

Blue Jay girls open with 'W'

By DICK BOYD
GOODLAND — The Norton Community High School girls and boys basketball teams opened their season Thursday night with a 55-46 win by the Lady Jays over Sharon Springs and a 47-45 loss by the Blue Jay boys to Colby in the Topside Tipoff Tournament.

The Norton girls trailed a hot shooting Sharon Springs quintet 23-16 after one quarter and 33-29 at halftime. The Lady Jays held the Lady Wildcats scoreless in the third quarter while tallying 15 points to take a 44-33 lead into the final stanza. Laura Lee Baird led Norton in scoring with 15 points and Taylor Rossi hit 11.

The Norton boys also trailed Colby 15-10 after one quarter and 31-16 at halftime, but rallied in the second half and came within one basket of winning.

The Blue Jays outscored the Eagles 12-9 in the third quarter to make it a 40-28 contest, then outscored Colby 17-7 in the final quarter to cut the final margin to

two points. A Norton three-point shot at the buzzer just missed.

Logan Kats was leading scorer for Norton with 12 points and Nic Lewis added 10.

In other first round girls games, Goodland beat Weskan 63-49, Ottawa outscored McCook 55-42 and Colby rolled over Wray 69-41. In other first round boys contests, Goodland edged McCook 58-56, Sharon Springs defeated Wray 56-41 and Ottawa outpointed Weskan 96-52.

The Norton girls will play Goodland in the championship semi-finals at 7 p.m. tonight in Max Jones Fieldhouse. The Norton boys will play Weskan at 5 p.m. in the junior high gym.

Norton girls and boys will also play on Saturday with game times being determined by the outcome of today's games.

Complete details of all three days of basketball action will be in the Tuesday *Norton Telegram*.

Late rally by boys falls short

Goodland tourney ushers in new season

Girls lose to talented Hill City squad

The Norton Junior High 8th grade girls hosted the Hill City Broncos and hopefully learned from playing against them just what it takes to compete with the best in our league and to compete in future games, said coach Chuck Zimmerman.

He said the Broncos applied pressure that Norton did not handle well and they intercepted quite a few of the Blue Jays' passes that they turned into baskets.

"We, on the other hand, only had 7 deflections and two steals, and they were just quicker and we couldn't apply the pressure that we would have liked to apply," the coach said.

He said Norton's shooting woes continued by hitting only 19 percent of their shots. "Again, defensive pressure and not taking the

Blue Jay Jr. High roundup

shot when we were open were the culprits. We tend to be too nice and allow the defensive girl the time to come back after we have beaten her and allow the defender to get a hand up to bother our shot. Thus, 19 percent."

In summation, he said, "We were just outplayed this entire night as we were also out rebounded 32-13."

7th boys pick up 45-24 win

The Norton 7th grade boys defeated Hill City on Dec. 1 by a score of 45-24.

"I thought we played our best game of the year," said coach Jim Myers. "What we are looking for is steady improvement from one game to the next."

The coach was also pleased to see his team shooting much better from the field.

One of the statistics that was also pleasing was in steals, with Norton taking away 17. The Jays also pulled down 25 rebounds.

Scoring for Norton were: Jordan

Wahlmeier with 9 points; Dillon McConney 14; Tye Nickell 6; Joe LeClair 6; Casey Temmel 2; Justin Waggoner 6; and Trey Millan 2.

Nickell was 50 percent from the field with 3 of 6, while McConney was 46 percent with 6 of 13 and LeClair 43 percent with 3 of 7.

Adam Pfeifer was tops for Hill City with 9 points.

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Injury cuts season short for Seth Mills

Seth Mills, a sophomore from Norton, played defensive back this season for the Tabor College football team.

After playing three games at defensive cornerback, Mills was lost for the season due to a hamstring injury.

In just three games, Mills had 29 tackles and broke up two passes.

Mills was also chosen as the sophomore representative for the defense on the Team Unity Council.

Tabor ended the season with a 6-4 record and placed fifth in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, after winning the conference championship the past two years.

Mills is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mills, Norton.

Sophomore Seth Mills from Norton is pictured as he played defensive cornerback for Tabor during their first game of the season vs. Kansas Wesleyan.



- Courtesy Photo

Logan drops opener to Trego 67-45

The Logan Trojans opened their 2006-07 season at home against Trego on Dec. 1 and suffered a 67-45 loss.

Going scoreless in the third quarter pretty well sealed the defeat.

The first half was a good one to watch, with the score tied at the first buzzer 13-13 and at half 24-24. But the stinger came in the third period when the Trojans just couldn't buy a basket from anywhere on the court. While they were going scoreless, the visitors rattled the nets with 19 points. In the final period, Logan canned 21 points vs. Trego's 24.

If only they had a chance to replay that third quarter.

Tim McElroy was Logan's leading scorer with 13. Others breaking into the scoring column were

Zach Lang with 4; Kyle Brobst 9; Tanner Pabst 3; Jeff Brown 7; Kevin Burge 4; Payton Chestnut 2; and Ethan Gottschalk 3.

Hemmert led the way for Trego and the game with 25. Geist added 12; Oborny 4; Day 3; Dirks 5; Lang 6; Neff 1; Smith 4; McGann 2; and Locke 5.

Logan Jr High boys

The Logan Jr. High boys' basketball Trojans finished fourth at the Longfellow Middle School Shootout Dec. 2 at Hill City.

In the first game of the day against Hill City, the Trojans hung close early, trailing 12-7 at the end of the first quarter. But the Broncos outscored Logan 20-4 in the second quarter, then cruised to a 52-34 win.

Blue Jay football banquet Sunday

The annual Norton Community High School Football Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Blue Jay Booster Club, will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

A carry-in meal will precede the

presentations by head coach Lucas Melvin.

All fans are invited and are asked to bring a meat dish, a vegetable or salad, a dessert and their own table service. Drinks will be provided.

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