

# Norton girls defeat Trego in basketball league play

By DICK BOYD

In their final game before the annual Mid-Continent League Tournament, Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team defeated Trego Community 57-25 in a league game played here Friday night.

The win extended Norton's unbeaten record to 8-0.

Norton got off to a good start by taking a 15-4 lead after one quarter but outscored Trego by just 7-6 in the second period to take a 22-10 halftime advantage. A 13-8 third quarter in Norton's favor extended their lead to 35-18.

The Lady Jays ended on a strong note by outscoring the Lady Golden Eagles 22-7 in the fourth quarter to win by 32 points.

In the opening quarter, senior guard Karlie Jones was on target from long range as she buried two three-point shots and added a free throw. Senior guards Klaire Mann and Amber Overlease scored Norton's other two baskets in the period. Norton centers Chelsea Cox and Becca Ebert each hit 2 of 2 free throws.

Freshman Olivia Fabrizio hit Trego's only basket in the first quarter and it was a three-pointer. Their other point came on a free throw by junior Cindy Riedel.

Freshman guard Laura Lee Baird buried a three-point basket and Ebert and Jones each hit two-point baskets for the Lady Jays' only second quarter scoring.

Two more freshmen scored for Trego in the second period. Elizabeth Schoenberger hit a basket and two charities and Lauren Billinger hit a single basket.

Ebert poured in three baskets in the third quarter. Jones added a basket and free throw and Baird and Cox each hit a basket.

The Lady Golden Eagles' eight points in the third stanza came on two more baskets by Billinger, a basket by sophomore Michele Ummel and two free throws by Riedel.

Norton's 22 point fourth quarter was highlighted by Baird's three two-point baskets and one from

beyond the arc and Jones' three two-point baskets. Ebert added two baskets and a free throw and Cox hit another basket.

"We were pretty lethargic in the first half," said Jilka.

"Our inside people couldn't score and our perimeter people were standing around.

"We were more aggressive in the second half. We started penetrating their zone and our inside people started scoring.

"Hopefully, this will be a wakeup call for us."

Trego has no seniors on their squad and only four juniors.

"They're young. They'll take their lumps and learn from it," said Jilka.

"We've been through those growing pains and know what they're like."

Leading scorer for Norton was Jones with 18 points. She hit 2 of 5 treys for 40 percent, 5 of 11 two-point shots for 45 percent and 7 of 16 overall for 44 percent. She was 2 for 4 from the free throw line for 50 percent accuracy.

Ebert was second high scorer for the Lady Jays with 15 points on 6 of 9 from the field for a sizzling 69 percent and a perfect 3 of 3 charities.

Baird was third high with 14 points. She hit 2 of 5 from long range for 40 percent, 4 of 4 from two-point land for 100 percent and was 6 of 9 overall for a net smoking 67 percent accuracy.

Trego freshman Billinger was leading scorer for the Golden Eagles with 8 points. Freshman Schoenberger followed with 7 points.

As a team, Norton hit 4 of 13 trey tries for 31 percent, 19 of 44 two-point shots for 43 percent and 23 of 57 overall for 40 percent.

Trego swished 1 of 5 from long range for 20 percent, 8 of 20 two-point tries for 40 percent and 9 of 25 overall for 36 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton converted 7 of 9 for an outstanding 78 percent. Trego connected on 6 of 9 charities for 67 percent.

The Lady Jays really crashed the boards, pulling down twice as



Karlle Jones, 5-4 senior guard, scores on a layup after stealing the ball from a Trego player during the Lady Jays' Mid-Continent League win here Friday night. Jones stole the ball five times in the game and several of them led to Norton baskets. She also had five rebounds and scored 18 points in the game.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

many rebounds as the visitors. Norton grabbed 14 offensive and 14 defensive caroms compared to 2 offensive and 12 defensive boards by Trego.

Eight different Norton girls pulled down at least one rebound.

The leader was Ebert with 7, followed by Jones, Chantille

Campbell, 5 each; Cox, Mann, 3 each; Whitney Newell, 2; Baird, Overlease, Megan Kats, 1 each.

Nine different Lady Jays stole the ball at least once from the Lady Golden Eagles. Norton had 21 total thefts compared to just 2 by Trego. Jones was the steals leader with 5, followed by Newell, Cox,

4 each; Overlease, Campbell, 2 each; Baird, Ebert, Amber Waggoner, Kats, 1 each.

Norton had just 11 turnovers while causing Trego to give up the ball a whopping 27 times.

The Lady Jays had 14 offensive assists compared to 7 by the Lady Golden Eagles. Seven different

third quarter on two baskets by Georgeson and two baskets from 6-3 junior center Nic Lewis, his first points of the game. Logan Kats, 5-8 sophomore guard, drained a three-point basket and Vincent hit two more free throws.

Trego's 9 points came on a three-point basket and two two-point baskets by Locke and field goal by Ummel.

Norton was held to just 9 points again in the fourth quarter while Trego scored 24. The Blue Jays hit just two baskets in the quarter. Lewis hit a basket and Kats hit a basket and free throw. Norton's other four points came on 4 of 4 from the free throw line by Vincent.

Locke swished two more baskets in the final stanza to end with a game-high 24 points. Ummel hit two more baskets and two charities to finish with 10 points.

Leading scorer for Norton was Vincent with 14 points on 3 of 3 field goals and 8 of 8 free throws for a perfect shooting night.

"I was proud of our effort," said Reusink. "We battled to the end.

"We didn't get a lot of breaks in the game but we fought through it. The first half, players other than Locke and Ummel were scoring for them, then Locke and Ummel made the plays in the second half. But, we made them earn their points.

"We just need to learn basketball sense. We need to get better at communicating on the court and knowing what to do in game situations. We need to know when to help in a given situation and when not to help.

"We just have to learn from this and get better."

As a team, Norton hit 13 of 34 shots from the field for 38 percent compared to Trego's 20 of 45 for 44 percent.

Norton was outrebounded 22-15. The Blue Jays pulled down 5 offensive and 10 defensive caroms. The Golden Eagles grabbed 9 offensive and 13 defensive boards.

Vincent was leading rebounder

Norton players had at least one assist. Newell was the leader with 5, followed by Kats, 3; Jones, 2; Cox, Baird, Ebert, Campbell, 1 each.

## Junior Varsity

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls scored almost as many points as the Norton varsity in defeating Trego 52-28.

Norton held quarter leads of 11-4, 21-8 and 33-21.

Leading scorer for Norton was Hayli Bozarth with 17 points on 8 of 11 from the field for 73 percent and 1 of 1 from the free throw line. She was followed by Chantille Campbell, Maggie Nielsen, 7 each; Megan Kats, 6; KaraJo Jones, 4; Haley Jones, 3; Taylor Rossi, Kylie Morel, Courtney Cox, Wiyanna Paxton, 2 each.

Freshman Lauren Billinger, who also led the varsity team, was leading scorer for Trego's junior varsity with 6 points.

"This was our best game so far this season," said Rossi.

"Our girls gave 32 minutes of pure hustle. We did a great job inside and out.

"Our point guards combined for 12 assists and our posts got good shots.

"Our defense was outstanding, creating many steals.

"Now, our girls know how hard they can play. They are excited about getting better each day."

## GAME STATISTICS

	FGs		FTs		TP
	2s	3s	M	A	
Norton girls 57	2	0	2-2	6	
Chelsea Cox	4	2	0-0	14	
Laura Lee Baird	1	0	0-0	2	
Klaire Mann	1	0	0-0	2	
Amber Overlease	6	0	3-3	15	
Becca Ebert	5	2	2-4	18	
Karlle Jones	19	4	7-9	57	
TOTAL					
Trego girls 25					

	FGs		FTs		TP
	2s	3s	M	A	
Cindy Riedel	0	0	3-4	3	
Elizabeth Schoenberger	2	0	3-5	7	
Olivia Fabrizio	0	1	0-0	3	
Julia Albin	1	0	0-0	2	
Michele Ummel	1	0	0-0	2	
Lauren Billinger	4	0	0-0	8	
TOTAL	8	1	6-9	25	

# Blue Jay boys basketball team loses on Friday to Trego

By DICK BOYD

Playing with just two returning lettermen, Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team had been doing pretty well until they ran into a senior oriented Trego Community High School quintet here on Friday night in Mid-Continent League play and suffered a 66-40 loss, just their third of the season.

Norton, who had not lost since the season-opening Topside Tipoff Tournament in Goodland in early December, is now 5-3 for the season.

Three point baskets and free throws made the difference in the game. Trego bombed in a net-smoking 7 of 10 shots from beyond the arc for 70 percent accuracy and connected on 19 of 26 free throws for 73 percent.

In comparison, Norton hit 2 of 15 long range shots for 13 percent and 12 of 20 free throws for 60 percent. Trego committed 22 fouls compared to 21 for Norton so the Blue Jays had the opportunity to hit as many charities as the visitors.

Norton outshot Trego from two-point range. The Blue Jays hit 11 of 19 two-pointers for an outstanding 58 percent accuracy while the Golden Eagles connected on just 13 of 35 for 37 percent.

Trego jumped out to a 16-9 first quarter lead and was ahead 33-18 at halftime but the Blue Jays didn't give up. Norton came battling back to outscore the Golden Eagles 13-9 in the third quarter to cut the Trego lead down to 11 points at 42-31 with one quarter remaining.

Trego took charge in the final stanza, however, hitting the first nine points to stretch their advantage to 20 points. The rest of the way, Norton fouled in an attempt to get the ball but the Golden Eagles hit their free throws and extended their final lead to 26 points. Trego swished 11 of 12 charities in the fourth quarter.

Freshman Spencer Hemmert, who did not score in the first three quarters, hit 8 of 8 free throws, a three-point and two-point basket for 13

points in the final quarter.

Norton hit just three baskets in each of the first two quarters. Heath Vincent, 6-foot-6-inch senior center, hit two baskets and two free throws, 6' senior guard Nathan Morse hit a basket and 6-3 sophomore forward Wes Georgeson hit a free throw in the first stanza. Vincent and Morse are Norton's two returning lettermen.

Nick Geist, a 6-2 junior for Trego, hit a three-point and two-point basket and free throw in the

first quarter and did not hit another field goal in the contest. Kevyn Goodman, a 6' senior, hit two baskets and did not score again. Tyler Ummel, a 6-3 senior, hit a basket and Nathan Locke, 6-5 senior, hit 4 of 4 charities.

The second quarter was a repeat of the first for Norton with the Blue Jays hitting just 9 points. Jared Engelbert, a 5-11 junior guard, buried a three-point shot. Vincent and Georgeson each hit baskets and Jared Cox, a 6' sophomore

guard, hit two free throws.

Meanwhile, Trego put in 17 points. Locke warmed up from the field as he hit two treys, a two-point basket and a free throw for 9 points. Matt Pfannenstiel, a 6' senior, and Nolan Smith, a 5-11 sophomore, each hit shots from beyond the arc for their only field goals of the game. Geist hit two free throws and was silent in the scoring department the rest of the night.

Norton scored 13 points in the



Wes Georgeson, 6-3 sophomore forward for Norton, gets inside of Trego defenders to score during Friday night's Mid-Continent League contest here. Georgeson scored seven points and pulled down five rebounds in the game. — Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

for Norton with 6, followed by Georgeson, 5; Engelbert, 2; Kats, Lewis, 1 each.

The Blue Jays had just 3 steals in the game. Kats had 2 thefts and Lewis had 1.

Norton had 8 offensive assists. Morse and Kats had 2 each, followed by Engelbert, Brian Juenemann, Cox, Georgeson, 1 each.

The Blue Jays had 12 turnovers compared to 8 for the Golden Eagles.

## Junior Varsity

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys team lost 37-26 to Trego.

Norton trailed by quarters: 13-7, 19-12 and 29-20.

Leading scorers for Norton were Zac Dreher and Logan Keiswetter with 6 points each, followed by Blake Wolf, Jared Cox, 4 each; Preston Herman, 3; Logan Runnion, 2; Matt Stanley, 1.

Nolan Smith led Trego in scoring with 8 points; Spencer Hemmert added 7.

## Next action

The No. 4 seeded Norton boys will play No. 5 seed Hill City at 7 p.m. tonight in the NCHS Memorial Gym in the first round of the annual Mid-Continent League Tournament.

	FGs		FTs		TP
	2s	3s	M	A	
Nathan Morse	1	0	0-0	2	
Logan Kats	1	1	1-2	6	
Jared Engelbert	0	1	0-0	3	
Brian Juenemann	0	0	0-1	0	
Jared Cox	0	0	2-2	2	
Wes Georgeson	3	0	1-4	7	
Nic Lewis	3	0	0-3	6	
Heath Vincent	3	0	8-8	14	
TOTAL	11	2	12-20	40	
Trego boys 66					

	FGs		FTs		TP
	2s	3s	M	A	
Nathan Locke	5	3	5-6	24	
Matt Pfannenstiel	0	1	0-0	3	
Tyler Ummel	4	0	2-2	10	
Kevyn Goodman	2	0	0-0	4	
Spencer Hemmert	1	1	8-8	13	
Nolan Smith	0	1	1-4	4	
Nick Geist	1	1	3-6	8	
TOTAL	13	7	19-26	66	