

# Blue Jays compete at Topside Tip-Off

By Dick Boyd

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Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team lost to Oakley 61-49 in their opening game of the Topside Tip-Off Tournament in Goodland on Thursday.

In the consolation bracket on Friday, they lost a close 42-38 contest to Wray, Colo., which put them in Saturday's seventh place game, which they won by a solid 54-38 score over Burlington, Colo.

Ottawa defeated McCook 62-54 for the championship on Saturday. Third place went to Oakley with a 52-44 win over Goodland. Sharon Springs won the consolation championship by an 81-37 score over Wray.

**Oakley**  
In the tournament opener 61-49 loss to Oakley on Thursday, the Norton boys outscored the Plainsmen from the field but allowed Oakley to win the game at the free throw line.

The Blue Jays outscored the Plainsmen 42-40 on field goals but sent Oakley players to the free throw line 35 times and they made 21 of them while Norton hit just 7 of 13 charities.

The game was closer than the final score. Oakley led 15-13 after one quarter and 34-21 at halftime. The Blue Jays outscored the Plainsmen 13-9 in the third period to narrow the Oakley lead to 43-34 but Norton was outscored 18-15 in the final quarter.

"I was disappointed with our defense," said coach Reusink. "We made mental mistakes; just little stuff that hurt us."

"When we got behind, we got in too big of a hurry to catch up and tried to force things. We have to learn to be patient and play smarter."

Senior Dalton Miller hit three baskets, senior Jacob Brooks hit a three-point and two-point bucket and senior Lane Bigge swished a basket for Norton's 13 first quarter points.

The Blue Jays' 8 second quarter points came on baskets by sophomore Conor Cox, Miller, senior Carson McKenna and Bigge.

In Norton's 13-point third period, McKenna, senior Andrew Ellis and junior Drew Schrum each drained three-point baskets. Brooks hit a basket and free throw and Cox swished a charity.

Brooks finished strong, hitting four baskets and four free throws in the final period. Senior John Renner hit a basket and Schrum swished a free throw.

Leading scorer for Norton was Brooks on 1 of 5 from the three-point line for 20 percent, 6 of 18 two-point attempts for 33 percent and 7 of 23 overall for 30 percent accuracy. He also was a perfect 5 of 5 from the charity stripe and finished with 20 points.

As a team, Norton hit 4 of 13 from beyond the arc for 31 percent, 15 of 39 two-point attempts for 39 percent and 19 of 52 overall for 37 percent.

The Blue Jays had 7 offensive and 16 defensive rebounds for 23 total. The Plainsmen pulled down 12 offensive and 30 defensive caroms for 42 total.

Jacob Brooks was leading rebounder for Norton with 5, followed by Conor Cox, 4; Andrew Ellis, 3; Carson McKenna, 3; John Renner, 2; Drew Schrum, 2; Dalton Miller, 2; Lane Bigge, 2.

Norton had 9 steals led by Brooks with 5. Schrum, Ellis and Miller each had 1 steal.

The Blue Jays had 12 offensive assists compared to 11 for Oakley. Assists leader was Brooks with 8, followed by Miller, 2; Schrum, 1; Ellis, 1.

Norton had 17 turnovers and Oakley had 23.

**Norton boys**  
Jacob Brooks 6 1 5-5 20; Conor Cox 1 0 1-2 3; John Renner 1 0 0-0 2; Drew Schrum 0 1 1-4 4; Andrew Ellis 0 1 0-0 3; Dalton Miller 4 0 0-0 8; Carson McKenna 1 1 0-2 5; Lane Bigge 2 0 0-0 4; Totals 15 4 7-13 49.

**Wray, Colorado**  
Norton had a very close game with Wray on the consolation side on Friday before losing 42-38.

With Jacob Brooks hitting all Norton's points, the Blue Jays took a 13-5 lead after one quarter. Wray had their best quarter in the second, outscoring Norton 17-11 to cut the Blue Jays' halftime lead to 24-22. Brooks scored all of Norton's points once again except for a basket by Andrew Ellis.

Norton went cold in the third quarter, hitting only two baskets. Carson McKenna scored early in the period and Norton did not score again until Tanner Furbush hit a basket at the buzzer. Wray tallied 10 points in the quarter to edge ahead 32-28.

Brooks stole the ball and scored early in the fourth quarter to tie the score at 30-all and minutes later McKenna scored to tie it at 32-all. Wray jumped out to a five-point lead but Ellis buried a three point basket to cut the Wray lead to two. Wray hit enough baskets the rest of the way to win by four points.

"We did not play well on either end of the floor," said coach Reusink. "We played with no defensive energy!"

"In the second half, they played a different defense on Jacob and Andrew and we just had trouble scoring."

"We have young men who are capable but just don't have the confidence right now to get the job done on the offensive end of the floor."

Jacob Brooks ended the game with 27 points on 2 of 4 from long range for 50 percent, 10 of 23 two-point tries for 44 percent and 12 of 27 overall for 45 percent and hit 1 of 2 free throws.

As a team, Norton hit 3 of 16 from beyond the arc for 19 percent, 14 of 36 two-point tries for 39 percent and 17 of 52 overall for 33 percent. Wray swished 1 of 4 three-point attempts for 25 percent, 14 of 37 two-point

tries for 38 percent and 15 of 41 overall for 37 percent.

While Norton outscored the Eagles from the field, the Blue Jays sent them to the free throw line 21 times and they hit 11 for 52 percent. In contrast, Norton had just two free throws in the game, hitting one.

Norton had 5 offensive and 21 defensive rebounds for 26 total compared to 5 offensive and 27 defensive caroms for Wray for a total of 32.

Brooks led Norton in rebounding with 13, followed by Ellis, 8; John Renner, Drew Schrum, Dalton Miller, Tanner Furbush and Lane Bigge, 1 each.

Norton had 8 offensive assists and Wray had 7. Miller and McKenna each had 2 assists, followed by Brooks, Schrum, Ellis, Furbush, 1 each.

Brooks led in steals with 5, followed by Conor Cox and Schrum, 1 each. Both teams had 20 turnovers.

**Norton boys**  
Jacob Brooks 10 2 1-2 27; Conor Cox 1 0 0-0 2; Andrew Ellis 1 1 0-0 5; Tanner Furbush 1 0 0-0 2; Carson McKenna 1 0 0-0 2; Totals 14 3 1-2 38.

**Burlington, Colorado**

In the win for seventh place on Saturday, Norton jumped out to a 31-15 halftime lead over Burlington and maintained it in the second half, where both teams scored 23 points.

Jacob Brooks had another big scoring night, tallying 25 points on 3 of 8 from three-point range for 38 percent, 5 of 12 two-point tries for 42 percent and 8 of 20 overall for 40 percent from the field. He also swished 6 of 7 free throws for 86 percent accuracy.

Andrew Ellis scored 10 points on 2 of 6 from three-point land for 33 percent, 2 of 3 two-point attempts for 67 percent and 4 of 9 overall for 45 percent.

Brooks scored on three two-point and two three-point baskets, Andrew Ellis buried a trey, Dalton Miller added two free throws and Tanner Furbush hit one charity for Norton in the first quarter.

Conor Cox hit a basket and two charities, Miller drained a three-point basket and Brooks hit four free throws in the second period.

Brooks and Cox each hit two baskets and Ellis hit one in the third quarter.

Brooks hit a three-point basket and two charities, Ellis drained another trey, Lane Bigge hit a basket and free throw and Schrum hit two free throws in the fourth period.

"We played a much better game in the win over Burlington," said coach Reusink. "We were able to hit some shots and had more people contributing on the offensive end. We started this game with a lot more intensity than the night before, which made a big difference in the outcome."

"I was pleased with how we played in the tournament except for the Wray game but we have a long way to go."

"This week's games against



Norton senior Andrew Ellis shoots over a Burlington, Colo. defender on Saturday during the Blue Jays' victory in the Topside Tip-Off Tournament in Goodland. Scoring from both three-point and two-point range, Ellis tallied 10 points. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Stockton and Phillipsburg, both undefeated teams, will be tough. We will have to show improvement to have a chance to win."

In the win over Burlington, as a team Norton hit 6 of 17 trey tries for 35 percent, 11 of 31 two-point attempts for 36 percent and 17 of 48 overall for 35 percent.

From the free throw line, Norton hit 14 of 23 for 61 percent and Burlington swished 8 of 13 for 62 percent.

Norton had 7 offensive and 18 defensive rebounds for 25 total. Burlington grabbed 9 offensive and 22 defensive caroms for 31 total.

Brooks led Norton in rebounding with 8, followed by Cox, Schrum, Miller, Furbush, 3 each; Ellis, Bigge, 2 each; McKenna, 1.

Norton had 9 steals and Burlington had 7. Brooks and Ellis each had 3 thefts, followed by Schrum, McKenna, Bigge, 1 each.

The Blue Jays had 6 offensive assists. McKenna had 3, followed by Brooks, 2; Ellis, 1.

Norton had just 7 turnovers while Burlington gave up the ball 17 times to the aggressive Blue Jay defense.

**Norton boys**  
Jacob Brooks 5 3 6-7 25; Conor Cox 3 0 2-4 8; Drew Schrum 0 0 2-2 2; Andrew Ellis 2 2 0-2 10; Dalton Miller 0 1 2-2 5; Tanner Furbush 0 0 1-2 1; Lane Bigge 1 0 1-2 3; Totals 11 6 14-23 54.

**Next action**  
Norton will travel to Stockton this evening to begin Mid-Continent League play. Games will begin at 4:45 p.m.  
Norton will also host Phillipsburg on Friday.

## Sudoku Puzzle #2753-M

1	2		3		4
	5		2		6
7	8	9	4		1
		6		3	5
7	1	9		2	
2			7	9	4
	6		1	8	
4		2		9	3

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Medium

## Sky High

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17			18				19					
20				21								
22			23			24		25	26	27	28	
29	30	31			32	33	34		35			
36			37					38				
39		40		41			42		43			
44			45		46			47		48		
49					50				51			
52				53				54				
55					56	57	58		59		60	61
62												
63	64	65	66				67					
68					69				70			
71						72				73		

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## ACROSS

- "No \_\_, no gain"
- Prefix with physics
- Rattails, e.g.
- Patron saint of sailors
- Like the Sabin vaccine
- Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood, for two
- Lucky Lindy's plane
- In great shape
- Operation Desert

- Blo fuse
- Is mad for
- Popular charity
- "Pagliacci," e.g.
- Several reps, in the gym
- '54-to-'77 alliance
- "Glengarry Glen Ross" playwright David
- "My stars!"
- Rudely sarcastic
- Unescorted
- "Gesundheit!"
- Make corrections to
- Sturgeon delicacy
- City on the Mohawk
- Helen Reddy chart topper
- It makes jelly jell
- Source of iron
- Actor Max von \_\_
- Butler's word
- High school subject
- Bacall mate, familiarly
- Beehive State natives
- Quaker State city
- Fowl buildings

- Orange or Rose
- Thieves' haunts

## DOWN

- Roach or rat
- Bowlful for Bowser
- Chip-tosser's utterance
- "\_\_ for the weary"
- Witty remark
- Libidinous god
- Our last mustachioed president
- "Not to mention ..."
- Movieland
- Altar assent
- Bud's comedy pal
- Brother of Peyton
- Draft letters
- Runs while standing

- La-la lead-in
- Keats offerings
- Australian mine find
- Shark sucker
- Heretofore
- Glossy fabric
- Exhausts
- Make invalid
- Right-leaning?
- Tapered off
- Grisham's "\_\_ to Kill"
- Alpine air
- Tear carrier
- Prefix meaning "within"
- Oxeye and others
- Has the guts
- In need of body work

- UN locale
- Apply crudely
- Not fooled by
- "That's a relief!"
- Barreled along
- Ms. Brockovich
- Bar selections
- Pie equivalent?
- Guernsey's greeting
- Freudian topic
- Saw with the grain
- Christmas or Easter: Abbr.

## High School Sports This Week



Norton  
Blue Jays



Northern Valley  
Huskies



Logan  
Trojans

### WRESTLING:

- Norton in Mid-Continent League Round Robin Tournament in Phillipsburg ..... 3 p.m. Friday
- Norton in Holiday Classic Tournament in Goodland ..... 9 a.m. Saturday
- Norton JV wrestlers in Cambridge Invitational ..... 10 a.m. Saturday
- Norton vs. Phillipsburg V, JV in Phillipsburg ..... 6 p.m. Tuesday

### BASKETBALL:

- Norton Girls, Boys vs. Stockton in Stockton ..... 4:45 p.m. Today
- Norton Girls, Boys vs. Phillipsburg in Norton ..... 4 p.m. C-team
- Boys, JV Boys - Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym; 4:45 p.m. JV Girls, V Girls, V Boys - Stull Gym ..... Friday
- Norton Girls, Boys vs. Phillipsburg in Norton ..... 4:45 p.m. Friday
- Norton Girls, Boys in JV Tournament vs. Trego, Oakley, Quinter in Quinter ..... 9 a.m. Saturday
- Norton Girls, Boys vs. Cambridge in Norton ..... 4:45 p.m. Tuesday
- Northern Valley Girls, Boys vs. Wheatland in Almena ..... 6:30 p.m. Friday
- Northern Valley Girls, Boys vs. Wilcox-Hildreth in Almena ..... 6:30 p.m. Tuesday
- Logan Girls, Boys vs. Beloit St. John's in Tipton Beloit ..... 4 p.m. Today
- Logan Girls, Boys vs. Palco in Palco ..... 4 p.m. Friday
- Logan Girls, Boys vs. Oberlin in Logan ..... 4 p.m. Tuesday