_sports Cowboys fourth at league, face Colby tonight

The Cowboys wrestling team had six wrestlers get medals at the Northwest Kansas League Tournament Saturday in St. Francis and four placed first.

Tonight at 5:30 p.m., the Cowboys have a dual with the Colby Eagles at Max Jones Fieldhouse. During the evening the Goodland Shrine Club will present a certificate to Cowboy Jay Cotter, who has been selected to participate on the West team in the XXXVI Shrine Bowl to be held in Wichita on July 25.

The Cowboys had 12 wrestlers in the league tournament in St. Francis with Nathan Deeds (140 pounds), Lorenzo Delgado (152), Paul Starr (171) and Jay Cotter (285) placing first in their divisions. Seth Miller(125) and Riley Oharah(189) placed second.

The other Cowboys in the tournament did not place including Corey Davis (119), Jeff House (130), Chris Bustillos (135), Kayler Rietcheck (145), Laine Herl (160) and Tyler Fisher (215).

Colby won the league tournament with 186 points, Oakley and Hoxie tied for second and third at 122, Goodland was fourth 116, Rawlins County fifth 101, Decatur County sixth 68, and St. Francis seventh at 65.

Coach Joe Sramek said 10 Cowboy wrestlers attended a tournament on Saturday in Stratton, Colo.

Jason Cowan placed first at 160 pounds, Mikail Freeman placed third at 135 pounds, Mac Purvis placed third at 189 pounds, Jedd Gray placed fourth at 130 pounds and Marvin Hernandez placed fourth at 112 pounds.

Other Cowboys participating but did not place included Angel Salazar (0-2) at 135, Tanner Jones (0-2) at 140, Sloan Ruhs (2-2) at 145, Josh Whisnant (0-2) at 152, and Josh Thompson (2-2) at 189.

Burlington dual

Thursday the Cowboys had a dual Hornung. with the Burlington Cougars at Max



Jones Fieldhouse with Burlington Zach Kinder. winning 47-21.

The Cowboys won five matches, Colin Eberhart. lost six matches and had to forfeit three matches

Austin Avelar, 112 pounds, won a 9-1 major decision over Gaston decision to Trenton Rico.

Jeff House, 130, lost by fall to

Chris Bustillos, 135, lost a 10-1 major decision to Zach Hornung.

Nathan Deeds, 140, lost a 9-4

Corey Davis, 119, lost by fall to decision over Shane Whitmore.

Lorenzo Delgado, 152, won by Mike Slattery. fall over Austin Blasi.

Laine Herl, 160, won at 5-3 decision over Gabe Lerma.

Paul Starr, 171, lost a 12-4 major decision to Cole Briegel.

Riley Oharah, 189, won by tech-Kayler Rietcheck, 145, won a 1-0 nical foul over Alex Long.

Tyler Fisher, 215, lost by fall to

The Cowboys forfeited at 103

ended up losing 12-4. At the Northwest Kansas League Tournament Seth Miller (left) worked to get

an escape against an Oakley wrestler. Miller placed second and was one of six Cowboys to place as

pounds to Migel Torres, at 125 to R.J. Villa. Bond Kinder and at 285 to Isaiah Churchwell.

Junior varsity matches Jedd Gray, 130, lost a 5-1 decision decision over Alex Gribben. to Clab Nitsch.

Angel Salazar, 135, lost an 8-0 Cody Gay.

Photos by Kristi Guthmiller and Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

decision to Austin Graff.

Sloan Ruhs, 152, lost by fall to

Josh Whisnant, 152, lost by fall to Cord Carlin.

Josh Thompson, 189, won a 5-3

Mac Purvis, 215, won by fall over

Goodland loses heartbreaker to Burlington, 54-50

By Tom Betz

nt.betz@nwkansas.com The Cowboys led by 12 points in the third quarter, but the Burlington Cougars kept chipping away to tie the game with two minutes left and made free throws to seal a win, 54-50.

The Cowboys are in St. Francis tonight to play the Indians who are 9-5 having defeated Brewster on Tuesday 44-39 The loss dropped



ended with Burlington winning 54-50.

Wilkens led the Cowboys scoring with 13 points, including one 3-point basket and had 8 rebounds. Hillmer had 10 points, including two 3-point baskets and 5 rebounds. Cowan had Amthor had 4 points and three rebounds, Dillon Trachsel and David Murray each had 2 points

The Cowboys shot 31 percent hit 40 percent making 4 of 10, and from the 3-point line making 4 of the Cougars hit 35 percent making 13, and the Cougars hit 40 percent making 4 of 10 tries. The Cowboys hit 46 percent from the floor mak- Cowboys 30 to 21, and the Cougars ing 17 of 37 shots. The Cougars hit had 12 offensive rebounds to 9 for 45 percent making 18 of 40 shots. the Cowboys. The Cowboys fin-9 points and two rebounds. Kevin From the charity stripe the Cowboys ished the night with 9 turnovers.

6 of 17.

The Cougars out rebounded the



Cowboy Paul Starr (above) tried to get control of Burlington's Cole Briegel on Thursday, but Starr

the team finished fourth at St. Francis on Saturday.

the Cowboys record to 3-13.

The games have been changed a bit for today, Don Smith, activity director, said. The Cowgirls junior varsity will play at 3:45 at the St. Francis High School. The Cowboys junior varsity will play at the St. Francis Grade School.

At 5:30 p.m. the C team will play at the grade school and the Cowgirls will play at the high school. The Cowboys will tip off at 7 p.m. at the high school.

Coach Smith said it was a tough loss on Tuesday because the boys had played hard and were leading until the final minutes. He said the team showed improvement in many areas, including keeping the number of turnovers down to the lowest he could remember this season.

"We played tough in the first half," Smith said, "and got a double digit lead in the third quarter, but we could not keep the big men out, plus Burlington got some key big outside baskets that cut into the lead.

"This was probably our best game of the season, and I know the boys wanted to win."

The Cowboys tied the score twice early and then went on a nine point run to lead 14-5 with 1:45 left in the first quarter. The Cougars scored the final seven points to cut the margin to 14-12 at the buzzer.

In the second period the Cowboys managed to hold a narrow lead until the 2:22 mark when the Cougars tied the score at 22-22.

A jump ball call went to the Cowboys and sophomore Blaine Luther hit a 3-point shot to give the Cowboys a 25-22 lead with 2 minutes left. The Cougars tied the score again at 26-26 with 45 seconds left. Another basket by Luther in the final seconds gave the Cowboys a 28-26 lead at halftime.

The Cowboys went on a scoring run to open the third quarter including a 3-point basket by junior Brock Wilkens to lead by 12,38-26, with 4 minutes left. The Cowboys led 44-35 at the end of the quarter.

Burlington started chipping away in the fourth quarter, but a 3-point basket by sophomore Ryan Hillmer



Cowboy Brock Wilkens tried to shoot over the hands of Burlington Cougar players at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Tuesday. Wilkens led the Cowboys scoring, but the Cougars were the winner 54-50. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

kept the lead at 47-39 with 6 minutes left.

With 5 minutes left Cougar junior Dylan Pralle hit one of two freepoint shots to cut the lead to 47-42. Hillmer missed the first of a one and one free throw, but with under 4 minutes left Wilkens hit two free throws to make it 49-44.

Cougar sophomore Stetson Corman hit a basket with 3 minutes left to made it 49-46.

With two minutes left a three shot foul was called on Hillmer that put Cougar Luke Prochaska at the charity stripe and he made the first of two shots but missed the second. Cougar senior Nolan Queen got the rebound and put it back in to tie the score at 49-49.

A minute later Cougar junior Chandler Reams hit a 3-point shot to give Burlington a 52-49 lead.

With 12 seconds left a 3-point shot by Hillmer missed and Cowboy junior Robert Cowan got the rebound and was fouled trying to put the shot back up. Cowan hit the front end of the one and one to make it 52-50. The second shot bounced off and Wilkens quickly fouled Cougar senior Dalton Rico with 10 second left. Rico hit the front end of the one and one to make it 53-50 and the Cowboys took a time out to plan for the next shot. Rico hit the second free throw to make it 54-50.

The Cowboys pushed the ball up the floor, but a 3-point shot by Hillmer was wide and the game

Queen led the Cougar scoring with 16 points, Rico had 13 and Corman had 12. Pralle had 8 and Prochaska had 5.





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