with a win, defeating Atwood 62-51 Friday in Almena.

"After the events of the junior varsity game and the pressure they put on our kids, I told our varsity to be prepared to handle the pressure," said Coach Jason Dibble. "Our kids did just that by coming out and adjusting from our zone offense to executing our man offense all night.

"One of the things that was exciting was the fact we were able to fast break and aggressively looked to go to the basket. This has been one of our objectives was to push the ball under control. The only thing we did not do, at times, was finish the play with some missed layups and short shots, but I told them to keep pushing and the shots would start to fall.

"In the first half we had a few too many turnovers, but eventually settled down and took care of the ball better in the second half. We were able to distribute the ball all night and this resulted in having 4 players in double figures and our 5th starter not far behind. We did an excellent job from the free throw line hitting at an 80 percent

"On defense we played man most of the night and slipped in some press and zone every once in man defense, mainly due to the

The Northern Valley boys bas-foul trouble, and we did a good job game of the year and some of the ketball team opened its season most of the night of not making players learning new plays, you silly fouls. We also did a good job of talking and helping on defense drawing a couple of charges.

"We need to make sure and be persistent with boxing out espe-spent a lot of time on man offense cially with our lack of size, but we and pressure because traditionally did out rebound our opponent which is a plus due to our lack of size. This was a big win for us since it has been about five years since the Northern Valley boys have beaten Atwood and hopefully gives us a needed shot of confi- followed by David Harris, 5; dence in the early going that will pay dividends for us later."

Jesse Hilburn and Henry Griffiths led scoring with 14 points apiece and were followed by Cole Kinderknecht, 13; Joey Copper, Simants, Harris, Nelson and Chad 12; Avery Thalheim, 7; and Andrew Sheley, 2.

Rebounding honors went to and Kersch, 1 each. Copper for grabbing 18. Followed by Kinderknecht, eight; Griffiths, Northern Valley 62, Atwood 51 six; Hilburn and Sheley, three each; and Thalheim, two.

Steals were made by Copper, Atwood 6 16 17 12 — 51 four; Hilburn, three; Kinderknecht and Thalheim, two apiece; and Griffiths, one. Hilburn and Griffiths led assists with three 2-214, Kinderknecht 2010-913, apiece, followed by Copper, two, Copper 5 0 6-2 12, Thalheim, 1 1 and Thalheim, one.

The junior varsity was defeated 29-23 62.

"This year we have 17 boys on a while. I felt very good about our our squad and 12 of them that will 11, Finley 400-08, M. Brown 20 play on junior varsity," said the 1-04, Green 202-04, Grafel 01 fact that one of our concerns was coach. "With it being the first 2-03. Totals 14616-551.

just want them to feel like they can go out and play without having to think too much.

"To our kids' credit we had not Atwood has played a two-three half court zone. Andrew Sheley contributed nicely in his two quarters of play with 9 points, four rebounds and two blocks."

Sheley led scoring with 9 points, Chase Miller and Cody Lowry, 4 apiece; Richie Kersch, Clarke Nelson, and Scott Shearer, 2 each.

Making rebounds were Sheley, 4; Shearer, 3; Miller, Anthony Husted, 2 apiece; and Blake Johnson, Lowry, Bryce Marble,

Score by quarters: N. Valley 14 15 19 14 — 62

Northern Valley (62)

Hilburn 309-814, Griffiths 32 2-27, Sheley 100-02. Totals 153

Atwood (51)

Rippe 1 5 7-4 21, Riener 5 0 4-1

Northern Valley girls take opening loss from Atwood

School girls basketball team lost their season opening game to Atwood 69-34 Friday night in

The Lady Huskies fell behind in the first quarter, and then just couldn't catch up: 18-9, 30-18, 52-28, and 69-34.

ern Valley with 9 points, followed by Jayme Horacek, 8; Lindsey

Jessup, 3 apiece.

The Lady Huskies will face Hill City this Friday on the Ringnecks 34. home turf. The game is set to begin at 5 p.m.

The junior varsity lost 27-15. Atwood 69, Northern Valley 34

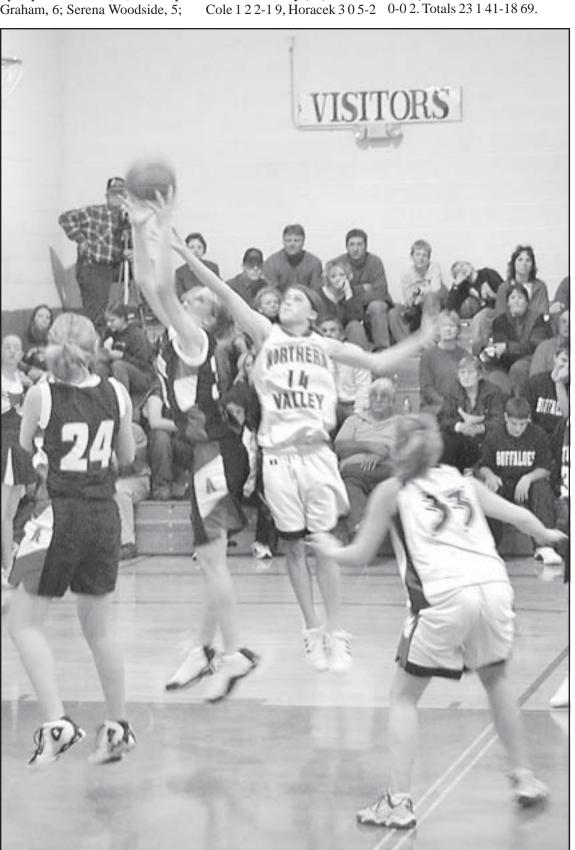
Score by quarters: Kelli Cole led scoring for North- Atwood 18 12 22 17 — 69 N. Valley 9 9 10 6—34

Northern Valley (34)

The Northern Valley High and Lindsey Jessup and Jena 8, Graham 3 0 0-0 6, Woodside 0 0 8-5 5, L. Jessup 1 0 2-1 3, J. Jessup 0 0 4-3 3. Totals 8 2 21-12

Atwood (69)

Chelsie Kramer 7 0 7-5 19, Bethany Holste 5 0 5-3 13, Emily Timm 2 17-19, Simone Cahoj 10 8-46, Megan Cohoj 302-06, Ariel Dunker 1 0 2-2 5, Emily Walters 1 02-13, Emily Wahrman 106-02, Katelyn Clark 002-22, Miller 10



Northern Valley sophomore Kelli Cole attempts to tap the rebound away from an Atwood player in the Huskies' opening game Friday at Almena. Looking on for the Huskies is No. 33 Serena Woodside. — Telegram photo by Susie Marble

The Huskies' Cole Kinderknecht and Henry Griffiths, No. 31, put the rebound up for two points in the game against Atwood on Friday. — Telegram photo by Susie Marble **Bulletin Board**

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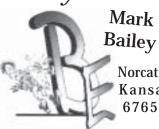
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