

Regional wrestling tourney just days away

By DICK BOYD
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School varsity wrestling team will compete in the annual Class 3-2-1A Regional Wrestling Tournament this Friday and Saturday at Trego Community High School in WaKeeney.

Competing, in addition to Norton and Trego Community, will be teams from Atwood, Cimarron, Elkhart, Ellis, Grainfield-Wheatland-Grinnell, Thomas More Prep of Hays, Hill City, Holcomb, Hox-

ie, Lakin, Larned, Leoti-Wichita County, Montezuma-South Gray, Oakley, Oberlin, Quinter, St. Francis, Scott City and Sublette.

With many of the top teams and wrestlers in the state competing, this regional tournament has traditionally been the toughest in the state.

This year, 26 of the 84 state-ranked wrestlers are expected to compete in this tournament.

Norton's seven state-ranked wrestlers are: Troy Bainter, No. 3, 103; Billy Broeckelman, No. 6,

112; Kaenon Keiswetter, No. 6, 125; Zach Bainter, No. 1, 135; Todd Bolt, No. 3, 140; Jeff Soderlund, No. 5, 152; Alex Thomas, No. 2, 285.

Thomas placed third in the state tournament last year and Zach Bainter placed fourth.

Other state-ranked wrestlers expected are: Francisco Antillion, No. 1, 103, Scott City; Dalton Davis, No. 4, 112, Lakin; Cody Sherlock, No. 5, 112, St. Francis; Jace Campbell, No. 3, 119, Oakley; Dillon Stucky, No. 4,

125, Scott City; Kevin Wolters, No. 3, 130, Atwood; Gavin Smull, No. 4, 135, St. Francis; Everett Urban, No. 4, 140, Oberlin; Gage Reichert, No. 6, 145, Oberlin; Clint Taylor, No. 4, 152, Thomas More Prep; Kelly Younkin, No. 1, 160, Oakley; Travis Budke, No. 2, 160, Thomas More Prep; Clayton Rall, No. 3, 160, Hoxie; Quinn Aumiller, No. 3, 171, Hoxie; Logan Numerich, No. 4, 171, Scott City; John Binning No. 5, 189, Atwood; Aaron Racette, No. 1, 215, Oakley; Shelby Wright, No. 4, 285,

Atwood; Dillon Salmans, No. 6, 285, Hoxie.

The tournament will begin with the first round at 2 p.m. on Friday, followed by the championship quarterfinals, consolation first round and consolation cross bracketing.

Competition will continue Saturday at 11 a.m. with the championship semifinals, followed by the consolation quarterfinals at 1 p.m., consolation semifinals at 3 p.m., consolation finals at 5 p.m. and championship finals at

6:30 p.m.

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

The top four wrestlers in each weight will qualify for the state tournament next weekend in Hays.

Admission is \$3 for students, \$4 for adults on Friday; \$5 for students, \$7 for adults all day Saturday and \$3 for students and \$4 for adults for Saturday evening's action.

Blue Jays win 13th consecutive league dual crown

By DICK BOYD
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School varsity wrestling team won their 13th consecutive Mid-Continent League dual championship with a 58-12 win over Osborne and 80-0 victory over Hill City last Thursday in Osborne.

"We wrestled well in the matches that were contested," said coach Johnson.

"Many times, it is very hard to get up for a few tough matches in duals that have so many forfeits. But, I thought our boys who had the tough matches competed well, for the most part.

"Osborne has five wrestlers that we matched up well with. All of those match-ups were from 119 to 145 pounds.

"We were able to win three of those five matches. I especially thought that Aaron Husted wrestled well by scoring 19 points and defeating 2007 state qualifier Martin Hojda at 145 pounds.

"Against Hill City, we thought there would be two good matches. At 125, Kaenon Keiswetter wrestled Cole Orr. At the league tournament, Kaenon defeated Orr by only one point. But, this dual match was all Keiswetter as he totally dominated Orr to win a 17-1 technical fall in the second

period.

"The second good match was at 130 pounds where Zane Perez wrestled Jeremy Chase. Both are 2007 state medalists. Perez came away with a hard-fought 6-4 decision."

OSBORNE

*103 -- Troy Bainter won by forfeit

*112 -- Billy Broeckelman pinned Joe Sumpter in 51 seconds

*119 -- Landon Keiswetter lost a 7-2 decision to Aaron Geist

*125 -- Kaenon Keiswetter won by forfeit

*130 -- Zane Perez lost a 2-0 decision to Danny Floyd

*135 -- Zach Bainter won an 11-4 decision over Trevor Oliver

*140 -- Todd Bolt won a 4-0 decision over Jason Knoll

*145 -- Aaron Husted won a 19-11 major decision over Martin Hojda

*152 -- Jeff Soderlund won by forfeit

*160 -- Matt Stanley won by forfeit

*171 -- Jordan Bebb pinned Joey Carlin in 1:51

*189 -- Brock Lauer was pinned in 1:08 by Danny Pfannenstiel

*215 -- Robert Derauf pinned Matt Dahlhauser in 44 seconds

*285 -- Alex Thomas won by forfeit

Junior varsity

*160 -- Brad Nuzum was pinned in 1:30 by Joey Carlin

*189 -- Tyler Cook pinned Matt Dahlhauser in 5:18

HILL CITY

*103 -- Troy Bainter won by forfeit

*112 -- Billy Broeckelman won by forfeit

*119 -- Landon Keiswetter pinned Kasey Patterson in 1:02

*125 -- Kaenon Keiswetter won a 17-1 technical fall over Cole Orr

*130 -- Zane Perez won a 6-4 decision over Jeremy Chase

*135 -- Zach Bainter won by forfeit

*140 -- Todd Bolt won by forfeit

*145 -- Aaron Husted won by forfeit

*152 -- Jeff Soderlund pinned Clinton Johnson in 52 seconds

*160 -- Matt Stanley pinned Nathan Hanna in 1:29

*171 -- Jordan Bebb won by forfeit

*189 -- Brock Lauer won by forfeit

*215 -- Robert Derauf won by forfeit

*285 -- Alex Thomas won by forfeit

Junior varsity

*152 -- Austin Brown pinned Kyle Babcock in 40 seconds

Norton varsity basketball boys hang on to win 67-62

By DICK BOYD
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
The Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team had their own way for three quarters of their game with Atwood on Friday night then had to fight off a Buffalo rally before winning 67-62.

The Blue Jays held quarter advantages of 16-10, 31-20 and 48-36 but the homesteading Atwood quintet from the Northwest Kansas League outscored the visitors from the Mid-Continent League 26-19 in the fourth quarter to make a game of it.

"We played a great game on both ends of the floor for three quarters but I would have liked us to make better decisions down the stretch," said Norton head boys coach Doug Reusink. "We just let things get too close before we secured the win.

"Atwood was a very good team with some outstanding offensive players so it was a good win for us on the road."

Norton senior point guard Logan Kats was leading scorer for the Blue Jays with 22 points on 1 of 3 from long range for 33 percent, 5 of 9 two-point tries for 56 percent, 6 of 12 overall for 50 percent and 9 of 12 free throws for an excellent 75 percent.

Senior forward Wes Georgeson scored 19 points in the paint on 8 of 13 two-point shots for 62 percent and 3 of 6 free throws for 50 percent accuracy.

Leading scorer for Atwood was Elijah Kastens with 20. Marcus Cahoj added 14.

As a team, Norton hit 2 of 5 from beyond the arc for 40 percent, 23 of 48 from two-point range for 48 percent and 25 of 53 overall for 47 percent.

Atwood had a good shooting night. The Buffaloes hit 3 of 6 from long range for 50 percent, 22 of 39 two-point tries for 56 percent and 25 of 45 overall for 56 percent.

From the charity stripe, the Blue Jays swished 15 of 26 for 58 percent while the Buffaloes connected on 9 of 13 charities for 69 percent.

Norton outrebounded Atwood 25-17. Both teams grabbed 13 defensive rebounds but Norton had a 12-4 advantage on the offensive boards.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Preston Herman with 8, followed by Georgeson, 7; Zac Dreher, 4; Landon Hamel, 3; J.D. Gall, 2; Kats, 1.

Norton had 11 steals compared to just 1 by the Buffaloes. Georgeson led with 4 thefts, followed by

Hamel, Gall, 2 each; Kats, Herman, Jared Cox, 1 each.

The Blue Jays were credited with 20 offensive assists and the Buffaloes had 23. Kats and Hamel led Norton with 7 each; followed by Cox, 5; Herman, 1.

Norton had 11 turnovers and Atwood turned the ball over 15 times.

The victory extended the Norton boys' record to 10-5.

Junior varsity

Atwood won the boys junior varsity game by a 72-41 score.

The young Norton team led 15-9 after one quarter but trailed 30-24 at half-time and 47-32 after three quarters.

Leading scorer for Norton was Dakota Dreher with 15 points, followed by Landon Hamel, 8; Marcus Herman, 7; J.D. Gall, 6; Zac Dreher, 3; Luke Ninemire, 2.

Blake Studer led Atwood with 25 points.

Next action

Norton will host another team from the Northwest Kansas League this evening when Hoxie comes to town.

Games will begin at 5 p.m. The junior varsity boys game will be played in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym and the junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys contests will be played in the

NCHS Stull Gymnasium.

The games with Oberlin, which were postponed due to inclement weather, will be played on Thursday evening in Norton. Contests will start at 6:30 p.m. with the girls varsity and will be followed by the boys varsity. There will be

no junior varsity games.

BOX SCORE

Norton boys 67
Logan Kats 5 19-12 22; Landon Hamel 1 13-6 8; Jared Cox 100-2 2; Wes Georgeson 8 0 3-6 19; J.D. Gall 1 0 0-0 2; Zac Dreher 3 0 0-0

6; Preston Herman 4 0 0-0 8; Total 23 2 15-26 67.

Atwood boys 62
G. Solko 0 1 1-4 4; Drew Bassall 5 0 0-0 10; J. Grafel 2 0 0-0 4; Marcus Cahoj 7 0 0-0 14; Elijah Kastens 6 1 5-6 20; Eric Holub 2 1 3-3 10; Total 22 3 9-13 62.

Big second quarter lifts Blue Jay varsity ladies to victory

By DICK BOYD
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
With the help of a big second quarter, coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team defeated Atwood 55-47 in non-league play Friday night in Atwood.

Norton was outscored by one point in each of the other quarters but limited the Lady Buffaloes to just 4 points on a basket and two free throws in the second stanza while scoring 15 to take a 24-14 half-time advantage.

Atwood led 10-9 after the first period and outscored Norton 20-19 in the third period to narrow the Lady Jay lead to 43-34. The Lady Buffaloes also outscored Norton 13-12 in the final stanza but it wasn't enough to stop the Lady Jays from extending their season record to 10-5.

Leading scorer for Norton was junior point guard Laura Lee Baird with 23 points. She hit 3 of 13 long range shots for 23 percent, 5 of 8 two-point attempts for 63 percent and 8 of 21 overall for 38 percent accuracy. She was 4 of 5 from the charity stripe for 80 percent.

Junior post Hayli Bozarth took care of scoring in the paint as she tallied 14 points. She hit 3 of 8 from the field for 38 percent and was 8 of 10 from the free throw line for 80 percent.

Baird did not score in the first quarter and hit just two baskets in the second period but had a big third quarter when she swished three baskets from beyond the arc, a two-point basket and three free throws. She added two baskets and a charity in the final stanza.

Bozarth scored most of her points in the first half. She hit two baskets and two free throws in the first quarter and four free throws and a basket in the second period. She scored just two points in the second half on two free tosses.

Leading scorers for Atwood were Macy Migchelbrink and Sara

Miller with 13 each.

"This was a big win for us against a very good team," said coach Jilka. "Our girls played hard all night long and we got contributions from everybody who played.

"Offensively, we executed very well but couldn't make our shots at times.

"Our free throw shooting down the stretch was just great.

"Defensively, when you can force 27 turnovers for the night, you like your chances to win. We hustled hard all night long.

"Another tough test awaits us on Tuesday against Hoxie, who has a fine team also."

As a team, Norton connected on 5 of 22 shots from beyond the arc for 23 percent, 12 of 31 two-point tries for 39 percent and 17 of 53 overall for 32 percent.

The Lady Buffaloes swished 2 of 6 from long range for 33 percent, 12 of 31 two-point tries for 39 percent and 14 of 37 overall for 38 percent.

From the charity stripe, the Lady Jays converted 16 of 20 for 80 percent accuracy and the Lady Buffaloes found the range on 17 of 22 for 76 percent.

Norton pulled down 7 offensive and 13 defensive caroms for 20 total. Atwood grabbed 7 offensive and 24 defensive boards for 31 total.

Leading rebounder for Norton was Bozarth with 8, followed by KaraJo Jones, 5; Baird, 3; Amanda Ray, 2; Taylor Rossi, Chantille Campbell, 1 each.

The Lady Jays stole the ball 15 times while allowing only 7 thefts by Atwood. Rossi had 5 steals, followed by Ashlie Stewart, Baird, Bozarth, 2 each; Katharine Roy, Courtney Cox, Megan Kats, Jones, 1 each.

Rossi led Norton in assists as well with 4 of Norton's 9. Kats and Ray had 2 assists each and Stewart had 1.

The Lady Jays had 15 turnovers but caused the Lady Buffaloes to turn the ball over a whopping 27 times!

Junior varsity

The Norton girls junior varsity defeated Atwood 48-14.

The young Lady Jays held quarter leads of 20-5, 39-8 and 48-13.

Bethany Roy led Norton in scoring with 12 points, followed by Amanda Ray, 11; Raven Brown, 8; Kaitlyn Wolf, 7; Lacy Keilig, 4; Dustyna Sprigg, 3; Kaylen Rossi, 2; Shelby Jones, 1.

Mizer led Atwood with 5.

"Our girls had fun tonight," said Norton assistant girls coach George Rossi.

"The first half was outstanding. Our girls did a great job of scoring both inside the paint and outside.

"It was a bit hard to keep our focus in the second half but we still did many good things."

Next action

Norton will host Hoxie this evening, beginning at 5 p.m.

The junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys games will be played in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium. The junior varsity boys contest will be in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym.

The games with Oberlin, which were postponed, will be played Thursday evening in Norton. Games will start at 6:30 p.m. with the girls varsity, followed by the boys varsity.

BOX SCORE

Norton girls 55
Taylor Rossi 0 1 3-4 6; Ashlie Stewart 1 10-0 5; Laura Lee Baird 5 3 4-5 23; KaraJo Jones 2 0 1-1 5; Hayli Bozarth 3 0 8-10 14; Amanda Ray 1 0 0-0 2; Total 12 5 16-20 55.

Atwood girls 47
Sidney Carlson 1 0 2-2 4; J. Bergling 0 0 1-2 1; E. Chesney 0 0 2-2 2; Macy Migchelbrink 2 2 3-5 13; Laura Wolters 3 0 2-4 8; M. Rall 2 0 2-2 6; Sara Miller 4 0 5-5 13; Total 12 2 17-22 47.

Husky ladies roll over Kensington

The Northern Valley varsity basketball lady Huskies put it all together in a home game vs. Kensington Friday night and came away with an outstanding 73-59 victory!

The Lady Huskies met, for the first time this season, conference foe Kensington in a very important game that had not only conference, but also regional, bearings.

"Yes, regional season is almost upon us and coaches and teams start to 'guesstimate' where they will finish and who they will play in the first round," said coach Chuck Zimmerman.

"With playing Kensington, we were playing for not only to stay undefeated in conference play but a win would assure us of being seeded 2nd in the regional and receive a bye in the first round," he said.

"The game started out with both teams on fire as Megan Cole, with assists from her teammates, started us off with 7 quick points. To Kensington's credit, they battled back and it was a very good and well played quarter for both teams with the score being 20-21 in Kensington's favor. To our credit we only allowed the Goldbugs one offensive rebound in this quarter which was a very important key to the final outcome," he said.

"In the second quarter the La-

dies turned up the pressure both on defense and offense as we had scoring contributions from six of our players, while all who were on the court during this quarter did an excellent job of playing defense, as we held Kensington to only 8 points while scoring 18 of our own," Zimmerman said.

"The second half was as hard a battle as the first. It just so happened that our Ladies were more efficient and out played the Goldbugs for a final score of 73-59. 73! Not a typo.

"What's more impressive is the fact that as a team we had 28 assists! That's 56 points coming off of a teammate who has found our open player for the easy basket. This stat alone shows the kind of team play that these girls know will take them deeper into the season," the coach said.

Coach Zimmerman continued, "The reason for our success during this season: our hustle on the defensive end. We had a team total of 22 deflects, not a record but to watch how we harassed the Goldbugs for the entire game you had to be impressed. Anderson got her hands on 5 (well, hands 4, foot 1) with Jessica Largent touching 4 along with Megan Cole who also had 4.

"Again, these just set up a situation for a possible steal in which we took 15 on this night with our

two 'scatter bugs' Hilburn and Dole each swiping 4, while Megan Cole, Alison Cole and Anderson each pilfered 2.

"Now to the final step in our belief system of playing great defense — rebounding. We not only held them to one offensive rebound in the first quarter, we held them to only one in the second and none in the third.

"This was very much a key to this victory as we outrebounded the Goldbugs 40-24. Again, another key in determining whether or not we go deep into post season play."

Here are the individual statistics — 3-pointers, 2-pointers, free throws, total points, rebounds, steals, assists, deflections, in order:

Karen Wenzel 0-0-0-0-0-0-2
Megan Cole 1-5-0-(13)-5-2-6-4
Alison Cole 0-15-2-(32)-12-2-6-3
Kenzie Chandler 0-1-0-(2)-1-1-1-1
Staci Dole 1-2-1-(8)-3-4-3-1
Joni Hilburn 0-2-0-(4)-0-4-7-1
Christina Anderson 0-2-1-(5)-6-2-3-5
Phoung Le 0-0-0-0-0-0-1
Brittney Braun 0-4-0-(8)-8-0-3-0
Pam Araujo 0-0-0-0-0-0-0
Jessica Largent 0-0-1-(1)-5-0-2-4

Sports news to share? Call us at (785) 877-3361, or 877-6908