland's season record at 10-12. It was the last game for three Cowboys, seniors Jordan Riebel, Mai and Andrew Melia.

"All three of them did a great job this year," said Coach Jon McLean. "We will miss them. I am proud of the way they have developed as players."

"We have a good group of core players coming back next year, with some good varsity experience, and they'll have the same opportunities. It just depends on how hard they want to work to improve their individual skills."

The game was tight throughout. Goodland led the first quarter 13-12, the second 22-21, and Scott City brought it even in the third at 38, and the fourth at 52.

Aaron Gittinger put the Cowboys into overtime with a three-pointer which tied it up at 52 points. Scott City ended up passing right to the Cowboys as time ran out.



Andrew Melia (above) showed his disappointment at Goodland's loss to Scott City in the sub-state semi-finals Friday at Pratt Community College. Lance Tedford (right) tried to stop the Scott City offense.

Photos by Matt Elliot/The Pratt Tribune



Scott City's zone defense resulted in several double-teams, and Raymer was triple-teamed and fouled with Goodland up 11-5. Scott City made two free throws, then stole from Raymer on Goodland's possession. Raymer got it back, missed his shot, got his own rebound, and was fouled as he went for the shot again. He missed both free throws.

Lance Tedford missed the first shot of the second quarter, hitting the bottom of the rim. The Beavers came up with a basket and grabbed the lead, 14-13, the first time Goodland had been behind.

The Cowboys came back with a lay-up, and then Gittinger put in a trey, putting the Cowboy lead back at four points. Raymer was again triple-teamed at the end of the half, and managed to get the ball to Melia, who missed his shot.

In the third quarter, the Cowboys threw away inbound passes three times in a row. A pass intended for Melia was knocked away, out of bounds. Then

Riebel inbounded, and threw it too long, right in the hands of a Beaver, who got the open drive and bucket. Tedford threw a pass right back to Scott City on the next possession, and again

the Beavers got the easy points.

On another inbound after a Beaver foul, Goodland threw it right into the hands of Scott City again. Riebel ran the Beaver down and fouled him going for a steal. With Goodland down by three points at the end of the third, Kevin Schulte threw up a last-second shot and tied the game.

The Cowboys started out the fourth quarter by throwing away the inbound. Raymer tried to get down the court to stop the basket, but he didn't make it. He was fouled on the next play, and made his two shots, tying the game. On the next possession, the Cowboys threw a cross-court pass which was intercepted. Riebel tried to get it back, but committed a foul, his fourth, and he came out.

Goodland fell behind in the quarter. Gittinger came up with a three-pointer, bringing it to two points, but another pass was intercepted and Mai fouled a Beaver trying to get it back. Riebel tried a three-pointer as time

ran out. Raymer got the rebound and threw it out to Rubio, who made it, and put the game into overtime.

The Cowboys controlled the jump, and Tedford went for a trey. In the fight

for the rebound, Riebel went over the back of a Beaver and fouled out.

After making both free throws, Scott City stole the ball from Goodland, but it was their turn to throw it away, and the Cowboys got it back. Raymer was fouled under the basket in heavy traffic, but missed both free throws. Melia tracked down the rebound, but lost control and the Beavers picked it up.

Scott City went up for a lay-up, but Raymer knocked it out of bounds. On the inbound, the Beavers were fouled and came up with a free throw to edge their lead to 55-52.

Rubio missed a three-pointer, and the ball was tied up in a fight for the rebound. It went to Scott City. Rubio fouled the Scott City player, who made both free throws. Goodland came back within two points, but missed the final buzzer-beater, and lost the game.

The Cowboys shot 5-13 from the line. Gittinger led scoring for the Cowboys with 18, including four treys. Melia had 10, Raymer 9, Riebel 6, Rubio 5, Mai 4 and Schulte 3.

"I am really disappointed," said McLean. "We played so well the last 12 games, and this game we just didn't. We had too many individuals not play well. We made a lot of silly passes, and we just didn't shoot well. You can't not play well this time of the season and expect to win."

Scott City beat Hugoton 48-33 in substate finals and will travel to Augusta for the first round of the state championship Thursday. The Colby girls beat Scott City 48-33 and will host Andale in the state tournament. at 3:45 p.m. Mountain Time Wednesday.

In boys Class 1A play Wednesday, Weskan will travel to Centralia and play at 2 p.m. Mountain Time, and Tribune will play at Argonia at 7:15. The Tribune girls will host Little River at 7:15 p.m. Mountain Time Thursday.

Judge awards damages

RULING, from Page 1

The judge said Golden West staff's negligence caused Christina's death, but he noted that the plaintiff's lawyers did not prove that the company broke any laws and should face criminal penalties.

"The injuries and death of Ms. Zellner were due to repeated failures to provide her with proper medical care despite clear signs that she was not well," the judge wrote, adding that the jury found Res-Care acted in a "willful, wanton, or malicious manner."

The judge said Lake has paid more than \$180,000 in legal fees and has to pay her lawyers 40 percent of her award — 50 percent if the judge's ruling is appealed.

"After weighing all of the above factors," he wrote, "the court believes that this award takes into consideration the actual damages awarded in the survivor action with the need to deter such misconduct in the future."

Lake said the trial and the judge's ruling have helped her come to terms with her daughter's death, but it still hurts sometimes.

"So even though there's some closure," she said, "it's still kind of hanging over your head."

The day her lawyer called with news of the judge's ruling, Lake said, she had been thinking about her daughter and looking at old pictures. She said it was a relief.

"You've been waiting for the call for months and months," she said, "and your heart just goes ughhhh..."

The judge said the only other damages Res-Care would be paying are the \$104,223 in actual damages. The company faces no criminal penalties for the death. After an investigation, the judge said, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment did require Res-Care to change some procedures, although there was no evidence that happened.

Judge Reid found Zellner was a vulnerable target because she was developmentally disabled, with an IQ between 51 and 58.

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Goodland All-Star Booster Club

Tuesday, March 5 - Spring Pictures Central; Kansas State DECA Career Dev. Conference at Overland Park; West Site Council Meeting, 4 p.m.; North Site Council Meeting, 7 p.m.; Goodland Scholars Bowl 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6 - Spring Pictures West, PDC meeting 3:45 p.m., elementary school bank day.

Thursday, March 7 - spring pictures North.

Friday, March 8 - North parent lunch.

Saturday, March 9 - State BB finals, all classes.

Monday, March 11 - BOE Meeting 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13 - Central site council meeting, 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 14 - JH-HS Band Concert, HS Auditorium 7:30 p.m. KIAAA, Manhattan.

CONGRATULATIONS GHS Basketball teams in winning your first rounds in Sub-State Action! The Cowgirls finished with a 16-6 season. Although the Cowboys finished their season 10-12, they won their first round of sub-state in overtime, and fell just short in the second round of vying for the Sub-State Champion title. The community is proud of your efforts!

Best wishes
Goodland teams

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