

Lady Jays hold off Hoxie

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls varsity basketball team had their game here Tuesday evening with Hoxie under control until the fourth quarter when the Lady Indians made a run at them.

Norton was equal to the occasion; however, the Lady Jays ended with a 43-36 victory.

Norton held a 13-6 lead after one quarter and outscored the visitors 12-8 in the second period to take a 25-14 halftime advantage.

In the third quarter, the Lady Jays scored 11 points but Hoxie tallied 10 to make it a 36-24 game.

To Hoxie's credit, they did not give up in the final stanza and used a full court press to get Norton turnovers and make the game more exciting. In the end, the Lady Jays held on for the win, despite being outscored 12-7 in the period.

In the 13-point first quarter, senior post Kaitlyn Wolf hit two baskets and a free throw, senior post Amanda Ray swished two field goals, junior forward Dustyna Sprigg and senior guard Ashlie Stewart each contributed a basket.

In the second quarter, sophomore post Erin Terrell got in on the Norton scoring as she hit two baskets and two free throws.

Ray, Wolf and Stewart each connected on another basket for a second quarter total of 12 points.

Sprigg found the range on two

baskets, Terrell and Ray each hit another field goal and Wolf swished a basket and free throw for 11 more Norton points in the third period.

Wolf repeated her third period scoring with a basket and free throw while Ray and Sprigg each hit another basket for Norton's 7 points in the final quarter.

"I was proud of our girls' play," said Norton head girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka. "They were pressuring us and trapping us and our girls all did a good enough job against it."

"We knew they would make a run at us but we did a good job of holding them off."

"We came through with big baskets when we needed them."

"We also did a great job on the offensive rebounds. It's the first time this season that we've outrebounded the other team this much on offense."

"This was a big win over a good program but we need to keep working to get better."

With the win, the Norton girls ran their season record to 9-8; Hoxie fell to 11-8.

Leading scorer for the Lady Jays was Wolf with 13 points on 5 of 9 from the field for 56 percent and 3 of 6 free throws for 50 percent.

Ray added 10 points on 5 of 6 from the field for a net smoking 83 percent!

Leading scorer for Hoxie was Shaylinn Kaus with 12 points.

As a team, the Lady Jays hit 19 of 38 two-point attempts for an excellent 50 percent, missed both trey tries and ended 19 of 40 for

48 percent. The Lady Indians hit a creditable 15 of 33 two-point tries for 46 percent but hit only 1 of 16 from beyond the arc for 6 percent and ended 16 of 49 overall for 33 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton connected on 5 of 10 for 50 percent and Hoxie swished 3 of 8 for 38 percent.

Norton dominated the backboards. The Lady Jays pulled down 15 offensive and 14 defensive caroms for 29 total compared to 7 offensive and 6 defensive boards for 13 total for the visitors.

Ray led Norton in rebounds with 8, followed by Terrell, 7; Stewart, 6; Wolf, 5; Sprigg, 3.

The Lady Jays had 12 steals and the Lady Indians had 11. Stewart was thefts leader for Norton with 4, followed by Ray, 3; Kendra Engelbert, Wolf, 2 each; Sprigg, 1.

Norton had 10 offensive assists and Hoxie recorded 7. Ray led with 5, followed by Engelbert, 2; Stewart, Terrell, Sprigg, 1 each.

The Lady Jays did have 21 turnovers but their aggressive defense caused 17 Hoxie turnovers.

Junior varsity
Norton lost the junior varsity game by a 17-6 score.

Only one half was played. Teslee Nickell scored 4 points for Norton and Caren Thomson tallied 2.

Ellie Heim and Shelby Heim each scored 4 points for Hoxie.

"Since we only played two quarters tonight, we really did not hit any stride," said Norton assistant girls basketball coach



Defense is a very important part of the Lady Blue Jays' basketball game. Above, Norton senior forward Kendra Engelbert went down onto the floor after a loose ball and tied-up a Hoxie player.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

George Rossi. "We are still making the same mistakes we made at the start of the season."

"We have three games left and, hopefully, we can move forward."

Next action
The Norton varsity and junior

varsity girls and boys teams will travel to Ellis today for Mid-Continent League action, beginning at 5 p.m.

BOX SCORE
Norton Girls 43

Ashlie Stewart 2 0 0-0 4; Erin Terrell 3 0 2-2 8; Dustyna Sprigg 4 0 0-2 8; Kaitlyn Wolf 5 0 3-6 13;

Amanda Ray 5 0 0-0 10; Game Totals 19 0 5-10 43

Hoxie Girls 36

Carman Hill 4 0 0-2 8; Shelby Heim 4 0 0-0 8; Shaylinn Kaus 5 0 2-4 12; Sarah Farber 0 0 1-2 1; Mackenzie Mense 2 1 0-0 7; Game Totals 15 1 3-8 36

Huskies play solidly, but lose to Ellis 73-45

By DANA PAXTON

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The Northern Valley boys basketball team lost to the Ellis Railroaders last Friday by a 73-45 score.

In the first quarter, Northern Valley's Dusty Eagleburger made three two-point shots and one of two free throws.

Colton Lowry added four more points to the Huskies' score but the Railroaders tallied 15 to lead by four points at the end of the quarter.

The Huskies took over the lead in the second quarter. Once again, Eagleburger was on, scoring six points. Austin Herman sank two baskets for four more and Lowry made one from beyond the arc as well as one of two free throws. El-

lis only scored seven total points for the quarter making the half time score 24-22 in favor of the Huskies.

In the third quarter, the Huskies lost momentum and their lead. Michael Callaway hit one from beyond the arc and a two-pointer. Eagleburger brought in two more points. Lowry and Bryant Therman each hit a basket for two and then Herman sank both of his free throws.

It was the best quarter for the Huskies but not enough to beat the Railroader's 22 points. The quarter ended 44-39.

In the fourth quarter, the Railroaders walked away with the game, scoring 29 points compared to the Huskies' 6 points. Eagleburger made two two-point

shots and Lowry made one two-point shot.

Coach Chuck Fessenden said, "We played a pretty solid three quarters of basketball. However, our foul trouble caught up with us in the fourth quarter and Ellis was able to get away from us."

The leading Husky scorer was Dusty Eagleburger with 20 points on nine two-point shots and two out of four free throws. Colton Lowry had 12 points, one three-pointer, four two-pointers and one of three free throws, followed by Austin Herman, 6; Michael Callaway, 5; and Bryant Therman with 2 points.

The junior varsity Husky team lost to Ellis 59-33. Leading scorer for Northern Valley was Calen Bach with 12 points.

Lady Huskies outscore Ellis

By CHUCK ZIMMERMAN

Special to The Telegram
The Lady Huskies traveled to 2A (second in the state last year) Ellis and came away with a 55-41 hard fought victory and used a tactic which everyone enjoys; starting off strong and continuing to play strong throughout the game. We started off with 3 "3s" for our first 9 points then finished the quarter ahead 16-3 holding the Railroaders to a 7 percent shooting rate.

We kept the lead throughout the game but did allow Ellis to come within 9 late in the third before we put them away with 18 final quarter points for our final 14 point margin. Once again our pressure bothered our opponents as we deflected 30 passes or rebounds which led to 18 turnovers on their part.

Not as high a number as some of our past opponents but remember this was a second place state team one year ago and they do have talent enough this year to have placed second in their league tournament.

Our deflects leaders were Megan and Alison Cole with 7 each with Alison getting 5 blocks. Christina Anderson tipped 6 while Staci Dole got her hands on 5. Megan Cole also led in taking the ball away with 3 steals while five teammates contributed with 1 each.

Rebounding was a key factor in

this game as Ellis was just bigger than we are but as I told the girls before we broke the first huddle "quick beats big most of the time." We were quicker to the ball as we gathered 44 rebounds with Alison Cole taking in 21 herself. Chris Anderson followed with 7 while Katie Stillion grabbed 4.

Assists were dished out by Anderson with 5 while M Cole found 4 teammates open and A Cole 3.

A very important win for us. Not only was this against a bigger school but a bigger team, and

a team that has been to state and knows what it takes to play on the "big stage." We hope this victory will continue to build confidence within ourselves as we move on toward the end of the regular season and the playoffs.

Our junior varsity once again played a two quarter game and gained more valuable experience but was defeated 34-14. Those who scored were: Amber Kinderknecht with 1, Erika Chandler with 4, Katie Stillion with 4 and Shiela Stillion with 5.

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Sports Correspondent

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THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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