

# Blue Jays lose sight of victory in first game

By DICK BOYD

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Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team had a season-opening victory in their sights for three quarters Friday night in Goodland before falling 54-49 to the home standing Cowboys.

Norton led 16-12 after one quarter, 30-25 at halftime and 38-33 after three quarters. Both teams had four field goals in the fourth period but Goodland hit 11 free throws compared to 3 for Norton.

After sophomore Quinton Porter swished a long three-point shot, senior Trever Lewis stole the ball and drove for two points and junior Conor Cox blocked a Goodland shot, Norton led 45-38 with just five minutes remaining in the game. Goodland hit the next seven points to tie the score at 45-all. Then, a Norton turnover against

the full court press and a three-point basket by the Cowboys gave them just their second lead of the game at 48-45. Porter stepped to the line and hit two free throws to make it 48-47 with 2:02 left.

Two Goodland free throws made it 50-47 with time running out. Senior Drew Schrum gave Norton a slight chance of winning when he hit a basket from the baseline with 26.8 seconds left to cut the Cowboy lead to 50-49. Norton had to foul in an effort to get the ball back but Goodland hit four more free throws in the final seconds of play to stretch their margin of victory to five points.

"I was very pleased with how we played," said coach Reusink. "We had trouble defending Gage Ihrig but the rest of our defensive effort was very good."

"Offensively, we had some boys step up which was a ques-

tion mark coming in. We did struggle against their press at times and we need to get better with our late game execution but those things are correctable."

Drew Schrum finished with 20 points on 58 percent field goal shooting. He hit 3 of 7 from long range for 43 percent and 4 of 5 from two-point range for 80 percent. Schrum also hit 3 of 5 free throws for 60 percent. Conor Cox added 9 points on 4 of 10 from the field for 40 percent and was 1 of 2 on free throws.

Gage Ihrig led Goodland with 24 points while Gannon Ihrig added 11.

As a team, Norton hit 5 of 16 from three-point range for 31 percent, 12 of 34 two-point tries for 35 percent and 17 of 50 overall for 34 percent.

Goodland scored on 7 of 20 triple tries for 35 percent, 10 of 23 two point attempts for 43

percent and 17 of 43 overall for 40 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays swished 10 of 15 for 67 percent compared to 13 of 19 for 68 percent by the Cowboys.

Norton grabbed 8 offensive and 18 defensive rebounds for 26 total while Goodland pulled down 9 offensive and 18 defensive caroms for 27 total.

Leading rebounder for Norton was senior Tanner Furbush, who grabbed 6 offensive and 6 defensive rebounds for 12 total.

Norton had 6 offensive assists. Furbush and Schrum each had 2 assists. Cox blocked 5 shots.

The Blue Jays had 12 steals while the Cowboys had just 1.

Norton had 19 turnovers compared to 16 for Goodland.

## Junior varsity

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys team also had a close contest but came out a 44-42 winner.

Norton led 13-11 after one quarter, trailed 22-21 at halftime and was behind 35-29 after three quarters but outscored the Cowboys 15-7 in the fourth period to win the game.

Freshman Tyus Henson led the young Blue Jays in scoring with 14 points, followed by junior Breven Sondergaard with 10 points. Other scorers were: Quinton Porter, 8; junior Derick Campbell, 5; junior Jordan Karnoppp, 4; junior Connor Griffey, 3.

Teeter was high scorer for Goodland with 14 points.

## C-team

Norton lost the C-team game by a 45-26 score. Norton trailed by quarters 6-3, 15-10 and 31-17.

Leading scorer for Norton was freshman Landon Porter with 14 points, followed by freshman Koby McEwen, 5; sophomore James Berry, 5; freshman Cruz Leon, 2.

## Norton boys

Quinton Porter 0 1 5-5 8; Drew Schrum 4 3 3-4 20; Conor Cox 4 0 1-1 9; Tanner Furbush 2 0 1-3 5; Trever Lewis 2 1 0-0 7; Totals 12 5 10-13 49.

## Goodland boys

Gage Ihrig 3 4 6-7 24; Ihrig 2 1 4-5 11; Avila 0 1 0-1 3; Trachsel 0 1 1-2 4; Lake 1 0 0-0 2; Miller 1 0 0-1 2; Smith 3 0 2-3 8; Totals 10 7 13-19 54.

## Next action

Norton will compete in the 25th annual Topside Tip-Off Basketball Tournament in Goodland this Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The Blue Jays will play McCook at 5 p.m. on Thursday in the Max Jones Field House.

Other first round games will be Burlington versus Oakley, 3 p.m.; Wray versus Sharon Springs, 7 p.m. and Goodland versus Belleview Christian, 9 p.m.

# Lady Jays lose season opener with loss to Goodland

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls basketball team opened the 2014 season on Friday night with a 42-25 loss at Goodland.

The Lady Jays stayed with the Lady Cowboys in a low scoring first half but did not keep up after intermission.

Norton trailed 10-7 after one quarter and by just 18-17 at halftime. The Lady Jays hit just 6 points in the third quarter, however, to trail 29-23 and hit only one basket in the final period.

"This was not what we wanted tonight," said Norton head coach George Rossi.

"Our execution was completely lacking in all areas of the game. Coming in, I was concerned with the possibility of turnovers. Unfortunately, our fears came true. We need to take better care of the ball and be more patient."

"On defense, we need to do a

better job of communicating.

"We will get better. Our girls know how to work hard and we all learned a lot about ourselves tonight. Communication and becoming both mentally and physically tougher will be our focus."

Eight different players scored for Norton but the high scorer was freshman Caitlyn Cox with just 6 points on three two-point baskets. Seniors Darcy Bainter and Bailey Ambrosier each added 4 points.

Leading scorer for Goodland was Faith Biermann with 10 points. Brianna White added 8.

As a team, Norton hit 2 of 15 three-point shots for 13 percent, 8 of 19 two-point tries for 42 percent and 10 of 34 overall for 29 percent.

Goodland hit 2 of 12 from long range for 17 percent, 16 of 38 two-point attempts for 42 percent and 18 of 50 overall for 36 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton was 3 of 12 for 25 per-

cent and Goodland swished 4 of 11 for 36 percent.

The Lady Jays pulled down 7 offensive and 19 defensive rebounds for 26 total compared to 27 for Goodland. Cox led Norton with 9 rebounds, followed by senior Katelyn Engelbert, 8; Bailey Ambrosier, 3; sophomore Casey Ambrosier, 3; Bainter, 2; senior Johnnye Ruder, 1.

Norton had just 4 steals in the game, 1 each from Engelbert, Bailey Ambrosier, Ruder and Casey Ambrosier. Goodland stole the ball 14 times.

The Lady Jays had 27 turnovers compared to 16 by the Lady Cowboys.

Norton had 8 offensive assists. Engelbert led with 4, followed by Ruder, 3; freshman Miah Melvin, 1.

## Junior varsity

The Norton girls junior varsity lost to Goodland by a score of 45-25.

Norton trailed by quarters 11-2, 17-15 and 25-23 but was

outscored 20-2 in the fourth quarter.

Leading scorer for Norton was Caitlyn Cox with 9, followed by sophomore Peyton Renner, 4; sophomore Casey Ambrosier, 4; Miah Melvin, 2; sophomore Lexi Voss, 2; freshman Kristen Dole, 2; junior Erin Archer, 1; freshman Baylee Miller, 1.

Scoring leader for Goodland was Margan Thompson with 10 points; Kelsey White added 9.

"We started out okay and were behind by only two points to start the fourth quarter but then our girls off the bench struggled with getting any momentum and we were nearly shut out in the fourth quarter," said Norton assistant coach Joan Bolt.

"We did learn a list of things we need to work on: communication and footwork on defense and stronger passing and running on offense with the mindset to score."

## C-team

The Norton C-team lost to Goodland by a score of 47-35.

# Norton Blue Jays win dual to open their season

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School wrestling team opened their 2014 season with a 54-18 dual victory over Phillipsburg on Friday evening in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym in Norton.

Norton won seven matches which were wrestled and three by forfeit.

## Coach's comments

"I was pleased with our intensity and the way we competed," said Norton head coach Bill Johnson.

"We are not at the fitness level we need to battle through an entire match but it's a long season. We are behind in conditioning for this time of year."

"We had some quality wins which is good considering we had five new wrestlers in their first ever varsity dual wrestling in the spotlight at home."

"For the most part, our young wrestlers stepped up and showed us some good things."

"I'm especially proud of Riley Hager, Kendall Miller and Kolton Harting, all three of whom defeated good wrestlers."

## Match results

106 - Norton sophomore Skylar Johnson pinned Nathan Minkler in 1:16.

113- Norton junior Caysean Campbell won by forfeit.

120 - Norton senior Branson Addington pinned Zach Davis in 1:37.

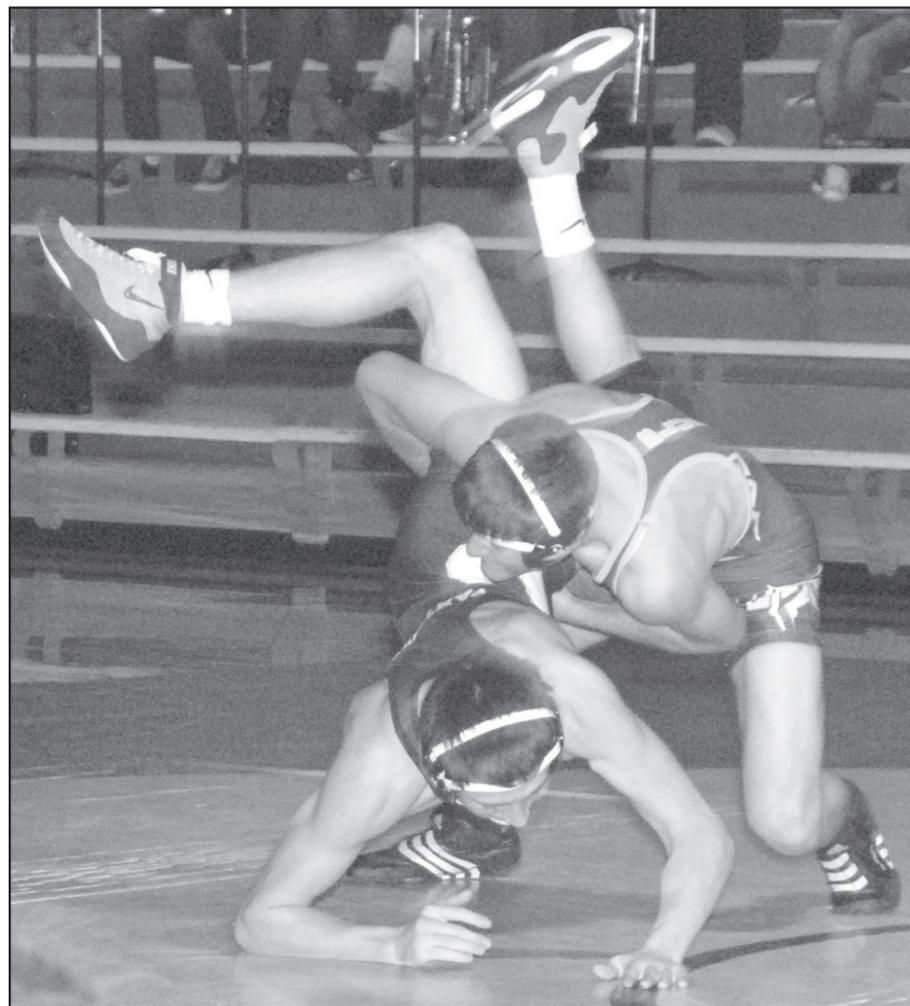
126 - Norton senior Ethan Ross lost a 6-2 decision to Riley Juennemann.

132- Norton senior Alec Hager pinned Keaton Hoft in 5:35.

138 - Norton sophomore Riley Hager won a 6-2 decision over Derick Coomes.

145 - Norton junior Jared Talent lost a 7-3 decision to Michael Dusin.

152- Norton sophomore Gavin



Norton sophomore Riley Hager takes Derick Coomes of Phillipsburg down to the mat during his 6-2 decision at 138 pounds in the dual at Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym on Friday night. Riley also wrestled well at the Hoxie Invitational on Saturday and was named Norton's "Wrestler of the Week" by the Norton coaches.

Lively won by forfeit.

160 - Norton junior Kendall Miller pinned Hunter Kohler in 4:50.

170 - Norton freshman Maverick Engel won by forfeit.

182 - Norton senior Cole

Renner pinned Seth Jacobs in :35.

195 - Norton senior Michael Johnson won a 7-3 decision over Seth Boswell.

220 - Norton freshman Jacob Green was pinned by Luke Ja-

cobs in 5:25.

285 - Norton senior Michael Johnson was pinned in 1:33 by Donovan Lumpkin.

## Junior varsity

113 - Norton freshman Kade Unterseher pinned Dakota Slack

in :51.

120 - Norton sophomore Kyle Bell pinned Crishuns Ford in :56.

152 - Norton freshman Layton Miller won a 7-3 decision over Drew Stapel.

182 - Norton sophomore Alex Hjort was pinned in :46 by Jon Mahathey.

285 - Norton junior Lance Armbrister was pinned in 4:13 by Connor Boxler.

145 - Norton sophomore Weston Erbert won a 7-5 decision over Drew Stapel.

285 - Norton freshman Chris Davis was pinned in :26 by Connor Boxler.

138 - Norton freshman Trenton Wright won a 7-3 decision over Keaton Hoft.

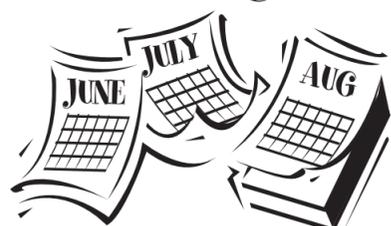
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## Community Calendar



Please submit your events for the Community Calendar which is printed in the Monday EXTRA. Events may be e-mailed to: nortontelegram@nwkans.com or mailed to 215 South Kansas Avenue

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd