

Lady Jays win by one, defeat Cowgirls 39-38

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News

Ninety seconds into the fourth period of Tuesday's basketball game, the Goodland Cowgirls led the visiting Lady Blue Jays from Norton 37-22 but in the end it was the visitors that went home with the win 39-38.

"When you get beat by a team for the second time it does not do good to make excuses," said Coach Don Smith, "you just acknowledge that they were the better team."

After battling to a 4-all tie in the first period, Goodland took a two-point lead on a pair of free throws by senior Melissa Swager and, half-way through the quarter, led Norton 12-4. The Lady Jays scored six of the next eight points to get within four at 14-10 but junior Lindsay Schields hit a basket at the buzzer and the Cowgirls led 16-10 at half-time.

Goodland outscored Norton 14-9 in the third quarter and led 30-19 going into the final period. After the teams exchanged three-pointers to start the fourth, the Cowgirls got back-to-back baskets, from Swager and sophomore Samantha Raymer, which gave Goodland a 15-point lead 37-22.

After that the momentum changed as the Jays stepped up the pressure on the Cowgirls forcing several



Koehler



Swager

turnovers, which led to 13-straight points for Norton to get within two at 37-35.

A free throw by senior Justeen Koehler with 48 seconds left in the game made it 38-35. Fifteen seconds later Norton's Chelsea Cox hit a basket cutting the Cowgirls' lead to one.

Goodland was called for traveling just after the subsequent in-bound pass and 15 seconds later Karlie Jones scored a basket putting Norton up 39-38. Goodland retained possession after a jump ball was called with eight seconds left on the clock but after driving the ball down the court the Cowgirls missed two shots as time ran out leaving the score 39-38.

Norton outscored Goodland in the fourth period 20-8.

This was the second time the Lady Jays defeated the Cowgirls this season. Norton beat Goodland 47-33 in the championship game of last month's Topsiside Tip-Off. The

38 points scored Tuesday and the 33 scored on Dec. 10 are the two lowest outputs by the Cowgirls this season.

Koehler led Goodland with 11 points. Swager scored eight and junior Whitney Archer seven. Both Raymer and junior Emily Murray had four points, and both Schields and junior Kaylee Billinger two.

Two Lady Jays scored in double figures with Cox scoring 13 and Laura Lee Baird getting 10.

The Cowgirls won the battle of the boards 30-18 and held the edge at the free throw line making five of seven to Norton's five of nine.

Goodland goes on the road today to Oberlin for a Northwest Kansas League matchup with the Red Devils of Dectaur Community High.

"In the preseason, I considered Oberlin to be one of the top teams in the league," Coach Smith said. "They have played excellent basketball and will be waiting for the Cowgirls."

Goodland is now 10-4 overall and 2-0 in league play. The Lady Red Devils are 6-7 after going 1-2 in last weekend's Oberlin Invitational. Junior Lauren Fortin twice scored 20 points during the tournament, and junior Tricia Dorshorst was in double figures in all three games.



Junior Kaylee Billinger (No. 22) tried for a shot early in the second period of the Cowgirls home game Tuesday against the Lady Blue Jays of Norton Community High. The Blue Jays scored a basket with 15 seconds left in the game to win 39-38. Goodland returns to Northwwwest Kansas League action today in Oberlin at 5:30 p.m. mountain time.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Goodland wrestlers face Red Devils today, rest of league Saturday

The Goodland High School wrestling team begins a match at 5:30 this afternoon when the Cowboys take on the Red Devils from Dectaur Community High of Oberlin in Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The two teams will return to Max Jones Saturday morning and join the other six teams of the Northwest Kansas League for their annual league tournament.

Goodland coach Randy Bahe said there are four "real solid" teams that will be in the hunt for the league championship. Those four are Colby, St. Francis, Oberlin and the Cowboys.

"It should be a good race for the title," he said, "if everybody is healthy and wrestles to their potential."

Bahe said the team is healthy and ready to compete except for junior Brandon Douglas who is out indefinitely with an injury. Douglas, in his third season on the team, has seen action at both 135 and 140 pounds.

Sophomore A.J. Stephens will be kept out of today's dual against Oberlin for disciplinary reasons, Bahe said.

Five Cowboys are ranked among the top five in their weight class in Class 4A by the Kansas Wrestling

Coaches Association. Junior Brett Bahe is No. 1 at 119 pounds and junior Jon Cook is No. 3 at 160. Ranked No. 5 is Stephens, at 140 pounds, junior Josiah Goodley, at 189 pounds; and sophomore heavyweight Bob Daxon.

The Colby Eagles defeated Rawlins County High of Atwood 45-27 on Jan. 19 winning eight of 14 matches. Two days later, the Eagles won the Beloit Invitational with 11 wrestlers winning their first round matches and five making it to the championship match.

However, senior Cole Garcia was the only one to win in the final

bringing home the gold medal at 140 pounds.

The Indians of St. Francis won the Prairie Senior Classic held last weekend at Hays High. Nine Indian wrestlers earned medals including four gold.

Senior Trevor Richard won at 119 pounds and was named the tournament's most outstanding wrestler. Other champions from St. Francis were Dylan Loyd at 135 pounds, heavyweight Brennon Wilger, and Matt Brown who won an overtime 4-2 decision over Oakley's Chase Rietcheck in the title match.

The Red Devils' last outing was

at the Beloit Invitational where the team finished 10th. Terry Urban placed second at 171 pounds and teammate Scott Miller finished fourth at 140. Gage Reichert, wrestling at 119 pounds, and Regan Badsy, at 215, both ended up sixth.

Urban is ranked No. 2 at 171 in Class 1-2-3A by the association.

Hoxie also competed in Beloit finishing sixth. The Indians have two wrestlers ranked No. 1 in Class 1-2-3A and another ranked No. 2.

The Cowboys were scheduled to compete last weekend in Hays but, in a joint decision by Coach Bahe and high school activities director

Steve Raymer, the team did not go. Raymer said the decision not to go to Hays was made because of disciplinary questions from the trip to a tournament in Basehor Jan. 13-14.

After the league meet, Goodland will have five days to get ready for its home dual with St. Francis starting at 5:30 next Friday at Max Jones. The fieldhouse will be the venue for mat action next Saturday as well when the Cowboys serve as the host of a junior varsity tournament.

Wrestling club places 29 among top four

Twenty-nine Goodland wrestlers, competing in two separate tournaments, finished in the top four of their respective weight classes on Jan. 14.

Four Goodland boys traveled to the tournament in Liberal with Laine Herl finishing second at 140 pounds in the 12-year-old and under category. Austin Avelar placed fourth at 72 pounds in the same age group.

In the 10-and-under competition at Liberal, Aaron Avelar placed third at 52 pounds and Brook Bahe was fourth at 90 pounds.

Five Goodland wrestlers won their class at the tournament in Atwood. Tanner Gastineau earned the gold medal at 61 pounds for 6-and-under, and Garrett Geist won at 105 pounds for 12-and-under. The winners at 10-and-under were John Peden, at 85 pounds; Garrett Taylor, at 95 pounds; and Taylen Smith, at 141.

and-under competition were Chase Johnson, at 43 pounds; Jordan Raby, at 46; and Simon Bassett, at 49 pounds. Dusty Johnson placed third at 52 pounds. Fourth-place finishers were Tate Withington at 49 pounds and Levi Archer at 58 pounds.

Goodland had four boys place second at 8-and-under. They were Josh David and Brock Butts in separate brackets at 58 pounds, and Tristan Cooper and Kelby Smith at 61 pounds also in separate brackets. Coy Johnson was third at 64 pounds and Luke Avila fourth at 67.

At 10-and-under, Cy Paxton at 64 pounds; Colton Cooper at 76; and Austin Ray at 100 all finished second. Third-place finishers were Tim Fugelberg at 73 pounds and Tyler Gastineau at 95. Shay Miller was fourth at 90 pounds.

Mikail Freeman took second at 105 pounds in the 12-and-under category while Jason Cowan placed third at 120.

Tiger wrestlers win first conference dual

Fort Hays State University wrestling team won its first dual within the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference on Sunday defeating Chadron State College of Nebraska 20-15.

Sophomore Bryce Bahe, a 2002 graduate of Goodland High, lost a 4-2 decision to Chadron State's Ryan Huffman. Bahe is now 1-3 for the season.

The Tigers are now 4-1-1 in dual meets for the season while Chadron State fell to 1-5 overall and 1-3 in the conference.

Redshirt freshman James Annon,

a 2004 graduate of Norton Community High, earned his 13th win of the season for the Tigers with a 7-4 decision over Sergio Palomo. Annon is 13-9 overall.

Fort Hays State, ranked No. 10 by the NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches Association, faces the Colorado School of Mines for a conference dual tonight in Gross Memorial Coliseum. The Tigers take on another conference opponent Saturday when the Mountaineers of Western State College of Colorado visit Hays.

area basketball

High School Hoops January 24	Western Kansas Liberty League
Northwest Kansas League	Boys
Boys	Brewster 74, Quinter 64 Sharon Springs 55, Weskan 33 Atwood 60, Bird City 36 Oakley 64, Grainfield 51 Rexford 59, Healy 33 WaKeeney 69, Grinnell 41
Norton 61, Goodland 53 Atwood 60, Bird City 36 Oakley 64, Grainfield 51 Brewster 74, Quinter 64 Hoxie 55, Hill City 47	Girls
Girls	Brewster 54, Quinter 46 Sharon Springs 53, Weskan 44 Atwood 49, Bird City 30 Oakley 60, Grainfield 53 Rexford 53, Healy 44 Grinnell 62, WaKeeney 45

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1525 Center	411 Washington (UC)	516 W. Hwy 24
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904 W. 16th	2505 Rd. 64	310 Rule
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Sports television schedule

Saturday	Sunday
10 a.m. ESPN College Basketball Kansas Jayhawks at Iowa State Cyclones from Hilton Coliseum	12 a.m. ESPN SportsCenter from Bristol, Conn.
11 a.m. CBS College Basketball Arizona at North Carolina	1:30 a.m. ESPN2 Grand Slam Tennis Tournament Australian Open: Men's Final
12 p.m. ABC Winter X Games Snowboarding, snowmobile racing	7 a.m. ESPN SportsCenter from Bristol, Conn.
ESPN College Basketball Louisville Cardinals at Rutgers	10:30 a.m. ESPN PBA Bowling Jackson Hewitt Classic
Scarlet Knights from Brown Athletic Center	11 a.m. ABC NBA Basketball Suns at Cavaliers
NBC NHL Hockey Teams TBA	UNIV Fútbol San Luis Potosi at Toluca Diablos from Bambonera
1 p.m. CBS Golf Buick Invitational	12 p.m. ESPN Winter X-Games from Aspen, Colo.
2 p.m. ESPN College Football Senior Bowl from Mobile, Ala.	1 p.m. CBS Golf Buick Invitational
ESPN2 College Basketball Murray State Racers at Southeast Missouri State Indians from The Show Me Center	ESPN Winter X-Games from Aspen, Colo.
2:30 p.m. NBC Horse Racing Sunshine Millions	NBC Arena Football Teams TBA
4 p.m. ESPN2 College Basketball Villanova Wildcats at Notre Dame Fighting Irish from The Joyce Center	1:30 p.m. ABC NBA Basketball Heat at Rockets
6:30 p.m. WGN NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Chicago Bulls from The United Center	2 p.m. ESPN Winter X-Games from Aspen, Colo.
7 p.m. ESPN Winter X-Games from Aspen, Colo.	3 p.m. ESPN2 USA Soccer Men's Team Norway at United States
ESPN2 College Basketball Texas Longhorns at Oklahoma Sooners from The Lloyd Noble Center	4 p.m. ESPN SportsCenter from Bristol, Conn.
7:45 p.m. HBO World Championship Boxing Arturo Gatti vs. Thomas Damgaard	4:30 p.m. ESPN NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Detroit Pistons from The Palace of Auburn Hills
9 p.m. ESPN SportsCenter from Bristol, Conn.	5 p.m. ESPN2 Women's College Basketball North Carolina Lady Tar Heels at Duke Lady Blue Devils from Cameron Indoor Stadium
11 p.m. ESPN2 X Center from Los Angeles, Calif.	7 p.m. ESPN Winter X-Games from Aspen, Colo.
	9 p.m. ESPN SportsCenter from Bristol, Conn.
	11 p.m. ESPN2 X Center from Los Angeles, Calif.

Pins on sale!

Special color souvenir pins featuring the giant Vincent van Gogh sunflower painting on the big easel in Goodland are now on sale.



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