

# Varsity volleyball beats Trego

By DICK BOYD

Coach Chuck Zimmerman's Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team defeated Trego Community but lost to Smith Center in Senior Night Mid-Continent League matches played Tuesday evening in the Stull Gymnasium in Norton.

Lady Jay senior players honored during the evening were Maggie Nielsen, Brianna Felton, Laura Delimont and Lacey Roe. Senior manager Morgan Kauten was also honored.

## Smith Center

Norton lost 15-25, 20-25 to Smith Center

"We took on one of the league leaders and played them a tough match," said coach Zimmerman.

"We played better the second game, which is an improvement over our past outings.

"Smith Center put up one of the best middle double blocks we have seen all season. We had trouble against it in the first game and they got a few stuff blocks on us. But, in the second game, we adjusted and were able to convert some hits for points that allowed us to remain in the game.

"Our serving was at an acceptable 91 percent with Courtney Cox, Maggie Nielsen and Brianna Felton all being perfect. Cox and Thea Wiseman each had one ace. Our passing was one tenth down from our normal but, for the power

that they hit with, we did well. Courtney LeClair passed with a 2.0 rate with Lacey Roe coming off the injured list to record a rating of 1.7 along with Hayli Bozarth.

"For our setters, we were forced to use just one since Katharine Roy dived early in the match for a ball and hit her chin on the floor. It required medical treatment and she was not allowed to continue to play. This made it necessary for Courtney Cox to set all the way around and she responded well with seven assists.

"Our hitters adjusted to their blocks and hit at an 81 percent clip but we only had six kills, which is below our average. Bozarth did lead the team with three.

"The positive for this match is that we came out in the second game and played a good team tough."

## Trego

The Lady Jays defeated the Lady Golden Eagles 25-21, 25-22.

"Against Trego, we were on a mission," said coach Zimmerman. "We needed to show the home crowd that we can play with power while playing great defense. We did both and the result was a very satisfying win.

"We used 10 players in this match and all contributed magnificently in some facet of the game. Thea Wiseman served 14 of 15 with three aces and Cox and

Bozarth were perfect servers. We had great floor defense with three girls being at or over the 2.0 mark, led by Brianna Felton with a 2.1. Ashli Hageman demonstrated great hustle saves by diving to save a teammate's pass that she sent over the net just inside the antenna.

"Because of good passing, Courtney Cox was able to keep the Trego defense guessing where the ball was going to be set. As a result, their blockers were not ready for our 22 kills, of which Cox received 20 assists.

"Our kills leaders were Maggie Nielsen with seven, followed closely by Hayli Bozarth and Lacy Keilig with five each. Our team hit for a high percentage, as we connected on 86 percent, of which 34 percent were kills, a very high percent for the kills stat.

"It was a very satisfying win on our home court in front of the many great fans who came out to honor our seniors for their last season.

"We hope everyone enjoyed the matches. You saw what we can do as a team. Now, we must continue to do this every time out for the rest of the season."

Norton will compete Saturday in the Scott City Tournament, which begins at 9 a.m.

Competing teams, in addition to Norton and Scott City, will be Holcomb, Oakley, Colby, Leoti and Dodge City.



The Lady Jays' Hayli Bozarth spikes the ball for a point over two Lady Redmen trying for a block during Norton's match with Smith Center here on Tuesday evening. Also pictured for Norton is Lacy Keilig, No. 36. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton's Lacey Roe, center, digs the volleyball following a Smith Center serve during the match with the Lady Redmen here on Tuesday evening. Also pictured is Hayli Bozarth, No. 20. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Volleyball struggles at Oberlin

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team competed in the Round Robin Tournament in Oberlin on Saturday.

"Overall, we showed signs of being a good team, as we have all year," said Norton coach Chuck Zimmerman. "But, we are still not able to sustain that 'good' play for an entire match."

## Oberlin

Norton started with state ranked Oberlin and lost 8-25, 20-25.

"Oberlin lived up to their ranking in the first game," said coach Zimmerman. "They relaxed in the second game, although we did play better and gave them a scare.

"Our serving was good as we served 97 percent with only one

miss.

"Our team passing was as it has been. Brianna Felton was asked to step into the defensive libero position instead of her normal hitting position due to a team member's injury. She did a very good job all day long. Our team graded at 1.7 with Felton leading the way with a 1.9.

"Our setters did well in delivering the passes but our hitters were not as accurate as they have been as they got only 76 percent of them in with only 9 kills."

## Atwood

Norton lost to Atwood 25-18, 21-25, 20-25.

"Against Atwood, we started out well in all categories, which led to our winning the first game," said coach Zimmerman.

Total statistics for the game were 91 percent serving, 1.8 passing, 22 assists for the setters, 24 kills for the hitters and 5 blocks.

"We had a very good stat line, one that wins matches," said coach Zimmerman.

"But, in the second and third games, we relaxed and our stats went down from the great start we had and Atwood came back to win in three."

## St. Francis

The Lady Jays were defeated by St. Francis 21-25, 25-20, 15-25.

"After losing in the first game, our girls fought their way back in the second and won 25-20," said coach Zimmerman.

"We had good solid play and the momentum was on our side. But, we missed serves to kill rallies and, basically, just missed some great opportunities to win the third game."

Team statistics were: 89 percent serving, 1.8 passing, 14 assists by setters and 20 kills with 2 blocks by frontline players.

## Hoxie

Norton lost to Hoxie 19-25, 27-25, 20-25.

"We finished the day with Hoxie," said coach Zimmerman. "After losing the first game, we played a great second game and won. It was great because we were way behind and fought our way back to win. This is the mark of a good team.

"In the third game, we fought hard but again made untimely mistakes that cost us the match."

Team statistics were: 94 percent serving, 1.5 passing, 14 assists with 14 kills and 4 blocks.



The Lady Jays' Tabitha Vincent served during one of her matches in the Norton JV Round Robin held last Thursday. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

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Post No. 63  
Second and Fourth Monday  
Joe Ballinger, Commander

**Eagles Lodge**  
FOE 3288  
Second and Fourth  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.  
Dennis Gilhousen, President  
Bill Nelson, Secretary

**Sons of the American Legion**  
Fourth Monday  
7:30 p.m.  
James Railsback, Commander  
Alan Hale, Adjutant

**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
Reg. 7:00 p.m.  
First Mon. of each month  
Gary Bruinekool, Commander  
Joe Ballinger, Quartermaster

**I.O.O.F.**  
No. 157  
108 South Kansas, Norton  
Thursday-7:30 p.m.  
Fun Night—Last Thursday  
of each month  
Scott Collins, Noble Grand  
Bill Cochran, Secretary

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