

Norton seventh-graders win three in basketball

The Norton seventh-grade boys basketball team won three in a row defeating Plainville, 26-2, Nov. 10; Phillipsburg, 43-22, Nov. 15; and Osborne, 42-14, Nov. 18.

Plainville

"Our defense held them down as they had trouble getting into their offense," said Coach Jim Myers. "Due to Plainville's lack of numbers, we only got two quarters. I played all the players and rotated them, so everybody got a little playing time."

Landon Keiswetter led scoring for the Jays with 3 two-pointers and 1 free throw for 7 points. He was followed by Dakota Dreher, 5 points; Troy Bainter, Luke Ninemire, and Kaid McKenna, 4 each; and Terrell Lane, 2.

Rebounding honors went to Dreher with five, followed by Lane, four; Ninemire, two; and McKenna, Keiswetter, Bill Broeckelman, Cole Archer, John Koch and Lane, one each.

Spencer Shirk was the steal leader with five, followed by McKenna, Keiswetter and Bainter, three each; and Dreher, Broeckelman and Archer, one each.

Phillipsburg

"The varsity now has a 3-0 record," said Coach Myers. "I thought the kids played a complete game — rebounding, defense and shooting. It was an all around good game."

"It was one of those nights where everything seemed to go right. I attribute that to these kids' effort and willingness to work."

Lane led scoring with 14, followed by Bainter, 10; Shirk, 9; McKenna, 4; Keiswetter, Dreher and Broeckelman, 2 each.

Rebounding honors went to Shirk with 10, followed by Lane, nine; Dreher, seven; McKenna, five; Bainter, four; Keiswetter and Archer, two each; and Broeckelman and Brett Terrell, one each.

Lane was the steal leader with seven, followed by Keiswetter, five; Dreher and Bainter, four each; and McKenna, Shirk and Broeckelman, one each.

The junior varsity won 13-10. Ninemire led scoring for Norton with 6, followed Koch, 3; and Broeckelman and Terrell, 2 each.



Norton's Troy Bainter and a Phillipsburg Panther battle for the ball in Norton Junior High's seventh grade game. Norton won the game 43-22. Bainter scored 10 points in the game.

— Telegram photo by Charlotte Stephenson

Osborne

"We worked on a new offense in this game and things were not as smooth as we wanted," said Coach Myers. "But, I am sure we will do better."

"Defense and pressure sure took Osborne out of their offense."

"We were able to play a lot of kids and try some new offenses and defenses, so, from a teaching stand point, the game was very valuable."

"These kids give a strong effort each time out. They come to play, which is comforting to the coaching staff."

Lane led scoring with 20 points, followed by Dreher, 8; McKenna, 5; Bainter, 4; Ninemire and David Puent, 2 each; and Keiswetter, 1.

Rebounding were Lane, eight; Shirk, six; Ninemire and Dreher, five each; Keiswetter, four; McKenna and Bainter, three each; Puent, two; and Archer and Terrell, one each.

Steal leader was Lane with six, followed by Keiswetter and Ninemire, four each; Shirk, Dreher, Bainter and Broeckelman, three each; McKenna, two; and Koch, one.

The junior varsity won 14-10, making their record 3-0.

Broeckelman led scoring with 6, followed by Koch and Ninemire, 3 each, and Puent, 2.

The seventh-graders will be in Hill City on Thursday, Dec. 1, for a 5:30 p.m. start.

Norton's eighth-grade girls receive first loss from Osborne

Norton's eighth-grade girls basketball team was handed its first loss as Osborne edged the Jays 32-29 on Nov. 17.

"The eighth-grade girls took on Osborne in the second of three in a week and found themselves behind at half time by 6 points due to Osborne's tough pressure defense taking its toll on us and causing us to turn the ball over," said Coach Chuck Zimmerman.

"But, in the third quarter, the Blue Jays started playing our style of ball and using our pressure defense, which caused Osborne to turn over the ball numerous times. We turned their turnovers into quick buckets and, not only caught the Bulldogs, but were eventually ahead by 5 with only three minutes to play in the game."

"What happened from then on is another lesson this group must learn. Patience, on offense, when we are ahead is important at the end of a game. Continuing to work hard on defense while taking care of the ball on offense is key to any victory. As a result of not doing these two things, the Bulldogs came back to win by three, 32-29."

"This was a hard loss to accept but one which the team will learn from and use these lessons in our remaining games."

"Our deflected leaders in this game were Lacy Keilig and Amanda Ray with six each, which triggered our comeback. These deflections led to steals by Ray with four and Shelby Jones and Ashlie Stewart with three each. The defense turned around the game as these deflections and steals allowed Stewart to make some pressure layups during this comeback."

"Rebounds were taken by Keilig with six, followed by Ray and Kaitlyn Wolf with five each while Jones had four."

"A season low of only three team assists were handed out as Ray found two teammates open for scores."

"It was a very exciting game, one we hope the fans enjoyed as it was a good basketball game even though we wished the score would have been reversed."

Stewart led scoring for the Lady Jays with 15, followed by Ray with 7, Keilig with 3, and Beth Winkel and Wolf with 2 each.

"The junior varsity walked away with a 16-10 victory over the Osborne Bulldogs," said Coach Lynette Archer. "The Bulldogs had height and challenged us right away. We were behind until the second quarter. We came out a little more aggressive the second half and scored the needed baskets to win."

"This was not our best defensive game. We gave away a large number of rebounds both on offense and defense. We have got to find the ball after the shot."

"Our shooting percentage continues to be low. We made three of 19 shots (15.8 percent) in the first half. The second half we were three of 21 shots (14 percent). We need to make sure that we square up and use the backboard. Running the offense correctly will lead to better shot choice and can result in higher shot percentages."

Raven Brown led scoring for Norton with 6, followed by Emily Juenemann with 4 and Beth Roy with 2.

The Junior Lady Jays will be in Hill City on Thursday, Dec. 1, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Norton eighth-grade boys' defense holds Phillipsburg for 30-22 win

The eighth-grade boys basketball team beat Phillipsburg 30-22 on Nov. 15 in Norton.

"Phillipsburg came to Norton with a 2-0 record," said Coach Lucas Melvin. "The game was very low scoring in the first half. Norton's defense held the Panthers to just 4 first half points, but the Jays only managed 11 of their own."

"Defense was still the key in the second half, but Norton managed to hold off the Panthers and win 30-22."

"We played very well defensively tonight. We also did pretty well on the boards. Offensively, though, we did not take care of the ball very well and were not very aggressive on the offensive end. If we continue to play defense like that and our offense comes on we will be pretty good."

Kaenon Keiswetter and J.D. Gall led scoring with 8 points each. Also scoring were Marcus Herman, 6; Robert Derauf, 4; and Landon Hamel and Connor Pfannenstiel, 2 each.

Rebounding honors went to Hamel, Keiswetter, Ashton Draper and Derauf with three each, and Herman, Pfannenstiel and Casey Robison, one each.

Steal leader was Pfannenstiel, five, followed by Draper, four; Gall, three; and Hamel, Keiswetter and Herman, two each.

Assists were made by Hamel, three; Keiswetter and Herman, two each; and Pfannenstiel, one.

The Junior Jays will travel to Hill City on Thursday, Dec. 1, with the first game at 5:30 p.m.

Northern Valley Junior High girls defeat Logan; boys team loses

The Northern Valley Junior High girls basketball team beat Logan 45-9 on Nov. 15, but the Husky boys were defeated 32-10 by the Trojans.

Girls

"The Northern Valley girls started league play with a big 45-9 win over Logan," said Coach Jim Cole. "The Huskies scored 19 points in the third quarter to take the win. Three girls scored in double figures."

"The B-team used a swarming full court press to help them win 33-21. The C-team girls had fun playing in their first game, but lost 16-4."

Alison Cole led scoring for the A-team with 16 points, followed by Christina Anderson, 12; Megan Cole, 10; Staci Dole, 4; Kenzie Chandler, 2; and Karen Wenzl, 1.

For the B-team, Dole led with 15 points, followed by Chandler, 6; Amber Sheley, 4; Ashley Constable, 4; Cassie Field, 2; and Kayla Field, 2.

Kelsey Raburn and C. Field both scored 2 points for the C-team.

Boys

"The Northern Valley Junior High boys played Logan in their first league game of the season and lost 32-10," said Coach Cole. "The Huskies played pretty good defense, but had trouble shooting tonight."

"The B-team scored 10 points in the fourth quarter to come from behind and beat Logan 16-12."

Dusty Eagleburger led scoring with 3 points, followed by Colton Lowry, 2; Samuel Field, 2; Hutch Gehrke, 2; and Jacob Gallentine, 1.

For the B-team, Bryant Tharman led with 4 points, followed by Zac Vincent, 3; Matthew Dole, 3; Austin Herman, 2; Brandon Towery, 2; and Zane Miller, 2.

The Junior Huskies and Lady Huskies will travel to Agra on Thursday, Dec. 1, to play Eastern Heights, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

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