

Goodland girls beat Oakley, face Colby and Hoxie next

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland Cowgirls made their final home game of the regular season memorable with a 62-44 win Friday over the Lady Plainsmen of Oakley at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

"I thought our game with Oakley was out most complete game of the year," said Coach Don Smith. "At times, we caused a great deal of confusion with our changing defenses. We were trying to keep the ball away from the basket, because with Oakley's size, they were difficult to defend close to the basket."

The Cowgirls dominated the first period, taking an 18-4 lead into the second. There Goodland edged the visitors 14-13 to take a 15-point lead into the locker room, 32-17.

The Cowgirls outscored the Lady Plainsmen 19-13 in the third quarter to make the score 51-30. Oakley got the scoring advantage in the fourth 14-11, making the final 62-44.

Senior Justeen Koehler sank a career-high 33 points to lead the Cowgirls to their fourth straight win. The girls remain perfect in the Northwest Kansas League at 5-0. Junior Whitney Archer also was in

double figures with 15 points.

"Justeen shot the ball very well," Smith said, "but her teammates did a super job getting the ball to her when she was open, and Justeen was able to get off a quick shot. Just as important to me was that this was also Justeen's best defensive game of her career."

Archer scored the game's first basket, with Oakley tying the game on a pair of free throws by Callie Baalman a moment later. Junior Lindsay Schields put Goodland ahead 4-2 with a basket, after which the Cowgirls lead throughout.

After a basket by Oakley's Jade Inlow made it 7-4, Koehler scored 15 straight points, the last 11 of the first period and the first four of the second, giving Goodland a 22-4 lead.

The Plainsmen scored six straight to make it 22-10. The Cowgirls then outscored Oakley 10-5. Baalman hit a basket just before the buzzer, making the halftime score 32-17.

Neither team scored in the first minute of the third period, after which Goodland scored seven of the first nine points for a 20-point lead 39-19. Both teams scored eight points during the next four minutes

as the Cowgirls led 47-27 with about 90 seconds left in the third.

A three-pointer by Oakley's Lindsey Hubert made it 47-30, with junior Nicolette Clancy responding for Goodland with a basket to make it 49-30. Senior Melissa Swager scored in the period's final seconds to give the Cowgirls a 51-30 lead going into the fourth quarter.

Sophomore Samantha Raymer started the scoring in the fourth with a free throw, but the Lady Plainsmen came back with a 9-0 run to get within 13 at 52-39. Goodland responded by scoring 10 straight, six by Koehler, making the score 62-39 with 1:20 on the clock.

Oakley scored the game's last five points to make the final 62-44. Junior Emily Murray came off the bench to score four point for the Cowgirls, with both Raymer and Schields scoring three. Swager and Clancy each had two.

Baalman, Hubert and Lisa Taylor each scored 10 to lead the Oakley.

Goodland edged Oakley in rebounds 18-16 with Archer grabbing seven boards and Koehler six. The Plainsmen was a bit better at the free throw line, making 10 of 14 compared to seven of 10 for the home

team.

The Cowgirls, now 14-4 overall, face a challenge this week when they play the Lady Eagles in the Colby Community Building at 5:30 tonight, then travel to Hoxie on Friday to take on the Lady Indians.

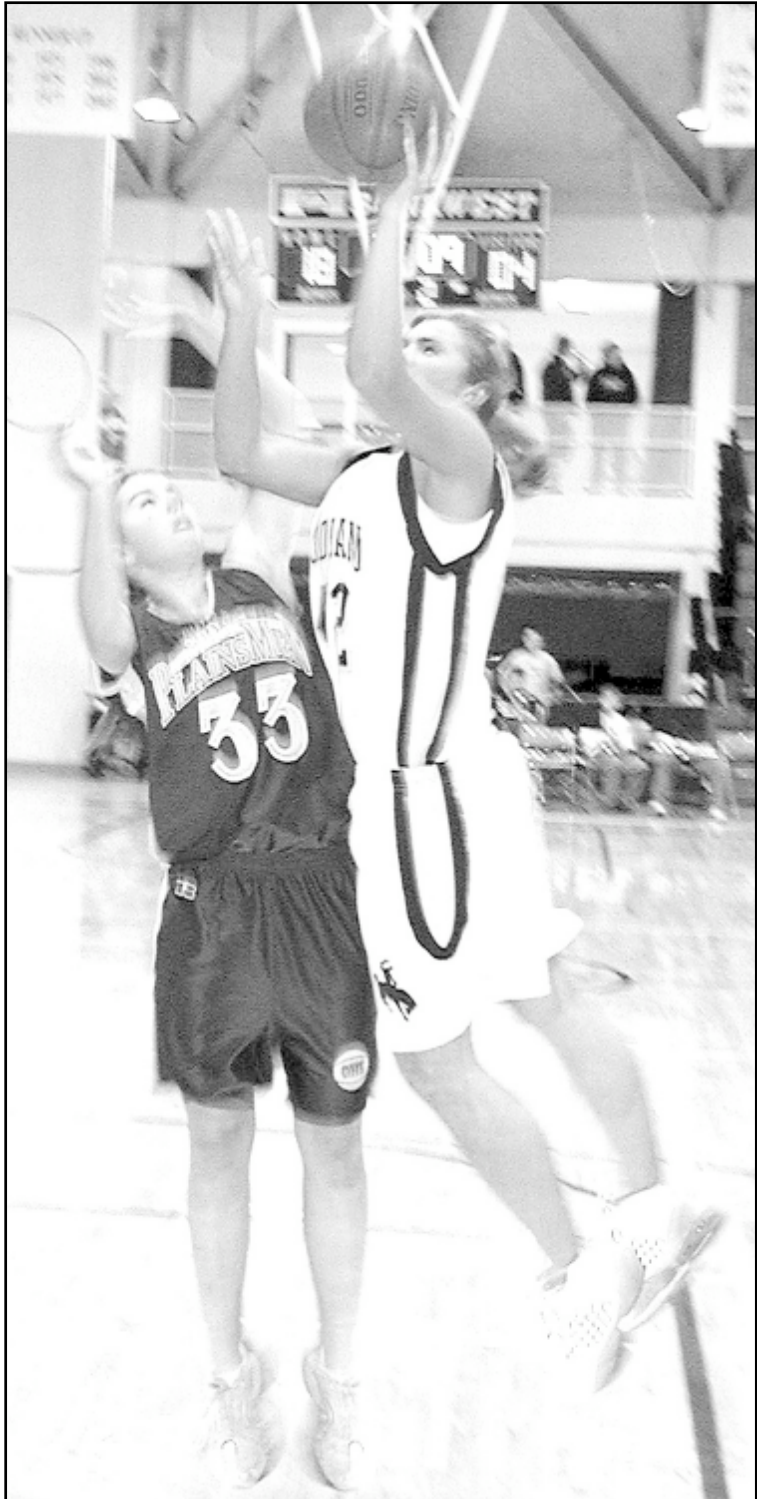
Colby is 14-3 after beating Quinter 63-40 Friday. The Eagles defeated the Cowgirls 47-46 in overtime on Jan. 6 in Goodland in a non-league matchup. Coach Smith said both teams have improved.

"It should be a fun and exciting night of basketball for both the players and fans of Colby and Goodland," Smith said.

Hoxie also is 14-3 after edging past Decatur Community High of Oberlin 44-42 Friday. Hoxie beat Colby 73-48 on Jan. 13 for the Lady Eagles' only league loss.

Senior Justeen Koehler (with ball) scored the first two points of the second period in the Cowgirls' 62-44 win over Oakley Friday in Max Jones Fieldhouse. Koehler scored a career-high 33 points to lead Goodland to its 14th win for the season.

Photo by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls undefeated in league basketball

The Goodland Cowgirls sit on top of the Northwest Kansas League standings but will be facing their toughest two obstacles to the championship plaque this week.

The Cowgirls, 14-4 overall and 5-0 in league play, will be at the Colby Community Building tonight to face the Lady Eagles. Colby is 4-1 in the league after going on the road Friday to beat Quinter 63-40. The Eagles' lone league loss was to the Lady Indians in Hoxie 73-48 on Jan. 13.

Four Colby players scored in double figures Friday against the Lady Bulldogs, led by sophomore

Lissa Mazanec with 20 points. Jessica Stephens and April Weaver both scored 14 points and Tasha Wagoner had 10.

Colby, now 14-3 overall, was ranked No. 5 in Class 4A last week by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association. In a non-league game in Goodland on Jan. 6, the Lady Eagles defeated the Cowgirls in overtime 47-46.

"The game with Colby is not only important to the Cowgirls as far as league standings," said Goodland coach Don Smith, "but also for positioning in substate pairings."

Both Goodland and Colby have

improved their play since their earlier meeting in January. Most likely, the team that better executes the finer details of the game will be the winner."

Goodland will end the regular season on Friday in Hoxie. The Lady Indians are 5-1 in league play, losing to Quinter 49-36 on Dec. 2 in the season opener.

Hoxie was ranked No. 7 in Class 2A last week. The Lady Indians improved to 14-3 overall with a 65-56 home win over Oberlin Friday. Hoxie travels to Norton today to face the Blue Jays.

Quinter is 3-3 in the league after

its loss to Colby. The Lady Bulldogs, 8-9 overall, take on the Bobcats of Western Plains High of Ransom tonight at home.

Oakley and Oberlin have completed league play for the season, both finishing 2-5. Oakley, which lost to Goodland Friday 62-44, takes on Grinnell tonight while Oberlin faces Rawlins County High of Atwood in a non-league game.

Rawlins County, 2-3 in the league, will travel to Colby on Friday then take on St. Francis in Atwood next Tuesday. St. Francis, 0-5 in league play, will face Quinter at home on Friday.

Goodland swimmer heads to Big Ten meet

Goodland native Rachael Hagerman and her teammates on the Michigan State University swim team will compete in the Big Ten Conference championships Wednesday to Saturday at Ohio State University.

The Lady Spartans ended their regular season on Jan. 28 with a 142-111 home win over St. Bonaventure University.

Hagerman led a Michigan State top-three sweep in the 50-yard freestyle it in 23.57 seconds, with teammates Katrina Kniff and Marsena Vranesic finishing second and

ed the Lady Spartans finish eighth in the 200-yard medley, ninth in the 200-yard freestyle and 10th in the 400-yard freestyle.

Hagerman, in her fourth season at Michigan State, has the team's best time in the 100-yard butterfly for the season. As a sophomore, she helped set a school record in the

200-yard freestyle and 200-yard medley relays.

Rachael, the daughter of Mark and Sue Hagerman of Goodland, is a 2002 graduate of Goodland High, where she lettered in cross country and track. She holds the school record in the 100-meter high and 300-meter low hurdles.

Northwest Kansas League Girls Basketball Standings		
as of Feb. 13		
Team	League	Overall
Goodland	5 - 0	14 - 4
Hoxie	5 - 1	14 - 3
Colby	4 - 1	14 - 3
Quinter	3 - 3	8 - 9
Oakley	2 - 5	8 - 10
Oberlin	2 - 5	7 - 11
Atwood	2 - 3	11 - 6
St. Francis	0 - 5	3 - 13

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area basketball

Area High School Basketball
February 10

Northwest Kansas League

Boys

Goodland 62, Oakley 55
Quinter 45, Colby 38
Hoxie 44, Oberlin 42
Atwood 51, Rexford 50 (Sat.)

Girls

Goodland 62, Oakley 44
Colby 63, Quinter 40
Hoxie 65, Oberlin 56
Rexford 58, Atwood 42 (Sat.)

Western Kansas Liberty League

Boys

Brewster 62, Healy 28
Tribune 40, Sharon Springs 28
Winona 66, Bird City 45
Rexford 62, Grainfield 44
Atwood 51, Rexford 50 (Sat.)

Girls

Brewster 79, Healy 54
Sharon Springs 30, Tribune 28
Bird City 49, Winona 28
Rexford 53, Grainfield 48
Rexford 58, Atwood 42 (Sat.)

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School calendar for Feb. 15 - Feb. 21

Wednesday - "Gold Day"; Hispanic Parent/Community support group meeting at Central School for potluck, 5:30 p.m.; Junior High League music festival at Colby; City/county recreation, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday - "Black Day"; Eighth grade basketball at Colby, 3:30 p.m.; seventh grade basketball in Goodland against Colby, 3:30 p.m.; junior high wrestling triangular in Atwood, 3:30 p.m.

Friday - "Gold Day"; Basketball in Hoxie, 3:45 p.m.; Regional Wrestling in Russell, 1 p.m.

Saturday - Regional Wrestling in Russell, 11 a.m.; State piano

Monday - No school; Teacher Inservice; seventh and eighth basketball first round League Tournament.

Tuesday - "Gold Day"; Junior High League wrestling tournament in Goodland, 1 p.m.

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