

Norton girls defeat Ottawa, 65-54, in tourney opener

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High girls basketball team started the season on Thursday with a 65-54 win over Ottawa in the 17th annual Topside Tipoff Basketball Tournament in Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland.

The first half was close with Norton leading 13-12 after one quarter and 33-29 at intermission. Senior guard Karlie Jones led the way in scoring in the first half, hitting a three-point and two-point basket in the first quarter and adding a three pointer and two free throws in the second.

Senior center Chelsea Cox hit a basket and free throw in the first, senior guard Amber Overlease buried a three-point shot and junior post Maggie Nielsen put in a two pointer.

Sophomore post Chantille Campbell threw in three baskets in the second quarter. Cox hit two more, Jones hit a three and two free throws, senior post Becca Ebert hit two charities, freshman guard Laura Lee Baird hit the first basket of her high school career and senior guard Whitney Newell added a free throw.

The Lady Jays started to pull away in the third quarter when they outdistanced Ottawa 18-12 to extend their lead to 51-41. Cox was unstoppable underneath and hit four baskets and two free throws. Jones was a sharpshooter

from outside, hitting two three-point baskets and a two-point shot.

In the fourth quarter, Norton outscored Ottawa 14-13. Cox hit another basket and two charity tosses, Baird buried the first three-point shot of her high school career, Jones hit a basket and free throw, Ebert swished a basket and Newell hit another free throw.

Cox and Jones tied for high point players for Norton with 21 points apiece. Cox hit eight of 10 field goals for 80 percent and was five of eight from the free throw line for 62.5 percent. Jones swished four of four from beyond the arc and hit three of five two-point shots for 60 percent. She was also three of five from the free throw line for 60 percent. Campbell shot just four times but hit three for 6 points and 75 percent shooting.

Cox and Campbell were leading rebounders for Norton with four each. Ebert and Jones pulled down two each and Newell, Baird and senior guard Klaire Mann had one apiece.

As a team, Norton hit six of eight from long range for 75 percent, 17 of 31 two-point shots for 54.8 percent and 23 of 39 overall for 59 percent.

Ottawa found the range on two of nine treys for 22.2 percent, 14 of 26 two-point shots for 53.8 percent and was 16 of 35 overall for

45.7 percent.

Norton was outrebounded 23-15. Ottawa had seven offensive and 16 defensive caroms and Norton pulled down four offensive and 11 defensive boards.

Norton had 14 steals and Ottawa had 10. Jones led in thefts with five, followed by Newell, Cox, three each; Baird, Mann, Campbell, one each.

The Lady Jays had seven assists. Jones had three, Campbell two and Ebert and Cox, one each. Ottawa had two.

Norton turned the ball over 20 times compared to 28 by Ottawa.

In other first round tourney games on Thursday, Burlington defeated Weskan 64-52, Goodland outscored Wray 53-37 and Holyoke outpointed McCook 56-47.

Norton will play Burlington in the championship semi-finals at 3 p.m. today in Max Jones Fieldhouse and Goodland and Holyoke will play in the other championship semi-finals game at 7 p.m.

Consolation games will be Ottawa vs. Weskan at 3 p.m. and Wray vs. McCook at 7 p.m.

Championship finals will be at 6 p.m. on Saturday with third place set for 2 p.m. The fifth place and seventh place contests will both begin at 12 noon.

"It was a nice win for the season opener," said Coach Kevin Jilka.



Norton senior guard Karlie Jones, No. 32, looks for an opening in the Ottawa defense during the Lady Jays' season opening win over Ottawa in the Topside Tipoff Tournament in Goodland on Thursday. Jones scored 21 points, had 5 steals and 3 assists. Other Norton players are, from left, Amber Overlease, No. 20 and Becca Ebert, No. 22.

— Telegram photo by Sheila Smith

"Offensively, we were very efficient all night. Defensively, we need to get better. We just don't play hard all the time.

"Our girls off the bench did a great job. Everyone we substituted contributed to the win.

"Now, we're in the semi-finals and that's important to us. Hopefully, we will improve in this game against Burlington."

BOX SCORE:
Norton girls 65

			FGs	FTs	TP	Ottawa girls 54			FGs	FTs	TP
2s	3s	M-A				2s	3s	M-A			
Whitney Newell	0	0	2-6	2		Karessa Lewis	2	0	0-0	4	
Chelsea Cox	8	0	5-7	21		Jill Spratt	1	0	3-6	5	
Laura Lee Baird	1	1	0-0	5		S. Hermreck	1	2	0-0	8	
Klaire Mann	0	0	1-2	1		Stephanie Lillie	2	0	0-0	4	
Amber Overlease	0	1	0-0	3		Christin Lang	0	0	1-2	1	
Becca Ebert	1	0	2-2	4		Stephanie Mars	2	0	2-4	6	
Chantille Campbell						Megan Ramsey	2	0	8-8	12	
	3	0	0-0	6		Katie Hawkins	2	0	2-3	6	
Maggie Nielsen	1	0	0-0	2		Ashley Geist	2	0	4-6	8	
Karlie Jones	3	4	3-5	21		Totals	14	2	20-29	54	
Totals	17	6	13-22	65							

Blue Jay boys basketball team loses season opener

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High boys basketball team showed their inexperience in their season opener, which they lost, 96-21, to Ottawa in the opening round of the 17th annual Topside Tipoff Basketball Tournament in Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland.

From start to finish, Ottawa improved to have the stronger as it

took quarter leads of 26-2, 56-7 and 82-13.

Norton has only two returning starters and they are the only returning lettermen. Senior guard Nathan Morse scored 6 points on two of four from the three-point line for 50 percent and no two pointers or free throws

The other returning starter, senior post Heath Vincent, scored

just two-points two of three free throws for 66.7 percent.

Junior guard Jared Engelbert was leading scorer for Norton with 7. He missed all four trey tries but hit two of five two-point shots for 40 percent. He was three for four from the charity stripe for 75 percent.

Junior post Nic Lewis was the only other player to score for Norton. He hit three of 11 two-point shots for 27.3 percent, but hit no free throws.

Ottawa had five players in double scoring figures. Luke Bones led with 16, followed by Addison Miller and Phillip Sylvester, 15 each; Brandon Turner, 12 and Teran Cole, 10.

As a team, Norton hit two of eight from long range for 25 percent, 5 of 36 two-point tries for 13.9 percent and seven of 44 overall for 15.9 percent.

Ottawa swished seven of 10 three pointers for 70 percent, 27 of 45 two-point goals for 60 percent and 34 of 55 overall for 61.8 percent.

The Blue Jays hit five of 19 free throws for 26.3 percent. Ottawa found the range on 21 of 26 charities for 80.8 percent.

Norton was outrebounded 41-18. The Blue Jays grabbed 10 offensive and eight defensive caroms. Ottawa pulled down 13 offensive caroms and 28 defensive boards.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Lewis with five, followed by Vincent, four; Morse, three; Logan Kats, two; Jared Engelbert, Brian Juenemann, Jared Cox, Wes Georgeson, one each.

Norton had 12 steals and Ottawa had 18. Thefts leader for Norton was Lewis with four, followed by Engelbert, two; Morse, Kats, Juenemann, Cox, Georgeson, Vincent, one each.

Norton had 28 turnovers in the game and Ottawa gave up the ball 19 times.

"Obviously, we did not play very well but the thing that was most disappointing was our lack of mental toughness once they started building a big lead," said Doug Coach Reusink.

"We lacked confidence all night long and got away from doing things like we're taught. We just panicked.

"We just have to put this one behind us and work on getting better."

In the first boys game of the afternoon, Burlington defeated Weskan 80-61. Norton will play Weskan in the consolation bracket at 5 p.m. today in the junior high gym and Burlington will play Ottawa at 5 p.m. in the fieldhouse.

In the lower bracket on Thursday, McCook outscored Holyoke

66-60 and Goodland defeated Wray 72-52. McCook and Goodland will play in the championship semi-finals at 9 p.m. today. Holyoke and Wray will play the same time in the consolation bracket.

The championship game will be at 8 p.m. on Saturday and the third place contest at 4 p.m. In the consolation bracket on Saturday, the fifth place game will be at 4 p.m. and the seventh place contest at 2 p.m.

Assistant coaches for Coach Reusink again this season are David Stover and Todd Fulton.

Student managers are Lacy Ellis, Kayleigh Brooks and Ashley Maybon.

BOX SCORE:
Norton boys 21

			FGs	FTs	TP
2s	3s	M-A			
Nathan Morse	0	2	0-0	6	
Jared Engelbert	2	0	3-4	7	
Jared Cox	0	0	0-4	0	
Nic Lewis	3	0	0-5	6	
Heath Vincent	0	0	2-3	2	
Total	5	2	5-16	21	

Ottawa boys 96

			FGs	FTs	TP
2s	3s	M-A			
Chase Moore	1	2	0-0	8	
Matt Leecy	0	0	2-2	2	
Addison Miller	4	1	4-4	15	
Jacob Sipple	0	0	5-6	5	
Luke Bones	5	2	0-1	16	
Victor Ojeleye	1	1	2-4	7	
Aaron Douglas	3	0	0-0	6	
Phillip Sylvester	6	1	0-0	15	
Teran Cole	4	0	2-3	10	
Brandon Turner	3	0	6-6	12	
Total	27	7	21-26	96	



Norton junior Nic Lewis goes in for a layup during the Blue Jays' season opening game with Ottawa on Thursday in the Topside Tipoff Tournament in Goodland. Lewis scored 6 points and led Norton in rebounding with 5 caroms.

— Telegram photo by Sheila Smith

Logan boys basketball team loses season opener against WaKeeney

The Logan High boys basketball team lost 53-43 in their season opener against WaKeeney last Friday.

The Trojans held the lead in the first half, but fell behind in the second: 12-2, 22-17, 31-26, 53-43.

Bryant Reese led scoring for the Trojans with 5 two's, 1 three and 6 free throws for 19 points. He was followed by Tim McElroy, 12; Kyle Brobst and Troy Babcock, 3

each; and Zach Long, Jeff Brown and Ethan Gottschalk, 2 each.

The Logan Trojans will play Plainville in a round robin tournament in Plainville tonight, beginning at 7 p.m.

WaKeeney 53, Logan 43

Score by quarter:
Logan 12 10 4 17—43
WaKeeney 2 15 14 22—53
Logan
Reese 5 1 6 19, McElroy 3 0 6

12, Brobst 1 0 1 3, Babcock 1 0 1 3, Long 1 0 0 2, Brown 1 0 0 2, Gottschalk 0 0 2 2. Totals 12 11 6 43.

WaKeeney

Nathan Locke 0 5 2 17, Tyler Ummel 7 0 0 14, Spencer Hemmert 1 1 4 9, Casey Crossland 2 0 2, Nolan Smith 2 0 0 4, Kevyn Goodman 1 0 0 2, Jared Oborny 0 0 1 1. Totals 13 6 9 53.

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