

Lady Jays defeat Cardinals in Friday night's league game

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team defeated Plainville 71-19 in Mid-Continent League action on Friday night in Plainville.

The Lady Jays held quarter leads of 17-4, 36-6 and 56-17.

Norton's pressing defense was very effective as the Lady Cardinals turned the ball over 29 times and, when they did get the ball across the timeline, they hit just 22 percent of their shots.

On the offensive end, Norton scored from every location on the floor, including six shots from beyond the arc. Sophomore guard Karlie Jones hit two three-point shots in the first quarter and two more from long range in the second quarter and finished with 20 points for the night. In addition to four shots from long range, she hit 8 of 11 free throws. She was 4 of 6 on treys for 67 percent accuracy and hit charities at a 73 percent clip.

Inside, sophomore center Chelsea Cox scored 17 points. She hit a sizzling 6 of 8 from the field for 75 percent and was 5 of 8 from the line for 63 percent. Cox hit two baskets in the first quarter, a basket and free throw in the second period and three baskets and 4 of 7 free throws in the third period.

Junior forward Amber Engelbert contributed to Norton's first half scoring when she hit a three-point shot in each of the first two quarters and a two-point basket to score 8 points in the game.

Coach Jilka substituted frequently and played the junior varsity the entire fourth quarter.

"We got after them from the start and kept it going," said Coach Jilka. "I was pleased with our effort. Sometimes you can overlook a team like Plainville who has not won many games."

"We were able to play different combinations of players and give some girls extra playing time. Everyone on the floor did a great job."

Norton extended their record to 10-6 and Plainville fell to 2-14. As a team, Norton hit 6 of 14 treys for 43 percent, 16 of 36 two-point shots for 44 percent and 22 of 50 overall for 44 percent.

The Lady Cardinals hit 8 of 35 two-point attempts for 23 percent, missed both long range attempts and finished 8 of 37 overall for just 22 percent accuracy.

From the free throw line, Norton converted 21 of 33 tries for 64 percent compared to 3 of 4 from 75 percent by Plainville.

Norton pulled down 10 offensive and 15 defensive rebounds for 25 total while Plainville grabbed 8 offensive and 14 defensive caroms for 22 total.

The Lady Jays had 17 offensive assists and Plainville recorded just 4. Newell was the leader with 7, followed by Donovan, 4; Cox, Jones, 2 each; Wolf, Berry, 1 each.

Norton had just 9 turnovers.

Junior varsity won

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls team defeated Plainville 40-12.

Due to a shortage of Plainville players, only three quarters were played. Norton led 13-2 after the

first quarter and 30-4 after two quarters.

Donovan was leading scorer for Norton with 8 points, followed by Dane'e Payne, Overlease, Duscher, 5 each; Amanda Antrim, Klaire Mann, Reeves, 4 each; Lacey Roe, 3; Maggie Nielsen, 2.

Leading scorer for Plainville was Holly Chew with 10.

"We had a very solid performance tonight," said Coach Rossi. "Plainville sat in a zone defense and our perimeter players did a great job of shooting the ball."

"We need to take this momentum into the Hoxie game on Tuesday."

Next action

Norton will host Hoxie today. Beginning at 4 p.m. in the NCHS Memorial Gym, the freshmen girls will play two quarters, followed by the junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys games.

In addition, the junior varsity boys game will be held at 4 p.m. in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton girls 71

Newell 20-0-4, Cox 6-0-8-17, Overlease 2-0-2-6, Ebert 2-0-0-4, Jones 0-4-8-11-20, Engelbert 12-0-0-8, Duscher 0-0-2-2-2, Reeves 1-0-1-6-3, Berry 2-0-3-4-7. Totals 16-6-21-33-71.

Plainville girls 19

Finnessy 1-0-0-0-2, Rieshus 1-0-2-4-4, Hemphill 1-0-1-2-3, Rinehart 1-0-0-0-2, Becker 1-0-0-0-2, C. Hrabe 1-0-0-0-2, Chew 1-0-0-0-2, Casey 1-0-0-0-2. Totals 8-0-3-4-19.



Norton junior center Ryan Maddy (No. 22) got loose inside for two points during the Blue Jays' 54-43 Mid-Continent League win at Plainville on Friday. Maddy was second high scorer in the game with 12 points and second high rebounder with seven caroms.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Blue Jays outscore Plainville in close 54-43 win Friday

By DICK BOYD

Friday night's 54-43 win at Plainville was too close for comfort, according to Norton Community High School boys basketball coach Doug Reusink.

"We'd beaten them pretty easily in the league tournament (66-36) but I knew they'd be tough at home," said Coach Reusink. "We're replaying just well enough to win. We're not as sharp mentally as we need to be."

"Their point guard Casey broke down our defense and their wide bodies underneath did some damage. We played better in the second half. We went to a zone defense late in the game and that helped."

"Jared Foley, Brian Luft and Heath Vincent came off the bench and gave good effort."

Norton couldn't match Plainville's sophomore guard Taylor Dix from three-point land in the first quarter and fell behind 15-13. Dix hit nothing but net on three straight shots from beyond the arc in the first stanza but the Norton defense allowed him just one more two-point basket the rest of the night.

Junior forward Aaron Overlease, who contributed two two-point baskets for Norton in the first quarter, started the second stanza by burying a three-pointer to put Norton on top 16-15. Senior center Jered Sloan, who hit a basket and two free throws in the first quarter, followed Overlease's three with a basket and junior center Ryan Maddy, who also hit one basket in the first period, scored inside to put Norton ahead 20-15.

Senior forward Jared Foley stole the ball and drove down court for a layup to make it 22-15 but Plainville scored the next seven points as junior post man M.J. Klein hit two jumpers and senior post man Joel Hrabe scored, was fouled and hit a free throw to make it 22-all.

The Jays grabbed a 25-22 half-time lead as junior point guard Kyle Kats scored from outside and Sloan hit a free throw.

Hrabe hit two baskets inside and Klein swished a free throw to put Plainville back on top 27-25 at the 6:47 mark of the third period. Sophomore center Heath Vincent scored inside for Norton and senior forward Dan Roeder hit his second basket of the night but Dix hit his final basket of the game to tie the score at 29-all with 5:05 left.

Overlease buried another timely three-point basket to break the tie. Sloan scored, was fouled and hit

the free throw and Maddy got loose underneath for two points to put the Jays up 37-29 but the Cardinals wouldn't go away. Casey and Hrabe hit back-to-back baskets and it was 37-33. Luft scored to give Norton a little breathing room but Casey hit again for Plainville to make it 39-35 at the end of the third quarter.

The Cardinals came within 42-40 on a field goal and free throw by sophomore Brock McDowell with 5:34 left in the game. Maddy hit Norton's last field goal of the game to make it 44-40 with 4:37 left and the Jays finished the game with 10 free throws. Plainville's only other points came with 1:30 left on a trey by Klein.

Norton outscored Plainville 15-8 in the fourth period and 11 of the points came on charity tosses.

Norton is now 15-1 for the season and Plainville fell to 13-4.

Sloan was leading scorer for Norton with 3 of 8 from the field for 38 percent and 8 of 9 from the free throw line for 90 percent accuracy and 14 points.

Maddy ended with 12 points on 4 of 11 from the field for 36 percent and 4 of 8 from the free throw line for 50 percent.

Overlease contributed 10 points on 2 of 5 from beyond the arc for 40 percent, 2 of 3 two-point shots for 67 percent and 4 of 8 overall for 50 percent shooting.

Neither team shot very well overall from the floor. Norton hit just 3 of 9 trey tries for 33 percent, 15 of 37 two-point shots for 41 percent and 18 of 46 overall for 39 percent.

Plainville swished just 4 of 14 trey tries for 29 percent, 13 of 36 two-point attempts for 36 percent and 17 of 50 overall for 34 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton connected on an excellent 15 of 21 for 71 percent compared to 5 of 9 for 56 percent for Plainville.

Norton pulled down 9 offensive and 19 defensive rebounds for 28 total. Plainville grabbed 10 offensive and 16 defensive caroms for 26 total.

Sloan led in rebounds with 9, followed by Maddy, 7; Overlease, 4; Jared Foley, Luft, 2 each; Charlie Foley, Kats, Roeder, Vincent, 1 each.

Sloan blocked two shots and Jared Foley rejected one.

Norton had 8 steals. Sloan was the leader with 5, followed by Overlease, 2; Jared Foley, 1.

The Blue Jays had 11 offensive assists. Sloan led with 5, followed by Kats, 3; Roeder, Luft, Maddy,

1 each. Norton turned the ball over just 9 times but caused Plainville to give up the ball 21 times.

Junior varsity won

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys team defeated Plainville 44-21.

Norton held quarter leads of 9-5, 24-5 and 35-14.

Jared Engelbert led Norton in scoring with 12 points, followed by Nathan Morse, 9; Nick Evans, 6; Josh Jackson, Justin Shirk, 4 each; Vincent, 3; Greg Wilson, Derek Volgamore, Nic Lewis, 2 each.

Dalton Mick led Plainville with 5 points.

Next action

Norton will host Hoxie today. Beginning at 4 p.m. in the Norton Community High School Memorial Gym, the freshmen girls will play two quarters, followed by the junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys games.

The junior varsity boys game will be held at 5 p.m. in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton boys 54

Kats 2-0-1-2-5, J. Foley 1-0-0-0-2, Roeder 1-1-0-0-5, Overlease 2-2-0-0-10, Luft 1-0-0-0-2, Maddy 4-0-4-8-12, Sloan 3-0-8-9-14, Vincent 10-2-2-4. Totals 15-3-15-21-54.

Plainville boys 43

Casey 3-0-2-4-8, Dix 1-3-0-0-11, Klein 2-1-1-2-8, McDowell 1-0-1-2-3, Gosser 1-0-0-0-2, Joel Hrabe 5-0-1-1-11. Totals 13-4-5-9-43.

Logan boys take three wins

The Logan boys basketball team defeated Palco 54-48 on Feb. 6, Tipton 52-44 on Feb. 10, and Kensington 64-56 on Feb. 13.

Palco

Logan and Palco ended the first quarter with a tie, then the Trojans fell behind in the second and stayed behind in the third, but came back in the fourth to win the game: 14-14, 24-21, 35-31, 54-48.

Tyson Triplett led scoring for the Trojans with 14 points, followed by Kyle Burge with 12, Bryant Reese, Kyle McClurg and Troy Babcock with 8 apiece, and Seth Diggs with 4.

Burge led rebounds with 14, steals with 5, and assists with 5.

The junior varsity team won 35-18.

Tipton

The Trojans took the lead in the first quarter and held it throughout the game: 17-7, 29-20, 36-28, 52-44. Burge led scoring for Logan



Norton's sophomore guard Karlie Jones (No. 32) drove into the lane during the Lady Jays' 71-19 Mid-Continent League victory at Plainville on Friday night. Jones hit all of her points either from three-point land or the free throw line, however, as she swished four shots from beyond the arc and hit 8 of 11 free throws to lead the team in scoring with 20 points. Also in the picture are Norton junior forward Amber Engelbert (No. 33) and Plainville junior Lauren Hemphill (No. 24).

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Lady Huskies lose 84-73 in overtime

The Northern Valley Lady Huskies were defeated 84-73 in overtime by Arapahoe on Saturday.

"I was very proud of our team," said coach Bill Lowry said. "They worked very hard. We did a good

job of handling the press and scoring on offense. We struggled from the free throw line. This was a good game between two evenly matched teams. It could have gone either way."

Lindsey Graham led scoring for the Lady Huskies with 11 two-pointers and 3 free throws for 25 points. Also scoring for Northern Valley were Regan Fessenden, 17; Kelli Cole, 16 points; Serena Woodside, 6 points; Alasia Eagleburger, 5 points; and Jena Jessup, 4 points.

Out of 40 rebounds, Eagleburger, Graham and Woodside took honors with 10 apiece.

Eagleburger led steals with 3 thefts, followed by Graham and Woodside with 2 apiece.

Leading assists were Fessenden

and Woodside with 4 apiece. The team totaled 16 assists.

Graham made the team's only two blocks.

The Lady Huskies had 25 turnovers.

Next action

The Northern Valley basketball teams will host Kensington Friday night in Almena for the final regular season basketball game.

Arapahoe 84, N. Valley 73

Score by quarters: Arapahoe 11 24 14 17 18 — 84 N. Valley 20 16 14 16 7 — 73

Northern Valley (73)

Lindsey Graham 11-0-7-3-25, Regan Fessenden 15-0-17, Kelli Cole 3-3-7-1-16, Serena Woodside 2-0-7-2-6, Alasia Graham 1-0-4-3-5, Jena Jessup 2-0-2-0-4. Totals 20-8-27-9-73.

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