

# Lady Jays lose to Trego and Smith Center

By DICK BOYD

*nortontelegram@nwkansas.com*  
Coach Peggy Cox's Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team traveled to WaKeeney on Tuesday, October 5 to play Smith Center and Trego Community.

Norton lost to Smith Center 13-25, 14-15 and to Trego 21-25, 18-25.

## Smith Center

"We stayed with Smith Center for about eight rotations in both sets and then became stuck with bad passing and hitting," said coach Cox.

"We couldn't run an offense and, while we had some blocks, it wasn't enough to stop the Lady Red."

Erin Terrell was kills leader for Norton with 6, followed by Caren Thomson, 2.

Thomson and Juliana Miller each had 1 ace.

Thomson was digs leader with 8, followed by Miller, Teslee Nickell, 6 each; Terrell, 3; Kylie Nuzum, 2; Bailey Ambrosier, 1.

Nickell had 5 assists and Miller had 1.

Blocks leader was Nickell with 3, followed by Terrell, 2; Ambrosier, 1.

## Trego Community

"We went back and forth with the Lady Eagles from Trego but just couldn't quite push through to 25 points," said coach Cox. "We did a much better job of getting the ball to all of our hitters to keep the blockers guessing but even with Erin Terrell killing the ball 53 percent of the time, it was not enough to produce a win."

Terrell was kills leader again, this time with 9. She was followed by Thomson, 3; Bekah Streck, Miller, 2 each; Nickell, Ambrosier, 1 each.

Terrell also led in aces with 2

while Thomson had 1.

Digs leader was also Terrell with 7, followed by Nuzum, 6; Nickell, 5; Thomson, 3; Miller, 1.

Nickell had 14 assists and Miller had 2.

## Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity girls volleyball team lost to Smith Center but defeated Trego Community during play Tuesday, in WaKeeney.

## Smith Center

Norton lost to Smith Center 11-25, 25-20, 5-15.

Leading serving was Rachel Slipke with 100 percent and 2 aces. Also serving 100 percent were Katherine Boteler and Kayleigh Norwood. Alec Melvin contributed 2 aces and Mariah Farber had 1. The team served 86 percent with 5 aces.

Leading passer was Norwood with one error. Johnnye Ruder had 4 assists in the setting department,

allowing Boteler and Norwood 2 kills apiece.

Defensively, Melvin and Norwood blocked well while Farber dug up 3 balls in the backcourt. Norwood also had 3 digs, Melvin 2, Boteler and Ruder 1 each.

"Mental mistakes were a huge part of the loss," said Norton assistant coach Jill Lively. "Our girls knew that Smith Center serves very hard and we would need to pass well. We just simply didn't have the desire in the beginning."

"I was pleased with the comeback in the second game but we just couldn't stay focused for more than one game at a time. Smith Center has a very good junior varsity team that uses a lot of juniors and a few sophomores. I think we allowed them to intimidate us."

## Trego Community

Immediately following the loss to Smith Center, Norton lost to Trego in the first game but became

very focused and aggressive to come back and win the match!

Again, serving 100 percent was Slipke. Melvin really set Trego back on their heels with 4 aces, Farber and Boteler had 3 aces each and Ruder had 1.

Leading passer for Norton was Farber with 9 good passes and 2 errors. Ruder gave 7 assists to the hitters, which helped the team gain 9 kills. Norwood had 3 kills, Boteler and Slipke 2 each and Melvin and Ruder 1 each.

The back row had some great digs to keep rallies going. Farber led with 5, Melvin had 3, Slipke, Norwood and Ruder had 1 each.

"When a team can serve and pass with confidence, it opens the door wide for all kinds of success," said coach Lively.

"Our girls communicated very well, considering the noise level in the gym. After coming back to win the second game, I challenged the

team to prove to me that they could stay focused and win two games in a row. They did exactly that!

"Every time I told them where to go or what to fix, they did it immediately and that takes a lot of focus. I was very proud of our effort in the Trego match."

## Next action

Next action for the Norton varsity volleyball team will be Saturday in the Scott City Invitational, beginning at 9 a.m.

Norton will be in Pool A with Scott City, Holcomb and Leoti.

The Lady Jays' first match will be versus Holcomb. It will be the second match of the day and will be in the High School. Norton will then play Scott City in the third match and Leoti in the sixth match.

The Norton varsity and junior varsity will play Tuesday versus Logan and Golden Plains in Logan, beginning at 4 p.m.

# Norton attends Decatur invitational

By DICK BOYD

*nortontelegram@nwkansas.com*

The Norton Community High School girls varsity volleyball team competed in the Decatur Invitational on Saturday in Oberlin.

Coach Peggy Cox's Lady Jays played St. Francis first and lost 11-25, 15-25; played Oberlin next and lost 11-25, 20-25; then played Atwood and lost 12-25, 20-25 and finally played Hoxie and lost 10-25, 12-25.

## St. Francis

"In the match against the Lady Indians, we started slowly and never gained momentum," said coach Cox. "With poor serving and passing, we couldn't string points together."

"We continued to make mistakes that made it impossible for us to dig ourselves out of a hole."

Kills leader for Norton was Erin Terrell with 4, followed by Bailey

Ambrosier, 3; Juliana Miller, 2; Caren Thomson, Teslee Nickell, 1 each.

Terrell and Miller each had 1 ace.

Kylie Nuzum was digs leader with 5, followed by Terrell, 4; Thomson, Nickell, 3 each; Miller, 2; Bekah Streck, Ambrosier, 1 each.

Nickell had 9 assists.

## Oberlin

"We improved our play against the Lady Devils while not winning the match," said coach Cox. "We were able to get the ball up to our setter with better passing which enabled our hitters to get more sets."

"We played the entire match to the end and the close score in the second set showed the results."

Terrell led in kills again with 4, followed by Thomson, Miller, 2 each; Nickell, 1.

Streck had 1 ace.

Digs leader was Terrell with 8,

followed by Nuzum, 7; Thomson, 6; Streck, Miller, Nickell, 2 each.

Nickell had 4 assists; Thomson and Miller had 1 each.

Streck, Thomson and Ambrosier each had 1 block.

## Atwood

"The final meeting between Atwood and Norton did not end with a win for our Lady Blue Jays," said coach Cox.

"We passed and served at a high rate but just were not strong enough to stop their hitters. When we were on offense, we just couldn't convert the majority of our hits into kills."

Terrell led in kills with 6, followed by Miller, 3; Streck, 2; Ambrosier, 1.

Digs leaders were Terrell and Thomson with 7 each, followed by Miller, 5; Nuzum, Nickell, 2 each; Ambrosier, 1.

Nickell had 10 assists.

Streck had 2 blocks and Nickell

and Ambrosier had 1 each.

## Hoxie

"We came out flat against Hoxie and stayed that way," said coach Cox.

"While some individuals did well in different areas, as a whole, we just couldn't put together a strong offense and defense."

"We weren't playing to win and, against a team like Hoxie, you can't do that and expect to win."

Terrell was kills leader with 3, followed by Thomson, Miller, Ambrosier, 1 each.

Nuzum and Nickell each had 2 aces.

Digs leader was Terrell with 4, followed by Nickell, 3; Miller, 2; Nuzum, 1.

Nickell was assists leader with 2 and Miller had 1.

## Next action

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

# Tennis team places fourth at Colby

By DICK BOYD

*nortontelegram@nwkansas.com*

The Norton Community High School varsity girls tennis team placed fourth, just three points out of first, in the Colby Invitational Tournament on Tuesday, September 28.

Winning the championship was Tribune with 19 points, followed by Phillipsburg and Trego, tied for second with 18; Norton with 16; Colby, 11; Scott City, 8.

## No.1 singles

Norton sophomore Tawni Griffey remained unbeaten for the season with a championship performance in No.1 singles.

She drew a first round bye, then shutout Jackie Albin, Trego, 6-0. In the finals, she also shutout Caitlyn Wark, Colby, 6-0.

"Tawni had another great tournament," said Norton head tennis coach Jim Green.

"In the finals, Tawni played against Colby's outstanding singles player, Caitlyn Wark. It was another exciting match. Both girls were hitting the ball extremely hard and all of the games were very close. It was a great match to watch."

"Tawni is so mentally tough and closed out the set 6-0."

## No.1 doubles

Lady Jay seniors Meaghan Peterson and Rachel Shepard placed sixth at No.1 doubles.

They lost their first match to Phillipsburg's Shelbie Christensen and Brooke Lawyer, 6-4; lost in the loser's bracket to Alyssa Scheuerman and Shannon Blair, Scott City, 6-2 and lost to Megan Dougherty and Lauren Shoaff, Colby, 6-5(7-2).

"Rachel Shepard and Meaghan Peterson had a tough tournament," said coach Green. "Seeded fourth, they lost in the first round to a strong Phillipsburg team. The second round found them up against the No.2 seed from Scott City, another strong team."

"Things were looking up in the fifth place match with Colby when our girls jumped out in the lead

and held a 4-2 advantage. They continued to hold the lead at 5-4 and then lost the next game to go 5-5 and into a tiebreaker.

"In the tiebreaker, Rachel and Meaghan jumped out to a 2-0 lead and then lost the next seven points and the match."

## No.2 singles

Norton senior Morgan Baumann placed runner-up in No.2 singles.

After drawing a bye, she outscored Kely Crittenden, Tribune, 6-4, then lost to Emily Wyse, Trego, 6-3.

"Morgan Baumann received a bye as the No.1 seed," said coach Green. "She then advanced to play the Tribune girl and won the last four games to reach the finals."

"In the finals, Morgan was up against Emily Wyse, Trego. It started out 1-1 and then Morgan dropped behind and just couldn't catch up. Second place was an outstanding finish."

## No.2 doubles

Lady Jay seniors Kyra Fulton and Nikki McVey were seeded third and placed third in No.2 doubles.

They defeated Scott City's Brittany Berry and Emily Reed, 6-4; lost to Megan Reding and Kelli Crittenden, Tribune, 6-1; outscored Madison Gawith and Paige Roopchan, Colby, 6-2 and outpointed Brittany Berry and Emily Reed, Scott City, 6-2, in their second meeting of the day.

"Kyra Fulton and Nikki McVey started with a close match with Scott City which they won 6-4," said coach Green. "They advanced to play the No.2 seed Tribune and lost 6-1."

"Then, our girls got on a roll, defeating Colby 6-2. In the match for third place, they found themselves against the Scott City team they had played in the first round. This time the match was a lot different as Kyra and Nikki put together an easy 6-2 win."

"They had a great tournament. Seeded third, they were able to win the matches needed to finish in third place as predicted."

# JV football beat Phillipsburg

By DICK BOYD

*nortontelegram@nwkansas.com*

The Norton Community High School junior varsity football team defeated Phillipsburg 20-6 in a game played in Norton on Monday.

Norton took an 8-0 lead in the first quarter on an 8 yard touchdown run by running back Tye Nickell and successful run by Nickell for two extra points.

There was no scoring in the second quarter, leaving the score at 8-0 at halftime.

Norton extended their lead in the third quarter on a 27 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Dalton Miller to wide receiver Jordan Wahlmeier. The try for two extra points failed, leaving the score at 14-0.

Quarterback Miller sneaked into the end zone from 2 yards out in the fourth quarter for Norton's

final touchdown. Again, the two point conversion attempt was no good, extending the Blue Jay lead to 20-0.

Phillipsburg scored their only touchdown in the fourth period but the two point conversion was no good, making the final 20-6 in favor of the young Blue Jays.

"Overall, our junior varsity played well," said Norton assistant coach Jeremy Hawks.

"The offensive line opened up some big holes for Tye Nickell and Jacob Brooks."

"The defense played well all night long, keeping them out of the end zone all night, except for late in the fourth quarter."

## Next action

The Norton junior varsity football team will travel to Smith Center on Monday, October 11 to play the junior varsity Redmen.

Kickoff will be at 6 p.m.

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# Local broadcaster inducted into the Hall of Fame

Tad Felts, longtime radio broadcaster has been selected for induction into the Kansas Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremonies will be on October 17 in Wichita.

Felts started his radio career in Garden City as a sophomore in high school in 1948. He attended Fort Hays State University in 1951. While a student, he worked for KAYS in Hays.

He moved to Goodland and KLOE in 1964, then came to Phillipsburg in 1968. He spent two years in Idaho until returning to Phillipsburg in 1972. He has worked at KKAN and KQMA since then.

Felts is the news and sports director for the two Phillipsburg stations and is involved year round in coverage of events and sports in northcentral Kansas. In

addition to reporting on many high school sporting events, he covers harvest, county fairs, parades, etc. He conducts a yearly visit for students from area high schools to New York City and Washington, D.C.

Other statewide awards include three Sports Broadcaster of the Year Awards, awards for Kansas Association of Broadcasters and Associated Press news coverage, the Elmer "Carp" Carpenter award from the Kansas High School Athletic Directors and two other citations from the Kansas Association of Broadcasters. The Hod Humiston Award is for outstanding contributions to Kansas sports broadcasting and the Sonny Slater Award for contributing years of service to his community and his industry.

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