

Senior Justeen Koehler (center) fought Danielle Pratt (left) and Rebecca Farber for the ball during the fourth period of the Cowgirls' 76-65 loss to the Lady Indians on Friday in Hoxie. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Indians ambush girls' bid for league

By Greg Stover

stor-news Sports

The Goodland Star-News The Cowgirls' bid for the Northwest Kansas League basketball title was ambushed Friday in Hoxie as the Lady Indians beat Goodland 76-65 in the regular season finale for both teams.

The Cowgirls had a 13-12 lead at the end of the first period and led 37-34 at halftime.

Then Hoxie launched a counterattack in the second half, outscoring Goodland 23-15 in the third quarter and 19-13 in the fourth to win by 11.

Both teams finished the regular season 15-5 overall and 6-1 in league play, but Hoxie gets the title due to its victory over the Cowgirls. The Indians' league loss was to Quinter in the season opener on Dec. 2.

Neither team scored in the opening minute of Friday's game, although both picked up fouls and suffered turnovers.

Hoxie scored first on a pair of free throws.

After Goodland tied the score at 2 on a basket by senior Justeen Koehler, the Indians scored the next four points, then exchanged baskets with the Cowgirls to hold an 11-6 lead with under 90 seconds left in the first quarter.

Junior Whitney Archer hit a three-pointer which started a 7-0 run by Goodland.

That put the Cowgirls in front 13-

scored on a free throw shortly before the buzzer sounded, making it 13-12.

Just over a minute into the second period, the score was tied at 16. A Hoxie's defense got stubborn as the basket by Koehler broke the tie, giving Goodland an 18-16 lead. Both teams scored five points over the onds left. next two minutes to make the score 23-21.

Senior Melissa Swager hit a turnaround jumper which stated a 10-2 run for Goodland.

That gave the Cowgirls a 10point lead, 33-23, with less than three minutes left in the half.

Hoxie scored seven straight to get within three at 33-30, after which both teams scored four more points to make the halftime score 37-34.

Archer scored the first points of the third period, giving Goodland a five-point lead 39-34, but the Indians fought back, and about three minutes later the game was tied again at 43.

The lead changed hands seven times in the next three minutes, with the last switch coming on a threepointer by Hoxie's Darra Stithem that put the Indians up 52-50 with 1:30 on the clock.

for Hoxie to make it 55-50.

The teams exchanged baskets in six of 14. the final minute to make it 57-52 heading into the fourth quarter.

Four times the Cowgirls got within three points during the first

11 with about 30 seconds left. Hoxie half of the final period, but each time the Indians responded with a basket to make it a five-point mar-

> Then, with the score 65-61, Indians scored 10 straight points for a 75-61 lead with just over 90 sec-

> After both teams scored on a free throw, Archer hit a three-point basket with 12 seconds left to make final 76-65.

> Koehler scored a game-high 20 points to lead the Cowgirls, followed by Archer with 16 and junior Kaylee Billinger with 10.

> Junior Lindsay Schields scored six points, and both Swager and sophomore Samantha Raymer had five.

> Junior Emily Murray added three points for Goodland.

> Four Hoxie players scored in double figures, led by Rebecca Farber with 16.

> Pratt finished the game with 15 points, Megan Ochs 14 and Ashley Kennedy 10.

> Goodland won the battle of the boards, getting 33 rebounds to Hoxie's 26.

The Indians had the edge at the Danielle Pratt hit a three pointer free-throw line, connecting on nine of 19, while the Cowgirls hit on just

Substate action for both teams begins Monday, with opponents and locations yet to be determined.

Boys end season on losing note

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News The Goodland High School boys ended their regular season on a sour note Friday, losing a road game in Hoxie to the Indians 70-51 — and a chance at the league title as well.

With the loss, the boys fell to 5-2 in league play.

The Cowboys led twice early in Angelos made it 39-31, the Indians the first period but the Indians scored 12 straight while keeping the scored six straight to take a 9-5 lead Cowboys scoreless for nearly four halfway through the quarter, then minutes. kept it until Goodland tied the game up at 20 early in the second on a three-pointer by junior Mikey Doll. Hoxie immediately responded with another 6-0 run and kept the lead throughout the rest of the game. The Cowboys did not let the Indians get more than six points ahead in the second period, though, and trailed by just five at halftime 35-30.

points and Hoxie's lead fluctuated between three and six points until halftime.

With his team leading 35-30 at the start of the second half, Hoxie's Jake Moss scored the first four points of the third period to make it a nine-point game. After a free throw by Goodland junior Nick





The third quarter was the big difference in the game, as Hoxie outscored Goodland 17-5 and led 52-35 going into the fourth. The Indians edged the Cowboys in the fourth 18-16 to make the final 70-51.

"We just got whipped in the second half," said Coach Jon McLean. "We couldn't make a shot, and we practically gave up a layup every time on defense.'

Neither team scored in the game's opening minute, then Hoxie's Marcus McKenna made a basket to give the Indians a 2-0 lead. A free throw by Goodland senior Heath Chatfield made it 2-1, then a basket by senior Jase Herl gave the Cowboys a 3-2 lead.

Hoxie tied the game with a free throw, but a short time later Herl scored again to put Goodland back up by two. However, about 15 seconds later, Hoxie senior Tolliver Bird scored a basket to make it 5-all. That started a 11-2 run for the Indi-

After that, the teams took turns scoring two points for the rest of the period with Hoxie leading 18-13 going into the second quarter.

Goodland got the first four points of the second to take a 18-17 lead. Then Hoxie scored a basket to make it 20-17, followed by Doll's threepointer to tie the game at 20.

The Indians scored the next six



Herl broke Goodland's scoring drought to make the score 51-33. Moss hit a free throw for Hoxie, followed a few seconds later by a basket by Doll for the Cowboys which made the score 52-35 heading into the final period.

The two teams took turns scoring in the fourth quarter until the last minute, when Hoxie scored the final four points to win 70-51.

The Indians connected on 50 percent of their shots compared to just over 36 percent for Goodland. Hoxie also had the edge in rebounds, 39-32, and at the free throw line, making 15 of 27 for 56 percent while the Cowboys were six of 14 for 43 percent.

"It was just a bad performance that our kids have to forget about," said Coach McLean.

Herl led Goodland in scoring and rebounds with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Doll scored 11 points and Angelos 10. Senior Wyatt Dautel added six, and senior Derek Fenner and junior Landon Williams each scored two. Chatfield was second in rebounds with six and scored on a free throw.

Moss and Bird both scored 20 points to lead Hoxie.

This game marked the end of the regular season for both teams, with substate action stating on Monday. Tournament brackets will be set by Friday.

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Junior Landon Williams (with ball) scored a basket over the outstretched hands of Hoxie's Derek Spresser during the second period of the Cowboys' 70-51 road loss to the Indians on Friday to end the regular season for both teams.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Brewster All-Star Booster Club

Calendar for Feb. 22 - Feb. 28

Thursday - Regional basketball.

Friday - Regional basketball.

Saturday - Regional basketball.

Monday - Freedom League Instrumental Clinic in Grinnell, 1 p.m. concert at 6 p.m.





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