



Norton senior Alyssa Thomson attacked the ball during action in the Lady Jays' volleyball match with Trego on Tuesday evening. Also pictured for Norton are senior Bethany Winkel, partially hidden at left and senior Bethany Roy, right.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Seniors honored at match, Jays defeated by Smith Center and Trego squads

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls varsity volleyball team played their best of the season on "Senior Night" versus Smith Center and Trego Community on Tuesday evening in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium but it wasn't quite enough to come away with wins.

Smith Center defeated them 20-25, 16-25 and they lost to Trego 22-25, 19-25.

The nine Norton seniors were honored in a special ceremony. NCHS Principal Rudy Perez handed a flower to each senior and they in turn presented them to their parents.

Honored seniors were: Hannah Waggoner, Shelby Jones, Bethany Winkel, Raven Brown, Bethany Roy, Kendra Engelbert, Ashlie Stewart, Kaitlyn Wolf and Alyssa Thomson.

Smith Center
"We stayed in the match with the No. 5 state ranked Lady Red," said head volleyball coach Peggy

Cox. "We played very well but couldn't quite pull off the upset.

"We blocked tough with eight blocks for points but also put many hits of Smith Center's back on their side.

"In the second set, we struggled with stringing points together. In our first six rotations, we did not score more than the rally score each time. It's tough to win matches, much less sets when you can't score more than one point at a time. Despite that, we did many good things."

Individual statistics: kills - Kaitlyn Wolf, 4; Bethany Roy, 1; Alyssa Thomson, 2; Kendra Engelbert, Shelby Jones, Ashlie Stewart, Erin Terrell, 1 each; aces - Wolf, 2; Engelbert, Roy, Stewart, 1 each; digs - Thomson, 6; Roy, 5; Jones, Stewart, Wolf, 2 each; Raven Brown, Engelbert, Hannah Waggoner, 1 each; assists - Jones, 5; Bethany Winkel, 3; Engelbert, 1; blocks - Engelbert, Erin Terrell, Wolf, 2 each; Roy, Thomson, 1 each.

Trego Community

"Our match with Trego was fairly even," said coach Cox.

"The winning difference for Trego was the fact they scored three points more than we did in their first rotation.

"Again, we are struggling to put more than one point on the scoreboard every time we win serve. In our first six rotations, we did this both sets.

"While we didn't get a win, this was the best our Lady Jays have played as a team. We played until the end and didn't give up. We knew we played our best; it just wasn't quite enough."

Individual statistics: kills - Terrell, 7; Wolf, 5; Engelbert, 4; Roy, 2; Jones, Stewart, 1 each; aces - Engelbert, 3; Jones, 1; assists - Jones, 12; Engelbert, 3; Winkel, 2; Thomson, 1; blocks - Terrell, Thomson, 1 each.

Next action

The Norton varsity girls volleyball team will compete Saturday in the Scott City Invitational, beginning at 9 a.m.

Blue Jays defeat Trego

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School girls junior varsity volleyball team defeated Trego Community but lost to Smith Center on Tuesday in Norton.

The Lady Jays played Smith Center first and lost 22-25, 17-25, then they defeated Trego 25-20, 25-21.

"Tonight was a difficult night for our junior varsity team," said Norton assistant volleyball coach Christine Thompson.

"Due to the tremendous play they demonstrated at the Oberlin Tournament last Saturday, I felt our girls thought they didn't have to play as hard and disciplined to make great things happen," she said.

"The first match, they found out this was not true. After the Smith Center match, we re-evaluated

what needed to be done and our girls came out and won against Trego."

"This season has been a learning and growing experience for these girls," she said.

"They are learning that they have to be diligent on what they want to accomplish and stick with it," she said.

"They have also learned that it takes everyone to be successful and they have to help each other out. We are now 11-7 for the season."

Smith Center

Individual statistics: kills - Brianna Karnopp, 2; Caren Thomson, Sharrelle Shinn, Shaylyn Boteler, 1 each; serving aces - Kylie Nuzum, Juliana Miller, 2 each; Teslee Nickell, Shinn, Mariah Farber, 1 each; setting assists - Nickell, 6; Brooklyn Winkel, Farber, 1 each; blocks - Thomson, Bekah Streck, 1 each;

digs - Nuzum, 4; Miller, Nickell, 3 each; Boteler, 2; Streck, Shinn, Katie Gall, Winkel, 1 each.

Trego

Individual statistics: kills - Shinn, 4; Streck, 3; Boteler, Karnopp, Nickell, 2 each; Thomson, 1; serving aces - Miller, 3; Shinn, Boteler, 2 each; Nickell, Nuzum, Winkel, Farber, 1 each; setting assists - Nickell, 7; Alexis Henson, Farber, 2 each; Winkel, 1; digs - Miller, 4; Nuzum, 3; Shinn, Boteler, 2 each; Gall, Thomson, Karnopp, 1 each.

Next action

The Norton junior varsity volleyball team will play next on Tuesday vs. Golden Plains and Logan at Golden Plains.

The Norton varsity will also play Golden Plains and Logan at Golden Plains on Tuesday. Play will begin at 4 p.m.

Varsity tennis team placed fifth in annual tournament

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School girls varsity tennis team placed fifth in the annual Mid-Continent League Tournament on Saturday in WaKeeney.

Trego Community won the championship with 56 points, followed by Phillipsburg, 30; Osborne, 22; Plainville, 16; Norton, 12.

Vanessa Danesan played No. 1 singles for the Lady Jays and placed fifth. She lost to Chelsey Edwards, Phillipsburg, 8-5; lost to Jessica Collins, Plainville, 8-6; lost to Jessica Gregory, Osborne, 8-1 and lost to Rachel Newcomer, Trego, 8-1.

"Vanessa played well," said Norton head tennis coach Jim Green. "She was hitting the ball harder and with better angles."

Playing No. 1 doubles for Norton

were Allie Corbin and Meaghan Peterson and they placed third. They lost to Brooke Lawyer and Ember Ward, Phillipsburg, 8-2; won a forfeit from Plainville; defeated Ashley Oliver and Jamla Cockerham, Osborne, 8-6 and lost to Amelia Fabrizius and Leah Flax, Trego, 8-6.

"Allie and Meaghan played their best tennis of the season," said coach Green.

"Against the first place team from Trego, they were in the match to the very end and were a threat to win the match."

Katie Scott played No. 2 singles for the Lady Jays and placed fifth.

She lost to Sage Ratliff, Phillipsburg, 8-6; lost to Kendra Husmann, Plainville, 8-1; lost to Aubrey Geist, Osborne, 8-0 and lost to Jackie Albin, Trego, 8-1.

"Katie gave a strong effort in

all of her matches," said coach Green.

No. 2 doubles players for the Lady Jays were Rachel Shepard and Kyra Fulton and they placed third. They lost to Shelby Christensen and Kim Nguyen, Phillipsburg, 8-2; defeated Sara Crawford and Jade Collins, Plainville, 8-5; outscored MacKenzie Cameron and Jenna Dibble, Osborne, 8-3 and lost to Cala Nowlin and Emily Wyse, Trego, 8-2.

"Rachel and Kyra were playing together for the first time and improved their play from one match to the next," said coach Green.

"I was pleased with their third place finish."

Next action

Norton will compete in the Class 3A Regional Tournament which will be held today and Saturday in WaKeeney.

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