

# Norton third in league volleyball tournament

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School volleyball team placed third in the Mid-Continent League Tournament Saturday in Smith Center.

The Lady Redmen won the championship by defeating Phillipsburg in three games, 25-17, 18-25, 25-23.

Norton defeated Osborne in three games, 25-21, 21-25, 25-15 in the third place match.

In pool play, Norton outscored Trego Community and Stockton and lost to Phillipsburg. In the semi-finals, the Lady Jays lost to Smith Center.

## Trego

In their opening match, the Lady Jays defeated Trego Community 25-20, 25-23.

"This match was a great start for our day," said Coach Jill Lively. "We stressed that our girls play smart, aggressive and confident and they did just that against Trego.

"We let up a bit in the second game, allowing Trego to score seven points in a row to take a 12-8 lead but steadily came back and finished strong."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Rachael Lentz, 100 percent, 1 ace; Chelsea Cox, 2 aces; Courtney Cox, 1 ace; Rebecca Ebert, Maggie Nielsen, Naomi Streck, 100 percent each; setting — Chelsea Cox, 12 assists; Courtney Cox, 9; Lentz and Nielsen, 1 each; hitting — Chelsea Cox, 8 kills; Whitney Newell, 6; Ebert, 5; Lentz, 3; Nielsen, 1; blocking — Chelsea Cox, 4;

Nielsen, 2; Ebert, Lentz, Wolf, 1 each; digs — Lacey Roe, 10; Chelsea Cox, 6; Klaire Mann, 4.

## Phillipsburg

Norton lost to Phillipsburg in three games: 25-23, 19-25, 12-15.

"When we match up with Phillipsburg, fans always get to see some exciting play," said Coach Lively.

"We started confident and aggressive in the first game. As the match continued, Phillipsburg gained momentum by aggressive serving and stretching our defense.

"We've played them twice, each team winning once. If we match up with them at sub-state, I feel confident in our ability to come out on top if we play our game."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Chelsea Cox, 100 percent, 1 ace; Ebert, 1 ace; Streck and Courtney Cox, 100 percent each; setting — Courtney Cox, 15 assists; Chelsea Cox, 10; hitting — Chelsea Cox, 14 kills; Ebert, Lentz, Newell, 4 each; Nielsen, 1; blocking — Ebert, 2; Wolf and Nielsen, 1 each; digs — Roe, 10; Chelsea Cox and Mann, 5 each; Lentz, 4.

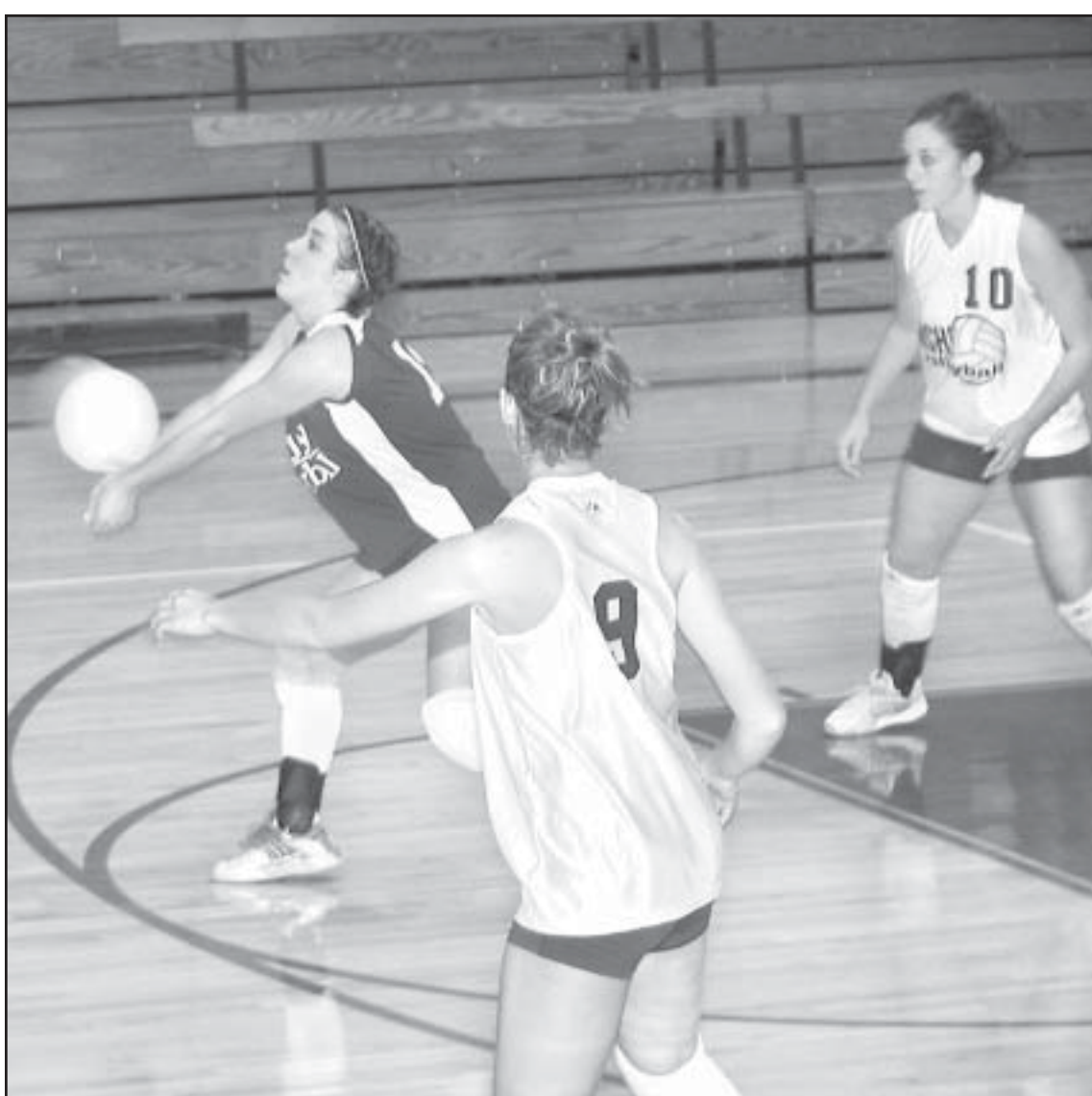
## Stockton

The Lady Jays defeated Stockton 25-15, 25-23 in their third pool match.

"We played a really good game to start the match with Stockton," said Coach Lively.

"We picked on them with our serving and played very aggressive at the net, thanks to some good passing and setting.

"Defensively, we didn't really



Norton junior libero Lacey Roe digs the ball during the Lady Jays' semi-finals volleyball match with Smith Center in the Mid-Continent League Tournament on Saturday in Smith Center. The libero is a new position this year. She plays on the back row and wears a contrasting color jersey. She doesn't go through the substitution process, just runs on the court during a dead ball and replaces a back row player. Use of the libero is a coaching strategy that is not required. Rachael Lentz is No. 9 for Norton and Klaire Mann is No. 10.

— Telegram photos by Dick Boyd

"Smith Center showed a lot of improvement over the last time we played them. They weren't as easy to fluster and played consistently well. We had several good runs but lacked consistent play."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Lentz, 100 percent, 1 ace; Antrim, Wolf, Ebert, Courtney Cox, 100 percent each; Chelsea Cox, 1 ace; setting — Courtney Cox, 10 assists; Chelsea Cox, 5; Wolf, 2; Ebert and Lentz, 1 each; hitting — Chelsea Cox, 13 kills; Ebert and Lentz, 3 each; Newell, 2; blocking — Nielsen, Ebert, Chelsea Cox, 1 each; digs — Lentz and Mann, 4 each; Wolf and Chelsea Cox, 3 each; Roe and Courtney Cox, 2 each.

## Osborne

Norton defeated Osborne 25-21, 21-25, 25-15 in three games to place third in the tournament.

"I was very pleased to see our girls come back after the loss to Smith Center and play well to end a very long, demanding day," said Coach Lively.

"Play pool tournaments can be difficult to finish and we kept our focus, played smart and finished with a win."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Wolf and Chelsea Cox, 2 aces each; Courtney Cox and Antrim, 1 ace each; Lentz, Streck, Nielsen, 100 percent each; setting — Chelsea Cox, 23 assists; Courtney Cox, 14; Wolf, 2; hitting — Newell, 16 kills; Chelsea Cox, 14; Ebert, 6; Wolf and Lentz, 4 each; Nielsen, 1; blocking — Lentz, 3; Wolf, 2; Ebert, 1; digs — Roe, 11; Wolf, 9; Lentz, 8.

## Next action

Norton will compete Saturday in the Class 3A Sub-State Volleyball Tournament in Phillipsburg.

Also competing in addition to Norton and Phillipsburg will be teams from Holcomb, Cimarron, Lakin, Beloit and Oberlin.

Matches will begin at 2 p.m. in the Newlin Gym.

Holcomb (29-5) is seeded No. 1 and received a first

round bye.

No. 4 seed

Cimarron (21-

12) will play

No. 5 seed

Lakin (21-13)

in the first

match.

The second

match will feature

No. 2 Phillipsburg

(25-5) vs. No. 7 Beloit

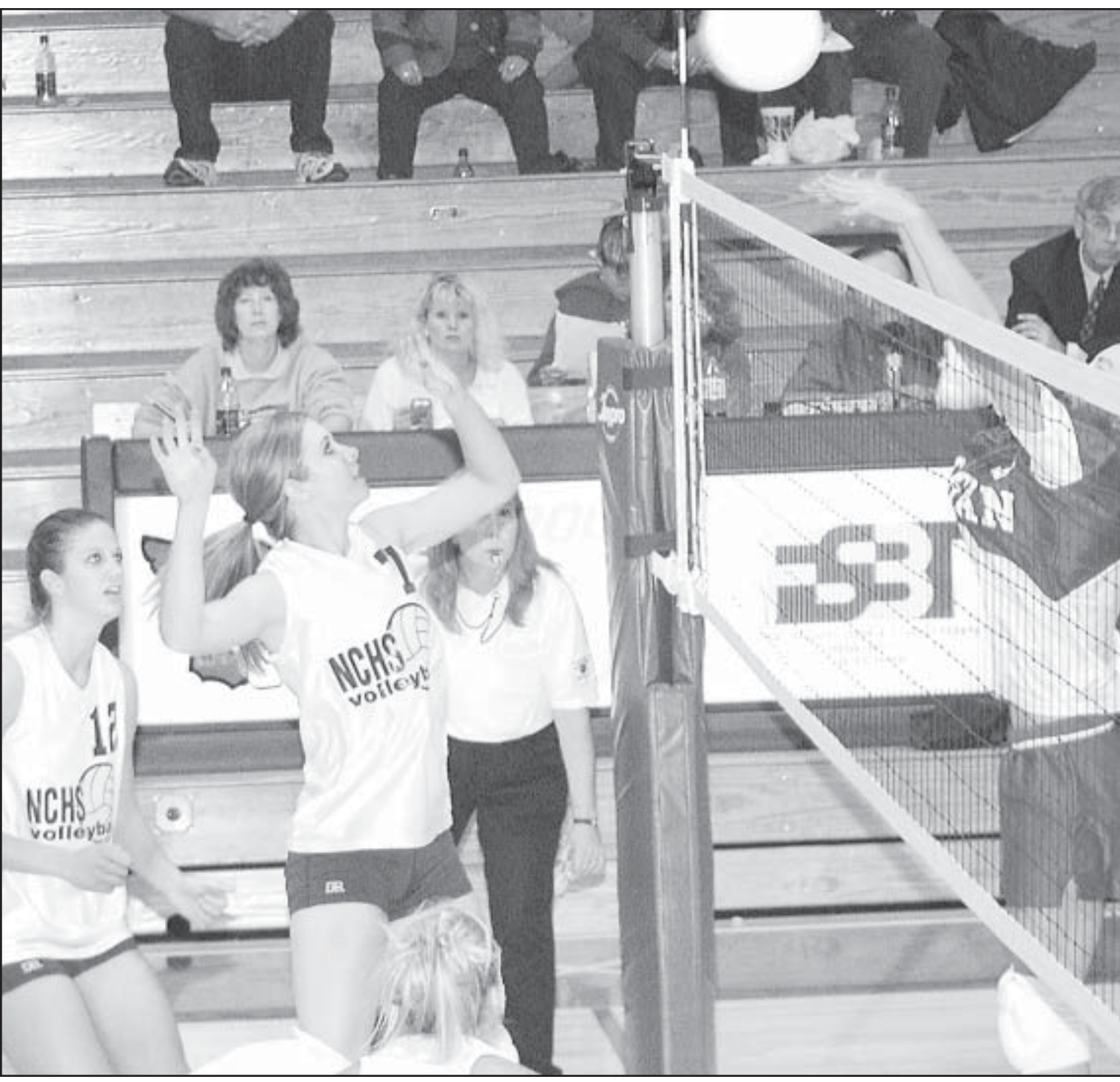
(14-14).

In the final match of

the first round, No. 6 Norton (14-

14) will play No. 3 Oberlin (24-5).

It is a single elimination tournament with winners advancing and the season ending for losers. The champion will advance to the state championship tournament next Friday and Saturday.



Norton senior Naomi Streck hits the ball over the outstretched arms of a Logan player during the Lady Jays' win over Logan here on Tuesday, Oct. 11. At left is Norton senior Chelsea Cox, No. 12.

win over Logan here on Tuesday, Oct. 11. At left is Norton senior Chelsea Cox, No. 12.

# Norton varsity volleyball team beats Logan, but loses to Golden Plains

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School varsity volleyball team defeated Logan but lost to Golden Plains in matches played on the Lady Jays' "Senior Night" October 11 in Norton.

## Golden Plains

Norton played Golden Plains first and lost 19-25, 18-25.

"Golden Plains has an excellent team that is well balanced," said Norton Coach Jill Lively. "They played a great match against us.

"It is rare that we don't rack up some ace serves in each match but we weren't able to do that against Golden Plains.

"We played well in some areas of the match but we were somewhat timid. The numbers we put up statistically are not at all what we are used to, with the exception of serving. We served with 97 percent accuracy.

"We didn't allow them to string together more than three points at a time but we just couldn't capitalize on our strengths and Golden Plains was nearly flawless."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Alexi Wolf, Naomi Streck, Rachael Lentz, Klaire Mann, Rebecca Ebert, all served 100 percent; passing — Lentz, 2.0; Whitney Newell, 2.0;

setting — Wolf, 8 assists; Chelsea Cox, 4; Lentz, 1; hitting — Cox, 8 kills; Ebert and Newell, 3 each; Lentz, 1; blocking — Cox, 1; defense — Amanda Antrim, 6 digs; Wolf, 5; Mann, 4.

## Logan

Norton defeated Logan 25-22, 25-23.

"We played well against Logan and our serving game kept their offense scrambling," said Coach Lively.

"We were able to score a lot of points off serves by Naomi Streck, Alexi Wolf and Chelsea Cox.

"I was very pleased with our communication on the court. Our

line ups were slightly different in order to allow all 11 seniors some time on the court. We did a nice job of coming back every time Logan started to get a run on us."

Due to technical difficulties, statistics were not available for this match.

Prior to the Logan match, Norton's senior players and manager were recognized. They are: Amanda Antrim, Chelsea Cox, Darci Darling, Kayla Douglas, Rebecca Ebert, Danielle LeClair, Rachael Lentz, Klaire Mann, Whitney Newell, Naomi Streck, Alexi Wolf and manager Brenda Combs.

feel challenged because our offense kept Stockton from setting up the ball.

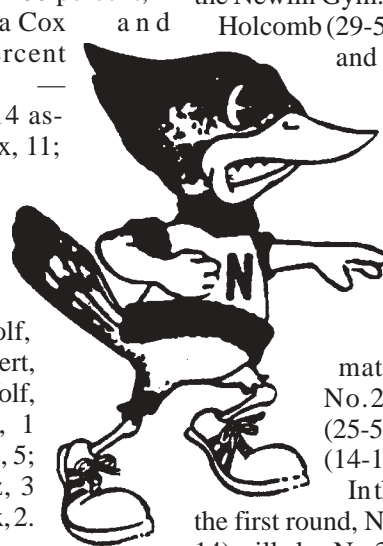
"We did allow them to put together some points in the second game but finished the match strong."

Statistics leaders for Norton were: serving — Lentz, Ebert, Amanda Antrim, 100 percent, 1 ace each; Chelsea Cox and Streck, 100 percent each; setting — Courtney Cox, 14 assists; Chelsea Cox, 11; hitting — Chelsea Cox, 11 kills; Ebert and Newell, 5 each; Nielsen and Lentz, 3 each; Wolf, 1; blocking — Ebert, 4; Chelsea Cox, Wolf, Lentz, Nielsen, 1 each; digs — Roe, 5; Ebert and Lentz, 3 each; Chelsea Cox, 2.

## Smith Center

Norton lost to Smith Center 23-25, 23-25 in the semi-finals.

"We came out second in our pool and came up against Smith Center, who had won their pool," said Coach Lively.



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