



## Good defense

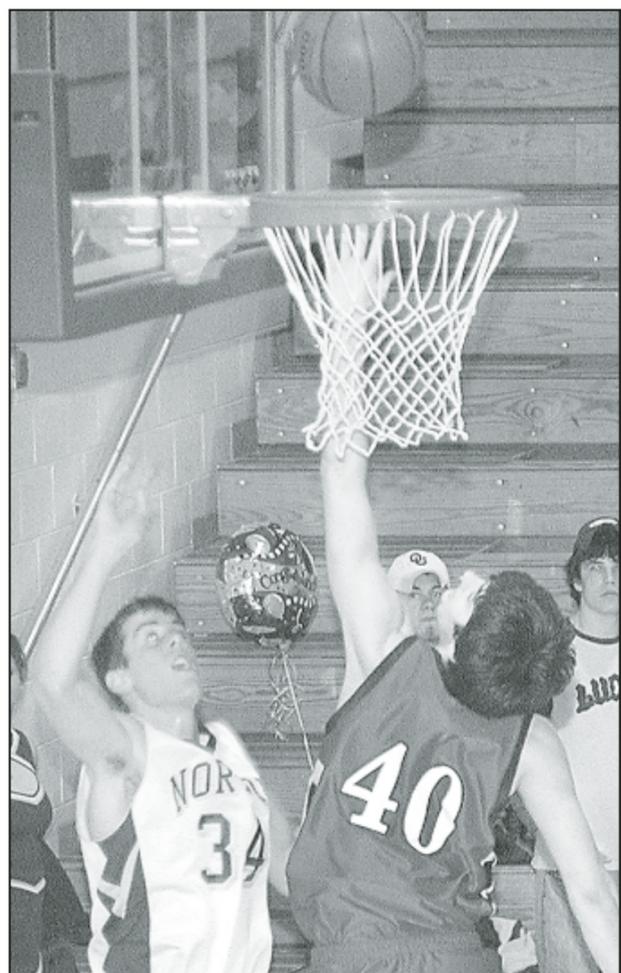
Lady Jay junior guard Megan Kats (left photo) reaches for the basketball as she plays defense against Colby's Aubrette Stephens during Norton's loss at Colby on Tuesday evening. Kats had two steals, three assists, four points and one rebound in the game.

-- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

## Good for two

Norton senior forward Nic Lewis (right photo) scored two of his 14 points on this play during the Blue Jays' 60-47 Mid-Continent League win over Plainville in Norton on Monday evening. Lewis also grabbed five rebounds, blocked four shots and had one steal. No.40 on defense for Plainville was Jason Dinkel.

--Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



# Blue Jay boys, girls capture victories over the Cardinals

## Boys

By DICK BOYD

Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team pulled away from Plainville in the fourth quarter to defeat the Cardinals 60-47 in their final Mid-Continent League game of the season on Monday night in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium in Norton.

The win extended Norton's season record to 13-5 and tied the Blue Jays for second in the league.

Both teams scored 16 points in the first quarter. Senior guard Jared Engelbert and junior guard Logan Kats both drained three-point baskets, senior forward Nic Lewis and junior forward Preston Herman each hit two two-point baskets and junior guard Jared Cox connected on a two-point bas-

ket.

After a 15-13 second quarter in Norton's favor, the Blue Jays led 31-29 at halftime. Senior guard Brian Juenemann led scoring with a basket from beyond the arc and a two-pointer. Senior post Blake Wolf hit a basket and two charities, Lewis hit two more baskets and junior forward Wes Georgeson hit a two-point basket.

The third quarter was a defensive one with Norton outscoring Plainville 10-8 to extend their lead to 41-37. Lewis hit three baskets and Georgeson and Kats each contributed one.

The fourth quarter was all Norton as the Jays outscored the Cards 19-10 to win going away. Engelbert buried three more baskets from beyond the arc and also hit four free throws. Wolf added four charities and Kats hit two.

"We fought through adversity

early when Logan Kats got in foul trouble," said coach Reusink.

"We executed better offensively but still are not playing as well as I like defensively.

"Engelbert was hot from the three-point area and we hit our free throws late in the game."

It was "Senior Night" for Norton. Senior sports participants were honored prior to the game and each gave a flower to their parents.

Honored were senior players Jared Engelbert, Brian Juenemann, Blake Wolf and Nic Lewis; manager Kayleigh Brooks; cheerleaders Morgan Bailey, Hannah Mills, Gena Myers, Brianna Nelson; yell leader Brett Wyatt and dance team members Brianna Felton and Morgan Kauten.

Engelbert was leading scorer for Norton with 16 points on 4 of 11

from long range for 36 percent and 4 of 4 free throws. Lewis added 14 points on 7 of 11 from the field for 64 percent.

Toby Ruder led Plainville with 12 points.

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 16 shots from long range for 38 percent, 15 of 34 two-point attempts for 44 percent and 21 of 50 overall for 42 percent.

Plainville swished 4 of 14 from beyond the arc for 29 percent, 9 of 26 two-point tries for 35 percent and 13 of 40 overall for 33 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton connected on 12 of 17 for 71 percent compared to 17 of 23 for 74 percent by Plainville.

Norton had 24 rebounds and Plainville grabbed 23. The Blue Jays grabbed 13 offensive and 11 defensive caroms and the Cardinals pulled down 7 offensive and 16 defensive boards.

Wolf was leading rebounder for Norton with 6, followed by Lewis, 5; Cox, Georgeson, 4 each; Juenemann, 2; Engelbert, Kats, Herman, 1 each.

Lewis had 4 of Norton's 6 blocks. Wolf rejected the other 2.

The Blue Jays had 7 steals. Juenemann led with 2, followed by Kats, Wolf, Cox, Georgeson, Lewis, 1 each.

Norton was credited with 13 offensive assists. Engelbert and Kats had 4 each, followed by Cox, 3; Juenemann, 2.

The Blue Jays had 10 turnovers and the Cardinals gave up the ball 17 times.

### Junior varsity

Norton lost the junior varsity game to Plainville by a 36-21 score.

The young Blue Jays led 7-4 after one quarter but fell behind 15-10 by halftime and trailed 21-15

after three quarters.

Zac Dreher led Norton in scoring with 6 points, followed by Zach Dole, 5; Landon Hamel, 4; J.D. Gall, 3; Marcus Herman, 2; Preston Herman, 1.

Joe Becker led Plainville with 13 points.

### BOX SCORE

#### Norton Boys 60

Jared Engelbert 0 4-4 16; Logan Kats 1 1 2-4 7; Brian Juenemann 1 1 0-0 5; Blake Wolf 1 0 6-7 8; Jared Cox 1 0 0-0 2; Wes Georgeson 2 0 0-0 4; Nic Lewis 7 0 0-2 14; Preston Herman 2 0 0-0 4; Total 15 6 12-17 60.

#### Plainville Boys 47

Aaron Becker 1 0 1-2 3; Tanner Dix 1 1 4-4 9; Toby Ruder 1 2 4-7 12; Caleb Wyatt 2 1 0-0 7; Justin Lacy 0 0 4-4 4; Josh Brungardt 2 0 4-4 8; Matt Hageman 2 0 0-2 4; Total 9 4 17-23 47

## Girls

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team extended their season record to 13-5 and secured a second place finish in the Mid-Continent League with a 53-33 victory over Plainville on Monday evening in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium.

It was the final league game of the season and was also "Senior Night". Maggie Nielsen is the only senior on the Lady Jays' quintet and she gave a flower to her parents during pre-game ceremonies. Norton rolled up a 20-9 lead by

the end of the first quarter as sophomore guard Laura Lee Baird buried two shots from beyond the arc and added two two-point baskets.

Junior guard Megan Kats hit two shots from long range and one free throw. Sophomore post Hayli Bozarth added a basket and Nielsen connected on a free throw.

The Lady Jays were as cold in the second quarter as they were hot in the first period. Their only points came on a basket by Bozarth and two free throws by Kats but they still led 24-16 at intermission.

Nielsen led Norton in scoring in the third quarter when Norton outscored the visitors 17-11. She

hit three baskets and a charity. Bozarth hit two more baskets and a free throw, Kats buried her third three-point basket of the game and Baird added a two-pointer.

The Lady Jays outscored the Lady Cardinals 12-6 in the final stanza to win by 20 points. Baird swished her third shot from beyond the arc in addition to two two-point shots. Sophomore guard Katharine Roy got in on the scoring by hitting Norton's seventh three-pointer of the game and freshman guard Ashlie Stewart scored with a two-point basket.

Baird was leading scorer for Norton with 19 points on a perfect 3 of 3 from long range, 5 of 11 two-point shots for 45 percent and 8 of

14 overall for 57 percent.

Kats added 12 points on 3 of 6 from beyond the arc for 50 percent and 3 of 7 free throws for 43 percent.

Bretta Mick led the Lady Cardinals in scoring with 16 points; Amanda Casey added 11.

As a team, Norton connected on 7 of 16 three-point shots for 44 percent, 13 of 40 two-point tries for 33 percent and 20 of 56 overall for 36 percent. Plainville hit just 1 of 4 from beyond the arc for 25 percent, 11 of 33 two-point attempts for 33 percent and 12 of 37 overall for 32 percent.

From the free throw line, the Lady Jays were just 6 of 18 for a cold 33 percent compared to 8 of

15 for 53 percent for Plainville.

Norton pulled down 8 offensive and 11 defensive rebounds for 19 total. Plainville grabbed 4 offensive but 20 defensive caroms for 24 total.

Nielsen and Kats led Norton in rebounding with 4 each, followed by Baird, Ashley Colip, Bozarth, 3 each; Taylor Rossi, KaraJo Jones, 1 each.

The aggressive Norton defense had 20 steals compared to just 4 by Plainville. Rossi led with 7 thefts, followed by Baird, 5; Bozarth, 3; Roy, Haley Jones, Nielsen, Kats, Amanda Ray, 1 each.

The Lady Jays were credited with 15 assists while the Lady Cardinals had 7. Rossie was assists leader with 7, followed by Colip, Kats, 2 each; Roy, Baird, Courtney Cox, Nielsen, 1 each.

Norton had 15 turnovers and Plainville had 21.

### Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity defeated Plainville 27-8 in a two-quarter game.

The Lady Jays led 18-4 after one quarter and outscored Plainville 9-

4 in the second quarter.

Ashlie Stewart was leading scorer for Norton with 14 points, followed by Lacy Keilig, 4; Haley Jones, 3; Shelby Jones, Kendra Engelbert, Steph Eagleburger, 2 each.

Amanda Casey and Kendra Husmann each scored 4 points for Plainville.

"This was a good finish for our home games," said Norton assistant coach George Rossi.

"We only played two quarters due to numbers of players for Plainville.

"Our girls came out on fire and aggressive."

### BOX SCORE

#### Norton Girls 53

Katharine Roy 0 1 0-0 3; Ashlie Stewart 1 0 0-0 2; Laura Lee Baird 5 3 0-1 19; Maggie Nielsen 3 0 2-5 8; Megan Kats 0 3 3-5 12; KaraJo Jones 0 0 0-2 0; Hayli Bozarth 4 0 1-5 9; Total 13 7 6-18 53.

#### Plainville Girls 33

Aubrey Frederking 1 0 1-2 3; Vanessa Owings 1 0 1-2 3; Bretta Mick 6 0 4-7 16; Amanda Casey 3 1 2-4 11; Total 11 1 8-15 33.

# Jay cagers ready for 3A substate action

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School girls and boys basketball teams will begin Class 3A Substate Tournament play on Monday in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium in Norton.

The Lady Jays are seeded No.3 with a 13-6 record and will host No.6 seed Oberlin (11-8) at 6 p.m. That game will be followed by No.2 seed Norton boys (13-6) ver-

sus No.7 seed Oberlin (1-18) at 7:30 p.m.

In other girls first round games on Monday, No.1 seed Beloit (15-5) received a bye; No.4 seed Salina/Sacred Heart (13-7) will host No.5 seed Phillipsburg (12-7) at 6 p.m. and No.2 seed Belleville (15-5) will host No.7 seed Ellsworth (11-9) at 6 p.m.

The girls winners will advance to the championship semi-finals

on Thursday in Phillipsburg and the championship finals will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday in Phillipsburg.

The winner will advance to the state tournament in Hutchinson the next week.

Other boys first round games will be held on Tuesday. No.1 seed Belleville (17-3) received a first round bye; No.4 seed Salina/Sacred Heart (11-9) will host No.5

seed Beloit (10-10) at 7 p.m. and No.3 seed Phillipsburg (12-7) will host No.6 seed Ellsworth (7-13) at 6 p.m.

The championship semi-finals will be held Friday in Phillipsburg with the championship finals set for 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The winner will advance to the state tournament in Hutchinson the next week.

## Logan Junior High girls take second

They beat E. Heights, but lose to Kensington

### Feb. 5 Second Round GNEC Tournament

Logan Jr. High Girls  
Logan 23

Eastern Heights 17

**Scoring:** Caley Greving 12, Samantha Tien 6, Alethea Bennett 3, Kacee Braun 2. **Rebounds:** Greving 9, Bennett 4, Tien 3, Hannah Pinkerton 3, Braun 1. **Steals:** Greving 5, Tien 3, Braun 3, Bennett 3, Pinkerton 1, Brittany Gaines 1.

### Feb. 8 Final Round GNEC Tournament

Kensington 30

Logan 28  
(Double Overtime)

**Scoring:** Greving 13, Gaines 4, Pinkerton 3, Tien 2, Braun 2, Bennett 2, Bev Sammons 2. **Rebounds:** Bennett 12, Greving 11, Tien 4, Pinkerton 3, Gaines 2, Sammons 1, Braun 1. **Steals:** Greving 4, Gaines 2.

### Recap:

1st place — Kensington  
2nd place — Logan

3rd place — Eastern Heights.

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