

Cowboy shot rolls off to give Holcomb win, 53-51

By Jeremy Mills
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On a strange night where the Holcomb Longhorns best player didn't suit up, the Goodland Cowboys lost at Holcomb by inches 53-51.

A late turnover by Longhorn Tyler Lasalle gave Goodland the ball back with 1.8 seconds left on the clock. The inbound pass went to the Cowboy's best shooter Ryan Hillmer who posted up from 3-point land and let the shot go. The ball rolled around the rim and could not make it into the basket as the buzzer sounded giving Holcomb the win 53-51.

Head Coach Donald Raymer's only comments after the game were "Well, shoot." The Cowboys are 3-4 and play at the 17th Annual Trojan Classic in Hillsboro this week. The Cowboys opened the tournament

against Thomas More Prep at 2 p.m. on Monday. The teams returned to Goodland after the games on Monday, and will travel back to Hillsboro on Friday and Saturday for the second and third rounds of the Trojan Classic.

If the Cowboys won on Monday they will play on Friday at 7:15 p.m. against the winner of the Hesston (5-2) and Republic County (4-4) game. Hesston is the third seed and Republic County the sixth seed. If the Cowboys lost on Monday they will play at 3:45 p.m. on Friday against the loser of the Hesston and Republic County game.

Friday Holcomb's best player Logan Singhisen did not play in the game because of an illness, so it was on the rest of the Longhorns to take care of business. The game was sloppy throughout. The

same referee staff who gave Raymer his first technical of his career issued another on Friday, but not to the Cowboy coach. Holcomb Coach Scott Stegman was visibly upset with some calls the referees made and was given a technical foul early in the game. Stegman tested his limits after the technical, but was not issued any further fouls.

Neither team had a good flow and the score after one quarter of play was 13-10. In the second, it was much of the same. In the first half Goodland had 14 turnovers while Holcomb had 15. After one sloppy half of play it was a 24-19 Holcomb lead.

After the halftime break it looked like it was going to be much of the same. After a timeout from Coach Raymer things slowed down for both teams as they tried to establish some offense flow. A 3-pointer by Blaine Luther gave the Cowboys some momentum as the quarter ended. Goodland had work to do; the score was 38-22 in favor

of Holcomb.

Players on both teams made up for the three slow quarters in the last 2 minutes of the game.

The Cowboys tied the game twice in the fourth with a basket from Garth Helton with 5:22 left it was 40-40, but the teams started trading baskets and the Cowboys were not able to close the score as the clock was running out.

The 2-minute mark approached and Goodland was forced to foul after Robert Cowan cut the lead to 48-46.

The Longhorns would send 3 players to the line. First up was Lasalle, who sank both of his free throws. Andrew Homer was second to face the pressure of being all alone at the stripe; he did his part and hit one of two. Kyle Walck was third to face the pressure and didn't blink, as he was a perfect two of two.

The Cowboys weren't so lucky at the

line, 9-21, but still had a chance to win the game. Tyler Lasalle fumbled the ball and the Cowboys would gain possession with 1.8 seconds left to go.

Coach Raymer had the opportunity to draw up a last second desperation play. The ball was in bounded to Hillmer who took a beautiful 3-point shot. The ball rolled in and out of the basket and the heartbreak set in for Goodland. The game was over with Holcomb winning 53-51.

Hillmer and Cowan did their part for the Cowboys with each scoring 14. Reed Belamy scored 7, Helton had 5, Blaine Luther scored 3, Dillon Trachsel put in 3, and Brock Wilkens hit 2.

For Holcomb, Nolan Geade scored 10, Homer and Lasalle both scored 8, Brandon Thomas hit 7, and Aaron Hernandez, Shane Bennett, and Max Ramsey both scored 2.



Hillmer



Herl

Cowgirls fall to Lady Longhorns, Trojan Classic this week

Friday the Cowgirls were in Holcomb for a Great West Activity Conference game with an opportunity to take possession of second place in the league, but a cold period in the third quarter put the Cowgirls in a tough position and they lost 56-46.

Monday the Cowgirls opened play in the Hillsboro Trojan Classic against Republic County. The next game for the Cowgirls will be Friday either against the winner or loser of the Riley County and Wamego game from Monday. The Cowgirls game on Friday will either be at 2 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. depending on whether they won or lost the game on Monday.

The final round of the 17th Annual Trojan Classic will be played Saturday. All games can be heard on KKCI 102.5 FM.

"We played some of our best basketball of the year," Coach Andy Scheopner said, "but we didn't play it for four quarters. We had a stretch in the third quarter where we had a dry spell and then couldn't make that up."

"We are really looking forward to this week in Hillsboro."

Friday the Cowgirls played the Lady Longhorns tough keeping it close tying the score twice in the first quarter with Holcomb leading 15-12.

In the second quarter the Cowgirls tied the score twice and then went on a 8 point run to lead 25-16. The Lady Longhorns came back with a 3-point basket by Breanna Gottshalk to cut it to 28-27 with 90 seconds left in the half. On the next possession Holcomb took a 29-28 lead and Gottshalk hit a pair of free throws to give Holcomb a 21-28 lead at the half.

Opening the third quarter the Cowgirls tied the game at 31-31 on a 3-point basket by Jennifer Rome. The Cowgirls took a 33-31 lead on a lay up by Ashley Archer. Gottshalk tied the game at 33-33 and the Longhorns took a 35-33 lead on a basket by Kyshia Prieto with five minutes left in the quarter.

Holcomb had an 11-2 point run

to take a 42-34 lead. Archer had a three-point play on a basket and free throw to make it 42-37. Gottshalk got a steal in the final seconds a Longhorn shot at the buzzer went in to make it 44-37 after three.

Holcomb made it a 10-point lead to open the fourth, 47-37, on a 3-point basket. Neither team scored for the next three minutes, but Archer picked up two fouls and fouled out with 3:15 left. Gottshalk hit a free throw to break the scoring drought to make it 48-37.

Cowgirl Jade Herl broke the scoring drought with a basket and then got a steal and lay up to cut the margin to 48-41. Herl was fouled, but did not make the free throw.

Gottshalk hit again with 2:40 left to make it 50-41.

With 1:13 left M'Lynn Hinger got a steal and scored on a put back to make it 52-43. The Cowgirls had to start fouling and Holcomb made both free throws to make it 54-43. Again Herl was fouled and went to the free throw line, and hit one of two to make it a 10-point lead 54-44.

Hinger fouled Gottshalk who made the final two points for the Lady Longhorns on free throws with under one minute left.

Herl made two free throws to make it 56-46. Cowgirls Berkley White had a chance to close the margin, but missed the front end of a 1 and 1 with 30 seconds left.

That was the end of the scoring as the Longhorns ran out the clock to win 56-46.

The loss gives the Cowgirls a 4-3 record and 2-2 in league play.

Herl sort of broke out of her scoring slump leading the Cowgirls with 18 points. Archer was in double figures with 12, Rome 9, Brianna White, 3, and Paige Phillips and Berkley White each had 2.

For the Lady Longhorns Gottshalk led all scorers with 26 points. Katie Pfeifer had 10, Amy Stegman 8, Lauren Lohfink 6, Prieto 4, and Madison Landwehr 2.

The Lady Longhorns out rebounded the Cowgirls 22-12. The Longhorns shot 44.4 percent (20-45) from the floor and hit 81.3 percent (13-16) of the free throws. The Cowgirls hit 43.2 percent (16-37) from the floor and 52.2 percent (12-23) of the free throws.

Tribune wins Liberty League title



Weskan Coyote Garrett Reiss put up a shot over the attempt of Tribune Jack Rabbits Anthony Wilson on Saturday in the Western Kansas Liberty League tournament championship held at Max Jones Fieldhouse. The Jack Rabbits won the title 60-37. Earlier in the afternoon the girls basketball team from Wheatland/Grinnell won the championship defeating Sharon Springs 46-41.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Weskan Coyote injured



Weskan Coyote Nathan McKinney was injured at the beginning of the fourth quarter in the game with Tribune on Saturday and had to wait for the Goodland ambulance to come and take him to the hospital. He was later flown to St. Luke's Hospital in Denver with multiple fracture of his leg. McKinney left the fieldhouse with the cheers of good will from his team mates and audience.

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School calendar for January 19-25

- Wednesday: Gold day
7:30 a.m.: PLC
4 p.m.: Tech Roundtable
- Thursday: Black day
Varsity Basketball at Hillsboro Trojan Classic Tournament
- Friday: Gold day
Varsity Basketball at Hillsboro Trojan Classic Tournament
2 p.m.: Varsity Wrestling at Hays Senior Prairie Classic Wrestling
- Saturday: Varsity Basketball at Hillsboro Trojan Classic Tournament
8:30 a.m.: Varsity Wrestling at Hays Senior Prairie Classic Wrestling
9 a.m.: Junior Varsity Wrestling at Atwood Tournament
- Monday: Black day
Board of Education meeting
12:30 p.m.: Junior High Scholar's Bowl at Brewster
3:30 p.m.: High School Scholar's Bowl at Brewster
- Tuesday: Gold day
3 p.m.: C team Basketball at Norton
3:30 p.m.: Boys 8th Basketball, here, versus Scott City
Boys 7th Basketball at Scott City
4:30 p.m.: Junior Varsity Basketball at Norton
6 p.m.: Varsity Basketball at Norton

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Beginner