

Basketball clinic works on offense

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

High school basketball season may not start until November, but it is never too early to start practicing.

Goodland Cowboy players are running drills, playing scrimmages, and practicing their offensive skills in a basketball clinic run by Goodland's coach Jon McLean this week.

From Tuesday to Thursday, six incoming freshmen are getting the chance to work with 16 returning players, and to learn McLean's coaching style.

McLean said the clinic is mostly focusing on offense, but he just couldn't resist stopping a drill when the defense got too sloppy for his taste.

"We're not working on defense, guys, but come on," he said. "Get your hand up in his face. I don't care if he is the best shooter on the team, he is going to have a hard time with a hand in his face."

The Cowboy team usually has 20 to 25 boys on it, McLean said, and most of them are at the clinic.

"They are all doing a great job," McLean said. "We're mostly working on offense. We're getting a ball in their hands, and getting some kinks worked out."

On Wednesday, the boys ran through drills with two players screening the lane, and practiced passing to the open player on breaks. McLean would often stop the action and run through each position, acting out each boy's part in the drill.



Jon McLean

After the drills came the scrimmages. One tried to teach the boys to score on a fast break. The boys split into three teams. One team would send four players down the court to try to score on a second team's two players posted under the basket before the rest of the second team's players could come in from the sidelines to help.

After the second team got possession of the ball and took it across the half-court line, they would try to score on the two players posted under the basket for the third team, before its two other players could arrive from the sidelines.

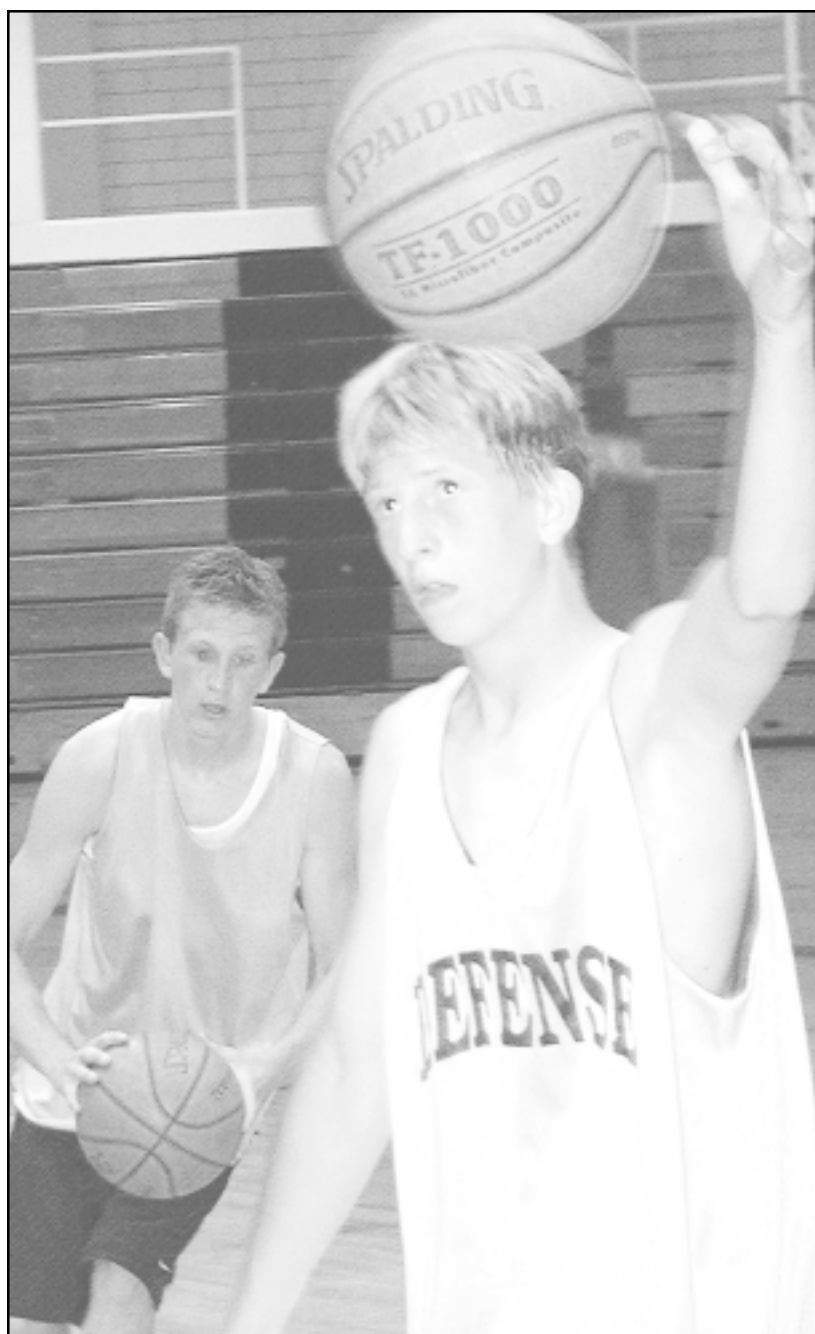
When the third team got the ball, they would try to score on the first team.

No part of the gym was out-of-bounds, and the play was a little rougher than in a regulation game.

"Get aggressive," McLean said. "We don't call any fouls in this drill."

Even though basketball season is a while off, many of the boys will be playing in summer basketball tournaments. The better they do in the summer programs, McLean said, the better they should do in the school program.

"Any playing time they get should help them as players," he said.



Aaron Gittinger (left) and Bryce Chatfield, Goodland High School basketball players, ran through drills at a basketball clinic Wednesday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Avalanche lose; series tied at three

By John Marshall
The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Dominik Hasek criticized his teammates after consecutive losses in the Western Conference finals. He took matters into his own hands this time.

Hasek stopped 24 shots and Brendan Shanahan ended his scoring slump Wednesday night, leading the Red Wings past the Colorado Avalanche 2-0 to even the series. Game 7 is Friday night in Detroit.

"The one thing about playing with this pressure, it makes you feel so good when you win the game," Hasek said. After a 2-1 loss in overtime in Game 5, Detroit's second straight defeat, Hasek said his teammates were making too many mental mistakes.

In Game 6, Hasek was spectacular at times in earning his fourth shutout of the playoffs this year and 10th of his career.

"They had their chances, but Dom came up big when he needed to," Detroit's Chris Chelios said.

Detroit finally won a game when facing elimination after having lost four straight. The outcome put the Avalanche in a Game 7 for the fourth straight series and fifth time in their last six.

"We are not happy going back to Detroit," Colorado goalie Patrick Roy said. "It is a big challenge, but it's been like this for us all year. We have a hard time making it easy on ourselves."

Shanahan had been criticized for his lack of production and was despondent after hitting a post in the final two minutes of Game 5, which Colorado won 2-1 in overtime.

He made up for it with 38 seconds left in the first period with his first goal since Game 4 against St. Louis in the conference semifinals.

"You tell yourself good things when you're getting close and hitting posts,

but it's still very frustrating," said Shanahan, who has five goals in the playoffs. "I personally wanted to have a big night, but I don't think it was a night of personal gains."

Roy raised his glove, thinking he caught Steve Yzerman's shot from the slot, but the puck hit the ice and Shanahan chipped it in. Roy briefly tried to argue the call, then bent over and covered his mask with both gloves.

"We were lucky that the referees knew that the puck wasn't in his glove and didn't blow the whistle," Yzerman said. "It just hit his glove and went down, as opposed to just staying in there."

It was the first time Detroit scored the first goal in the series and the Red Wings' first lead in regulation since the third period of Game 1.

Darren McCarty made it 2-0 with 6:33 left in the second after Peter Forsberg couldn't get to a back pass by Martin Skoula in Detroit's zone.

McCarty beat Roy stickside from the left faceoff circle on the breakaway for his first goal since scoring three straight in the third period of Game 1.

Colorado coach Bob Hartley gambled in the second period when he asked the officials to check the width of Hasek's stick but wound up losing a power play.

The officials said Hasek's stick was within the 4 1/2-inch limit, resulting in a bench penalty against Colorado that wiped out 1:23 of a power play.

"We had information that Hasek was playing with an illegal stick and down 2-0 with 1:20 on the power play, we thought the timing was right," Hartley said. "Sometimes in games you try some things that work. Unfortunately for us, that one didn't."

Colorado had to move defenseman Pascal Trepanier to forward for Game 6 because of injuries to Mike Keane, Dan Hinote and Alex Tanguay.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	28	25	.528	—
New York	28	25	.528	—
Montreal	26	26	.500	1 1/2
Florida	26	27	.491	2
Philadelphia	21	31	.404	6 1/2
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cincinnati	31	21	.596	—
St. Louis	30	23	.566	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	24	28	.462	7
Houston	23	29	.442	8
Chicago	20	31	.392	10 1/2
Milwaukee	17	36	.321	14 1/2
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	32	20	.615	—
San Francisco	30	21	.588	1 1/2
Los Angeles	31	22	.585	1 1/2
Colorado	27	26	.509	5 1/2
San Diego	25	28	.472	7 1/2

(Tankersley 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 8-1) at Los Angeles (Daal 4-0), 8:10 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 5-2) at San Francisco (Jensen 4-4), 8:35 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	35	15	.700	—
New York	36	18	.667	1
Baltimore	23	27	.460	12
Tampa Bay	17	33	.340	18
Toronto	17	33	.340	18
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	30	23	.566	—
Chicago	28	25	.528	2
Cleveland	24	28	.462	5 1/2
Detroit	20	30	.400	8 1/2
Kansas City	20	30	.400	8 1/2
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	33	18	.647	—
Anaheim	29	20	.592	3
Oakland	24	27	.471	9
Texas	21	30	.412	12

Tuesday's Games
Chicago Cubs 3, Pittsburgh 0
Cincinnati 6, Florida 5, 11 innings
Philadelphia 5, N.Y. Mets 3
Atlanta 5, Montreal 2
St. Louis 4, Houston 1
Colorado 3, San Diego 2, 12 innings
Los Angeles 8, Milwaukee 4
San Francisco 1, Arizona 0, 10 innings

Wednesday's Games
Los Angeles 4, Milwaukee 3
Montreal 4, Atlanta 3
Pittsburgh 5, Chicago Cubs 0
Houston 10, St. Louis 5
Cincinnati 8, Florida 2
N.Y. Mets 4, Philadelphia 3
San Diego 11, Colorado 3
Arizona 7, San Francisco 3

Today's Games
Chicago Cubs (Wood 5-3) at Pittsburgh (J. Anderson 4-6), 10:35 a.m.
Arizona (Helling 4-5) at San Francisco (Rueter 6-2), 1:35 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 3-2) at San Diego (BJ Jones 3-2), 3:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Haynes 4-5) at Florida (Olsen 0-2), 5:05 p.m.
Montreal (Pavano 3-5) at Atlanta (Marquis 3-3), 5:35 p.m.

Friday's Games
Houston (C. Hernandez 4-2) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 1-7), 1:20 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Astacio 6-2) at Florida (Burnett 5-5), 5:05 p.m.
Montreal (Vazquez 2-2) at Philadelphia (Duckworth 2-3), 5:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Maddux 5-2) at Cincinnati (Reitsma 3-1), 5:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Fogg 5-3) at St. Louis (W. Williams 2-0), 6:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Quevedo 2-5) at San Diego

Tuesday's Games
Boston 6, Toronto 4
Oakland 5, Baltimore 2
Cleveland 4, Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 5, Seattle 1
Kansas City 7, Anaheim 4
Minnesota 11, Texas 4
N.Y. Yankees 4, Chicago White Sox 2

Wednesday's Games
Boston 7, Toronto 4
Baltimore 10, Oakland 5
Detroit 9, Cleveland 5
Seattle 5, Tampa Bay 2
Anaheim 12, Kansas City 2
Texas 9, Minnesota 8
N.Y. Yankees 6, Chicago White Sox 3

Today's Games
Seattle (R. Soriano 0-1) at Baltimore (Erickson 3-5), 5:05 p.m.
Detroit (Greisinger 2-2) at Cleveland (Sabathia 4-4), 5:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 3-6) at Tampa Bay (P. Wilson 2-3), 5:15 p.m.
Anaheim (Schoeneweis 3-4) at Minnesota (Radke 4-2), 6:05 p.m.

Friday's Games
Seattle (Moyer 4-2) at Baltimore (Lopez 5-1), 5:05 p.m.
Boston (Lowe 7-2) at N.Y. Yankees (D. Wells 6-1), 5:05 p.m.
Toronto (Loaiza 2-1) at Detroit (Bernero 1-0), 5:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Glover 1-0) at Cleveland (Colon 6-3), 5:05 p.m.
Oakland (Lidle 1-5) at Tampa Bay (W. Alvarez 0-1), 5:15 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 4-2) at Minnesota, 6:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Suppan 5-4) at Texas (Valdes 3-5), 6:05 p.m.

Padres smash Rockies, put two on disabled list

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jason Middlebrook's performance would be cause for celebration any other night.

The rookie reliever pitched seven shutout innings in the San Diego Padres' 11-3 win over the Colorado Rockies on Wednesday night. But his success was lost in the glare of injuries to third baseman Phil Nevin and pitcher Brian Tollberg.

Nevin, who just came off the disabled list Monday, left the game in the seventh inning with a bruised left rotator cuff after making a diving stop on Todd Zeile's one-hop grounder. He is to have an exam Thursday.

Tollberg, removed in the third after a twinge in his right elbow, will be placed on the 15-day disabled list, general manager Kevin Towers said.

Towers also said rookie third baseman Sean Burroughs (right shoulder)

will be placed on the 15-day disabled list.

"For getting a win, that's a rough way to go," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said.

Nevin missed 14 games with a strained left elbow until Monday. He moved back to his former position at third base, replacing Burroughs, after beginning the season at first base.

"All you can do is show up tomorrow and get after it," the Padres' Mark Kotsay said. "Teams are not going to feel sorry for us."

Middlebrook (1-1) relieved Tollberg with the bases loaded and no outs. He allowed Zeile's sacrifice fly and an RBI single to Todd Hollandsworth before getting out of the inning.

Middlebrook appeared in four games, including three starts, last season for San Diego.

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Cardinals scope out Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The president of the St. Louis Cardinals met with Illinois Gov. George Ryan on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of moving the team to southern Illinois.

"He said he'd be delighted to work with them," Ryan spokesman Dennis Culloton said after the 40-minute Statehouse meeting between the governor and Cardinals president Mark Lamping. "We're going to work with

them like any major corporation."

The Cardinals have been trying to replace Busch Stadium. The Missouri Legislature wrapped up earlier this month without approving a new stadium in downtown St. Louis. As a result, the Cardinals are considering other locations.

"I'm just up here trying to establish and create some lines of communication, that's really all," Lamping said.



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Marorie Pizel nominated Darol for "delivering my mail to me every day in the winter months, replacing lightbulbs and helping me in many ways." Pizel, a senior citizen, is most appreciative that Darol has lent her an extra hand. Thank you Darol for going beyond your daily work routine and helping someone else.
The Goodland Daily News May Employee of the Month will be selected Wednesday, June 5. There's only a few days left to get your nomination to our office.

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 - **Howard Johnson** – 2 dinners for the price of 1*
 - **Sherman Theatre** – 2 free movie passes
 - **Dairy Queen** – 2 for 1 - 12 oz. Blizzards
 - **Sight & Sound Entertainment** – 2 for 1 video rental
 - **McDonalds** – 2 for 1 any sandwich*
 - **Subway** – 2 for 1 any sandwich*
 - **Goodland Activities Center** – 1 free day pass
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