

Norton wrestlers win MCL Tournament

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity wrestling team successfully defended their Mid-Continent League Round Robin Tournament championship during action Friday in the NCHS Stull Gym in Norton.

The Blue Jays scored 247 points, followed by Phillipsburg, 217; Oakley, 111; Ellis, 101; Plainville, 86; Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 65; Stockton, 39; Hill City, 33; Smith Center, 5.

Norton had six champions: junior Caysean Campbell, 106; senior Branson Addington, 113; senior Alec Hager, 138; sophomore Mike Kasson, 152; junior Kendall Miller, 160; sophomore Jordan Dole, 195.

Finishing runner-up were junior Jared Tallent, 145; senior Cole Renner, 170 and freshman Jacob Green, 220.

Senior Michael Johnson placed third at 285.

Sophomore Kyle Bell was fourth at 120 and senior Toby Nickell was sixth at 132 after having to injury forfeit.

The Blue Jays were open at 126 and 182.

Norton had a 32-9 won-loss record and a 30-7 pin ratio.

Wrestler of the Week

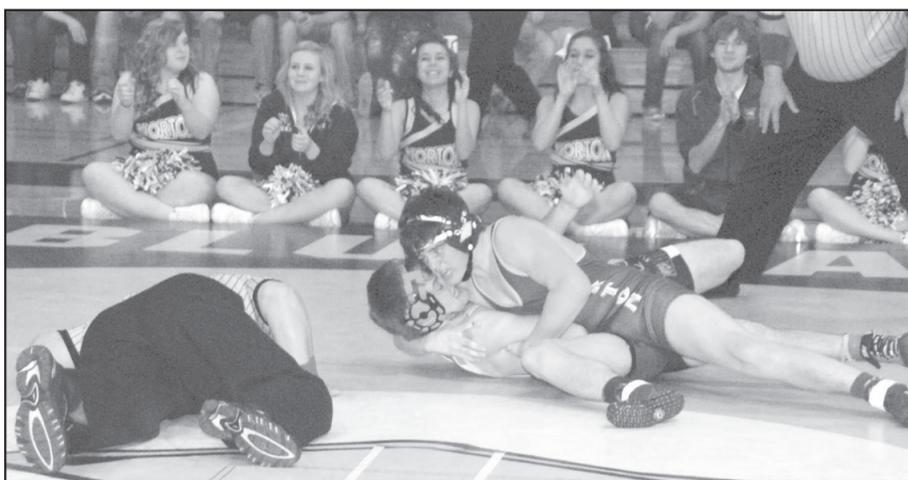
In honor of his performance, in the MCL Round Robin Tournament and the Holiday Wrestling Tournament in Goodland on Saturday, Mike Kasson was named "Wrestler of the Week" for Norton.

Coach's comments

"Since we had some injuries and were wrestling with several backups, I feel we did extremely well," said Norton head wrestling coach Bill Johnson.

"In the end, we were neck and neck with Phillipsburg and were able to pull out the win.

"I was most proud of Mike Kasson going up a weight class and winning.



Norton sophomore Mike Kasson makes Landon Younger of Ellis count the lights in 3:35 of their 152 pound match during the Mid-Continent League Round Robin Tournament in Norton on Friday. Kasson went unbeaten to win the championship and also wrestled well enough in Saturday's Holiday Classic in Goodland to be named Norton's "Wrestler of the Week" by the Norton coaches.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

"Many thanks to all the people in the community who helped put on the tournament."

Individual results

106 - Caysean Campbell drew a first round bye, pinned Trayton Kroeger, Ellis, in 1:35; pinned Nathan Minkler, Phillipsburg, in :19; pinned Brayden Winters, Stockton, in :50 and pinned Auston Holzmeister, Oakley, in 3:45 to win the championship.

113 - Branson Addington pinned Brian Joseph, Oakley, in 1:32; pinned Dillon Krier, Stockton, in 1:24; pinned Bryson Parson, Ellis, in :10; won a 6-0 decision over Tucker Rhoades, TMP and

pinned Zach Davis, Phillipsburg, in 1:56 to win the championship.

120 - Kyle Bell pinned Rees Lehman, Oakley, in 1:01; pinned Kieran Graf, Stockton, in :37; was pinned in 1:40 by George Klink, Phillipsburg and was pinned in 2:55 by Ricky Hockett, TMP, to place fourth.

126 - Norton was open. Riley Juenemann, Phillipsburg placed first with 5-3 decision over Gunner Kerns, Plainville. Gabe Hamel, Hill City, finished third by pinning Josh Plante, TMP, in 1:30.

132 - Toby Nickell lost an 8-3 decision to Wyatt Murphy, Oakley; was pinned in 3:58 by Trever

Houser, Plainville; drew a bye and injury forfeited to Devin Owen, Hill City, to place sixth.

138 - Alec Hager drew a bye; pinned Chase Ryan, Smith Center, in 1:19; pinned Jacob Kessler, Hill City, in 1:28; pinned Adam Gehring, Plainville, in 3:10 and pinned Taylor Murphy, Oakley, in 1:43 to win the championship.

145 - Jared Tallent won a 9-4 decision over Colter Stoll, Oakley; pinned Jared Pfeifer, Ellis in 4:33; pinned Justin Raynesford, TMP, in 3:36; pinned Chase Werner, Plainville, in 1:55 and lost a 3-2 decision to Michael Dusin, Phillipsburg, to place runner-up.

152 - Mike Kasson pinned Drew Stapel, Phillipsburg, in 3:11; pinned Jacob Roth, TMP, in :46; pinned Wayne Flipse, Oakley, in 5:02 and pinned Landon Younger, Ellis, in 3:35 to win the championship.

160 - Kendall Miller drew a bye; pinned Evan Ruiz, Stockton, in :40; pinned Gabe Wilkins, Plainville, in :28; pinned Jarred Dirks, Oakley, in 1:23; pinned Hunter Kohler, Phillipsburg, in 1:38 to win the championship.

170 - Cole Renner pinned Josh Smith, Ellis, in 1:59; drew a bye and was pinned in 5:12 by Dylan Wiesner, Plainville, to place runner-up.

182 - Norton was open. Seth Boswell, Phillipsburg, pinned Brandon Groff, Ellis, in 1:35 to win the championship. Landon Becker, Stockton, placed third.

195 - Jordan Dole drew a bye; pinned Dylan Haas, Ellis, in 3:04 and pinned Jon Mahathey, Phillipsburg, in 1:26 to win the championship.

220 - Jacob Green pinned Skyler Tebo, Ellis in 1:30; pinned Braden Higdon in 2:53 and was pinned in 1:49 by Luke Jacobs, Phillipsburg to place runner-up.

285 - Michael Johnson was pinned in :42 by Mason Rains, Oakley; was pinned in :41 by Donovan Lumpkin, Phillipsburg and drew a bye to place third.

Norton boys lose to Phillipsburg in Mid-Continent

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team played Phillipsburg close for three quarters before Panther free throws and a cold shooting Blue Jay team allowed the home standing Phillipsburg quintet to pull ahead for a 59-39 Mid-Continent League victory on Friday night.

The score was tied 8-all after one quarter and Norton led 19-18 at halftime. A 12-15 third period in favor of Phillipsburg put them up 39-34. The Panthers outscored the Blue Jays 20-5, however, in the final stanza to win by 20 points.

Phillipsburg hit a perfect 12 of 12 charities in the fourth quarter and ended with 15 of 22 for 68 percent accuracy for the game.

"At this time, I feel our boys are doing some good things but are having trouble learning how to win," said Norton head coach Doug Reusink. "When things got away from us in the second half, we quit doing the things that had been successful for us on both ends of the floor.

"We had some foul trouble throughout but I felt our bench stepped in and did a nice job.

"We have some work to do over the Christmas break to get better and have a chance to win games."

Leading scorer for Norton was sophomore guard Quinton Porter with 15 points on 1 of 5 triple tries for 20 percent, 4 of 7 two-point attempts for 57 percent and 5 of 12 overall for 42 percent. He also hit 4 of 6 free throws for 67 percent.

Senior guard Marc Miller added 11 points on 3 of 5 from long range for 60 percent, 1 of 2 two-point tries and 4 of 7 overall for 57 percent.

T. Ellis and T. Ratzlaff led the Panthers with 16 and 15 points, respectively.

As a team, Norton hit 5 of 17 three-point tries for 29 percent, 9 of 33 two-point attempts for 37 percent and 14 of 50 overall for 28 percent.

Phillipsburg swished 2 of 10 three-point tries for 20 percent, 19 of 33 two-point attempts for a red hot 58 percent and 21 of 43 overall for 49 percent.

From the charity stripe, the Blue Jays swished 6 of 16 for 38 percent compared to 15 of 22 for Phillipsburg for 68 percent.

Norton had 9 offensive and 15 defensive rebounds for 24

total while Phillipsburg grabbed 8 offensive and 18 defensive caroms for 26 total.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Conor Cox with 7, followed by Furbush, 6; Sondergaard, 3; Henson, 2; Unterseher, 2; Lewis, 2; Porter, 1; Schrum, 1.

The Blue Jays had 8 offensive assists. Tyus Henson led with 3, followed by Porter, 2; Miller, 2; Drew Schrum, 1.

Norton had 8 steals, led by Breven Sondergaard with 2. Miller, Kobie Unterseher, Schrum, Conor Cox, Tanner Furbush, Trever Lewis had 1 each.

Norton had 22 turnovers and Phillipsburg lost the ball 20 times.

Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity

boys defeated Phillipsburg 41-30.

The score was tied at 9-all after one quarter but Norton led 25-19 at intermission and 34-23 after three quarters.

Quinton Porter led Norton in scoring with 9 points, followed by Kobie Unterseher, 7; Tyus Henson, 6; Jordan Karnopp, 6; Breven Sondergaard, 5; Landon Porter, 3; Connor Griffey, 3; Tyler Kuhn, 2.

Kellerman, Means and Murphy each scored 5 points for the young Panthxers.

C-team

Phillipsburg edged Norton 17-15 in the C-team contest which consisted of two quarters. The young Panthers led 7-5 after one period.

Landon Porter led Norton in scoring with 7 points, followed

by Koby McEwen, 3; Will Ellis, 3; James Berry, 2.

Means was leading scorer for Phillipsburg with 8 points.

Norton boys

Breven Sondergaard 1 0 0-1 2, Quinton Porter 4 1 4-6 15, Marc Miller 1 3 0-0 11, Drew Schrum 0 1 1 -4 4, Tanner Furbush 3 0 1-2 7; Total 9 5 6-14 39.

Phillipsburg boys

Sam Sage 2 0 4-4 8, T. Chestnut 1 0 0-2 2, T. Ellis 6 0 4-4 16, T. Ratzlaff 6 0 3-4 15, Stephen Sage 1 2 0-0 8, T. Crist 3 0 4-4 10; Totals 19 2 15-18 59.

Next action

Norton will open play in the new year on Tuesday, Jan. 7 when they travel to Cambridge. Games will begin at 5 p.m.

Norton Lady Jays fall short of victory over Lady Panthers

By DICK BOYD

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After trailing by 10 points at halftime, the Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team outscored Phillipsburg in the second half but just fell short of a victory in a 46-40 Mid-Continent League loss on Friday in Phillipsburg.

The Lady Jays were behind by just 14-12 after one quarter but were outscored 11-3 in the second period to trail 25-15 at halftime.

Senior guard Johnnye Ruder scored 9 of Norton's 13 points in the third quarter that cut the Lady Panther lead to 34-28. Ruder hit two three-point baskets and three free throws in the third period. Senior guard Darcy Bainter added her second triple of the game along with a free throw.

Norton scored 12 more points in the fourth quarter on another three pointer along with two free throws by both Ruder and

Bainter and a two-point basket by junior post Katie Bohl. Phillipsburg kept pace, however, by also hitting 12 points to retain their 6 point lead for the win.

Ruder ended with 16 points on 3 of 5 from beyond the arc for 60 percent, 1 of 1 two-point shots and 4 of 6 overall for 67 percent. She also had a good night from the free throw line, swishing 5 of 6 for 83 percent.

Bainter also scored in double figures. She hit 12 points on 3 of 5 triple tries for 60 percent and 3 of 4 charities for 75 percent.

Dusin led Phillipsburg with 13 points.

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 15 three-point tries for 40 percent, 6 of 20 two-point attempts for 30 percent and 12 of 35 overall for 34 percent.

The Lady Panthers hit just 1 of 6 from beyond the arc for 17 percent, 17 of 45 two-point tries for 38 percent and 18 of 51 overall for 35 percent.

From the free throw stripe,

the Lady Jays hit 10 of 24 for 42 percent and the Lady Panthers converted 9 of 14 for 64 percent.

Rebounds were also very close as Norton pulled down 10 offensive and 18 defensive caroms for 28 total and Phillipsburg grabbed 14 offensive and 18 defensive for 32 total.

Bainter was leading rebounder for Norton with 8, followed by Katelyn Engelbert, 7; Bohl, 4; Bailey Ambrosier, 3; Caitlyn Cox, 3; Ruder, 23; Miah Melvin, 1.

Norton had 5 offensive assists. Engelbert, Bainter, Bailey Ambrosier, Ruder and Melvin each had 1.

Marisa Maddy had 3 of Norton's 8 steals, followed by Bainter, 2; Engelbert, Bailey Ambrosier, Ruder, 1 each. The Lady Panthers had 12 thefts.

Norton had 26 turnovers and Phillipsburg lost the ball 19 times.

"I was really proud of how

our girls hung in and fought back," said Norton head coach George Rossi.

"Phillipsburg has a very athletic team but we were able to make shots in the second half and received a defensive spark from Marisa.

"Again, we had too many turnovers and did not shoot free throws very well.

"We are doing more good things each game and making strides in the right direction. These girls give 100 percent effort every night!"

Junior varsity

The Norton girls junior varsity defeated Phillipsburg 47-33.

Norton held quarter leads of 13-4, 27-5 and 41-15.

Nine different players scored for Norton. Hanna Brooks and Casey Ambrosier each scored 8 points, followed by Miah Melvin, 7; Caitlyn Cox, 6; Baylee Miller, 6; Peyton Renner, 4, Lexi Voss, 4; Lexus Hartwell, 2; Kira Robertson, 2.

"We dominated the first half but struggled with communication on defense and allowed several uncontested shots in the second half," said Norton assistant coach Joan Bolt.

"Our bench also had trouble with spacing and execution on offense. The effort was enough to hold on to win."

C-team

The Norton C-team was defeated 28-14.

Lexi Voss was leading scorer for Norton with 9 points, followed by Erin Archer, 3; Kylie Perez, 2.

"We were our own worst enemy by turning the ball over too many times," said Norton assistant coach Cherie Brooks.

"There were times when we had great ball movement and Lexi Voss shot the ball well from the high post position. However, we need to continue to work on being in the correct position as a team more consistently. We also need work

on our help defense. The exciting thing is we get to play two games on Saturday in Oakley so we will get more opportunities to practice!"

Norton girls

Caitlyn Cox 1 0 1 1-6 3, Marisa Maddy 0 0 0-2 0, Katelyn Engelbert 2 0 0-2 4, Darcy Bainter 0 3 3-4 12, Katie Bohl 1 0 0-0 2, Bailey Ambrosier 0 0 0-2 0, Johnnye Ruder 1 3 5-6 16, Miah Melvin 1 0 1-2 3; Totals 6 6 10-24 40.

Phillipsburg girls

K. Swanson 3 0 1-2 7, C. Wells 2 1 0-0 7, S. Wilkison 1 0 0-0 2, M. Frantz 1 0 0-0 2, M. Gower 3 0 2-2 8, T. Bartels 3 0 1-4 7, M. Dusin 4 0 5-6 13; Totals 17 1 9-14 46.

Next action

Norton will not play again until the new year when the Lady Jays travel to Cambridge on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Games will begin at 5 p.m.

Junior Huskies bring home a double win for their record books

BY MIKE STEPHENS

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The Northern Valley Junior High Huskies boys basketball team won a shootout, 59-52, over the Golden Plains Bulldogs on Thursday in Rexford. The Huskies shot the ball very well from the perimeter hitting 12 three point field goals and 11 two point field goals.

"Caden Kinderknecht and Riley Sides led the team with 21 and 16 points (respectively). Caden made five threes and Ri-

ley made four," said head coach Jim Cole. "The Husky defense had trouble containing the Bulldogs best player, as he scored 31 points. Nine Huskies scored points to help the B-team win 41-9. Ross Cole led the way with 10 points. The A-team and B-team enter the Christmas break both undefeated, each with an 8-0 record."

A-team Boys (8-0)

Northern Valley - 59

Golden Plains - 52

Huskies scoring:

Caden Kinderknecht - 21, Riley Sides - 16, Ross Cole - 8, Caden Bach - 7, Briely Yocum - 4, and Nick Stutsman - 3.

B-team Boys (8-0)

Northern Valley - 41

Golden Plains - 9

Huskies scoring:

Ross Cole - 10, Jesus Saenz - 6, Chris Lowry - 6, Aidan Baird - 5, Alex Van Patten - 5, Cooper Mussman - 4, Dawson Stevens - 2, Carson Buffington - 2 and Gunner Yocum - 1.

The Northern Valley Junior High girls basketball team had a hot shooting night on Thursday, beating the Golden Plains Bulldogs 40-27. The Huskies broke out with a big second quarter, scoring 19 points on the Bulldogs.

"Eighth graders HalLee Linner and Chaylee Lowry led the Huskies in scoring with 16 and 14 points, (respectively)," said head coach Jim Cole. "The Husky B-team played a very good game, winning 27-6. All

the Lady Huskies are playing pretty good basketball, we are getting more aggressive on defense and shooting the ball better on offense. Entering the Christmas break the A-team girls are 7-1 and the B-team girls are 6-2. The A-team and B-team girls are both undefeated in Western Kansas Liberty League games so far this season."

A-team Girls (7-1)

Northern Valley - 40

Golden Plains - 27

Huskies scoring:

HalLee Linner - 16, Chaylee Lowry - 14, Paige Baird - 6, and Brianna Johns - 4.

B-team Girls (6-2)

Northern Valley - 27

Golden Plains - 6

Huskies scoring:

Jasmine Covington - 11, Makensy Schroeder - 6, Zoe Cox - 2, Savannah Kindall - 2, Brianna Sammons - 2, Jaden Smith - 2, and Kim Lowry - 2.