

# Norton 1-0 in district after Beloit victory

By **DICK BOYD**

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Coach Lucas Melvin's Norton Community High School football team traveled to Beloit for their first District game of the 2007 season on Friday evening and returned with an impressive 32-14 win over the Trojans.

Norton's only losses have been to Smith Center and by one point to Ellis, and Beloit had lost only to unbeaten Sacred Heart in overtime. But, when District play begins, everyone starts with a clean slate regardless of results in the first six games.

The Norton offense effectively mixed passing with running and the aggressive Blue Jay defense limited the Trojans' high-powered offense while recovering two fumbles and intercepting two passes.

Beloit's junior running back Cas Spangler entered the game as the leading rusher in all classes in the *Salina Journal* circulation area with 1,551 yards on 101 carries for a 15.3 yard average and 23 touchdowns. The gang-tackling Norton defense limited the Beloit speedster, who was averaging 259 yards per game, to 118 yards on 22 carries for a 5.4 yard average and kept him out of the end zone.

Norton gained 215 rushing yards and 142 passing for 357 yards of total offense. Beloit had 322 yards rushing and minus 3 passing for 319 total. The Trojans gained 179 of their 322 yards rushing on three plays, one 64 yard run by Spangler and a 75 yard and 40 yard run by senior back Jase Sporleder. Otherwise, Beloit gained an average of just 3.5 yards per carry from their double wing offense.

Norton senior quarterback Logan Kats ran for two touchdowns and passed for one. Kats completed 10 of 15 for 70 percent and 142 yards with no interceptions.

Freshman running back Terrell Lane carried the ball 24 times for 93 yards and senior tailback Todd Bolt had 65 yards on 14 attempts.

After a scoreless first quarter, Norton tallied with six minutes left in the second period on a 6 yard pass from Kats to senior wider receiver Travis Ray. On the first play from scrimmage after the kickoff, Sporleder got loose for a 75 yard touchdown run for the Trojans to tie the score at 6-6.

On Beloit's next possession, Bolt intercepted a Beloit pass on the Norton 33 and the Blue Jays drove 67 yards to score. Kats ran in from 2 yards out, making the score 12-6 at half-time.

After an exchange of possessions in the third quarter, Norton put together a 45 yard drive in 7 plays to tally again. This time Kats ran 1 yard to extend the Norton lead to 18-6. On Beloit's next possession, Lane intercepted a Trojan pass as the third quarter came to an end.

The Jays had to punt to Beloit but they fumbled and Lane recovered on the Norton 34. The Jays drove downfield for another touchdown, which was made when Ashton Draper recovered a fumble in the end zone. Kyle Edgett's extra point kick put the Blue Jays on top 25-6.

On the kickoff, Lane recovered another Beloit fumble on the Trojan 33. The Blue Jays hit paydirt again, this time on a 17 yard run by junior fullback Matt Stanley. Edgett's extra point kick extended the lead to 32-6.

After the kickoff, Spangler got loose on his only long run of the night. He scampered 64 yards to the Norton 7 and senior quarterback Cole Kruse scored on a keeper. Sporleder scored two extra points to make the final 32-14.

"We played really hard," said Melvin. "We practiced well all week and played like we practiced. Our offensive and defensive lines did a tremendous job. We had just three breakdowns on defense. You can't make mistakes against a good team like Beloit or they turn into big plays."

"Offensively, we had some long, time consuming drives that helped us and our passing game worked well."

"Our players wanted to prove they could beat a good team and really stepped it up tonight. I also want to give credit to our reserves for giving us great looks in practice."

In addition to Bolt and Lane's rushing yardage, Stanley gained 39 yards on 7 carries and Kats gained 24 on 11 attempts. Kats had six different pass receivers. They were: Wes Georgeson, 3 for 29 yards; Travis Ray, 2 for 22; Todd Bolt, 2 for 41; Zac Dreher, 1 for 24; Jared Cox, 1 for 9 and Zane Perez, 1 for 15.

Bolt punted 4 times for a 33 yard average and J.D. Gall kicked off 6 times for a 28.3 yard average.

Starting on offense for Norton were: Robert Derauf, Nish Millan, tackles; Kyle Edgett, Brock Lauer, guards; Preston Herman, center; Jared Cox, tight end; Wes Georgeson, Travis Ray, wide receivers; Logan Kats, quarterback; Todd Bolt, tailback; Matt Stanley, fullback.

Blue Jay defensive starters were: John Van Doren, Zach Mannel, tackles; Herman, Lauer, ends; Stanley, Zac Dreher, Terrell Lane, linebackers; Kats, Bolt, Ray, Zane Perez, defensive backs.

Leading tacklers for Norton were Todd Bolt with 7 solos, 3 assists, 10 total, Zac Dreher with 6 solos, 4 assists for 10 total and Terrell Lane with 6 solos, 3 assists for 9 total. They were followed by Logan Kats, 8 total; Travis Ray, 7; Matt Stanley, 6; Preston Herman, 5; Jeremy Sproul, 4; Brock Lauer, 3; Zach Mannel, John Van Doren, 2 each; Jared Cox, Kyle Edgett, Brad Nuzum, Alex Thomas, 1 each.

## First quarter

Beloit had a good drive on their opening possession with Spangler making most of the yardage and Bolt and Dreher standing out on defense. Beloit reached the Norton 22 yard line but, on fourth and 5, Norton's Herman came charging in to tackle quarterback Cole Kruse for a loss on the 25 and Norton took over.

Bolt gained 9 yards on 2 rushes and Stanley got a first down on the Norton 35. After a Bolt run for 2 and 2 incomplete passes, Bolt punted to the Beloit 28. With Ray and Lane making tackles, Norton forced the Trojans to go into punt formation. Georgeson blocked the punt, giving the Blue Jays a first down on the Trojan 36.

Kats ran a keeper for 2 then threw a flat pass to Georgeson for a first down on the 24. Lane ran for 12 yards on 3 carries to the 12. Bolt lost a yard, Kats ran the keeper to the 10 and Bolt ran up the middle to the 5 as the scoreless first quarter came to a close.

## Second quarter

A flat pass to Bolt got nothing and Beloit regained possession. Beloit got one first down but tackles by Bolt, Lane, Herman and Dreher forced them to punt.

Bolt received the punt on the Norton 48 and ran to the Beloit 32 on first down. Lane bulled to the 28 and Kats passed to Ray in the flat for a first down on the 15. Lane gained 1, then Stanley drove to the 9. Kats was sacked on the 11 but, on fourth down, he arched a high pass to Ray who made a perfect over-the-head catch in the corner of the end zone! Lane just missed scoring 2 extra points so Norton led 6-0 with 6:00 left.

Gall kicked off and Stanley made the tackle on the 25. On first down, Sporleder got loose and followed his downfield blocking for a 75 yard touchdown. A run for 2 extra points was no good, making it a 6-6 game.

After the kickoff to the Norton 22, Bolt lost 5 yards, Kats passed to Georgeson on the 29 and Stanley ran to the 31. Bolt punted out of bounds on the Beloit 33.

Bolt and Kats tackled Sporleder after 5 yards but the Trojans got a first down on the Beloit 49 after an 11 yard run by Kruse. Lauer and Lane tackled Kruse for no gain, then Stanley stopped Spangler for no gain. Kruse went to the air and Bolt intercepted on the Norton 33 with 2 minutes left in the half.

Bolt churned up the middle for 9 yards, a pass was incomplete and Kats sneaked for a first down on the Norton 45. Kats completed a 10 yard pass to Georgeson but Norton was penalized back to the Norton 40 for an ineligible receiver down field. Lane picked up 11 yards on 2 carries before Kats connected with Bolt on a pass to the Beloit 9. Lane drove to the 2 on 2 carries and Kats ran a keeper for the touchdown with just 5 seconds left in the half. Bolt's try for two extra points was stopped and

Norton led 12-6 at half-time.

## Third quarter

Lane had a good return of the kickoff to the Norton 48 but Bolt and Stanley each gained just 2 yards and a Kats pass was incomplete. Bolt punted and Sporleder caught the ball on his 15 where Lane tackled him in his tracks!

With Sporleder carrying most of the time, Beloit got a first down on the 27 and another on the 37 by inches. Tackles were by Lauer, Bolt, Kats, Lane and Herman. In three downs, Beloit reached the 45 but a fourth down try by Spangler was stopped short by a whole host of Blue Jay tacklers!

Bolt gained 6, Lane 1 and then Lane earned a first down on the Trojan 35. Stanley churned ahead for 6 and Kats passed to Dreher, who scampered for a first down on the 4 yard line. Bolt plunged to the 1 and Kats ran a keeper for Norton's third touchdown. Lane was stopped short on his try for two extra points but Norton led 18-6.

With Spangler getting most of the carries and Lauer, Dreher, Lane, Herman, Ray and Gall making tackles, Beloit moved to their 49 before Lane intercepted a Kruse pass on the Norton 39. Norton was unable to move the ball as the quarter ended with the Jays on top 18-6.

## Fourth quarter

Bolt punted to the Beloit 29. Sporleder got loose for a first down on the Norton 31 but, the next play, Beloit fumbled and Lane recovered on the 34. Lane gained 5 yards on 2 carries and Kats ran a keeper for 4 more yards. On fourth down, Kats followed his offensive line on a sneak for a first down on the Norton 48.

Lane gained nothing, Stanley ran for 5, then Bolt got a first down on the 37. Lane gained 4 on 2 carries but Kats gained nothing. On fourth down, the Blue Jays faked a punt and Kats passed to Zane Perez for a first down on the 20.

Lane gained nothing but a flat pass to Georgeson gained to the 12. Lane earned a first down on the 8. Next down, Bolt fumbled the ball into the end zone where Ashton Draper fell on the ball for a touchdown! Edgett kicked the extra point, extending the Blue Jay lead to 25-6.

Gall kicked off, Beloit fumbled and Lane recovered on the Beloit 33. Lane gained 7 yards on 3 carries, then Jared Cox made a diving catch of a Kats pass for a first down on the 17. Stanley got the call, ran up the middle and avoided several would-be tacklers as he scampered into the end zone!

Edgett split the uprights for an extra point, making it 32-6 with just over two minutes left in the game. Beloit took over on their 39 after Gall's kickoff and Spangler got his only long run of the contest when he scampered to the Norton 7. After an incomplete pass, Brad Nuzum and Herman tackled Spangler for a 3 yard loss but Kruse ran a keeper on the next down to score Beloit's final touchdown. Sporleder ran for 2 extra points, making the score 32-14.

After the kickoff, Norton was penalized back to the 14 but Lane ran for a first down on the Norton 45 as time ran out with the Blue Jays earning a hard-fought 32-14 District victory.

## Next action

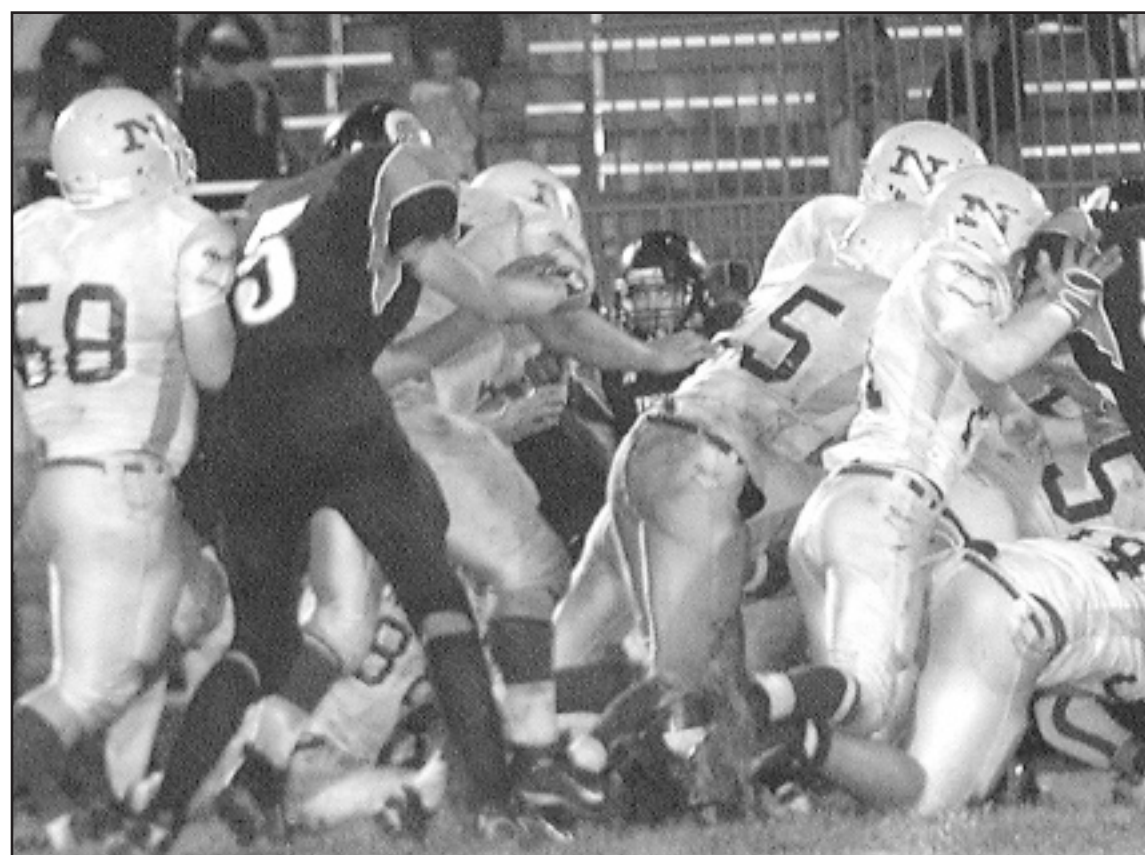
Norton will travel to Phillipsburg on Friday for their next District contest. Kickoff will be at 7 p.m.

The Panthers are also 1-0 in District play after defeating Oberlin 40-7 on Friday.

Against the Red Devils, senior running back Brett McClain scored touchdowns on runs of 60 and 57 yards. Trevor Smith tallied on a 66 yard punt return and 5 yard run. Senior quarterback Ryan Swatzell scored on an 8 yard run and passed 47 yards to senior split end Chris Schneider for another touchdown.

## GAME STATISTICS

Norton	Beloit
16 First Downs	11
215 Yards Rushing	322
142 Yards Passing	Minus 3
357 Total Offense	319
10-15-0 Passes Completed	1-6-2
0-1 Fumbles Lost	2-2
4-26 Penalties	1-10
4-33 Punts	2-21.5



The Norton linemen were tough in the trenches during Friday's 32-14 district victory at Beloit. They drove the Trojan defensive players back to allow senior quarterback Logan Kats to get a crucial first down on a fourth down play and keep a drive going. Pictured from left are John Van Doren (#58), Kyle Edgett (#65), Jared Cox, Preston Herman (#55), and Robert Derauf (#54). Kats was churning forward somewhere inside the pile. -Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Logan volleyball wins it all

For the Logan Trojan volleyball ladies, and their fans, Saturday was a day of wins, big wins in the Cheyenne Conference Tournament at Agra, which was won by the Trojans!

Coach Robin Van Laeys summed up the day this way:

"This was a great Saturday for Logan High School volleyball. We played with a great deal of consistency and confidence. We talked about being able to be intense, yet relaxed on the floor, and I think the girls came very close to accomplishing this difficult task."

"I believe the 5 matches at Mankato last weekend created more growth in our team than we realized at the time. This week we had everyone contributing at different crucial times and for the most part, everyone did an excellent job in their individual role."

"This creates a great team effort with things flowing how we wanted them to. I am very proud of the entire team."

**Pool Play vs. Eastern Heights:**  
**Won 25-7, 25-17**

**Team Stats:**  
 Serves, 42/48, 16A, 87.5 percent, vs. Eastern Heights 18/24,

1A, 75 percent. Attacks, 25/29, 14K; sets, 33/34, 11A; serve receives, 85 percent; blocks 4; dinks, 5/6, 2K.

**Individually:**  
 Serves, Anna Zillinger, 8/8, 1A; attacks, Shelley Kemper, 10/12, 6K, Carri Brobst, 2/2, 2K; sets, Shaley Van Loenen, 21/22, 7A, Zillinger, 12/12, 4A; serve receives, Jenny Archer, 6/6; blocks, Kemper, 1 solo, 2 Ast., Savannah Sammons, 2 Ast.

**Record 13-12**

**Pool play vs. Palco**  
**Won 25-19, 27-25**

**Team stats:**  
 Serves, 47/51, 7A, 92.2 percent vs. 40/45, 3A, 88.9 percent for Palco. Attacks, 35/49, 16K; sets, 52/55, 17A; serve receives, 35/40, 87.5 percent; blocks, 3; dinks, 21/25, 5K.

**Individually:**  
 Serves, Aspen, 10/10, 2A, Zillinger, 9/9, 2A; attacks, Kemper, 13/20, 9K, Shaley Van Loenen, 9/9, 3K; sets, Zillinger, 18/18, 6A, Van Loenen, 30/30, 10A; serve receives, Larson, 9/10, Kemper, 8/9; blocks, Autumn Tien, 2 Ast., Kemper, 1 solo, 1 Ast.

**Record: 14-12**

**Semifinals vs. Northern Valley**

**Team stats:**  
 Serves, 46/50, 9A, 92 percent vs. Northern Valley's 33/35, 5A, 94.3 percent. Attacks, 49/54, 19K; sets, 53/55, 17A; serve receives, 26/33, 78.8 percent; blocks, 3; dinks, 9/12, 1K.

**Individually:**  
 Van Loenen, 9/9, 1A; attacks, Kemper, 15/16, 9K, Tien, 8/9, 4K; sets, Van Loenen, 26/27, 12A; serve receives, Kemper, 13/13; dinks, Zillinger, 1/1, 1K.

**Record: 15-12**

**Championship vs. Palco**  
**Won 25-16, 25-21**

**Team stats:**  
 Serves, 44/48, 6A, 91.7 percent vs. Palco's 36/38, 3A, 94.7 percent. Attacks, 36/42, 13K; sets, 46/48, 13A; serve receives, 28/36, 77.8 percent; blocks, 3; dinks, 13/14, 3K.

**Individually:**  
 Serves, Zillinger, 17/18, 3A, Kemper, 9/10, 2A; attacks, Kemper, 14/15, 10K; sets, Van Loenen, 20/20, 8A; serve receives, Kathryn Hartman, 10/11, Archer, 6/7; blocks, Archer, 2 Ast., Kemper, 2 Ast.; dinks, Zillinger, 1/1, 1K.

**Record: 16-12 -td**

# Jayvee Jays end season in big way

By **DICK BOYD**

The Norton Community High School junior varsity football team scored on the opening play en route to a 40-0 win over Stockton on Monday, October 8 in Stockton.

The win completed an outstanding 5-1 season for the Norton reserves.

Quarterback Connor Pfannenstiel passed to fullback J.D. Gall for a 60 yard touchdown to open the game. Pfannenstiel passed to Ashton Draper for two extra points.

After a defensive stand, Norton added to their lead when a drive balanced with the running and passing game culminated in a 2

yard touchdown run by Gall. Tailback Zane Perez scored the extra points, giving the young Blue Jays a 16-0 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

Norton continued to play solid defense in the second quarter and added two more touchdowns. A 15 yard run by tailback Jeremy Sproul and 70 yard pass from quarterback Spencer Shirk to Landon Hamel accounted for the two scores and made it a 28-0 game at half-time.

The second half was a continuation of the first as Norton exhibited strong defensive play which gave the Blue Jays good field position. Tailback Zane Perez scored from 1 yard out on fourth and goal. Next,

the defense got in on the scoring act as Kaid McKenna recovered a fumble and returned it 16 yards for the final score of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was all Blue Jay defense as the Norton junior varsity earned their third shutout in six games, bringing home a 40-0 victory and finishing their season 5-1.

"Our effort and execution on both sides of the ball were very good," said Norton assistant coach David Stover.

"All players made positive contributions; it was a total team effort. This group made solid improvement throughout the entire junior varsity schedule."

The Norton Telegram SportsLine: (785) 877-3361, or 6908

## High School Sports This Week



FOOTBALL:	
Norton Blue Jays vs. Phillipsburg	7 p.m. Friday in Phillipsburg
Northern Valley Huskies vs. Brewster/Tripolina	7 p.m. Friday at Brewster
Logan Trojans vs. Victoria	7 p.m. Friday at Victoria
VOLLEYBALL:	
Norton Lady Jays V-JV vs. Goodland and Ulysses	3 p.m. Today in Goodland
Norton Lady Jays in Sub-State Volleyball	1 p.m. Saturday in Norton
Northern Valley Lady Huskies in Regional Tournament	3 p.m. Today in Logan
Logan Lady Trojans in Regional Tournament	3 p.m. Today in Logan
CROSS COUNTRY:	
Norton Cross Country in Regional Cross Country Meet	11 a.m. Saturday in Norton
Northern Valley Cross Country in Regional Cross Country Meet	11 a.m. Saturday in Wheatland