

Cowgirls lose two to Hays Indians

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News
Hitting just would not come through for the varsity Cowgirls softball team on Thursday when Goodland dropped two to the Hays High Indians, 7-1 and 4-1.
"The pitching in both games was excellent," Coach Terry Daise said. "Britney (Pettibone) and Alissa (Schildts) both only allowed one earned run against a quality team." "We just couldn't get any timely hits when we needed them."
The doubleheader was canceled Tuesday because of bad weather and rescheduled for Thursday.
The Cowgirls only got three hits against the bigger Class 5A team in the first game, and four in the second. The losses bring the team's record to 7-5.

In the first game, Pettibone allowed five hits, while striking out five and walking none.
It was her second loss in a row, after winning the first five games she pitched. Adrienne Garcia hit a double, and Shanae Calkins and StevieLee Raymer got a base hit each. Colleen Koehler batted in Schields, who had gotten on base through a walk, for the only run.
Schields allowed six hits in the second game. She struck out one and walked one, and was walked herself when she stepped up to the plate.
Calkins and Jessica Osborn hit a single and Raymer hit two, one of them driving in Calkins for the only run.
The Cowgirls will play the Class 3A Holcomb Longhorns Thursday at Centennial Park.



Cowgirl Adrienne Garcia took off from second just before the games were canceled due to dust Tuesday at Centennial Park. The games were rescheduled and played Thursday.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Strange year ends for Denver Nuggets

By John Marshall
The Associated Press
DENVER (AP) — Mike Evans has spent 20 years in the NBA as player, television analyst and coach. His last one may have been the strangest.
Evans got his big break in the 2001-02 season when he was named Denver's interim coach in December. But he also had to endure as many hardships as some coaches face in five years.
"It was a little bit of everything," Evans said. "All the drama you could have, we had this year. It was tedious, it was joyful, it was satisfying. It was all those things."
Denver opened the season without All-Star forward Antonio McDyess due to knee surgery and lost four of its first five games.
Point guard Nick Van Exel began making almost daily demands to be traded, then coach Dan Issel resigned in December after making racial remarks to a Hispanic fan.
The Nuggets rid themselves of Van Exel's complaining with a seven-player deal with Dallas at the trade deadline, but it also cost them center Raef LaFrentz and led to a league-high 34 different starting lineups.
McDyess returned March 1, but played just 10 games because his knee was sore.
Tim Hardaway provided some stability at point guard after the trade with Dallas, but was suspended for throwing a television onto the court and sat out the final 14 games with a broken foot.
Denver also lost leading scorer and rebounder Juwan Howard to a strained groin after he slipped without being hit, and all-purpose player George McCloud suffered a corneal abrasion after taking an elbow from Golden State's Danny Fortson.
The Nuggets finished 27-55 and missed the playoffs for the seventh straight year, but Evans said it was a good experience overall.
"It's been a tough season, but we've come a lot closer as a team," Evans said. "The guys are a lot more relaxed, they feel better about themselves and they have a better feeling about me and what I'm about. It's been really good."

By holding the team together and keeping it competitive through the turmoil, Evans may have given himself a good shot at becoming Denver's next coach.
Denver general manager Kiki Vandeweghe said he will take some time before naming for a new coach, but he hopes to have one in place by the NBA draft June 26.
Evans will be one of the candidates for the job.
"It's never an ideal situation and obviously this hasn't been an ideal situation for any of us," Vandeweghe said. "It's been very difficult. You tend to make the best of the opportunities and I think this has been a tremendous opportunity for him."
Whether Evans becomes the Nuggets next coach or not, he's shown that he can coach in the NBA.
Denver finished just 18-38 under Evans, but the record doesn't reflect the progress the Nuggets made over the final two months of the season.
The Nuggets' players responded to Evans' easygoing style and played hard for him nearly every night.
There were occasional slip-ups — consecutive losses to Washington and Sacramento by a combined 68 points in March — but the Nuggets did their best to impact the playoffs down the stretch.
Of Denver's final 15 victories, seven were against teams in playoff contention. The list includes the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers, Seattle, Utah, Minnesota and Portland twice.
"There were times where we maybe didn't need to have practice, but he (Evans) would have us out there practicing," Denver forward Ryan Bowen said. "That showed us that we're not quitting on the season. He was a big part of keeping us motivated and getting us ready each night we played."
And the Nuggets did it with a roster filled mostly with first- and second-year players.
Injuries forced Evans to use eight players with no more than three years of experience down the stretch. The Nuggets still wound up winning three of their final four games and had a six-game home winning streak to end the season.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

| NATIONAL LEAGUE | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|-------|
| West Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| San Francisco | 10 | 5 | .667 | — |
| Arizona | 10 | 6 | .625 | 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 9 | 7 | .563 | 1 1/2 |
| San Diego | 8 | 8 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Colorado | 5 | 11 | .313 | 5 1/2 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Pittsburgh | 9 | 5 | .643 | — |
| St. Louis | 9 | 7 | .563 | 1 |
| Cincinnati | 8 | 7 | .533 | 1 1/2 |
| Houston | 7 | 8 | .467 | 2 1/2 |
| Chicago | 5 | 9 | .357 | 4 |
| Milwaukee | 4 | 12 | .250 | 6 |
| East Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| New York | 10 | 6 | .625 | — |
| Florida | 8 | 7 | .533 | 1 1/2 |
| Montreal | 8 | 8 | .500 | 2 |
| Atlanta | 7 | 9 | .438 | 3 |
| Philadelphia | 7 | 9 | .438 | 3 |

| Toronto | 6 | 8 | .429 | 3 1/2 |
|--|----|-----|------|-------|
| Baltimore | 4 | 11 | .267 | 6 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Cleveland | 11 | 4 | .733 | — |
| Chicago | 10 | 5 | .667 | 1 |
| Minnesota | 10 | 6 | .625 | 1 1/2 |
| Kansas City | 5 | 8 | .385 | 5 |
| Detroit | 2 | 12 | .143 | 8 1/2 |
| West Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Seattle | 13 | 3 | .813 | — |
| Oakland | 9 | 7 | .563 | 4 |
| Anaheim | 5 | 10 | .333 | 7 1/2 |
| Texas | 4 | 11 | .267 | 8 1/2 |
| Wednesday's Games | | | | |
| Boston 10, Toronto 3 | | | | |
| Detroit 7, Tampa Bay 6 | | | | |
| N.Y. Yankees 7, Baltimore 1 | | | | |
| Kansas City 16, Minnesota 3 | | | | |
| Chicago White Sox 7, Cleveland 2 | | | | |
| Texas 4, Anaheim 1 | | | | |
| Seattle 7, Oakland 4 | | | | |
| Thursday's Games | | | | |
| Minnesota 4, Kansas City 1 | | | | |
| Tampa Bay 6, Detroit 4 | | | | |
| Oakland 4, Anaheim 2 | | | | |
| N.Y. Yankees 8, Baltimore 4 | | | | |
| Chicago White Sox 7, Cleveland 1 | | | | |
| Today's Games | | | | |
| Toronto (Prokopec 1-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 3-0), 5:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Baltimore (Maduro 1-1) at Tampa Bay (Sturtz 0-2), 5:15 p.m. | | | | |
| Cleveland (Sabathia 2-0) at Minnesota (Lohse 0-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Detroit (Sparks 0-1) at Chicago White Sox (Wright 1-1), 6:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Boston (P.Martinez 1-0) at Kansas City (George 0-0), 6:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Texas (Rogers 0-0) at Seattle (Abbott 1-0), 8:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Anaheim (Washburn 0-2) at Oakland (Fyhrnie 0-0), 8:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Saturday's Games | | | | |
| Toronto (Halladay 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Lilly 0-1), 11:05 a.m. | | | | |
| Detroit (Cornojo 0-1) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 1-1), 12:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Anaheim (Appier 1-1) at Oakland (Zito 0-1), 2:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Baltimore (Johnson 0-3) at Tampa Bay (Wilson 1-0), 4:15 p.m. | | | | |
| Cleveland (Drese 2-0) at Minnesota (Kinney 0-0), 5:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Boston (Wakefield 1-1) at Kansas City (0-0), 5:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Texas (Burba 1-0) at Seattle (Baldwin 2-0), 7:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Sunday's Games | | | | |
| Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 11:05 a.m. | | | | |
| Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 11:15 a.m. | | | | |
| Cleveland at Minnesota, 12:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Boston at Kansas City, 12:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 12:05 p.m. | | | | |
| Texas at Seattle, 2:35 p.m. | | | | |
| Anaheim at Oakland, 6:05 p.m. | | | | |

Avalanche beat Kings with Forsberg's help

DENVER (AP) — Peter Forsberg hoped the fans would remember him after sitting out for nearly a year.
He should have known better.
Forsberg had two assists in his return and Greg de Vries made his first playoff goal a game-winner as the defending Stanley Cup champion Colorado Avalanche opened the series with a 4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Thursday night.
The crowd rose and waved towels when Forsberg entered during a timeout 1:23 into the game, then started a chant of "Peter! Peter!" once play resumed. They got even louder on Forsberg's first assist, even though he was back near the red line when the goal was scored.
"It was great," Forsberg said. "I didn't know how it's going to be and I was real nervous before the game. It feels great. At least they remembered me, that was a good thing."
Forsberg has shown a knack for coming up big after a layoff.
He had a goal and two assists last year after missing eight games because of a rib injury, and had two goals and three assists after missing the first 23 games the year before because of shoulder surgery.
"Very impressive for a guy who didn't play for basically a year," Colorado coach Bob Hartley said. "The best thing he did was that he looked for physical contact. He didn't avoid it or shy away, and he played like the good old Peter."
Los Angeles scored three goals — two by Zigmund Palffy — on Patrick Roy for the third time this season, but still fell to 0-6-1 in its last seven road games.
The Kings had several near-misses in the final minute with goalie Felix Potvin on the bench, and also had a goal disallowed in the first period after Colorado's goal came off its supports.
"The referee (Stephane Auger) told us that he blew the whistle," Kings coach Andy Murray said. "For whatever reason he blew the whistle, but the sound bites indicate that there was no whistle until the puck was already in the net. But that's the way he called it."
De Vries scored his first goal in 67 career playoff games with 5:34 left.
Eric Messier tried a wraparound shot after circling behind the net, but was stopped by Potvin.
The puck bounced off Colorado's Mike Keane out to de Vries, who beat Potvin with a slap shot.
"Glad to get that off my back," de Vries said.
Joe Sakic put Colorado up 3-2 on a power play at 1:06 of the third period after Forsberg dived to poke the puck away from Palffy in Los Angeles' zone.
Palffy tied it 2:19 later, beating Roy with a backhand after he picked off a pass near the Colorado blue line.
Colorado's Alex Tanguay opened the scoring with nine seconds left in the first.

basketball playoffs

By The Associated Press

| NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION | |
|--|--|
| Monday | Tuesday |
| Indiana at New Jersey, 5 p.m. Seattle at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m. | Orlando at Charlotte, 6 p.m. Utah at Sacramento, 8:30 p.m. |
| Wednesday | Thursday |
| Toronto at Detroit, 5 p.m. Minnesota at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. | Philadelphia at Boston, 6 p.m. Portland at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m. |
| Friday, April 26 | Saturday |
| New Jersey at Indiana, 8:30 p.m. | Indiana at New Jersey, 10:30 a.m. Utah at Sacramento, 1 p.m. Seattle at San Antonio, 3:30 p.m. Orlando at Charlotte, 6:30 p.m. |
| Sunday | Sunday's Games |
| Philadelphia at Boston, 10:30 a.m. Minnesota at Dallas, 1 p.m. Portland at L.A. Lakers, 3:30 p.m. Toronto at Detroit, 6:30 p.m. | Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 11:05 a.m. Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 11:15 a.m. Cleveland at Minnesota, 12:05 p.m. Boston at Kansas City, 12:05 p.m. Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 12:05 p.m. Texas at Seattle, 2:35 p.m. Anaheim at Oakland, 6:05 p.m. |

Wednesday's Games
Atlanta 2, N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 3, Milwaukee 2
Los Angeles 6, Colorado 3
St. Louis 8, Arizona 4
Montreal 15, Chicago Cubs 8
Philadelphia 7, Florida 5
Houston 7, Cincinnati 2
San Diego 5, San Francisco 3

Thursday's Games
Cincinnati 5, Houston 4, 10 innings
N.Y. Mets 1, Montreal 0
Florida 8, Philadelphia 7
Milwaukee 7, St. Louis 5
Los Angeles 5, San Diego 2

Today's Games
Cincinnati (Hamilton 1-0) at Chicago Cubs (Clement 0-2), 1:20 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 1-2) at Montreal (Armas Jr. 1-2), 5:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Padilla 2-1) at Pittsburgh (Fogg 2-0), 5:05 p.m.
Florida (Dempster 0-0) at Atlanta (Marquis 1-2), 5:35 p.m.
St. Louis (Pearce 0-0) at Milwaukee (Quevedo 0-1), 6:05 p.m.
San Francisco (L. Hernandez 3-0) at Houston (Reynolds 2-1), 6:05 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 1-1) at Arizona (Stottlemeyer 0-1), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Lawrence 2-0) at Los Angeles (Nomo 1-2), 8:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games
N.Y. Mets (Estes 0-1) at Montreal (Pavano 1-2), 11:35 a.m.
Philadelphia (Adams 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Villone 1-2), 11:35 a.m.
St. Louis (Matthews 0-0 or Timlin 0-0) at Milwaukee (Rusch 1-1), 12:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dessens 0-3) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 2-0), 12:20 p.m.
Florida (Burnett 2-1) at Atlanta (Maddux 1-0), 5:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Ortiz 1-1) at Houston (Redding 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
Colorado (Thomson 2-1) at Arizona (Helling 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Jones 1-0) at Los Angeles (Perez 1-1), 8:10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Florida at Atlanta, 11:05 a.m.
N.Y. Mets at Montreal, 11:35 a.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 11:35 a.m.
St. Louis at Milwaukee, 12:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs, 12:20 p.m.
San Francisco at Houston, 12:35 p.m.
San Diego at Los Angeles, 2:10 p.m.
Colorado at Arizona, 2:35 p.m.

mag's pots 3x6 in back

By The Associated Press

| AMERICAN LEAGUE | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|------|-------|
| East Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Boston | 9 | 4 | .692 | — |
| New York | 10 | 7 | .588 | 1 |
| Tampa Bay | 6 | 8 | .429 | 3 1/2 |

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