

# Wrestlers ready for dual meet, tourney

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School wrestling team will have a busy weekend as they travel to Ellis this evening for dual action with Ellis and Plainville, then Phillipsburg on Saturday for the 13-team Panther Classic Tournament, which begins at 9 a.m.

Norton's dual with Ellis will begin at 5 p.m. in the Ellis High School gym and will be followed by the Norton-Plainville dual.

## PANTHER CLASSIC

Competing in the Panther Classic in the Newlin Gym and Auxiliary Gym will be wrestlers from Phillipsburg, Norton, Beloit, Chase County, Colby, Concordia, Ellis, Ellsworth, Eureka, Hill City, Hoxie, Lincoln and Stockton.

Defending Class 3-2-1A state champion and No. 1 state ranked Hoxie will be among the top teams at the tournament, according to Coach Bill Johnson. Colby and Concordia are also state ranked in Class 4A.

Norton is ranked No. 2 in Class 3-2-1A and Beloit is No. 8.

The teams competing have 33 state-ranked wrestlers, including seven from Norton. The state ranked Blue Jay wrestlers are

sophomore Clay Madden, No. 1, 112; sophomore Luke Pfannenstiel, No. 6, 125; senior James Annon, No. 1, 130; sophomore Lance Roe, No. 4, 135; senior Jordon Haussermann, No. 6, 152; senior Bo Pfannenstiel, No. 4, 171; junior Michael Sprigg, No. 2, 275.

Other state-ranked wrestlers are sophomore Nash Burtin, Eureka, No. 1, 103; sophomore Daniel Tibbles, Colby, No. 3, 103; junior Cale Farber, Hoxie, No. 1, 119; sophomore Tyler Baker, Hoxie, No. 2, 125; senior Matt Warta, Ellsworth, No. 5, 125; junior Simon Orozco, Ellsworth, No. 2, 130; senior Tracy Jordan, Beloit, No. 2, 135; senior Mat Gilliland, Hoxie, No. 1, 140; senior Matt Wright, Beloit, No. 2, 140; senior Jason Schippers, Hoxie, No. 1, 145; junior Wes Flemming, Concordia, No. 5, 145; senior Matt Schippers, Hoxie, No. 1, 152; senior Tanner Long, Hill City, No. 4, 152; sophomore Chris Sutton-Kearn, Concordia, No. 5, 152; senior Doug Campbell, Hoxie, No. 4, 160; senior Schuyler Sharpe, Colby, No. 5, 160; senior Ryan Shipley, Hoxie, No. 5, 171; senior Tucker Olsen, Colby, No. 5, 171;

junior Eric Larson, Lincoln, No. 6, 189; junior Theo Kleinsorge, Colby, No. 6, 189; junior Tim Erwin, Hoxie, No. 3, 215; senior Josh Brown, Concordia, No. 4, 215; senior Derek Vonada, Lincoln, No. 6, 215; senior Ryan Honas, Ellis, No. 1, 275; senior Danny Lavoie, Concordia, No. 3, 275; senior Steven Hamilton, Eureka, No. 6, 275.

"This is a tough tournament," said Coach Johnson. "There should be four or five really good wrestlers in each weight class."

Tentatively wrestling for Norton on Friday and Saturday will be: freshman Kent Mann, 9 wins, 5 losses, 103 pounds; sophomore Clay Madden, 13-0, 112; freshman Nathan Broeckelman, 20-10, 119; sophomore Luke Pfannenstiel, 2-2, 125; senior James Annon, 23-2, 130; sophomore Lance Roe, 22-5, 135; senior Scott Goldsby, 16-10, 140; sophomore Jeremy Harding, 8-11, 145; senior Jordon Haussermann, 24-8, 152; senior C.J. Thiele, 15-8, 160; senior Bo Pfannenstiel, 16-4, 171; senior Mark Maybon, 4-4, 189; junior Michael Sprigg, 20-2, 275.

Norton will be open at 215 pounds.



Kyle Kats, junior point guard, looks for an opening in the Smith Center defense during the Blue Jays' 57-33 win over the Redmen here on Tuesday night. Kats was leading scorer for Norton with 13 points on 60 percent shooting. He was the steals leader with four, had two assists and pulled down two rebounds. — Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton junior Amber Engelbert steals the ball and drives down court during the Lady Jays' game here Tuesday with Smith Center. — Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

## Girls lose to unbeaten Lady Redmen

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team proved in the second half on Tuesday night that they could play with unbeaten Smith Center but a first half deficit was too much to overcome and the Lady Jays lost 60-52 to the visiting Lady Redmen.

After trailing 13-10 at the end of the first quarter and 34-19 at half-time, Norton came out in the third quarter and outscored Smith Center 17-11 to cut the Lady Redmen's lead to 45-36. In the fourth quarter, they outscored the visitors 16-15 and had the Smith Center lead reduced to five points at 53-48 on consecutive baskets by 6' sophomore center Chelsea Cox and 5'10" senior center Anna Berry.

Smith Center responded with two baskets of their own, however, and hit several free throws to end Norton's upset bid and run their unbeaten record to 13-0. Norton had a four-game winning streak prior to the loss to the Lady Redmen. The Lady Blue Jays are now 7-6 overall.

"We didn't play very well the first half but proved in the second half that we could play with them," said Coach Jilka. "We outscored them in the second half. If we had played that well in the first half, it could have been a different story. Our girls just need more confidence in themselves. We played more physical and aggressive in the second half. We need to play a full game that way. Blocking out on rebounds was a problem for us and we didn't make the big play when we needed it."

"I'm proud of our effort." Berry, who only hit two baskets in the first quarter and none in the second quarter, finished the con-

test with 17 points. She hit 7 of 16 field goal attempts in the game for 44 percent accuracy and was a perfect 3 of 3 from the free throw line.

Cox tallied 12 points, 10 of them coming in the second half. She hit 5 of 10 from the field for 50 percent and was 2 of 4 from the charity stripe for 50 percent.

Junior forward Amber Engelbert also had a good shooting night. She swished her only trey try and was 1 of 2 from two-point range for 67 percent shooting overall. She also hit 2 of 3 free throws and ended with 7 points.

Jenna Wilson, a 5'8" senior forward, made the offensive difference for Smith Center. She was unstoppable all night long and ended with 28 points.

Sarah Bargman, a 6' senior, was Smith Center's only other double figures scorer with 11 points.

As a team, Norton hit 2 of 6 three-point tries for 33 percent, 17 of 42 two-point tries for 40 percent and 19 of 48 overall for 40 percent. Smith Center hit 24 of 50 two-point attempts for 48 percent and missed their only trey try.

The two quintets were about even from the free throw line where Norton connected on 12 of 20 for 60 percent accuracy and Smith Center swished 12 of 22 for 55 percent.

Norton was outrebounded 33-21. The Lady Jays pulled down 9 offensive and 12 defensive rebounds and the Lady Redmen grabbed 16 offensive and 17 defensive caroms.

Cox was the leading rebounder for Norton with 8, followed by Karlie Jones, 5; Berry, 4; Engelbert, 2; Nicole Wolf, Becca Ebert, 1 each.

The Norton girls displayed out-

standing offensive teamwork again as they compiled 18 assists. The leader was Whitney Newell with 7, followed by Cox, 4; Jones, 3; Engelbert, 2; Wolf, Berry, 1 each. Smith Center had just 8 assists.

The Lady Jays came up with just 4 steals compared to 8 for Smith Center. Engelbert led with 2 thefts, followed by Newell, Berry, 1 each.

Norton had 15 turnovers but caused the Lady Redmen to turn the ball over 14 times.

### Junior varsity won

Norton's junior varsity girls team defeated Smith Center 24-20.

Norton held quarter leads of 10-4, 14-6 and 20-12.

Leading scorers for Norton were Chelle Donovan and Stacy Reeves with 8 points each, followed by Dane'e Payne, 6; Amber Overlease, 2.

Deb Fricker was leading scorer for Smith Center with 10 points.

"We played a better game tonight," said Coach George Rossi. "We did a better job of taking care of the ball and being aggressive on offense."

"Again, our girls did a good job of adjusting late in the game. We still need to improve on the little things. Our girls are working hard."

Norton will play Hill City in Hill City today, beginning at 4 p.m.

### Norton girls 52

Newell 11-2-37, Cox 5-0-2-4-12, Ebert 0-0-1-21, Wolf 2-0-1-25, Jones 1-0-1-33, Engelbert 1-1-2-37, Berry 7-0-3-3-17, Totals 17-2-12-20-52

### Smith Center girls 60

Isom 1-0-0-2-2, Fuller 3-0-0-6, Wilson 11-0-6-10-28, Peterson 1-0-2-3-4, Lambert 1-0-1-23, Decker 3-0-0-6, Bargman 4-0-3-5-11, Totals 24-0-12-22-60

## Boys beat Smith Center

By DICK BOYD

Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team hit 52 percent from the field and four of the five starters scored in double figures as the Blue Jays defeated Smith Center 57-33 in Mid-Century League play on Tuesday in the NCHS Memorial Gym.

Norton held a 12-8 lead after one quarter and outscored the Redmen 17-10 in the second quarter to take a 29-18 halftime advantage. After a 14-8 third quarter, Norton was on top 43-26 with one period remaining. The Blue Jays scored 14 more points in the fourth quarter while limiting the Redmen to 7 to earn the 24 point victory.

"It wasn't very pretty, but it was a win," said Coach Reusink. "We didn't have much intensity but our offensive execution wasn't bad."

"Without playing with more intensity, we'll be hard pressed to get a lot better as a team. Right now we're playing down to the level of our competition."

With the win, Norton extended their record to 12-1.

Leading scorer for the Blue Jays was junior point guard Kyle Kats with 13 points. He hit 1 of 4 three-point tries for 25 percent, 5 of 6 two-point shots for 83 percent and 6 of 10 overall for 60 percent accuracy.

Junior center Ryan Maddy swished 12 points on 1 of 1 from long range, 4 of 5 two-point shots for 80 percent and 5 of 6 overall for 83 percent. He was 1 of 2 from the free throw line.

Also scoring 12 points was senior center Jared Sloan. He hit 6 of 8 shots from the field for 75 percent accuracy.

Scoring 10 points was junior

guard Aaron Overlease. He hit 2 of 5 from long range and 2 of 5 two-point shots for 40 percent accuracy.

Taylor Jones, 6' sophomore, was leading scorer for Smith Center with 10 points. Junior Jordon Hommon added 9 points for the Redmen.

As a team, Norton hit 4 of 17 three-point tries for 24 percent, 22 of 33 two-point shots for an excellent 67 percent and 26 of 50 overall for 52 percent accuracy.

Smith Center was just 1 of 10 from beyond the arc for 10 percent, 13 of 28 on two-point attempts for 46 percent and 14 of 38 overall for 39 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton swished 1 of 4 for 25 percent and Smith Center hit 4 of 10 for 40 percent.

Norton outrebounded Smith Center 30-23. The Blue Jays pulled down 9 offensive and 21 defensive caroms while the Redmen grabbed 7 offensive and 16 defensive caroms.

Ten different Norton players pulled down at least one rebound. Heath Vincent was the leader with 7, followed by Sloan, 5; Jared Foley, 4; Overlease, Maddy, 3 each; Charlie Foley, Kats, Brian Luft, 2 each; Dan Roeder, Nathan Morse, 1 each.

Norton stole the ball 12 times. Kats was the leader with 4 thefts, followed by Overlease, Maddy, Sloan, 2 each; Luft, Morse, 1 each.

Kats had two of Norton's four assists. Overlease and Sloan each had one assist.

Sloan blocked two Smith Center shots.

Norton had just seven turnovers in the game while causing Smith Center to lose the ball 17 times.

### Junior varsity results

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys team lost a 21-20 squeaker to Smith Center.

Norton trailed by quarters 9-6, 13-8 and 17-12.

Leading scorer for Norton was Vincent with 6 points, followed by Greg Wilson, 4; Josh Jackson, Justin Shirk, 3 each; Nick Evans, Nathan Morse, 2 each.

Leading scorer for Smith Center was Daniel Bennett with 11 points. David Potter added 8.

### Freshmen won

Coach Todd Fulton's Norton freshmen boys defeated Smith Center 24-12.

Only one half was played. Norton held a 13-7 lead after one quarter.

Jared Engelbert was leading scorer for Norton with 10 points, followed by Nic Lewis, 6; Matt Shepard, 4; Blake Wolf, Aaron Daniels, 2 each.

Steven Jacobs led Smith Center in scoring with 5 points.

"We played with good effort on offense and did things right on defense," said Coach Fulton. "Overall, it was a good night for our freshmen boys."

### Next action

Norton will travel to Hill City to play the Ringnecks today. Games will begin at 4 p.m.

### Norton boys 57

Kats 5-1-0-0-13, Jared Foley 1-0-0-0-2, Roeder 1-0-0-0-2, Overlease 2-2-0-10, Maddy 4-1-1-2-12, Sloan 6-0-0-0-12, Vincent 3-0-0-2-6, Totals 22-4-1-4-57

### Smith Center boys 33

Frank 2-1-0-0-7, Hommon 3-0-3-7-9, Wiehl 2-0-0-0-4, Jones 5-0-0-0-10, Potter 0-0-1-3-1, Ifland 1-0-0-0-2, Totals 13-1-4-10-33

## Jennings boys drop one, win one

The Jennings Coyotes were defeated by Tribune 58-50 on Jan. 30, but then beat Grinnell 61-44 on Feb. 3.

### TRIBUNE

The Coyotes trailed at the end of every quarter: 18-14, 28-26, 46-42, 58-50.

Adam Miller led scoring for Jennings with 5 two-pointers and 5 foul shots for 15 points. He was followed by Grant Bailey, 14 points; Adam Wahlmeier, 13; and Brett McKenna and Nick Wahlmeier, 4 apiece.

Rebounding honors went to B. McKenna and Miller with 7 apiece. Also rebounding were A. Wahlmeier with 5, Bailey and N. Wahlmeier with 3 each, Marcus McKenna with 2, and Andy Coiner with 1.

Steals were made by Bailey and B. McKenna, 3 each; N. Wahlmeier and A. Wahlmeier, 2 each;



and Miller, 1.

Bailey led assists, finding 5 teammates open for a basket. He was followed by B. McKenna and A. Wahlmeier, 3 apiece; and M. McKenna and Miller, 2 each.

Jennings' junior varsity lost 57-30.

Scoring for the Coyotes were Kyle Kinser, 8 points; M. McKenna, 6; Josh Vahling and Brian Miller, 4 each; Coiner, 3; Justin Meitl and Brett Linden, 2 apiece; and Seth Ritter, 1.

### GRINNELL

Jennings led in every quarter: 12-10, 22-18, 41-31, 61-44.

Bailey led scoring for the Coyotes with 4 two-pointers, 3 three-pointers and 5 free throws for 22 points. He was followed by B. McKenna with 17 points, A. Wahlmeier with 14, N. Wahlmeier with 6, and M. McKenna with 2.

Rebounding honors went to B. McKenna with 8, followed by Bailey with 7, N. Wahlmeier with 5, M. McKenna with 4, A. Wahlmeier with 3, and Coiner with 2.

Steal leaders were Bailey and A. Wahlmeier, 4 each; Kinser, 2; and Vahling and N. Wahlmeier, 1 apiece.

Assists were made by Bailey, 4; A. Wahlmeier, 3; N. Wahlmeier and M. McKenna, 2 each; and Vahling and Kinser, 1 apiece.

The junior varsity won 43-34. Scoring were Ritter, 10 points; Vahling, 9; B. Miller, 8; Kinser, 6; Linden, 5; Coiner, 3; and M. McKenna, 2.