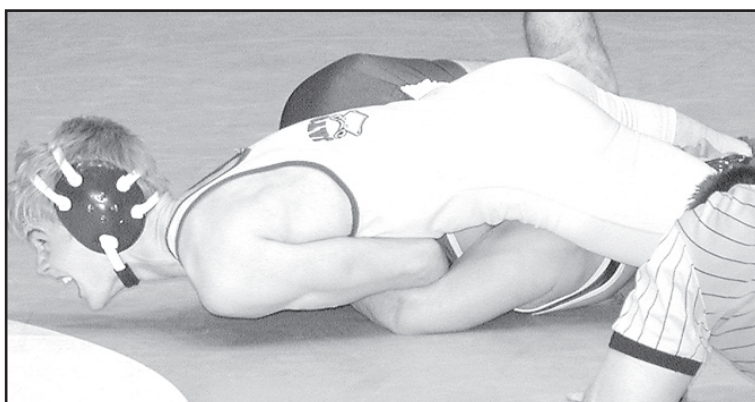


Norton's 125-lb. wrestler Kaenon Keiswetter put Nathan Hulvey of Hays down for the count in 4:42 of their match during the Blue Jays' dual shutout of the Indians
-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Official Ron Haag slapped the mat as Norton's Billy Broeckelman pinned Logan Arnold of Hays in 1:56 of their 112-lb. match.
-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



"Count the lights," Norton's Spencer Shirk seemed to be saying as he pinned Jordan Arias of Hays in 5:08 of their 135-lb. match on Tuesday in Hays.
-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Wrestling duals a mixed bag for Blue Jays

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School wrestling team had some good news and some bad news for fans who didn't attend when they returned from their duals with Kearney, Neb. and Hays in Hays on Tuesday evening.

The good news was that they shutout Hays 82-0 but the bad news was that the grapplers from the Cornhusker State defeated them 49-10.

In the other dual of the evening, Kearney blanked Hays 80-0.

Neither of Norton's duals satisfied head coach Bill Johnson.

"We didn't wrestle well in either dual," said Johnson. "Kearney is a very, very good team and we were glad to have the opportunity to wrestle them. We didn't perform that well. We have some weaknesses and when you wrestle a good team like Kearney, those weaknesses are exposed. We just didn't match up and we lost most of the close matches."

"We held Zach Bainter and Alex Thomas out due to injury and that didn't help.

"The Hays team is young and inexperienced. It was good for us to come back and win over Hays but they are not very strong this year."

In the 152 pound match with Hays, the Indians' Harley Haynes hit on his head and was knocked unconscious when Norton's Jeff Soderlund took him down. Haynes was taken by ambulance to the Hays Medical Center but was released later in the evening and everything checked out okay.

KEARNEY

Norton won three matches in the dual with Kearney. Troy Bainter won an 8-2 decision over Asa Stansbury at 103 pounds, Todd Bolt won a 12-0 major decision over Tre Young at 140 pounds and Robert Derauf won a 6-4 decision over Cody Sparks at 215.

The Blue Jays lost two close decisions. Spencer Shirk lost 5-4

to Brandon Neujahr at 135 pounds and Jeff Soderlund lost 3-1 in overtime to Justin Dekok at 152.

Results of other matches were:

- *112 -- Billy Broeckelman was pinned in 1:22 by Timothy Crocker
- *119 -- Landon Keiswetter lost a 6-1 decision to Jarek Patterson
- *125 -- Kaenon Keiswetter was pinned in 3:55 by Collin Rees
- *130 -- Zane Perez lost a 14-8 decision to Brandon Rimpley
- *145 -- Travis Ray lost a 15-4 major decision to Nick Rimpley
- *160 -- Matt Stanley was pinned in 1:41 by Warner Phipps
- *171 -- Jordan Bebb lost an 11-7 decision to Jensen Foss
- *189 -- Michael Shafer, Kearney, won by forfeit
- *285 -- Derek Wilke, Kearney, won by forfeit.

Junior varsity

- *103 -- Colby Poage pinned Ryan Bauer in 4:30
- *140 -- Kaid McKenna pinned Isaac Almquist in 4:30
- *145 -- Logan Kelly pinned

Matt Driml in 2:25

- *152 -- Aaron Husted pinned Elliott Clifford in 1:18
- *152 -- Austin Brown pinned Jarrad Murrish in 1:39
- *160 -- Ryan Blecha pinned Jarrad Murrish in 3:16
- *171 -- Casey Robison was pinned in 1:38 by Mike Butler
- *189 -- Tyler Cook pinned Dylan Brandt in 1:55

HAYS

- *103 -- Troy Bainter pinned Korey Pfannenstiel in 58 seconds
- *112 -- Billy Broeckelman pinned Logan Arnold in 1:56
- *119 -- Landon Keiswetter pinned Cope Wickham in 1:30
- *125 -- Kaenon Keiswetter pinned Nathan Hulvey in 4:42
- *130 -- Zane Perez pinned Jody Fox in 5:25
- *135 -- Spencer Shirk pinned Jordan Arias in 5:08
- *140 -- Todd Bolt pinned Chase Scheibler in 47 seconds
- *145 -- Travis Ray pinned Zane Wickham in 3:12

- *152 -- Jeff Soderlund won by injury default over Harley Haynes
- *160 -- Matt Stanley pinned J.T. Thiede in 4:36
- *171 -- Jordan Bebb pinned Alex McKune in 1:09
- *189 -- Brock Lauer won by forfeit
- *215 -- Robert Derauf won by forfeit
- *285 -- Alex Thomas pinned Cody Drylie in 37 seconds

Junior varsity

- *112 -- Colby Poage was pinned in 3:03 by Jason Stegman
- *140 -- Kaid McKenna pinned Caden Junk in 1:11
- *140 -- Kaid McKenna pinned Max Haverfield in 2:45
- *145 -- Logan Kelly pinned Carey Jordan in 1:23
- *152 -- Aaron Husted pinned Carlos Perez in 1:04
- *152 -- Austin Brown pinned Conner Blosser in 39 seconds
- *160 -- Ryan Blecha was pinned in 1:04 by Jay Wickham
- *171 -- Casey Robison won a

16-7 major decision over Dylan Sauer

- *189 -- Tyler Cook won a 16-0 technical fall over David Boeckner

Next action

Norton will host the annual Mid-Continent League Wrestling Tournament on Saturday in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium.

Wrestling will begin at 10 a.m. with pigtail matches and will be followed by front side quarterfinals, front side semi-finals, backside quarterfinals, consolation semi-finals and consolation finals/championship finals.

In addition to Norton, wrestlers will be competing from Ellis, Osborne, Plainville, Stockton, Hill City, Phillipsburg, Smith Center and Trego Community.

Plaques will be awarded to the top three teams and medals to the top four wrestlers in each weight.

Admission will be \$4 for adults and \$3 for students.

Norton ladies rough up Cowgirls

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team returned to Goodland for a second encounter this season with the Lady Cowgirls on Tuesday evening and returned with a 45-30 victory.

Norton also won the first time the two met in the opening round of the Topsy Tip-Off Tournament in early December when the Lady Jays outscored Goodland 62-36.

This time around, both teams had 9 points after the first quarter but Norton outscored Goodland 13-4 in the second quarter to take a 22-13 half-time lead. A 14-8 third quarter in Norton's favor extended the Lady Jays' advantage to 36-21.

In the final stanza, both teams matched the 9 points each scored in the first quarter.

Laura Lee Baird led the way in scoring for Norton in the first half as she hit 15 of her game-high 17 points. She swished a three-pointer and two two-point baskets in the initial period, then hit two from beyond the arc along with another two-point shot in the second quarter.

For the game, she connected on 3 of 4 from long range for 75 percent, 4 of 7 two-point tries for

57 percent and 7 of 11 overall for 64 percent accuracy.

Taylor Rossi helped the offensive cause in the second half by burying two shots from beyond the arc in the third quarter and ending with 8 points on 2 of 5 from long range for 40 percent, 1 of 2 two-point tries for 50 percent and 3 of 7 overall for 43 percent.

Sammie Raymer was leading scorer for Goodland with 11 points, which included the Lady Cowgirls' only basket from beyond the arc.

"We did what we had to do to win the game," said Norton head girls coach Kevin Jilka.

"Offensively, we stood around a lot and weren't as sharp as we needed to be.

"On the defensive side, we played better as the game went on. We weren't as aggressive as we needed to be at the start.

"It will be nice to have a Friday off to give our girls a break before we head into the final stretch and get ready for sub-state."

As a team, Norton hit 6 of 17 long range shots for 35 percent, 13 of 27 two-point attempts for 48 percent and 19 of 44 for 43 percent overall.

The Lady Cowgirls connected on 1 of 5 from beyond the arc for 20 percent, 10 of 29 two-point tries for 34 percent and 11 of 34 overall

for 32 percent.

From the charity stripe, the Lady Jays hit 1 of 7 for 14 percent while Goodland swished 7 of 10 for 70 percent.

Norton pulled down 4 offensive and 13 defensive caroms for 17 total. Goodland grabbed 3 offensive and 16 boards for 19 total.

Courtney Cox was leading rebounder for Norton with 5, followed by Rossi, KaraJo Jones, 3 each; Hayli Bozarth, Megan Kats, 2 each; Baird, Chantille Campbell, 1 each.

The Lady Jays had 6 steals and the Lady Cowgirls recorded 8 thefts. Baird was the leader for Norton with 4 steals, followed by Kats, Bozarth, 1 each.

The Lady Jays had 14 offensive assists compared to 6 for the Lady Cowgirls. Rossi and Kats were assists leaders with 3 each, followed by Jones, Campbell, 2 each; Baird, Cox, Campbell, Amanda Ray, 1 each.

Norton had 10 turnovers and Goodland lost the ball 13 times.

Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity girls defeated Goodland 57-28.

Norton held quarter advantages of 20-2, 36-13 and 52-19.

Amanda Ray was leading scorer for Norton with 17 points, followed by Ashlie Stewart and Lacy Keilig with 12 each. Shelby

Jones tallied 5, followed by Sophie Mills, Kaitlyn Wolf, 4 each; Meaghan Peterson, 3.

Angie Hillmer led Goodland in scoring with 6 points; Jade Herl added 5.

"It was a solid game for us tonight," said Norton assistant girls coach George Rossi.

"Our girls came out with an aggressive press that allowed us to build a healthy lead.

"We did a good job of getting the ball inside and the posts were converting those good passes into baskets."

Next action

The Lady Jays will return to Mid-Continent League play on Tuesday when they host Smith Center in varsity and junior varsity contests, beginning at 5 p.m. in the Stull Gym.

BOX SCORE

Norton girls 45

Taylor Rossi 1 2 0-0 8; Laura Lee Baird 4 3 0-0 17; Courtney Cox 0 0 1-2 1; Megan Kats 0 1 0-0 3; KaraJo Jones 3 0 0-0 6; Chantille Campbell 2 0 0-5 4; Hayli Bozarth 3 0 0-0 6; Total 13 6 1-7 45.

Goodland girls 30

Courtney Sheldon 1 0 0-0 2; Shelbi Hall 2 0 3-5 7; Jade Herl 1 0 0-2; Sammie Raymer 3 1 2-3 11; Ashley Archer 3 0 2-2 8; Total 10 1 7-10 30.

Blue Jays unable to close deal at Goodland

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team got a slow start in their return game with Northwest Kansas League foe Goodland on Tuesday evening in Goodland and tried unsuccessfully for the final three quarters to catch up before losing 50-47 to the Cowboys.

Norton defeated Goodland 35-29 in early December to place third in the Cowboys' annual Topsy Tip-Off Tournament.

After failing to hit a field goal in the first quarter Tuesday night and falling behind 14-2, the Blue Jays outscored the Cowboys the next three quarters. A 16-12 second stanza in favor of Norton cut Goodland's lead to 26-18 at half-time. The Blue Jays edged the Cowboys 13-12 in scoring in the third period to trail by 38-31 with the crucial final stanza remaining.

Senior forward Wes Georgeson, who failed to score in the first half and had one field goal in the third period, swished three baskets in the final quarter.

Senior point guard Logan Kats, who had one field goal and two free throws in the first half and two charities in the third period, hit a three-point and two-point basket and free throw for 6 of Norton's final points as the Jays outscored the Cowboys 16-12 in the last quarter.

Senior guard Jared Cox and senior forward Preston Herman each contributed a fourth quarter basket as well.

"We did not come out ready to play and dug ourselves into a big hole early in this game," said Norton head boys coach Doug Reusink.

"We did do a nice job of fighting our way back into the game but just could not find a way to win."

Kats led scoring for Norton with 12 points on 1 of 3 from long range for 33 percent, 2 of 4 two-point attempts for 50 percent, 3 of 7 overall for 43 percent and 5 of 6 free throws for 83 percent.

Herman hit 2 field goals and 5 of 8 from the charity stripe for 63 percent and 9 points. Georgeson was 4 of 7 from the field for 57 percent and Cox was 4 of 8 for 50 percent, both tallying 8 points.

Leading scorer for Goodland was Greg Farris with 17; Brandon Rome added 11.

As a team, Norton connected on 2 of 12 shots from long range for 17 percent, 15 of 35 two-point attempts for 43 percent and 17 of

47 overall for 36 percent.

Goodland swished 11 of 5 trey tries for 20 percent, 19 of 41 two-point tries for 46 percent and 20 of 46 overall for 43 percent.

From the charity stripe, Norton hit 11 of 16 for 69 percent and Goodland connected on 9 of 14 for 64 percent.

The Blue Jays grabbed 8 offensive and 22 defensive caroms for 30 total. The Cowboys pulled down 5 offensive and 17 defensive boards for 22 total.

Herman was leading rebounder for Norton with 10, followed by Kats, 7; J.D. Gall, Landon Hamel, 3 each; Cox, Georgeson, Zac Dreher, 2 each; Zach Dole, 1.

Herman had 4 of Norton's 8 steals, followed by Kats, 3; Gall, 1.

The Blue Jays had 16 offensive assists compared to 14 for the Cowboys. Kats was the leader with 8, followed by Hamel, Cox, Gall, 2 each; Dole, Herman, 1 each.

Herman and Georgeson each blocked 1 shot.

Norton had 20 turnovers and Goodland lost the ball 15 times.

Junior varsity

Goodland won the junior varsity game by a 61-23 score.

Norton led 7-4 after one quarter but Goodland outscored Norton 26-10 in the second period to go on top 30-17. A 21-3 third quarter in favor of the Cowboys made it a 51-20 contest with one quarter remaining.

Landon Hamel was leading scorer for Norton with 7 points, followed by Zac Dreher, 5; Cole Archer, 4; D.J. Ebner, 3; Dakota Dreher, Marcus Herman, 2 each.

Brock Wilkens led Goodland with 12 points.

Norton will return to Mid-Continent League action on Tuesday when they host Smith Center in varsity, junior varsity contests. The junior varsity game begins at 5 p.m. in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym.

Smith Center tough to handle for Husky boys

Tuesday turned out to be a long night for the Northern Valley Junior High girls win two

The Northern Valley Junior High A-team girls beat Healy and Damar in action at Healy.

In the first game, the score was Northern Valley 30 and Damar 14.

The Huskies led at the end of the first quarter 3-0, 12-8 at half-time and 14-10 at the end of three quarters of play.

Scoring: Erika Chandler 18, Cassie Field 7, Ashley Constable 3, Sara Whitney 2.

In the second game vs. Healy, the Huskies won 25-13.

The Huskies were ahead after the first quarter 7-4, 15-7 at the half and 20-9 at the end of the third period.

Scoring: Ashley Constable 13, Cassie Field 5, Katie Stillion 3, Erika Chandler 2, Kenzie Husted 2

Coach Kevin Largent's Comments: "The Lady Junior Huskies got back on the winning track after

High School varsity basketball Huskies. They entertained the

winning first place in the Healy Invitational Basketball Tournament. In the first game against Damar, Erika Chandler had a career high day, and an unusual triple double: 18 points, 15 rebounds, and 10 steals. Cassie Field chipped in 7 points and Katie Stillion had 12 rebounds.

"In the second game versus Healy, Ashley Constable led us with 13 points including two of three from behind the arc, Cassie Field chipped in 5 points and 9 rebounds and Katie Stillion 10 rebounds and 5 steals.

"This tournament was a great experience for the girls, both on and off the court, as they traveled a long distance and persevered for a great tournament victory.

"We look forward to practice to work on fundamentals and individual skill development and getting better each and every day."

Smith Center Redmen and came away a bit shellshocked in a 79-33 losing cause.

From the outset to the conclusion, the Redmen were in charge, as shown on the score-by-quarters chart (winners first): 19-11, 45-15, 67-26 and 12-7. Breaking it down, it means that Smith Center outscored the Huskies 19-11 in the opening frame, 26-5 in the second, 22-10 in the third and 12-7 in the fourth.

Drew Britt was the Huskies' #1 scorer with 13.

For the Redmen, Mocabey scored 20, Windscheffel 19 and

Girls drop three games to K-town

The Northern Valley Junior High A-team girls lost to Eastern Heights' K-town 30-9 at Almena on Jan. 17.

By quarters:
NV — 3-2-0-4 = 9
EH/K-town — 4-10-8-8 = 30.

Scoring: Cassie Field 4, Kenzie Husted 2, Kelsey Raburn 2, Katie Stillion 1.

The B-team girls lost 24-6.

By quarters:
NV — 2-0-2-2 = 6

Hays 11.

Northern Valley got on the scoreboard with 11 2-pointers, 2 3-pointers and 5 charity tosses. For the Redmen, it was 21 2-pointers, 10 3-pointers and 7 free throws.

Individually, for the Huskies: (2-pointers, 3-pointers, free throws:
Bryce Marble 1-0-1=3; Dusty Eagleburger 0-0-1=1; Ethan Hays 1-0-0=2; Drew Britt 4-1-2=13; Cody Callaway 3-0-0=6; Blake Johnson 1-0-0=2; Drew Eagleburger 0-1-1=4; and Eric Woodside 1-0-0=2.

EH/K-town — 5-8-5-6 = 24
Scoring: Kelsey Raburn 2, Shelia Stillion 2, Kellie Whittenburg 2.

The C-team girls lost 8-0.

Eastern Heights/K-Town scored 2 points in the first period and 6 in the second.

Coach Kevin Largent's Comments: "The girls hustled and played hard; however, we got a little tired and their constant pressure wore on us in the end."

BOX SCORE

Norton boys 47

Logan Kats 2 1 5-6 12; Zach Dole 2 0 0-0 4; Jared Cox 4 0 0-0 8; Wes Georgeson 4 0 0-0 8; J.D. Gall 1 1 0-0 5; Zac Dreher 0 0 1-2 1; Preston Herman 2 0 5-8 9; Total 15 2 11-16 47.

Goodland boys 50

Dautel 1 0 0-0 2; Duell 1 0 0-0 2; Brandon Rome 5 0 1-1 11; Smith 2 0 0-1 4; Travis Angelos 1 0 3-4 5; Greg Farris 5 1 4-6 17; Trachsel 2 0 0-0 4; Josh Duke 2 0 1-2 5; Total 19 1 9-14 50.