



Senior Melissa Swager (with ball above) grabbed a defensive rebound in the first half of the Cowgirls' 48-45 loss to Andover Central Wednesday at the Bicentennial Center in Salina in their state Class 4A quarterfinal game. Junior Emily Murray (with ball right) passed to junior teammate Kaylee Billinger who went on to score in the third period of the same game.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls eliminated in first round game

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland Cowgirls played tough in their state Class 4A quarterfinal game against Andover Central Wednesday at the Bicentennial Center in Salina but it was the Lady Jaguars who came up with the win 48-45.

After trailing throughout the first three periods, Goodland went on a 15-2 run to start the fourth quarter tying the game at 36. The Jaguars scored to take a two-point lead after which a basket by senior Justeen Koehler tied it up again at 38-41.

The Cowgirls got their first lead with a pair of free throws by junior Whitney Archer, however a short time later Andover Central scored for the game's third tie at 40. A basket by Koehler got the lead back for Goodland 42-40 but Jaguars scored on a free throw followed about 65 seconds later by a three-pointer to go ahead 44-42 with just over two minutes to go.

The Jaguars added a free throw with 38 seconds left and another with 12 seconds left increasing their lead to four at 46-42. Junior Kaylee Billinger hit a three-pointer with three seconds showing on the clock to make it 46-45.

The Cowgirls were able to foul on the subsequent rebound to stop the clock with less than two seconds left. However, the Jaguars' Jill Anderson hit both free throws making the score 48-45. Although Goodland was fouled during the inbound pass which again stopped the clock, the Cowgirls did not have

enough time to get a shot off. "It would be impossible for me to be more proud of the Cowgirls had we achieved a victory over Andover Central than what I feel following a disappointing loss," said Coach Don Smith.

"When the Cowgirls fell behind by eight early in the game it became a true test of how the team, once again, would react to an adverse situation. At halftime we refocused on execution of plays and what the fans saw in the second half is what we call 'team basketball'."

Missed shots and turnovers by both teams led to a scoreless opening minute after which Andover Central scored the first four points to take an early lead. Koehler scored a basket to get Goodland on the scoreboard but the Jaguars responded with an 8-2 run for a 12-4 lead, their biggest of the game.

Archer hit a three-pointer with two minutes left in the period to make it 12-7 then with about 25 seconds remaining the Cowgirls was able to get a "three-on-one" break for a layup cutting the Jaguars' lead to three.

Andover Central got the first four points of the second quarter for a seven-point lead, 16-9. The Cowgirls next went on a 6-1 run to get within two at 17-15. Kayleigh Snyder scored a basket for the Jaguars from three-point range to make it 20-15.

With about 55 seconds left in the half senior Melissa Swager grabbed an offensive rebound and scored making the score 20-17. Anderson

made the final basket of the half giving Andover Central a 22-17 lead during the intermission.

"We struggled early with some missed shots, several turnovers and not very precise execution," said Coach Smith. "Very likely nerves were a contributing factor."

The Cowgirls started the second half scoring six of the first eight points to get within one at 24-23 but after that the Jaguars went on to outscore Goodland 10-8 taking a 34-31 lead into the final period.

Koehler scored the first point of the fourth quarter on a free throw to make it 34-32. After the Jaguars scored a basket, Archer made one to get Goodland back to within two points at 36-34.

Next, sophomore Samantha Raymer took pass from Archer and made a layup to tie the game at 36. About 25 seconds later Andover Central went ahead 38-36 but a basket by Koehler tied the game up again at 38.

Archer's free throws gave the Cowgirls their first lead, 40-38, with just under five minutes left in the game. A basket by Kari Kincaid tied the game at 40 about a minute later but Koehler got another basket 30 seconds later to reclaim the lead for Goodland.

Following a free throw by Kincaid, the Cowgirls led 42-41 with three minutes showing on the clock. About a minute later, Anderson hit a three-pointer giving the Jaguars a 44-42 lead.

After a full timeout by Andover Central, the Jaguars stated to play "keep away" while the Cowgirls applied trying to force a turnover without fouling. However, with about 40 seconds left Goodland was forced to foul to stop the clock but missed opportunities cost the Cowgirls as they trailed 46-42 with 12 seconds remaining.

Billinger hit from three-point range nine seconds later making it 46-45. A foul sent Anderson to the

free throw line who made both shots giving the Jaguars a 48-45 lead with less than two seconds showing.

"We gave ourselves a chance to win," Coach Smith said, "and since we did not accomplish that goal we simply give credit to Andover Central."

Koehler led the Cowgirls in scoring and rebounds with 13 points and seven boards. Archer scored 11 points followed by Billinger with nine and Raymer with six. Junior Emily Murray scored four points. Swager had two points and was second in rebounds with five.

Anderson led Andover Central with a game-high 15 points with Kincaid and Bailey Gee both scoring nine.

Goodland committed 18 turn-

overs, 11 in the first half, compared to eight for the Jaguars who also had an 11-3 edge in steals. At the free throw line Andover Central was nine of 14 compared to three of eight for the Cowgirls.

The team ended its season 18-6.

"First I want to thank the community of Goodland for their support of the Cowgirls in Salina and throughout the season," said Coach Smith. "I wish to give recognition and give credit to my coaching staff. Curt Minner helped prepare the Cowgirls before his move to Hutchinson in January and Karla Jimenez has given valuable input throughout the entire season."

"It has been a pleasure and an honor to have coached the Cowgirls' basketball team."

bowling results

Wednesday Night Scratch Classic League
March 8

Floyd's Refrig. & AC over T-Bone Feeders 11-7
Steve's Body Shop over Bowladium Lanes 14.5-5.5
Phil's Pro Shop over Sigco 12-8
Fitzgibbon's, Inc. over Weber Kennels 12-8
High Individual Game: Tyrel Smith 266
High Individual Series: Roy Freiburger 903

High Team Game: Fitzgibbon's, Inc. 643
High Team Series: Fitzgibbon's, Inc. 2,276

League Standings:
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24 - 16
20 - 20
20 - 20
19 - 21
17.5 - 22.5
16 - 24
12 - 28

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ABSOLUTE AUCTION
SELLER: WEAVER FARMS

AUCTION LOCATION: From Kanorado, KS, go West on Hwy. 24 to Co. Road 55 (Dorman's Fertilizer), then 1/2 mile South to Road W and 1/2 mile West on Road W OR From Burlington, CO, go East on Hwy. 24 to Road 55, then 1/2 mile South to Road W and 1/2 mile West to the farmsite. SIGNS WILL BE POSTED!

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•JD 8300, MFWD, 4 remotes, PS, 3pt, QT, PTO, 6,593 hrs
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•J&M 30' 4-wheel header trailer
GRAIN CARTS:
•J&M 875
•JD 1210A, 400 bushel
•Big 12, 400 bushel
TRUCKS & VEHICLES:
•89 Volvo GM semi-tractor, Cummins NMT315, 595,570 mi
•90 Chevrolet Cheyenne 2500 Pu, 4x4, auto
•84 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2T pickup, 4x4, auto
•74 Chevrolet Custom Deluxe Heavy 1/2T, Stahl service box
•Chevy 8' Pickup Topper
•Honda 250SX 3-wheeler
TRAILERS:
•01 Maurer 42' dbl hopper, 66" sides, ag hoppers, Shur-lock RO tarp
•81 Tipte 40' dbl hopper, 66" sides, Shur-lock RO tarp
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•Krause 46' Model 2146 offset disc•IH 60' springtooth •2 - Eversman 14' land planes •JD 825 8-row (30") hi-speed residue cultivator•40' folding springtooth •Krause 18' disc•8-row 30" bedder
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