

# Huskey volleyball over Palco in two

Although the Northern Valley varsity volleyball Huskies beat Palco in two games, 25-20, 25-10 on Friday (Sept. 5) at home, coach Chuck Zimmerman wasn't quite enthusiastic about the triumph. He commented:

"First off let me apologize, for our team, for the caliber of play our fans saw when we played the Roosters of Palco. If that was the first time you saw us this year — please come back when we play next for I hope we will show our true caliber of play then as our play against Palco was lackluster at best.

"We got into a mode of playing down to our competitions' level and Palco's level this season, as their coach said, is 'struggling.' The Roosters gave us all they had which in our terms is or was 'garbage ball' which means nothing they hit was hard with most being 'roll' shots or junk hits.

"As I have told many of my teams these are the toughest teams to deal with because we are not trained to scramble for every ball. Most are coming at us at a high rate of speed — those we are trained to deal with. So, with the garbage balls coming we were caught off guard and our passing was very erratic, so much so that our setter had to punch over more balls on this night than all season long because we were not getting the passes to our target. Thus we lacked the precise setting that leads to our power hitting. We just let the Roosters dictate the style of play and this can not happen from

here on out with the strength of our schedule getting tougher as we move on.

"We did win in two 25-20, 25-10 but with much tougher competition looming on the horizon we will need to get back on track to be competitive.

"Our junior varsity (freshmen) did themselves proud in the first game against Palco's JV as they used their serving (92 percent) to play themselves to a 25-17 win. In the second game they, like all young players, relaxed and allowed the Roosters to gain a sizable lead before mounting a comeback, again relying on their serving, and did win by the score of 25-23.

"A good come-from-behind victory showing themselves that you never give up because in volleyball, as the saying goes, it's not over until it's over."

Next up with be Phillipsburg on the road against the Panthers and Norton on Thursday, Sept. 11.

The Lady Huskies opened the '08 volleyball season at home and with a victory against Tipton in a very exciting first game which saw the Ladies come from behind to win, then dominated the court in the second game.

"We started off tentatively in the first rotation of the season as we, and I suppose Tipton, had jitters, but this was our first home game in two years and we wanted to give the people a show.," said coach Zimmerman.

"Well, we didn't in the first

rotation.. but when we started our second time through and had relaxed we began to catch up. Yes, catch up as Tipton had built a lead which got to 17-23 then we rotated to Alison Cole who served 8 straight while Megan Cole and Karen Wenzl spiked the sets from Christina Anderson who took the passes from Staci Dole, Hannah Hawks and Kenzie Chandler and we came back to win 26-24."

In the second game the Huskies started slow, but once they got going Tipton did not have an answer to the serving, Karen Wenzl served 11 without a miss and the team scored on 9 of them, and spiking Alison Cole was on the front row receiving the good combos passes and sets this game and the hustle of all the team as the Huskies played well to win 25-14.

"Our next match was against Lakeside. We struggled with our serves in the first game as we only served at a 77 percent rate no where near the target of 90 percent it will take for us to have a chance to win this season.

"We also did not react to Lakeside's tips well enough and as a result we scrambled and did not have control of the ball so the final score in the opening game was 18-25," the coach said.

In the second game the team came together and played like they knew how, received some very good and unexpected help from freshmen in Katie Stillion and later on Cassie Field and Melissa Hawks.

The Huskies dominated Lake-

side with its hitting, keeping them off balance which led to Northern Valley winning the second game 25-18.

In the third game, the Huskies struggled to keep control of the flow of the game as Lakeside was able to pound the ball about four times while we scrambled to just make sure we hit it over. And the end result was 19-25 in Lakeside's favor.

"Overall I was pleased with our team passing. This you don't hear from me very often but for the first matches and having to bring in some very young players to fill key roles, I was pleased. I was not pleased with our serving consistency nor our attacking," coach Zimmerman said.

"Our freshmen received a rude awakening to high school volleyball on this night as they were defeated twice.

"It was not that the other teams had more talent, it was basically we were lost in where we were supposed to be during certain phases of the game and in high school if you're not covering your area of the floor or doing your specific job then the team will not fare well and our girls in their first JV got a taste of just those facts of high school volleyball life." he said.

"We know they will improve as it comes with being on the court more and starting to trust your teammates.

"These young girls have some talent they, just now, have to mold it into our high school scheme," he said.



Lady Jay senior Laura Lee Baird neared the finish and a gold medal in the Norton Cross Country Invitational on Thursday, Sept. 4.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton senior Zach Bainter headed toward the finish line to win the gold medal in the Norton Cross Country Invitational on Thursday, Sept. 4.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton tight end Zac Dreher advanced the pigskin after catching a pass from quarterback Connor Pfannenstiel during the Blue Jays' 29-22 double-overtime win Friday, Sept. 5 over Phillipsburg. Dreher was also the leading tackler for the Blue Jays with 17 total stops.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Blue Jay volleyball 1-1 on the road

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team lost to Phillipsburg 13-25, 16-25 and defeated Northern Valley 23-25, 25-15, 26-24 on Tuesday in Phillipsburg.

## Phillipsburg

"There's not much to say about the match with Phillipsburg," said Norton head coach Peggy Cox. "They ran a much faster game than we did and we spent most of the time wondering what just happened. We need to make the adjustment of the faster paced game and stay focused on our jobs/positions.

"We also need to serve at least 50 serves to stay competitive in a game; we served 30."

Match statistics were: kills-- Hayli Bozarth, 4; Lacy Keilig, 3; Bethany Roy, Kaitlyn Wolf, 2 each; Amanda Delimont, 1; serving -- Ashley Colip, 1 ace; digs -- Katharine Roy, Ashlie Stewart,

2 each; Ashley Colip, 1; assists -- Hayli Bozarth, 4; Katharine Roy, 3; Ashley Colip, 2; Charli Lawson, 1; blocks -- Lacy Keilig, 3; Hayli Bozarth, Kaitlyn Wolf, 1 each.

## Northern Valley

"We squeaked by with a win," said coach Cox. "This was a match that could have gone either way.

"Both teams did not serve well and basically traded points. Northern Valley did a nice job of digging up whatever we threw or tipped at them and we struggled to pick up some important digs that would have changed the momentum.

"We allowed ourselves to get rattled by some big plays but, in the end, came out with a win."

Match statistics were: kills -- Hayli Bozarth, Lacy Keilig, 6 each; Amanda Delimont, 2; Charli Lawson, Katharine Roy, Lacey Wallingford, Bethany Roy, Kaitlyn Wolf, 1 each; serving -- Ashley Colip, Shelby Jones, 4 each; Charli Lawson, 3; Ashlie Stewart, 1; digs -- Ashley Colip,

Ashlie Stewart, 4 each; Katharine Roy, 2; Hayli Bozarth, 1; assists -- Ashley Colip, 7; Hayli Bozarth, 5; Katharine Roy, Kaitlyn Wolf, 1 each; blocks -- Lacy Keilig, 5; Kaitlyn Wolf, 3; Amanda Delimont, Bethany Roy, 2 each; Hayli Bozarth, Katharine Roy, Lacey Wallingford, 1 each.

## Junior varsity

The Norton junior varsity defeated Northern Valley 25-13, 25-23, then outscored Phillipsburg 21-25, 25-16, 15-10.

"We were strong and consistent in the backrow passing and digging during the Northern Valley match," said Norton assistant coach Christine Thompson.

"The net play during the Phillipsburg match was excellent, also. I am pleased with our net play at this time; our players are starting to play aggressive and smart at the net.

Leaders versus Northern Valley were: Erin Terrell, 5 kills; Erin Terrell, Bethany Winkel, 7 set-

ting assists each; Raven Brown, 3 digs; Erin Terrell, 4 serving aces; Alyssa Thomson, Hannah Waggoner, Shaylyn Boteler, 2 serving aces each.

Leaders in the win over Phillipsburg were: Kendra Engelbert, Bekah Streck, 4 kills each; Erin Terrell, 3 kills; Bethany Roy, 7 setting assists; Erin Terrell, 4 setting assists; Hannah Waggoner, 4 digs; Alyssa Thomson, 3 digs; Kendra Engelbert, 5 serving aces; Raven Brown, 3 serving aces.

## Next action

The Norton junior varsity will play on Saturday in the Quinter Junior Varsity Tournament, beginning at 9 a.m. Teams in the tournament, in addition to Norton and Quinter, will be Trego, Oberlin, Wheatland, Hill City, Oakley and Hoxie.

The Norton varsity squad will return to action next Thursday when the varsity and junior varsity play Goodland in Norton, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

# 7th football shy 6 points

The Norton Junior High 7th grade football team, lost a close one to Phillipsburg last week 12-6.

"For many of our players, this was their first experience with junior high football and at times it showed," said coach George Rossi.

"During times of the game, the Blue Jays were nervous, tentative and a bit unsure of themselves. At other times, the boys really stepped up and played well," he said.

"The effort the boys put out was very good. We just need to work on taking care of the ball and playing more consistently the entire game," the coach said.

"This group has been working very hard on ironing out the kinds and we are looking forward to the game vs. Ellis," coach Rossi said.

Here are the game's particulars:

**Score by quarters**  
Norton 0 - 6 - 0 - 0 = 6  
Phillipsburg 0 - 6 - 6 - 0 = 12

**Scoring for Norton**  
2nd quarter — Trever Lewis, 82-yd run, PAT failed

**Rushing** (carries, yards, TD)  
Toby Nickell, 10/33; Tanner Furbush, 2/9; Lewis, 2/9/1

**Passing** (completion, attempts, yards)  
Andrew Ellis, 2/8/23

**Receiving** (catches, yards)  
Marc Miller, 1/2; Chris Fisher, 2/15; Javen Colip, 1/6

**Tackles** (solo, assists)  
Travis Cressler, 6/5; Furbush, 2/8; Kolton Harting, 3/8; Lewis, 4/6; Miller, 0/1; Lucas Engel, 1/4; Lane Vanover, 0/2; Cole Renner, 1/2; Fisher, 0/2; Nickell, 0/2; Jordan Hartwell, 1/2; Ellis, 1/0/1 interception.

# Norton tennis team places fourth in quad

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls tennis team placed fourth in the Phillipsburg Quad on Tuesday.

Trego placed first, followed by Phillipsburg, Russell and Norton.

Emily Juenemann played No. 1 singles for the Lady Blue Jays. She lost 8-1 to Shayne Runnion, Phillipsburg; lost 8-3 to Courtney Mead, Russell and lost 8-0 to Olivia Fabrizius, Trego.

Playing No. 1 doubles for Nor-

ton were Stephanie Shepard and Allie Corbin. They lost 8-5 to Kim Nguyen and Ember Ward, Phillipsburg; lost 8-0 to Baile Driscoll and Brittany Rohr, Russell and lost 8-0 to Jami Hendrickson and Rachael Newcomer, Trego.

Hannah Fulton played No. 2 singles for Norton. She lost 8-6 to Malorie Witmer, Phillipsburg; lost 8-4 to Taylor Funk, Russell and lost 8-2 to Jackie Albin, Trego.

The No. 2 doubles team of Meaghan Peterson and Kelsey Nuzum lost 8-6 to Clara Coomes and Brooke Lawyer, Phillipsburg;

lost 8-5 to Ashley Quinday and Caitlin Strobel, Russell and lost a 7-3 tiebreaker to Kristi Hallagin and Cala Nowlin, Trego.

"We were up against some tough competition today," said Norton head coach Marianne Wicker. "Our girls struggled a lot because we keep making the same little mistakes each time we play.

"We've just got to focus on improving and giving 100 percent every day."

## Next action

Norton will host the Lady Jays Junior Varsity Quadrangular on

Saturday in the Swimming Pool Park, beginning at 10 a.m.

Colby and Phillipsburg will be the competing visiting teams.

Medals will be given for the first, second and third places in each division.

The Norton varsity will compete Tuesday in the Goodland Varsity Tournament, beginning at 3 p.m.

Other teams in the tournament, in addition to Norton and Goodland, will be Colby, Garden City, Tribune, Scott City, Trego Community and Ulysses.

# Javyee football loses season's opener 24-12

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity football team opened their 2008 season with a 24-12 loss at Phillipsburg on Monday evening.

Norton held a 6-0 advantage after one quarter, thanks to a 75 yard touchdown run by Zane Perez.

The remainder of the first half was a defensive struggle; however, Phillipsburg was able to put

together a drive late in the first half to tie the score at 6-all heading into halftime.

The Panthers established control early in the third quarter with two quick-strike scores to take an 18-6 lead.

Norton came within a touchdown of the Panthers when J.D. Gall ran 80 yards for a score!

The Blue Jays were unable to tally again, however, and Phillipsburg scored late in the game

to make the final 24-12.

"Although we did not come away with a victory, there were many bright spots for us this evening," said Norton assistant coach David Stover.

"Defensively, we were strong for the majority of the game and we were able to see execution on the offensive side of the ball as well.

"We must continue to improve our consistency from play to play

in order to see continued improvement throughout the lineup.

"Hopefully, we will be able to take what we learned this evening and look to make improvement in all facets of the game in preparation for future contests."

## Next action

The Norton junior varsity will play the Oberlin Red Devils in Norton on Monday evening, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Tien 12 times for 53 yards and 1 touchdown.

Western Plains picked up 288 yards on 57 carries.

In the passing department, B. Tien tossed 7, completed 6 for 26 yards and had 1 interception. Kiser passed twice with 1 completion for 28 yards and 1 touchdown.

Kiser caught 4 passes for 16 yards, Pabst 1 for 8 yards, Leggett 1 for 28 yards and 1 touchdown and Sammons 1 for 2 yards.

Logan's total offensive output for the night was 399 yards. Western Plains was 288.

## Lopsided win for Trojans

The Logan Trojans opened the new football season last Friday with a 40-24 whipping of Western Plains.

The Trojans ran up 345 yards rushing on 40 carries. Kiser carried the ball 19 times for 267 yards and 5 touchdowns, Sammons carried it 9 times for 26 yards, and B.

Sports news, notes and all other info to 877-3361