Sports Cowboys above .500 with win over Buffaloes

By Jeremy Mills

j.mills@nwkansas.com For the first time since March 3, 2007 the Goodland Cowboys are above the .500 winning mark with a win over the Atwood Buffalos, 75-55, on Tuesday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The win gave the Cowboys 9 wins on the year compared to 8 losses. Head Coach Donald Raymer was impressed with the team's performance after the first quarter.

"I was pleased with the way the guys played," he said. "After the 1st quarter I told them this isn't how we play or practice. We are in better shape than these guys so let's run them into the ground."

The Cowboys are on a three-game winning streak and will hope to extend that at Hugoton at p.m. on Friday in a Great Western Activity Conference game. The Cowboys are now third in the league with a 4-3 record. The Cowboys are 5-1 at Max Jones. 2-4 on the road and 2-3 at neutral sites.

The Cowboys will be at Max Jones for the final two games of the regular season on Tuesday and Friday against Scott City and Ulysses.

In the first quarter on Tuesday, Goodland came out very aggressive and went to the basket very hard, but Atwood responded with hot streaks of their own after Head Coach Jeff Lankas called a time out when he could not do anything against Goodland's press defense.

With 3:33 left to go in the first, Atwood grabbed the lead for the first Damien Kogl lead Atwood with 12 time at 10-8. They kept the lead at the quarter break at 13-12.

Into the second, Atwood's biggest lead was by 5 points, but Goodland stormed back with aggressive defense and hitting close easy shots.

Ryan Hillmer shot the boys back into the game when he hit a 3-pointer game play by play.

to tie the score at 17. The Cowboys responded immediately afterwards with a steal and pass to Brock Wilkens hit a breakaway lay up to give Goodland the lead.

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The Buffalos didn't give up and fought in between every buzzer. At the half Goodland started to pull away by a score of 35-29. Atwood had a great scoring percentage at the half at 64 percent, but offset that with 14 turnovers compared to Goodland's 3 turnovers.

The third quarter started much like the game did with a back and forth, up tempo type game. Atwood hit a 3 to start the third, but Goodland responded with 4 points to put the Buffalos hope of winning to bed. Goodland was very quick on the transition game, scoring 11 points in 3 minutes to make the score 55-44 at the end of three quarters.

The fourth quarter was when Goodland smelled victory and pulled completely away and went on a 14-0 scoring run to finish off the team from Atwood. The final score was 75-55 Goodland, Goodland led by 27 at a point in the game and finally gets over the .500 mark.

Robert Cowan had a night to remember with 26 points, Wilkens continues his hot streak with 19 points, Hillmer tossed in 12, Dillon Trachsel and Garth Helton both had 6, Hazen Deeds had 3, Taylen Smith had 2, and the injured Reed Bellamy was put in during mop up time to test the ankle and was able to score a free throw.

On the other side of the game, points, Keaton Argabright had 11, Blake Berling had 8, Collin Clark put in 6, Marcus Portschy did his part with 4, Joey Leitner had 3, and Kyler Zeigler and Gabe Skolout both had 2.



Cowboy Taylen Smith (above) shoots over the long arm of Atwood's Keaton Argabright on Tuesday in the Cowboys win at Max Jones. Cowboy Garth Helton (right) took a jump shot over an Atwood player. Listen to KKCI 102.5 FM for the The Cowboys are in action to night at Hugoton.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Beginner pheasant hunt, class planned

Next Friday will be the third an- split off into five different groups guns for the students to learn from nual Northwest Kansas Beginners pheasant hunt and hunter education classes to be held at the Kuhrt Ranch on Friday with hunt planned for Saturday.

"This event is open to everyone wanting to receive their Hunting Education Certification," said Mike Hopper wildlife conservation officer, "students must pre-register and put down a \$20 refundable instruction on how to shoot. deposit.

Students can call Hopper at 899 5199 or Brent Flanders at 899-5306 to pre-register. Participants must go onto the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks website, click on the education link at the top right of the page and take the online hunter education course. He said the online course takes about four and one-half hours to complete depending on comprehension. At the end of every chapter there is a test the person must complete and print off. Hopper said there are about 6 chapter tests they must print off and then bring with them to The Kuhrt Ranch by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, to complete the event. Friday evening students will pretest to show they were the ones who completed the online course, and then have another three and one-half hour class on safety. Those who pass will receive their hunter education certification. The students who receive their certification are invited to stay the night in the hunting lodge at Kuhrt Ranch and participate in the events on Saturday. Saturday will begin with breakfast at 5 a.m., then the students will

and throughout the day will attend and many volunteers and certified five different courses to further their instructors to insure safety and education about hunting.

"The first course is trail walk hunting scenarios with shoot or don't shoot situations. Second course includes D.A.R.E. and guns making hunters aware. Third class dermy class. Fourth class is firearm

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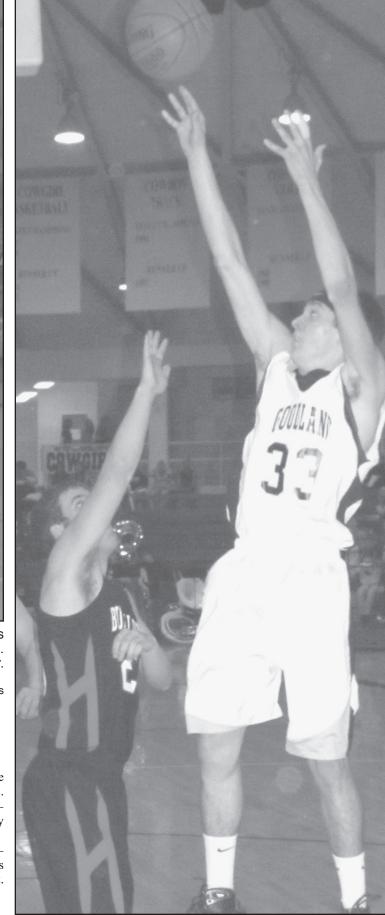
guide the students throughout the day," Hopper said.

Finally the fifth event of the day will be an actual pheasant hunt within a controlled shooting area.

"Each participant can receive will be a bird cleaning and taxi- their hunter education certification, a free night at The Kuhrt Ranch, three free meals, several souvenirs There will be a variety of shot- and chances in a raffle to win more

prizes including a Stoeger 20 Gauge Over and Under," Hopper said. "Without the many gracious sponsors and volunteers in the county this event would not take place."

He is thankful for the many people, organizations and business's who have contributed to this event.



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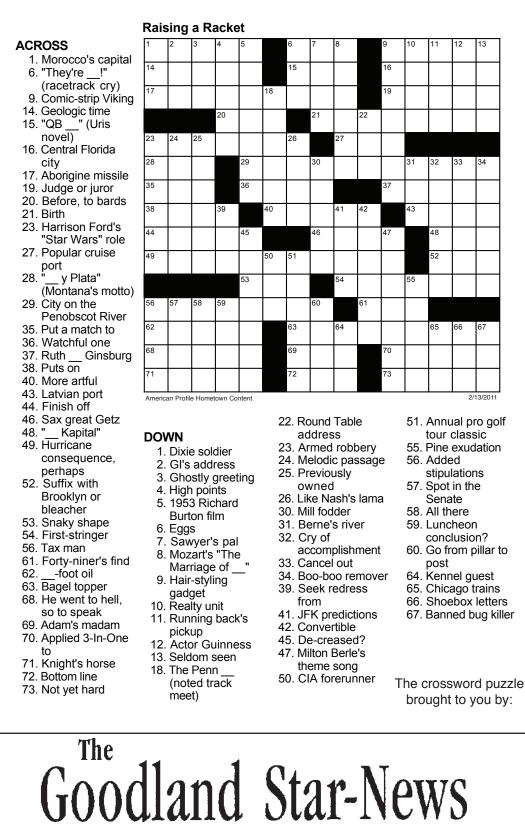
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