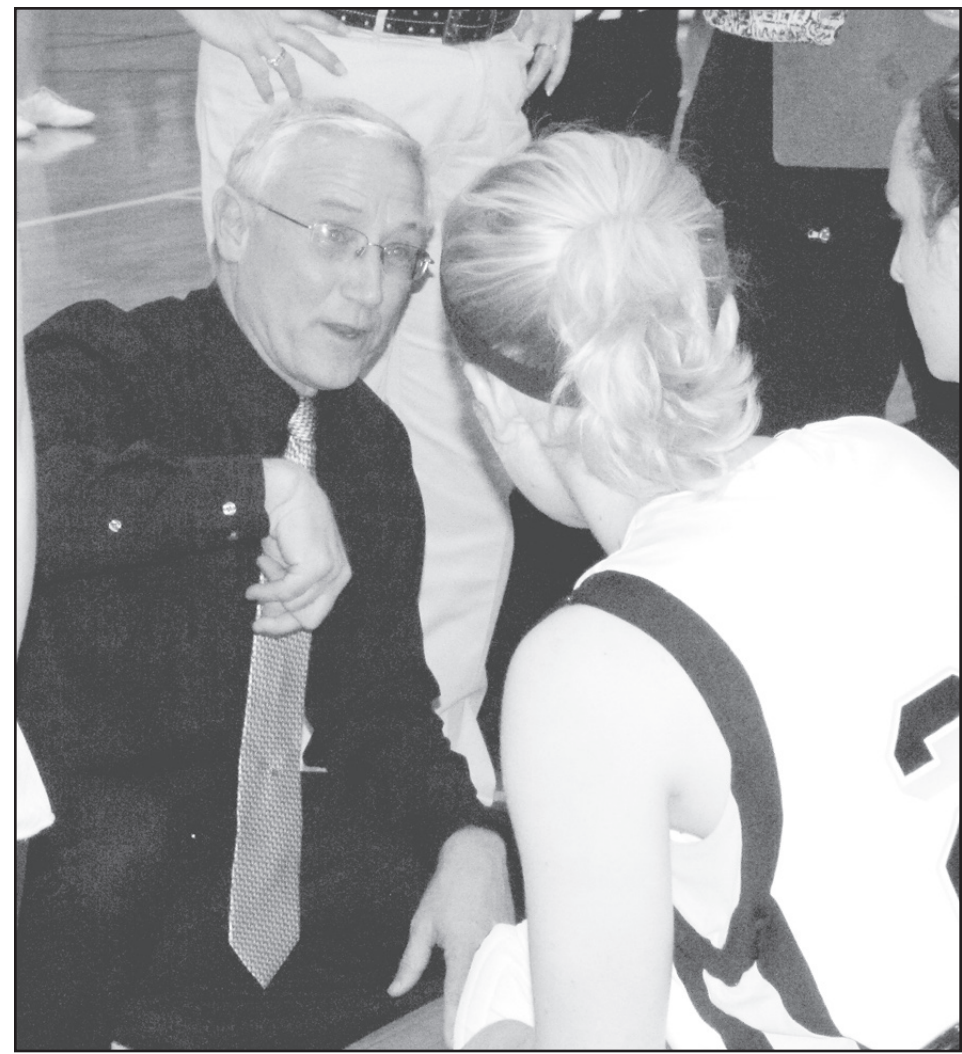




Cowgirl Jennifer Rome (above) got ready to inbound the ball during the game on Friday with the Holcomb Lady Longhorns. The Cowgirls had a rough time keeping up with the Longhorns. Coach Andy Scheopner tried to keep his team in the game, and said they played better in the second half. Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls struggle against hot shooting Longhorns

By Tom Betz
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Friday the Cowgirls were on their home floor at Max Jones Fieldhouse after five games on the road, but the home floor was not kind with the Holcomb Lady Longhorns crushing Goodland 56-44.

Coach Andy Scheopner was frustrated as the Longhorns ran set plays and the Cowgirls got caught in several with both Berkley and Brianna White getting early fouls. Cowgirls Paige Phillips, who had been the fifth starter for most of the season was in street clothes and on crutches putting the burden on the freshmen.

"We got off to a slow start in the first quarter and they couldn't miss," Scheopner said. "We played much better in the second half, but you can't dig yourself out of a hole against a good team. Holcomb is a good team."

The Longhorns appeared to be a step ahead of the Cowgirls for most of the game as they led 23-10 after the first and 38-26 at halftime. In

the second half the Cowgirls tried to mount a comeback, but every time the score was down to 10 the Longhorns would push it back leading 45-33 after three quarters. In the final quarter the Cowgirls again got down to a 10 point margin, but the Longhorns kept up the pace to win 56-44.

The loss drops the Cowgirls to a 6-6 record and will play at 5:30 p.m. tonight in Burlington and at Ulysses on Friday. The next home game will be at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 15 against the Atwood Buffaloes.

Cowgirl Ashley Archer got things going early with a 3-point basket to give the Cowgirls a 3-0 lead in the first minute, but Holcomb's Breanna Gottschalk hit a 3-point basket with 5:49 left to give the Longhorns an 8-5 lead. Archer cut the lead with a basket to 8-7, but another Longhorns 3-point and a layup made it 15-7 halfway through the quarter.

Cowgirl Jade Herl missed her first 3-point shot as it rolled out, but came back with another that went

with 2:11 left to cut it to 15-10. The Cowgirls had some problems holding on to the ball and Holcomb took advantage to lead 23-10.

Cowgirls Jennifer Rome and M'Lynn Hinger got baskets and Hinger had a 3-point play with a free throw to make it 23-15 with 6:30 left in the half.

Cowgirl Hope Cochran broke a short Holcomb run with a basket at 4:40 to make it 27-17. Herl answered another Holcomb 3-point basket with 1:15 left to make it 35-20 and break another Holcomb run. The Cowgirls went on a run of their own after Holcomb hit another 3-point basket to make it 38-20. Herl hitting another 3-point basket with 20 seconds left and Cowgirl Jennifer Rome hit a 3-point basket at the buzzer to make it 38-26 at halftime.

In the third quarter Archer got a basket to fall with 6:40 left to make it 38-28. Holcomb's Katie Pfeifer hit a basket with 5 minutes left to make it 40-28, and Gottschalk hit another 3-point basket to make it 43-28.

Herl was fouled trying to make a 3-point basket, but was only able to make one of the three free throws to make it 43-29 with under four minutes left. Hinger got a basket with 2:56 left to make it 43-31, and Archer scored with 1:29 left to make it 45-33. Holcomb's Kyshia Prieto appeared to twist her ankle and went off the court with 2.5 seconds left in the third. A last second shot by the Longhorns was no good to make it 45-33 at the buzzer.

Holcomb came out in the fourth scoring two baskets to lead 49-35 with 5:45 left. Again Herl was fouled while trying to make a 3-point basket, but this time she hit all three free throws to make it 49-38. Holcomb got another basket and Coach Scheopner took a time out with 3:45 left. Goodland got a jump ball and

Archer was fouled sending her to the line where she made one of two to make it 51-39 with 3:15 left.

Prieto was back in and hit a basket to make it 53-39. Herl was fouled and made one of two free throws to make it 53-40 with 2:27 left. Holcomb's Emilee Stegman hit one of two free throws to make it 54-40 with 2:07 left. Herl hit two free throws with 50 seconds left to make it 54-42. Prieto hit two free throws for Holcomb with 29 seconds left to make it 56-42. In the final seconds Archer hit a basket to make the final 56-44.

Herl led the Cowgirls with 17 points making 3 3-point baskets, one field goal and 6 of 8 free throws. Archer was the other Cowgirl in double figures with 12 points on 1 3-point basket four field goals and 1

of 2 free throws. Archer led the team in rebounds with 7.

Hinger had 5 on two field goals and 1 free throw; Rome had 5 on 1 3-point basket and one field goal. Cochran had 3 on a field goal and 1 of 2 free throws. Brianna White had 2 on a field goal.

The Cowgirls shot 33.3 percent (15-45) for the game and 69.2 (9-13) free throws. The Cowgirls had 18 rebounds to 25 for Holcomb. The Cowgirls had 16 turnovers to 14 for Holcomb.

Gottschalk led the Longhorns with 22 points, Amy Stegman had 11, Prieto 9, Pfeifer 7, Madison Landwehr 4, Lauren Lohfink 2, and Emilee Stegman 1.

The Longhorns shot 46.7 percent (21-45) for the game and 61.5 (8-13) free throws.

Cowboy wrestlers lose dual; take second at Stratton tourney

The Goodland High School varsity wrestling team was on the mats against the Burlington High School wrestlers last Thursday night. The final score was Goodland 21 and Burlington 42.

At 130 Seth Miller won in a 5-1 decision over Shane Whitmore. At 160 Kayler Rietcheck won by a fall over Bradley Campbell. Jason Cowan at 171 won by a fall over Delynn Ray. At 215 Riley Oharah won in a 7-0 decision over Alex Long. Mac Purvis at 285 won by a 2-1 decision over Isaiah Churchwell.

Austin Avelar at 119 lost by a 7-4 decision to Gaston Hornung. At 125 Corey Davis lost by a 12-5 decision to Chance Carwin. Jeff House at 135 lost by a fall to Colin Eberhart. At 140 Dax Ruhs lost by a fall to Zach Kinder. Nathan Deeds at 145 lost by

a 6-2 decision to Trenton Rico. At 152 Sloan Ruhs lost by a fall to R. J. Villa. Tyler Fisher at 189 lost by a 8-5 decision to Cole Briegel.

Goodland had no wrestlers competing in the 103 and 112 weight classes.

At the Stratton Invitation Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Merino, Colo. was the top scorer with 177 points. There were six varsity wrestlers and 12 junior varsity wrestlers from Goodland participating. This is a varsity tournament that allow junior varsity to compete.

At 119 Austin Avelar came in first. Also at 119 Ace Arteaga came in second. Marvin Hernandez and D. J. Yarbrough at 125 did not place. At 130 Tyrel Yarbrough came in fourth. Jeff House and George Bellani at 135 did not place. At 140

Dax Ruhs came in second. Nathan Deeds at 145 came in first. At 145 Jed Gray and Drew Dautel did not place. Sloan Ruhs at 152 was second and Colton Cooper did not place. At 160 Mikial Freeman was fourth and Cody Hooker did not place. Josh Whisnant at 171 was third. At 189 Tyler Fisher was third. Mac Purvis at 285 did not place.

Ellicott, Colo. had 131.5 points; Colby 84.5; Cheyenne Wells 62; Burlington 70; Clear Creek, Colo. 64; Wray, Colo. 62; Byers, Colo. 61.5; Yuma, Colo. 36.5 and Stratton 26. Goodland was second with 145.5.

The next action for the wrestlers is at 5:30 p.m. on Friday at home against Atwood and the varsity wrestling will be at Colby at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

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