Blue Jays outscored at Sub-State game

By DICK BOYD nortontelegram@nwkansas.

com Coach Doug Reusink's No.4 seeded Norton Community High School boys basketball team outrebounded, had fewer turnovers, had more steals and more assists than No.5 seeded Ellsworth on Tuesday evening in the NCHS Stull Gym in the first round of the Class 3A Sub-State Tournament but could not outscore the visitors and their season ended with a 70-57 score.

The Blue Jays got off to a great start in the game and were leading 14-6 after one quarter. Ellsworth outscored them 21-13 in the second period but the score was still tied at 27-all at intermission.

The Bearcats came out after halftime and started shooting lights out. When the third quarter ended, Ellsworth had scored 28 more points compared to 14 for Norton and had taken a commanding 55-41 lead.

Although Norton battled them on even terms in the fourth quarter, the Blue Jays were unable to make up the third quarter deficit

"We had them down early and didn't get aggressive enough to hold onto the lead," said coach Reusink. "We just didn't have that killer instinct when we had them in a bad spot; then they made a run on us in the second quarter.

"They got comfortable and came out in the second half and played well and we didn't defend well enough. You can't ever take time off when you're on defense.

"They were hitting shots and we got behind and panicked on both ends of the court. We got some stops but couldn't convert and when they sent us to the line we didn't hit enough free throws."

Norton's 14 first quarter points came on a three-point basket and two two-point field goals

by sophomore forward Jacob Brooks, a basket and free throw by junior guard Tye Nickell and basket each by junior forward Jordan Wahlmeier and senior guard Terrell Lane.

Nickell tallied 6 of the Blue Jays' 13 second quarter points on two baskets and two charities. Lane buried a three-point shot and Brooks and Wahlmeier each hit another basket.

Wahlmeier led the way in the third quarter with three baskets as Norton hit 14 more points. Brooks hit a basket and two free throws, Lane hit another two-point basket and Nickell hit two free tosses.

Norton's best quarter was the fourth where the Blue Jays scored 16 points, one more than the visitors from Ellsworth but not nearly enough to catch up for a win. Lane hit two baskets from beyond the arc, Wahlmeier hit three baskets and two charities, and junior guard Dillon McConney and Brooks each swished a free throw in the final stanza.

Norton finished with four players in double scoring figures. Wahlmeier led the way with 18 points on 8 of 12 field goals for 67 percent and 2 of 6 free throws for 33 percent.

Brooks ended with 14 points on 1 of 4 from long range for 25 percent, 4 of 10 two-point tries for 40 percent and 5 of 14 for 36 percent overall. He hit 3 of 4 free throws for 75 percent.

Lane scored 13 points on 3 of 10 from three-point range for 30 percent, 2 of 6 two-point tries for 33 percent and 5 of 16 for 31 percent overall.

Nickell tallied 11 points on 3 of 8 two-point tries for 38 percent and 5 of 8 free throws for 63 percent.

Leading scorer for the Bearcats was Clint Glaser with 27 points. He hit 9 of 11 free throws in the fourth quarter to help maintain the Bearcat lead when Norton was

trying to catch up.

Tanner Rohr was second high scorer for Ellsworth with 17 points.

As a team, Norton hit 4 of 21 three-point attempts for 19 percent, 17 of 39 two-point tries for 44 percent and 21 of 60 for 35 percent overall.

Ellsworth swished 3 of 12 from long range for 25 percent, 23 of 33 two-point attempts for 70 percent and 26 of 45 for 58 percent overall.

The Blue Jays connected on 11 of 20 free throws for 55 percent but the Bearcats hit 15 of 23 for 65 percent.

Norton outrebounded Ellsworth 32-22. Norton grabbed 9 offensive and 23 defensive rebounds and the Bearcats pulled down 6 offensive and 16 defensive caroms.

Wahlmeier was leading rebounder for Norton with 10 boards, followed by Brooks, 7; McConney, 5; Lane, 4; Nickell, 3; Dakota Dreher, 2; Luke Ninemire, 1.

The Blue Jays also had twice as many steals. Norton had 10 thefts compared to 5 for Ellsworth. Nickell led with 3, followed by Dreher, Wahlmeier, 2 each; Mc-Conney, Lane, Brooks, 1 each.

Norton had 15 offensive assists and Ellsworth had 13. Assists leader for the Blue Jays was Brooks with 5, followed by Wahlmeier, Nickell, Lane, 3 each; McConney, 1.

Wahlmeier and Brooks each blocked 1 Ellsworth shot.

The Blue Jays had just 10 turnovers; the Bearcats turned the ball over 11 times.

"We'll miss our seniors," said coach Reusink. "They are good young men."

Norton's senior players were Terrell Lane, Luke Ninemire, Dakota Dreher and Cole Archer. "Overall, we had a great group

of young men," said coach Reu-



Norton sophomore forward Jacob Brooks went up in the middle of Ellsworth players to rebound the ball and made sure it was his as he brought it down! Brooks grabbed seven rebounds, scored 14 points and was assists leader with five in the season-ending Sub-State Tournament loss to the Bearcats in the NCHS Stull Gym on Tuesday night.

sink. "They were a lot of fun." Norton finished the season 12-9.

Coach Reusink thanked the players, fans and assistant coach David Stover for all they did for the team this season.

'The student cheering section was loud tonight," he added.

Scores of other games In other Sub-State Tournament

games played on Tuesday evening, No.1 seed Minneapolis defeated No.8 seed Smith Center 62-19, No.2 seed Beloit outscored No.7 seed Southeast of Saline 66-49 and No.3 seed Riley County beat No.6 seed Phillipsburg 74-36.

In the semi-finals this evening in Smith Center, Minneapolis will play Ellsworth at 6 p.m. and



Riley County will play Beloit at 7:30 p.m.

The winners of these two games will play each other in the championship finals at 7:30 p.m. on

in the Class 3A State Tournament

GAME STATISTICS: Norton Boys

Jordan Wahlmeier 8 0 2-6 18;

Dillon McConney 0 0 1-2 1; Tye Nickell 305-811; Terrell Lane 2 30-013; Jacob Brooks 413-414: Game Totals 17 4 11-20 57.

Tanner Rohr 7 1 0-1 17; Josh Rankin 0 1 0-0 3; Clint Glaser 6 1 12-14 27; Logan Gose 2 0 2-5 6; Ben Murrell 2 0 0-0 4; Jacob Froese 201-15; Brent Keener 20 0-14; Levi Frees 200-14; Game Totals 23 3 15-23 70.

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Saturday in Smith Center. The winner will receive a berth

next week in Hutchinson.

Telegram photo by Dick Boyd **Ellsworth Boys**

Norton Senior signs to play football at Hutchinson Community College

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com Terrell Lane, star 5'11", 220 pound senior tailback and defensive back for Norton Community High School, has signed a letter of intent to play football this fall for Hutchinson Community College.

Lane is an all-state, all-league performer who lettered four years for coach Lucas Melvin's Blue Jay grid squad.

In his four years as a running back for Norton, Lane gained 5,011 yards and rushed for 59 touchdowns!

His senior season, he ran for 1,766 yards on 148 carries for an average of 11.93 yards per carry. Lane also gained 2,278 all purpose yards this season as he also returned punts and kickoffs. He was also the Norton punter for the 9-1 Blue Jays.

Lane was a unanimous choice by league coaches this year for first team All-Mid-Continent League running back and was also chosen first team kick returner and second team punter.

He was an honorable mention tailback last season, a first team choice on offense, first team punter and second team kick returner his sophomore year. Lane also received honorable mention as a running back his freshman season when he gained 761 yards and scored 6 touchdowns.

In addition to being honored by the league coaches, Terrell was also chosen to a number of postseason honorary teams.

He was selected to the All Area Super 11 by the Hays Daily News, named first team in Class 3A on offense by the Topeka Capital-Journal and received honorable mention in the Wichita Eagle-Beacon.

The Salina Journal no longer selects players for post-season honors.

Lane was also named first team running back on the Class 3A All-State Football Team by the Kansas Football Coaches Association.

Terrell has also been chosen as a Class 3A first team running back by the Kansas Pre-Game Magazine(K-preps.com) and was also named to their Second 11 Team in all classes.

Terrell will have one final opportunity to play high school football when he competes with the West squad in the prestigious 38th annual 2011 Kansas Shrine Bowl All-Star Football Game on Saturday, July 30 at Lewis Field Stadium in Hays.

He is also a starting guard on Norton's basketball team and a Blue Jay track letterman.

"This an outstanding opportunity for Terrell," said Norton head football coach Lucas Melvin. "The Hutchinson coaches saw him every summer when we take our high school team to their camp and liked what they saw.

"Terrell has the athletic ability to play at that level and will need to have the mental attitude to go along with it because playing in college is more intense. It will take a lot of hard work and dedication but he can do it."

Hutchinson plays in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference, which is considered to be the premier junior college football conference in the nation.

The Blue Dragons have been coached the past four years by Rion Rhoades. They compiled a 10-2 record last season, placed runner-up in the conference and ended No.5 in the nation in the

final poll.

They also won the Salt City Bowl the past two seasons. On Dec.5, 2009, they defeated New Mexico Military Institute 26-18 in the bowl and on Dec. 4, 2010, they defeated Eastern Arizona College 42-21 in the same bowl game.

Eight of Hutchinson's 2010 players have moved on to Division I schools, three of them to Kansas State University and one to Kansas University.

"Norton has attended our summer camp the past four years and Terrell Lane has been the best player we've seen at his position all four years," said Hutchinson coach Rhoades.

"We have 25 plus high school football teams in our camp each year from all classes of enrollment and Lane has been outstanding every year. He has a lot of talent and has been in a high school program designed around toughness at Norton.

"Lane is a good fit for us from an ability and toughness standpoint. He's a great sign for us. He's definitely one of the best players in the state of Kansas, for sure."

Terrell is the son of Heidi Lane Davis.

Four other outstanding high school football players from this area will be among Lane's teammates at Hutchinson this fall.

Also signing with the Blue Dragons are Caleb Laughlin, kicking specialist, Norton; Reggie Jordan, quarterback, kick returner, Hill City; Tyler Bess, running back, defensive lineman, Hill City and Trevor Smith, running back, defensive back, Phillipsburg.

Terrell Lane signs with Hutchinson Community College



Norton Community High School senior football player Terrell Lane has signed a letter of intent to play football for Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson. He is pictured here with his grandmother, Patty Fisher, at left and mother Heidi Lane Davis, at right and head Norton football coach Lucas Melvin.

~ Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Good Luck and Congratulations Bridges Group, Inc. from ... INSURANCE

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