

Cowgirls second at sub-state, finish 20-17

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
The Cowgirls volleyball team ended its season Saturday with second place at the Class 4A sub-state tournament in Hugoton, losing to Colby 25-20, 20-25 and 25-18 in the championship match.

In its bracket, Goodland defeated Larned 25-10, 26-24 in the first round then beat Scott City 25-6, 26-24 in the second. Colby defeated Russell 25-8, 25-6 then Pratt 25-13, 25-19 to get to the title match.

In their first game against Colby, the Cowgirls fell behind 4-0 but fought back to tie the score at 7. The score was tied 10 times after that, but at 18-all the Lady Eagles scored four straight points behind the serve of junior Lacey Cooper to go ahead 22-18 then hung on for a 25-20 win.

In the second game, Colby again jumped out to an early lead, 3-0, and again Goodland came back to tie the game at 4. Then things turned out differently, though, as the Cowgirls scored three straight points, then five of the next six to go up 12-5. After that, Colby got within a point at 21-20. Then the Cowgirls scored the final four points behind the serve of junior Jordan Frazier.

After a "carry" call on the Eagles made it 22-20, junior Justeen Koehler tapped the ball over an attempted block by Colby for the next point. The Cowgirls' 24th point came on an ace by Frazier which caught the Eagles looking. The winning point was on a spike into the net by Colby.

With the match tied at one game apiece, it was Goodland's turn to take an early lead at 4-1 and Colby's to come back to tie, which the Eagles did at 5. From there Colby never trailed, building up to an eight-point lead twice, at 23-15 and 24-16, before winning 25-18. At

one point, there were nine straight side-outs.

In the first game of each of their first two matches, the Cowgirls easily handled their opponents, but they had to win both second games 26-24.

Against the Lady Indians of Larned, the Cowgirls scored the first three points, two on kills by sophomore Dani Bedore, and never trailed. Goodland scored two points for every one by Larned until with the score 19-9, sophomore Whitney Archer went to the service line and led the Cowgirls to five straight points and a 24-9 lead. Two points later, Goodland won 25-10.

In the second game against Larned, the Cowgirls won the first two points on their way to a 11-4 lead, after which the Indians slowly narrowed the gap until they tied the score at 19. From there one team or the other would get a point ahead, then have the other tie the score until at 24-all, a service error by Larned and a tough serve by Bedore ended the game 26-24.

Goodland dominated the first game against Scott City, jumping out to an 11-3 lead, but then Bedore went to the service line. The Lady Beavers had a tough time with her jump serve, and by the time she was done, the score was 20-4. The Cowgirls then won five of the next seven points, getting the winning point on a kill by sophomore Emily Murray.

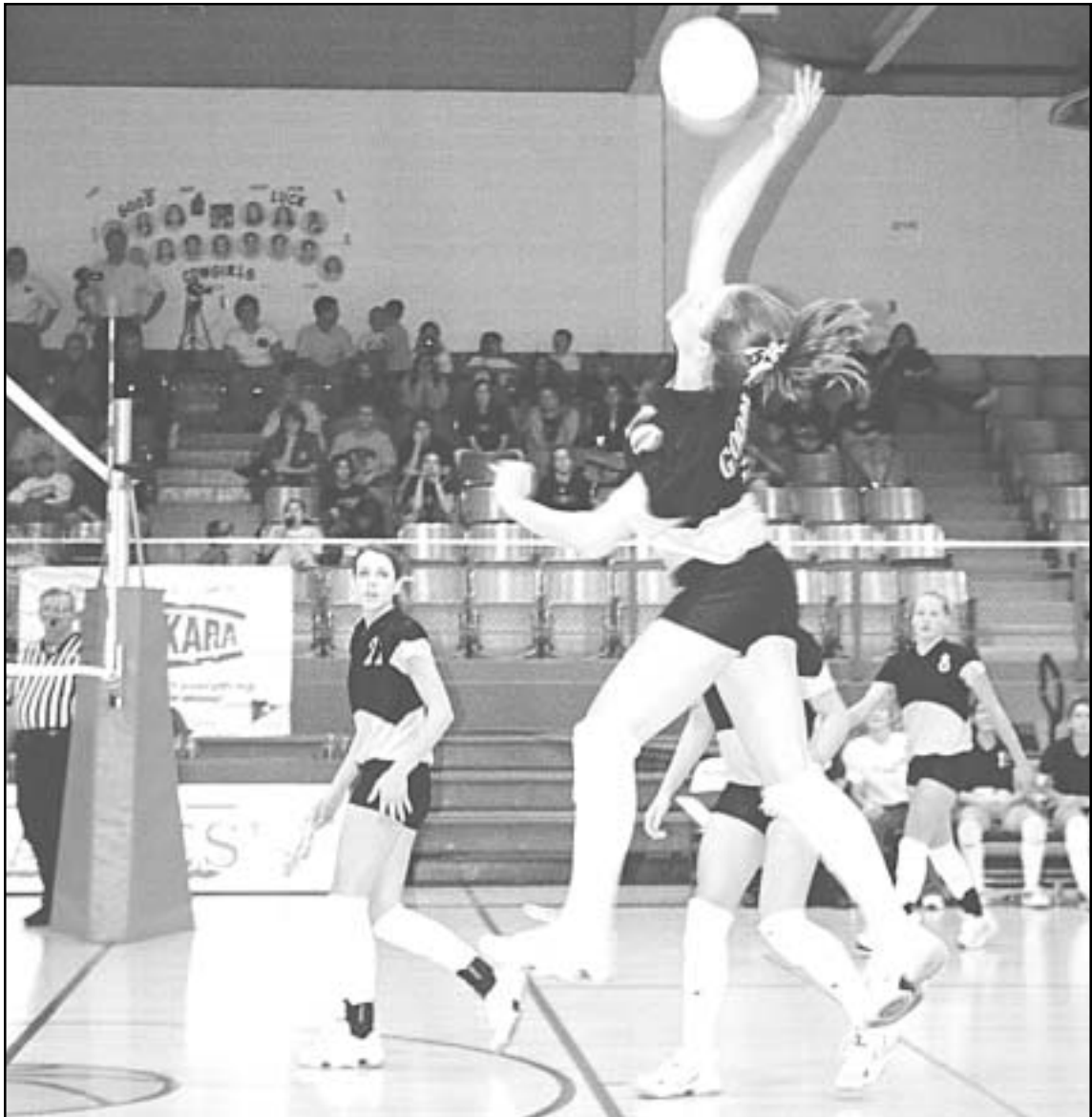
It was a different story in the second game, as the two teams 14 times. With the score tied at 24, a Beaver player hit the ball out to give Goodland a one-point lead. Soon after Archer served the ball, junior Melissa Swager was able to place it where Scott City could not get to it for the winning point.

The Cowgirls finish the 2004 season 20-17. They won both the



Sophomore Emily Murray (in air at right) spiked the ball against Colby on Saturday during the championship match at the Class 4A sub-state tournament in Hugoton. Sophomore Shandel Simon (above) served against Scott City in the Cowgirls' second match of the day.

Photos by Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News



Lady Bulldogs advance to state Class 1A tourney

The Lady Bulldogs volleyball team won both its matches at the Class 1A sub-state tournament in Ransom on Saturday to earn a spot in the state championships.

Brewster, now 36-4, defeated Northern Valley High of Almena

25-11, 25-14 and Jewell-White Rock 25-23, 25-11. Junior Caitlin Rush led the Bulldogs with 15 kills followed by senior Andrea Horney with 11.

"It was a great team effort," said head coach Lynda McKee.

The state tournament will be Friday and Saturday at Busch-Gross Coliseum on the campus of Fort Hays State University. The Bulldogs' first match will be at 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) against the Cardinals of Tipton.

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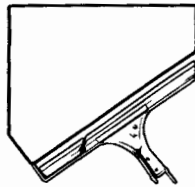
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