

# Huge fourth quarter lifts

## Norton girls past Goodland

**By DICK BOYD**  
Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team scored more points in the fourth quarter than in the first three combined to earn a come-from-behind 39-38 victory at Goodland on Tuesday evening!

Norton handed the Cowgirls their first loss of the season in the championship of the Topside Tipoff Tournament by a 47-33 score on Dec. 10 in Goodland but the return trip by the Lady Jays was a much different ball game.

The two teams were tied 4-all after one quarter but Goodland took a 16-10 lead by halftime and extended it to 30-19 by the end of the third period.

"We went to a full court man-to-man defense in the fourth quarter and that seemed to get us going," said Coach Jilka.

Norton outscored Goodland 20-8 in the fourth quarter. The Lady Jays trailed 38-37 with less than 30 seconds remaining in the contest. Senior guard Karlie Jones shot from the baseline and missed. The ball bounced off the rim and appeared to be going out of bounds. A Goodland player tried to keep the ball in bounds, and did, but unintentionally knocked it back into Jones' hands. She shot the ball up and in to put the Lady Jays ahead for the first time in the game with 15 seconds left on the scoreboard clock.

The Cowgirls brought the ball downcourt and Norton defenders tied up the ball but the arrow pointed in Goodland's direction, allowing them to retain possession. The Cowgirls got off two shots but both missed as the final buzzer sounded with Norton leading 39-38!

Norton freshman Laura Lee Baird scored 10 points in the game and all of them came in the fourth quarter where she hit two from beyond the arc and two two-point baskets. Norton senior center Chelsea Cox hit two field goals, senior guard Whitney Newell scored on a field goal and Jones hit two free throws in the quarter in addition to her game-winning basket.

Goodland hit just three baskets in the fourth quarter. Whitney Archer buried a three-point shot and Melissa Swager and Samantha Raymer each hit a basket. Justen Koehler added a free throw.

Norton's four first quarter points came on two baskets by Cox. Goodland's four points came on baskets by Koehler and Emily Murray.

Jones and senior center Becca

Ebert each hit a basket and free throw for Norton's six second quarter points. Goodland scored on two baskets by Koehler, a basket and two free throws by Swager, a basket by Lindsay Schields and two free throws by Archer.

In the third quarter, Cox put in two baskets and a free throw and Ebert and sophomore center Chantille Campbell each added a basket for nine more Lady Jay points.

The Cowgirls extended their lead with 14 points in the third period. Koehler hit two baskets and Kaylee Billinger, Raymer, Murray, Swager and Archer each hit a basket.

"This was a huge win for us," said Coach Jilka. "We're not sure how we did it but our girls did it."

"Offensively, we still aren't shooting the ball well but tonight our girls at least took the ball to the basket, which was a good sign."

"Defensively, our girls never quit."

"We are so proud of them for coming back after our loss in the Mid-Continent League Tournament finals. Hopefully, this will jump start us for the rest of the season."

The Lady Jays suffered their first loss of the season on Saturday night when they were beaten 50-37 by Ellis for the MCL Tournament championship. Norton is now 11-1 for the season and Goodland dropped to 11-4.

Cox was leading scorer for Norton with 13 points on 6 of 8 from the field for a sizzling 75 percent accuracy and was a perfect 1 of 1 from the charity stripe.

Baird was second leading scorer for the Lady Jays with 2 of 3 from long range for 67 percent, 2 of 4 two-point shots for 50 percent and 4 of 7 overall for 57 percent accuracy and 10 points.

Koehler led Goodland in scoring with 11 points. Swager added 8 and Archer hit 7.

As a team, Norton swished 2 of 7 from long range for 29 percent, 14 of 41 two-point shots for 34 percent and 16 of 48 overall for 33 percent.

Goodland also hit 16 total shots but one less basket from beyond the arc. The Cowgirls swished 1 of 4 treys for 25 percent, 15 of 33 two-point attempts for 46 percent and 16 of 37 overall for 44 percent.

Both teams hit five free throws. Norton was 5 of 9 for 56 percent compared to Goodland's 5 of 7 for 71 percent.

Norton was outrebounded 25-20. The Lady Jays grabbed 9 of-

fensive and 11 defensive caroms compared to 9 offensive and 16 defensive boards by the Cowgirls.

Cox led Norton in rebounding with 7, followed by Jones, 6; Ebert, 5; Baird, Campbell, 1 each.

The effectiveness of the Lady Jays' defense is revealed by the steals and turnovers statistics. Norton had 14 steals in the game and caused 22 Goodland turnovers. The ball was stolen from the Lady Jays only 4 times and Norton had only 9 turnovers.

Jones was steals leader for Norton with 5 thefts, followed by Newell, 4; Cox, 3; Baird, Klaire Mann, 1 each.

**Norton junior varsity won**  
The Norton junior varsity girls team defeated Goodland 50-47.

Norton held quarter advantages of 13-6, 28-22 and 41-40.

Leading scorer for Norton was Megan Kats with 15 points, followed by Taylor Rossi, 12; Wiyanna Paxton, 12; Kara Jones, 4; Kylie Morel, 3; Maggie Nielsen, Hayli Bozarth, 2 each.

Clancy led Goodland in scoring with 15, followed by S. Sheldon, 11 and Raymer, 9.

"This was a thrilling night for the Lady Jays," said Norton Coach George Rossi.

"The varsity fired up the junior varsity. Our junior varsity really played a solid game. The score was back and forth. We would get a lead, lost it and regain it again."

"All of our girls gave a great defensive effort. Every game we find new areas to work on. These are hard working girls."

**Next action**  
The Norton boys and girls will not play again until Tuesday when they host Smith Center in Mid-Continent League action in Norton. Games will begin at 6:30 p.m.

**GAME STATISTICS**  
Norton girls 39

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Whitney Newell	1	0	0-0
Chelsea Cox	6	0	1-1
Laura Lee Baird	2	2	0-0
Becca Ebert	2	0	1-4
Chantille Campbell	1	0	0-0
Karlie Jones	2	0	3-4
TOTAL	14	2	5-9

Goodland girls 38

	FGs	FTs	TP
	2s	3s	M-A
Kaylee Billinger	1	0	0-0
Samantha Raymer	2	0	0-0
Emily Murray	2	0	0-0
Lindsay Schields	1	0	0-0
Melissa Swager	3	0	2-3
Justen Koehler	5	0	1-2
Whitney Archer	1	1	2-2
TOTAL	15	1	5-7



Gymnasts from the Norton area, above, were among 130 who competed in a tumbling meet Jan. 21 in Arapahoe, Neb. Sierra Black, below, waited her turn to compete.



### Gymnasts compete in Arapahoe

Gymnasts from the Norton area competed in a gymnastics tumbling meet Jan. 21 in Arapahoe. The competition drew 130 competitors from Kansas and Nebraska. Clubs that participated included Connie's Gymnastics and Dance of Arapahoe; Creative Movements Gymnastics, Oberlin; DJ's Gymnastics, Mitchell, Neb.; Horizon Gymnastics, Holdrege; KTT Tumblers, Cozad, Neb.; North Platte Turbos, North Platte, Neb.; Ogallala Gymnastics, Ogallala, Neb.; and Starz School of Gymnastics, North Platte.

Norton gymnastics placing were Kelsie Griffith, first in Level 8, age 13; Kayla Field, first, Level 7, age 13; Sierra Black, first, Level 6, age 11; Marc Stevens, first, Level 4, age 12; Carmen Ball, seventh, Level 3, age 8.

Tanner Griffith was scheduled to perform in a synchronized routine, but injuries to a teammate prevented the performance.

## Northern Valley Junior High girls beat Eastern Heights, boys take loss

The Northern Valley Junior High girls basketball team beat Eastern Heights 46-20 on Jan. 19, but the Husky boys lost 36-20.

**Girls**  
"The A-team girls improved their record to 10-0," said Coach Jim Cole. "We got off to a good start outscoring Eastern Heights 13-2 in the first quarter. Seven Lady Huskies scored points in the win."

"The B-team improved to 5-1 with their win. The C-team girls played a close game, losing 9-6."

Christina Anderson led scoring for the A-team with 14 points, followed by Alison Cole, 13 points; Megan Cole, 9; Miriah Florence, 4; Kayla Field, 2; Karen Wenzl, 2; and C.J. Woodmansee, 2.

On the B-team, Staci Dole led with 6 points, followed by Amber Sheley, 4; Woodmansee, 4; Pam Araujo, 2; Field, 2; and Kenzie Chandler, 2. The B-team won 20-9.

Scoring for the C-team were Savannah King with 4 points and Kenzi Husted with 2 points.

**Boys**  
"The Huskies lost both the A and B games with Eastern Heights," said Coach Cole. "In both games we got off to good starts, leading

in the first quarter. Eastern Heights outplayed us then the rest of the game. We will keep working hard in practice to improve."

Colton Lowry led scoring for the A-team with 7 points, followed by Dusty Eagleburger, 6 points; Jacob Gallentine, 4; Michael Callaway, 2; and Bryant Tharman, 1.

The B-team lost 34-14. Scoring for Northern Valley were Austin Herman, 6 points; Daniel Field, 2; Matthew Dole, 2; and Gunnar Hays, 2.

The Junior Huskies and Lady Huskies will travel to Rexford to play Golden Plains at 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 30.

## SNOOKER LEAGUE

Here are the results of Jan. 11 Northwest Kansas Snooker League play:

Websters (home) loses to Longshot (visitor), 2-10; Golden Q (home) loses to Office (visitor), 8-10.

Standings — team, matches played, matches won, matches lost, games won, games lost, percent of games won:

Longshot (Phillipsburg), 9-7-2-73-37 - 66.36 percent  
The Office (Stockton), 9-6-3-73-43 - 62.93 percent  
Golden Q (Hays), 9-5-4-56-58 - 49.12 percent  
Websters (Stockton), 9-0-9-22-86 - 20.37 percent

Nortonites Bob Hoover and Danny Heller are on The Longshot Bar and Grill team of Phillipsburg. (This delayed report got lost in the shuffle at *The Telegram*.)

**AYSO Soccer LATE Registration**  
Saturday, Jan. 28  
2-6 p.m.  
309 E. Main, Norton  
(Former Prairie Land Building-Just North of St. Francis Parish Hall)

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