



Brett Terrell makes a good gain in the Norton Junior High football varsity game against Phillipsburg. Brett gets assistance from teammates, shown from left, Cole

Archer, Ryan Blecha, Tyler Esslinger and Grant McClymont. The junior high played Smith Center last Thursday as they finished their season.

— Photo by Charlotte Stephenson



Quarterback Hunter Chandler looks to handoff the ball in the Junior Jays third and fourth grade football game against the Hays Gamblers.

— Photo by Charlotte Stephenson

Junior Jays crush Osborne 30-0

The Norton Junior Jays football team shut out Osborne 30-0 on Oct. 6 in Norton.

Landon Hamel made the Jays' first touchdown in the first quarter on a 4-yard run. Terrell Lane ran in the extra points.

In the second quarter, Lane rushed 35 yards to score. Hamel ran in the points after. Hamel also scored before half-time, dashing 3 yards. Hamel caught a pass for the conversion points.

In the third, Hamel ran 21 yards

for Norton's final touchdown. No extra points were made.

"Tonight's game was one of our better performances," said Coach George Rossi. "The running backs Lane and Hamel both had some very impressive runs, breaking several tackles and gaining some tough yardage."

"Osborne had a hard hitting team tonight and we stepped up to meet them physically."

"This win brings us a step closer to an undefeated season. However,

an undefeated season is not going to be an easy task. Our last game is against Smith Center, who is also undefeated. We hope for a large and loud crowd for that final game."

Lane led rushing with 117 yards on 8 carries, followed by Hamel, 70 on 11; J.D. Gall, 3 on 1; Jeremy Sproul, 3 on 3; Troy Bainter, 1 on 4; and Connor Pfannenstiel, 2 on 2.

Pfannenstiel completed 4 of 6 passes for 33 yards; Spencer Shirk

completed 1 of 1 for 12 yards. Receiving were Hamel, 1 for 13 yards; Ronne Tafoya, 1 for 12 yards; Marcus Herman, 1 for 9; Gall, 1 for 8; and Lane, 1 for 3.

Making tackles were Gall, 3 solos, 5 assists; Sproul, 3-3; Hamel, 3-1; Lane, 2-6; Landon Keiswetter, 2-1; Tafoya, 1-3; Herman, 1-2; Kaenon Keiswetter, 1-1; and Casey Robison, 0-3.

The Junior Jays played Smith Center Thursday for their last game of the season.

Norton eighth grade girls beat Osborne

The eighth grade Norton Lady Jays volleyball team beat an undefeated Osborne team 25-21, 26-24 on Oct. 6 in Norton.

"Coming off a rough weekend of not playing up to our potential, our team wanted to get back on the right track and set the tone for the weekend's all important league tournament," said Coach Chuck Zimmerman. "So with league leading and undefeated (having only lost one game all season) Osborne coming to visit, we got set to see if we could measure up."

"This was a very close match as

both teams had mini runs but neither could pull away from the other. Both teams used their strengths as Osborne is a scrambling team that does not allow the ball to drop to the floor and we are a serving/power team that prides ourselves in our defense and turning free balls into our offense.

Both teams were on for the most part. It was tough to find a hole in the Osborne defense but we kept doing what we do and found a way with Amanda Ray serving when most of the team points were scored (9). Ray did not miss a serve being 13 of 13, while Beth Winkel and Alyssa Thomson were both 4 of 4 with two team points.

"Using the good passing of our defenders — Thomson, Bethany Roy and the whole team for that matter — led to the setting of Winkel and Ashlie Stewart, who

gave some nice sets to Lacy Keilig, Shelby Jones, Kaitlyn Wolf and Ray.

"We finally surged ahead of the Bulldogs and won the first game 25-21."

"In the second game — again very close — the Bulldogs showed why they had only lost one game all season. They gradually pulled ahead after the first complete team rotation by the score of 11-8. We kept the score close for a time but allowed them to get a seven point lead of 24-17, before they made a mistake that put the score at 24-18."

"At this point in our rotation, Roy rotated to serve and the ladies got the look of 'we're not letting this go to 3' in their eyes and proceeded to play some of their best volleyball of the season. Roy served 8 balls in a row that the Bulldogs had to go get, which kept

them off balance. They were forced to give us free balls, which our passers passed perfectly to our setters, who set some very fine balls that our hitters pounded to their side, which they could not return."

"Now, I have seen quite a few come backs in my coaching career. But never have I seen one that started with a team being 6 points down and the other team on 24 with rally scoring, which means one mistake by us and the game is over, leading to a third."

"The ladies pulled together and played themselves to a victory by defeating Osborne 26-24. It was a great comeback victory that took excellent skill work by all who touched the ball and great team work by a group that seems to be ready to attempt to continue the Norton tradition in junior high volleyball. Only time will tell."

Seventh grade wins final match

The Norton Junior Lady Jays seventh grade volleyball team won their last match of the season, defeating Osborne 25-15, 25-11.

"In their last match of the season, the Norton seventh grade Lady Jays' goal was to 'go out with a bang,' and they did just that," said Coach Erin Hill. "Norton won the first game 25-15 and the second game 25-11."

"The girls played very well in both games, as they stole the match away from the Lady Bullpups. They did everything right that they were supposed to do right: good serves, good passes, setting the ball up, spiking the ball, and communicating with one another, which is something we had struggled with all year up to this match."

"I was extremely pleased and excited for the girls. It is great when you can wrap up the season with a win, especially with them playing so well and improving so much throughout the season. We had a lot of fun this year and had a fantastic season."

"The girls went 7-3 on the season, and they improved so much from the first of the year to the last few games. Furthermore, because the seventh grade girls do not have a league tournament at the end of the season, they go on league records to determine the league winner."

"The girls and I are very excited and proud to say that they tied for the league championship! Again, the girls had a great season and I couldn't be prouder of them!"

Junior Huskies defeat Damar in volleyball

The Northern Valley Junior High volleyball team defeated Damar 25-6, 25-15 on Oct. 6 to keep their undefeated record.

"This was our best match so far," said Coach Kristen Baird. "We served well and our hitting was unbelievable for junior high volleyball. We were consistent and played as a team. Great job!"

Alison Cole led serving with 20 of 20 for 18 points, followed by Amber Sheley, 13 of 13 for 12 points; Megan Cole, 9 of 10 for 7 points; Staci Dole, 7 of 10 for

7 points; Karen Wenzl, 6 of 7 for 5 points; and Christina Anderson, 1 of 2 for 1 point.

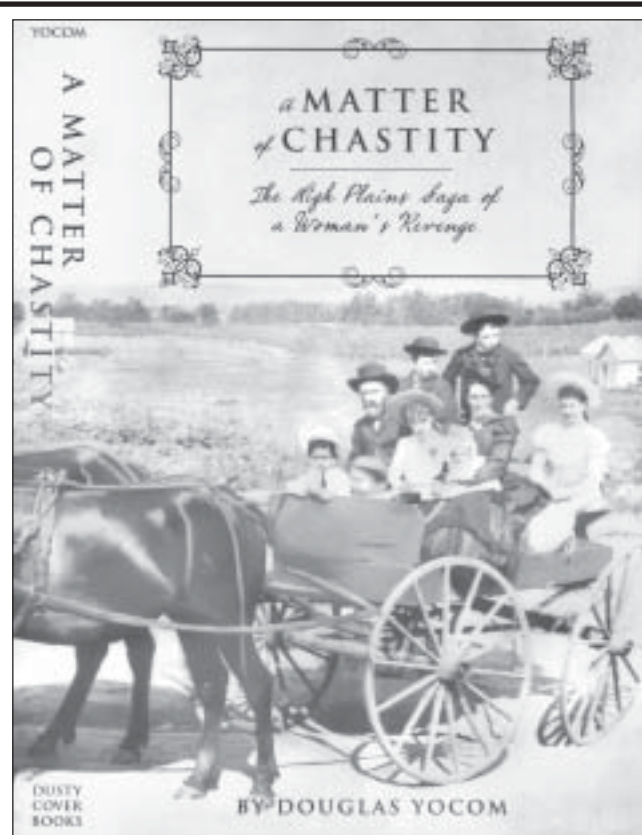
A. Cole was the super server. The junior varsity also won their match, winning in three games 25-19, 15-25, 13-7.

"Every player on our team scored against Damar," said Coach Baird. "The girls are more confident and our passing is getting better. Great job!"

Melissa Hawks led serving with 18 of 18 for 15 points, followed Kenzie Chandler, 10 of 11 for 8 points; Kayla Field, 8 of 8 for 5

points; Kenzi Husted, 6 of 7 for 5 points; Miriah Florence, 6 of 7 for 4 points; Savannah King, 6 of 6 for 4 points; Sarah Whitney, 5 of 6 for 4 points; Kelsey Raburn, 3 of 4 for 3 points; Cassie Field, 2 of 3 for 2 points; Caitlyn Patterson, 2 of 2 for 1 point; Kynzie Stevens, 2 of 2 for 1 point; and Ashley Constable, 2 of 2 for 1 point.

Hawks was the super server. The Junior Lady Huskies will travel to Kensington on Thursday, Oct. 20. The match is set to start at 5 p.m.



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