

Jayvee tennis wins it all

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School junior varsity girls tennis team won the championship of the JV Round Robin in Goodland on Tuesday. Norton scored 33 points and was followed by Goodland, 29; Trego Community, 24; Scott City, 18; Colby, 15; Tribune, 6.

"I'm just thrilled with how well all our girls played," said Norton coach Shawnee Branek. "Winning first place is a big boost to their confidence."

Valerie Wagoner played No.1 singles for Norton and placed third. She defeated Trego's Kelsie Bliss 6-1, lost 6-4 to Colby's Laura Dougherty, was shutout 6-0 by

Goodland's Shonna Webster and outscored Scott City's Debbie Kough 6-2.

"Valerie won two matches and lost two," said coach Branek. "She continues to play very consistently."

Gena Myers and Sara Campbell won the championship of No.1 doubles. They defeated Trego's Amanda Gossar and Rachael Newcomer 6-3, outscored Colby's Karen Unruh and Mysti Rothfuss 6-3, defeated Goodland's Sandra Redlin and Linsey Owens 6-1, outscored Norton's Allie Corbin and Kelsey Nuzum 6-2 and shutout Scott City's Kaitlin Norman and Karrin Wessel 6-0. Corbin and

Nuzum played for Tribune.

"Gena and Sara won all their matches and played very well," said coach Branek. "They are playing more aggressive at the net and are going for the winning shots."

In No.2 singles, Tabitha Vincent placed second. She shutout Trego's Nicole Griffin 6-0, defeated Colby's Nicolette Wallis 6-2, lost 6-1 to Goodland's Kaitlin Fugleberg and defeated Scott City's Elizabeth Huck 6-5(7-5).

"Tabitha plays very steady, consistent tennis," said coach Branek. "She won three of her four matches, one of which she had to work very hard to win. She doesn't give up; she's in it to the very end."

Norton's No.2 doubles team of Hannah Fulton and Bethany Wicker also placed second. They lost their first match by a score of 6-4 to Trego's Cala Nowlin and Marlowe Opat, shutout Colby's Sami Tolle and Meshelle Schroeder 6-0, lost 6-5 (7-4) to Goodland's Leeanoora Kekalainen and Kathy Wood, defeated Tribune's Heather Myers and Jennifer Fuller 6-5(9-7) and outscored Scott City's Victoria Wilson and Anna Yeager 6-1.

"Hannah and Bethany were in a three-way tie for second. After calculating percentages, they were awarded the silver medal," said coach Branek.

"Hannah was playing with a knee injury which slowed them down a bit and forced two matches into tiebreakers."

In No.1 doubles, Corbin and Nuzum lost 6-1 to Scott City's Norman and Wessel, lost 6-5(8-6) to Goodland's Redlin and Owens, were outpointed 6-1 by Trego's Gossar and Newcomer, lost 6-2 to Norton's Campbell and Myers and were outscored 6-1 by Colby's Unruh and Rothfuss.

"Allie and Kelsey didn't win any matches but they have really improved," said coach Branek. "They even took one match to a tiebreaker."

Next action

The Norton junior varsity tennis team will play Saturday in the Phillipsburg Invitational, beginning at 9 a.m.

The Lady Blue Jay varsity tennis team will play Saturday in the Trego Invitational in WaKeeney, beginning a 9 a.m.

Tennis settles for second

The Norton Community High School junior varsity tennis team placed second in the Phillipsburg JV Quad played on Thursday in Phillipsburg.

Phillipsburg won the championship with 28 points, followed by Norton, 22; Belleville, 5 and the Norton B-team 0.

Valerie Wagoner placed second in No.1 singles. She won 6-4 over Robbie Hadley of Phillipsburg who was playing for Belleville, lost 6-2 to Whitney Cole, Phillipsburg and outscored teammate Tabitha Vincent 6-4. Vincent was playing for the Norton B-team.

In No.1 doubles, Sara Campbell and Gina Myers placed second. They defeated Regina Bird and Laura Monsanto, Belleville, 6-2; lost 6-4 to Courtney Beard and Becca Zillinger, Phillipsburg and shutout Allie Corbin and Kelsey Nuzum of the Norton B-team 6-0.

Ashley Maybon won the championship of the No.2 singles division. She defeated Trey Meka Dyke, Belleville, 6-1; outscored Chelsy Troyer, Phillipsburg, 6-3 and won 6-1 over Caitlin Klinger of Phillipsburg, who was playing for the Norton B-team.

In No.2 doubles, Norton's Hannah Fulton and Bethany Wicker placed second. They defeated Lacey Evert and Liz Carey, Belleville, 6-4; lost 6-3 to Kadie Hays and Tristin Troyer, Phillipsburg and outscored Steph Shepard and Emily Juenemann of the Norton B-team 6-3.

"Our A-team played well," said coach Shawnee Branek. "I am happy with their performance. They continue to improve with each tournament."

Vincent placed fourth in No.1 singles as a member of the Norton B-team. She lost 6-3 to Whitney Cole, Phillipsburg; lost 6-1 to Robbie Hadley of Phillipsburg who was playing for Belleville and was beaten 6-4 by Wagoner of the Norton A-team.

Norton B-team's No.1 doubles team of Allie Corbin and Kelsey Nuzum finished in fourth place. They were shutout 6-0 by Courtney Beard and Becca Zillinger, Phillipsburg; lost 6-0 to Regina Bird and Laura Monsanto, Belleville and lost 6-0 to Campbell and Myers of Norton's A-team.

The Norton B-team did not have a player at No.2 singles.

In No.2 doubles, the Norton B-team entered Steph Shepard and Emily Juenemann and they placed fourth. They lost 6-4 to Kadie Hays and Tristin Troyer, Phillipsburg; were outscored 6-3 by Lacey Evert and Liz Carey, Belleville and lost 6-3 to Fulton and Wicker of the Norton A-team.

"Our B-team made a lot of errors," said coach Branek. "I think the wind was a small factor but also inexperience played a part."

"For many of the girls, this was their first competitive meet of the season."

The Norton junior varsity played in Goodland Tuesday and placed first.

Varsity volleyball wins over Stockton

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School girls volleyball team defeated Stockton but lost to Hoxie and Hill City in a quadrangular held Tuesday in Hoxie.

After losing 17-25, 15-25 to Hoxie, the Lady Jays defeated Stockton 25-9, 25-23, then lost to Hill City 25-27, 9-25.

Hoxie

"Against Hoxie, we battled another well balanced team," said Norton coach Chuck Zimmerman.

"They would not give up any floor space for us to put the ball down on their side of the floor and then seemed to have the knack to give it back with power every time. Our serving dipped below the required 90 percent range as we served 89 percent. Ashli Hageman was our top perfect server with 15 in and three aces.

"Our passing was again average as our team served at a 1.6 rate. Our hitters, still not thumping the ball as the other teams do to us, did get 85 percent of our spikes in but only eight kills. Hayli Bozarth, Courtney LeClair and Maggie Nielsen each had two kills.

"Our setters are doing a good job of finding our hitters. Katharine Roy and Courtney Cox had two and six assists, respectively."

Stockton

"Against Stockton, we played well in the first game and won 25-9 with good passing, which led to good setting and hitting.

"Our hitters hit 12 kills with Bozarth leading the way with five. Roy had three assists while Cox was credited with seven."

LeClair led the team in serving in this game. She was perfect on nine with four aces. Hageman had five aces on 12 of 13 serving. Brianna Felton was perfect with six while Sara Lentz was perfect on three.

Hill City

"Our first game against Hill City, a Class 2A state qualifier last year, was our best game of the season," said coach Zimmerman.

"We had great passing from Lacey Roe. She graded out at 2.3 on 21 attempts, which allowed our setters to have the choice of setting any of our three hitters on the front row.

"With this option, the defense

doesn't know which of our spikers to concentrate on and that gives us an edge.

"Our setters, Roy with five assists and Cox with seven, did very well in finding the proper hitter to go to.

"With the excellent passing and setting, then come the hitters who can put the ball away and we did with a season high of 14 kills. The kills were very even across the board with Cox, Felton and Bozarth each having three while Maggie Nielsen led with four.

"Our serving was at its highest percent in this game against the best team of the night. We were 97 percent accurate with our team missing only one serve.

"We had Hill City tied at 24-all but made two mistakes late that gave them the win in overtime. But, we showed that we could play with a good team and we need to play that way each time we take the floor."

Next action

The Norton varsity and junior varsity volleyball teams will play Colby and Atwood in Norton on Tuesday, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Jayvee football takes win over Trego

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School junior varsity football team opened their 2006 home schedule with a come-from-behind 16-12 victory over Trego Community at Travis Field on Sept. 11.

After a sluggish opening quarter by both teams, Trego took advantage of two big pass plays to score. They tallied midway through the second quarter with a six-yard pass for a touchdown. The run for two points failed and Norton trailed 6-0 at halftime.

Second half fireworks by Norton began early as Ashton Draper's pass interception and re-

turn put the Blue Jays in excellent field position. Two plays later Brad Nuzum scored from four yards out. Zane Perez ran for two extra points to put Norton on top 8-6.

The Golden Eagles stormed back and scored on the first play from scrimmage, a 70-yard run. Their extra points run attempt failed but Trego was back on top 12-8.

Norton's final touchdown came in the fourth quarter. A defensive play gave the Blue Jays the break they needed.

Tyler Cook sacked the punter early in the final stanza. Brad

Nuzum, substituting at quarterback for the injured Connor Pfannenstiel, connected on a third-and-long pass with Aaron Husted. Then, Zane Perez scored the go-ahead touchdown from three yards out. Brad Nuzum ran for the two extra points and Norton led 16-12.

After a big defensive stand, the Jays put together one final drive, once again highlighted by a third and long pass from Nuzum to Hamel to run out the clock and ice the victory.

Next action

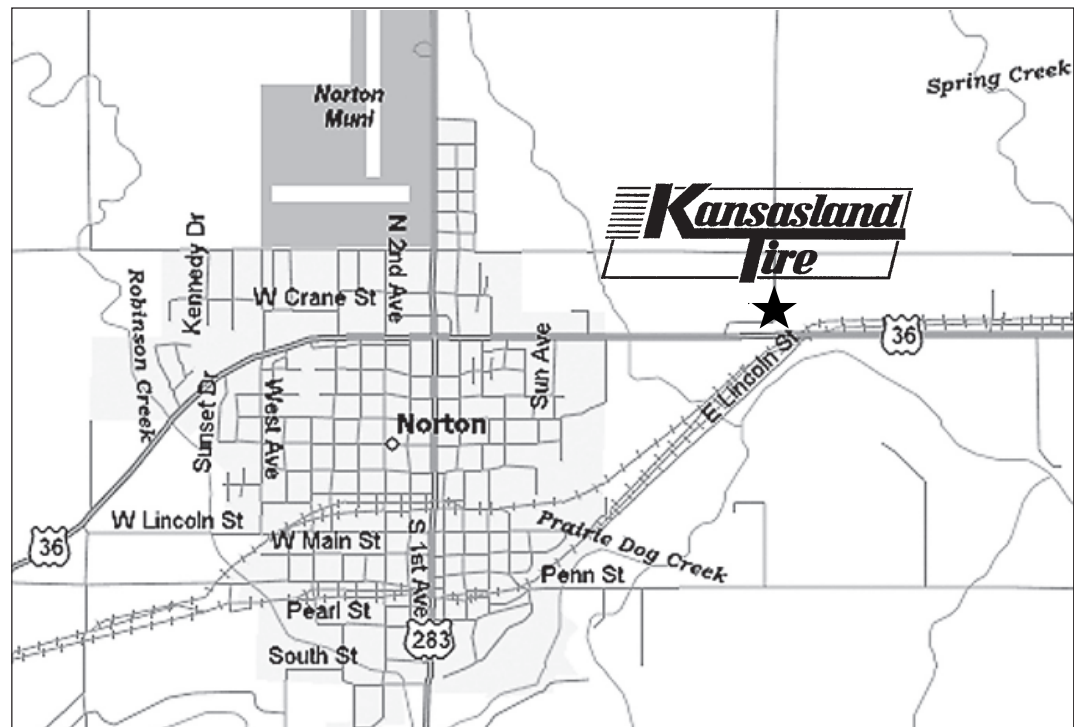
The Norton junior varsity will play at Hill City on Monday, beginning at 6 p.m.

Congratulations

Dan and Teresa Lauer and Your Staff



You and the guys have always worked hard to take care of customers and to be a positive part of the Norton area. We hope everyone will stop by and see you at your new home on the east edge of town. We hope you continue to grow your tire and service business for another 25 years.



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