

Jays beaten by Stockton

By DICK BOYD
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The No. 5 seeded Norton Community High School boys basketball team gave No. 4 seeded Stockton all they wanted on Tuesday evening in Stockton in the first round of the Mid-Continent League Tournament before losing 65-61 to drop into the consolation bracket.

Norton held an 11-9 lead after one quarter but was outscored 19-12 in the second period to trail 28-23 at halftime.

Both teams tallied 12 points in the third period as the Tigers maintained their five-point advantage at 40-35.

The two quintets left the nets smoking after the high scoring fourth quarter during which Norton scored 26 points but Stockton added 25 to win the game by four points.

The Blue Jays' junior guard Terrell Lane led the assault on the nylon in the fourth quarter when he hit two shots from beyond the arc, three two-point baskets and two free throws for 14 points. Senior guard J.D. Gall also had his shooting eye as he drained two long range shots, a two-pointer and a free throw for 9 points. The Jays' other three points in the fourth stanza came on a basket and free throw by sophomore forward Jordan Wahlmeier.

Lane also hit two two-point baskets in the first quarter for Norton. Gall buried a three-pointer, senior forward Ashton Draper hit a two-point shot and Wahlmeier hit a two-pointer.

Gall buried another shot from beyond the arc in the second quarter. Wahlmeier hit two baskets, Draper hit a basket and free throw and sophomore guard Tye Nickell hit a two-point basket.

Lane started to warm up from

beyond the arc in the third quarter when he drained two shots from long range and added a two-pointer. Wahlmeier and Gall each hit a two-point attempt in the period.

"I am proud of how our boys played!" said Norton head boys basketball coach Doug Reusink.

"We competed well and hung in there against their big boys despite some foul trouble.

"We did not block out well and missed out on some easy scoring opportunities but, other than that, I thought we played well."

Leading scorer for Norton was Lane with 26 points on 4 of 9 from beyond the arc for 44 percent, 6 of 11 two-point shots for 55 percent and 10 of 20 overall for 50 percent. He hit 2 of 2 free throws.

Gall ended with 17 points after hitting 4 of 10 from long range for 40 percent, 2 of 4 two-point tries for 50 percent and 6 of 14 overall for 43 percent. He was 1 of 3 from the charity stripe.

Norton's third double figure scorer was Wahlmeier with 11 points. He hit 5 of 8 two-point attempts for 63 percent and 1 of 3 from the free throw line. He missed his only trey try.

Penner was leading scorer for Stockton with 20 points; Weiser and Voss each added 13.

As a team, Norton hit 8 of 22 from beyond the arc for 36 percent, 16 of 38 two-point tries for 42 percent and 24 of 60 overall for 40 percent. Stockton connected on 2 of 13 from long range for 15 percent, 22 of 43 two-point attempts for 51 percent and 24 of 56 overall for 43 percent.

From the free throw line, the Blue Jays hit 5 of 10 for 50 percent and the Tigers swished 15 of 21 for 71 percent.

Norton had 8 offensive and 13 defensive rebounds for 21 total.

Stockton grabbed 15 offensive and 19 defensive caroms for 34 total.

Lane led Norton in rebounding with 10, followed by Draper, 5; Wahlmeier, 3; Gall, Marcus Herman, Dakota Dreher, 1 each.

Norton had 6 steals and the Tigers had just 2 thefts. Wahlmeier, Draper, Nickell, Gall, Herman and Dreher each had 1 steal.

The Blue Jays' offensive teamwork was evident from their 17 assists compared to just 8 for the Tigers. Leading Norton in assists were Lane and Herman with 5 each, followed by Draper, 4; Dreher, 3.

The Blue Jays had 10 turnovers and the Tigers had 13.

In other first round games on Tuesday, No. 1 seeded Ellis escaped an upset try by No. 8 Phillipsburg with a 56-53 overtime win, No. 2 seeded Hill City outscored No. 7 Trego 57-31 and No. 3 Plainville defeated No. 6 Smith Center 63-38.

In the championship semi-finals in Gross Coliseum on Friday, Ellis will play Stockton at 4:30 p.m. and Hill City will play Plainville at 7:30 p.m.

Norton played Phillipsburg in the consolation semi-finals on Thursday in WaKeeney but results were not available at the Telegram's press time.

BOX SCORE

Norton Boys 61
Jordan Wahlmeier 5 0 1-3 11; Ashton Draper 2 0 1-2 5; Tye Nickell 1 0 0-0 2; Terrell Lane 6 4 2-2 26; J.D. Gall 2 4 1-3 17; Game Totals 16 8 5-10 61

Stockton Boys 65
Weiser 4 1 2-2 13; Murchie 10 0-0 2; Kriley 2 0 1-2 5; Miller 1 0 1-1 3; Smith 0 1 2-2 5; Penner 10 0-1 20; Voss 4 0 5-9 13; Prockish 0 0 2-2 2; Game Totals 22 2 15-21 65

Lady Blue Jays lose to No. 2 seed Osborne 43-27

By DICK BOYD
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The No. 7 seeded Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team traveled to Osborne on Monday night to play No. 2 seeded Osborne in the first round of the Mid-Continent League Tournament and, despite playing them closer than the first time, lost 43-27 to drop into the consolation bracket.

Norton played the Lady Bulldogs even in the first quarter, which ended in a 7-7 tie but the home team outscored the Lady Blue Jays 18-6 in the second quarter to take a 25-13 halftime lead.

Norton outscored Osborne 10-9 in the third quarter to make it a 34-23 game but the Lady Jays could not get closer in the final stanza when they were outscored 9-4.

Lady Jay senior post Kaitlyn Wolf led scoring in the first quarter with two field goals and senior post Amanda Ray hit a field goal. Senior point guard Ashlie Stewart hit a free throw.

Ray hit Norton's only field goal in the second quarter. Stewart and Wolf each hit two free throws.

Two baskets by Ray and a basket and free throw each by Stewart and Wolf totaled Norton's 10 third quarter points. Wolf was the sole scorer for the Lady Jays in the final stanza with a basket and two charities.

"It was a better effort by our girls this time around but they just destroyed us on the offensive boards," said Norton head girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka. "You can't give up 19 offensive rebounds and expect to win.

"Our defense was pretty solid but you have to finish the play by blocking out and we obviously aren't doing that.

"Offensively, we executed pretty well but when we got close, we had some great looks but couldn't make the basket.

"We have to get more players involved offensively and we have to have other players looking to score and that is something we will work on this week.

"We have to put this one behind us and be ready for Thursday's tournament game."

Leading scorer for Norton was Kaitlyn Wolf with 13 points on 4 of 8 from two-point land for 50 percent and 5 of 6 free throws for 83 percent. Amanda Ray hit 8 points on 4 of 5 two-point tries for 80 percent accuracy.

Leading scorer for Osborne was Emily Girard with 14 points; Jordyn Sturgeon added 10 points.

As a team, Norton shot well from two-point range where the Lady Jays hit 9 of 19 shots for 47 percent.

They missed all 5 from long range; however, to end with 9 of 24 for 38 percent overall.

The Lady Bulldogs did not shoot as well as Norton but put up more shots.

They hit 1 of 9 from beyond the arc for 11 percent, 16 of 45 two-point tries for 36 percent and 17 of 54 overall for 31 percent.

From the free throw line, the Lady Jays connected on 9 of 12 for an excellent 75 percent while the Lady Bulldogs swished 8 of 13 for 62 percent.

Norton had 5 offensive and 11 defensive rebounds for 16 total. Osborne grabbed 19 offensive and 8 defensive caroms for 27 total.

Ray was the clearly the rebound leader for Norton with 10 boards. Wolf grabbed 4 and Stewart and Hannah Waggoner 1 each.

Norton had 4 steals and Os-

borne had 8. Stewart, Erin Terrell, Wolf and Ray each had 1 theft.

The Lady Jays had 5 assists and the Lady Bulldogs had 1. Ray was assists leader with 4 while Dustyna Sprigg had 1.

The Osborne defense caused Norton to turn the ball over 19 times. The Lady Bulldogs had 5 turnovers.

In other first round games on Tuesday, No. 1 seed Smith Center was upset by No. 9 Stockton 53-48; No. 5 Ellis outscored No. 4 Phillipsburg 52-42 and No. 3 Hill City beat No. 6 Trego 69-51.

Norton played Trego in WaKeeney in the consolation semi-finals on Thursday but results were not available at the Telegram's press time.

On the championship side, Stockton and Ellis will play at 3 p.m. today and Osborne and Hill City will play at 6 p.m.. Both games will be in Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays.

BOX SCORE

Norton Girls 27
Ashlie Stewart 1 0 4-6 6; Kaitlyn Wolf 4 0 5-6 13; Amanda Ray 4 0 0-0 8; Game Totals 9 0 9-12 27

Osborne Girls 43
Megan Burch 1 0 0-0 2; Taylor Thibault 1 0 1-3 3; Paige Noel 3 0 2-2 8; Andrea Cady 1 0 0-0 2; Emily Girard 5 0 4-6 14; Katie Wolters 2 0 0-0 4; Jordyn Sturgeon 3 1 1-2 10; Game Totals 16 1 8-13 43



Norton Schools Superintendent Greg Mann, left, and Norton Telegram Sportswriter Dick Boyd are pictured here with plaques they received from the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association during the J.R. Durham Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Norton. Mann was named "Administrator of the Year" and Boyd received the "Media of the Year" award.

- Photo courtesy Bill Johnson

Wrestling Association honors two residents

Norton Community Schools Superintendent Greg Mann and Norton Telegram sportswriter Dick Boyd have each received 2009 awards from the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association.

Mann's award was for "Administrator of the Year" and Boyd's honor was for "Media of the Year".

The plaques were awarded to the two men by Rudy Perez, principal at Norton Community High School, during the recent J.R. Durham Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Norton.

Brock Hutchinson, head wrestling coach at Smith Center High School, was also presented a plaque as the "Class 3-2-1A Coach of the Year".

Greg Mann

Norton Superintendent Greg Mann has been and remains involved in Kansas High School wrestling at many levels. He coached Kids Club wrestling in Leoti, coached Junior High wrestling in Norton, started the Norton Junior High School wrestling tournament in 1990 and helped organize, run and announce the Norton Junior High Tournament. He also assists and announces the

Norton Community High School J.R. Durham Invitational and Regional Tournaments.

Greg has been a wrestling official and has served on two special Kansas State High School Activities Association committees: one for summer coaching and currently as a member of the committee on wrestling weight loss. He is currently a Bronze Level Certified Coach.

Greg is in his 35th year as a professional educator. He has been a teacher, coach, counselor, high school principal, junior high principal, athletic director and superintendent.

Greg says, "I have been around long enough to have been recognized for some things but I am most proud of the fact that my wife and I have been married almost 37 years and we have four children who, as of this May, will all be college educated and who have turned out to be pretty good people in spite of their father."

Dick Boyd

Dick Boyd has been a sportswriter for 48 years. Over this period, he has worked as a reporter/advertising salesman at the Phillips County Review in Phil-

lipsburg and is the former owner and publisher of the Norton Daily Telegram. He is now sportswriter only for the Norton Telegram.

Dick has written pre-season, season and post-season stories on the Norton Community High School Wrestling Team.

In addition, he has taken many pictures and used them in his articles.

As a sportswriter, Dick has always portrayed the positive side of each Norton wrestler's mat fortunes as well as the fortunes of the team as a whole. When a wrestler loses a match, Dick tries to pick out the positives to encourage him for his next match.

Dick looks for the bright sides of Norton Wrestling and does not look for the dark side. He understands that wrestling is one of the toughest sports, requiring tremendous physical conditioning.

When Dick reports results, he is not only concerned with an individual wrestler's performance but understands that the final score is the sum of each individual's performance while the spotlight is on them. That puts a lot of pressure on each wrestler and is a real character builder.

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