Cowgirls lose to Lady Indians, end season 11-10

sports

By Tom Betz

nt.betz@nwkansas.com It was a long bus ride to Larned on Monday, but the ride home seemed even longer as the Cowgirls season ended with a 57-48 loss to the Larned Lady Indians in the first round of Class 3A sub state.

The loss brings the Cowgirls record to 11-10, and will keep them from advancing to the semifinals at Larned. Thursday Larned was to play tops seeded Southwestern Heights-Kismet who defeated Lakin 51-32 on Monday.

Coach Andy Scheopner had hoped his Cowgirls would do well and felt they had a good chance based on the road wins the girls had this season.

Scheopner said before the game he felt the Cowgirls defense had been good most of the year, and felt the offense was coming together. He said the girls were pushing the ball a bit more and that had opened up some scoring opportunities.

The Cowgirls came in on a three game winning streak and the Indians had lost their last game on Friday. Scheopner said, however, Larned had been on a seven game winning streak before the loss to Hoisington on Friday.

Larned came in with nine seniors on the roster, and Scheopner said he expected it to be a tough game with all that experience.

Scheopner said after the game he felt the girls played a great game in the first half, but the Indians made an adjustment at halftime that seemed to open the middle up for their scoring and that was the major difference in the second half.

Scheopner started his five top players including senior Ashley Archer, junior M'Lynn Hinger, senior Jennifer Rome, senior Jade Herl and sophomore Paige Phillips.

Larned started sophomore Bailey Schartz, senior Kaileigh Dietrich, senior Brittney Perez, senior Amanda Haberman and senior Brittanie Miller.

The Cowgirls got an early 2-0 lead, but the two teams kept trading baskets and the lead changed eight times in the quarter with Goodland leading 14-13 at the buzzer.

In the second quarter the lead changed a couple of times before the Cowgirls went on a 12-point scoring run, but the Indians came back in the waning minutes with a 7-point run to close to within 4 points at halftime, 27-23.

the first four minutes, but finished the half with 12 turnovers. The Cowgirls had two players in foul trouble with Phillips and Rome each having 3 fouls. Archer was playing with 2 fouls for most of the second quarter. The Cowgirls shot



Cowgirl senior Ashley Archer (above) was the team's leading scorer and took a shot over a Lady Beaver in the final home game at Max Jones. Cowgirl junior M'Lynn Hinger (right) tried to block an inbounds pass. Photos by Pata Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

10 of 23 shots. The Indians shot 29 percent in the first half. Goodland time off the clock. led in rebounds 15 to 12.

kets in the first half with one each for Archer, Rome and Herl.

In the third quarter the Cowgirls managed to stay in the lead until the mid-point when the Indians tied the score at 31-31. At that point the 4 points by Archer were all the Cowgirls had in the third quarter. Herl and the Cowgirls got the rebound hit a 3-point basket and Hinger hit a basket to give the Cowgirls a 36-31 lead with about two minutes left. The Indians went on a 9 point run to lead The Cowgirls had eight turnovers 40-36 with 8 seconds left. Archer hit to put it out to 51-44. in the first quarter, and did better in a basket and was fouled to cut the

43 percent in the first half hitting left to make it 49-42, and started slowing the game down and taking

The Cowgirls took a time out at Three Cowgirls had 3-point bas- 3:02 to talk about what was happening. On the next time the Cowgirls got the ball Herl's 3-points shot rolled out and Larned got the rebound. Herl was called for a holding foul that put the Indians in the bonus.

Perez missed the first free throw and Hinger got a basket on the other end of the floor to make it 49-44. With two minutes left the Indians got an offensive rebound and scored

Miller got a steal for the Indians the second quarter with only one in Indian lead to 40-39 at the end of the and Herl had to foul to get the ball third quarter. The Indians outscored back. Miller made both free throws to make it 53-44. Phillips hit for Goodland with had a 7-point run to extend the lead 1:38 left to make it 53-46. Again the to 47-36 before Rome hit a 3-point Indians were spreading things out to shot to cut off the run at 47-42. The force the Cowgirlst foul and Archer Indians hit a basket with 4 minutes got her fourth with 1:10 left. Larned



got the rebound. The Cowgirls shot missed and Larned got the rebound and Hinger picked up her fifth foul with 59 seconds left.

Haberman made the first free throw. Larned got the rebound on the second shot and Herl was called for her fifth foul with 57 seconds left. This time the Indians made both free throws to make ti 56-46.

Brianna White hit a basket on a pass from Archer to make it 56-48. After another Cowgirls time out White was called for a foul putting Miller at the free throw line where she made one of two to lead 57-48. Archer got the rebound and was fouled, but it was the sixth foul on the Indians so there were no free throws. Goodland got the ball and Rome tried a 3-point shot, but it of the seniors, but feels the young percent from the floor for the season

missed the free throw and Hinger rebound. The Indians held the ball of growth this year. as the clock ran out to give them the 57-48 win.

> Archer led the scoring with 21 points and had 11 rebounds. Herl had 8, Rome 6, Hinger, Phillips and Brianna White each had 4 and Berkley White had 1. Hinger had 7 rebounds.

The Cowgirls shot 39.1 percent for the game (18-46) and made 70 percent of the free throws (7-10). The Cowgirls had 20 turnovers and 24 rebounds. The Indians shot 38.2 percent (21-55) and hit 53.8 percent of their free throws (14-26). The Indians had 29 rebounds and 14 turnovers.

Coach Scheopner said he felt it was a great season for the girls and was pleased they had shown improvement over the previous year. He said he will miss the efforts rolled off and the Indians got the team members showed quite a bit and 63.1 percent for free throws.

He said he knows the younger girls will be the ones who have to become the starters next year. He thinks some of the upcoming freshmen will be able to contribute next year as well.

For the season Archer led the team with an average of 16.2 points per game and 8.2 rebounds coming close to a double-double for the season. Herl averaged 12.1 points and 3.9 rebounds. Rome averaged 5.6 and 3 rebounds, Hinger 3.8 and 6.1 rebounds, Phillips 2.6 and 2 rebounds, Hope Cochran 1 point and .62 rebounds, Berkley White .57 point and .76 rebounds and Brianna White 1.29 points and .95 rebounds.

As a team the Cowgirls shot 31.2

Crossword Puzzle

the Cowgirls 17-12 in the quarter.

In the fourth quarter the Indians

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