

Norton girls take second loss

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team suffered their second loss of the season on Tuesday evening when No. 7 state ranked Goodland defeated them 44-35 in the NCHS Memorial Gym in Norton.

The Lady Jays are now 9-2 and Goodland is 10-3.

Norton played the visitors pretty evenly in the field goal shooting department but was outshot from the free throw line and badly outrebounded.

The Lady Jays were outscored by just one point from the field but by eight points from the charity stripe.

Norton trailed 17-8 after one quarter. The Lady Jays' only first quarter points came on three baskets by junior center Becca Ebert and one basket by junior guard Karlie Jones.

The Lady Jays outscored the Lady Cowgirls 10-7 in the second quarter to cut Goodland's lead to six points at 24-18 at intermission. Junior guard Whitney Newell hit a shot from beyond the arc and three free throws, Ebert hit another basket and senior guard Amber Engelbert connected for a two-pointer in the period.

Norton scored only six points in the third quarter, however, and Goodland tallied 11 to extend their lead to 35-24. Norton's only points came on baskets by Newell, Ebert and Jones.

The Lady Jays outscored the Lady Cowboys 11-9 in the final stanza. Norton's scores came on two baskets by junior center Chelsea Cox, who spent most of her time on the bench in foul trouble; a basket and free throw each by Ebert and Engelbert and free throw by Jones.

Goodland hit only one field goal in the final stanza but swished seven free throws as Norton fouled in an attempt to get the ball.

"We felt pretty good just being down by six points at halftime with

Chelsea on the sidelines in foul trouble," said Coach Jilka. "But, we just didn't play well enough to win.

"Defensively, we've been forcing turnovers and getting some easy baskets but that didn't happen. They did a great job of getting the ball inside to their big girls. We were outrebounded again. We're not blocking out very well.

"Offensively, we just didn't hit our free throws down the stretch.

"We don't like to lose but, if we were going to lose, it's better that it wasn't a league game. We're still unbeaten in the league and have a chance to win the league title. We control our own destiny in our upcoming league games."

Ebert was leading scorer for Norton with 13 points on 6 of 13 shots from the field for 46 percent and 1 of 2 free throws for 50 percent.

Leading scorer for Goodland was sophomore Dani Bedore with 19.

As a team, Norton connected on 1 of 4 from beyond the arc for 25 percent, 13 of 34 two-point baskets for 38 percent and 14 of 38 overall for 37 percent.

Goodland missed their only trey try, hit 15 of 39 two-pointers for 38 percent and was 15 of 40 overall for 38 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton was 6 of 15 for a cold 40 percent compared to Goodland's 14 of 20 for 70 percent accuracy.

Norton was outrebounded 27-14. The Lady Jays pulled down five offensive and nine defensive caroms. The Lady Cowgirls grabbed 13 offensive and 14 defensive boards.

Norton's leading rebounder was Engelbert with 5, followed by Cox, 4; Ebert, 2; Newell, Klaire Mann, Jones, 1 each.

Norton had just five steals and Goodland had 13 thefts. Newell and Jones each had two steals and Cox had one theft.

The Lady Jays had 10 assists and



Norton junior guard Karlie Jones steals the ball from Goodland and drives down the court during the Lady Jays' hard-fought 44-35 loss to the No. 7 state ranked

Lady Cowgirls on Tuesday evening in the NCHS Memorial Gym in Norton.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

the Lady Cowgirls had nine.

Leading Norton in assists was Newell with five, followed by Jones, two; Cox, Ebert, Engelbert, one each.

Norton suffered 17 turnovers and Goodland turned the ball over 13 times.

Junior varsity won

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls team defeated Goodland 40-29.

Norton held quarter advantages of 12-4, 27-9 and 31-15.

Chantille Campbell was leading scorer for Norton with 11 points, followed by Chelle Donovan, 8; Maggie Nielsen, 6; Rachael Lentz, 4; Amber Waggoner, 4; Haley Jones, 3; Lacey Roe, 2; Amber Overlease, 2.

Megan Rubio scored 9 and Jor-

dan Frazier tallied 8 points for Goodland.

"We were fortunate to come away with a victory," said Coach Rossi. "We played a very good first half but our second half was not good.

"We played together and hard to get a large lead but were outscored in the second half.

"We just need to have good intensity for all four quarters."

Next action

Norton will travel to Victoria today for Mid-Continent League play.

Games will begin at 4 p.m. in the high school gym with the junior varsity boys contest and will be followed by the junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys games.

"I'm anxious to see how well we'll bounce back tonight," said Coach Jilka. "We'll have our hands full with Victoria. It's a tough gym to play in. But, our girls understand that the league title is at stake and we'll still work hard."

GAME STATISTICS

	Norton girls 35			Goodland girls 44		
	FGs	FTs	TP	FGs	FTs	TP
Whitney Newell	1	1	3-8	8	13	6-15
Chelsea Cox	2	0	0-1	4	15	0
TOTALS	15	0	14-20	44	15	0

Becca Ebert	6	0	1-2	13
Karlie Jones	2	0	1-2	5
Amber Engelbert	2	0	1-2	5
TOTALS	13	1	6-15	35

Goodland girls 44

	Goodland girls 44		
	FGs	FTs	TP
Kaylee Billinger	0	0	0-1
Dani Bedore	6	0	7-7
Emily Murray	3	0	3-6
Lindsay Schields	1	0	2-2
Melissa Swager	1	0	0-0
Justeen Koehler	4	0	2-4
TOTALS	15	0	14-20

Wrestlers defeat Kearney, Hays

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School wrestling team returned to action Tuesday evening after a 10-day break since winning the prestigious Newton Tournament of Champions and defeated Kearney, Neb. and Hays in duals at Hays High School in Hays.

In their first dual, the Blue Jays outpointed Kearney 47-24, then outscored Hays 51-21. In the other dual of the evening, Kearney defeated Hays 49-18.

Norton over Kearney

At 103 pounds, Norton's Logan Keiswetter gave the Blue Jays an early team lead by winning a 17-0 technical fall over Collin Rees.

Kearney won the next two matches, however, to take a 9-5 lead.

Norton's No. 1 state ranked Clay Madden lost a 3-1 decision to Shane Castillo at 112 pounds and the Blue Jays' No. 3 state ranked Nathan Broeckelman was pinned in 3:23 by Daniel Rodriguez.

The Blue Jays won the next four matches to build a 23-9 advantage.

At 125 pounds, Kent Mann won a 4-2 decision over Warner Phipps.

Jon Harding pinned Justin Dekok in 35 seconds of their 130 pound match.

At 135 pounds, Jeremy Harding, who is ranked No. 4 in the state, made Jon Crocker count the lights in 47 seconds.

Luke Pfannenstiel won a 9-8 decision over Reese Florang.

At 145 pounds, Blake VanEaton lost a 3-1 decision to Marv Peterson.

Lance Roe pinned Jon Pearson in 2:30 of their 152 pound match to extend the Norton lead to 29-12.

After Kearney's Rustin Dring won 160 pounds by forfeit, Norton won three of the final four matches.

At 171 pounds, Davvid Stanley pinned Eli Clifford in 45 seconds.

Paul Juenemann was pinned in 4:51 by Kyle Brill at 189 pounds.

In the 215 pound match, Blake Hillebrand pinned Nathan Welch in 1:12.

Michael Sprigg pinned Sam Icenogle in 2:52 to complete the team victory over Kearney.

"I thought we looked very sluggish against Kearney," said Coach Johnson.

"Coming off our 10 day break since the Newton tournament, we looked a little rusty.

"After Kearney won two of the first three matches, things did not look good for us. We responded by winning the next four to take a commanding lead.

"We did not open up and wrestle all out in this dual. It appeared that we were wrestling not to lose instead of wrestling to win. When that happens, you normally lose the match.

"We must not worry about winning or losing, we must first work on scoring points and as many as we can. If we score more points than our opponent, the winning will take care of itself."

Norton over Hays

In the victory over Hays High, Norton won six of the nine matches wrestled.

At 103 pounds, Keiswetter won a 13-3 major decision over Jordan Hibbs.

After Madden won at 112 by forfeit, Broeckelman wrestled Rusty Wickham, who is ranked No. 4 in the state in Class 5A at 119.

Wickham edged Broeckelman 6-5 to earn three points for Hays.

At 125 pounds, Mann decided Josh Dreher 11-4.

Jon Harding pinned Brandon Sanders in 30 seconds at 130 pounds and Jeremy Harding pinned Alex McKune in 25 seconds at 135 pounds.

Next, Pfannenstiel earned a big 12-5 decision over No. 3 state ranked Zach Kansensbach at 140

pounds.

Jordan Durham won by forfeit at 145 pounds.

Roe won an 18-3 technical fall over Josh Dandurand in the 152 pound match.

Jeremiah Jamison, Hays, won 160 pounds by forfeit.

Brady Linner won 171 pounds by forfeit.

At 189 pounds, Juenemann was pinned in 3:35 by Danny Smyl.

Hillebrand lost by a fall in 2:54 to Cory Werth at 215 pounds.

Sprigg won by forfeit at 275 pounds.

"I thought we wrestled much better against Hays High," said Coach Johnson. "We seemed to be warmed up and ready to go.

"The match-ups were not real good for either team. I thought there were only two matches that would be close and that turned out to be correct.

"Nathan wrestled a good wrestler at 119 pounds and it was a very close match. I felt the difference in the match was the third period near fall that Nathan gave up.

"Then, at 140 pounds, Luke wrestled another good wrestler. I was proud of Luke. He was able to control the action and won handily."

Norton junior varsity versus Kearney

112 - Travis Ray won 17-0 major decision over Chris Kruetzer

119 - Bryce Engelbert pinned Ryan Chandler in 3:25

125 - Todd Bolt pinned Colt Graf in 1:39

125 - Austin Brown was pinned in 3:59 by Colt Graf

130 - Aaron Husted pinned Josh Beistline in 1:03

135 - Michael Ward was pinned in 44 seconds by David Capps

140 - Jordan Durham pinned Shane Beatty in 3:29

145 - Jordan Durham pinned Spencer Hinrichs in 43 seconds

171 - Brady Linner lost a 5-0

decision to Mike Shafer

189 - Shane Stanley lost a 13-8 decision to Derek Wilke

275 - Ben Rojas was pinned in 43 seconds by Taylor Foss

Norton junior varsity versus Hays

125 - Todd Bolt pinned Cody Drylie in 45 seconds

125 - Aaron Husted pinned Cody Drylie in 23 seconds

152 - Jordan Durham was pinned in 2:24 by Adam Arnhold

215 - Shane Stanley pinned Nate Ward in 5:12

215 - Ben Rojas was pinned in 1:05 by Blake Pruter

Next action

Next competition for the Norton wrestlers will be on Saturday when they compete in the annual Mid-Continent League Tournament in WaKeeney.

Wrestling will begin at 10 a.m. Norton wrestlers scheduled to compete and their records are: 103 - Logan Keiswetter, sophomore, 16-5; 112 - Clay Madden, junior, 18-3; 119 - Nathan Broeckelman, sophomore, 19-4; 125 - Kent Mann, sophomore, 10-8; 130 - Jon Harding, junior, 17-7; 135 - Jeremy Harding, junior, 19-5; 140 - Luke Pfannenstiel, junior, 19-3; 145 - Blake VanEaton, sophomore, 13-9; 152 - Lance Roe, junior, 23-1; 160 - Korey Look, senior, 7-4; 171 - Davvid Stanley, junior, 13-13; 189 - Paul Juenemann, senior, 6-12; 215 - Blake Hillebrand, senior, 9-12; 275 - Michael Sprigg, senior, 21-0.

"The duals with Kearney and Hays should have been a good warmup for the league tournament," said Coach Johnson. "We have been doing so well that we will go into the tournament with targets on our backs. Everyone will be trying to get us. Hopefully, our wrestlers will handle the pressure and wrestle up to our capabilities."

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