

Blue Jays beat Goodland in triple overtime

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School and Goodland High School boys basketball teams battled through three, yes that's right, three overtimes on Tuesday evening in the NCHS Stull Gym before the Blue Jays emerged an 80-76 winner!

Norton trailed 14-8 after one quarter and 28-19 at halftime but things changed drastically after intermission. The Blue Jays came out of the dressing room fired up and immediately started making up the deficit. The result was a 22-12 third period in favor of Norton and a slim 41-40 advantage for the home team.

The squads traded points in the furious fourth quarter, which ended tied 55-all. After one four minute extra period, the score was tied 61-all and after the second overtime it was 67-all. Norton outscored Goodland 13-9 in the third overtime to put the Blue Jay quintet into the victory column!

"I'm really pleased with the win and how hard we played for the most number of minutes we have in a game this season," said Norton head boys basketball coach Doug Reusink. "We haven't been playing that consistently but our young men made plays throughout the game, including those who came in off the bench and gave us good minutes."

"A lot of our players really stepped up."

"It was a great win over a very good Goodland team which has beaten some good teams already this season even though they are now 5-6."

The win evened Norton's record at 7-7. The Blue Jays have won 5 of their last 6 games with their only loss coming by one point to unbeaten Plainville.

Both teams shot well from the field but free throws turned out to be the difference in the game. When they had to hit them, the Blue Jays did and the Cowboys did not.

Norton trailed 61-59 in the first overtime when sophomore guard Jacob Brooks swished two free throws with 7.2 seconds left to tie the score and send it into the second extra period. Brooks also hit 1 of 2 charities earlier in the first overtime as did junior forward Jordan Wahlmeier. He also hit Norton's only field goal in the period. Goodland missed the only free throw they took.

To end the second overtime and put it into a third, senior guard Terrell Lane connected on two free throws with 7.6 seconds remaining. Goodland hit just 1 of 4 free



Free throws made the difference in Norton's 80-76 overtime victory over Goodland on Tuesday night. Most of them came from senior guard Terrell Lane who is shown hitting one of the 9 out of 10 charities he swished in the contest!

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

throws in the period. Norton's other points came on baskets by Brooks and Wahlmeier. Brooks blocked a Cowboy shot at the buzzer!

The third extra period began with Lane and Brooks hitting baskets and ended with Lane hitting another basket and calmly sinking 7 of 8 free throws to end the marathon contest!

Goodland went to the charity stripe only twice in the third extra period and hit just once.

In the first quarter, when Norton was outscored 14-8, senior post Luke Ninemire hit two baskets while Wahlmeier and Brooks added one each.

Lane hit three baskets in Norton's 11 points second quarter. Junior guard Tye Nickell buried a three-point shot and junior guard Zach Hartwell hit a basket. Two treys by the Cowboys' Ryan Hillmer helped them maintain their lead with a second straight 14 point period.

Goodland's 28-19 first half lead dwindled quickly in the second half after two Goodland baskets stretched their advantage to 32-19. Nickell hit two free

throws and Brooks buried a three-point shot. Goodland scored again but Wahlmeier hit a two-point basket. Lane swished a shot from beyond the arc, Wahlmeier stole the ball and drove for two more points. Lane hit two-point and Norton trailed by just 34-32 with 2:00 left in the period.

The Blue Jays finished the period with Wahlmeier hitting two free throws, Brooks scoring on a fast break, Lane stealing the ball and passing to junior guard Dillon McConney for two points and Wahlmeier hitting a free throw to give Norton a 41-40 lead.

Norton outscored the visitors 22-12 in the third quarter.

Goodland regained the lead with the first basket of the fourth quarter but Wahlmeier took a pass from Lane and scored. Goodland hit two free throws and a basket and led 46-43 with 6:12 left. Brooks hit a free throw and Lane passed to Nickell for a layup off the fast break and it was 46-43.

The teams traded baskets as Wahlmeier hit on a break and Lane hit a rebound shot to tie the score at 50-40 with 3:35 left in regulation. After another Cowboy

two-point basket, Nickell buried a three-point shot to put Norton ahead 53-52 with 2:10 showing. Wahlmeier scored with 53 seconds left to give the Blue Jays a 55-52 advantage but Goodland's Hillmer set the stage for three overtimes by burying a shot from long range to tie it at 55-52 and the Blue Jays were unable to score before time ran out.

For the first time this season, Norton had four players in double scoring figures. Lane led with 26 points on 1 of 8 trey tries for 12.5 percent, 7 of 17 two-point attempts for 41 percent and 8 of 25 overall for 32 percent. His highlight came from the free throw line where he connected on 9 of 10 for a net-smoking 90 percent accuracy!

Next came Wahlmeier with 21 points on 9 of 14 two-point shots for 64 percent and 3 of 5 charities for 60 percent.

Third high scorer for Norton was Brooks with 15 points on 1 of 2 from long range for 50 percent, 4 of 7 two-point tries for 57 percent and 5 of 9 overall for 56 percent. He hit 4 of 8 free throws for 50 percent from the line.

Nickell was fourth high with 10 points on 2 of 3 from beyond the arc for 67 percent, 1 of 2 two-point attempts for 50 percent and 5 of 9 overall for 56 percent. He also hit 2 of 2 from the charity stripe for 100 percent accuracy.

While putting up 76 points in their loss to the Blue Jays, the Cowboys had five players in double scoring figures. They were led by Brock Wilkens with 22 points, followed by Ryan Hillmer, 18; Garth Helton, 11; Robert Cowan, 11; Reed Bellamy, 10.

Both teams hit 48 percent of their field goal attempts in the game.

Norton swished 4 of 15 three-point tries for 27 percent, 25 of 46 two-point attempts for 54 percent and 29 of 61 overall.

Goodland connected on 4 of 10 from beyond the arc for 40 percent, 27 of 55 two-point tries for 49 percent and 31 of 65 overall.

As pointed out earlier, free throws made the difference. Norton swished 18 of 25 charities for 72 percent accuracy and Goodland made 10 of 16 for 63 percent.

Norton had 8 offensive and 23

defensive rebounds for 31 total. Goodland grabbed 20 offensive and 16 defensive caroms for 36 total.

Wahlmeier led Norton in rebounds with 11, followed by Lane, 10; Jacobs, 5; McConney, 3; Hartwell, Cole Archer, 1 each.

The aggressive Blue Jay defense blocked 11 Goodland shots! Responsible were Brooks with 6 and Wahlmeier with 5 rejections. The Cowboys had 3 blocks.

Norton had 14 steals compared to 8 for Goodland. Brooks was steals leader with 7, followed by Wahlmeier, 4; Lane, 3.

Norton had 19 offensive assists and Goodland had 11. Lane was assists leader with 6, followed by McConney, 5; Nickell, 4; Wahlmeier, 2; Hartwell, Brooks, 1 each.

Each team had 17 turnovers.

Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity boys team lost to Goodland by a score of 50-37.

Norton trailed by quarters 13-6, 23-12 and 44-28.

Leading scorer for the Blue Jays was Zach Hartwell with 12, followed by Trey Millan, 10; Lane Bigge, 6; Taylor Meder, 5; Carson McKenna, 4.

Gage Ihrig led Goodland with 17 points; Parker Sieck added 12.

Boys C-team

Norton also lost the boys C-team game by a score of 35-27.

The Blue Jays trailed by quarters 8-4, 26-8 and 32-16.

Trever Lewis and Travis Cressler led Norton with 8 points each, followed by Toby Nickell, 6; Drew Schrum, 3; Damian Lawson, 2.

Gage Ihrig was leading scorer for the Cowboys with 10 points; Taylen Smith added 8.

Next action

The Norton boys and girls do not play this evening.

They will travel to Smith Center on Tuesday to play the very good Redman and Lady Red teams, beginning at 5 p.m.

GAME STATISTICS

Norton Boys

Jordan Wahlmeier 9 0 3-5 21; Dillon McConney 1 0 0-0 2; Luke Ninemire 2 0 0-0 4; Zach Hartwell 1 0 0-0 2; Tye Nickell 1 2 2-2 10; Terrell Lane 7 1 9-10 26; Jacob Brooks 4 1 4-8 15; Game Totals 25 4 18-25 80.

Goodland Boys

Ryan Hillmer 3 4 0-1 18; Reed Bellamy 4 0 2-2 10; Brock Wilkens 9 0 4-4 22; Garth Helton 5 0 1-2 11; Dillon Trachsel 2 0 0-0 4; Robert Cowan 4 0 3-7 11; Game Totals 27 4 10-16 76.

BOWLING

Tuesday Night Mens Week of Dec. 28

Team Standings: That One Team, won 13 lost 7; Don's Floor Coverings, won 12 lost 8; The WIF's, won 12 lost 8; Poker boys, won 12 lost 8; D & M Service, won 10 lost 10; Creative Collision, won 8 lost 12; Garrett's, won 5 lost 15

High Score Game Team: Don's Floor Coverings, 827; D & M Service, 702

High Score Series Team: Don's Floor Coverings, 2222; D & M Service, 2015

High Handicap Game Team: Don's Floor Coverings, 1101; D & M Service, 985

High Handicap Series Team: Don's Floor Coverings, 3044, The WIF's, 2865

High Score Game: Rick Green, 251; Rusty Miller, 213; Tina Hageman, 186; Dale Carlson, 185

High Score Series: Rick Green, 530; Rusty Miller, 500; Sara Kindall, 478; Darin Williams, 473

High Handicap Game: Rick Green, 303; Rusty Miller, 252; Tina Hageman, 248; Sara Kindall, 238

High Handicap Series: Rick Green, 686; Sara Kindall, 664; Tina Hageman, 628; Al Burk, 624

Week of Jan. 4

Team Standings: That One Team, won 21 lost 9; Don's Floor Coverings, won 18 lost 12; D & M Service, won 17 lost 13; Poker Boys, won 16 lost 14; Creative Collision, won 15 lost 15; The WIF's, won 14 lost 16; Garrett's, won 8 lost 22

High Handicap Game Team: D & M Service, 1045; Creative Collision, 1026

High Handicap Series Team: D & M Service, 3045; Creative Collision, 2907

High Score Game: Darin Williams, 210; Joel Duscher, 201; Rusty Miller, 190; Bubba Brooks, 184; Rusty Miller, 184

High Score Series: Rusty Miller, 542; Joel Duscher, 539; Bubba Brooks, 509; Darin Williams, 502

High Handicap Game: Darin Williams, 255; Al Burk, 251; Joel Duscher, 247; Bubba Brooks, 243

High Handicap Series: Bubba Brooks, 686; Joel Duscher, 677; Al Burk, 661; Rusty Miller, 656

Week of Jan. 11

Team Standings: That One Team, won 28 lost 12; D & M Service, won 27 lost 13; Don's Floor Coverings, won 27 lost 13; Creative Collision, won 19 lost 21; Poker Boys, won 19 lost 21; The WIF's, won 15 lost 25; Garrett's, won 9 lost 32

High Handicap Game Team: That One Team, 1004; Don's Floor Coverings, 990

High Handicap Series Team: Don's Floor Coverings, 2899; That One Team, 2846

High Score Game: Darin Williams, 216; Doug Ray, 201; Rich Hageman, 195; Nick Daniels, 187

High Score Series: Darin Williams, 526; Nick Daniels, 517; Doug Ray, 496; Rich Hageman, 472

High Handicap Game: Darin Williams, 260; Rich Hageman,

244; Nick Daniels, 240; Doug Ray, 237

High Handicap Series: Nick Daniels, 676; Darin Williams, 658; Rich Hageman, 619; Lindsey Wilson, 609

Week of Jan. 18

Team Standings: That One Team, won 36 lost 14; D & M Service, won 34 lost 16; Don's Floor Coverings, won 29 lost 21; Poker Boys, won 27 lost 23; Creative Collision, won 22 lost 28; The WIF's, won 17 lost 33; Garrett's, won 14 lost 36

High Handicap Game Team: That One Team, 1020; Garrett's, 991

High Handicap Series Team: That One Team, 2917; D & M Service, 2829

High Score Game: Rusty Miller, 204; Rusty Miller, 198; Darin Williams, 193; Brandon McChesney, 193

High Score Series: Rusty Miller, 532; Darin Williams, 521; Bubba Brooks, 496; Fig Millan, 469

High Handicap Game: Brandon McChesney, 272; Rusty Miller, 241; Mike Madden, 240; Darin Williams, 236

High Handicap Series: Bubba Brooks, 670; Brandon McChesney, 659; Darin Williams, 650; Rusty Miller, 643

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