

# Northern Valley girls place second in regional basketball at Palco

## Move on to Sub-State play Friday

The Northern Valley basketball ladies have played their way into the Class 1A Sub-State Basketball Tournament in Russell, thanks to their second-place finish in the regional at Palco Feb. 25.

They gained entry into the regional championship after beating Logan 51-45 in the semi-finals on Feb. 24. In the finals, the Huskies lost to Eastern Heights, 69-36.

The bracket for the Russell sub-state has now been finalized. It looks like this:

### GIRLS

• Friday, 6 p.m. — Claflin (22-1) vs. Northern Valley (9-14), 6 p.m.

• Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Brewster (21-2) vs. Ransom-Western Plains (12-10), 7:30 p.m.

### BOYS

• Thursday, 6 p.m. — Tribune-Greeley County (18-5) vs. Sharon Springs-Wallace Co. (15-8)

• Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Claflin (16-7) vs. Kensington-West Smith Co. (18-5)

The finals will be held Saturday, with the girls' championship scheduled for tip-off at 6 p.m., with the boys to follow at 7:30 p.m.

The first place winners advance to the state showdown.

Here are the box scores for the Northern Valley games in the semi-finals and finals in the regional at Palco:

#### Semi-Finals Northern Valley 51

**Logan 45**  
**Score by quarters:**  
N. Valley 10 19 7 15 — 51  
Logan 9 10 18 8 — 45

**Individually:**  
**Northern Valley**  
(FG 2's, 3's; FTA, FTM; TP)  
Kelli Cole 4 1 6-2 13; Andrea Lowry 2 0 0-4; Serena Woodside 8 0 3-2 18; Jena Jessup 1 0 8-7 9; Jessica Largent 1 0 6-5 7. Totals: 16 1 23-16 51.

**Logan**  
Shelley Kemper 5 0 1-1 11; Bethany Clements 1 0 2-4; Anne Hartman 3 0 0-0 6; Megan Brumbaugh 2 0 5-5 9; Jenney Noel 3 1 0-0 9; Jenny Archer 0 0 4-2 2; 2 0 2-0 4. Totals: 16 1 14-10 45

#### Finals Northern Valley 36 Eastern Heights 69

**Score by quarters:**  
N. Valley 10 16 5 5 — 36  
E. Height 14 23 17 15 — 69

**Individually:**  
**Northern Valley**  
(FG 2's, 3's; FTA, FTM; TP)  
Amanda Turman 0 0 2-1 1; Kelli Cole 3 0 7-1-7; Andrea Lowry 0 0 1-0 0; Serena Woodside 5 0 9-9 19; Jena Jessup 1 1 6-4 9. Totals: 9 1 25-15 36.

**Eastern Heights**  
C. Stones 0 0 2-0 0; K. Matteson 9 4 4-3 33; Mc Berg 2 0 0-0 4; A. Ethenberger 1 0 1-0 2; A. Jones 4 0 8-6 14; M. Berg 4 0 9-8 16. Totals: 20 4 24-17 69.



Jena Jessup puts up a shot for Northern Valley in an earlier contest against Palco. — Telegram photo by Susie Marble



Joey Copper goes up against two Logan defenders to score 2 points in the game between Northern Valley and Logan in the 1A Regional Tournament opener at Logan on Monday, Feb. 20. Copper tallied 29 points in the contest. — Telegram photo by Susie Marble

# Northern Valley boys end season with loss to Kensington

The season ended for the Northern Valley boys' basketball team when they lost to Kensington 87-55 in the semi-final round of the Class 1A Regional at Palco Feb. 23.

The game was never close as Kensington had a 26-11 lead at the end of the first quarter and 44-24 lead at the break. At the end of three quarters of play, Kensington had built its lead to 72-33.

Joe Copper with 24 points was the Huskies' top point maker. For Kensington, Kuhlman tossed in 35, Bienhoff 18 and Reitzke 12.

#### Semi-Finals Northern Valley 55 Kensington 87

#### Score by quarters:

N. Valley 11 13 9 22 — 55  
Kensington 26 18 28 15 — 87

**Individually:**  
**Northern Valley**  
(FG 2's, 3's; FTA, FTM, TP)

Cody Lowry 1 1 0-0 5; Bryce Marble 1 0 0-0 3; Drew Britt 1 0 0-0 2; Cole Kinderknecht 0 2 0-0 6; Avery Thalheim 1 2 2-1 9; Joey Copper 8 0 10-8 24; Andrew Sheley 0 2 0-0 6. Totals: 11 8 12-9 55

#### Kensington

Rice 1 0 0-0 2; Irving 3 1 0-0 9; Kuhlman 14 2 1-1 35; Reitzke 6 0 1-0 12; Kuhlman 4 0 0-0 8; Teselle 1 0 0-0 2; Bienhoff 9 0 0-0 18; Bauman 0 0 2-1-1. Totals: 38 3 4-2 87.

# Blue Jay boys lose opener

#### By DICK BOYD

The season ended last night for Coach Doug Reusink's Norton Community High School boys basketball team with a disappointing 45-44 loss to Bennington in the first round of the Class 3A Sub-State Basketball Tournament.

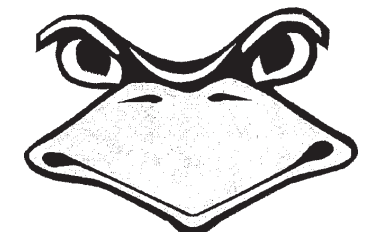
The No. 3 seeded Norton quintet hosted the No. 6 seeded Bennington squad.

It was a close game throughout and came down to who would hit the winning free throw or basket. Norton trailed 10-9 after one quarter and 18-17 at halftime. Bennington had a big third quarter and outscored Norton 19-12 to take a 37-29 lead into the final stanza.

Norton rallied in the fourth quarter and outscored the visitors 15-8 but fell two points short of a win. The score was tied at 44-all with 1:24 left in the game. Both teams had free throw attempts in the final minute and Bennington hit one to win the game. A last second basket attempt by Norton missed the mark.

The two seniors on the Norton team were high scorers. Center Heath Vincent hit 14 points and guard Nathan Morse swished 8. Chris Mann was leading scorer for Bennington with 14 points.

Norton compiled a 12-8 record this season. Bennington extended their record to 11-10 and will play in Thursday's tournament semi-finals in Beloit.



Kansas State Senator Ralph Ostmeier and Kansas Representative John Faber will be visiting local communities on Saturday, March 4, 2006 to seek your ideas on issues being addressed in the 2006 Kansas Legislature. Information will be presented from many of the issues being considered and discussion will be held on anticipated issues and their impact on all of us. Everyone is invited to attend.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 4

8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. .... St. Francis ..... DUSTY FARMER RESTAURANT  
9:14 A.M. - 10:45 A.M. .... Atwood ..... WILLIAMS BROTHERS GROCERY STORE  
11:15 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. .... Oberlin ..... COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. .... Norton ..... TOWN AND COUNTRY KITCHEN



Norton's Bruce Poage smiles in appreciation as he looks at the special award he received Tuesday evening in honor of his longtime service as the "Voice of the Blue Jays" announcer for Norton high school and junior high school sporting events.

# Norton's "Voice of the Blue Jays" is honored for years of service

#### By DICK BOYD

During a break in the basketball action between Norton and Colby here Tuesday evening, Bruce Poage, the longtime "Voice of the Blue Jays", was asked to leave his announcer's booth at courtside and walk to center court.

He was greeted by Norton Unified School District Superintendent Greg Mann who presented to him an attractive "thank you" award with his picture and autographs by many coaches and teachers.

"When Bruce Poage was hired by USD 211, one of his other duties was to be the announcer for the Norton Junior High sporting events," Norton Athletic Director Larry Mills told the crowd.

"In 1990, Mr. Mel Rice, the longtime 'Voice of the Blue Jays', retired and Bruce Poage took over as the 'Voice of the Blue Jays' for the high school

athletic events and he has also continued to announce the junior high events.

"Although Bruce had some concerns about making the jump to announcing the varsity events, after almost 600 football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling and track events, as well as an estimated 5,000 individual wrestling matches, we can all agree that Bruce did indeed have what it took to be the 'Voice of the Blue Jays'.

"Many times compliments and words of appreciation have been received for the work of Bruce Poage and what he adds to the Norton sporting events. This is because of Bruce's personal beliefs about the job of an announcer. He believes that the announcer should not be the focal point of the contest. He believes it is his job to make the visitors feel welcome, to encourage good sportsmanship and to give an unbiased report of

the action.

"According to Bruce, one of the greatest rewards he has had as the 'Voice of the Blue Jays' occurred in 2003 when, as the announcer for the basketball sub-state tournament hosted in Norton, he had the thrill of announcing that the Blue Jays were going to the state tournament.

"Bruce is retiring at the end of this school year and he and his wife, Mary, will move to Topeka to be closer to their two sons and daughter-in-laws but especially the grandchildren.

"Norton Blue Jay fans, join me in honoring and thanking Bruce Poage as he prepares to finish his last regular season contest as the 'Voice of the Blue Jays'."

Following the award, Bruce received a loud ovation from the crowd.