

Boys have best finish in 15 years at tourney

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
The Cowboys basketball team produced its best finish in 15 years at the annual Paul Wintz Orange and Black Classic over the weekend, placing fourth with a 44-42 win over Liberal on Saturday at Colby High School.

Goodland finished third in 1991, but since then the team's best showing was fifth last year.

Saturday's game started out as a defensive struggle, as neither team scored in the first minute. Liberal got on the scoreboard first with a three-pointer and led throughout the period, taking a 9-6 lead into the second.

Defense continued to be theme, as both teams managed just four points halfway through the second quarter, making it 13-10. Goodland senior Jase Herl scored his second basket of the game to make it 13-12, then a short time later made another one to give Goodland its first lead 14-13 with three minutes left in the half.

About two minutes later, the Redskins scored a basket to go back on top 15-14. With 32 seconds left to go, a free throw by senior Derek Fenner tied the game at 15, then eight seconds later one by junior Landon Williams put Goodland ahead 16-15, which is how the teams went into the locker room at the break.

The third period started like the first, with neither team scoring in the first minute. Liberal's Zach Miller hit a three-pointer, putting the Redskins ahead 18-16, then a pair of free throws increased their lead to 20-16.

A basket by sophomore Tanner Smith got the Cowboys within two, then about a minute later, Williams scored to tie the game at 20. Liberal responded by scoring the next six points, and with around 70 seconds left in the period led 26-20.

Senior Wyatt Dautel scored a basket to make it 26-22, then following a basket by the Redskins, hit a three-pointer with 15 seconds on the clock to make the score 28-25 going into the final quarter.

Goodland junior Nick Angelos started the scoring in the fourth with a basket to get the Cowboys within one. However, Liberal stayed out front until a basket by Smith put Goodland up 34-33 with just over four minutes to go.

Two free throws by the Redskin's Marquez Patterson, followed by one by Angelos, tied the game up for the third time at 35-all.

Williams put Goodland up 37-35 with just over three minutes left but 20 seconds later Miller hit another three-pointer to make it 38-37. Williams again put the Cowboys out front with a basket 15 seconds later, but Liberal scored on four straight

Swimmer has busy season

It has been a busy new year for Goodland native Rachael Hagerman, a senior swimmer for Michigan State University, and a successful one, as she has already been in three dual meets in 2006 and won five events.

At a home dual meet Saturday against the University of Notre Dame, Hagerman won the 50-yard freestyle in 23.47 seconds and the 100-yard butterfly in 56.95. She also was a member of the winning 200- and 400-yard medley relay teams.

On Friday against the visiting Lady Grizzlies of Oakland University (Mich.), Hagerman won the 50- and 100-yard freestyles in 23.5 and 51.41 seconds respectively.

free throws over the next 90 seconds to lead 42-39 with just over a minute left.

Smith made his third basket of the game to get Goodland within one with 50 seconds showing on the clock. Forced to foul to save time, the Cowboys got a break when Patterson missed a free throw. Williams took a pass from Herl and scored, giving Goodland a 43-42 lead with nine seconds left.

After a turnover by the Redskins, a foul sent Angelos to the charity stripe with just four-tenths of a second showing. He made the first but missed the second and a desperate long shot by Liberal fell short, giving the Cowboys the 44-42 win.

"This was a good win," said Goodland coach Jon McLean. "Our inability to make layups and free throws kept the score very close. I was very pleased with our defense, it is the only reason we won the game."

Williams scored 12 points to lead the Cowboys in scoring for the first time this season. Herl and Smith each had eight points, while Dautel scored seven. Junior Nick Angelos had four points, and both senior Heath Chatfield and junior Mikey Doll scored two. Fenner scored on a free throw.

Miller led the Redskins with a game-high 15 points, nine from three-point range.

The Cowboys began the tournament on Thursday with an 84-82 double-overtime loss to Wichita South at the Colby Community Building.

Goodland raced out to an 8-2 lead, but back-to-back three-pointers by the Titans quickly tied things up. After that, Wichita South outscored the Cowboys 15-9 to take a 23-17 lead into the second period.

Goodland fought back and trailed by just one, 33-32, with about a minute left. Soon after, Angelos passed the ball to Chatfield, who scored, giving the Cowboys a 34-33 halftime lead.

Both teams scored 16 points in the third period to make it 50-49 going into the fourth.

The Titans scored six straight points late in the fourth quarter to take the lead 65-64 with under 30 seconds left on the clock.

A basket by Angelos put Goodland up 66-65 with 20 seconds showing, but six seconds later, a foul sent a Titan player to the charity stripe for two shots. He only made the first one, and the quarter

ended with the score tied at 66.

In the first overtime period, Wichita South score first and led all the way into the final seconds then, with the score 76-74, Herl was fouled as time ran out and made a pair of clutch free throws, forcing a second overtime.

Again the Titans scored first, but with a minute left Goodland led 82-80. Brad Davis scored a basket for Wichita South with about 35 seconds left to tie the game at 82.

The Cowboys had a chance to go back ahead, but missed a shot from right under the basket. The Titans got the rebound and Joe Collier hit an off-balanced shot just before the buzzer to give Wichita South the hard-fought victory 84-82.

"It was a great game but our defense let us down and at times so did our rebounding," McLean said. "It was a tough loss too take."

Four Goodland players scored in double figures, led by Dautel with a game-high 24. Herl scored 19, Angelos 16 and Chatfield 10. Doll had seven points, Williams four and Fenner two.

On Friday, the Cowboys took on the Bison of McCook Senior High for the second time this season. With the score 2-all, Dautel hit a three-pointer after which Goodland led throughout, winning 57-54.

The Cowboys led by 16 points halfway through the fourth period but the Bison, with the help of a 12-0 run, got within one at 54-53 with less than 40 seconds left in the game. However, with the fans of both teams cheering on their players, a bad pass by McCook gave Goodland the ball with 11 seconds left.

Several fouls were committed after that, with the Cowboys making three of four free throws compared to just one of two for the Bison, and the Cowboys held on for a 57-54 win.

"We almost gave this one away," Coach McLean said. "We built a 16-point lead and let it slip completely away but we hung on for a much needed win."

Dautel led Goodland with 13 points, followed by Herl with 11 and Doll with 10. Both Chatfield and Williams scored seven points. Angelos added five and Fenner four.

The Cowboys are now 10-3 for the season heading into tonight's home game against the Blue Jays of Norton Community High. Tipoff will be around 7:30.



Goodland junior Nick Angelos (with ball) scored the first basket of the fourth period of the Cowboys' 44-42 win over Liberal Saturday at Colby High School. The victory earned the Cowboy fourth place at this year's Orange and Black Classic.
Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News


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School calendar for Jan. 25 - Jan. 31

Wednesday - "Black Day"; PDC Screening at Central Elementary, 3:30 p.m.; City/county recreation, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday - "Gold day"; Junior High basketball at Quinter, 3:30 p.m.; junior high wrestling Triangular in Goodland, 3:30 p.m.; Project Graduation 2008 in high school cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.
Friday - Show Choir Competition in the auditorium, 8 a.m.; basketball in Oberlin, 3:45 p.m.; wrestling in Goodland against Oberlin, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday - Show Choir Competition in the auditorium, 8 a.m.; Northwest Kansas league wrestling in Goodland.

Sunday - All-Star Volleyball at the Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland, 3 p.m.

Monday - Junior High Scholar's bowl in Goodland, 4 p.m.; junior varsity basketball in Colby, 5 p.m.

Tuesday - "Black Day"; Eight grade basketball in Goodland against Scott City, 3:30 p.m.; seventh grade basketball in Scott City, 3:30 p.m.; National Honor Society interviews.

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