

Ottawa, McCook win 2012 Topside Tipoff

The Ottawa boys and McCook girls teams went home with the trophies from this year's Topside Tipoff basketball tournament, held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

To kick things off on the girls side, Norton defeated Wray 42-32 in Thursday's early game. Then McCook beat Burlington 65-30. Goodland fell to Wallace County 57-54 and Ottawa beat Oakley 57-44 to end the evening.

In the semi-finals, Ottawa handled Norton 72-28 to advance to the championship game. McCook advanced after beating Wallace County 64-29. In Friday's consolation bracket, Oakley defeated Wray 59-47 to advance to the fifth place match. Burlington advanced with a last-second 40-39 win over Goodland.

On Saturday, Wray beat Goodland 47-36 in the seventh-place game; Oakley won 41-32 over Burlington in the fifth-place game; Norton beat Wallace County 35-24 for third place; and McCook beat Ottawa 59-52 to

claim the championship.

On the boys side, McCook won 58-41 over Wallace County in round one. Oakley defeated Norton 58-49. Ottawa destroyed Wray 102-29 and Goodland beat Burlington 46-37.

In the semi-finals, Ottawa won handily over Oakley 89-29 and McCook won 58-44 over Goodland. In the consolation bracket, Wray beat Norton 42-38 and Wallace County beat 68-41.

On Saturday, Norton beat Burlington 54-

38 to take seventh place; Wallace County won 81-37 over Wray to take fifth; Oakley beat Goodland 52-44 to take third; and Ottawa won 62-54 over McCook to take the championship.

Ottawa's Semi Ojeleye—who has signed to play for Duke University next year—broke several records. He broke his own record for most individual points in a tournament with 142 and individual points in a game with 58. He broke the record for most individual three pointers in a game, set by

Goodland's Lance Tedford in 2002, and for most three pointers in a tournament.

Oakley was the free throw champion on the girls side while Ottawa was the champion on the boys.

Goodland's Gage Ihrig and Maddie Mayer were named to the All-Tournament teams. Ihrig and Megan Siruta each made it to the finals in the Long Distance Shoot-out. Ihrig lost to Cayden Daily of Wallace County 8-5. Siruta lost to Laura Dennis of Oakley 13-4.

Cowgirls

By Pat Schiefen

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The Goodland High School girls team ended up eighth at the Topside Tipoff. The Cowgirls lost their first game against the Wallace County Lady Wildcats, came within eight tenths of a second of going to overtime with Burlington and fell in the seventh-place game to Wray.

Goodland vs. Wallace County Thursday

In the Cowgirls' fast-paced first-round matchup, Wallace County's Tatum Elder made the first bucket. Goodland's Kate-Lynn King answered with a bucket of her own.

Wallace County put in the next seven points to make it 9-2. Brianna White hit a three-pointer. A Lady Wildcat hit a bucket, was fouled by King and made one of two free throws. Megan Siruta hit her first bucket of the day.

The shots began falling better for the Cowgirls. In the last four minutes they closed the gap, ending the first quarter down 19-14.

Wallace County put in another 12 points in the second quarter to Goodland's eight.

Trailing 31-22, Paige Phillips had the first bucket for the Cowgirls in the third quarter. The Cowgirls were only able to add seven points to the score in the quarter. The Lady Wildcats made bucket after bucket. The score was 46-29.

The Cowgirls' King started off the fourth quarter with a bucket. Phillips hit two free throws. Siruta and Phillips hit three pointers. Maddie Mayer made two buckets. Hope Cochran made a bucket. Phillips hit a three pointer. Mayer hit two free throws to give Goodland the lead in the game, 53-52. Elder hit a three pointer. When Wallace County fouled Phillips hit one of two free throws. Wallace County retook the lead, 55-54. Wallace County added two more free throws to win 57-54.

Goodland vs. Burlington Friday

The second game for the Cowgirls against the Burlington Lady Cougars was their most exciting of the tournament. They led at the end of the first quarter, 10-8. The Cowgirls continued to lead at the half, 17-16. The Cougars were able to pull ahead in the third quarter, 32-24.

When Mayer hit a bucket with less than three minutes left in the fourth quarter the Cowgirls regained the lead, 37-36. Then Burlington stole the ball from Goodland and made a



Junior Brianna White took the ball down the court during the Cowgirls' game against Burlington on Friday.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

bucket to get them the lead, 38-37 with 1:26 left in the quarter. In the last minute Mayer was fouled and she made both free throws to give Goodland the lead, 39-38. When Siruta fouled Burlington made a free throw to tie the score. Burlington took a time out with 8.8 seconds left in the game. When White fouled Burlington made the first of two free throws to win, 40-39.

King made the first bucket of the game in the first minute of the first quarter. Burlington answered with a bucket, stole the ball from the Cowgirls and made another bucket to lead, 4-2. Phillips hit a bucket to tie the score, 4-4. With 4:18 left in the quarter King made a bucket from White to give the Cowgirls the lead. Burlington again tied the game. White hit a bucket to regain the lead. On a rebound by King she took the ball down the court and made a bucket. Goodland lead, 10-6. Burlington scored. The Cowgirls lead 10-8.

Mayer made the first score of the second quarter. Siruta hit a bucket and White made a three pointer to give the Cowgirls a six point lead, 17-11. Burlington hit a three pointer. The Lady Cougars hit a bucket just before the end of the quarter. The Cowgirls kept the lead, 17-16.

With 6:59 left in the third quarter Burlington hit a three point shot. On a Cowgirl foul Burlington added two from free throws. With about 5 minutes left Burlington missed their shot, got the rebound and a free

throw to make the score 24-17 Burlington. When Burlington fouled Cochran hit one of two free throws. Mayer hit a bucket but was fouled during the shot and hit a free throw. The score was Burlington, 26-21. Burlington hit a bucket and a free throw. Cochran added a free throw. Mayer took a shot, was fouled and hit a free throw. The quarter ended with Burlington leading, 32-24.

Goodland vs. Wray Saturday

The Cowgirls lost their final bid for a victory at the Topside Tipoff on Saturday against the Wray Lady Eagles. The Lady Eagles started off the game scoring and had seven points before King scored the first bucket after two minutes into the first quarter. Another basket by King was the only other score the Cowgirls made in the quarter. Wray led at the end of the first quarter, 13-4.

The Cowgirls added just six points in the second quarter. They trailed 29-10 at the half.

Phillips led off the third quarter with a bucket. White added a bucket with four minutes left in the half. With three minutes left Faith Biermann hit a three-pointer. Mayer hit two of four at the free throw line. Milan Brannick made the last bucket for the Cowgirls in the quarter. Wray led, 35-21.

In the fourth quarter the Lady Eagles led by as much as 15 points but the Cowgirls kept fighting and closed to within 10. The final score was 47-36.

Cowboys

By Kevin Bottrell

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The Goodland High School varsity basketball team took fourth place at the Topside Tipoff, winning in the first round over Burlington, but falling to McCook and Oakley on Friday and Saturday.

Goodland vs. Burlington Thursday

The boys picked up their first win of the season over their neighbors to the west, the Burlington Cougars, in the first round tournament Thursday.

Burlington got the tipoff, but it was several minutes before they got the first points on the board with a free throw. Taylen Smith and Gannon Ihrig each sank jumpers to take a 4-1 lead. Smith was fouled and put in one free throw to make it 5-1.

Neither team scored again until there was 1:17 left in the quarter when Xavier Brinson-Foust put in a free throw. Burlington made a putback, but Gage Ihrig answered with a three-pointer to end the quarter up 9-3.

The Cougars put in seven points in the second quarter to Goodland's six, making it 15-10 at the half.

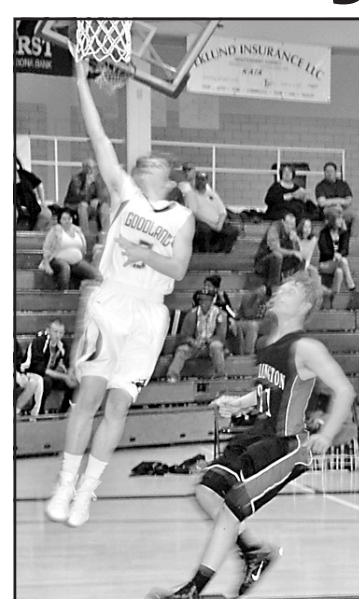
The shots fell better in the third quarter, with both teams topping their first half totals. In the opening minutes, Gage Ihrig sank two three pointers to make it 21-10. A Burlington player was fouled by Gunner Helton while making a layup, but the extra point was no good. The Cougars made another layup to make it 21-14.

Smith was fouled and made one of two free throw attempts. The Cougars made another layup, but the Ihrigs put in eight unanswered points in the next several minutes.

The Cougars went on a run of their own, scoring nine points and making it a five-point game again at the end of the third quarter. They made another two pointer to open the fourth quarter. Smith answered with two points to make it 32-27.

The Cougars added six points to Goodland's four to make it 36-33 with three minutes to play.

After a timeout, Smith hit a two-point shot, then with 1:30 to play Gannon Ihrig made a pair of free throws to make it 40-33. Burlington put in two points to make it 40-35. In the last minute, Gannon Ihrig put in two free throws and Gage Ihrig put in four. The Cougars scored the final two points on a layup, ending the game with a 46-37 victory for the Cowboys.



Junior Gannon Ihrig went for a layup during Thursday's game against Burlington.

Photo by Pat Schiefen The Goodland Star-News

Goodland vs. McCook Friday

The Cowboys initially kept up with McCook in the semi-final game, but fell behind in the second half.

Gannon Ihrig made the first score with a jump shot. However, the Bison outscored the Cowboys in the first quarter 18-12.

Gage hit a three pointer to open the second quarter. He and Gannon put in five more points in the next four minutes to McCook's two, tying the game briefly at 20-20. McCook went ahead again with a three pointer. Smith put in two and McCook got another two to make it 25-22. With less than two minutes left in the half, Gannon Ihrig went inside for two and was fouled. He made the extra point to tie the game 25-25. McCook pulled ahead again with four points to close the half at 29-25.

McCook pulled ahead further in the first minutes of the second half with two baskets. Smith scored and was later fouled. He made one free throw to make it 33-28. Smith then got a putback and another basket to close to within one point, but McCook pulled away again.

Down 35-32, Smith made another free throw, then McCook went on a seven-point run to end the quarter at 42-33.

McCook got another two points to open the fourth quarter. One minute in, Smith hit a jumper to make it 44-35. McCook went on an eight-point run until Gannon Ihrig put in a two pointer to make it 52-37.

McCook put in three points, then Adam Simmerman hit a three pointer to make it 55-40. McCook got two points off a steal, then Helton was fouled with 1:30 to play. He made one free throw. Gage Ihrig knocked down a three pointer to make it 57-44. McCook made one more free throw in the final seconds to end the game at 58-44.

Goodland vs. Oakley Saturday

Now vying for third place, the Cowboys couldn't get many shots to fall in the final-round game against Oakley.

Oakley put in the first two points. Goodland took the lead briefly on a three pointer from Ruben Lazaro, but the Plainsmen put in the next six points to go up 8-3. Smith made a basket on a pass from Gannon Ihrig, but Oakley sank another basket to end the quarter at 10-5.

Gannon got a steal and took it all the way down the court for a layup to open the second quarter. Oakley added another 11 points while the Cowboys put in seven to end the half at 21-12.

Smith put in two points to open the second half. Oakley answered with four points to make it 25-16. Gage Ihrig sank a two pointer, but Oakley put in the next six points to go up 31-16.

With less than two minutes left in the third quarter, Gage Ihrig made a two pointer. Oakley put in four more points to close out the quarter at 35-18.

Oakley made a free throw to open the fourth quarter. Over the next three minutes, Goodland put in 12 points to Oakley's two, closing to 38-30. Helton fouled out and Oakley made a free throw to make it 39-30. Lazaro put in a two pointer off a pass from Kolt Trachsel to make it 39-32.

Oakley added five points off free throws over the next two minutes. Then with 2:02 left to play Gage Ihrig hit a three pointer to make it 46-35. Gannon Ihrig added two, but Oakley kept up with two free throws.

Gage Ihrig was fouled while shooting and made a free throw. Oakley added another free throw to make it 49-38. Gage then hit a three pointer to make it 49-41.

With less than a minute to play, Gannon Ihrig and Garrett Taylor fouled out. Gage Ihrig hit another three pointer then fouled out. Oakley added three free throws to make it 52-44. Smith attempted a last-second shot, but it was no good.

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School calendar for December 12-18

Goodland High School • Grant Junior High School
West Elementary School • Central Elementary School

Culligan
904 Main Street Goodland, KS (785) 899-2352

Wednesday: Black day
Senior Citizens dinner, High School Gym
7:30 a.m.: PLC
4 p.m.: Central Site Council
Thursday: 3 p.m.: Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament, here
7th A First Round GWAC Tournament, site/time TBD
8th A First Round GWAC Tournament, site/time TBD
Friday: 3:45 p.m.: Junior Varsity/C team Basketball at Holcomb
5:30 p.m.: Varsity Basketball at Holcomb
Varsity/Junior Varsity Wrestling, here, versus Baca County, CO

Saturday: 9 a.m.: Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament, here
7th and 8th A Finals GWAC Tournament in Holcomb
Monday: No scheduled events
Tuesday: Black day
7 p.m.: Junior High/High School Band Concert in HS Auditorium

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