

The Lady Jays have a winning season

By DICK BOYD

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After 29 years as head girls basketball coach at Norton Community High School, Kevin Jilka turned it over to his long-time assistant coach George Rossi for the recently concluded 2012-13 season.

Following in the footsteps of the very successful Jilka was a challenge but coach Rossi and his girls put together a winning season with many exciting moments.

There were eight returning letter winners: Tawni Griffey, 5'6"; Alec Melvin, 5'7"; Kamilla Jones, 5'8"; seniors; Marisa Maddy, 5'2"; Katelyn Engelbert, 5'10"; Darcy Bainter, 5'7"; Bailey Ambrosier, 5'9" and Johnnye Ruder, 5'5", juniors.

Assistant coaches were Joan Bolt and Cheri Brooks.

Raenee Patterson was the student manager.

Griffey returned as the high scorer, averaging 12.5 points per contest and was the only All-Mid-Continent League selection returning.

Returning starters were Griffey, Jones and Engelbert.

"Our three seniors have been awesome leaders," coach Rossi said at the end of the 12-10 season. "It will be tough to replace our seniors but we have a lot of young players coming up. I'm proud of our players. We got a lot better during the season and improved in all areas. Thank you to everyone in the community for your loyal support this season."

Norton opened the season on Friday, Nov. 30 by hosting Goodland in the NCHS Stull Gym. Tawni Griffey was absent for the opener. The Lady Jays lost 49-27. "Both the girls and I were nervous before the game," said coach Rossi. "To our credit, we made a run in the fourth quarter."

Katelyn Engelbert led scoring for Norton with 7 points; Johnnye Ruder and Bailey Ambrosier each added 6 points.

Norton traveled to Goodland for three days the next week to compete in the annual Topside Tip-Off Tournament. On Thursday, Norton defeated Wray, Colo. by a score of 42-32. Norton led from start to finish; Griffey led scoring with 16 points.

In Friday's championship semi-finals, Norton played another first round winner, Ottawa. The Lady Jays lost to Ottawa by a score of 72-28. "Ottawa was the best team we've played in a long time," said coach Rossi. Griffey led Norton with 14 points.

The Lady Jays placed third in the tournament with a 35-24 win over Sharon Springs on Saturday.

"We played good defense and shot well enough to win," said coach Rossi.

Griffey was leading scorer with 13 points.

Norton stretched their record to 3-2 on Tuesday, Dec. 11 with a 47-28 win at Stockton. Defense was the key as the Lady Jays caused many turnovers and limited the Lady Tigers to just 3 points in the first and third quarters. Griffey led in scoring with 13 points.

On Friday, Dec. 14, Norton hosted long-time rival Phillipsburg and extended their win string with an exciting 63-54 double overtime win! Norton started slowly but finished fast. A free throw by Ambrosier with 2.1 seconds left sent the game into a second overtime. Engelbert hit three free throws and a basket in the second overtime and Griffey swished 6 of 6 free throws. Griffey scored 26 points and Ambrosier ended the night with 18 points. "It was a signature win over a team we haven't been beating," said coach Rossi.

Norton extended their season record to 5-2 with a 59-26 win over Cambridge in Norton on Tuesday, Dec. 18. Ambrosier scored 16 points and hit a perfect 7 of 7 free throws. It was a good win heading into the holiday break.

The Lady Jays opened the new year on Friday, Jan. 4 with a 51-36 loss at Osborne. Norton

was outshot pretty badly in the game. Griffey scored 14 points and Ambrosier added 13.

The Lady Jays got back on the winning trail on Tuesday, Jan. 8 when they defeated Plainville 52-47 in the NCHS Stull Gym. Norton jumped out to an early lead over an outstanding Lady Cardinal five and held off a late rally to win. Plainville was coming off a tournament title performance. Griffey scored 15 points.

On Friday, Jan. 11, Norton traveled to WaKeeney. The Lady Jays didn't shoot as well as Trego but took more shots and rebounded the Lady Golden Eagles to win 51-40 and extend their record to 7-3. Griffey led with 14 points.

The annual Mid-Continent League Tournament opened on Tuesday, Jan. 15 and No.4 seeded Norton hosted No.5 seed Plainville in the NCHS Stull Gym. Again, Plainville rallied in the fourth quarter but Norton still won 49-41. Ambrosier led Norton with 15 points.

On Friday, Jan. 18, Norton advanced to the tournament semi-finals in Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays. The Lady Jays played No.1 seed and unbeaten Smith Center. Norton played well and led 30-25 after three quarters but the Lady Red, led by Sydney Benoit, rallied for a 41-36 win. Griffey scored 21 points. Smith Center continued on to win their first ever State Basketball Championship, ending the season with a 24-2 record.

On Saturday, Norton played No.3 seed Osborne and lost 44-31 to place fourth. "They were physical and much more aggressive," said coach Rossi.

Ellis won the league tournament championship by a score of 73-63 over Smith Center.

Norton traveled to Class 4A Colby on Friday, Jan. 25, fell behind early and had no chance to catch up in a 64-34 loss that dropped their record to 8-6. Griffey scored 20 points.

On Tuesday, Jan. 29, Norton traveled to Smith Center for another contest with the No.5 state ranked Lady Red. The



Norton senior guard Tawni Griffey pulls down a rebound during the Lady Jays game with Ellis on February 14 in Norton. Griffey was leading scorer, leading free throw shooter, steals leader and assists leader for the Lady Jays this season.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Lady Jays stayed close for three quarters but you have to play four and Smith Center won 69-47. Griffey led Norton with 18 points. "We have the ability to play with good teams but need to improve in all areas," said coach Rossi.

The Lady Jays extended their record to 9-7 with a 42-33 win over Hill City on Friday, Feb. 1 in the NCHS Stull Gym. Former Norton girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka and his former players were honored for 29 successful seasons.

"Our girls played very hard and very steady," said coach Rossi. "This was a big win for us." Griffey scored 22 points.

On Saturday, Feb. 2, Norton traveled to Atwood and returned with a hard-earned 47-35 vic-

tory. Atwood made a couple of runs but Norton always answered to record their tenth win of the season. Ruder led Norton in scoring with 16 points, which included hitting 4 of 6 from beyond the arc for 67 percent shooting.

Norton hosted Oberlin on Tuesday, Feb. 5 and defeated the Lady Red Devils 51-26. Norton led from start to finish as all 12 girls who suited up saw some action. Griffey was leading scorer with 15 points but 10 different players scored for Norton. "We played very hard and it was a good win for us," said coach Rossi.

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, Norton traveled to play No.2 state ranked and unbeaten Hoxie. The Lady Indians did not over-

whelm the Lady Blue Jays but just scored a few extra points in each period. Norton played very hard against them but still lost 73-49. It was Hoxie's smallest victory margin of the season at that point. Later, Hoxie remained undefeated and went on to win the State Championship. Griffey scored 20 points against Hoxie on 58 percent field goal shooting.

Norton played an excellent Ellis team, who had upset Smith Center in the league tournament, on Thursday, Feb. 14 in the NCHS Stull Gym. It was "Senior Night" and Norton played well against the No.3 state ranked Lady Railroaders for three quarters but it wasn't enough. Norton trailed by just 25-21 at halftime but was out-scored 15-2 in the third quarter in a 45-32 loss. The Lady Jays' record was 11-9 with the regular season completed.

Seniors and their parents were honored during the evening of the Ellis game. Senior players were Tawni Griffey, Alec Melvin and Kamilla Jones. Senior dance team members were Sami Gordon, Shelbi McKenna, Kelsey Mordecai and Teal Stewart. Senior cheerleaders were Sierra Black, Katherine Boteler and Katie Koch.

Norton was seeded No. 3 in the Class 3A Sub-State Tournament, which was held in Norton. The Lady Jays opened Sub-State play hosting No.6 seed Minneapolis on Wednesday, Feb. 27. Norton held a comfortable lead until the fourth quarter when they had to fight off a furious rally by the Lady Lions for a 43-41 win! Griffey's basket and free throw in the final seconds gave Norton the win. Norton had good scoring distribution with six players scoring but none in double figures.

On Thursday in the NCHS Stull Gym, Norton hosted No. 2 seed Ellsworth in the tournament semi-finals. Norton played hard but didn't hit enough baskets and lost 52-27. Norton hit just 30 percent from the field compared to 48 percent for Ellsworth.

The loss ended a very successful 12-10 season for the Lady Jays and their first year head coach George Rossi. During the season, they played against some of the best teams in the state and always gave a good account of themselves.

Season statistics
Leading scorer for Norton this season was Tawni Griffey with an average of 14 points per contest. Second high scorer was Bailey Ambrosier with a 9 point average. Johnny Ruder averaged 5.1 points per game and Katelyn Engelbert had a 5 point average.

Griffey was leading free throw shooter, hitting 81 percent of her charity tosses. Alec Melvin hit 61 percent of her free throws and Kamilla Jones swished 53 percent of her charity throws.

Ambrosier led Norton in field goal percentage, hitting 58 percent of her attempts.

Engelbert was leading rebounder with 151 total caroms or an average of 6.9 boards per game. Ambrosier was close behind with 143 total rebounds and an average of 6.5 per contest. Griffey pulled down 75 rebounds or 3.6 per game.

Griffey steals leader with 49 for the season or an average of 2.3 per game. She was followed by Engelbert, 27; Ambrosier, 25; Jones 23; Melvin 17.

Griffey was also offensive assists leader with 73 total, or 3.5 per contest. Jones had 20 assists, Ruder 18 and Engelbert 14.



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ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013 @ 10:30 AM, CDT

AUCTION LOCATION:
ST. FRANCIS PARISH HALL
NORTON, KANSAS

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:
TRACT 1: SW/4 of Section 29-2-23
TRACT 2: NE/4 of Section 25-2-24



SELLER:
LEITNER FAMILY TRUST

LAND LOCATION: From the intersections of Hwy 36 and 283 in Norton Kansas -
Tract 1: Go 3 miles West on Hwy 36 to Road W3, and 1 mile North to the SW corner
Tract 2: Go 3 miles West to Road W3, 1 mile North to Road L, 1 mile West to Road W4 and 1/2 mile North to the SE corner. SIGNS WILL BE POSTED!
MANNER OF SALE: This real estate will be offered in 2 individual tracts only. There will be no combination of tracts. Auction procedure and increments of bidding are at the discretion of the auction company.
TERMS: 10% down day of sale, with the balance to be paid on or before April 30, 2013, or upon such terms as may be acceptable to the Sellers. Personal and corporate checks are acceptable for the down payment, with the final payment to be made in certified funds. All funds will be held by the auction company in their trust account or by an identified title/escrow company. Bidding is not contingent upon financing. Financing, if necessary, needs to be arranged and approved prior to the auction. *Announcements made day of sale will take precedence over printed material and previously made oral statements.*
MINERAL RIGHTS: Seller shall retain 100% of the mineral rights perpetually.
CROPS: Tenant's will retain 100% of all 2013 crops under the current cash lease agreements through December 31, 2013. Buyer(s) will receive 100% of all cash lease payments for 2013. See chart below for lease payment amounts.
FSA INFORMATION: Tenant will retain 100% of all FSA payments under the current cash lease agreement through December 31, 2013. See chart below for cropland acres, base acres & DCP yields.
CLOSING: Date of closing will be on or before April 30, 2013.
POSSESSION: Possession will be the date of closing, subject to the tenant's rights through December 31, 2013.
REAL ESTATE TAXES: Sellers will pay taxes for all of 2012 and prior years. Taxes for 2013 will be the responsibility of the Buyer(s). See chart below for 2012 taxes.

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TR #	TOTAL ACRES	CROP LAND	2013 LEASE PAYMENTS	WHEAT BASE/YLD	CORN BASE/YLD	GR SORG YLD	OATS BASE/YLD	2012 TAXES
1	160	156.3	\$7,815.00	72.5/38	36.5/46	10.6/56	0.2/42	\$694.70
2	160	155.1	\$7,720.00	38.8/38		38.8/51		\$645.44
320.0		311.4						

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS: The successful bidders will be required to enter into a real estate purchase contract immediately following the auction. Copies of the contract will be available from the auction company prior to the sale.
ACREAGES: Acreage figures are considered to be approximate and are from reliable sources based on (USDA) FSA figures. All FSA information is subject to change, including but not limited to the number of cropland acres, grass acres, base acres and yields. FSA acres may not be the same as deeded acres or county appraiser acres. Acreages are not covered by title insurance.
EVIDENCE OF TITLE: Seller will provide title insurance to the Buyer(s) in the amount of the purchase price with the premium to be paid one-half by the Buyer(s) and one-half by the Seller. Title evidence will be provided on sale day.
INSPECTIONS: Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting their own independent inspections and due diligence concerning pertinent facts about the property. Neither Seller nor Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc., its agents or representatives, are making any warranties about the property, either expressed or implied.
EASEMENTS: This sale is subject to all rights-of-way and easements, whether recorded or not. There are oil and gas leases of record on both tracts.
AGENCY: Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc., its agents and representatives, are the Exclusive Agent of the Seller.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Leitner Family Trust has decided to liquidate their Norton County land due to the death of their mother, Lucille E. Leitner. The farms have two tenants who will operate the farm thru the 2013 season under the cash lease agreements which are in effect. Copies of the leases are available upon request. Lease payments are set out in the chart above. This land is located near the City of Norton in an area of very few land offerings. **THIS WILL BE A PRIME OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO YOUR HOLDINGS IN THE AREA, OR IT WOULD MAKE A GREAT INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE.**

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