Plainsmen defeat Cowboys in final home game

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By Tom Betz

nt.betz@nwkansas.com The Cowboys led early against the Oakley Plainsmen, but fell behind in the third quarter and lost 57-47 at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Friday.

It was the final home game of the regular season and the field house had a good crowd on the first night of an effort to "Max the Max." The crowd was one of the largest of the season next to the crowd during the Topside Tip Off in December.

The Cowboys are in Colby tonight at 7 p.m. for a rematch game with the Eagles and will finish the season at 7 p.m. on Friday in Hoxie.

Before the game the seniors from the Cowboys, Cowgirls, cheerleaders and pep band were recognized with their parents. For the Cowboys the seniors were Kevin Amthor and Landon Brenner.

The Cowboys record is 4-14, but the Colby Eagles are 5-12 coming off three straight losses the last being a 61-28 loss to Quinter.

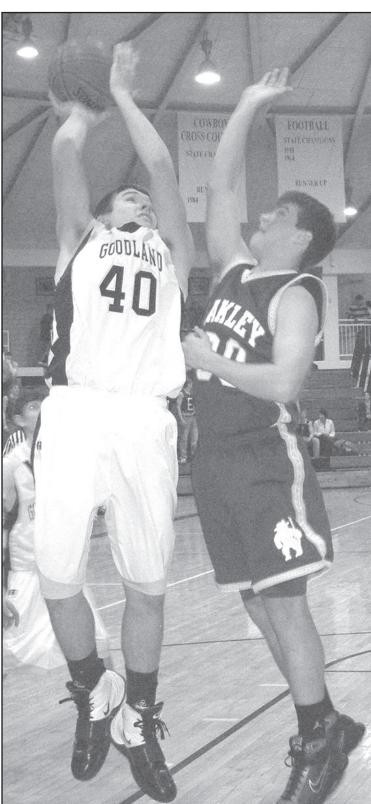
The Cowboys lost to Colby 51-48 in the 25th annual Paul Wintz and Tom Bowen Orange and Black Basketball Classic held in Colby in January.

"We expect the game with Colby to be much like the first one," said Coach Don Smith. "We have two areas we would like to improve from the first time we played Colby. The first is they got too many second chance shots. We did not block out well and we need to be more accurate from the free throw line."

The Hoxie Indians are 10-8 and play Norton tonight before facing the Cowboys on Friday.

Against the Plainsmen the Cowboys led by one after the first quarter and were down by two at halftime. The two teams played tough and there were several lead changes and ties in the first two quarters.

In the second half the Cowboys fell behind by 10 halfway through the third quarter, but had cut it back to six points by the end of the quarter. In the fourth quarter the Cowboys had trouble cutting into the Plainsmen lead, but when they did get close Oakley forced the Cowboys to foul and Oakley won the game at



Cowboy Robert Cowan shoots over the arm of Oakley's Patrick Loftus to sink two of his season high 24 points against the Plainsmen on Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Loftus led all scoring with 33 points as the Plainsmen defeated the Cowboys 57-47 in the final home game of the season.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

the charity stripe, 57-47.

Coach Smith said Cowboy Robert Cowan had an excellent offensive game scoring a season high 24 points against Oakley.

We struggled to find anyone else to give him consistent offensive help," Smith said. "Our biggest problem was on defense. Junior Patrick Loftus, of Oakley, played an outstanding game. His teammates deserve a lot of credit. With their team quickness, when they drove or penetrated we would give some defensive help and then they would pass to Loftus. He has a very quick release on his shot and is a deadeye from the outside."

The Plainsmen took an early lead with a 3-point basket by Loftus who hit several at key points in the game hitting nine 3-point shots and leading all scorers with 33 points.

Cowboy sophomore Blaine Luther hit the first points for Goodland and junior Robert Cowan got a put back and junior Brock Wilkens hit a basket to give the Cowboys a 6-3 lead with 4:30 left.

Loftus hit another 3-point shot to tie the score at 6-6 with less than four minutes left.

Cowboy senior Landon Brenner gave the lead back to Goodland making his two free throws, but again Loftus tied the score a 8-8 with three minutes left.

Cowan and Wilkens hit baskets to give the Cowboys a 12-8 lead with one minute left. Again Loftus hit a 3-point shot

in the last seconds of the quarter to make it 12-11. Oakley took the lead in the second

quarter on a basket by Kraig Siruta, 13-12.

Cowan hit to retake the lead for the Cowboys, but Loftus hit another 3-point shot to give Oakley a 16-14 lead. Less than a minute later Cowboy Ryan Hillmer tied the score at 16-16.

Loftus hit another 3-point shot to make it 19-16, but two back to back baskets by Cowan gave the Cowboys a 20-19 lead with four minutes left.

Oakley's Sunny Patel and Wilkens traded baskets to make it 22-21 with Goodland leading with 2:30 left in the half.

Cowboy sophomore Reed Bel- to make it 41-31. The teams traded lamy got his first point on one of two free throws to make it 23-21 with less than two minutes left.

Oakley's Matthew Temaat tied the score at 23-23 with one minute left. The Cowboys had several opportunities inbounding the ball under their basket, but turned it over again Loftus hit a 3-point shot to to Oakley and Temaat hit a basket to make it 25-23 at the half.

At halftime the Sno Ball royalty was crowned with the King Paul Starr and the Queen Heidi Lawson. First Attendants were Alexis Bateman and Ryan Irvin. Second attendants were Amber Douglas and Ben Waugh.

finalist in the KLOE/KKCI and Dan Brenner Ford contest with a chance to win a 2010 Ford Focus. Weiser had one shot at making a basket free throws to make it 53-45 with from the three-quarter court line, one minute left. but he missed.

In the third quarter Loftus again hit a 3-point shot to make it 28-23. Cowan cut the lead with a basket but Loftus hit again to make it 31-25.

Coach Don Smith called a time out to gather his team and talk to them with 5:20 left in the quarter.

With four minutes left, Oakley's Brandon Maurath and Cowan traded baskets to make it 33-27. Oakley had a 10-point lead on baskets by Loftus and Siruta making it 37-27 with 2:46 left.

Cowan hit for Goodland with one minute left to make it 37-29, and a second basket on a pass from Kevin Amthor to make it 37-31 at the end of the third quarter.

The Cowboys played more aggressively in the final quarter and at times the press seemed to cause the Plainsmen some trouble.

Loftus hit another 3-point shot

baskets with Lex Parson hitting for Oakley and Cowan for Goodland to make it 43-33.

Siruta hit a 3-point basket to give the Plainsmen a 46-33 edge for their largest lead of the game.

Cowan hit with 3:20 left, but make it 49-35. The Cowboys press got Cowboy Bellamy a basket to make it 49-39, and another basket off the press by Cowboy David Murray made it 49-41.

Hillmer hit his lone 3-point basket of the night to make it 49-44 with under two minutes left.

Loftus hit two free throws to make Marcus Weiser of Oakley was the it 51-44. Bellamy got a free throw for the Cowboys to make it 51-45 with 1:17 left. Maruath returned the favor for Oakley hitting two

With the clock running out the Cowboys were forced to foul and Plainsmen Patrick Ahrens made two free throws to make it 55-45.

With 20 seconds left Siruta hit the final two free throws for Oakley to give them a 57-45 lead.

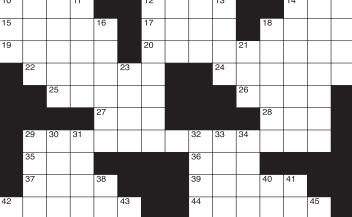
Cowan hit the Cowboys final basket in the last seconds to make the final 57-47.

Cowan led the scoring with 24 points, Bellamy and Wilkens each had 6, Hillmer had 5 including his one 3-point shot. Murray, Brenner and Luther each had 2 points.

Cowan had 9 rebounds, Wilkens 5, Hillmer 4, Bellamy and Amthor 3 each, Brenner 2 and Luther 1.

The Cowboys shot 43 percent for the game, hit 4 of 6 free throws, had 4 steals and 19 turnovers.

Crossword Puzzle 15



Mustangs win Cheyenne Wells tournament

The Grant Junior High Mustangs sults with Goodland winning over Cheyenne Wells 12. Wells tournament on Tuesday, teams.

wrestling team won the Cheyenne eight other Kansas and Colorado

Individual results 80 pounds, Josh David, first 115 Brook Bahe, first 125 Dax Ruhs. second 130 Holton Witman, fourth

Feb. 2.

ment with nine wrestlers taking first place in their class, three second two thirds and three fourth.

Mustang Coach Greg Craig pro- Colo., seventh 28, Springfield (Baca vided the team and individual re- County), Colo., eighth 14, and ninth

The Mustangs were first with 212 The Mustangs won the tourna- points, Burlington, Colo., second 180, Lamar, Colo. third 128, Scott City fourth 124, Holly, Colo. fifth, 80, Eads, Colo., sixth 66, Stratton,

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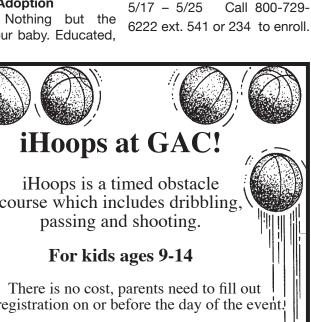
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Kansas

February 17 at 5:30 p.m.

This an an NBA/ NCAA sponsored tournament.



85 Aaron Avelar, first 90 Coy Johnson, first 94 Ricky Milke, first 98 James Dinkle, fourth 102 Seth Garza, third 106 Timothy Fugleberg, fourth 110 Kolt Trachsel, fourth

135 Tyler Gastineau, first 145 John Peden, first 150 Garret Taylor, third 160 Colton Cooper, first 165 Zach Miller, second 180 Ian Bonsall, second 200 Taylen Smith, first

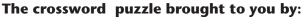
ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Sherman County Commissioners will be taking sealed bids for roof repairs on the fairgrounds 4-H building and the house at the fairgrounds. 4-H building repairs will include replacement of screws and application of roof coating. House repairs will include tear off, replace shingles, rain gutters, east siding and screens. Pick up complete description at Sherman County Courthouse or call William McKnight at (785) 890-4801. Bids will be accepted until p.m. on February 22, 2010.

Relay For Life Benefit											
Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament											
Saturdays: February 20 and March 27 GOODLAND ELKS LODGE Register between 5-5:30 p.m.											
Tournament starts at 6 P.M.											
All proceeds go to American Cancer Society Relay for Life PawWash team											
STANDARD SEAT-\$45 donation pre-registration or \$55 at door VIP SEAT=\$100.00 donation (VIP's start with more chips)											
Questions or to pre-register call Dee at (785) 899-5144 or Cindie at (785) 821-3999 (Pre-register by Feb. 17 or Mar. 24)											
Must be 21 to enter. Elks Members and Guests. Snack food will be served.											

Classifieds work! 899-2338

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50. High, flat tableland



56. Six (Spanish)

57. No. French river

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