

# Blue Jay Booster honored

By **DICK BOYD**  
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Melodie Bock has been named the 19th recipient of the prestigious "Blue Jay Booster of the Year" award, presented annually by the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club.



Melodie received the plaque for the honor between the Norton-Hill City boys basketball game last Friday in the NCHS Stull Gym.

She received a loud round of applause as the award was presented to her on behalf of the Blue Jay Booster Club by Norton Activities Director Jeff Wallingford.

"This award is given annually to a person in our community who supports the Norton Community High School programs and activities in a positive way," said current "Voice of the Blue Jays" announcer Eric Farber over the public address system.

"This is Melodie's first year at Norton Community High School. She teaches biology, anatomy and physiology. Although a newcomer to Blue Jay country, Melodie has been spotted enthusiastically supporting her student athletes all over the state.

"From cheering for our junior varsity football team at St. Francis to running around encouraging the cross country teams in the State Meet in Wamego, Melodie can be seen at all levels of sporting events.

"Not only does Melodie cheer

Melodie Bock, the 19th recipient of the prestigious "Blue Jay Booster of the Year" award, proudly holds up the plaque she received for the honor during halftime of the Norton-Hill City boys basketball game last Friday night in the NCHS Stull Gym. Melodie goes "all out" to support the Norton students in athletics and other activities.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

on the student athletes but she has also made and posted 'Good Luck' signs along the highway route to away games.

"Her support of NCHS students also extends beyond athletics to

those involved in band, vocal, forensics, etc.

"Thank you, Melodie, for your enthusiastic support of all our students and programs. Your incredible dedication has not gone

unnoticed. You are very deserving of our 'Booster of the Year' Award!"

A native of Cawker City, Melodie is a graduate of Fort Hays State University and Victory Bible Institute, Tulsa, Okla.

"I try to support our students in all that they do because I feel that shows them I care about them as individuals," said Melodie.

"During athletics and other school activities, it's nice to meet the families.

"I know how important it is to support our young people and I'm proud to do that. So many community people support our young women and men and it's nice to be one of them.

"We had good community boosters when I was growing up in Cawker City and I know how important it is."

### Background of award

The annual award by the Blue Jay Booster Club is made possible by a memorial in honor of the late Tommy Davison, who was considered to be the ultimate Norton Blue Jay sports booster.

The award is based upon nominations by the booster club members of persons who have gone above and beyond as a fan of Norton sports.

Melodie's name will be engraved along with the names of previous winners on the plaque in the NCHS Stull Gym.

# Oberlin games cancelled due to weather this week

The girls and boys high school basketball games scheduled in Oberlin on Tuesday were not played due to inclement weather. The games will not be rescheduled.

Next action for the Norton girls and boys basketball teams will be tonight in Atwood, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

# Lady Huskies lose to Thunder Ridge

**Northern Valley Lady Husky Basketball vs. Thunder Ridge II**  
 Thunder Ridge came to Alma and showed why they are ranked in the state with an aggressive defense that we could not handle and as a result we ended up being defeated 58-17.

Our deflats leader was Staci Dole with 3 while Amber Kinderknecht and Erika Chandler each touched 2.

Steals were taken by the same three as they each had 2.

Assists were few as the score would indicate. Dole found 2 teammates open for scores while Amber K located 1.

Rebounds were hauled in by Dole with 8, Ashley Constable with 7 and Kenzie Chandler with 5.

|                    | 3pt | 2pt | Ft | Reb | St | As,t | Def |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|------|-----|
| Ashley Constable   | 0   | 0   | 0  | 7   | 1  | 0    | 1   |
| Kenzie Chandler    | 0   | 2   | 0  | 5   | 1  | 0    | 1   |
| Staci Dole         | 0   | 3   | 2  | 8   | 2  | 2    | 3   |
| Amber Kinderknecht | 0   | 1   | 1  | 0   | 2  | 1    | 2   |
| Erika Chandler     | 0   | 0   | 0  | 2   | 2  | 0    | 2   |
| DaKota Hilburn     | 0   | 0   | 0  | 1   | 0  | 0    | 0   |
| Brittney Shutte    | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0   |
| McKinsey Evans     | 0   | 1   | 0  | 1   | 0  | 0    | 0   |

## Proud of the Huskies!



Northern Valley senior, Colton Lowry slides past a Thunder Ridge player as he attempts a basket during last Friday's game.

—Courtesy photo.

# Huskies win a close game

By **DANA PAXTON**  
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Last Friday the Northern Valley boys basketball team took on Thunder Ridge and won 35-30.

In the first quarter, the Huskies scored nine points. Bryant Tharman hit a two pointer and one free throw followed by Colton Lowry, Austin Herman and Dusty Eagleburger each scoring two. Thunder Ridge put three on the board, two by Rahjes and one free throw made by Larson. This put the Huskies in the lead 9-3.

During the second quarter, Lowry sank a three point shot followed by Eagleburger with a two pointer and Phillip Compton with two of three free throws. Thunder Ridge outscored the Huskies in this quarter. Rankes had a two pointer and two free throws followed by Horn and Struckhoff

each making two. The first half ended with Northern Valley leading 16-11.

The third quarter kept the Huskies in the lead when Eagleburger hit a three point shot followed by Herman and Compton each making their two point shots. Thunder Ridge outscored the Huskies in the quarter with Horn making a two point basket and two free throws followed by Rahjes, Horn and Struckhoff each adding two to the tally. The quarter ended with the score of 23-21.

In the final quarter of play the Huskies held on to their lead. Eagleburger made both of his free throws and made one basket for two followed by Tyler Montgomery and Tharman each making a two point shot. Gunnar Hays and Herman each added two more points by making their free

throws. Thunder Ridge made nine points, two, 2 pointers by Horn, a three pointer by Krueger and two more by Rahjes. The game ended with the Huskies winning 35-30.

Husky head coach Chuck Fessenden said, "We played a great defensive game! We struggled on offense and had to play without Austin Herman most of the second quarter but we had some other kids step up. We did a nice job of shooting free throws in the

fourth quarter. We hit six out of six. It was nice to get back on our home court and get a win."

The leading rebounder was Colton Lowry with 8.

In the junior varsity game against Thunder Ridge, Northern Valley won 61-24. The leading scorers were Jordan Bird had 14 and Phillip Compton had 11. The leading rebounder was Tyler Montgomery with 6.

# Northern Valley boys team loses to Alma

By **DANA PAXTON**  
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Last Sunday the Northern Valley boys basketball team faced Alma and lost 48-35.

In the first quarter, Alma outscored the Huskies by one point. Husky player Austin Herman led in scoring with two, 2 pointers followed by Colton Lowry and Tyler Montgomery each making a two point basket and Dusty Eagleburger making two of seven free throws. Alma's leading scorer was Boehler who made a three point shot and three, 2 pointers followed by Ring who made a two point basket ending the quarter 11-10.

During the second quarter the Huskies slowed down a bit. Lowry, Eagleburger and Montgomery

each scored two. Alma maintained their scoring with Boehler making three, 2 pointers followed by Bantam with two, 2 pointers. The first half ended with a score of 21-16 for Alma.

In the third quarter, Eagleburger made a three point shot, a two pointer and two free throws followed by Herman with a three pointer and Bryant Tharman with two. Alma was on a roll and scored 20 points on the Huskies in this quarter, Ring with three, 3 point baskets followed by Christensen with three, 2 pointers and a free throw, and Boehler with two, 2 pointers taking the chance of a Husky win away ending the quarter with a score of 41-28.

In the final quarter, the Huskies had a three point shot and one of

two free throws by Eagleburger followed by a three pointer by Herman but it wasn't enough to win the game. Alma came back and added seven more points to their tally. Boehler had a two pointer followed by Christensen with two free throws and Hays, Janssen and Simdela each making a free throw, winning it 48-35.

Husky head coach Chuck Fessenden said, "We had another game where we could only manage 35 points. However, we were only down by five points at half-time. The turning point in the

game was at the start of the second half when Alma hit a three pointer and then came back with a three point play. This put us down by eleven which was too much to overcome."

The leading rebounder was Dusty Eagleburger with nine.

In junior varsity play the Huskies won 37-33 over Alma. The leading scorer was Jordan Baird with 17 points and the leading rebounder was Daniel Field with 8 followed by Hunter Chandler with 6.

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