Cowgirls defeat Lady Broncos on the road, 52-45

sports

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By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News The Cowgirls returned to the win column Tuesday, and improved their record to 13-4, with a 52-45 victory over the Lady Broncos at Lakin.

"It is two-hour ride, and we knew it was going to be tough on the road," said Coach Connie Livengood. "Anny McCoy had been sick the day before, and we knew she wasn't going to be fully recovered.

"We played pretty well and contained their center, and held their gunner, Kaal King to six points. She averages 22 a game, but Tess Schultz and Kendra Billinger played her very tough."

"We turned (the ball) over too many times on rebounds,"

Livengood said. "We would get a period. lead and then give it back, but we

did manage to pull it out for a win." Looking ahead to Oakley, who the Cowgirls face at 5 p.m. tonight, Lady Broncos cut it to one, 29-28, Livengood said they are playing very well, and will be tough.

core players," she said, "and we will Fairbanks and Stone put the Cowneed to play a good game to win."

Tuesday the Lady Broncos kept the score close, with the Cowgirls holding a 10-9 lead at the end of the first quarter. There were three ties and three lead changes in the second quarter, with the score tied at 21 at the half.

Twice in the second quarter, 85 percent. Goodland's Jayci Stone gave the of her game-high 28 points in that point, 45-44. About 30 seconds later girls another point, 52-45, when she

In the third quarter, the Cowgirls moved to a six point lead, 27-21, halfway through the period, but the with 2:20 remaining.

They tied the game at 31 with "They have a couple of talented 1:30 left, but baskets by Stephanie girls in the lead, 35-31, at the end of the quarter.

> Stone opened the fourth with her third 3-point basket to make it a seven-point lead. She spent quite a bit of the fourth at the charity stripe, scoring nine points. For the game, Stone was 11 of 13 free throws for

The Lady Broncos kept battling Cowgirls a lead or tied the score back, and with 1:40 minutes rewith a 3-point bucket. She scored 8 maining, had cut the lead to one

they tied it at 45 on a free throw with 1:14 left.

Stone hit a pair of her free throws to retake the lead. Then the Lady Broncos had a chance to tie it up with two free throws, but B. Rice missed both with 47 seconds left.

McCoy then stepped up to the charity stripe to hit two and make it a four-point Cowgirl lead.

Fairbanks had a chance to extend the lead when she was fouled, but she could not make either shot with 21 seconds left.

The Lady Broncos were in a desperate situation and kept fouling. They sent Stone back to the line with under 10 seconds left, and she hit two more to make it a six point lead, 51-45.

McCoy was able to give the Cow-

hit one of two free throws with 1.5 seconds left.

At the buzzer, the Cowgirls had four girls with four fouls Billinger, Schultz, Justeen Koehler and McCoy — who had been providing a very tough defense inside.

"These girls don't get the credit for the defense they have been playing," said Coach Livengood. "They have been doing a good job on defense and that helps keep us in tight games.'

McCoy was the other Cowgirl in double figures with 11 points, and she had 10 rebounds and 3 blocked shots.

Billinger had 3 points and 2 rebounds; Jessica Osborn had 5 points on a 3-point basket in the first period and a field goal in the final two minutes; Koehler and Fairbanks Scott City and Ulysses.

each had 2 on a field goals in the third quarter; and Schultz had 1 point on a free throw in the first period.

The Cowgirls shot 38 percent from the field, and were 12-18 from the free throw line for 67 percent shooting. The Cowgirls had 31 rebounds to 25 for the Lady Broncos. The Cowgirls had 19 turnovers to 22 for Lakin.

The Cowgirls have three games left in the regular season, including the Oakley game tonight. They travel to Colby on Tuesday for their third meeting of the year, and then they finish the regular season at Norton on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The sub-state tournament will be in Colby March 3-8, with Colby, Concordia, Hugoton, Larned, Pratt,

Cowboys pull out win over Lakin

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News The clock read 31 seconds, the score was tied at 51 and the Cowboys had the ball.

Coach Jon McLean huddled with his team during a timeout and told them to work for the last shot against the Broncos in Lakin Tuesday.

The Cowboys put the ball in play and passed it around trying to get an open shot. With less than 10 seconds on the clock, Don Raymer got the pass and put up a shot that went through the hoop and gave the Cowboys a 53-51 lead.

Lakin called an immediate timeout with 4.8 seconds on the clock and the Cowboys prepared their defense for the last second try by the Broncos to win the game with a 3-point basket or to tie it and take it into overtime.

The Broncos in bounds pass was knocked out by a Cowboy so they had to do it again. This time the inbounds pass was stolen by Goodland's Lance Tedford, and he was fouled by Lakin with .2 seconds

Tedford made both free throws to give the Cowboys a 55-51 win and improve their record to 12-5.

We didn't pass very well," Cowboy Coach McLean said. "We need some player leadership, and need to have some players step up and play better.

"We were still able to win the game," McLean said.

Looking ahead to tonight's game against Oakley, McLean said it is a huge game for the Cowboys because a win would make them undefeated in league play for this season

"This is a huge game, and if we don't play better than we did Tuesday it will be a real dog fight," McLean said. "If we play the way

we can, we should be able to win." There are three games left in the season including the Oakley game. Tuesday the Cowboys will travel to Colby to face the Eagles for the second game of the year. The Eagles will be looking to avenge their last second loss to the Cowboys in January. The final game of the regular season will be in Norton on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

us," McLean said. "We will have to play our best in all three."

Lakin took the early lead and put on a run to lead 14-3 with 2:40 remaining in the period.

came to life with a 3-pointer from Kris Rubio, another from Jace Herl and a third in a row by Tedford to cut the lead to two points with 50 seconds left

Raymer completed the comeback with a basket in the last seconds of the quarter to tie it at 14.

At the start of the second quarter the Cowboys kept the pressure up and extended their lead to 25-14 with baskets by Raymer, Herl — he hit his second 3-pointer — and Jared Doke.

We played very well during the run in the second quarter," Coach McLean said. "Then we seemed to relax and go back to what we had been doing before and gave it all back."

The second quarter ended with the Cowboys holding a 30-23 lead, and Tedford had hit his second 3pointer in the last minute, but the Broncos scored two baskets after that to cut the lead.

Tedford started out the third quar-"These will be tough games for ter with another 3-pointer, and it range. The Broncos hit 17 of 36 looked like the Cowboys were in control as they held a 10-point lead up to the last two minutes of the quarter.

However, at that point the Cow-

Suddenly the Cowboys seem to boys started making mistakes, and Lakin went on a 9-0 run to cut the lead to 38-36 at the buzzer.

> Lakin retook the lead at the 6:25 mark 39-38. From there the lead changed hands seven times and there were three ties in the next six minutes until Raymer's final second basket.

> Raymer was the high scorer for the Cowboys with 17 points on 7 of 15 field goals and 3 of 5 free throws. Tedford was right behind with 16 throws.

Herl had 8 points on 1 of 2 field goals and 2 of 6 from 3-point range. Aaron Gittinger had 5 on 1 of 4 field goals and 3 of 5 free throws. Bobby Miller had 4 on 2 of 4 field goals. Rubio had 3 on 13-point shot in the first quarter. Doke had 2 on 1 of 2 field goals. Kevin Schulte was 0 for 2 from the field and 0 of 1 from 3point range.

The Cowboys hit 13 of 29 field goals and were 7 of 19 from 3-point field goals and were 4 of 11 from 3point range.

Wildcat girls pick up win while boys lose to Jennings

By Brenda Kirkham

The Goodland Star-News The Wildcats of Sharon Springs splitone and one athome and Charlie Short and Jodi on Friday night as the girls beat Jennings 74-36 and the boys lost 73-51.

GIRLS VS. JENNINGS

The Sharon Springs Lady Wildcats jumped out to an early lead against the Jennings Lady Coyotes and rolled to a 74-36 homecoming victory.

By the end of the first quarter, the Wildcats were ahead 28-6. Freshman Brandi Bertrand scored 10 of her total 19 points in the first quarter, and Ashley Bruce had eight.

The rest of the ladies team made balanced contributions to the scoring and the Wildcats in the fourth quarter. came away with a strong team victory.

Bertrand and Bruce tied for the game-high scoring honors with 12; Kellen Davis five; and Rains 19 points each; Darci Siebert and Heyl three each.

scored 12; Sarah Hill had eight; Renee Rains five: Brodie Williams four; Lexie Bellamy three; Siebert two points.

BOYS VS. JENNINGS

The Sharon Springs boys had to fight to stay in the game after going into the half tied at 36-36. An explosive fourth quarter for the Coyotes, with 18 points compared to just four by the Wildcats, resulted in the 73-51 loss

Trailing by eight points heading into the final quarter, the Wildcats couldn't get any offense. A Reid Rains threepointer and a free throw by Kevin Heyl were the only points Sharon Springs could produce

Kyle Elder led Sharon Springs with 15 points; Kyle O'Connor 13; Grady Fischer





points on 1 field goal, he was 4 of 9 from 3-point range and 2-2 free



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