

Norton senior guard Terrell Lane drives by a Colby defender for two of the 27 points he scored on Tuesday evening on the Eagles' home court. Terrell hit 56 percent from the field and 75 percent from the free throw line. The Blue Jays enjoyed defeating Colby at home for the first time in 20 years.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Blue Jays defeat the Eagles

By **DICK BOYD**
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Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team got "the monkey off his back" on Tuesday evening when they defeated the Eagles 66-58 in Colby.

You see, in coach Reusink's 20 successful years as head coach of the Blue Jays, his boys team had never won in Colby!

The determined Blue Jays decided it was time to win one for the coach. They traded baskets for three quarters then broke it loose in the fourth quarter, outscoring Colby 18-9.

As the Eagles got farther behind in the final stanza, they fouled Norton players and put them to the free throw line. The Blue Jays hit 7 of 9 charities to ensure the victory.

Colby led 20-15 after one quarter but Norton outscored them 16-13 in the second period to trail by just 33-31 after halftime.

Norton outscored Colby 17-16 in the third period to take a slim 49-48 advantage into the final stanza. The Eagles hit only four baskets in the fourth period as the Blue Jay defense played their best quarter.

"It was a good victory and did get the monkey off my back," said coach Reusink.

"We played well offensively with a lot of our guys scoring and sharing the ball.

"Defensively, we're still not consistent and weren't throughout the game until the fourth quarter. Earlier in the game we'd get even or up by two and didn't make defensive stops."

Senior point guard Terrell Lane and sophomore guard Jacob Brooks led the way in scoring for Norton in the first quarter when Lane hit a trey and two two-point baskets and Brooks buried three two-pointers. Junior forward Jordan Wahlmeier also hit a two-point basket.

Lane continued to find the range and contributed 10 points to the Blue Jays' 16 point second quarter with two treys and two two-point baskets. Senior forward Dakota Dreher, Brooks and Wahlmeier each hit a basket in the period.

Lane was still connecting in the third quarter when he buried another three-pointer and two more two-point baskets. Junior guard Dillon McConney got in on the scoring with a basket from beyond the arc and a putback two-point shot. Wahlmeier hit another basket and free throw and junior guard Tye Nickell hit a two-pointer.

The Blue Jays saved the best for last when they put in 18 final period points. Brooks ended with two more two-point baskets and two charities, Lane hit 3 of 4 free throws, McConney buried another trey, Wahlmeier and Nickell each hit another basket and Dreher swished two charities.

Terrell Lane ended with 27 points on 4 of 6 from beyond the arc for 67 percent, 6 of 12 two-point tries for 50 percent and 10 of 18 for 56 percent overall. He was also 3 of 4 from the free throw line for 75 percent.

Jacob Brooks finished with 14 points on 6 of 11 two-point attempts for 55 percent and a

perfect 2 of 2 from the charity stripe.

Kale Arnberger and Clint Goossen led Colby with 15 points each and Corbin Stephens added 14.

As a team, Norton connected on 6 of 9 from beyond the arc for 67 percent, 20 of 41 two-point attempts for 49 percent and 26 of 50 for an outstanding 52 percent accuracy overall.

Colby shot about as well. They were 6 of 12 from long range for 50 percent, 19 of 36 two-point tries for 53 percent and 25 of 48 for the same 52 percent overall as Norton.

From the free throw line, Norton swished 8 of 11 for an excellent 73 percent and the Eagles hit just 2 of 5 from the line for 40 percent.

Norton outrebounded the taller Colby quintet. The Blue Jays pulled down 7 offensive and 17 defensive rebounds for 24 total. The Eagles grabbed 9 offensive and 11 defensive caroms for 20 total.

Wahlmeier led Norton with 8 rebounds, followed by Lane, 5; McConney, 4; Brooks, 3; Dreher, 2; Luke Ninemire, Nickell, 1 each.

McConney and Ninemire each blocked 1 Colby shot.

Norton had 7 steals and Colby had 5. Wahlmeier and Lane led with 2 thefts each, followed by McConney, Nickell, Jacobs, 1 each.

The Blue Jays had 16 offensive assists and Colby had 12. Nickell and Lane each had 5, followed by McConney, Brooks, 2 each; Wahlmeier, Ninemire, 1 each.

Norton had just 8 turnovers and

Colby had 11.

Junior Varsity

The Blue Jays were defeated in the boys junior varsity game by a score of 54-40.

Zach Hartwell led Norton in scoring with 20 points.

Other game information was not available at the Telegram's press time.

C-team

Norton lost the boys C-team game by a score of 59-45.

Norton trailed by quarters 16-14, 40-22 and 53-34.

Leading scorer for the Blue Jays was Tanner Furbush with 17 points, followed by Trever Lewis, 12; Toby Nickell, 5; Damian Lawson, 4; Marc Miller, 3; Drew Schrum, Travis Cressler, 2 each.

Marc Bremen Kemp led Colby with 23 points.

Next action

Post season Sub-State basketball action begins next week.

The Norton boys (12-8) are seeded No.4 in the Smith Center Sub-State Tournament and will play No.5 seeded Ellsworth (10-10) at 6 p.m. on Tuesday evening in the NCHS Stull Gym.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton Boys

Dakota Dreher 10-2-24; Jordan Wahlmeier 40 1-3-9; Dillon McConney 1 2 0-0 8; Tye Nickell 2 0 0-0 4; Terrell Lane 6 4 3-4 27; Jacob Brooks 6 0 2-2 14; Game Totals 20 6 8-11 66.

Colby Boys

Luke Cox 1 0 0-0 2; Kale Arnberger 3 3 0-0 15; Clint Goossen 3 30-1 15; Corbin Stephens 6 0 2-4 14; Todd Kane 1 0 0-0 2; Spencer Tubbs 5 0 0-10; Game Totals 19 6 2-5 58.



Good Luck at Sub-State Norton Blue Jays!

Lady Jays lose to Colby

By **DICK BOYD**

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Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team played well against Colby, the No.4 ranked Class 4A team in the state of Kansas, on Tuesday evening in Colby but came up short in a 46-30 contest.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to a 14-9 first quarter lead and were on top 31-13 at halftime. It was 40-18 after the third quarter but the Lady Jays outscored the Lady Eagles 12-6 in the fourth stanza to reduce the final margin of victory.

"The score may not show it but we played much better tonight," said coach Jilka.

"Colby is a very fine ball club and they showed why.

"Offensively, they full court pressed us all night and we only had 14 turnovers with half of those coming when we just threw the ball to them. Otherwise, we executed very well but missed some easy shots.

"Defensively, we played well at times and other times we had some breakdowns. We still don't block out very well on rebounds and that continues to hurt us.

"We have a fresh start on Monday in the Sub-State and we just have to get mentally tough and be ready to go."

Norton's first quarter points came on three two-point baskets by sophomore guard Tawni Griffey and a basket from beyond the arc by senior guard Kaylen Rossi.

In the second quarter, Norton was limited to 4 points on baskets by Griffey and sophomore forward Kamilla Jones.

Jones hit another basket in the third quarter, senior guard Dustyna Sprigg tallied from two-point land and freshman guard Katelyn Engelbert hit a free throw.

In the Lady Jays' 12-point fourth period, Sprigg hit two more baskets and three charities and Griffey added another two-point basket and one from long range.

Leading scorer for Norton was Griffey with 13 points on 1 of 4 trey tries for 25 percent, 5 of 6 two-point attempts for a net-smoking 83 percent accuracy and 6 of 10 for 60 percent overall.

Sprigg ended with 9 points on 3 of 7 two-point tries for 43 percent and 3 of 6 from the charity stripe for 50 percent.

Lauren Bell led Colby in scoring with 12 points; Kayla Hockersmith added 10.

As a team, Norton hit 2 of 8 from beyond the arc for 25 percent, 10 of 23 two-point attempts for 43 percent and 12 of 31 for 39 percent overall.

The Lady Eagles hit 2 of 7 from long range for 29 percent, 18 of 34 two-point tries for 53 percent and 20 of 41 overall for 49 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton connected on 4 of 9 for 44 percent and Colby was accurate on 4 of 5 for 80 percent.

Norton had 4 offensive and 8 defensive rebounds for 12 total. Colby grabbed 7 offensive and 8 defensive caroms for 15 total.

Sprigg was leading rebounder for the Lady Jays with 5, followed by Engelbert, 4; Griffey, 2; Caren Thomson, 1.

The Lady Jays had 6 steals and the Lady Eagles had 12 thefts.

Sprigg was steals leader for Norton with 2, followed by Griffey, Engelbert, Rossi, Jones,

1 each.

Norton had 7 offensive assists and Colby had 9. Griffey and Rossi each had 2 assists and Sprigg, Jones and Thomson had 1 each.

The Lady Jays had 14 turnovers and the Lady Eagles had 12.

The Norton girls are now 9-10 for the season.

Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity girls were defeated 60-13.

They trailed by quarters 15-5, 33-10 and 53-12

Leading scorer for Norton was Johnnye Ruder with 6 points. She was followed by Antjelica Pfannenstiel, Abby Bainter, Alec Melvin, 2 each; Bailey Ambrosier, 1.

Heileigh Shull led Colby in scoring with 19 points.

"This was a disappointing way to end our season," said Norton assistant girls basketball coach George Rossi.

"We just did not play with any enthusiasm.

"This season just did not go our way. This is a great group of girls and they want to get better. The main thing is wanting and doing are two different things. They must work from now until November on their weaknesses.

"I enjoyed working with these girls and together we will all be better."

Next action

Smith Center is the host team for the Class 3A Sub-State Tournament but first round games will be played at schools with the higher seed.

The No.7 seeded Norton girls (9-10) will begin Sub-State play on Monday in a 6 p.m. game at No.2 seed Riley County (17-2).



Norton sophomore guard Tawni Griffey dribbles around a Colby player during the Lady Jays' loss to the Class 4A No.4 state ranked Lady Eagles on Tuesday evening in Colby. Tawni led Norton in scoring with 13 points on 60 percent accuracy from both three and two-point land.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

GAME STATISTICS

Norton Girls

Tawni Griffey 5 1 0-0 13; Katelyn Engelbert 0 0 1-2 1; Kaylen Rossi 0 1 0-1 3; Dustyna Sprigg 3 0 3-6 9; Kamilla Jones 2 0 0-0 4; Game Totals 10 2 4-9 30

Colby Girls

Kayla Hockersmith 5 0 0-0 10; Kelsey Shields 1 0 0-0 2; Katrina Kaus 3 0 1-2 7; Kenzie Curry 3 1 0-0 9; Morgan Bell 2 0 0-0 4; Lauren Bell 3 1 3-3 12; Karly Kriss 10 0-0 2; Game Totals 18 2 4-5 46.

Norton Blue Jays headed to Sub-State tourney

By **DICK BOYD**

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The Norton Community High School girls and boys basketball teams will compete in the Class 3A Sub-State Tournament in Smith Center next week.

Teams in the tournament, in addition to Norton and Smith Center, will be Ellsworth, Phillipsburg, Minneapolis, Southeast of Saline, Beloit and Riley County.

GIRLS

Girls first round games will be played on Monday at the site of the higher seeded team.

Smith Center (17-2) is seeded No.1 and will host No.8 Ellsworth

(1-19) at 6:30 p.m., Minneapolis (16-4) is seeded No.4 and will host No.5 seed Phillipsburg (11-8) at 6 p.m., Southeast of Saline (17-3) is seeded No.3 and will host No.6 seed Beloit (10-10) at 7 p.m. and Riley County (17-2) is seeded No.2 and will host No.7 seeded Norton (9-10) at 6 p.m.

On Thursday, winner of the Smith Center-Ellsworth and Phillipsburg-Minneapolis games will play in the semi-finals at Smith Center at 6 p.m. and the winners of the Southeast of Saline-Beloit and Norton-Riley County contests will play in the semi-finals at Smith Center at 7:30 p.m.

The winners of these two games

will play each other in the championship finals at 6 p.m. on Saturday in Smith Center.

The winner will receive a berth in the Class 3A State Tournament the next week in Hutchinson.

BOYS

Boys first round games will be played on Tuesday at the site of the higher seeded team.

No.1 seed Minneapolis (18-2) will host No.8 seeded Smith Center (6-13) at 6:30 p.m., No.4 seeded Norton (12-8) will host No.5 seeded Ellsworth (10-10) at 6 p.m., No.3 seeded Riley County (14-5) will host No.6 seeded Phillipsburg (9-10) at 6 p.m. and No.2

seeded Beloit (16-4) will host No.7 seeded Southeast of Saline (9-11) at 7 p.m.

On Friday, winners of the Minneapolis-Smith Center and Norton-Ellsworth games will play in the semi-finals at Smith Center at 6 p.m. and winners of the Riley County-Phillipsburg and Beloit-Southeast of Saline contests will play in the semi-finals at Smith Center 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 Saturday in Smith Center.

The winner will receive a berth in the Class 3A State Tournament the next week in Hutchinson.

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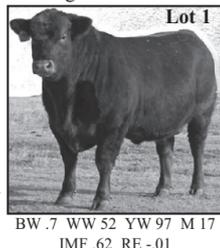
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