

Norton girls avenge loss in 60-56 win over Cowgirls

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team was tied 10-all with the Goodland Cowgirls after one quarter of play on Tuesday night in Goodland when they started focusing on getting the ball inside to senior center Anna Berry and sophomore center Chelsea Cox and went on to win 60-56.

The win extended Norton's season record to 6-5 and avenged a 66-59 loss to Goodland earlier in the Topside Tipoff Tournament. Neither Berry nor Cox had scored in the first period but both scored seven points in the second quarter on three baskets and a free throw to tally 14 of Norton's 16 points and put the Lady Jays on top 26-25 at intermission.

Berry scored 15 points in the third quarter on six field goals and three free throws as the Lady Jays outscored the Cowgirls 22-15 in the period to lead 48-40. Goodland scored 16 points in the fourth period but the Lady Jays tallied 12 points to win by four points. Berry completed a career-high 30 point scoring game with three more baskets and two free throws in the final stanza.

Berry hit 12 of 24 shots in the game for 50 percent accuracy and was 6 of 8 from the charity stripe for 75 percent. Sophomore guard Karlie Jones scored 11 points. She hit 2 of 4 long range shots for 50 percent, 2 of 9 two-point attempts for 22 percent and 4 of 13 overall for 31 percent. She also swished 1 of 2 charity tosses.

Leading scorers for Goodland were Osborn and Archer with 15 points each.

As a team, Norton hit 2 of 8 trey tries for 25 percent, 22 of 51 two-point shots for 43 percent and 24 of 59 overall for 41 percent.

Goodland connected on 4 of 8 from beyond the arc for 50 percent, 16 of 38 two-point tries for 42 percent and 20 of 46 overall for 43 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton hit 10 of 21 for 48 percent and Goodland connected on 12 of 17 for 61 percent.

Norton had 14 offensive and 10 defensive rebounds for 24 total. Goodland pulled down 10 offensive and 17 defensive caroms for 27 total.

Engelbert was the leading rebounder for Norton with 12, followed by Berry, 7; Cox, 2; Whitney Newell, Becca Ebert and Karlie Jones, 1 each.

Norton had 10 steals compared to 7 thefts by Goodland. Berry had 5, followed by Engelbert, 3; Jones, 2.

The Lady Jays had 18 offensive assists compared to just 9 by the Cowgirls. Newell was the leader with 7 thefts, followed by Ebert, 5; Jones, 3; Cox, Engelbert and Berry, 1 each.

Norton had 18 turnovers. Goodland gave up the ball 28 times.

"This was a big win for us," said Coach Jilka. "Our girls came out and played really well offensively and defensively. We did a great job of handling their pressure and attacking it with scores."

"Offensively, we took advantage of mismatches inside and did a nice job of finding them and finishing the play."

"Defensively, we were pretty solid all night. We are doing a lot of good things right now and we need to keep it going. Victoria will play better today and we need to be ready."

Next action

Norton will host Victoria in Mid-Continent League play today. Games will begin at 5 p.m. with the junior varsity boys game in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym and junior varsity girls game in the Norton High Gym. The varsity girls and varsity boys games will follow in the Norton High Gym.

Norton was seeded No. 6 in last week's Mid-Continent League Tournament and Victoria was seeded No. 4. Norton defeated the Lady Knights 39-24 on Saturday to place fifth in the tournament.

Junior varsity

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls team lost to Goodland by a score of 53-35.

Norton led 11-8 after one quar-

ter and 17-14 at halftime but Goodland outscored Norton 16-6 in the third quarter to take a 30-23 advantage. The Cowgirls also outscored the Lady Jays 23-12 in the final stanza.

Dane'e Payne scored 9 points for Norton and Stacy Reeves hit 8, followed by Chelle Donovan, Darci Darling, 4 each; Lacey Roe, Klaire Mann, Amber Overlease, Morgan Kauten, Maggie Nielsen, 2 each.

Amber Cowen led scoring for Goodland with 10 points. Nicolette Clancey tallied 9.

"We did not play Lady Jay basketball tonight," said Coach Rossi. "Our offense was non-existent as well as our defense. We were very weak in all areas tonight. We will work to get better."

Freshmen results

The Norton freshmen girls team lost a 50-26 game to Goodland.

Norton held a slim 12-10 lead after one quarter but Goodland was on top 22-15 at halftime and 26-19 after three quarters.

Leading scorer for Norton was Morgan Kauten with 7 points, followed by Maggie Nielsen, 5; Dana Hillebrand, Ashley Traxler, Jessica Ebner, 4 each; Lacey Roe, 2.

Leading scorer for Goodland was Andrea Grieve with 12 points.

"We started strong on offense with our post players dominating," said Coach Bolt. "Goodland turned it on and we got shut down. We really struggled on getting open on the wings and it hurt our play. Conditioning is a top priority for the next week. When we got pressured, we made silly mistakes. We did have a great start and we need to have the confidence and endurance to keep working hard and adjust on the court."

Norton girls 60

Newell 10 1-23, Cox 3 0 1-27, Ebert 1 0 1-4 3, Jones 2 2 1-2 11, Engelbert 3 0 0-3 6, Berry 12 0 6-8 30, Totals 22 2 10-21 60

Goodland girls 56

Osborne 3 3 0-1 15, Billinger 0 0 1-2 1, Bedore 1 0 1-23, Shields 3 0 0-0 6, Murray 3 0 4-6 10, Koehler 3 0 0-0 6, Archer 3 1 6-6 15, Totals 16 4 12-17 56

Logan girls down Mankato 59-38

The Logan girls basketball team defeated Mankato 59-38 on Jan. 27 in Mankato.

"We played a great first half defensively, holding Mankato to 9 points," said Coach Linda Nighswonger. "Offensively, we were patient and got the ball to the open player for the shot. We did not maintain our intensity on defense in the second half and became sloppy offensively. We were happy to come away with the win."

Val Jackson led scoring for Logan's ladies with 8 two-pointers and 2 free throws for 18 points. She was followed by Michaela

Berg, 16 points; Kati Chestnut and Jenny Noel, 6 apiece; Megan Brumbaugh, 5; Lanee Webb, 4; and Candace Thompson and Melanie Berg, 2 each. The Lady Trojans made 50 percent of their field goals.

Out of 36 rebounds, Jackson grabbed 9, while Noel took 6 and Chestnut and Thompson both made 5.

Making the team's steals were Jackson with 3, Brumbaugh with 2, and Chestnut with 1.

Out of 21 assists, Brumbaugh made 6, Jackson made 5, and Chestnut made 4.

Jackson made the team's 7

blocks.

Logan had 19 turnovers.

The Trojan junior varsity lost 14-9.

Logan 59, Mankato 38

Score by quarters:

Logan 16 14 16 13 — 59

Mankato 4 5 15 14 — 38

Logan (59)

Jackson 8 0 2-2 18, Michaela Berg 5 1 3-3 16, Chestnut 3 0 0-0 6, Noel 3 0 0-0 6, Brumbaugh 2 0 2-1 5, Webb 2 0 1-0 4, Thompson 1 0 0-0 2, Melanie Berg 1 0 0-0 2.

Mankato (38)

Harris 5 0 7-4 14, N Jeffery 3 2 1-0 12, Newell 2 0 6-37, C. Jeffery 1 0 2-1 3, Roesti 1 0 0-0 2.



Norton senior center Jered Sloan gets loose underneath the basket to put up a shot during the Blue Jays' 47-39 win over Trego in the Mid-Continent League Tournament championship game on Saturday night in Hays. At left for Norton is Ryan Maddy (No. 22). Mark Aschenbrenner is No. 34 for Trego.

— Photo by Dick Boyd

Jays down Goodland 56-52

By DICK BOYD

Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team hit 9 of 15 free throws in the fourth quarter to defeat Goodland 56-52 in non-league play on Tuesday evening in Goodland and extend their season record to 10-1.

Norton held a 16-11 lead after one quarter but trailed 27-26 at halftime. A 15-14 third quarter in Norton's favor tied the score at 41-all, then the Blue Jays outscored the Cowboys 15-11 in the final stanza.

Norton also defeated Goodland 64-58 earlier to place third in the Topside Tipoff Tournament.

"I think we were outplayed tonight but still able to sneak out with a win," said Coach Reusink. "Our defense was not what it has been and we are still turning the ball over too much in our halfcourt offense."

"We did do a good job on the boards and hit some key free throws down the stretch which enabled us to get the win."

Norton dominated the backboards, pulling down 26 rebounds compared to 13 for Goodland.

Norton had three players in double scoring figures. Junior center Ryan Maddy had a double-double as he hit a game-leading 21 points and led the Jays in rebounding with 10. Maddy hit three baskets in the first and third quarters, a basket and free throw in the second quarter and a basket and 4 of 5 free throws in the fourth quarter. He was 8 of 12 from two-point range for 67 percent accuracy and 5 of 6 from the charity stripe for 83 percent. He missed his only trey try.

Senior center Jered Sloan scored 13 points on 4 of 9 from the

field for 44 percent and 5 of 7 from the line for 71 percent. He led the Jays in the first quarter with two baskets and 3 of 4 free throws. He also hit a basket in the third quarter and basket and 2 of 3 charities in the final stanza.

Junior point guard Kyle Kats hit 11 points. He was a perfect 3 of 3 from beyond the arc, hitting a trey in the first, second and third quarters. He also hit his only two-point shot in the third period. He was 4 of 7 from the field overall for 57 percent accuracy.

Leading scorer for Goodland was Lance Tedford with 17. Derrick Raymer added 13 points and Jared Duke scored 10.

As a team, Norton hit 3 of 6 shots from beyond the arc for 50 percent, 17 of 35 two-point attempts for 49 percent and 20 of 41 overall for 49 percent.

Goodland connected on 6 of 16 trey tries for 38 percent, 14 of 36 two-point shots for 39 percent and 20 of 52 overall for 38 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays hit 13 of 20 for 65 percent and the Cowboys swished 6 of 10 for 60 percent accuracy.

Norton had 4 offensive and 22 defensive rebounds and Goodland had 2 offensive and 13 defensive caroms. In addition to Maddy's 10 rebounds, Sloan had 5, followed by Dan Roeder, 3; Kats, Aaron Overlease, Brian Luft, 2 each; Jared Foley, Heath Vincent, 1 each.

Sloan blocked five Goodland shots and Vincent rejected two.

The Blue Jays had seven steals. Kats, Overlease and Sloan had 2 thefts each and Roeder had 1.

Norton had 12 offensive assists. Overlease was the leader with 5, followed by Luft, Maddy, Sloan, 2 each; Roeder, 1.

Each team had 14 turnovers.

Junior varsity results

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys team lost to Goodland by a 49-42 score. Norton trailed by quarters 10-4, 26-15 and 35-29.

Leading scorer for Norton was Nathan Morse with 17 points, followed by Derek Volgamore, 13; Heath Vincent, 4; Jason Green, Nick Evans, Josh Jackson, Justin Shirk, 2 each.

Top scorer for Goodland was Wade Taylor with 14 points. Heath Chatfield added 8.

Freshmen game

Norton freshmen boys team lost a 60-31 contest to Goodland.

Norton led 11-10 after one quarter but Goodland was on top 24-21 at halftime. The young Blue Jays were outscored 20-2 in the third quarter, however, to fall behind 44-23.

Leading scorer for Norton was Jared Engelbert with 12 points, followed by Brian Juenemann, 10; Nic Lewis, Mat Shepard, 4 each; Blake Wolf, 1.

Next action

Norton will return to Mid-Continent League play this evening when the Blue Jays host the Victoria Knights. Play begins at 5 p.m. with the junior varsity boys game in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym and junior varsity girls game in the Norton Gym.

The varsity girls and varsity boys games will follow.

Norton boys 56

Kats 1 3 0-1 11, Roeder 1 0 0-0 2, Overlease 1 0 0-2 2, Luft 0 0 3-4 3, Maddy 8 0 5-6 21, Sloan 4 0 5-7 13, Vincent 2 0 0-0 4, Totals 17 3 13-20 56

Goodland boys 52

Heri 3 0 2-3 8, Raymer 3 2 1-3 13, Tedford 1 4 3-4 17, Duke 5 0 0-0 10, Wilkens 1 0 0-0 2, Taylor 1 0 0-0 2, Totals 14 6 6-10 52.



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