

Lakin Broncs buck off Cowgirls 70-60

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
The Goodland High Cowgirls came close to pulling off a dramatic comeback Tuesday against the Lady Broncos of Lakin, but the last-minute effort fell short, and they lost 70-60.

Friday, the Cowgirls will face the Lady Plainsmen of Oakley at 5:30 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse, as they move into the final stretch of the season. The loss Tuesday left them with a 9-7 record.

"I expect this to be a good game," said Coach Terry Daise. "Oakley has one fast guard; they have a good girl who is averaging 18-19 per game. They have five good starters and will be a challenge for us. They are the only team who has beaten Hoxie this year."

Dani Bedore gave the home crowd a few minutes of apprehension late in the first quarter when she was fouled as she went up for a basket and went crashing to the floor. Emergency Medical Technician Bruce Gleason and the Goodland coaches gathered around her, and it took a few minutes before she got to her feet and was helped off the court.

She walked around to make sure everything was OK and put some ice on her knee for a few minutes. She returned to the game in the second quarter and scored 4 of her total of 21 points in that period.

"She did not practice on Wednesday," Coach Daise said. "We will have to see if she is ready to play tonight. She is a tough kid, but that was quite a fall she took."

In the first quarter, the Cowgirls were behind early; tied the game, took a lead; and then fell behind again as the teams played close.

Jessica Osborn hit her first 3-point basket, while Bedore had 4 free throws and a field goal for 6 points, Whitney Archer had two

field goals and a free throw for 5 points and Whitney Carmichael had a free throw to account for Goodland's 15 points, but Lakin finished the quarter leading by one, 16-15.

In the second quarter, the Cowgirls kept it close, trailing by two with 4 minutes left, 24-22. The Cowgirls had trouble stopping Darcy Jennings of Lakin, who had 10 of the 16 Lady Bronc points.

Several turnovers by the Cowgirls and shots that would not fall through the net left Goodland behind by six points, 32-26, at the break.

The third quarter was a disaster for the Cowgirls. They turned the ball over repeatedly, and the Lady Broncs took advantage, outscoring Goodland 21-9, to take a 53-35 lead heading into the final round.

"We didn't seem to come out with any intensity, and were not playing good defense," Coach Daise said. "I don't know what happened."

At the beginning of the final eight minutes, the Cowgirls were down 22 points, 57-35, but a 3-point basket by Archer seemed to ignite the offense. Over the next four minutes, the Cowgirls played inspired defense and took advantage of Lakin's miscues on the press by Goodland to cut the lead to 7 points, 59-52.

"We picked up our defense, and some of our shots went in," Daise said.

However, with 3:11 remaining, Megan Moyer of Lakin was fouled shooting a basket, and she completed a three point play to take it back to a 10 point lead, 62-52.

Bedore made two free throws, and Archer got a steal and scored to cut it to 6 points, 62-56, with 2:30 on the clock.

Lakin took a time out, but when action resumed, Bedore got a steal and after the ball was knocked out of bounds by Lakin. Archer cut the lead to 4 points, 62-58, with 2:04

remaining. It looked like the Cowgirls were on the verge of snatching a win from the jaws of defeat.

Then the Lady Broncs managed to break the Cowgirl press and Bedore was called for a foul with 1:42 left. That put Kacy King at the line for a one-and-one. She made both shots to take the lead back to 6.

"They were a pretty good team and have only lost three games," Daise said. "King is a great player, and I believe she is being recruited. They kept the ball in her hands, and she is a good free throw shooter."

A jump ball went to Goodland with 1:27 on the clock, and Bedore had a chance to cut the lead with two free throws, but she missed both.

Emily Murray was called for a foul with 51 seconds left and King made both free throws to make it 66-58.

Bedore hit a basket with 38 seconds left to cut it back to 6 points, 66-60. Then Moyer hit a basket for Lakin with 26 seconds left.

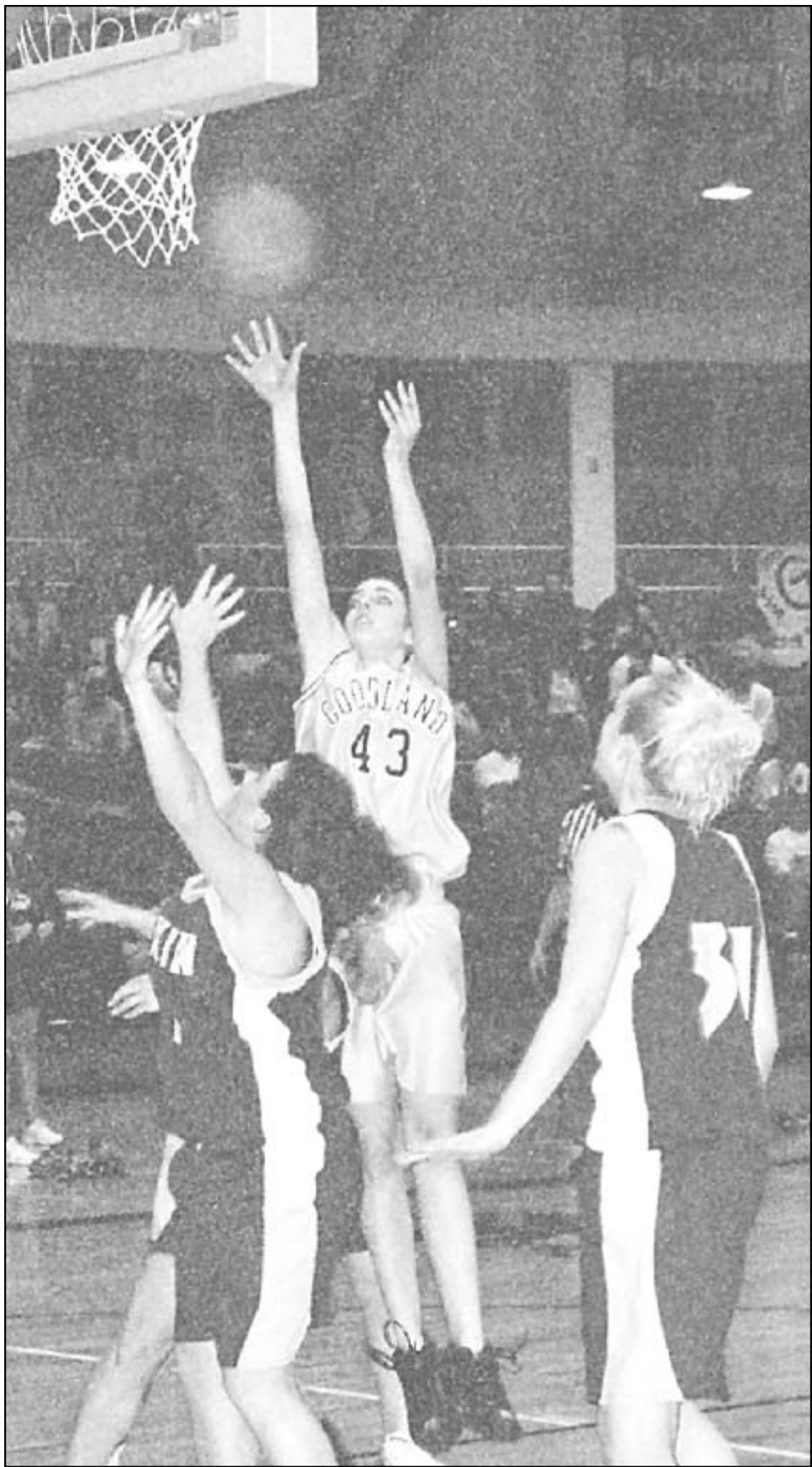
Osborn had a chance to cut the lead again, but her shot bounced, and Archer was called for a foul.

King went to the charity strip and hit two free throws to make it 70-60 with 3.6 seconds left, and that is how it ended.

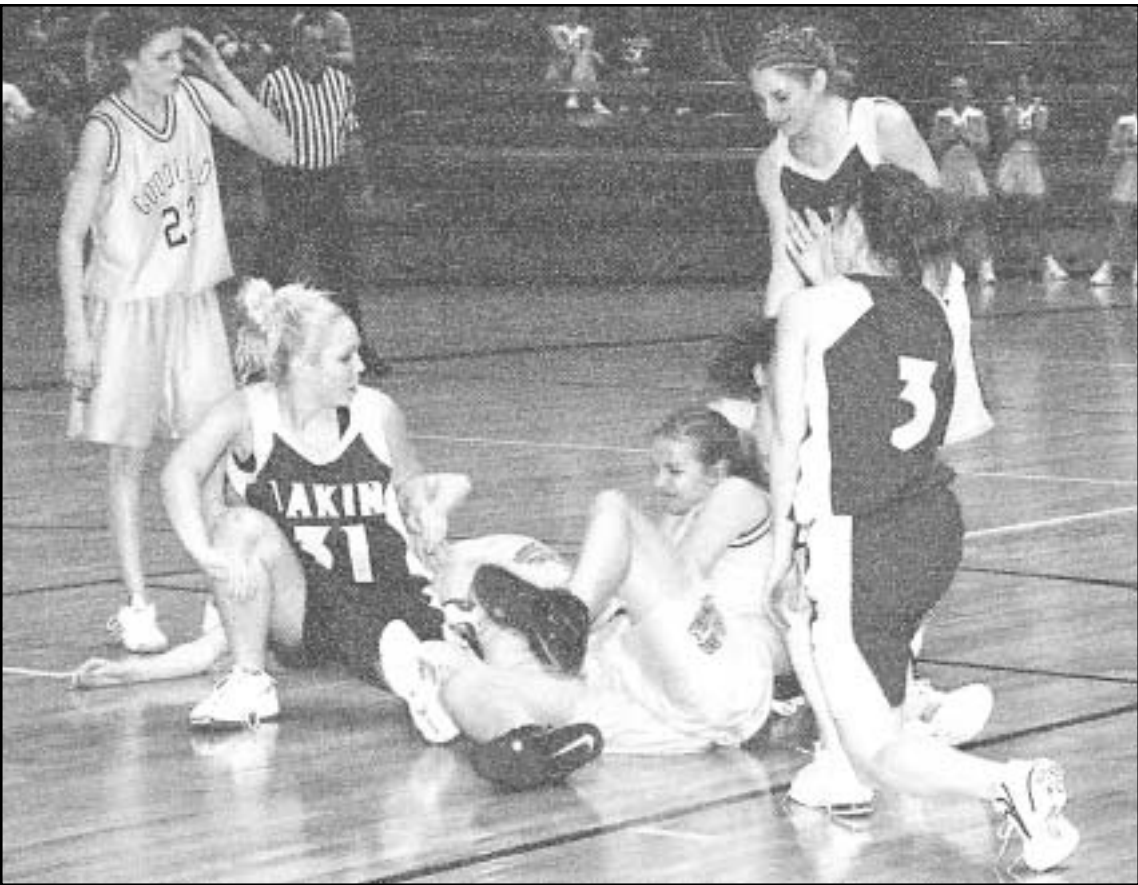
Archer was the high scorer for Goodland with 24 points on 7 field goals, two 3-point baskets and 4 free throws. Bedore had 21 on 7 field goals and 7 free throws. Osborn had 6 on two 3-point baskets, Justeen Koehler 4 on 2 field goals and Carmichael had 1 free throw.

Goodland hit 57 percent from the field, 24 percent of the 3-point shots and 67 percent of the free throws. Lakin hit 53 percent from the field, 25 percent of the 3-point shots and 74 percent of the free throws.

Lakin had 23 rebounds to 17 for Goodland. The Cowgirls had 34 turnovers to 20 for the Lady Broncs.



Freshman Whitney Archer (center, No. 43) scored two of her 24 points in the second half of the Cowgirls' loss to Lakin Tuesday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Photo by Liz West/The Goodland Star-News



Freshman Whitney Archer (center), Lakin's Kelsie Yakel (second from left) and two unidentified Cowgirls end up on the floor after a second half scramble during Goodland's 70-60 loss to the Lady Broncs. Photo by Liz West/The Goodland Star-News

corrections

On page 12 of the Feb. 10 issue of *The Goodland Star-News* in the story titled Senior parents honored, Donna Whitmore the mother of senior wrestler Brock Whitmore was erroneously omitted due to a reporting error.

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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Basketball Today, "C", junior varsity and varsity in Goodland against Oakley 3:45 p.m.; Tues., "C", junior varsity and varsity in Colby 3:45 p.m.; Fri. Feb. 20, "C", junior varsity and varsity in Hoxie 3:45 p.m.; Sat. Feb. 21, junior varsity and varsity in Goodland against Hoxie 3 p.m.

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