

Blue Jays beat undefeated Osborne 35-0

By DICK BOYD
Coach Bruce Graber's inexperienced Norton Community High School football team continued to show improvement Friday night in a 35-0 Mid-Continent League defeat of previously unbeaten Osborne on the road.
The Blue Jays are now 2-2 and the Bulldogs, 3-1.
Norton started the game fighting mad following a loss to state-ranked Smith Center last week.
From the opening whistle, the Blue Jays were the dominant team. Not only did the offense record 35 points but the defense allowed Osborne only 36 offensive yards and two first downs and caused the Bulldogs to lose four fumbles..
After Osborne fumbled on their first possession, senior quarterback Seth Mills threw a seven-yard touchdown pass to senior tight end Ryan Maddy. The next time the Jays got the ball, they drove for a second touchdown. Senior fullback Kyle Kats, who missed most of the Smith Center game with a sore shoulder, dented the end zone from six yards out. Senior William Wilhite kicked both extra points and Norton led 14-0 after one quarter.
Mills connected with senior tight end Justin Shirk for a 10-yard touchdown in the second quarter and Wilhite kicked the extra point

to give the Blue Jays a 21-0 half-time advantage.
The Blue Jays were in the end zone for an apparent touchdown in the third quarter but fumbled and Osborne recovered for a touch-back. Norton got the ball back and Mills scored on a keeper with 11:55 left in the game. Wilhite's extra point kick was good again and Norton led 28-0.
Senior linebacker Lucas Wiseman put the icing on the cake later in the fourth quarter when linebacker Maddy hit Osborne quarterback Josh Conway just as he threw the ball. Wiseman made the interception and set sail for a 73-yard touchdown. After Wilhite's kick, the Blue Jays led 35-0.
Senior tailback Aaron Overlease carried the ball 24 times for 91 yards and Kats picked up 67 yards on 10 totes. Other ball carriers were: Mills, 7 for 14; Lance Roe, 2 for 7; Luke Pfannenstiel 3 for 4; Blake VanEaton, 2 for 3; and Will Bolt, 3 for minus 4.
Mills had a great night passing as he completed 8 of 10 aeriels for 80 percent accuracy and 78 yards. His leading receivers were Maddy and Shirk, each with three catches for 31 yards. Kats had one reception for 12 yards and Nathan Broeckelman grabbed one for four yards.

Overlease had two punt returns for 31 yards and Pfannenstiel had one for 10 yards. Wilhite averaged 44.5 yards on six kickoffs.
Senior defensive tackle Blake Hillebrand led the Blue Jay defensive charge with six solo tackles and three assists. Senior linebacker Ryan Maddy recorded three solos and six assists. They were followed by: Blake VanEaton, five solos, two assists; Justin Shirk, three solos, two assists; Michael Sprigg, two solos, three assists; Paul Juenemann and Lucas Wiseman, three solos each; Heath Vincent and Lance Roe, two solos, one assist each; Andrew Ables, one solo, two assists; Luke Pfannenstiel and William Wilhite, two solos each; Adam Krebsbach and Brady Linner, two assists each; Logan Kats and Seth Mills, one solo each; Davvid Stanley, one assist.
"We got down field pretty well defensively and ran the ball the best we have all year," said Coach Graber. "We got after the ball better on defense and had good penetration, causing some turnovers. Osborne had few turnovers in their previous games but we created some tonight. We didn't kill ourselves early like we did against Smith Center.
"I saw some bright spots and we also made some mistakes. We



Norton's senior tailback Aaron Overlease drives for a first down on the Osborne 20 yard line during the third quarter of the Blue Jays' 35-0 victory on Friday night in Osborne. Overlease was Norton's leading ground gainer in the game with 91 yards on 24 carries. He also returned two punts for 31 yards.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Play by play of win over Osborne

By DICK BOYD
The Norton Community High Blue Jays downed previously unbeaten Osborne 35-0 Friday night.
First quarter
Wilhite kicked off for Norton to start the game. Osborne returned the ball to their 20 yard line but fumbled after several plays and Norton recovered on their 30. After Overlease got nothing on first down, Mills completed a 13-yard pass to Maddy. Kats ran for five yards, Overlease gained two and then nothing. Norton was offsided and lost five yards. Mills passed to Kats for a 12-yard gain. Overlease lost four yards but Mills went to the air again and hit Maddy for a seven yard touchdown. Wilhite kicked the extra point and Norton led 7-0 with 6:26 left.
Junior Casey Corbett returned Wilhite's kickoff for 22 yards to the 38 but the Blue Jay defense allowed them only two yards in three downs and they punted. Overlease returned the ball 30 yards to the Osborne 49-yard line. Overlease ran for six yards and Kats for seven. Then, Kats got loose for 18 yards and another Blue Jay first down. Osborne was offsided and Norton got five yards. Overlease ran for seven yards to the 13 and Kats scored from six yards out. Wilhite split the up-rights and the Blue Jays were on top 14-0 with 2:11 left in the first period. Senior Adam Conway, an all-league wide receiver, returned Wilhite's kick to the 25.
Osborne gained nine yards on three downs but decided to punt. The ball went out of bounds on the Norton 10..Overlease ran for four yards as the quarter ended with Norton leading 14-0.
Second quarter
Overlease lost four yards on second down, however, and Mills was sacked for a five yard loss. Kats punted to the Norton 35. Once again, the Blue Jay defense was equal to the occasion. The Bulldogs gained one yard in two plays, lost five yards on an offsided penalty and punted. The punt carried just 18 yards and went out of bounds on the Norton 21.
Mills completed a seven yard pass to Shirk, Kats gained six yards for a first down and Overlease sprinted 11 more for another first down. Mills connected with Shirk again, this time for 14 yards. Overlease gained six yards and Kats got eight more. Mills threw a four yard pass to Broeckelman and Overlease picked up five more yards on two carries. Mills gained two yards on a keeper and Kats ran for seven more. Mills lost one yard but, on the next down, he completed a 10 yard touchdown pass to Shirk. Wilhite was perfect on the extra point kick and Norton's advantage had extended to 21-0 with 2:34 left in the first half.
Corbett got a good 24-yard return of Wilhite's kickoff to the 44-yard line. After two incomplete

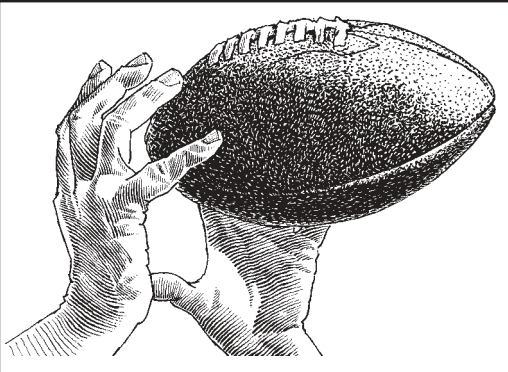


passes and a one yard gain, Osborne punted back to Norton. The 24 yard punt went out of bounds on the Norton 31.
On first down, Mills' pass was intercepted by sophomore defensive back Brady Lund but the fighting Blue Jay defense held the Bulldogs to three yards on the first two downs and sacked junior quarterback Josh Conway for a seven yard loss as the first half came to a close with Norton leading 21-0.
Third quarter
The kickoff to start the second half went out of bounds and Norton got the ball on their 35-yard line. Overlease gained seven yards, then ran for a first down on the Norton 49. Overlease got the call again and ran to the Bulldog 43, then got another first down on the 39. Overlease gained two more yards and Mills ran the keeper for a first down on the 21. Norton lost five yards for being offsided and Mills was sacked back on the 34. Kats ran to the 30 but Mills was sacked on the 36. On fourth down, Mills quick kicked into the end zone and Osborne got the ball on their 20.
After a one yard gain on first down, Shirk tackled Corbett for a three yard loss. On the next play, a Conway pass was tipped by a Norton defender and Mills intercepted. He returned the ball to the Osborne 21 but the Blue Jays were flagged for illegal use of the hands and the pigskin went back to the 31. Kats plunged to the 25 and Overlease plowed up the middle for a first down on the 20. Overlease ran to the 14. Kats churned to the 12 and Overlease got the call again. This time he made it into the end zone but fumbled and Osborne took over on their 20 with a touch-back.
On the Bulldogs' first down, they fumbled again and Norton recovered on their 22. Overlease ran for four yards. Junior Lance Roe replaced an injured Kats and gained three yards. Overlease found no running room so Mills passed complete to Maddy for a first down on the Osborne 4-yard line. Overlease gained three yards on two plays to the 1 yard line as the quarter expired with the Blue Jays still leading 21-0.
Fourth quarter
On the first play of the fourth period, Mills ran the keeper over the right side and dived into the end zone for a touchdown. Again, Wilhite split the uprights and the Jays led 28-0 with 11:55 remain-


ing in the contest.
Adam Conway returned Wilhite's kickoff to the 19-yard line where VanEaton tackled him. It was three and out once again for Osborne and Overlease returned the punt . After an illegal use of hands penalty on Norton, the ball was on the Blue Jay 24. Roe gained four yards and quarterback Luck Pfannenstiel ran the keeper for five more yards. On third down, Norton fumbled and Osborne recovered on the Norton 27.
The Bulldogs went to the air but Maddy came across the line like a raging bull and hit Josh Conway just as he released the ball. Senior linebacker Lucas Wiseman alertly grabbed the ball out of the air, picked up some blocking and sprinted down the far sideline for a 73-yard interception return for a touchdown. Wilhite's kick was perfect and Norton had extended their advantage to 35-0.
Adam Conway returned Wilhite's kickoff to the 21 yard line. With the help of a face mask penalty against Norton and a pass from Josh Conway to Adam Conway, the Bulldogs moved the ball to the 42 but ran out of downs and punted. Pfannenstiel returned the punt 10 yards to the 30. It was three and out for the Norton reserves and Todd Bolt punted to the Osborne 42. On third down, Osborne fumbled and Adam Krebsbach picked up the ball and advanced it 10 yards to the Osborne 35. The Bulldogs held and took over the ball. On third down, the Bulldogs fumbled and Brian Juenemann recovered for Norton on the Blue Jay 49. Brian Sproul gained two yards for Norton, the gun sounded and the Jays returned to Norton with a 35-0 victory.
Next action
Norton will host Stockton on Friday in the Blue Jays' Homecoming game. Kickoff will be at 7 p.m.
"We've made some great strides but we need to have some good practices to get ready for Stockton," said Coach Graber. "They are big, physical players. They just got their first string quarterback in the lineup last week so that should make a difference in their offense. We'll have all the distractions of Homecoming and they'll come in here with nothing to lose.
"I was impressed with them against Smith Center. The Redmen returned four kicks for touchdowns. Take those away and it could have been a different game."

Game Statistics			
Norton		Osborne	
17	First Downs	2	
51-203	Yards Rushing	27-20	
78	Yards Passing	16	
281	Total Yards	36	
8-10-1	Passes Comp.	4-9-2	
2-4	Fumbles Lost	4-5	
6-50	Penalties	2-10	
3-29	Punts	6-30.5	

Go, Norton Blue Jays!



It's Homecoming!
Norton Blue Jays
vs.
Stockton Tigers
Coronation: 6:40 p.m.
Kickoff 7 p.m., Travis Field
Friday, Oct. 1
Junior Varsity vs. Stockton
6:30 p.m., in Stockton
Monday, October 4



FOLLOW THE Lady Jays Volleyball Team
4 P.M., Today,
Tuesday, September 28
Vs. Colby and Atwood
Varsity, Junior Varsity at Atwood
Saturday, October 2
Oberlin Tournament
Beginning 9 a.m. in Oberlin
Varsity, Junior Varsity Matches
8:30 a.m., Saturday, October 2
Plainville Freshmen Tournament

Good Luck to the NCHS Blue Jay Tennis Team

3 P.M. Today-Varsity at Colby
Saturday, October 2
9 A.M.-MCL Tourney in Phillipsburg
9 A.M.-Junior Varsity at Colby

Cross Country Team

5:00 P.M.,
Today, Tues., Sept. 28
at Oberlin

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