

**'It's mine!'
'No, it's mine!'**

The Norton Community High School Lady Blue Jays' game vs. Oberlin on Thursday night in Norton got a little rough and tumble on occasion between the two longtime rivals. Above, a Norton player (on the bottom) and Oberlin player went after a loose ball as another Lady Red Devil offered assistance.
-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Jays forced into overtime to get this win

By **DICK BOYD**

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Win No. 13 for the Norton Community High School boys varsity basketball team began like a fairly easy one on Friday night in Ellis but, in the end, the Railroaders made them work for it and took it into overtime before the visiting Jays won the Mid-Continent League contest 56-50.

Norton held a 16-9 lead after one quarter and was on top 28-21 after a 12-all second period.

The third quarter was not a good one for the Blue Jays as the Railroaders outscored them 11-6 to narrow the Norton lead to 34-32.

The two teams played on even terms in the fourth quarter and a three-point basket by Ellis at the end of regulation tied the score at 48-all and sent the game into overtime.

In the extra period, the Blue Jays said enough is enough and outscored the Railroaders 8-2 to win by six points.

Senior post Wes Georgeson, who was the mover and shaker on offense for Norton the entire game, also starred in the overtime when he hit 4 of 5 free throws and a basket for 6 of the Jays' 8 points.

Georgeson already had 24

points at the end of regulation. For the game, he hit a sizzling 12 of 18 shots from the field for 67 percent accuracy and 6 of 10 free throws for 80 percent!

Leading scorer for Ellis was Daniel Gottschalk with 15.

"We built a nice lead in the first quarter but just didn't play consistent enough to put Ellis away," said Norton head boys coach Doug Reusink.

"We just couldn't get anything going on the offensive end in the second half, which allowed Ellis to gain some confidence and the momentum to tie it up with a three pointer at the end of regulation.

"Our rebounding was terrible the whole game and, if we had hit free throws down the stretch in the fourth quarter, we never would have gone into overtime.

"Once we got into overtime, our boys did a great job of going out and getting the win."

As a team, Norton hit 3 of 12 from beyond the arc for 25 percent, 18 of 34 for 53 percent from two-point land and 21 of 46 overall for 46 percent.

Ellis was 6 of 14 from long range for 43 percent, 12 of 37 on two-point tries for 32 percent and 18 of 51 overall for 35 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays connected on 11 of 19 for 58 percent compared to 8 of 18 for 44 percent by the Railroaders.

Norton pulled down 4 offensive and 18 defensive rebounds for 22 total. Ellis grabbed 9 offensive and 25 defensive boards for 34 total.

Preston Herman led Norton in rebounding with 8, followed by Georgeson, 6; Zac Dreher, 3; Landon Hamel, Logan Kats, 2 each; Jared Cox, 1.

Norton had 15 assists and Ellis had 14. Kats was the leader with 12, followed by Hamel, Cox, J.D. Gall, 1 each. Norton had 5 steals and Ellis recorded 2. Georgeson was thefts leader for Norton with 4, followed by Herman, 1.

Blue Jay players blocked 5 Railroader shots. Herman rejected 3 shots and Georgeson and Cox 1 each.

Norton had 11 turnovers but Ellis had 19.

Junior varsity

Ellis won the boys junior varsity game 58-31.

The score was tied 11-all after one quarter but the young Railroaders were ahead 30-18 at half-time and 45-23 after three periods.

Leading scorer for Norton was Dakota Dreher with 8 points, followed by Zac Dreher, 6; Luke Ninemire, Marcus Herman, 4 each; Landon Hamel, J.D. Gall, 3 each; D.J. Ebner, 2; Cole Archer, 1.

Next action

Norton will play Colby today in the last regular season home games, which will be "Senior Night" for the Blue Jays.

The junior varsity boys game will be in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym and will begin at 5 p.m.

The girls C-team game will begin at 4 p.m. and will be played in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium, followed by the junior varsity girls, varsity girls and varsity boys contests.

BOX SCORE

Norton boys 56

Logan Kats 0 2 0-0 6; Landon Hamel 1 1 1-2 6; Jared Cox 3 0 3-5 9; Wes Georgeson 12 0 6-10 30; Zac Dreher 1 0 0-0 2; Preston Herman 1 0 1-2 3; Total 18 3 11-19 56.

Ellis boys 50

Weber 1 0 0-0 2; Daniel Gottschalk 2 3 2-4 15; Ryan Bittel 2 0 3-6 7; Fuchs 2 3 0-0 13; Matt Erbert 5 0 3-8 13; Total 12 6 8-18 50.



Norton senior point guard Logan Kats got a screen from teammate Preston Herman to free him to dribble down the court during the Blue Jays' 55-39 win over a visiting Oberlin quintet in a makeup game here Thursday night. Kats is the playmaker for the Norton team, usually leading in offensive assists and defensive steals.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Great performances by JV matmen

By **DICK BOYD**

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Although team scores were not kept, the Norton Community High School junior varsity wrestlers turned in some outstanding performances in the 23rd annual "Bill Voss" Novice Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 9 in Colby.

Competing, in addition to Norton and Colby, were teams from Atwood, Garden City, Goodland, Hays, Thomas More-Prep of Hays, Hill City, Hoxie, Leoti, Oakley, Oberlin, Phillipsburg, Plainville, Quinter, Scott City, Smith Center, St. Francis, Stockton, Trego Community and Ulysses.

Norton had four champions, four runner-ups and one third place finisher.

Winning gold medals were Spencer Shirk, 130; Kaid McKenna, 140; Brad Nuzum, 160 and Tyler Cook, 189.

Earning silver medals were

Colby Poage, 103; Brett Terrell, 119; Logan Kelly, 145; Austin Brown, 152.

Ryan Blecha, 160, finished in third place.

Casey Robison also competed at 171 pounds.

All but four of the brackets were wrestled as round robins.

"Going into this final tournament of the season for our junior varsity wrestlers, the expectation was high for them to do well and they did not disappoint," said Norton assistant wrestling coach Chance McKinney.

"We wrestled very well throughout the day. I couldn't be more pleased with the effort our boys showed today and throughout the year."

*103 -- Colby Poage drew a first round bye, pinned Corey Pfanenstiel, Hays, in 1:54, pinned Dustin Vap, Atwood, in 3:50, pinned Chase Harlow, Colby, in 1:37 and was pinned by Dylan Braun, Hays, to place second with a 3-1 record.

*119 -- Brett Terrell was seeded No. 3. He won an 11-0 major decision over Ethan Ghumm, Trego;

shut out No. 2 seed Miles Pearson, Scott City, 6-0 and lost a 6-3 decision to No. 1 seed Bob Schroeder, Colby, to place second.

*130 -- Spencer Shirk pinned Shae Gager, Hays, in 1:38; pinned Martin Stadelmann, Goodland, in 1:37; won a 9-2 decision over Eddy Gomez, Garden City; pinned Gatlin Reichert, Oberlin, in 3:05 and pinned Luke McCampbell, Hays, in 3:10 to place first.

*140 -- Kaid McKenna pinned Josh Steele, Garden City, in 1:29; pinned John Samson, Oberlin, 1:24; won an 8-2 decision over Luke Schroeder, Colby; pinned Chase Scheibler, Hays, in 48 seconds and pinned Jeremy Griffin, Phillipsburg, in 1:00 to win the gold medal.

*145 -- Logan Kelly was seeded No. 3. He pinned Ray Zoderow, Oberlin, in 3:45, won a 17-16 decision over No. 2 seed Carey Jordan, Hays and was pinned in 2:36 by Tory Taylor, Colby, to place second.

*152 -- Austin Brown was seeded No. 2. He pinned Reece Pfenniger, Garden City, in 53 seconds; pinned No. 3 seed Bryan

Gray, Goodland, in 1:01 and lost a 6-2 decision to No. 1 seed Kalen Rasmussen, Colby, to place second.

*160 -- Brad Nuzum drew a first round bye. He pinned Jon Griffin, Colby, in 2:47; pinned Cole Smith, Plainville, in 25 seconds and pinned Ryan Blecha, Norton, in 4:43 to place first.

In addition to losing to Nuzum, Blecha pinned Cole Smith, Plainville, in 58 seconds, pinned Josh Miller, Hays, in 1:59 and was pinned in 1:42 by Jon Griffin, Colby, to place third.

*171 -- Casey Robison lost a 12-2 major decision to Zach Jacobs, Phillipsburg; lost a 3-2 decision to Nick McMillian, Garden City; decisioned James McCullough, Hill City, 12-5 and was pinned in 1:45 by Paul Starr, Goodland.

*189 -- Tyler Cook was seeded No. 4. He pinned No. 5 seed Zach Nichols, Garden City, in 25 seconds; pinned No. 1 seed Dylan Sauer, Hays, in 1:35 and won a 9-6 decision over No. 2 seed Danny Baker, Hoxie, to win the championship.

Tough setback for Logan boys

The Logan Trojan varsity basketball boys lost a real heart-breaker to Western Plains at home 53-51. Logan led at the end of the first three quarters, 12-11, 27-22 and 39-35, but let Western Plains score 18 points in the final period to their 12 to let it slip through their fingers.

Logan had two players in double figures, Zach Long 14 and Charley Harman 13. Others adding to the point total were Girard Jordan 2; Tyson Pabst 6; Levi Kiser 4; Ethan Gottschalk 8; and Payton Chestnut 4.

Logan scored on 23 2-pointers and 5 free throws. Western Plains scored on 20 2-pointers, 1 3-pointer and 10 charity tosses.

Big win for Husky boys

By **TOM DREILING**
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The Roosters' roosters had their feathers ruffled Friday night in Palco, when the visiting Northern Valley varsity basketball boys took command of the game in the fourth quarter and walked away with a stunning 49-43 victory.

Three Husky players scored in double figures, Bryce Marble and Tanner Jessup with 13 apiece, and Cody Callaway with 11. Dusty Eagleburger added 3, Ethan Hays 7, and Eric Woodside 2.

Palco's Blake Gehring was the game's top scorer with 27.

The Huskies scored on 15 2-pointers, 1 3-pointer and 16 free throws. For Palco, it was 14 2-pointers, 3 3-pointers and 6 charity tosses.

Consider that the Huskies trailed at the end of the first period 7-4, trailed at halftime 18-11

and trailed at the end of the third quarter 32-25, although the Huskies did equal the Palco output of 14 points in that frame.

However, in quarter #4, the Huskies put on a free basketball clinic, scoring 24 big points while limiting the Roosters to just 11.

What a pronounced win it was for a team with just two wins under its belt when they entered the gymnasium at Palco. It could serve as a momentum builder as the Huskies prepared for the opening round of the Class 1A Regional Tournament in Logan last night. They went up against Logan, seeded #4; the Huskies were seeded #5. Unfortunately the score was not available at press time.

The Huskies also won the junior varsity game 49-34. Chaim McMillin with 10 points and Colton Lowry with 9 led the way for Northern Valley.

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KANSAS

High School Sports This Week



WRESTLING:

Norton will compete in Class 3-2-1A State Tournament, 10 a.m. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday in Gross Memorial Coliseum, Hays

BASKETBALL:

Norton Varsity, Junior Varsity, C-Team vs. Colby (Senior Night) Here, 4 p.m. Today
Norton Varsity Boys in Sub-State Quarter-finals 7 p.m. Monday TBA
Norton Varsity Girls in Sub-State Quarter-finals 7 p.m., Tuesday TBA
Logan Boys vs. Northern Valley Boys in Regional Opener was Mon. evening in Logan
Logan Girls vs. Natoma Girls in Regional Opener in Logan 6 p.m. Today
Northern Valley Girls received a Regional Opener bye and will play in Semi-finals on Friday. Boys Semi-finals will be Thursday and Championships will be Sat. in Palco