

Cowgirls whip Lady Plainsmen, 60-38

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
For their second straight game, the Goodland Cowgirls led from tipoff to buzzer as they beat the Lady Plainsmen in Oakley on Friday 60-38.

The Goodland girls, now 15-3 for the season, are 6-0 in the North-west Kansas League.

They will face the Lady Indians of Hoxie, also 6-0 in league play, this Friday at Max Jones Field-house for the final league game for both. Hoxie defeated Oberlin on Friday 65-45, improving to 17-0 overall.

“We had a few breakdowns, but generally it was a good defensive game,” said coach Don Smith. “I was glad they pressed us, because we will see lot of pressure in the remaining games.”

Although the Cowgirls led throughout the game, Oakley played tough for the first five minutes getting to within one point of Goodland three times.

However, the Cowgirls’ “defensive intensity” combined with an extraordinary scoring performance by sophomore Dani Bedore allowed Goodland to dominate the Plainsmen for the rest of the game.

Junior Justeen Koehler, as she has done several times this season, scored the game’s first basket, starting the Cowgirls on their way to an 8-3 lead.

Oakley’s Veronica Kuhlman then scored four straight to get the Lady Plainsmen to within one point at 8-7.

After a 30-second Goodland timeout, Bedore and Koehler combined for a nine-point run to give Goodland a 17-7 lead with less than a minute left in the first period. A basket by Lisa Taylor of Oakley made the score 17-9 going into the second quarter.

With Goodland leading 29-18 with less than two minutes left in the half, Koehler was fouled making a

basket and with the successful free throw gave the Cowgirls their biggest lead so far, 32-18.

However, Taylor stepped up and scored four straight points for the Plainsmen, cutting Goodland’s lead to 10 at halftime 32-22.

The Cowgirls continued to maintain their scoring edge in the third quarter, and with the help of an eight-point run half-way through the period built a 44-25 lead.

Oakley then scored seven straight points, cutting Goodland lead to 12 at 44-32, but Bedore scored the final three points of the period to make it 47-32 going into the fourth quarter.

There the Cowgirls outscored Oakley 13-6 with Bedore scoring nine, including five of five from the charity stripe.

Bedore scored a game-high 28 points, hitting on eight of 11 free throws.

Koehler had 15 points and sophomore Kaylee Billinger scored 11. Sophomore Emily Murray scored four and senior Whitney Carmichael two.

The Cowgirls hit on over 55 percent from the field and on 69 percent from the free throw line compared to 41 and 50 percent, respectively for Oakley.

Bedore led the team in rebounds with 14, followed by Billinger with five. Both Koehler and junior Melissa Swager grabbed three.

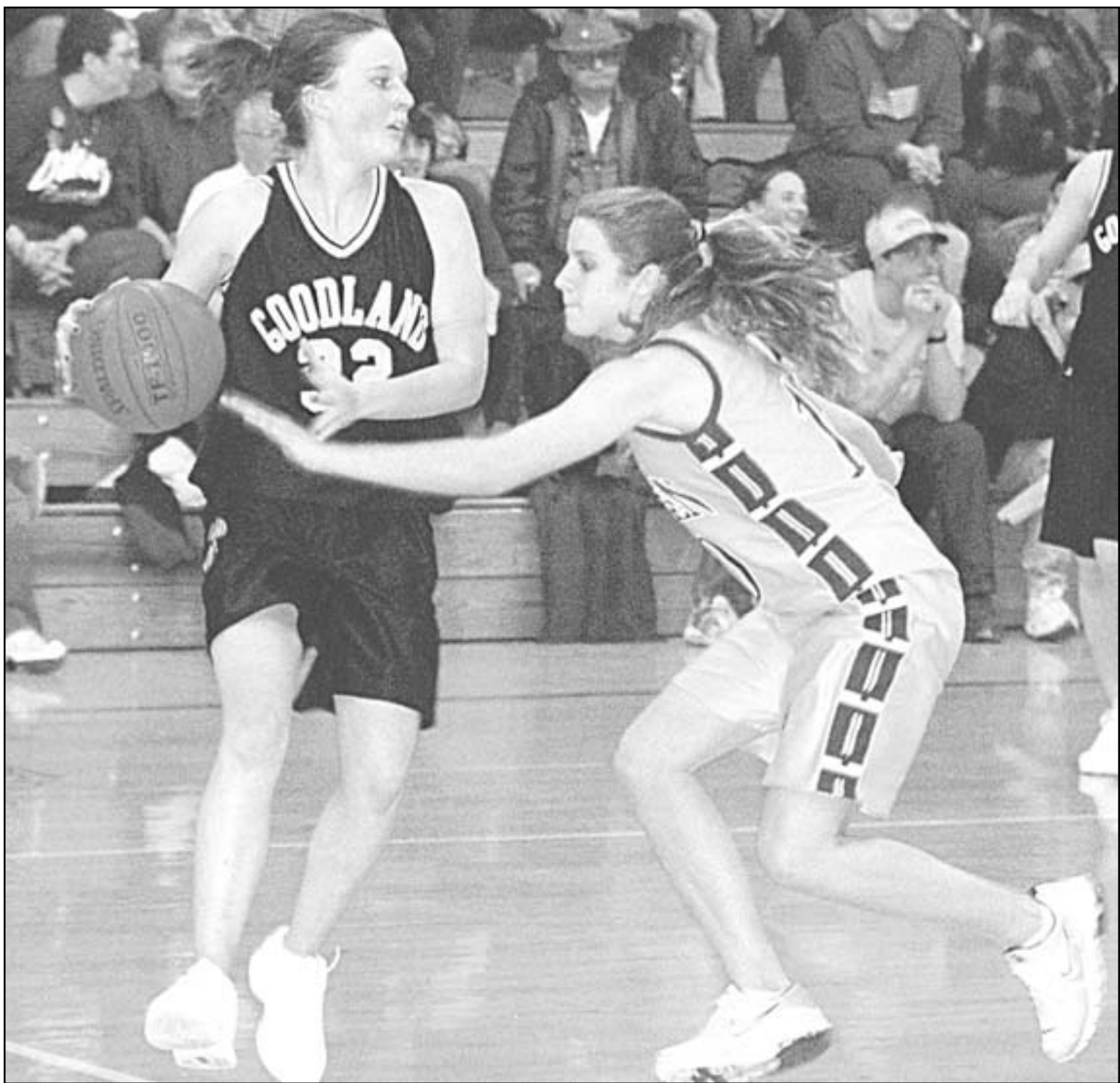
Sophomore Nicolle Clancy saw some action late in the game for the first time since injuring her ankle on Jan. 7.

Taylor led the Lady Plainsmen with 13 points, followed by Kuhlman with 11.

Goodland travels to Colby today for a rematch against the Lady Eagles in a non-league contest.

The Cowgirls handed Colby its first loss of the season 65-58 on Jan. 7 in Goodland.

The Colby girls are 14-3 after beating Quinter on Friday 68-26.



Sophomore Lindsay Schields (left) looked for an opening while trying to keep Oakley’s Megan Dennis from stealing the ball during

the third period of the Cowgirls’ 60-38 win over the Lady Plainsmen on Friday in Oakley. Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

“I don’t think there will be many surprises in the Colby game,” said Smith. “I am sure they know what we will try to do and we believe we have a good understanding of what they would like to do. The team that excutes the best will win.”

Tipoff for the varsity girls game will be around 5:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) at the Colby Community Building. Goodland Radio KLOE (730 AM) will broadcast the game live starting around 5:20.

“With three remaining regular

season games that are all against quality opponents,” Smith said, “we must concentrate in each opponent independently. We can not allow the outcome of one game to alter our preparation and concentration for the next.”



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School calendar for Feb. 16 - Feb. 22


Wednesday - “Black Day”; Mid-term; Seminar - sophomores KMA Online practice test with Elliott; junior high league music festival in Colby; city/county recreation at fieldhouse and junior high gym, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday - “Gold Day”; Seminar - Stuco and GRACE; junior high wrestling at Hoxie, 3:30 p.m.; seventh grade basketball in Goodland against Colby, 3:30 p.m.; eighth grade basketball in Colby 3:30 p.m.; Seminar - sophomores KMA Online practice test with Elliott; KLOE Farm Show at the fieldhouse.
Friday - “Black Day”; Regional wrestling in Colby; basketball in Goodland against Hoxie, 3:45 p.m.; Seminar - sophomores KMA Online practice test with Elliott.
Saturday - Regional wrestling in Colby; C boys basketball in Benkelman tournament.
Sunday - Knight’s of Columbus Free Throw competition, noon to 3 p.m.
Monday - No school; Teacher Inservice; Black and Gold Booster Club meeting in the library 6:30 p.m.; seventh and eighth basketball first round league tournament.
Tuesday - “Black Day”; Seminar - American Field Service; basketball in Lakin, 3:45 p.m.; 3rd grade music program in auditorium 7 p.m.; junior high wrestling league tournament in Colby 1 p.m.



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