

Wrestlers overcome deficit to win, 39-33

By Greg Stover

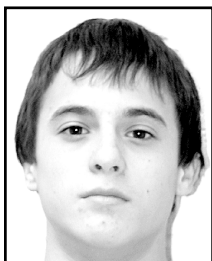
The Goodland Star-News
The Goodland High School wrestlers spotted the visiting Indians of St. Francis 12 points in their dual meet Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse, then came back to win 39-33.

The teams alternated matches through the first 10 weight classes. Freshman Kade Sheldon got things started for the Cowboys by pinning his opponent just 31 seconds into their 103-pound match to give Goodland a 6-0 lead.

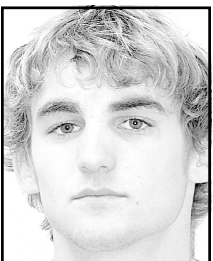
The Cowboys were open at 112 pounds, giving the Indians the forfeit and tying the team score at 6.

Junior Brett Bahe put Goodland back in the lead, 10-6, with a 12-2 major decision over Trevor Richard. Bahe led 2-0 after the first period and dominated the second to take an 11-0 lead into the third.

Starting the period in the bottom position, Bahe scored on an escape to make it 12-0. Richard scored on a takedown in the



Sheldon



Zelfer

final seconds for his only points.

It was a tough, low scoring affair at 125 pounds between freshman Keegan Smith and Gavin Smull, with neither scoring in the first period. Smull, starting in the bottom position, got two points on a reversal for the only scoring in the second.

Smith, starting on the bottom in the third, scored on an escape early, after which neither wrestler could get an advantage on the other. Smull won a 2-1 decision to make the team score 10-9.

Senior Brandon Zelfer did all the scoring at 130 pounds, building up a 6-0 lead in the first period and led 9-0 after the second. After scoring four points early in the third, he got three more on a near pin with 58 seconds left to make it 16-0 to win by technical fall. Goodland now led 15-9.

Cowboys coach Randy Bahe decided to forfeit the match at 135 pounds instead of 140, moving sophomore A.J. Stephens up a class to face Justin Sherlock. Stephens outscored his opponent 6-3 in the first period, then starting the second in the up position. He pinned Sherlock with 27 seconds left, which made the team score 21-15.

Jordan Gienger of St. Francis tied the dual up for the third time, at 21, with a first-period fall over Goodland sophomore Toby Hurst at 145 pounds.

Junior Brett Schields responded in kind for the Cowboys at 152 pounds by pinning Matt Brown with 49 second left in the first period to give Goodland a 27-21 lead.

The match at 160 pounds was another

low-scoring affair, with Gabe Smull taking a 2-0 lead over Goodland senior Brandon Hatfield in the first period. Starting the second on the bottom, Smull scored on a reversal for a 4-0 lead but Hatfield got an escape a short time later to make it 4-1 going into the third period. Neither wrestler scored in the final period and Smull won the decision, making the team score 27-24.

After 10 matches, with both teams winning five, the pattern changed: Russell Rogers made it two straight for St. Francis with a 10-3 decision over senior Chris Baumfalk at 171 pounds. Rogers' victory tied the dual at 27 with three matches left.

Then the Cowboys decided it was their turn to win two straight, with junior Josiah Goodley grabbing a first-period fall at 189 pounds and sophomore T.J. Hawkins doing the same at 215. The 12 points they earned made the score 39-27, sealing the win for the Cowboys.

St. Francis heavyweight Brandon Wilger scored a first-period fall over sophomore

Bob Daxon in the final match, earning six points for the Indians and making the final 39-33.

In junior varsity matches before and after the varsity competition, freshman Ryan Taylor won both of his contests at 152 pounds and freshman Fernando Martinez won two at 171. Freshman Vance Johnson lost his match at 160 pounds to Trevor Hilt.

It was senior recognition night for the Cowboys. Senior wrestlers, cheerleaders, and managers and their parents were honored.

The Cowboys travel to Oakley on Friday for their final dual of the season, against the Plainsmen. Mat action starts at 5:30 p.m. (Mountain Time).

Regional tournaments start a week later, with Goodland and the Colby Eagles heading to Russell for Class 4A action.

The Eagles defeated Decatur Community High of Oberlin 38-24 in a dual Friday in Colby.

Cowgirls win 12th of season

The Goodland Cowgirls won their 12th basketball game of the season Friday in St. Francis, beating the Lady Indians 51-33.

It took a while for both the teams to find the basket, as only four points were scored, all by Goodland, in the first period. The tempo began to pick up in the second, with the Cowgirls outscoring the home team 12-10 to lead 16-10 at halftime.

Goodland maintained its edge in the second half, outscoring the Indians 16-13 in the third period and 19-13 in the fourth to make the final score 51-33.

Junior Whitney Archer led the Cowgirls in both scoring and rebounds with 15 points and 10 boards. Senior Justeen Koehler scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds.

Junior Nicolette Clancy scored seven points for Goodland. Senior Melissa Swager, along with juniors Emily Murray and Lindsay Schields, each added four. Junior Alicia Studer and sophomore Samantha Raymer both scored two and junior Kaylee Billinger scored on a free throw.

Megan Rice led St. Francis with 12 points.

Both teams struggled from three-point range, with Goodland making one of six and St. Francis missing all three of its shots. The Indians did better at the free throw line, making 13 of 20 compared to 10 of 20 for the Cowgirls.

Goodland won the battle of the boards, getting 34 rebounds compared to 19 for St. Francis.

The Cowgirls, now 12-4 overall, are 4-0 in the Northwest Kansas League. Goodland will be home all week, facing the Brones of Lakin High starting about 5:30 p.m. tonight at Max Jones Fieldhouse for a non-league matchup, then returning to league play around the same time Friday when Oakley comes to town.

The Lady Brones are 5-11 after losing to Stanton County High of Johnson City 40-37 on Friday.

area basketball

Area High School Basketball Feb. 3
Northwest Kansas League Boys
St. Francis 66, Goodland 60
Colby 58, Oberlin 45
Oakley 57, Atwood 52
Girls
Goodland 51, St. Francis 33
Colby 54, Oberlin 41
Oakley 51, Atwood 34
Western Kansas Liberty League Boys
Brewster 70, Sharon Springs 46
Tribune 78, Grainfield 46
Rexford 54, Weskan 48
Grinnell 57, Winona 45
Healy 52, Bird City 51
Girls
Brewster 67, Sharon Springs 58
Grainfield 64, Tribune 51
Rexford 66, Weskan 36
Grinnell 64, Winona 15
Bird City 47, Healy 43

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STARTS FRIDAY 7:00

HOODWINKED (PG)

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Ashley Archer (left) put pressure on Atwood's Audrey Basgall during the second half of the seventh-grade Lady Mustangs' 36-22 win over Rawlins County Junior High Thursday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.
Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

Lady Mustangs win one, lose one to Rawlins County

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

Both Grant Junior High girls teams got to play in front the home crowd Tuesday when the Buffaloes of Rawlins County Junior High visited Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The seventh-grade Lady Mustangs improved to 6-2 for the basketball season with a 36-22 win, but the eighth-graders lost to the Buffaloes 33-23 and fell to 2-6.

Goodland's seventh-graders trailed 4-3 after the first period but came back strong in the second to take a 14-5 halftime lead. Both teams scored eight points in the third to make it 22-13 going into the fourth quarter.

The Mustangs scored the first six points of the final period, increasing their lead to 15. After a basket by Rawlins County, Goodland scored four straight on a pair of baskets by Jennifer Fontenot, making the score 32-15 with two minutes left on the clock.

Thirty seconds later, Goodland had a 20-point lead, 36-16. The Buffaloes scored the game's last six points to make the final 36-22.

Jade Herl scored a game-high 17 points, followed by Ashley Archer with 12. Fontenot finished with just those four points and Christy Studer scored on a three-point basket late

in the second quarter.

Audrey Basgall led the visitors with 10 points.

The B-teams played a "fifth quarter" which Rawlins County won 10-2.

In the eighth-grade game, the Buffaloes scored the first four points and led throughout. Trailing 8-1 going into the second period, the Mustangs outscored Atwood 11-9 to trail by five at halftime 17-12.

The Buffaloes edged Goodland 6-3 in the third quarter and led 23-15 going into the final period. The teams played even for most of the fourth, each scoring eight points to make it 31-23 with under 10 seconds left. Atwood's Wendy Fields hit a basket with five seconds showing to make the final 33-23.

Angie Hillmer led Grant's eighth-graders with seven points. Alexis Bateman added six points, and both Lexi David and Rosa Sandoval scored four. Alexis Albers had two.

Emily Chessmore scored a game-high 10 points to lead Rawlins County.

Grant's eighth-grade B-team won the "fifth quarter" 1-0.

Both Lady Mustangs teams travel to Burlington today, with action starting at 4 p.m.

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