

Lady Jays treat fans to big win over Trego

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team treated the home fans to a 61-47 victory over the visiting Trego Community quintet on Tuesday in the NCHS Stull Gym.

The Lady Jays led 15-12 after one quarter until senior point guard Johnnye Ruder started to warm up shooting from three-point range. Ruder's 11 points on two shots from beyond the arc, a two-point basket and three free throws were a big factor in Norton's 18 point second quarter. Trego was limited to 9 points in the second period as the Lady Jays fashioned a 33-21 halftime lead.

The Lady Golden Eagles did not give up and outscored Norton 13-9 in the third quarter, which included another trey from Ruder.

The Lady Jays finished strong, however, by outscoring the visitors 19-13 in the final stanza. Ruder continued to fire accurately from three-point range, burying three more treys in the fourth period and a two-point shot for 11 more points.

Needless to say, Ruder was leading scorer for Norton with 25 points on 6 of 12 three-point shots for 50 percent, 2 of 3 two-point attempts for 67 percent and 8 of 15 overall for a net-smoking 53 percent accuracy! She also added 3 of 6 free throws for 50 percent.

Senior post Bailey Ambrosier added 10 points on 4 of 9 from

the field for 44 percent and 2 of 2 from the charity stripe.

Addie Zeman was scoring leader for Trego with 16 points; Hailey Weigel added 14.

"We played four quarters of much better basketball tonight," said Norton head coach George Rossi. "They came back in the third quarter but we got everyone on the same page."

"Ruder opened up and really helped but everyone was looking to score and that was big for us."

"We played good defense, too. Bailey Ambrosier and Darcy Bainter were defending against their better players and did well."

"Our girls play so hard. They do what we ask of them."

As a team, Norton hit 8 of 19 from beyond the arc for 42 percent, 12 of 31 two-point tries for 39 percent and 20 of 50 overall for 40 percent.

Trego hit 4 of 11 from long range for 36 percent, 13 of 38 two-point attempts for 34 percent and 17 of 49 overall for 35 percent.

From the charity stripe, the Lady Jays swished 13 of 20 for 65 percent and the Lady Golden Eagles hit 9 of 15 for 60 percent.

Norton outrebounded Trego 34-29. Norton grabbed 9 offensive and 25 defensive caroms compared to 6 offensive and 23 defensive for Trego.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Katie Bohl with 8, followed by Katelyn Engelbert, Darcy Bainter, Bailey Ambrosier, 5 each; Marisa Maddy, 4; Caitlyn

Cox, 3; Hanna Brooks, Johnnye Ruder, Casey Ambrosier, Miah Melvin, 1 each.

The Lady Jays had 9 steals and the Lady Golden Eagles had 7. Bainter and Ruder each had 3 thefts, followed by Cox, Bohl, Melvin, 1 each.

Norton had a season high 17 offensive assists. Leading the way was Bainter with 5, followed by Engelbert, 4; Ruder, 3; Cox, 2; Bohl, Casey Ambrosier, Melvin, 1 each.

Bohl blocked 1 shot. Norton had 15 turnovers but caused Trego to lose the ball 18 times.

Junior varsity

Norton won the girls junior varsity game by a score of 51-28.

The Lady Jays held quarter leads of 17-0, 37-12 and 47-18.

Eleven different girls scored for Norton. Leading scorer was Baylee Miller with 9, followed by Caitlyn Cox, 8; Molly Maddy, 8; Miah Melvin, 7; Peyton Renner, 6; Lexus Hartwell, 4; Casey Ambrosier, 2; Kylie Perez, 2; Kira Robertson, 2; Lexi Voss, 2; Hanna Brooks, 1.

Mariah Brungardt led Trego with 9; Emily Buchholz added 8 and Teghan Sells hit 7.

With the win, the Norton girls junior varsity extended their current season record to 8-1.

"It's as if light bulbs have gone off in the last couple of weeks, giving us a very deep bench," said Norton assistant coach Joan Bolt.

"Defensively, we were right on with a few exceptions. Our

offense was patient and we took some really good shots."

Norton girls

Caitlyn Cox 1 0 0-0 2, Marisa Maddy 0 0 1-2 1, Katelyn Engelbert 2 0 0-0 4, Darcy Bainter 1 1 2-4 7, Katie Bohl 2 0 2-2 6, Bailey Ambrosier 4 0 2-2 10, Johnnye Ruder 2 6 3-6 25, Miah Melvin 0 1 3-4 6; Totals 12 8 13-20 61.

Trego girls

Allyson Denning 1 0 3-6 5, Mariah Brungardt 2 0 0-0 4, Peyton Desormiers 1 0 1-2 3, Addie Zeman 3 3 1-2 16, Hailey Weigel 5 0 4-5 14, Teghan Sells 1 1 0-0 5; Totals 13 4 9-15 47.

Next action

Norton will host Colby in girls and boys games on Friday.

The C-team boys game will begin at 4 p.m. in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym, followed by the junior varsity boys game.

The junior varsity girls game will begin at 4:45 p.m. in the Stull Gym, followed by the varsity girls and varsity boys game.

Lady Jay senior point guard Johnnye Ruder hits a jump shot during Norton's 61-47 victory over Trego Community on Tuesday in the Stull Gym. Ruder was extremely accurate from three-point range, hitting 6 of 12 attempts and finishing with 25 points in the game.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton Blue Jays defeat Trego

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team broke away from a visiting Trego Community quintet in the third quarter to defeat them 58-41 on Tuesday evening in the Stull Gym in Norton.

Norton led by just 12-8 after one quarter and 25-20 at intermission. After the break, the Blue Jays put 22 points on the scoreboard clock in the third period while limiting the Golden Eagles to just 9 to extend their advantage to 47-29. Trego barely outscored Norton in a low scoring 12-11 final stanza.

Most of Norton's points in the third quarter and the game came from sophomore point guard Quinton Porter. He hit four third period baskets and ended with

17 points for the night on 7 of 11 from the field for 64 percent and 3 of 4 from the free throw line for 75 percent.

"This was a good win for us," said Norton head coach Doug Reusink. "We needed this one to keep up our confidence and get our momentum going. A lot of our players contributed. We kept battling and staying with it."

"We play hard but do need to get better at execution. We need to work on finishing plays. The first half we didn't do that but did a better job of it in the second half."

Leading scorer for Trego was Devon Ghumm with 13 points.

As a team, Norton hit only 1 of 6 from beyond the arc for 17 percent, 21 of 48 two-point attempts for 44 percent and 22 of 54 overall for 41 percent. Trego

missed all 8 trey tries and scored on 17 of 50 two-point tries for 34 percent. Overall, they were 17 of 58 for 29 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays hit 13 of 20 for 65 percent and the Golden Eagles hit 7 of 13 for 54 percent.

Norton really made a difference in the game on the backboards where the Blue Jays doubled the Golden Eagles in rebounding. Norton grabbed 13 offensive and 31 defensive caroms for a season-high 44 total compared to 9 offensive and 13 defensive for 22 total for the visitors.

Ten Norton players pulled down at least one rebound. Leader was Conor Cox with 11, followed by Tanner Furbush, 10; Kobie Unterseher, 5; Breven Sondergaard, Quinton

Porter, Drew Schrum, 4 each; Tyus Henson, Marc Miller, 2 each; Connor Griffey, Trever Lewis, 1 each.

Norton also had 14 offensive assists. Quinton Porter led with 4, followed by Tyus Henson, 3; Drew Schrum, Trever Lewis, 2 each; Marc Miller, Conor Cox, Tanner Furbush, 1 each.

Both teams had 7 steals. Leader for Norton was Quinton Porter with 3, followed by Henson, Miller, Unterseher, Schrum, 1 each.

Cox blocked 3 shots for Norton.

The Blue Jays had 17 turnovers and the Golden Eagles lost the ball 11 times.

Junior varsity

Norton won the junior varsity boys game by a score of 55-34. The young Blue Jays held

quarter leads of 22-11, 39-15 and 47-24.

Ten different players scored for Norton. Leading the way was Landon Porter with 13, followed by Tyus Henson, 10; Breven Sondergaard, 8; Koby McEwen, 6; Derick Campbell, 5; Jordan Karnopp, 5; Connor Griffey, 2; Kobie Unterseher, 2; Will Ellis, 2; Mitchell Hickman, 2.

Alex Haxton led scoring for Trego with 7 points. Ethan Stanton added 6.

Norton boys

Breven Sondergaard 3 0 1-2 7, Quinton Porter 7 0 3-4 17, Tyus Henson 3 0 2-2 8, Marc Miller 0 1 0-0 3, Kobie Unterseher 1 0 0-0 2, Drew Schrum 3 0 0-0 6, Conor Cox 1 0 3-8 5, Tanner Furbush 1 0 2-2 4, Trever Lewis 2 0 0-0 4, Jordan Karnopp 0 0

2-2 2; Totals 21 1 13-20 58.

Trego boys

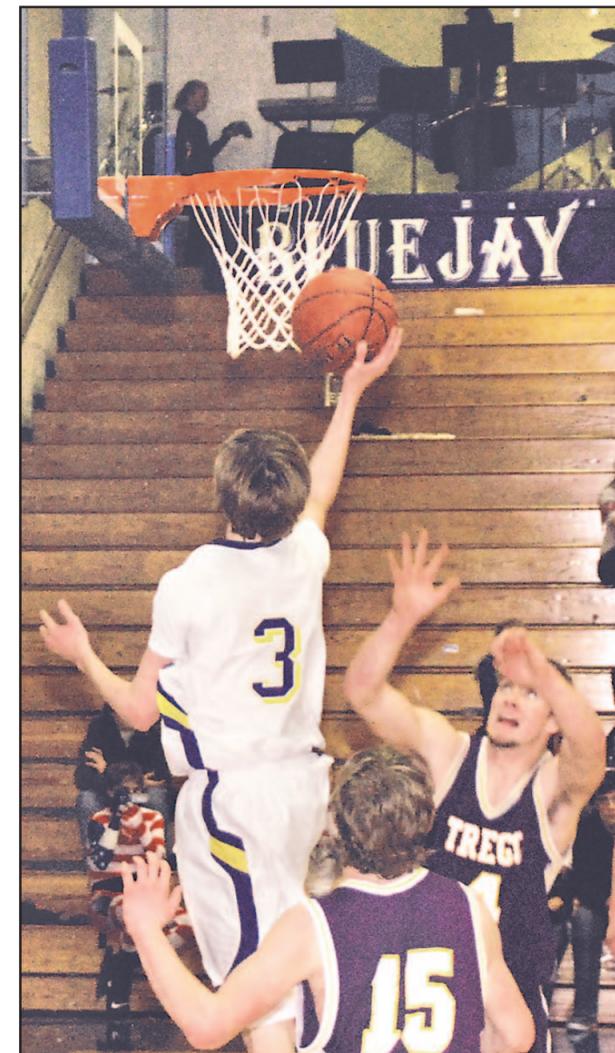
Emmit Owens 1 0 0-1 2, Devon Ghumm 6 0 1-2 13, Aaron Satran 1 0 2-2 4, Cedric Flax 3 0 1-2 7, Black Huxman 2 0 0-0 4, Lincoln Brungardt 2 0 3-4 7, Sam Graham 2 0 0-1 4; Totals 17 0 7-12 41.

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Norton sophomore guard Quinton Porter slips inside the Trego defense to score two of his 17 points during the Blue Jays' 58-41 win on Tuesday in the Stull Gym.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

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