

Cowboy buzzer beater wins team third place

Cowboys at Norton tonight

By Jeremy Mills

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The 17th Annual Trojan Classic in Hillsboro was a success for the Goodland Cowboys. After facing the number 1, 2, and 3 seeds of the tournament the Cowboys brought home the third place trophy.

Saturday the Cowboys had a comeback win on a buzzer beating layup by Ryan Hillmer to win 57-55 over the number 1 seed Riley County, ranked fourth in Class 3A, for the third place trophy in Goodland's first appearance in the annual Hillsboro Trojan Classic.

Cowboy Coach Donald Raymer was excited, but put things into perspective. "We had a great effort in the fourth quarter, I just wish we could put that effort into the first quarter."

Saturday the Cowboys had a chance to make a statement against the number 1 seeded Riley County Falcons. In the first quarter Goodland started slow, the first Cowboys basket fell with 5:07 left in the quarter.

Luckily for Goodland the first shot fell for Riley County just a minute earlier. The end of the quarter was slow for both teams, with Riley County leading 13-3.

The second quarter was about the same. At the end of the first two quarters of play Goodland didn't look great. They had hit just 6 of 26 shots and were 2 of 6 at the charity stripe. The score at half was 25-14 Riley County.

After the break, both teams came out swinging. Goodland went on a 12-2 run in the third, but was



Cowboy Ryan Hillmer kept a Colby Eagle from getting a shot off in the game the two teams played in January. Saturday Hillmer was the hero with a buzzer beating lay up to win 57-55 over Riley County to take third place in the 17th Annual Hillsboro Trojan Classic basketball tournament.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

matched with a 9-0 scoring run by Riley County. The third quarter ended with Riley County leading 43-33.

The fourth quarter was one for the ages. Hillmer came out with ice in his veins and sank a 3 pointer, with Wilkens following up with a 3-point play.

The Cowboys were on the offensive in the fourth, and the first lead for Goodland came with 4:30 left.

The teams battled it out and with 1:50 to go Wilkens was sent to the line. The Cowboys were up by two and after Wilkens hit both of his free throws the Cowboys had somewhat of a comfortable lead.

Thirty seconds later Bellamy was at the line and hit 1 of 2. Bellamy tried to make up for the missed free throw as he stole the ball and tried his luck at a lay up but the ball didn't fall.

Things were becoming tight and Trachsel was sent to the line with 17 seconds left in the game. He hit 1 of 2.

The score was tied at 55 when Cowan came up with the ball and the Cowboys called a time out with 5.6 second left.

On the inbounds Hillmer threw to Reed Bellamy who tossed the ball to Robert Cowan who found Hillmer streaking into the paint for a lay up that rolled around and fell through as time expired to win the game 57-55.

The Cowboys took home the third place trophy. Hillmer had missed a buzzer beater earlier in the season and was ecstatic after the game. "This is sweet redemption!" he said.

Cowan lead all scorers with 19 points and 4 rebounds. Wilkens broke out of his scoring slump and put 14 on the scoreboard. On defense he did a great job on Riley County's Will Seaton.

Hillmer had 12 points, Bellamy had 6, Blaine Luther had 3, and Garth Helton had 3 points.

For Riley County Joel Garver

scored 17, Calvin Kenny had 16, Will Seaton was held to 12, Kyle Cromwell had 4, and Collin Wood had 2.

Hesston Swathers In the semi-final round on Friday Goodland faced the number 3 seed Hesston Swathers.

Cowan gained the momentum for the Cowboys at the 5:45 mark when he hit a 3 pointer to take the lead at 5-4. The momentum didn't stay with the Cowboys for long in the first quarter, the score at the end of 1 was 21-11 Hesston leading.

The second quarter started with the Cowboys showing a lot of fight when Hillmer hit a 3 pointer to start, but like the first quarter the Swathers flexed their muscle and went on a 12-0 scoring run. Hazen Deeds hit 2 free throws to snap the 12-0 run and at the end of the first half Goodland trailed 33-20.

Into the third Goodland was slow and showed frustration as Hesston scored 18 third quarter points to lead, 51-30.

The 4th quarter was much of the same. Hesston slowed things down and jogged to the finish. Goodland lost 63-50.

For Goodland Cowan lead with 18 points, Hillmer put in 15. Other scorers were Bellamy with 7, Wilkens had 5, and Deeds and Luther each had 2.

Statistically, for Hesston the leading scorer was Lucas Pertocci with 18. Eyan Roth contributed with 12, Trevor Pahls had 9, Jesse Voth Gaedert scored 8 along with Taylor Redding, and Garrett Spencer threw in 4.

Hesston went on to win the Trojan Classic defeating Hillsboro 47-33 in the championship game

The 5-5 Cowboys face the Norton Blue Jays at 7 p.m. tonight in Norton. The Cowboys will be at Max Jones Fieldhouse at 7 p.m. on Friday to play Holcomb.

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5			7	2	4	6	
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Level: Beginner

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!

School calendar for January 26-February 1

Wednesday: Black day
FCCLA Star Events in Hill City
7:30 a.m.: PLC

Thursday: Gold day
3:30 p.m.: Boys 8th Grade Basketball here, versus Colby
Boys 7th Grade Basketball at Colby
5:30 p.m.: Varsity/Junior Varsity Wrestling at Burlington

Friday: Black day
1 p.m.: Children's Theatre Performance at Max Jones Fieldhouse
3:45 p.m.: C team Basketball, here, versus Holcomb
5:30 p.m.: Junior Varsity Basketball, here, versus Holcomb
7 p.m.: Varsity Basketball, here, versus Holcomb
9 p.m.: Snoball dance in High School Auditorium

Saturday: 9:30 a.m.: Junior Varsity Wrestling at Stratton Wrestling Tournament

Monday: NO SCHOOL-Teacher Professional Day
3:30 p.m.: Junior High Scholar's Bowl, here
5 p.m.: Junior Varsity Basketball at Colby JV Basketball Tournament

Tuesday: Gold day
3 p.m.: C team Basketball at Burlington
4:30 p.m.: Junior Varsity Basketball at Burlington
6 p.m.: Varsity Basketball at Burlington

Correction



Bracelyn Redlin

In the Friday edition of *The Goodland Star-News*, our Winter Sports 2011 section had two cheerleaders misidentified. These are the correct names. Our apologies to the girls. This was due to a staff error.



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