

Norton sophomore sinks winning basket

By DICK BOYD

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Norton Community High School sophomore point guard Tawni Griffey hit a career high 26 points for the Lady Jays in their Mid-Continent League game at Osborne on Friday night but her final shot from beyond the arc with time running out will be the one remembered!

The Lady Jays trailed 49-47 with the scoreboard clock near zero when a play designed by Norton head coach Kevin Jilka allowed Griffey to fire from three-point range and produce an exciting 50-49 win!

Griffey actually scored 16 of her points in the fourth quarter when Norton tallied 18 which included two free throws by Kaylen Rossi.

Norton held a slim 32-30 lead heading into the final stanza but Osborne tied it and went ahead 38-32. Rossi's charity tosses made it 38-34 with 5:21 remaining. A trey by the Lady Bulldogs stretched their advantage to 41-34.

Griffey went to work. After she hit two two-point baskets and Osborne answered with one, Norton still trailed by five points.

Suddenly, a trey by Griffey cut the Osborne lead to 43-41 but the Lady Bulldogs answered again and it was 45-41. Osborne scored on a fast break, making it 47-41 with 2:10 left.

Griffey came through with another two-point basket at the 1:55 mark but Osborne answered again and it was 49-43. Griffey was fouled and swished two charities to cut the lead back to four points with 1:01 showing on the clock. Then, Griffey was fouled again and once again swished two charities to make it a 49-47 game.

This time, the Lady Bulldogs failed to score, Norton got the ball and the rest is history!

The two teams traded the lead back and forth during the first three quarters. Norton led 11-8 after the first period which saw Griffey hit a three-point shot, a two-point basket and free throw, Erin Terrell swish a basket and free throw and Caren Thomson find the range on a two-pointer.

The half ended with Norton on top by 20-18. Scoring for Norton in the second period were Kamilla Jones and Griffey on two-pointers, a field goal and charity

by Terrell and two free throws by Dustyna Sprigg.

Both teams tallied 12 points in the fast-moving third quarter, leaving Norton still on top by two. Thomson hit two more baskets, Jones and Griffey each hit one two-pointer, Rossi buried a shot from beyond the arc and Terrell added a free throw.

"This was a huge win for us," said coach Jilka.

"Offensively, we executed well all night but struggled to score from the perimeter.

"Defensively, we have to get better. We need to be more physical. We are getting turnovers from people just taking the ball from us. We have to get better.

"We did a great job of executing our late game situation. They helped us by missing some free throws, which gave us our chance to win the game, which we did!

"Our girls did a great job of running the final play for Tawni and she stepped up and hit it!

"We are going to have to play better on Tuesday in Norton against Plainville."

Griffey finished the game hitting 3 of 6 shots from beyond the arc for 50 percent, 6 of 13 two-

point attempts for 46 percent and 9 of 19 overall for 47 percent. She swished 5 of 6 free throws for 83 percent accuracy.

Leading scorer for the Lady Bulldogs was Jordyn Sturgeon with 21 points.

As a team, Norton connected on 4 of 14 long range shots for 29 percent, 13 of 35 two-point tries for 37 percent and 17 of 49 overall for 35 percent.

Osborne hit 3 of 3 treys for 100 percent, 18 of 38 two-point tries for 47 percent and 21 of 41 overall for 51 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton was 12 of 22 for 55 percent and Osborne was 4 of 14 for 29 percent.

The Lady Jays pulled down 15 offensive and 14 defensive rebounds for 29 total and the Lady Bulldogs grabbed 15 offensive and 19 defensive for 34 total.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Terrell with 14, followed by Rossi, Thomson, 5 each; Sprigg, 4; Jones, 1.

The Lady Jays had 9 steals and Osborne had 10. Griffey, Rossi, Terrell, Sprigg each had 2 thefts and Jones had 1.

Norton had 4 assists and Os-

borne had 6. Griffey, Terrell, Sprigg and Jones each had 1 assist.

The Lady Jays had 20 turnovers but the Lady Bulldogs lost the ball 26 times.

The Norton girls are now 4-3 for the season and Osborne fell to 2-4.

Junior varsity

Only two quarters were played in the girls junior varsity game and Osborne won 22-9.

The score after one quarter was 8-6 in favor of Osborne.

Leading scorer for Norton was Johnnye Ruder with 5, followed by Alec Melvin, 2; Bailey Ambrosier, A. Pfannenstiel, 1.

St. Clair led Osborne with 15 points.

"Again, it was an up and down night," said Norton assistant girls coach George Rossi.

"We were very competitive in the first quarter but we looked asleep on our feet in the second quarter. Osborne just outthrustled us and made their baskets on second and third shots. We need to learn how to work hard all the time."

Next action

Norton will host Plainville in

Mid-Continent League play this evening. Games will begin at 5 p.m. with the junior varsity boys game in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym. They will play four 8-minute quarters.

The junior varsity girls game will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the NCHS Stull Gym and they will play two 8-minute quarters.

The girls varsity game will begin at the regular time of 6:15 p.m. and will be followed by the boys varsity contest.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton Girls

Tawni Griffey 6 3 5-6 26; Kaylen Rossi 0 1 2-3 5; Erin Terrell 2 0 3-9 7; Dustyna Sprigg 0 0 2-4 2; Kamilla Jones 2 0 0-0 4; Caren Thomson 3 0 0-0 6; Game Totals 13 4 12-22 50.

Osborne Girls

Katie Girard 0 0 0-1 0; Jessica Prine 1 0 0-3 2; Taylor Noel 1 0 0-0 2; Rachel St. Clair 1 2 0-2 8; Baylee Wolters 1 1 0-0 5; Alyssa Winole 2 0 0-0 4; Caitlyn Miller 3 0 1-3 7; Jordyn Sturgeon 9 0 3-5 21; Game Totals 18 3 4-14 49.

Blue Jays lose to Osborne Bulldogs

By DICK BOYD

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Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team was within striking distance of Osborne during their entire Mid-Continent League game at Osborne on Friday night and even took a slim lead on occasion but the Bulldogs were on top 51-43 at the final buzzer.

The score was tied 15-all after one quarter and Osborne led 24-23 at halftime. The Bulldogs led 38-35 after three periods but senior guard Terrell Lane buried a three-point shot with 5:45 left in the game to tie the score at 38-all.

After two free throws by Dakota Dreher and a basket by Jordan Wahlmeier, Osborne led by just 44-42 with 3:09 left. Norton hit only a free throw by Wahlmeier the rest of the way and the Bulldogs swished two more baskets and three charities to stretch their final margin of victory to 8 points.

Wahlmeier scored 10 of Norton's 15 first quarter points on five baskets but hit only one more basket in the second quarter in addition to one in the fourth plus his free throw.

Lane started with a trey in the first quarter and provided most of the firepower for the Blue Jays with two baskets from beyond the

arc, a two-pointer and two free throws in the third quarter.

"This was another tough loss with plenty of opportunities to win," said coach Reusink. "We just have not been able to make plays when we need to. We would get the lead but wouldn't make a stop on the defensive end to stay there.

"As a group, we are struggling with consistency on the offensive end and just do not play with confidence, causing us to make some bad decisions.

"It is not going to get any easier with Plainville, the best opponent we have played since the first game of the season, in our next game on Tuesday."

Lane finished the game with 16 points on 4 of 7 from beyond the arc for 57 percent, 1 of 5 two-point baskets for 20 percent and 5 of 12 overall for 42 percent. He was perfect on 2 free throws.

Wahlmeier added 15 points on 7 of 13 from the field for 54 percent and 1 of 4 charities for 25 percent.

Leading scorer for Osborne was DeMars with 23; Mick added 11.

As a team, Norton hit 5 of 13 from long range for 39 percent, 11 of 33 two-point tries for 33 percent and 16 of 46 overall for just 35 percent.

The Bulldogs were much more accurate with their shooting. They

hit 1 of 3 treys for 33 percent, 22 of 41 two-point attempts for 54 percent and 23 of 44 overall for 52 percent.

From the charity stripe, Norton converted 6 of 11 for 55 percent and Osborne connected on 4 of 14 for 29 percent.

Norton outrebounded Osborne 26-21. The Blue Jays pulled down 11 offensive and 15 defensive rebounds and the Bulldogs grabbed 6 offensive and 15 defensive caroms.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Wahlmeier with 14, followed by Dakota Dreher, Terrell Lane, Jacob Brooks, 3 each; Dillon McConney, Luke Ninemire, Tye Nickell, 1 each.

Norton was credited with just 4 steals but Osborne had none.

The Blue Jays had 16 assists and the Bulldogs recorded only 3. Norton's assists leader was Lane with 6, followed by Nickell, Brooks, 3 each; Dreher, 2; McConney, Zach Hartwell, 1 each.

Norton lost the junior varsity boys game by a 38-25 score.

The Bulldogs trailed by quar-

ters 10-6, 20-13 and 26-18.

John Renner was leading scorer for Norton with 9 points, followed by Zach Hartwell, Jacob Brooks, 4 each; Taylor Meder, 3; Andrew Ellis, Lane Bigge, 2 each; Travis Cressler, 1.

Leading scorer for Osborne was Ubelaker with 10; Clark added 9.

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GAME STATISTICS

Norton Boys

Dakota Dreher 1 0 2-3 4; Jordan Wahlmeier 7 0 1-4 15; Luke Ninemire 1 0 0-2; Zach Hartwell 0 1 0-0 3; Terrell Lane 1 4 2-2 16; Jacob Brooks 1 0 1-2 3; Game Totals 11 5 6-11 43.

Osborne Boys

Mick 5 0 1-4 11; DeMars 10 0 3-7 23; Schurr 2 1 0-1 7; Pruter 1 0 0-0 2; Plowman 1 0 0-0 2; Bertrand 2 0 0-0 4; Game Totals 22 1 4-14 51.

NORCATUR NEWS

Mr. Wiggles brought a new buddy to Norcatur from Independence, Mo., for the Christmas holiday. DJ (black lab) made his first acquaintance to Norcatur. Tara and Anita were the official chauffeurs for the dog's trip to see Grandma Bee Nelson. Tara, Anita and Bee also visited Rea and Dee Magers, Wava Reames Dorothy Ward, Mary Leslie and the McCallister family during the Christmas vacation.

I'm sure Ron Temple was secretly glad to see them go home. On Christmas Eve morning, Wiggles thought he had been given the task as the new greeter at the post office. Ron was the first recipient of Wiggles' misunderstanding.

Eleven Senior Citizens braved the freezing weather to play cards on Friday afternoon, Dec. 31. Winners were Shirley Wilcox, Eleanor Jensen and Virgil Price.

Jeff Magers and his girl friend, Joy Luoto, Cedar Bluffs, visited his folks on Sunday. They brought the makings for a pork loin dinner and cooked it for everybody to celebrate a late Happy New Year. It was very delicious and they followed that with some scrabble games and football watching.

Gary and Cathy Anthony had as dinner guests home on Christmas, Keith Anthony and Windy and Chlis Kuhlman, Jack, Tony and Dillon.

It's been a year now since Gary Anthony came home from the hospital and started dialysis in

McCook. Many have offered help in driving him to McCook on treatment days and we are very thankful to all who helped.

Lacey Roe received the second half of the 2010-2011 scholarship from the Norcatur Commercial Club. She has been offered the internship with the Kansas City Chiefs this semester. She will be working one on one with their graphic designer. Her projects will include: Web graphics; Brand Management (Logo); Event support (invitations, signage); Illustration and photography and assist Graphic Designer as needed.

Guests of Dave and Patty Stapp on Dec. 23 for a pre-Christmas supper and gift exchange were: Sam Stapp, Kaitlyn Stapp, Michael Schamberger, Hoxie, Marian Dempewolf and Dewaine Stapp, Oberlin; Dave and Linda Schliep, Spencer and Addison, McCook.

Dave and Patty Stapp, Sam Stapp and Dewaine Stapp spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with Jerrod and Kortney Poire and Kynleigh at Erie. They attended Christmas Eve service at the Erie United Methodist Church then celebrated Kynleigh's first Christmas on Christmas morning.

Lora Arnold and John and Brenda Arnold were supper guests on Dec. 25 of Mark and Julianna Baker and Noah.

Happy Birthday to Mike Mapes, Jan. 6; Debra Helm, Jan.

7 and Clint Hatfield, Jan. 10.

Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Dec. 22 were: James Dalziel, first; Larry Lively, second. Results of the pool tournament Dec. 29 were: Don Relaford, first; James Dalziel, second, and Matt Wilson, third.

Stan Miller went to El Dorado on Dec. 19, to bring Carol home after spending 10 days with Mr. and Mrs. Casey Tuttle and new grandbaby, Jade. Mr. and Mrs. Curt DeDonder and Sophia, Toppeka, joined them at the Tuttle home for an early Christmas celebration for Stan, Carol and their family since the DeDonders will not be back this year for Christmas. Stan and Carol returned home on Monday, Dec 20 in time to attend a Christmas party with Carol's mother, Lila Rule, at Whispering Pines in Norton.

Christmas dinner guests at the Stan Miller farm were Lila Rule, Norton; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Miller, Oberlin; Mr. and Mrs. Rocky DeLano, Wichita; Casey Morris, Lubbock, Texas, and Derrick Bolliger, Oxford, Neb. Other guests on Friday were Aimee Applebury, Eli and Karyssa, Colby, before all went to Oberlin to have supper and a gift exchange at the Gary Miller home. Mr. and Mrs. Casey Tuttle and Jade also joined them there.

Mr. and Mrs. Casey Tuttle and Jade, El Dorado were guests at the Stan Miller farm from Dec.

27-Dec. 30 They went to Norton on Dec. 28 to visit Grandma Lila Rule. Gail Brooks was a visitor on Dec. 29.

Wava Reames' grandchildren, Shawnda and James, arrived Monday, Dec. 20, just in time for the Christmas party at Whispering Pines with Frank Ward. They won two free dinners by having the most family there with him. Shawnda could only stay until Thursday before having to get back to Oklahoma, but James stayed until New Year's Eve when they met Shawnda in Great Bend. He also enjoyed playing with Brynden Wentz.

They had Christmas Eve dinner and Christmas supper with Ruby Pflieger. Guests were Keith Ward, Frank Ward, Leslie Ward, Robert and Kaley Daniels, and Wava Reames. Additional guests for Christmas Day were Kevin McMurry, Cheryl McMurry, and Karen Deresa.

Wava, James, and Bee Nelson ate lunch with Frank Ward at Whispering Pines on Tuesday. Wava also ate with her Dad on Sunday, Jan. 2.

Mark, Debby and Brandon Ward of Hugo, Colo., spent Christmas weekend with Dorothy Ward. Mark was entertaining a cold.

Don and Joyce Hill's son, Steve and Erick of Denver, came Christmas Day so Jerry could go to Colorado to be with all the rest of the family.

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LOOK! NEW AND USED!!

2011 Dodge Journey Crossover - Front wheel drive, deep cherry red crystal pearl coat, third row seating.

2011 Dodge RAM 1500 1/2 Ton Crew Cab SLT - 4 wheel drive, deep cherry red crystal pearl coat, 5.7 Hemi MPS V8, 5 speed automatic.

2011 Dodge RAM 2500 Crew Cab Shortbox - 4 wheel drive, white gold clear coat, SLT, 6.7 liter Cummins turbo diesel, 6 speed automatic.

2011 Dodge RAM 2500 SLT Crew Cab - 4x4 6.7 turbo diesel, brite silver metallic, chrome tubular side steps, remote start.

2007 Chevrolet Malibu LS - 4 door sedan, light blue metallic, 2.2 engine, 63,000 miles.

2007 Chrysler 300 Touring Sedan Limited Edition - Inferno red crystal pearl coat, 3.5 V-6, automatic overdrive, 38,000 miles.

2006 Chrysler PT Cruiser Touring 4 Door Hatchback - Magnesium, 2.4 engine, automatic, 25,000 miles.

2010 Chrysler Town and Country Touring Wagon - Clearwater blue pearl coat, 3.8 V6, 6 speed automatic transmission, 22,000 miles.

2008 Chrysler Town and Country Touring Wagon - Brilliant black, 3.8 V-6 6 speed automatic, rear seat dual screen DVD players, back up camera, 35,000 miles.

2007 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT - Modern blue pearl coat, Stow 'n Go, 3.8 V-6, automatic overdrive, 35,000 miles.

2006 Dodge Grand Caravan XLT - Bright silver metallic, 3.8 V-6, automatic overdrive, 94,000 miles.

2005 Chrysler Town and Country Limited Wagon - Bright white leather bucket seats, 3.8 V-6, automatic overdrive, rear entertainment with DVD player, 120,000 miles.

2005 Chrysler Town and Country Touring Wagon - Butane blue pearl coat, 3.8 V-6, automatic overdrive, rear entertainment with DVD player, 89,000 miles.

1999 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport - Candy apple red metallic, 3.3 V6, automatic, fiberglass running boards, 140,000 miles.

2009 GMC Acadia Cross Over Vehicle - Front wheel drive, bright silver metallic, 8 passenger seating, 3.6 V-6, 6 speed automatic, new tires, 31,000 miles.

2007 Cadillac SRX All Wheel Drive Cross Over Vehicle - Gold mist metallic, 3.6 V-6 engine, 6 speed automatic, navigational radio, rear seat DVD player, new tires, 54,000 miles.

2007 Chevrolet Trail Blazer - 4 door, 4 wheel drive, greystone metallic, LS decor, 4200 6 cylinder engine, 70,000 miles.

2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited - 4 wheel drive, bright silver metallic, 5.7 V-8, automatic overdrive, DVD player, 24,000 miles.

1999 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer - 4 door, 4 wheel drive, hunter green, 4.3 V-6, automatic, 140,000 miles.

2008 Dodge 1/2 Ton Quad Cab Shortbox - 4 wheel drive, inferno red crystal, big horn package, 5.7 Hemi V-8, automatic overdrive, trailer tow group, 50,000 miles.

2007 Dodge RAM 3500 Regular Cab-Chassis - 4 wheel drive, bright silver metallic, SLT, 6.7 Cummins turbo-diesel, 6 speed automatic, Cannon Ball bale bed, 26,000 miles.

2007 Dodge RAM 3500 One Ton Quad Cab Dually Diesel - Bright silver metallic, Laramie decor, 6.7 turbo diesel, 6 speed automatic transmission, powder coat flatbed, 123,000 miles.

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