

# Volleyball opens Tuesday

By DICK BOYD

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Third year Norton Community High School volleyball coach Peggy Cox has a wealth of experience but not much height on the 2009 Lady Jay team which will open the season on Tuesday with matches versus Colby and Osborne in Colby.

Both varsity and junior varsity matches will be held, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The order of varsity matches will be: Colby vs. Osborne, Osborne vs. Norton and Colby vs. Norton. Junior varsity matches will be played in this order: Osborne vs. Norton, Colby vs. Osborne and Colby vs. Norton.

The Lady Jays graduated seven seniors but have four returning letter winners, all of whom have started for three seasons. The returning letter winners are: Shelby Jones, 5'3" senior; Bethany Roy, 5'6" senior; Ashlie Stewart, 5'2" senior and Kaitlyn Wolf, 5'11" senior.

Other players who are expected to see plenty of varsity action are Hannah Waggoner, 5' senior; Bethany Winkel, 5'2" senior; Raven Brown, 5'4" senior; Kendra Engelbert, 5'9" senior; Alyssa Thomson, 5'6" senior and Erin Terrell, 5'9" sophomore.

Other squad members are: Rebekah Streck, 5'6"; Sharrelle Shinn, 5'4"; Katie Gall, 5'5"; Shaylyn Boteler, 5'3", juniors; Caren Thomson, 5'6"; Brooklyn Winkel, 5'3"; Brae Bigge, 5'3"; Kylie Nuzum, 5'5"; Mariah Farber, 5'4"; Alexis Henson, 5'8", sophomores; Alec Melvin, 5'5"; Alexis Lively, 5'6"; Katie Koch, 5'3"; Shelbi McKenna, 5'11"; Sierra Black, 5'2"; Juliana Miller, 5'3"; Katlyn Pell, 4'11"; Katherine Boteler, 5'3"; Kelsey Mordecai, 5'3"; Rachel Slipke, 5'5"; Brianna Karnopp, 5'6"; Kaitlyn Campbell, 5'5"; Kayleigh Norwood, 5'7"; LaNae Dial, 5'4"; Teslee Nickell, 5'6", freshmen.

Assistant coaches again this year will be Christine (Eveleigh) Thompson and Jill Lively, both NCHS graduates.

Student managers are Jade Cressler, Meghan Stewart, Zhesha Huang and Bryan Henry.

"Our strength is that most of our defense returns," said coach Cox. "We lost just one defensive player to graduation. Having four returning starters with three years' experience is really good."

"We're working well together in practice. Our players did a lot of work this summer which should help us."

"Our weakness is our lack of height. Most of our front row will come from former junior varsity players."

## VARSITY-JR.VARSITY SCHEDULE

Tues., September 1 - Colby/Osborne (V, JV) at Colby, 4:30 p.m.  
Tues., September 8 - Northern Valley/Phillipsburg (V, JV) Here 5 p.m.  
Sat., September 12 - Atwood/Brewster/Dundy (V) at Atwood 10 a.m.  
Sat., September 12 - Quinter JV Tournament at Quinter 9 a.m.  
Thurs., September 17 - Goodland (V, JV) Here 4:30 p.m.  
Tues., September 22 - Hoxie/Hill City (V, JV) at Hoxie 4:30 p.m.  
Tues., September 29 - Atwood/Colby (V, JV) Here 4:30 p.m.  
Sat., October 3 - Decatur Invite with Hoxie, St. Francis, Atwood (V, JV) at Oberlin 9 a.m.  
Tues., October 6 - Smith Center/Trego (V, JV) Here 5 p.m.  
Sat., October 10 - Scott City Invitational (V) at Scott City 9 a.m.  
Tues., October 13 - Golden Plains/Logan (V, JV) at Golden Plains 4 p.m.  
Sat., October 17 - Mid-Continent League Tourney (V) at Hill City 9 a.m.  
Tues., October 20 - Goodland/Ulysses (V, JV) at Goodland 5 p.m.  
Sat., October 24 - Sub-State Volleyball Tournament (V) TBA  
Fri. & Sat., Oct. 30-31 - State Volleyball Tournament (V) TBA

**C-team**  
Thurs., September 3 - Colby/TMP/Heartland at Colby 4:30 p.m.  
Sat., September 12 - Phillipsburg Tourney at 8 a.m.  
Thurs., September 17 - Colby/Hays/Wheatland Here 4:30 p.m.  
Mon., September 21 - Smith Center/Phillipsburg/Russell at Smith Center 4:30 p.m.  
Sat., September 26 - Hill City/Ellis/Oakley/TMP/Phillipsburg/Osborne at Hill City 8:30 a.m.  
Sat., October 10 - Atwood/Colby/St. Francis at Atwood 10 a.m.

"We have a more cohesive group of players this season. We have nine seniors so should have good leadership. It's nice to have 35 girls out, which is more than most years. It's good to have 15 freshmen so we can build for the future."

Coach Cox said she expects Phillipsburg and Smith Center to be the teams fighting for the championship in the Mid-Continent League.

She is also happy to have four home matches this season.

Coach Cox is a graduate of Sterling High School and Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in education in 1988. She finished her master's degree in special education in May, 2007.

She was head volleyball coach at Eastern Heights High School for five years and assistant high school volleyball coach at Norton for four years.

After graduating from NCHS, coach Thompson played volleyball at Barton County Community College and Missouri Western University. She coached college volleyball for six years, then was head coach for four years at Northern Valley High School.

Coach Lively played for Barton County Community College before finishing her playing career at Emporia State University. She was the NCHS head volleyball coach for four years before taking a break.

**Fan pictures this evening**  
Fans will get a good look at the Norton volleyball team during

the annual food drive scrimmage this evening in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium. Pictures can be taken beginning at 4 p.m., with the scrimmage scheduled to start at 6 p.m.

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com  
The Norton Community High School girls tennis team will open the 2009 season at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday in the annual Trego Round Robin Tournament in WaKeeney.

Competing teams, in addition to Trego and Norton will be Colby, Osborne, Phillipsburg, Plainville, Russell and Tribune.

Head coach again this year is Jim Green, a veteran coach who guided the Lady Jay tennis team for 25 years and returns this year after a two-year absence.

Coach Green played tennis for three years at Wichita West High School and is a 1974 graduate of Fort Hays State University.

Coach Green's assistant coach this season is Crystal Montgomery. She played tennis for four years at Colby High School, where she placed third in the state in doubles.

She also played tennis for four years at Bethany College, where she competed in national competition two years.

Sixteen players, including four letter winners, have reported to practice for the 2009 squad.

Returning letter winners are Allie Corbin, Emily Juenemann, Kelsey Nuzum, seniors and Meaghan Peterson, junior.

Other team members are: Morgan Baumann, Vanessa Danesan, Kyra Fulton, Kelsie Griffith, Diedre Kramer, Nikki McVey,

## SCHEDULE

Sat., August 29 - Trego Varsity Round Robin (T) 8:30 a.m.  
Thurs., September 3 - Hays Invitational (T) 3 p.m.  
Sat., September 5 - Colby Varsity Tournament (T) 9 a.m.  
Tues., September 8 - Phillipsburg Invitational (T) 1 p.m.  
Thurs., September 10 - Trego JV Round Robin, (T) 1 p.m.  
Sat., September 12 - Norton JV Quad (H) 10 a.m.  
Tues., September 15 - Phillipsburg Quad (T) 3 p.m.  
Tues., September 15 - Russell JV (T) 3 p.m.  
Thurs., September 17 - Phillipsburg JV Quad (T) 3 p.m.  
Tues., September 22 - Goodland JV Tourney (T) 3 p.m.  
Thurs., September 24 - Russell Invitational 9T) 1 p.m.  
Sat., September 26 - Phillipsburg JV Tourney (T) 9 a.m.  
Sat., September 26 - Trego Invitational (T) 9 a.m.  
Tues., September 29 - Colby Tournament (T) 3 p.m.  
Sat., October 3 - Colby JV Tournament (T) 9 a.m.  
Sat., October 3 - Trego Invitational (T) 9 a.m.  
Thurs., October 8 - Regional Tennis TBA  
Sat., October 10 - Sub-State Tennis TBA  
Fri., October 16 - State Tennis TBA

Ashley Millan, Kaitlyn Ross, Katie Scott, Rachel Shepard, juniors; Rhees Carlson, sophomore; Ashley Smith, freshman.

"We have an excellent group of tennis players and are looking forward to a good season," said coach Green.

"At present, we are still trying to determine our varsity squad. At No.1 singles we have Morgan Baumann. Vanessa Danesan, our foreign exchange student from Germany, is playing No.2 singles.

"Solid at No.1 doubles are Meaghan Peterson and Allie Corbin.

"Our No.2 doubles team is still up in the air. Possible entries are

Emily Juenemann and Kyra Fulton, Rachel Shepard and Nikki McVey or Diedre Kramer and Katie Scott.

## Pictures today

Fans are reminded that they are invited to take team and individual photos of the Lady Jays today at the tennis courts in the Swimming Pool Park, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Following the picture session, some exhibition matches will be played.

Admission to the picture session and matches will be a canned good, non-perishable food item, laundry or dish soap or deodorant for God's Pantry in Norton.

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