

Norton basketball boys beat Phillipsburg team

By DICK BOYD

Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team opened their 2003-2004 Mid-Continent League season with a 50-42 win over Phillipsburg on Friday night in Phillipsburg.

Fresh off a season opening third place finish in the Topside Tipoff Tournament last week in Goodland, the Blue Jays ran their record to 3-1 heading into Christmas break.

"We are capable of playing better but it was a win on the road against a pretty good team," said Coach Reusink. "We had a couple of nice runs in the first half to get a lead but let them come back in the second half and catch us. We did, however, keep enough composure to get the lead back and go on to win."

"It's nice to be 3-1 at this time but we have a lot to work on over the break."

Junior forward Ryan Maddy and junior guard Aaron Overlease provided the offensive spark for Norton in the contest. Maddy hit 60 percent from the field as he swished 6 of 10 shots and was 3 of 4 from the free throw line for 75 percent. He led the team with 15 points and 8 rebounds and dished out 4 assists.

Overlease was red hot from three point land. He hit 4 of 7 long range bombs for 57 percent accuracy and 1 of 3 from two-point range for 50 percent overall shooting and 14 points. He led Norton in steals with 4 thefts.

Norton held a 16-10 advantage after the first quarter which saw Overlease hit two treys and a two-point basket. It was 26-22 at halftime in favor of Norton. The Jays outscored the Panthers 14-10 in the third quarter to take a 40-32 lead into the final stanza. Overlease hit two more three-point shots in the quarter and Maddy hit two baskets and a free throw and added two more baskets in the crucial fourth quarter.

Senior center Jered Sloan had a solid game as he hit a field goal in each quarter and ended the game

4 of 7 from the field for 57 percent and 1 of 3 from the line for 9 points.

Senior forward Dan Roeder hit 3 of 6 two-point field goal attempts for 50 percent. He missed his only trey try. He also swished 1 of 2 free throw attempts and ended with 7 points.

Turner was leading scorer for Phillipsburg with 15 points. He hit three baskets in the first quarter and did not score again until the fourth quarter when he hit two more baskets and 5 of 6 free throws.

As a team, Norton hit 5 of 12 three-point tries for 42 percent, 15 of 33 two-point attempts for 46 percent and 20 of 45 overall for 44 percent.

The Panthers connected on just 1 of 16 trey tries for 6 percent, 14 of 34 from two-point land for 41 percent and 15 of 50 overall for just 30 percent.

Phillipsburg did shoot better than Norton from the charity stripe. The Panthers hit 11 of 17 for 65 percent compared to Norton's 5 of 10 for 50 percent.

The Panthers also outrebounded the Blue Jays 30-24. They pulled down 11 offensive and 19 defensive caroms compared to Norton's 4 offensive and 20 defensive rebounds.

In addition to Maddy's 8 caroms, Sloan had 6, followed by Kyle Kats, 3; Brian Luft, 3; Heath Vincent, 2; Charlie Foley, 1; Overlease, 1.

Norton had 18 offensive assists. Kats led with 6, followed by Maddy, 4; Sloan, 3; Foley, 2; Roeder, Overlease and Luft, 1 each.

In addition to Overlease's 4 steals, Roeder and Sloan had 2 each and Foley, Kats, Luft and Maddy had 1 each.

Norton suffered 13 turnovers but Phillipsburg lost the ball 18 times.

Next action

Next competition for the Norton varsity basketball team will be at Oberlin on Tuesday, January 6.

Junior varsity games will also be played. Games will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Norton boys 50

C. Foley 0 1 0-0 3, Kats 1 0 0-1 2, Roeder 3 0 1-2 7, Overlease 1 4 0-0 14, Maddy 6 0 3-4 15, Sloan 4 0 1-3 9, Totals 15 5 5-10 50

Phillipsburg boys 42

Smith 3 0 0-0 6, Mendoza 1 0 0-0 2, Babcock 1 1 3-5 8, Turner 5 0 5-6 15, Koelsch 3 0 1-2 7, Thomas 1 0 2-4 4, Totals 14 1 11-17 42

B-team results

Coach David Stover's Norton boys B-team lost a 36-34 heartbreaker to Phillipsburg when they were outscored 14-4 in the fourth quarter.

Norton trailed 8-7 after one quarter but held a slim 19-18 half-time advantage. After outscoring the Panthers 11-4 in the third quarter, Norton led 30-22 with one quarter remaining.

Leading scorer for Norton was Justin Shirk with 18 points, followed by Nathan Morse, 8; Josh Jackson, 5; Heath Vincent, 2; Derek Volgamore, 1.

Yoxall led Phillipsburg with 8 points; Wickham and Cole each added 7.

Freshmen results

Coach Todd Fulton's Norton freshmen boys basketball team lost to Phillipsburg by a 36-26 score.

The score was tied 4-all after one quarter and Norton led 14-10 at halftime but Phillipsburg outscored the Blue Jays 18-4 in the third quarter to take a 28-18 advantage into the final stanza. Both teams scored 8 points in the fourth period.

Leading scorer for Norton was Mathew Shepard with 8 points, followed by Brian Juenemann, 7; Jared Engelbert, 5; Nic Lewis, 4; Blake Wolf, 2.

Keese led Phillipsburg with 12 points and Weinman added 10.

"It was a good opening effort by our boys," said Coach Fulton. "We played hard and improved, which is a goal each time we play."

Next competition for the freshmen boys will be on Monday, Dec. 29 when they play Quinter at 2:30 p.m. in the opening round of the Joe Green Invitational Tournament in Hill City.

Jennings Coyotes win one, lose first game to Healy

The Jennings Coyotes continued their winning streak when they outscored Golden Plains 64-58 on Dec. 16, but then were handed their first loss of the season when they were defeated 53-46 by Healy on Dec. 19.

Jennings took a six point lead (16-10) against Golden Plains in the first quarter, but then fell behind (34-28) by half-time. They made a comeback in the third quarter, regaining the lead 48-46 and then widened the gap in the fourth the win the game 64-58.

Adam Miller was the Coyotes' major scorer, shooting in 14 two-pointers and 2 free throws for 30 points. He was followed by Grant Bailey with 16 points, Adam Wahlmeier with 12 points, and Brett McKenna with 6 points.

Miller was also the rebounding king as he grabbed 17 of Jennings' 32 rebounds.

Bailey stole the ball 4 times and found teammates open for a basket 8 times. McKenna was close behind with 4 assists.

In the B-team game, Jennings was defeated 65-50.

Scoring were Kyle Kinser, 14 points; Seth Ritter and Brian Miller, 12 apiece; Marcus McKenna, 5; Brett Linden, 4; and Josh Vahling, 3.

When the Coyotes fell to Healy, they trailed 17-12 in the first quarter and 25-22 in the second. In the third, they almost caught up at 36-35, but then fell behind again in the fourth, losing the game 53-46.

A Wahlmeier was the top dog of scoring in this game, making 6 three-pointers and 3 two-pointers for 24 points. He was followed by A. Miller with 12 points; Bailey with 6, M. McKenna with 2, and B. McKenna and Nick Wahlmeier with 1 apiece.

Rebounding honors went to B. McKenna, who grabbed 5, and Bailey and N. Wahlmeier, who both captured 4.

Bailey led steals at 5 and assists with 9.

The Jennings B-team defeated Healy 27-20 in a two-quarter game.

The Jennings Coyotes will host Cheylin on Tuesday, Jan. 6 in Jennings. Play is set to begin at 4 p.m.

Jennings 64, Golden Plains 58 Jennings (64)

Adam Miller 14 0 3-2 30, Grant Bailey 5 1 5-3 16, Adam Wahlmeier 2 2 6-6 12, Brett McKenna



3 0 0-0 6. Totals 22 3 15-11 64.

Golden Plains (58)

Jesse Miller 7 1 4-4 21, Landon Truetken 6 0 5-2 14, Dusty Spreser 5 0 0-0 10, Brent Moss 0 2 2-0 6, Matt Giesenhausen 1 0 2-2 4, Homero Vargas 0 1 0-0 3. Totals 19 4 13-8 58.

Healy 53, Jennings 46 Jennings (46)

Adam Wahlmeier 3 6 0-0 24, Adam Miller 5 0 2-2 12, Grant Bailey 3 0 0-0 6, Marcus McKenna 0 0 2-2 2, Brett McKenna 0 0 2-1 1, Nick Wahlmeier 0 0 2-1 1. Totals 11 6 8-6 46.

Healy (53)

J.D. Johnson 2 3 4-3 16, Mark Johnson 7 0 0-1 4, Dillon Schwindt 3 0 4-3 9, Matt Norby 2 0 5-2 5, Chris Venters 2 0 2-1 5, Matt Pollock 0 1 2-1 4. Totals 16 4 17-10 53.

Blue Jay girls beat Phillipsburg 42-38

By DICK BOYD

Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School girls basketball team got the 2003-2004 Mid-Continent League season off to a winning start on Friday night in Phillipsburg as they outscored the Lady Panthers 42-38.

After winning their season opener 60-31 over Weskan in the Topside Tipoff Tournament in Goodland last week, the Lady Jays lost 64-56 to Ottawa and 66-59 to Goodland to place fourth in the tournament.

After the two losses, Coach Jilka stated that last season's Norton quintet had so much trouble offensively that they had concentrated more on that in early practices. He said this squad would work harder on defense prior to the Phillipsburg game and it paid off as they limited Phillipsburg to just 38 points.

"This was a big win for our girls," said Coach Jilka. "They have been working very hard and it's great to see their work pay off." "Offensively, we did a good job of execution and getting good looks. At times, our press offense was still giving us problems and we still need to correct that."

"Defensively, we had a tremendous effort all night. Our players worked really hard on the defensive side of the ball." "Free throws continue to be a problem and we have to find some way to correct that." Norton hit just 4 of 20 free throw attempts in the game for a cold 20 percent accuracy. Phillipsburg was 8 of 16 for 50 percent.

"This win is a great way to go into Christmas break," said Coach Jilka. "We can still work to be better and we know our players will."

Phillipsburg held a slim 9-8 lead after one quarter but Norton held a narrow 22-21 edge at halftime. The Lady Jays outscored the Lady Panthers 13-8 in the third quarter

to take a 35-29 lead.

Leading scorer for Norton was sophomore center Chelsea Cox who hit 6 of 7 field goal attempts for a red hot 86 percent accuracy! She hit only 1 of 7 free throws, however, for 14 percent and ended with 13 points.

Sophomore guard Karlie Jones added 11 points on 1 of 1 from three-point land, 4 of 9 two point shots for 44 percent and 5 of 10 overall for 50 percent.

Senior center Anna Berry scored 9 points on 4 of 6 from the field for 67 percent and 1 of 4 charities for 25 percent.

Junior forward Amber Engelbert scored 7 points on 1 of 3 trey tries for 33 percent, 2 of 4 two-point attempts for 50 percent and 3 of 7 overall for 43 percent.

Leading scorer for Phillipsburg was Vanderplas with 22 points.

Both teams shot very, very well from the field. The Lady Jays hit 2 of 5 three-point attempts for 40 percent, 16 of 27 two-point shots for 59 percent and 18 of 32 overall for 56 percent.

The Lady Panthers hit the same 59 percent from two-point land on 19 of 32 but missed all three trey tries and ended with 19 of 35 overall for 54 percent accuracy.

Norton outrebounded Phillipsburg 23-18. The Lady Jays pulled down 7 offensive and 16 defensive caroms compared to 4 offensive and 14 defensive for the Lady Panthers.

Cox was leading rebounder with 8, followed by Becca Ebert, 4; Engelbert, 4; Whitney Newell, 4; Berry, 2; Jones, 1.

Norton had 8 steals and Phillipsburg had 9. Cox had 4, followed by Engelbert, 2; Jones, 1.

The Lady Jays had 10 assists compared to 9 for the Lady Panthers. Cox led with 4, followed by Jones, 2; Newell, Chelle Donovan, Engelbert and Berry, 1 each.

Norton had 21 turnovers and Phillipsburg lost the ball 17 times.

Next action

Norton's next varsity basketball games will be on Tuesday, January 6 when the Jays travel to Oberlin.

Junior varsity games will also be played. Games begin at 6:30 p.m.

Norton girls 42

Newell 0 0 2-7 13, Cox 6 1 0-0 11, Engelbert 2 1 0-1 7, Berry 4 0 1-4 9, Totals 16, 2 4-20 42

Phillipsburg girls 38

Shields 3 0 0-2 6, Vanderplas 9 0 4-6 22, Johnson 1 0 0-0 2, Rachow 0 0 0-2 0, Kraft 1 0 4-6 6, Cunningham 1 0 0-2, Totals 15 0 8-16 38

B-Team results

Coach George Rossi's Norton girls B-team defeated Phillipsburg 24-20.

Norton trailed 8-4 after one quarter but the score was tied 10-all at intermission. Norton led 16-12 after three quarters.

Leading scorer for Norton was Stacy Reeves with 13 points, followed by Amber Overlease, 3; Jessi Duscher, 3; Amanda Antrim, 2; Chelle Donovan, 2; Danee' Payne, 1.

Rummel scored 7 points to lead Phillipsburg.

"We always enjoy opening the season with a win," said Coach Rossi. "Our offense was not quite in sync tonight but our girls had a solid effort overall."

"We need more work together as a group to get our timing down."

BOWLING

Tuesday Housewife

Standings Dec. 2 — The 4 Dots, 42-22; Irene's, 35-29; D/M Service, 28-36; Norton Co-op, 23-41; Results — High Game Scratch: S. Smith, 158; G. Moser, 157; C. Gerlits, 155; High Game Handicap: C. Gerlits, 204; G. Moser, 198; I. Wray, 190; High Series Scratch: S. Smith, 450; G. Moser, 420;

L. Leidig, 408; High Game Handicap: C. Gerlits, 555; G. Moser, 543; S. Smith, 540

Results Nov. 24 — High Game Scratch: S. Horesky, 170; S. Smith, 169; L. Leidig, 164; High Game Handicap: S. Horesky, 209; D. VanKooten, 203; M. Ritter, 202; High Series Scratch: S. Smith, 493; L. Leidig, 452; M. Ritter, 440; High Series Handicap: S. Smith, 592; M. Ritter, 587; I. Wray, 580

Wednesday Night Ladies

Standings Nov. 19 — Rural Telephone Service, 82-44; New Look Body Shop, 77.5-48.5; Western Distributing, 76.5-49.5; Pizza Hut, 66-60; Nex-Tech, 66-60; DSNWK, 65.5-60.5; Coffin Rock Ranch Bullers, 56.5-69.5; Bye, 15-111; Results — High Game Scratch: Lisa Mindrup, 187; Liz Posson, 181; Amy Daniels, 176; High Series Scratch: Lisa

Mindrup, 468; Amy Daniels, 446; Dana Knapp, 422; High Game Handicap: Lisa Mindrup, 236; Liz Posson, 232; Julie Scheetz, 212; High Series Handicap: Lisa Mindrup, 615; Dana Knapp, 575; Doris Hendricks, 566

Ladies Inter-City

Standings Dec. 1 — Superior Livestock, 42.5-17.5; Nelson Bros., 39-21; Land Surveyors, 38.5-21.5; Mortensen Computer, 30-30; Jamboree, 24-36; Results — High Game Scratch: Lynn Nelson, 150; Jackie Wright, 147; Ramona McKinley, 146; Carol Ross, 146; High Series Scratch: Jackie Wright, 412; Lynn Nelson, 411; Ramona McKinley, 389; High Game Handicap: Dee Wolfe, 208; Vendla Tacha, 204; Lynn Nelson, 192; High Series Handicap: Helen Muirhead, 544; Dee Wolfe, 541; Lynn Nelson, 537.

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