

# Cowboys, Norton set low-scoring records



Cowboys senior Josh Duke took a shot over Wallace County High senior Jeff Hennick to get one of his four field goals in the second game of the Topside Tip-off on Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. The Cowboys lost 55-26 to Sharon Springs, which placed second in the tournament.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

By Tom Betz

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The Goodland Cowboys and Norton Blue Jays set a record in the 19th annual Topside Tip-off on Saturday with the lowest combined points by two boys' teams at 64, and the lowest winning score as Norton won 35-29.

The lowest combined boys score was seven below the previous total of 71 set two years ago by Holyoke with 40 and Norton with 31. The lowest winning boys score was five below the record of 40 set by Hugoton in 1989 and tied by Holyoke two years ago.

The Cowboys did hold an early 6-0 lead over the Blue Jays, but Norton came back to tie it at 8 after the first quarter and took a 13-12 lead into the lockerroom at halftime.

In the second half, Norton kept the defensive battle tight, outscoring the Cowboys 12-8 in the third and 10-9 in the fourth quarter.

Tanner Smith was high scorer for the Cowboys with 11 points on one field goal, one three-point basket and six free throws. Greg Farris had 9 on two three-point baskets and three free throws. Josh Duke had 5 on two field goals and one free throw. Travis Angelos had one basket to open the game for his 2 points, and Brandon Rome had a basket in the second quarter for 2.

"Saturday was just an ugly game to watch," said Cowboys Coach Brad Bergsma. "Norton is a very deliberate ball club and defensively doesn't give away many open looks. Unfortunately, when we got those looks, the rims were a little smaller and we had a tough time putting the

ball in the hole."

**Goodland wins first round**

The Cowboys had opened the tournament on Thursday with a 55-46 victory over the Weskan Coyotes.

"Thursday, I thought our kids came out a little flat and Weskan took it to them," Bergsma said. "Smith hit some big shots to keep us close, and when we finally started to execute a little better, we came around and the final score showed that improvement."

The Cowboys fell behind 20-14 in the first quarter, but came back in the second to outscore Weskan 12-5 and led 26-25 at the half. In the third quarter, the Cowboys extended the lead, outscoring the Coyotes 13-11 to lead 39-36.

In the fourth period, the Coyotes tried to close the gap, outscoring the Cowboys 19-16, but the Cowboys were able to hold on to win 55-46.

Smith was the high scorer with 19 points on two three-point baskets, three field goals and seven free throws. Farris had 18 with one three-point basket, five field goals and five of six free throws in the fourth quarter. Angelos was in double figures with 10 on four field goals and two free throws. Preston Dautel and Forrest Trachsel each had 4 on two field goals.

**Sharon Springs a tough team**

Friday the Cowboys wound up on the losing end of a 55-26 score with the Wallace County Wildcats, a tough team from a smaller school that made it into the tournament finals.

The Cowboys were outscored in every quarter, and were behind

29-16 at half time. The Wildcats outscored the Cowboys 10-7 in the third quarter and 6-3 in the fourth to win 55-26.

"Friday night, we just ran into an awfully good team," Bergsma said. "Their team speed really disrupted a lot of the things we wanted to do, being able to get some scoring out of transition being the most obvious."

Smith and Duke were high scorers for the Cowboys with 8 points each. Duke had two field goals and four free throws. Trachsel had 4 on two field goals. Dautel and Farris each had one field goal for 2 points.

"I felt like in all three games, our kids did an excellent job defensively," the coach said. "We graded out pretty high in each one. Our kids have worked extremely hard to achieve those defensive standards."

"We'd have expected to do a little better, knowing that we are holding opponents to low-mid 40s per game. Obviously, on the other side of the ball we are not where we want to be."

"We are getting some good looks and the shots just aren't dropping for the kids right now. I've told them to keep shooting, because that will come, and we will continue to work on some things that help some our

kids adjust to the pace at the varsity level."

**Hays High coming to town**

Tonight the Cowboys will be back on the court at 7 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse to face the Hays High Indians. Their junior varsity tournament began on Monday and will continue on Thursday at Max Jones.

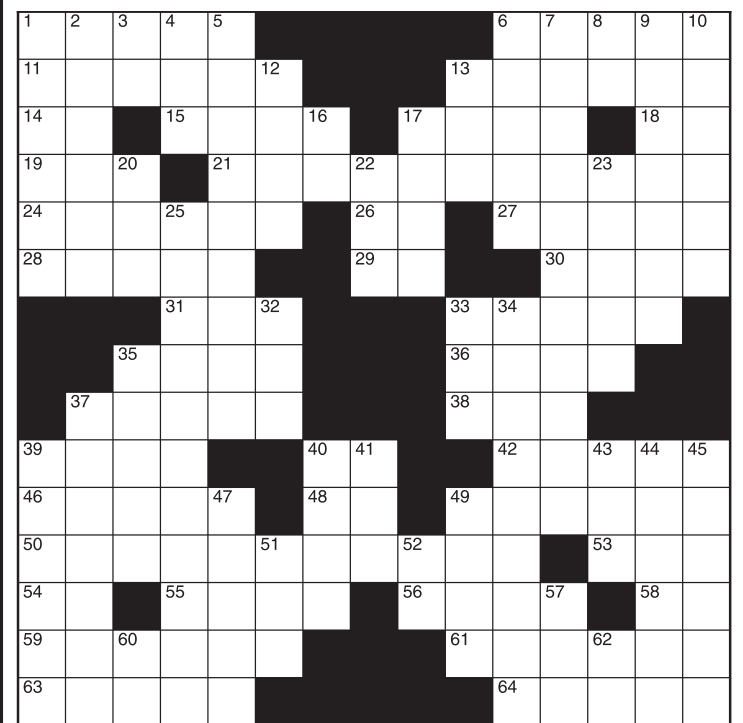
"This week we are right back at it," Bergsma said, "with the junior varsity boys hosting a tournament on Monday and Thursday and all three teams playing Tuesday and Friday versus Hays High and Quinter respectively."

"Rick Keltner has been at Hays twenty-odd years, and we expect to see his trademark aggressive man defense. They return four or five kids that played quite a bit last year and they have a bunch of athletic guards that shoot well from the perimeter."

"Right now, our focus is to continue to learn. We have a number of kids with little or no experience at the varsity level, and we are dealing with finding the right rotations to give the best chance for success."

"We will try to play a little faster and I would like to see us out there with a little more tempo, as it plays in with our kids' strengths offensively."

## Crossword Puzzle



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Erect leafless flower stalk
- 6. Slowly disappears
- 11. Collides and rebounds
- 13. Settlement
- 14. Article
- 15. Having the skill to do something
- 17. Soviet city
- 18. Postal abbr. for Doncaster
- 19. Republic of New Afrika
- 21. Solvent
- 24. Cook in nearly boiling water, as of eggs
- 26. Air Force
- 27. S. African city
- 28. Brought to a conclusion
- 29. Foreign Service
- 30. Of an ode
- 31. CNN's founder Turner
- 33. Contains cerium
- 35. Spanish baby
- 36. Fee charged for currency exchange
- 37. Assign a structure to a sentence
- 38. Medical man
- 39. Smudge
- 40. Carrier invention (abbr.)
- 42. \_\_\_\_\_pequa, NY 11758
- 46. Of agriculture
- 48. One thousandth of an ampere
- 49. Meat preservation
- 50. Washington's home
- 53. Milwaukee Art Museum
- 54. Doonesbury character
- 55. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 56. Settled down
- 58. E
- 59. About milk

- 61. Disk for throwing
- 63. S S S
- 64. Comb-plate

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. In short supply
- 2. Large artillery gun
- 3. One of the six noble gases
- 4. Blue grass genus
- 5. Heartens
- 6. Dry wind in the Alps
- 7. Parabolic
- 8. Carry out
- 9. Indigenous
- 10. Magistrate
- 12. Turn sharply
- 13. Cathode-ray tube
- 16. And, Latin
- 17. Kills (slang)
- 20. Annex
- 22. An awkward stupid person
- 23. AM or FM listening device
- 25. Definite
- 32. River in NE Scotland
- 33. A man with dishonorable behavior
- 34. Egotistical person
- 35. Pacific island
- 37. Far East temples
- 39. Wager
- 40. Central Iowa city
- 41. Vehicle
- 43. What you can repeat soon after perceiving it
- 44. Mariners
- 45. Think highly of
- 47. Belongs to king of Huns
- 49. Spanish suns
- 51. Holiday (informal)
- 52. Sodium
- 57. Ancient Egyptian King
- 60. Atomic number 55
- 62. Cerium

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:



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### Brewster All-Star Booster Club

#### Calendar for Dec. 11 to 17

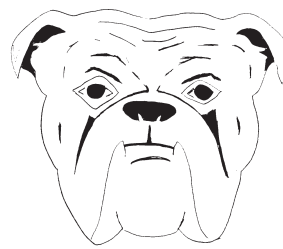
- Today:** 6:30 p.m., high school basketball vs Triplains at Winona. Winter sports picture
- Thursday:** 5 p.m., junior high basketball vs Heartland in Colby.
- Friday:** 6:30 p.m., high school basketball vs Healy.
- Monday:** 7 p.m., board of education meeting.



### The Goodland Star-News

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