

Jays clobber Cards

52-6 league win comes on home turf

By **DICK BOYD**

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Senior tailback Todd Bolt scored four touchdowns, senior quarterback Logan Kats passed for two more scores and the Norton Community High School football team turned it over to the reserves in the fourth quarter in a 52-6 Mid-Continent League win over Plainville here Friday evening.

Bolt ran 34 yards for Norton's first touchdown with 9:54 left in the first quarter and Kats passed to senior tight end Jared Cox to make it 8-0. Bolt then returned a Plainville punt 41 yards for the second touchdown and senior Kyle Edgett kicked the extra point to make it 15-0 with 7:35 remaining in the first quarter.

With 7:42 left in the second period, Bolt hit the end zone from 3 yards out and Edgett's kick extended the Blue Jay lead to 22-0. Kats connected with senior wide receiver Wes Georgeson on a 70 yard pass play for Norton's fourth touchdown, making it 28-0.

Plainville's only touchdown came with 7 seconds left in the first half on a pass from senior quarterback Toby Ruder to senior running back Aaron Becker on a 38-yard strike, making the score 28-6.

Kats threw a 44-yard touchdown pass to Cox with 7:37 left in the third quarter and the Jays were on top 34-6. Bolt's fourth touchdown of the game came from 1 yard out with 5:42 left in the third quarter and extended Norton's lead to 40-6.

After junior running back Brad Nuzum scored from 2 yards out with 10:12 left in the game, Norton led 46-6 and the continuous clock rule went into effect. The Norton reserves tacked on a score with

1:40 left as freshman running back Jeremy Sproul dented the end zone to make the final 52-6.

"We played really well except for the end of the first half when we kept shooting ourselves in the foot. We just lost our focus," said Norton head coach Lucas Melvin after the Jays won their second straight contest.

"Our offensive line did a great job tonight. They were blocking well enough that we had two backs near 100 yards rushing." Bolt ended with 97 yards on 10 carries for 9.7 yards per carry and freshman back Terrell Lane totaled 93 yards on 12 attempts for a 7.7 yard average.

"Our defense also met their goals for the night," said coach Melvin. "They were really flying to the ball." The gang-tackling Norton defenders limited the visitors to 6 first downs and only 53 yards rushing for a 1.5 yard per carry average. Meanwhile, Norton averaged 5.7 yards in racking up 232 yards rushing and earning 18 first downs.

Kats completed 5 of 8 passes for 111 yards.

Starting for the Blue Jays on offense were: Logan Kats, quarterback; Todd Bolt, tailback; Terrell Lane, fullback; Wes Georgeson and Travis Ray, wide receivers; Jared Cox, tight end; Preston Herman, center; Kyle Edgett, right guard; John Van Doren, right tackle; Brock Lauer, left guard, Nish Millan, left tackle.

Opening on defense for Norton were: Van Doren, Alex Thomas, Zach Mannel, tackles; Herman, Lauer, ends; Matt Stanley, Zac Dreher, Lane, linebackers; Kats, Ray, Bolt, defensive backs.

Individual statistics

In addition to carries by leaders



You might call it a "fourth touchdown celebration smile," but this was the expression the Telegram's cameraman caught on Todd Bolt's face as he went into the end zone Friday night in Norton's 52-6 triumph over the Plainville Cardinals..

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Bolt and Lane, other Norton rushers were: Perez, 3 for 28; Stanley, 2 for 16; Pfannenstiel, 2 for 10; Sproul, 3 for 15; Nichols, 1 for 6; Gall, 1 for 3; Kats, 4 for minus 8.

Cox caught 2 passes for 47 yards, Georgeson 1 for 70, Lane, 1 for 20 and Ray, 1 for 14. Bolt returned 3 punts for 69 yards. Lane kicked off 4 times for a 36.7 yard average. Gall kicked off 2 times for a 40 yard average and Edgett 1 time for 42 yards.

Leading rusher for Plainville was Becker with 25 yards on 14 carries; David had 19 yards on 10 attempts. Becker caught 2 passes for 62 yards. Ruder was 4 of 9 passes for 61 yards.

Leading tacklers for Norton were Zac Dreher and Matt Stanley,



Norton senior tailback Todd Bolt eluded a potential Plainville tackler en route to a 41-yard punt return for a touchdown in the Blue Jays' 52-6 win here Friday. Bolt scored four touchdowns, rushed for 97 yards and was one of the top tacklers from his defensive back position.

- Telegram, photo by Dick Boyd

each with 6 solos, 4 assists for 10 total. They were followed by: Travis Ray, Todd Bolt, 7 total each; Preston Herman, 6; Jared Cox, Brock Lauer, 4 each; Landon Hamel, Terrell Lane, Zach Mannel, Brad Nuzum, 3 each; Logan Kats, Zane Perez, Casey Robison, 2 each; J.D. Gall, Kasey Nichols, Alex Thomas, John Van Doren, 1 each.

Next action

Norton will travel to Hill City on Friday for a 7 p.m. Mid-Continent League contest.

Both teams are 2-1 for the season, both having lost to defending Class 2A state champion Smith Center. Norton has defeated Trego and Plainville. Hill City defeated Quinter and, last Friday, outscored

Osborne 29-14.

Senior back David Gerstner is the Ringneck leader on both offense and defense. He was a first team All-Mid-Continent League choice at defensive back and honorable mention wide receiver last year. He is playing quarterback this season.

Gerstner had 83 tackles and 6 pass interceptions last year. Senior tailback Kenny Slattery is solid in the backfield.

On Friday, Slattery scored 3 touchdowns. He ran 54 yards for one and caught touchdown passes of 75 and 62 yards from Gerstner, who also ran 1 yard for a touchdown.

"They are a quick, fast team," said Norton coach Melvin.

"They run a lot of formations on offense. Against Osborne, they ran 21 different formations. Their favorite is the wishbone but they go the other way and sometimes have just one back behind center."

GAME STATISTICS

Norton	Plainville	
18	First Downs	6
232	Yards Rushing	53
111	Yards Passing	80
343	Total Yards	133
1-2	Fumbles Lost	1-1
4-50	Penalties	3-2
5-23.4	Punts	1-24



Play-by-play fills in some of the details of big victory

First quarter

Lane returned the kickoff to the Norton 42. Kats gained 5 yards on 2 keepers, then passed to Ray for a first down on the Plainville 38. Lane plowed up the middle for 4. On second down, the Norton line opened a hole for Bolt to get into the secondary where he broke two tackles as he sprinted 34 yards for the end zone!

Kats passed to Cox for two extra points, making it 8-0 with 9:59 left in the first period.

Lane kicked off and Nuzum came down field hard to nail the ball carrier in his tracks on the Plainville 20. A block-in-the-back penalty moved the Cardinals back to their 10. Senior quarterback Toby Ruder passed to senior tight end Jason Dinkel in the flat but Herman tackled him for a 6 yard loss. Senior running back Aaron Becker gained 5 yards before Ray and Dreher tackled him. Junior running back Kyle David ran around right end but Ray came up hard to tackle him after 3 yards.

Plainville punted and Bolt gathered the ball in at the Cardinal 41. He eluded all potential tacklers as he sped down the Norton sideline and into the end zone for his second touchdown of the night. Edgett kicked the extra point and Norton led 15-0 with 7:35 left.

Becker had trouble handling the kickoff and fell on the ball on the 20. Norton was penalized 15 yards for falling on him when he was down. Becker gained 4 as Herman and Zane Perez tackled him. Bolt stopped David for no gain and Herman did the same to Becker. Plainville punted out of bounds on the Norton 41. Lane made a good run, plowing through several defenders to the Plainville 34 before

fumbling.

The Norton defense was equal to the occasion, however. Dreher stopped Becker for no gain, Kats and Dreher tackled Becker after 3 and junior back Andrew Henson was stopped after 6 by Stanley, Ray and Kats. Plainville tried for a first down on fourth but Norton stopped David short on the Cardinal 44.

Kats threw a flat pass to Lane and he motored to the Plainville 23 for a first down. Three carries up the middle by Lane netted 11 yards and a first down on the 12. The Jays appeared to be knocking on the door again but it didn't open. Junior defensive back Travis Bird intercepted a Kats pass and Cox tackled him on the 9.

Ruder passed 5 yards to junior running back Andrew Henson and Plainville ran for 2 more yards as the quarter ended with Norton leading 15-0.

Second quarter

Henson ran up the middle for a first down on the 19. Stanley, Herman, and Dreher stopped Becker for no gain and a host of Blue Jay defenders also tackled David for no gain. Perez broke up a long pass by Ruder and Plainville punted out of bounds on the Norton 40.

Lane gained 9, Bolt ran for 5, then Kats pitched to Bolt and he scampered to the 6. Bolt gained 3, then ran over left tackle for the touchdown. Edgett kicked the extra point, making it 22-0 with 7:42 left.

Kasey Nichols and Landon Hamel tackled Dinkel on the Plainville 38 on the kickoff. Ray and Herman stopped Becker after 3, Becker gained 4 but lost 1 on third down and the Cards punted.

Bolt returned the punt to the Norton 30. Kats passed to Georgeson. He immediately broke two tackles and raced 70 yards down the Plainville sideline to paydirt! The extra point kick was no good but the Jays had increased their lead to 28-0 with 5:08 remaining. Edgett kicked off for Norton and Becker returned to the 27.

David gained 2 before Ray and Lauer dropped him. David gained 1 on second down, a pass was incomplete and they punted.

Bolt returned the ball to the Norton 32. Lane gained 7 around right end, then ran over right tackle for a first down on the Plainville 44. Kats lost 3 and Norton was penalized back to the Norton 43 for holding. Stanley gained 5 up the middle but a reverse to Georgeson was unsuccessful and Norton was penalized back to their 17 for unsportsmanlike conduct. Kats was sacked on the 6 and Bolt lost 3. Bolt punted. Plainville fumbled the punt reception and Stanley recovered the ball for Norton on the Blue Jay 32. A Kats pass was intercepted by Ross Copeland and returned to the Norton 38. Ruder passed to Becker for a touchdown with 7 seconds left in the half. The run for extra points was fumbled away. Norton was unable to advance the ball after the kickoff and led 28-6 at half-time.

Third quarter

Lane kicked off and Becker returned to the Plainville 36. Becker gained 6, David made 3 and Henson drove for a first down by inches on the 46. Herman and Lauer stopped Becker for no gain. Ruder gained 2 before Stanley, Herman and Bolt made the stop.

Stanley tackled David after 3. Becker tried for a first down but got nothing as Lauer and Herman made the tackle.

The Jays took over on their 47. Lane scampered up the middle for 9. Kats passed to Cox and, with Ray leading interference, he outran the Cardinal defenders down their sideline into the end zone for a 44-yard touchdown. The extra point kick attempt was blocked but Norton led 34-6 with 7:37 remaining.

Henson returned Lane's kickoff to the Plainville 42. After Henson gained 1, Lane threw Becker for a 2 yard loss. On third down, Lane stepped in front of a Ruder pass, intercepted and rambled 41 yards to the Cardinal 4 before being tackled. Bolt rammed up the middle to the 3, then got a big hole over right tackle and scored his fourth touchdown of the night! The extra point attempt was no good, making the score 40-6 with 5:42 left.

J.D. Gall kicked off and David returned the ball to the Plainville 26. After Becker lost 3, Lane tackled Henson for no gain. Ruder passed to Becker, who made a diving catch on the Cardinal 47. Perez broke up a pass; another Ruder pass was incomplete. Then, he completed a pass for a first down on the Norton 28. David gained 8 and Becker got a first down on the Blue Jay 15.

After two incomplete passes, Ray broke up an aerial in the end zone. On fourth down, Ray intercepted and returned the ball to the Norton 33. Connor Pfannenstiel took over at quarterback. He handed the ball to Lane for 2, then ran for 3. Bolt got a first down on the Norton 45 and Stanley ran up the middle for another first down on the Cardinal 45. Offsides cost Plainville 5 as the quarter ended with the Jays on top 40-6.

Fourth quarter

Lane got nothing, Stanley ran for a first down on the 35.

Pfannenstiel gained 7 on a keeper and Lane ran to the 2. Brad Nuzum ran in for a touchdown. The extra point attempt was no good, making the score 46-6 with 10:12 left.

With a 40 point lead, the continuous clock went into effect. Gall kicked off. The ball was returned to the Plainville 25. Stanley made the tackle. Norton was penalized 15 yards to the 40. Kasey Nichols and Stanley dropped David for a 2 yard loss. Nish Millan tackled Travis Bird for no gain. Robison and Gall led a host of Norton tacklers who sacked Ruder for a 4 yard loss. Plainville punted out of bounds on the Norton 48.

Norton reserves drove for the final touchdown. On the scoring play, freshman Spencer Shirk took over quarterback duties and pitched to Sproul who ran around right end for the touchdown with 1:40 left.

The extra point kick was no good, making the final 52-6.

Norton's Petrie scores Wildcat TD

Terry Petrie, a senior running back from Norton, played well in Kansas State University's 61-10 victory over Missouri State on Saturday in Bill Snyder Family Stadium in Manhattan.

He was the second leading rusher for the Wildcats, carrying the ball 10 times for 61 yards and scoring a touchdown from three yards out. On the touchdown run, he appeared to be stopped but kept his legs moving into the end zone.

He also scored earlier in the game on a 38-yard run but it was called back due to a holding penalty.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Petrie, Sr., Norton.

High School Sports This Week



FOOTBALL:

Norton Blue Jays vs. Hill City Ringnecks 7 p.m. Friday in Hill City
Norton Junior Varsity vs. Hill City 6:30 p.m. Monday in Norton
Logan Trojans vs. Northern Valley 7 p.m. Friday in Almena
Northern Valley Huskies (Homecoming) vs. Logan 7 p.m. Friday in Almena

VOLLEYBALL:

Norton Lady Jays V-JV vs. Hill City, Stockton, Hoxie 4 p.m. Today in Hill City
Norton Lady Jays V-JV vs. Atwood, Colby, Hill City 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in Atwood
Norton Lady Jays C Team vs Colby/Smith Center 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Norton
Norton Lady Jays JV in Hill City Tournament 8:30 a.m. Saturday in Hill City
Northern Valley Lady Huskies vs. Alma and Logan 5 p.m. Today in Logan
Logan Lady Trojans vs. Alma and Northern Valley 5 p.m. Today in Logan
Logan Lady Trojans in Osborne Round Robin 8 a.m. Saturday in Osborne
Logan Lady Trojans vs. Western Plains and Palco 4 p.m. Tuesday in Ransom

CROSS COUNTRY:

Norton Cross Country in Hill City Invitational 5 p.m. Thursday in Hill City
Norton Cross Country in Oberlin Invitational 5 p.m. Tuesday in Oberlin
Northern Valley Cross Country in Hill City Invitational 5 p.m. Thursday in Hill City
Northern Valley Cross Country in Oberlin Invitational 5 p.m. Tuesday in Oberlin

TENNIS:

Norton Lady Jays Varsity in Trego Invitational Tournament 9 a.m. Saturday in WaKeeney
Norton Lady Jays Varsity in Colby Tournament 3 p.m. Tuesday in Colby
Norton Lady Jays JV in Goodland Tournament 3 p.m. Today in Goodland
Norton Lady Jays JV in Phillipsburg tournament 9 a.m. Saturday in Phillipsburg