

Huskies win league title

The Northern Valley Lady Huskies' volleyball team hosted Alma, Neb., and Logan in their most recent contest and came away with a split of the matches. And in the process, Northern Valley won their league championship with the win over the Trojans as they had earlier beaten the other three conference teams.

"Against Alma, they just had more attackers that attacked over our 5'6" blockers. We did all we could on the floor and did ok — we still need to be quicker at getting to our spots on the floor but for the most part we are getting better," said coach Chuck Zimmerman.

The final scores were 10-25, 16-25 in Alma's favor.

In the second contest the Huskies played archrival Logan. "This match, for us, was for the league championship as we have defeated the other three teams already this season," the coach said.

"We began by spotting the Trojans three points as we did not connect correctly with the ball but by our second server, Karen Wenzl we had tied the score. At that point Logan scored two of their own to go ahead 4-7, but with Kenzie Chandler serving the team scored eight straight points using the passing of Hannah Hawks (who had one of the better passing nights I have witnessed as just about all her passes were on target), and Staci Dole who got the

ball to Christina Anderson who set the ball very well to Megan Cole, Karen Wenzl and Alison Cole. The girls never looked back as we went on to win 25-20," he said.

In the second game the Huskies had more sustained runs, scoring four or more points numerous times with Megan Cole being the server of four straight points as the team used her serves to win five points over all.

The final score was 25-15 "as we displayed the hustle that it will take for us to be competitive against the very good attacking teams plus we kept Logan 'off balance' as we attacked well which meant they had to scramble to keep the ball off the floor which meant we received 'free balls' which we converted into attack points," coach Zimmerman said.

"Our hitters Wenzl, Chandler, Megan and Alison Cole all had a good hitting game thanks to our passers Hannah Hawks, Dole and Melissa Hawks getting Logan's spikes up and to Anderson who distributed the ball to our hitters so the Trojan defense was kept guessing as to whom would hit the next set," he said.

"A good match to seal the championship. We do not know when the last volleyball league title was won by Northern Valley but we hope to be able to continue this trend for years to come.

"Our Junior Varsity team did

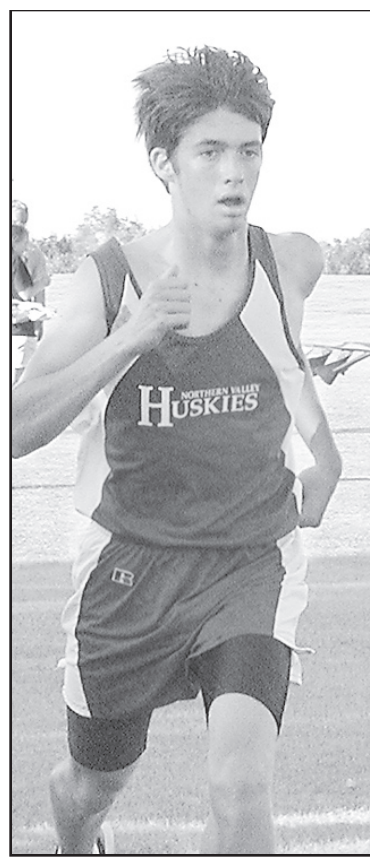
themselves proud also. They gave the Cardinals of Alma a good contest by playing tough defense as our tallest player is maybe 5'5". But, we hustled hard and stayed in the game as we were only defeated by the scores of 22-25, 21-25," the coach said.

"Against Logan the girls had a goal in mind — to defeat a team they had never defeated in junior high. Plus, see just how improved our skill level has improved since junior high," he said.

"Well, the skill level of these girls has definitely improved as they came out and defeated Logan in the first game 25-13. Serving was good, passing was good, what spikes we had were set up by the setters who delivered the ball to the 'spot' and the hitters came through," the coach said.

"In the second game Logan came back and did win 18-25 but the girls stood strong and battled the Trojans for every point in the 15-point final game and won 15-13 to defeat the league champs of junior high. A good accomplishment that they should be proud of. And one that they can now build upon," he said.

The junior varsity consists of Kelsey Raburn and Cassie Field who set, Melissa Hawks, Ashley Constable, Katie Stillion and Kenzie Chandler as hitters, plus defensive specialists Sarah Whitney and Staci Dole.



(Right) Norton freshman Zach Hartwell has quickly become an important member of the Norton varsity boys cross country team. He is pictured here climbing a hill in the Hill City meet on Thursday where he placed eighth individually. — Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



(Left) Northern Valley senior Stanton Nelson sprinted to the finish line during the varsity cross country run at the Hill City Invitational on Thursday. — Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Good showing at Hill City

By DICK BOYD
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Coach Tom Hehn's Norton Community High School girls and boys cross country teams turned in another outstanding performance Thursday in the Hill City Invitational.

The Lady Jays won the championship and the Blue Jay boys placed fourth, just one point out of third.

The Norton girls scored 42 points to win the title, followed by Osborne, 55; Colby, 73; Lakeside, 94; Hoxie, 105; Oberlin, 134.

Ness City won the boys championship with 34, followed by Trego, 86; Oberlin, 120; Norton, 121; Lakeside, 130; Hill City, 141; Colby, 152; Osborne, 171; Phillipsburg, 209.

Girls

Norton's Laura Lee Baird won the gold medal with a time of 16:15. Kara Jo Jones placed seventh in 17:48 and Abby Bainter was 13th in 18:23.

Completing Norton's five-girl team were Taylor Rossi, 16th in 18:58 and Kaylen Rossi, 19th in 19:09.

Also running for Norton and their places and times were: Dustyna Sprigg, 34th, 20:33 and Amanda Ray, 45th, 21:54.

Rachel Renken, Lakeside, placed second in 16:29, followed

by Katrina Kaus, Colby, third, 16:31; Katherine Kaus, Colby, fourth, 16:48; Haley Wolf, Ellis, fifth, 16:49; Kendra Pfannestiel, Ness City, sixth, 17:15; Emile Coca, Phillipsburg, eighth, 18:01; Megan Burch, Osborne, ninth, 18:03 and Kylie Naber, Osborne, tenth, 18:14.

Northern Valley's Kayla Field had another good time, finishing 15th in 18:43. The Lady Huskies' Kynzie Stevens placed 29th in 19:58.

Boys

Zach Bainter had another outstanding run, placing second behind Colton McNinch of Ness City. Zach was timed in 17:41 and McNinch in 17:03.

Eighth place went to the Blue Jays' Zach Hartwell in 18:59. The Blue Jays' Troy Bainter was 26th in 20:09 and Zach Porter was 56th in 21:47. Rounding out the five team placers for Norton was Josh Gallentine, 71st in 22:52.

Right behind Josh was teammate Kegan Vanover in 72nd place with a clocking of 23:12. Also running for Norton was Cole Archer, 74th in 23:28.

Northern Valley's Stanton Nelson placed 76th in 24:04.

In junior varsity competition, Norton's Adam Myers placed 18th in 23:42; Bryan Henry was 30th in 24:54; Matt Miller, 38th

in 25:38 and Casey Robison, 46th in 27:29.

Coach's comments

"It wasn't a real good day weatherwise for a meet," said coach Hehn. "It was hot and windy.

"Our girls turned in a good performance in winning the meet and beat out several very good teams. It was nice to see Laura Lee win top individual honors.

"Our varsity boys ran without Bryan Henry and Chris Maddy, who wasn't feeling well. Zach Bainter ran well again in placing second and Zach Hartwell also did well in finishing eighth. Cole Archer ran well in his first varsity race."

Next action

Norton will compete in the 41st annual Oberlin Invitational Cross Country Meet this afternoon at the Country Club, one mile east of Oberlin.

Teams competing, in addition to Norton and Oberlin, will be Oakley, Quinter, Phillipsburg, Hoxie, Northern Valley, Colby, Brewster, Goodland, Wheatland/Grinnell, all from Kansas and McCook, Southwest, and Cambridge, all from Nebraska.

Race times are: boys junior varsity, 5 p.m.; girls varsity and junior varsity, 5:30 p.m.; boys varsity, 6 p.m.

Eighth jayvee volleyball vs. Trego

8th JV Wins first game, loses 3rd Game vs Trego

(2nd game was 7th JV)

Game 1: 8th JV Won, 25-19

Game 3: 8th JV Lost 11-15

Team Serving: 76 percent

Serving Percentages:

Katie Koch 10/12 83 percent

Maggie Henry 4/5 80 percent

Sierra Black 4/6 67 percent

Shelbi McKenna 6/7 86 percent,

Kelsey Mordecai 8/9 89 percent,

Kaitlyn Campbell 2/4 50 percent

Aces:

Kelsey Mordecai 5, Katie Koch 3,

Shelbi McKenna 3, Sierra Black 3,

Maggie Henry 2, Kaitlyn Campbell 1

Kills:

Steph Hager 2

Katie Koch, Shelbi McKenna 1 each

Team Hitting Percentage:

45

Coach's comments:

"Serving was key and the

players did a good job of getting

the ball in play! In the first

game the girls played well as

a team, making good passes,

nice sets, and effective hits.

Our third game was less controlled

because of passing and communication.

These girls will continue to work hard

and improve as the season continues."

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