

Blue Jays soar over Cowgirls

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

The Cowgirls stormed back in the final minutes Friday against the Norton Lady Jays, but finished a bit short as they lost 60-56 to drop their record to 6-5.

Thursday the Cowgirls host the Lady Cougars of Burlington for a makeup game that was snowed out in December. The last time the two teams faced each other was in the first round of the Topside Tipoff when the Cowgirls won 100-35.

"I think it will be a different game this time," said Coach Terry Daise. "Burlington has more experience, but they are battling some injuries and sickness too so they are short of team members. That is why we are only playing a varsity game."

The Cowgirls will be without the help of Justeen Koehler, who injured her ankle last week. She played against Norton on Tuesday, and Coach Daise is hoping she can play against Oberlin tonight.

"She is going to sit out the Burlington game," Daise said. "The injury is affecting her shot, and cut down some of her ability to defend down low. She is battling through this, but I felt two nights in a row would be a bit much."

Tonight the Cowgirls are in Oberlin to face the Lady Red Devils with the girls game expected to begin at 5:30 p.m.

"Oberlin is a scrappy team, and has some quick guards," Daise said, "and they are especially tough on their home court."

"We are into a tough stretch of the season. I think we will be okay if the girls can pick up our intensity like we did in the final minutes against Norton when we played some better defense."

The last time the Cowgirls faced the Lady Jays was in the third place game of the Topside Tipoff when the Goodland won, 66-59

Friday the Cowgirls found themselves behind by 12 points with 2:27 left in the fourth quarter, 59-47. Goodland took a time out and Coach Terry Daise talked to the girls about making a run to cut the score as quickly as possible.

When the action restarted Jessica Osborn stole a pass and Courtney Schields scored to cut the lead to 10.

Norton took the ball with 2:10 remaining and started a stall passing the ball around without shooting, and then took a time out with 1:14 left. After the time out the Cowgirls were faced with the need to foul and Osborn got her fourth.

Norton's Karlie Jones made the first of the free throws, but missed

the second to make it 60-49.

Osborn took the ball and put up a 3-point shot which cut the lead to eight, 60-52, and the Cowgirls took another time out with 35 seconds left.

On the inbound Schields scored to cut it to six points, and Osborn got another basket with under 15 seconds left to cut it to four points, 60-56. The final Cowgirl shot was a 3-point try by Whitney Archer, but it was no good at the buzzer.

"We missed some easy shots, and had trouble stopping the inside shooting," Coach Daise said. "We were concerned about Chelsea Cox, and we managed to shut her down, but then Anna Berry got hot. We tried three different way to guard her, but they did not work."

The game was tight through the first half with the lead changing several times in the first quarter which ended in a 10-10 tie.

In the second quarter the Cowgirls managed to take a three-point lead, but Norton tied it again, and then went on a run to take a six point lead, 22-16. Justeen Koehler and Emily Murray each had a basket and Murray hit a free throw to cut it back to a one-point lead, 22-21 with 4:06 left in the half. Norton made it a three-point lead, 24-21.

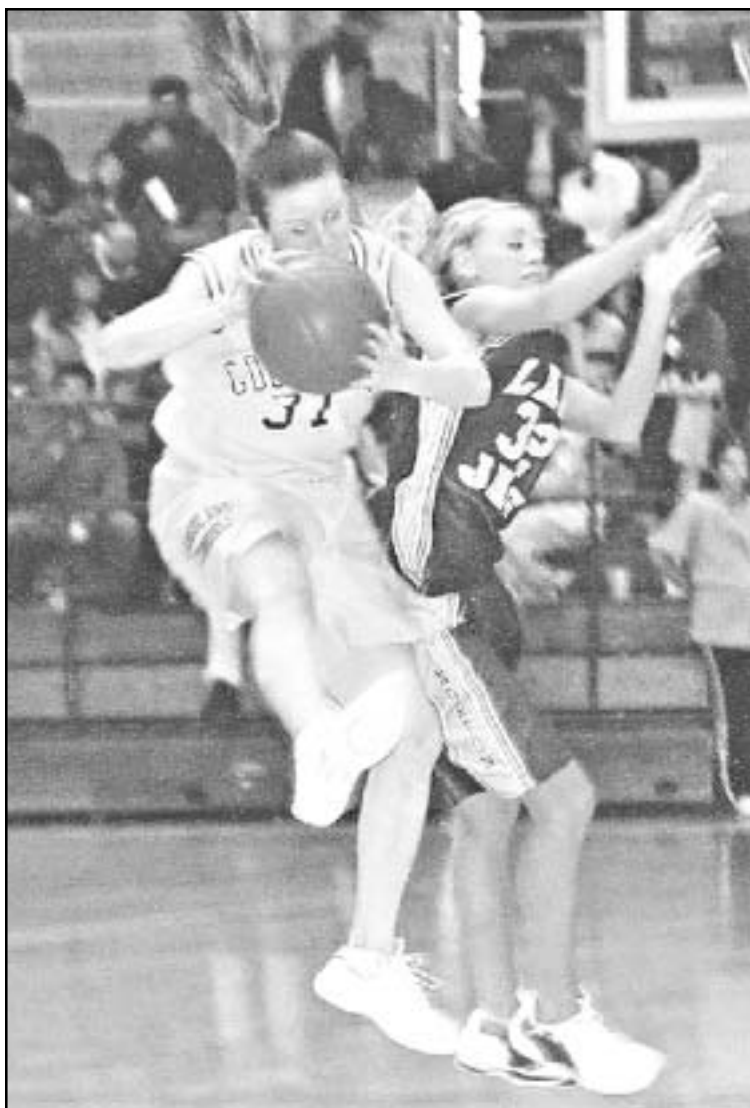
Free throws by Archer again cut the lead back to one-point and a steal by Osborn and a lay-up gave the Cowgirls a 25-24 lead, but Cox hit a basket with 38 seconds left to give the Lady Jays the lead 26-25 at the break.

The Cowgirls retook the lead to begin the third quarter, but the Lady Jays stayed right in there and the lead changed hands four times and was tied five times in the first half of the quarter. Neither team had been able to get more than a three-point lead and Osborn's 3-point basket had given Goodland a 34-33 lead with 4:35 remaining.

Norton came back to retake the lead for the fifth time on free throws by Berry, 35-34. The Lady Jays seemed to catch fire and passed the ball inside to Berry for three straight baskets to take a seven-point lead with three minutes remaining.

Osborn tried another 3-point basket, but it bounced out and Norton's Amber Engelbert made it a nine-point lead with two minutes left in the quarter. Another basket by Berry and a fast break lay-up by Jones gave the Lady Jays an 11-point lead 47-36.

Osborn hit another 3-point basket with one minute left. Berry picked up her third foul and Cowgirl Kaylee Billinger made the second of two free throws to make it 47-40



Cowgirl freshman Emily Murray (above, with ball) grabbed a rebound from Norton's Karlie Jones during the second half of Tuesday's game. The Blue Jays won the game 60-56. Freshman Dani Bedore (right, left) jumped for Goodland against Norton's Chelsea Cox during the game's tipoff. Norton got control of the ball and scored the game's first points.

Photo by Liz West/The Goodland Star-News



with 30 second left. Norton's Becca Ebert made the final point of the quarter on a free throw with 16.7 seconds left, 40-48. Billinger had the final shot of the quarter, but it was no good.

The Cowgirls outscored the Lady Jays in the final quarter 16-12, but were unable to close the gap losing 60-56.

The Cowgirls had difficulty defending Berry who was the high scorer for the game with 30 of Norton's 60 points. Berry started getting hot in the second quarter hitting eight points in that quarter, 13 points in the third quarter and nine in the fourth quarter.

Archer and Osborn were the high scorers for the Cowboys with 15 points each. Murray was also in double figures with 10 points. Koehler and Schields each had 6, Dani Bedore had 3 and Billinger had 1.

The Cowgirls hit 38 percent for the game and Norton hit 41 percent. Goodland hit 39 percent from the floor (16/41) and 36 percent of their 3-point shots (4/11). Norton hit 45 percent from the floor (22/49) and 20 percent of their 3-point shots (2/10). Goodland hit 71 percent (12/17) of their free throws and Norton hit 49 percent (10/21) from the charity stripe.

The Cowgirls out rebounded the Lady Jays 29-24, but had 31 turnovers to 17 for Norton.

bowling results

Wednesday Night Scratch
January 28, 2004

Basgall Construction over L & M Steel 13.5-6.5
Fitzgibbons, Inc. over Weber Kennels 14-6
The Western Times over The Good, Bad & Ugly 18.5-1.5
Bowladium Lanes over Fun & Games 10.5-9.5
Witzel & Rhea Imp. over MLS, Inc. 12-8

High Individual Game: Lori Amthor 255
High Individual Series: Jerry Amthor 859

High Team Game: Bowladium Lanes 634
High Team Series: Bowladium Lanes 2,267

League Standings:

Fun & Games 152-68
Bowladium Lanes 148.5-71.5
MLS, Inc. 132-88
Witzel & Rhea Imp. 128.5-91.5
Basgall Construction 109.5-110.5
L & M Steel 104.5-115.5
Fitzgibbons, Inc. 97-123
Weber Kennels 92.5-127.5
The Western Times 79.5-140.5
The Good, Bad & Ugly 56-164

CCR volleyball

CCR Volleyball Scores
Wednesday January 28

DDT over Alex's Radiator & Repair 15-9, 16-14
Rookies over Scared Hitless 15-4, 15-12
Who's Next over Mad Dogs 15-4, 15-6
American Family Insurance over Da Killer B's 15-3, 15-4
Oldies But Goodies over Alex's Radiator & Repair 15-1, 15-9
Rookies over Duell Farms 15-13, 15-11
Pirate Electric/Brewster Frontier Equity over Who's Next 15-8, 15-8
DDT over Kansasland Tire 15-8, 15-12
Scared Hitless over First National Bank-II 15-12, 15-13
Oldies But Goodies over First National Bank-I 15-12, 15-3
Duell Farms over Mad Dogs 15-12, 13-15, 11-8
American Family Insurance over First National Bank-I 15-8, 15-2
Pirate Electric/Brewster Frontier Equity over Da Killer B's 15-2, 15-2
First National Bank-II over Kansasland Tire 15-10, 15-3

Weekend sports television schedule

SATURDAY MORNING

10:00 22/56 ESPN College Football The Villages Gridiron Classic. From The Villages, Fla. (Live) (CC)
54/57 ESPN2 College Basketball Kentucky at Vanderbilt. (Live) (CC)
11:00 30/55 FXSP NBA Basketball Denver Nuggets at Dallas Mavericks. From American Airlines Center in Dallas. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)
11:30 7/11 CBS College Basketball Michigan at Illinois. (Live) (CC)

AFTERNOON

12:00 54/57 ESPN2 College Basketball George Washington at Richmond. (Live) (CC)
1:00 4/6 ABC PGA Golf FBR Open — Third Round. From the Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale, Ariz. (Live) (CC)
22/56 ESPN College Basketball Marquette at Louisville. (Live) (CC)
2:00 30/55 FXSP College Basketball Arizona at Washington State. (Live)
54/57 ESPN2 College Basketball Siena at Fairfield. (Live) (CC)
3:00 22/56 ESPN College Basketball Duke at Georgia Tech. (Live) (CC)
4:00 30/55 FXSP College Basketball Stanford at Oregon. (Live)
54/57 ESPN2 Track and Field

Boston Indoor Meet. From Boston. (Live) (CC)

5:00 22/56 ESPN NFL Primetime (Live) (CC)
54/57 ESPN2 NHL Hockey Carolina Hurricanes at Detroit Red Wings. From Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. (Live) (CC)

SUNDAY MORNING

11:00 60/89 UNIV Fútbol de la Liga Mexicana América vs. Veracruz. (En Vivo)

AFTERNOON

12:00 7/11 CBS Super Bowl Today From Reliant Stadium, Houston. (Live) (CC)
22/56 ESPN NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at Minnesota Timberwolves. From the Target Center in Minneapolis. (Live) (CC)
1:00 4/6 ABC PGA Golf FBR Open — Final Round. From the Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale, Ariz. (Live)
2:00 30/55 FXSP Women's College Basketball Texas Tech at Texas. (Live)
4:00 7/11 CBS NFL Football Super Bowl XXXVIII — Carolina Panthers vs. New England Patriots. Tom Brady and the Patriots look to capture their second Super Bowl victory in three years as they take on Stephen Davis and the Panthers. From Reliant Stadium in Houston. (Live) (CC)

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