

# Blue Jay girls defeat Oberlin



Junior center Becca Ebert scores during Norton's 61-38 win over Oberlin on Thursday evening in Oberlin. Also in the photo are Tricia Dorhorst, No. 25 for Oberlin; Karlie Jones, No. 32 for Norton and Kim Wessel, No. 15 for Oberlin. —Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

**By DICK BOYD**  
Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team made up a contest postponed due to inclement weather with an impressive 61-38 win over Oberlin on Thursday evening in Oberlin.

The Lady Jays jumped out to a big 16-4 first quarter lead, let Oberlin outscore them 12-8 in the second quarter, then poured it on the Lady Red Devils in the second half when they tallied 37 points and allowed only 22.

Junior guard Karlie Jones led Norton in scoring with 23 points. She hit two baskets from long range and a two-point shot in the first stanza. Junior center Chelsea Cox swished three baskets and senior guard Amber Engelbert scored a field goal.

In the second period, Jones and junior guard Whitney Newell each hit a three-point basket for Norton's only points in the first four minutes as the Lady Jays held a 22-11 advantage. Norton did not hit another field goal in the period. The Lady Jays' final points came on two free throws by Jones as Oberlin cut the Norton lead to 24-16.

The Lady Red Devils just couldn't stop Cox in the third quarter when she hit four baskets and two free throws for 10 of Norton's 17 points. Engelbert connected on a three-point and two-point basket and Jones swished another two-point shot. Oberlin scored 11 points in the period and Norton extended their lead to 41-27.

The Lady Jays continued to pour it on in the fourth quarter when they outscored the homestanding Lady Red Devils 20-11 to extend their final margin of victory to 23 points.

Jones added eight more points to her total with a trey and five free throws. Newell hit two more baskets and two charities, junior center Becca Ebert tallied two baskets in the paint and Engelbert hit two charities.

The No. 9 state ranked Lady Jays extended their season record to 13-3. Oberlin fell to 8-10.

"We had such an emotional game at Hoxie on Tuesday night that I thought we might have a hard time coming back," said Coach Jilka. "But, our girls did a great job of being prepared for Oberlin."

"We shot pretty well all night and played better defense the second half when we were able to add to our lead."

"We were able to play a lot more girls than normal and that helped a lot."

"It was a nice win for us going into the game with Ellis which will have an important bearing on the Mid-Continent League race."

Jones hit 4 of 8 three-point shots for 50 percent beyond the arc, 2 of 6 two-point attempts for 33 percent and 6 of 14 overall for 43 percent accuracy. She also hit 7 of 8 free throws for 88 percent.

Cox hit 16 points on 7 of 12 from the field for 58 percent and 2 of 6 free throw attempts for 33 percent.

Engelbert tallied 9 points on 1 of 2 from long range, 2 of 4 from two-point land for 3 of 6 overall and 50 percent accuracy. She was also 2 of 2 from the charity stripe.

Newell also scored 9 points. She hit 1 of 2 from long range for 50 percent, 2 of 6 two-point shots for 33 percent and 3 of 8 overall for 38 percent. She was also a perfect 2 of 2 from the free throw line.

Lauren Fortin led Oberlin in scoring with 12 points.

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 12 from long range for 50 percent, 15 of 34 two-point attempts for 44 percent and 21 of 46 overall for 46 percent.

Oberlin hit 5 of 24 from beyond the arc for 21 percent, 9 of 29 two-point tries for 31 percent and 14 of 53 overall for 26 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton swished 13 of 24 for 54 percent compared to Oberlin's 5 of 10 for 50 percent.

The Lady Jays outrebounded the Lady Red Devils 34-29. Norton pulled down 8 offensive and 26 defensive caroms. Oberlin grabbed 11 offensive and 18 defensive boards.

leader with 11, followed by Jones, 6; Engelbert and Jessi Duscher, 5 each; Ebert, 4; Newell, 2; Klaire Mann, 1.

Norton had 11 steals and Oberlin had 8 thefts. Cox and Jones led Norton with 3 thefts each, followed by Ebert, 2; Newell, Engelbert, Duscher, 1 each.

The Lady Jays had 18 offensive assists and the Lady Red Devils had 12. Jones was Norton assists leader with 7, followed by Newell, 6; Engelbert, 2; Mann, Chelle Donovan, Maggie Nielsen, 1 each.

Each team had 17 turnovers.

**Junior varsity won**

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls team defeated Oberlin 45-19.

Norton held quarter leads of 8-0, 18-4 and 33-15.

Leading scorer for Norton was Chelle Donovan with 11 points, followed by Chantille Campbell, 10; Maggie Nielsen, 6; Amber Overlease, Megan Kats, 4 each; Jessica Strickland, Rachael Lentz, Lacey Roe, Klaire Mann, Amber Waggoner, 2 each.

Kim Wessel led Oberlin with 7 points.

"This was our best game of the season," said Coach Rossi.

"Our girls came out and played their hearts out."

"This is the effort we hope to have every game."

**Next action**

Today, Norton is scheduled to travel to Colby to play non-league games with the Eagles.

Games are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. with girls varsity and 6:15 with boys junior varsity contests.

**GAME STATISTICS**

**Norton girls 61**

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Whitney Newell	2 1	2-2	9
Chelsea Cox	7 0	2-6	16
Amber Overlease	0 0	0-2	0
Becca Ebert	2 0	0-2	4
Maggie Nielsen	0 0	0-2	0
Karlie Jones	2 4	7-8	23
Amber Engelbert	2 1	2-2	9
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15 6</b>	<b>13-24</b>	<b>61</b>

**Oberlin girls 38**

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Sarah Murray	2 0	0-0	4
Jamie Elwood	1 1	1-1	6
Kaitlyn Stapp	0 2	2-2	8
Heather Williams	1 0	0-0	2
Tricia Dorhorst	3 0	0-2	6
Lauren Fortin	2 2	2-5	12
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9 5</b>	<b>5-10</b>	<b>38</b>

## Norton girls roll over Ellis on Friday

**By DICK BOYD**

Clinching at least a share of the Mid-Continent League championship, Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team rolled over Ellis 56-19 on Friday evening in the NCHS Memorial Gym in Norton.

With just one league game remaining, the Lady Jays ran their league mark to 8-0 and overall record to 14-3. Ellis fell to 4-5 in the league and 7-10 overall.

The No. 9 state ranked Norton quintet led from start to finish.

It was "Senior Night". Playing their last career home game for Norton were guards Amber Engelbert and Jessi Duscher. Senior manager is Shannon Jones. Senior members of the dance team are Jones, Pam Foley and Tosha Lyon.

The seniors presented flowers to

their parents.

With junior center Becca Ebert hitting three baskets, Duscher connecting for two baskets and junior guard Whitney Newell burying a shot from beyond the arc, Norton took a commanding 13-2 lead in the first quarter.

Junior guard Karlie Jones led the way as the Lady Jays outscored the Lady Railroaders 20-8 in the second quarter to build a 33-10 halftime advantage. Jones had her radar tuned for long range shooting as she took three shots from beyond the arc and hit all three.

Also scoring for Norton in the second quarter were junior center Chelsea Cox with two baskets and a free toss, and Newell, Ebert and Engelbert, with one basket apiece.

The third quarter was a low scoring one but the Lady Jays outpointed the Lady Railroaders 9-4 to extend their lead to 42-14.

Engelbert hit two more field goals, Newell connected on her second three-point basket and junior guard Klaire Mann hit a two-point shot.

A 14-5 fourth quarter in favor of Norton built the final margin of victory to 37 points.

"We came out pretty business-like and focused," said Coach Jilka.

"It was a good win for us and allowed us to clinch at least a tie for the league title."

"Our two senior girls both had a good game in front of the home crowd."

"We were able to play a lot of girls again and had balanced scoring."

"Now we have to rest and get ready to play at Colby on Tuesday evening. They'll be a good test for us with the sub-state coming soon."

The Colby girls are ranked No. 9 in the state in Class 4A.

Nine different girls scored for Norton in the win over Ellis. Jones was the leader with 9 points, followed by Ebert, Cox, Newell, 8 each; Engelbert, Duscher, 6 each; Amber Overlease, 5; Chelle Donovan, 4; Mann, 2.

All of Jones' points came on her perfect three-point shooting. Ebert's 8 points came on 4 of 5 shooting for a torrid 80 percent accuracy. Cox hit 3 of 6 field goal attempts for 50 percent and 2 of 5 free throws for 40 percent. Newell swished 2 of 4 from beyond the arc for 50 percent, 1 of 6 two-point shots for 17 percent and 3 of 10 overall for 30 percent.

Leading scorer for Ellis was freshman Danielle Pfeifer with 6 points.

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 12 shots from long range for 50 percent, 17 of 46 two-point attempts for 37 percent and 23 of 58 overall for 40 percent accuracy.

Ellis missed both trey tries, hit 8 of 41 two-point attempts for 20 percent and was 8 of 43 overall for 19 percent.

Norton continued to struggle at the free throw line. The Lady Jays were just 4 of 12 from the charity stripe for a cold 33 percent. Ellis converted 3 of 11 charities for an equally cold 27 percent.

Norton outrebounded Ellis 38-31. The Lady Jays pulled down 15 offensive and 23 defensive caroms compared to the Lady Railroaders' 8 offensive and 23 defensive boards.

Nine Norton girls grabbed at least one rebound. The leader was Cox with 11, followed by Engelbert, 9; Ebert, 6; Duscher, 4; Newell, Mann, Donovan, 2 each; Overlease, Jones, 1 each.

the Lady Railroaders had 8 thefts. Steals leader for Norton was Cox with 4, followed by Duscher, 3; Newell, 2; Ebert, Engelbert, 1 each.

Norton recorded a whopping 19 offensive assists compared to just 3 for Ellis. Norton assists leader was Newell with 8, followed by Mann, Engelbert, Duscher, 2 each; Cox, Donovan, Ebert, Overlease, Jones 1 each.

Norton had 13 turnovers but Ellis turned the ball over 24 times.

**Junior varsity won**

Coach George Rossi's Norton junior varsity girls quintet defeated Ellis 34-29.

Norton led 8-4 after the first quarter and 13-10 at intermission but the Lady Railroaders outscored the Lady Jays 9-4 in the third quarter to take a 19-17 lead.

Norton poured in 17 points compared to 10 by Ellis in the final stanza to win the game by five points.

Leading scorer for Norton was Chantille Campbell with 12 points, followed by Maggie Nielsen, 10; Lacey Roe, 6; Klaire Mann, 4; Haley Jones, 2.

Kristen Waldschmidt led Ellis with 8 points; Laura Augustine added 7.

"It was back to square one tonight," said Coach Rossi.

"After a great night last night, we could not focus tonight until the very end."

"The free throws we made sealed the game."

"Our girls will bounce back and be ready to play Colby."

**Next action**

Norton is scheduled to travel to Colby for non-league play today.

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

**GAME STATISTICS**

**Norton girls 56**

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Whitney Newell	1 2	0-0	8
Chelsea Cox	3 0	2-5	8
Klaire Mann	1 0	0-0	2
Amber Overlease	2 0	1-3	5
Chelle Donovan	0 1	1-4	4
Becca Ebert	4 0	0-0	8
Karlie Jones	0 3	0-0	9
Amber Engelbert	3 0	0-0	6
Jessi Duscher	3 0	0-0	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>17 6</b>	<b>4-12</b>	<b>56</b>

**Ellis girls 19**

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Whitney Lang	1 0	0-1	2
Danielle Pfeifer	2 0	2-6	6
Jennifer Jacques	2 0	0-2	4
Vanessa Beilman	2 0	0-0	4
Jaymi Riedel	1 0	0-0	2
Trista Fuchs	0 0	1-2	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8 0</b>	<b>3-11</b>	<b>19</b>



Norton senior guard Amber Engelbert scores in the paint during the Lady Jays' 56-19 win over Ellis in Norton on Friday evening. Engelbert was second leading rebounder for Norton in the game with nine caroms to her credit. On defense for Ellis is Jaymi Riedel, No. 32. —Telegram photo by Dick Boyd