

Blue Jay boys play well in defeat of Oberlin's Red Devils

By DICK BOYD

In a makeup game from a weather postponement, Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team could not have looked much better on Thursday night as they led from start to finish in defeating Oberlin 68-37 in Red Devil territory.

With six different players scoring, the Blue Jays were on schedule in the first quarter to hit the century mark for the game as they tallied 25 points compared to 10 for Oberlin.

Norton scored from all over the floor as junior center Heath Vincent banked in three baskets off the glass and hit a free throw, senior forward Justin Shirk and senior forward Ryan Maddy each hit two baskets. Senior point guard Kyle Kats and junior guard Nathan Morse radared in three-point shots. Kats added two free throws and senior guard Aaron Overlease swished a basket.

Vincent was unstoppable in the second quarter when he poured in five baskets to lead a 20 point period for the Blue Jays. Kats hit another three-point basket and a two-point field goal, Maddy found the range on a trey and Overlease hit another two-point basket.

Oberlin added nine more points to their total but Norton held a comfortable 45-19 advantage at intermission.

Kats lit up the scoreboard for seven of Norton's 17 third quarter points as the Blue Jays took a 62-23 lead. In addition to Kats' field goal from beyond the arc and two two-point baskets, Morse buried another trey, Vincent added a basket, Shirk hit three free throws and Maddy converted two charities.

The Red Devils hit just two baskets in the period.

With reserves playing the final stanza for Norton, the Blue Jays were outscored 14-6 to cut their final margin of victory to 31 points. Shirk hit Norton's only field goal of the period. Vincent and Logan Kats each hit two charities.

With the victory, Norton extended their season record to 12-5. Oberlin's record dropped to 8-11.

"Our boys were ready to play from the beginning," said Coach Reusink. "We had great defensive intensity and made Oberlin turn the ball over and kept them off balance in their offense the whole game."

"On our offensive end, we had success inside and out, which really made it tough for Oberlin to defend us."

Needless to say, Vincent was

Norton's leading scorer. He hit 21 points on 9 of 12 from the field for 75 percent accuracy and 3 of 5 from the free throw line for 60 percent.

While Vincent was scoring from the paint, Kats was burning the nets from the perimeter. He hit 3 of 5 shots from beyond the arc for 60 percent, was a perfect 3 of 3 from two-point range and was 6 of 8 overall for 75 percent accuracy. He also hit 2 of 2 free throws.

Shirk hit 9 points on 3 of 6 field goals for 50 percent and 3 of 4 charities for 75 percent.

Maddy, Norton's leading scorer for the season, had an off night shooting from the field but still ended with 9 points.

Lance Fortin led Oberlin in scoring with 14 points; Andy Inman added 10.

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 18 trey tries for 33 percent, 19 of 36 two-point attempts for 53 percent and 25 of 54 overall for 46 percent accuracy.

Oberlin connected on just 2 of 7 from beyond the arc for 29 percent, 13 of 30 two-point tries for 43 percent and 15 of 37 overall for 41 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays swished 12 of 16 for 75 percent and the Red Devils hit 5 of 7 for 71 percent.

Norton outrebounded Oberlin 29-21. The Blue Jays pulled down 9 offensive and 20 defensive caroms and the Red Devils grabbed 6 offensive and 15 defensive boards.

Maddy was leading rebounder for Norton with 7, followed by Vincent, 6; Kats 4; Morse, 3; Jason Green, Josh Jackson, Shirk, 2 each; Overlease, Brian Juenemann, Jared Engelbert, 1 each.

The aggressive Norton defense caused a whopping 30 Oberlin turnovers and the Blue Jays stole the ball 17 times. Norton had just 14 turnovers.

Thefts leader for the Blue Jays was Kats with 5, followed by Overlease, Maddy, 4 each; Jackson, 2; Morse, Shirk, 1 each.

Norton also had 19 offensive assists. Morse was the leader with 7, followed by Kats, Overlease, 4 each; Maddy, 2; Seth Mills, Green, 1 each.

Junior varsity game

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys quintet lost by a 51-45 score.

Norton trailed by quarters: 5-4, 23-16 and 40-30.

Leading scorer for Norton was Brian Juenemann with 20 points, followed by Wes Georgeson, 10; Logan Kats, 9; Jared Cox, 6.

Nolan May led Oberlin in scoring with 12 points. Kyle Glodt and



Blue Jay junior guard Nathan Morse keeps the ball away from an Oberlin player as he dribbles down court during Norton's 68-37 victory at Oberlin on Thursday evening.

Morse was assists leader in the game for Norton with seven.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Jace Robinson each tallied 10 points.

Next action

This evening, Norton is scheduled to travel to Colby to play the Eagles from the Northwest Kansas League. Play should begin at 6:30 p.m. with the varsity girls and 6:15

p.m. with junior varsity boys.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton boys 68

	FGs	FTs	TP	2s	3s	M-A
Nathan Morse	0	2	0-0	6		
Kyle Kats	3	3	2-2	17		
Aaron Overlease	2	0	0-0	4		

Ryan Maddy	2	1	2-2	9		
Logan Kats	0	0	2-2	2		
Josh Jackson	0	0	0-1	0		
Justin Shirk	3	0	3-4	9		
Heath Vincent	9	0	3-5	21		
TOTALS	19	6	12-16	68		

Oberlin boys 37

	FGs	FTs	TP	2s	3s	M-A
Lance Fortin	7	0	0-0	14		
Kyle Glodt	0	0	1-2	1		
Teryn Grafel	1	0	0-0	2		
Jesse Juenemann	2	0	4-5	8		
Andy Inman	2	2	0-0	10		
Josh Fortin	1	0	0-0	2		
TOTALS	13	2	5-7	37		

Norton boys derail Ellis Railroaders

By DICK BOYD

With members of Norton's 1951 and 2003 state championship teams watching, Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team derailed the Ellis Railroaders 79-48 in Mid-Continent League action on Friday evening in the NCHS Memorial Gym in Norton.

The 1951 team and families held a reunion during the weekend and the players and coaches were honored at halftime of the game along with players from the 2003 cham-

pionship team.

The senior players of this year's team were sophomores in 2003 so they were on the championship quintet and played Friday night, which was also designated as Senior Night.

The senior players and managers honored their parents by presenting a flower to them. The senior players are Kyle Kats, Seth Mills, Aaron Overlease, Jason Green, Ryan Maddy, Josh Jackson and Justin Shirk. Senior managers are Jill Skrdlant and Casey Carter.

The 2005 quintet put on quite a show for the honorees as they dominated the visiting Ellis squad from the opening whistle. Norton led 21-10 after one quarter. Forward Maddy led the way with three two-point field goals and a basket from beyond the arc. Junior guard Nathan Morse hit two baskets and junior center Heath Vincent connected on a two-point basket and free throw. Guard Mills buried a three-point shot and guard Overlease hit a two-point basket.

Norton outscored Ellis 15-10 in the second quarter to take a 36-20 halftime lead. The Blue Jays hit only two field goals but paraded to the free throw line. Overlease hit a three-point basket and forward Shirk hit a two-point field goal. Shirk and Maddy each hit three free throws. Guards Kats and Mills each swished two charities.

After the two championship teams were honored at halftime, the Blue Jays came roaring out of the locker room and lit up the scoreboard for 27 points and limited the Railroaders to 15 to extend their advantage to 63-35.

Six different Norton players tallied in the third stanza. Maddy hit a trey and two two-point field goals, Kats buried a three-point and a two-point shot and hit a free throw, Morse connected on a long range shot, Mills hit his second trey of the game along with a free throw, Vincent hit two baskets and a charity and forward Jackson swished a two-point field goal.

A 16-13 fourth quarter in favor of Norton extended the Blue Jays' final margin of victory to 31 points. Morse led Norton scoring in the final stanza with another trey, a two-point basket and three free throws. Vincent hit a basket and charity, Kats hit another two-point shot and Guard Green and

Maddy each hit a free toss.

With the win, Norton extended their season record to 13-5 and Ellis fell to 12-7.

"We played great," said Coach Reusink. "We're playing really well right now. We're playing with high energy on both ends of the floor and with a lot of confidence."

"We did a great job of attacking their press in the first quarter."

"Our bench is starting to play great, too."

"Things are coming together."

Five Norton players scored in double figures. Maddy led with 20 points. He hit 2 of 3 from beyond the arc for 67 percent, 5 of 11 two-point tries for 45 percent and 7 of 14 overall for 50 percent. He also hit 4 of 6 from the free throw line for 67 percent.

Morse scored 15 points. He hit 2 of 5 from beyond the arc for 40 percent, 3 of 3 two-point shots for 100 percent and 5 of 8 overall for 63 percent. He also connected on 3 of 4 free throws for 75 percent.

Vincent tallied 11 points on 4 of 8 from the field for 50 percent and 3 of 5 charities for 60 percent.

Kats and Mills each scored 10 points. Mills buried 2 of 2 long distance shots for 100 percent, missed his only two-point attempt and was 2 of 3 overall for 67 percent accuracy. He was a perfect 4 of 4 from the charity stripe.

Kats hit 1 of 3 from long range for 33 percent, 2 of 3 two-point attempts for 67 percent and 3 of 6 overall for 50 percent. He was also 3 of 5 from the free throw line for 60 percent.

Leading scorer for Ellis was Chuck Parks with 14 points.

As a team, Norton hit 8 of 20 from beyond the arc for 40 percent, 17 of 34 two-point attempts for 50 percent and 25 of 54 overall for 46 percent.

Ellis found the range on just 1 of 11 trey tries for 9 percent, 16 of 46 two-point attempts for 35 percent and 17 of 57 overall for 30 percent.

The Blue Jays hit 21 of 34 free throws for 61 percent while the Railroaders connected on 13 of 18 for 72 percent.

Norton dominated the backboards, pulling down 32 caroms compared to 21 for the Railroaders. The Blue Jays grabbed 8 offensive and 24 defensive rebounds and Ellis pulled down 6 offensive and 15 defensive boards.

Maddy had another double-double with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Mills grabbed 5 caroms, followed by Vincent, Shirk, 4 each; Kats, 3; Overlease, 2; Jackson, Morse, 1 each.

Vincent blocked four Ellis shots.

Norton stole the ball 10 times. Maddy was thefts leader with 4, followed by Overlease, 3; Kats, 2; Shirk, 1.

The Blue Jays had 11 assists. Overlease was the leader with 4, followed by Morse, 3; Kats, Mills, 2 each.

Norton had 11 turnovers but Ellis turned the ball over 15 times.

Junior varsity won

Coach David Stover's Norton junior varsity boys quintet defeated Ellis 66-57.

Norton held quarter leads of 14-8, 28-25 and 47-38.

Leading scorers for Norton were Jared Cox and Jared Engelbert with 14 points each, followed by Wes Georgeson, 12; Logan Kats, 10; Brian Juenemann, 8; Preston Herman, 6; Zach Dole, 2.

Andrew Casey led Ellis with 15 points; Adam Augustine added 10.

Next action

Norton is scheduled to play at Colby this evening.

Games should begin at 6:30 p.m. with the varsity girls and 6:15 p.m. with junior varsity boys.

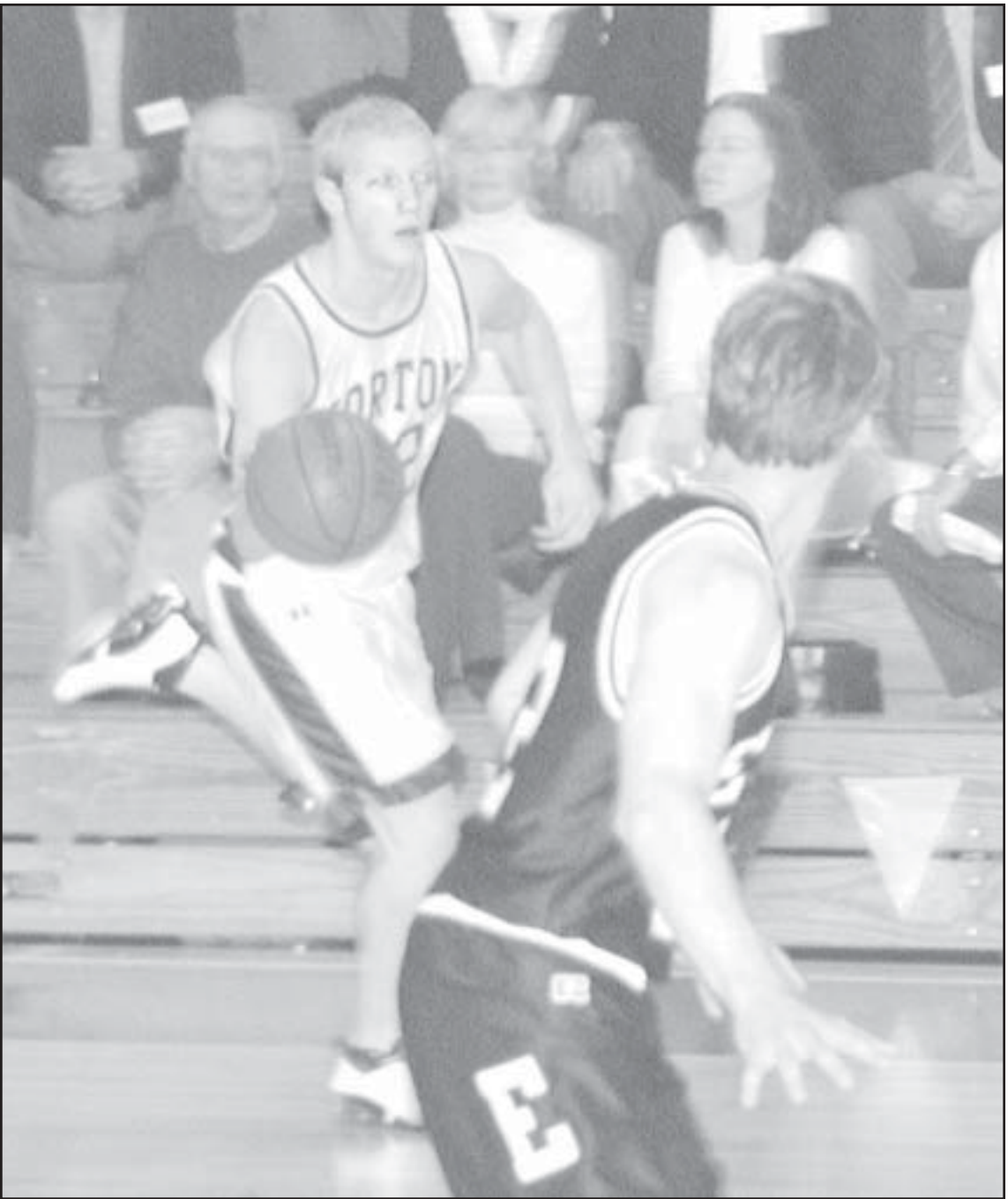
GAME STATISTICS

Norton boys 79

	FGs	FTs	TP	2s	3s	M-A
Nathan Morse	3	2	3-4	15		
Kyle Kats	2	1	3-5	10		
Seth Mills	0	2	4-4	10		
Aaron Overlease	1	1	0-0	5		
Jason Green	0	0	1-2	1		
Ryan Maddy	5	2	4-6	20		
Logan Kats	0	0	0-2	0		
Josh Jackson	1	0	0-0	2		
Justin Shirk	1	0	3-4	5		
Heath Vincent	4	0	3-5	11		
Jared Engelbert	0	0	0-2	0		
TOTALS	17	8	21-34	79		

Ellis boys 48

Colton Barton	0	0	0-2	0		
Andrew Casey	2	0	0-0	4		
Dylan Lang	0	0	2-2	2		
Daren Haas	3	0	2-5	8		
Kyle Urban	1	0	2-2	4		
Chuck Parks	5	0	4-4	14		
Jerome Gottschalk	1	1	2-2	7		
Travis Elder	1	0	0-0	2		
Eric Gaschler	3	0	1-1	7		
TOTALS	16	1	13-18	48		



Norton senior forward Ryan Maddy drives down the court to score after stealing the ball during the Blue Jays' 79-48 win over Ellis here Friday evening. Maddy led Norton in steals with four, rebounds with 12 and scoring with 20 points.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd