

# Cowboys win sub state game, face Beavers tonight

By Jeremy Mills  
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The Goodland Cowboys won their first playoff game in three years on Tuesday night when they took down the Thomas More Prep Monarchs, 58-47 at Max Jones Fieldhouse in front of a raucous home crowd.

Goodland is now 11-10 guaranteeing at least a .500 record on the year. The Cowboys face the top-seeded Scott City Beavers at 5 p.m. tonight in Larned.

The Cowboys have lost to Scott City twice this year, but played better in the second game staying close for more than half the game. One observer said it will be tough, but it is on a neutral court and the Cowboys have a chance if they stay close into the final quarter as they did against the Monarchs on Tuesday.

Cowboys Coach Donald Raymer was proud of the support shown by the community of Goodland.

"It really helped with the crowd tonight. Our crowd got us into it in the fourth quarter and really helped us finish out the game. I want to say thank you to them." Raymer said following the game.

In the first quarter, Thomas More Prep took the early lead, but Cowboy senior Brock Wilkens responded with a punch of his own with a 3-point play. Wilkens wouldn't stop with that play; he would score 4 more points including a buzzer beating lay up. The Monarchs wouldn't let Goodland out do them as they went on a 10-3 run in the first to make the score 17-12 after the first.

In the second, Ryan Hillmer came out and buried a 3-pointer and would go on to score 8 of the first 10 points of the quarter. Both teams were on their A-game and moved the ball

very well. The Monarchs wouldn't say die and would again go on a 10-4 run to end the half leading 29-24.

Goodland came out of the half-time break with a purpose. The Cowboys were hot, but so were the Monarchs. The entire third quarter was back and forth as the entire game was. Goodland was seemingly close all game, but just a bit behind. The third quarter score would show, 42-39 with the Monarchs leading.

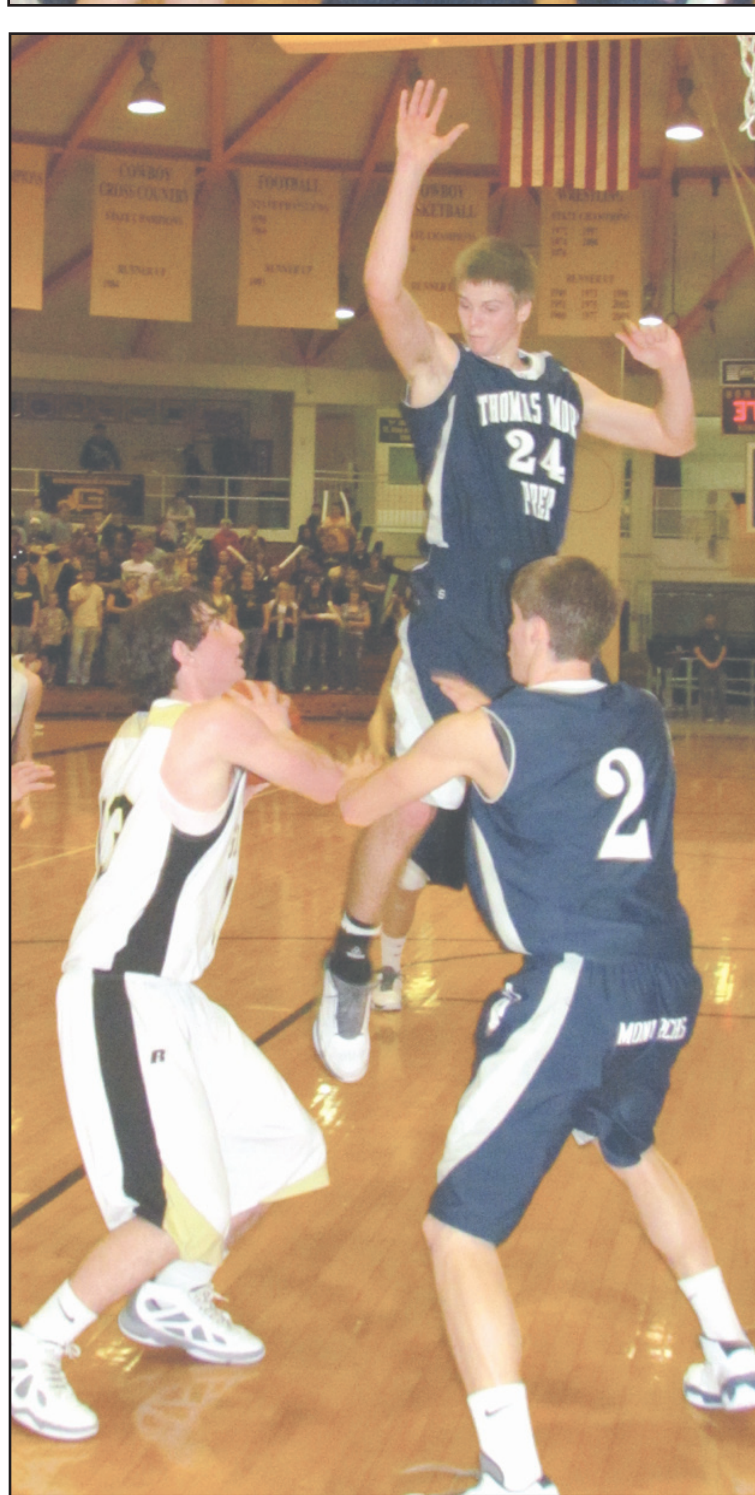
The fourth quarter could have been just another year in the stats book of Goodland losing another sub-state game, but this is a different team and they showed it in the final quarter.

Goodland scored 9 straight points to take the lead and the Cowboys smelled victory and would never relinquish the lead. Goodland's late free throws that finally showed up in this game extended the lead and allowed Goodland to clear the benches in the final seconds. The Cowboys outscored the Monarchs 19-5 in the final quarter to win 58-47.

Stats wise Robert Cowan led all scores with 15 points, followed by Hillmer with 13, Wilkens finished with 11, Dillon Trachsel had 8, Reed Bellamy who made his full return and Blaine Luther had 4 each and Garth Helton put in 3.

For the Monarchs, Caleb Pinney had 13, Taylor Pfeifer had 10, Jacob Fouts had 8, Krayton Werth did his part with 6, Nick Hammecke and James Mindrup each had 4 and Nathan Zimmerman had 2.

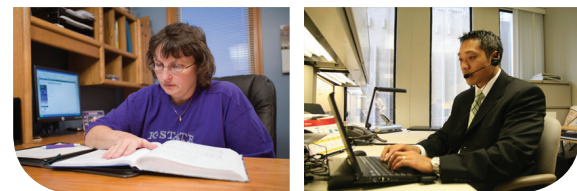
If you can't make it to the game at Larned tune in to KKCI 102.5 FM for the coverage. People can listen to KKCI on the Internet by going to nwksradio.com.



Cowboy Garth Helton (above) tried to shoot between two Monarch players in the second half of the game on Tuesday at Max Jones. The Cowboys won 58-47 and Cowboy Brock Wilkens (top left) had 11 points including this basket in the first half. Cowboy Blaine Luther (bottom left) got squeezed as he went for a lay up against the Monarchs in the first half. Cowboy Ryan Hillmer (left) got the Monarch players to jump before he took his shot in the second half of the game on Tuesday. The Cowboys are in action at 5 p.m. tonight at Larned where they will face the Scott City Beavers in the semifinal round.

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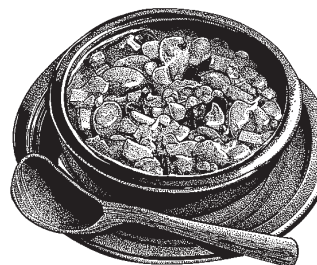
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