



Girls 'played hard' in MCL tournament

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls varsity volleyball team played hard but came away with just a 2-2 record in the Mid-Continent League Tournament, most of which was played on Saturday in Hill City.

On Thursday, the Lady Jays had to play Plainville for the right to get into pool play and they defeated the Lady Cardinals 25-21, 25-20.

On Saturday morning, they lost to Phillipsburg 11-25, 6-25, lost to Trego Community 12-25, 20-25 and defeated Ellis 25-23, 26-24.

Plainville

"I was very proud of how our girls came out ready to play against Plainville," said Norton head volleyball coach Peggy Cox. "We have made great strides in our focus and commitment the last couple of weeks and it shows in our play."

"Our Lady Jays are playing as a team and the confidence level has risen."

Individual statistics: kills - Erin Terrell, 5; Alyssa Thomson, 4; Kaitlyn Wolf, 3; Kendra Engelbert, Shelby Jones, Bethany Roy, Ashlie Stewart, 1 each; serving - Jones, Wolf, 2 each; Stewart, 1; digs - Stewart, 5; Kendra En-

gelbert, 3; Erin Terrell, Hannah Waggoner, Wolf, 2 each; Raven Brown, Jones, Bethany Roy, 1 each; assists - Jones, 10; Bethany Winkel, 3; Engelbert, Thomson, Wolf, 1 each; blocks - Engelbert, Terrell, Wolf, 2 each; Jones, Roy, 1 each.

Phillipsburg

"We started the match with Phillipsburg by keeping up with them until about point 10 and then the Lady Panthers pulled ahead," said coach Cox. "In set two, the bottom line is we quit. We let them beat us from the service line and anywhere else that they wanted to."

Individual statistics: kills - Terrell, 3; Jones, 2; Engelbert, 1; aces - Engelbert, Winkel, Wolf, 1 each; digs - Stewart, 4; Brown, 1; assists - Jones, 5; Winkel, 1.

Trego Community

"In the first set against Trego, we didn't put up much of a fight but came alive in the second to almost beat the ladies from Trego," said coach Cox. "We had dug ourselves a hole and came within a point or two when Trego finished us."

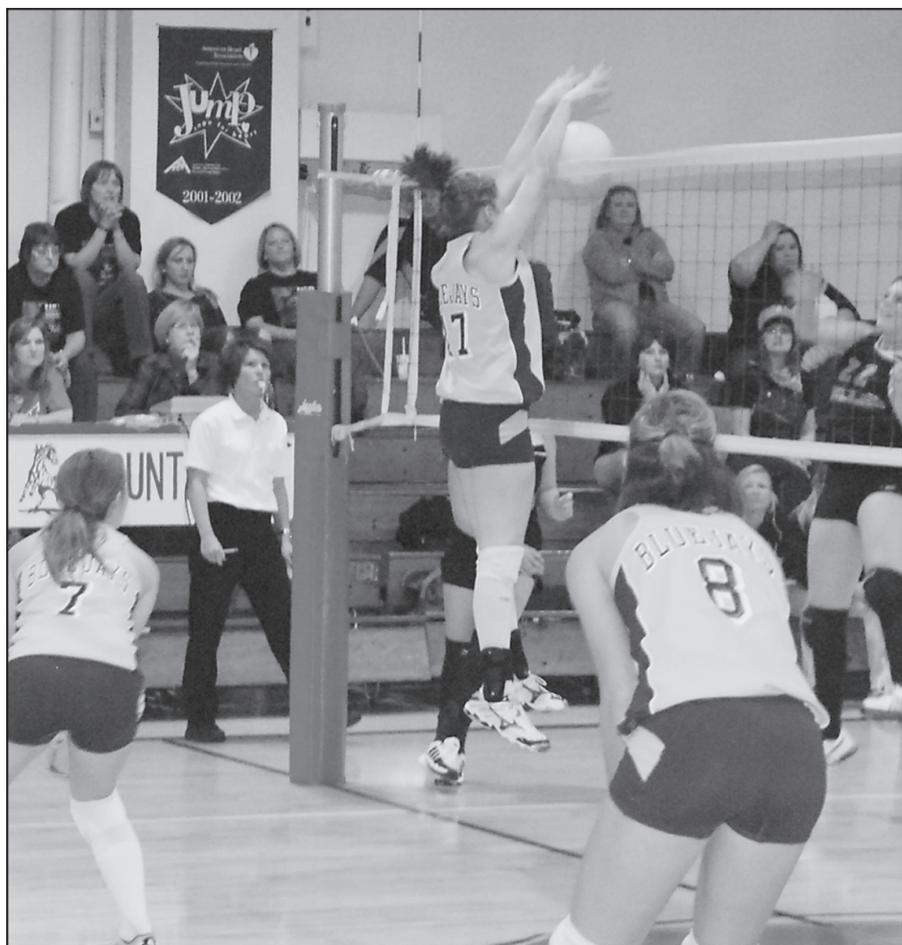
"We finished this match the way we have been playing the last couple of weeks and that's playing to the finish. While we were obviously disappointed in the loss, I



Norton's Bethany Roy went high to spike the volleyball over the outstretched arms of an Ellis player and record the 24th point of the Lady Jays' 26-24 win over the Lady Railroaders in Saturday's Mid-Continent League Tournament in Hill City.

Also shown for Norton are, from left, Bethany Winkel and Alyssa Thomson.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



The Lady Jays' Erin Terrell timed it perfectly when she blocked the volleyball hit by an Ellis player to earn a Norton point during the match win over the Lady Railroaders in the Mid-Continent League Tournament in Hill City on Saturday. Also shown for Norton are Bethany Roy, No.7 and Kendra Engelbert, No.8.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

felt like we put up a fight."

Individual statistics: kills - Terrell, Thomson, 4 each; Roy, 3; Engelbert, Jones, Wolf, 2 each; aces - Jones, Winkel, 1 each; digs - Roy, Wolf, 3 each; Jones, Stewart, Waggoner, 2 each; assists - Jones, 8; Winkel, 4; Engelbert, Thomson, 1 each; blocks - Roy, 4; Engelbert, Thomson, Wolf, 2 each.

Ellis

"In the finals for us in the tournament, we came on strong and didn't let up," said coach Cox proudly.

"Although there were times that Ellis was given a second chance by some erroneous calls, our Lady Jays continued to pass, set and attack extremely well."

"Erin Terrell, with a match high of 10 kills, literally had the defense covering when she went up to swing."

"It was nice to end the day with a win."

Individual statistics: kills - Terrell, 10; Roy, 5; Engelbert, Jones, Stewart, Thomson, Wolf, 1 each; serving - Engelbert, Stewart, Wolf, 2 each; Jones, Winkel, 1 each; digs - Brown, Stewart, Waggoner, 2 each; Jones, Roy, 1 each; assists - Jones, 12; Winkel, 2; Engelbert, Thomson, 1 each; blocks - Roy, Thomson, 2 each; Terrell, 1.

Next action

The Norton girls volleyball team will compete in the Class 3A Sub-State Tournament this Saturday at Thomas More Prep-Marian in Hays. The tournament will begin at 2 p.m.

Norton is seeded No.7 with a 7-19 record and will play No.2 seed Smith Center (32-5) at 3 p.m.

No.1 seed Phillipsburg (34-2) received a first round bye. No.4 seed Thomas More Prep-Marian (20-11) will play No.5 Goodland (17-16) and the winner will play Phillipsburg in the semi-finals.

No.3 Minneapolis (27-9) will play No.6 Beloit (14-18) in the other first round match and the winner will play the winner of the Norton-Smith Center match in the semi-finals.

Semi-finals winners will play for the championship and a berth in the state tournament.

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Lady Blue Jays defeat Ulysses

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team warmed up for this Saturday's Class 3A Sub-State Tournament by defeating Ulysses and losing a close match to Goodland on Tuesday evening in Goodland.

The Lady Jays defeated Ulysses 22-25, 25-15, 25-21 and lost to Goodland 24-26, 18-25.

Ulysses

"We came away with a hard won victory over Ulysses," said Norton head volleyball coach Peggy Cox.

"We lost a close one in the first set but were determined to take it to three for the win."

"We were aggressive from the service line and passed extremely

well. When we were hitting, we found holes in their defense and, if they dug it up, they had troubles getting it to their big girls."

If Ulysses made the connection, we had defense in place to dig it up."

Individual statistics: kills - Erin Terrell, 7; Kaitlyn Wolf, 6; Shelby Jones, 3; Kendra Engelbert, Bethany Roy, Bethany Winkel, 2 each; aces - Engelbert, Roy, 3 each; Ashlie Stewart, Winkel, 2 each; Jones, 1; digs - Raven Brown, 7; Stewart, 6; Jones, Wolf, 5 each; Roy, Hannah Waggoner, 3 each; Engelbert, Terrell, Alyssa Thomson, Winkel, 1 each; assists - Jones, 11; Winkel, 9; blocks - Engelbert, Wolf, 1 each.

Goodland

"Unfortunately, meeting Goodland for the second time did not

put a win in our column," said coach Cox.

"We did a much better job playing them but it just wasn't enough."

"In the second set, we didn't make the necessary adjustments to stop the chute set and they scored time and time again on us with that set."

"We also hurt ourselves with unforced errors such as missed serves at critical times, tight sets and only one block."

Individual statistics: kills - Terrell, 10; Wolf, 3; Jones, Roy, 2 each; Engelbert, Thomson, 1 each; aces - Jones, 2; Stewart, Winkel, Wolf, 1 each; digs - Stewart, 9; Roy, 6; Jones, 4; Waggoner, 2; Terrell, Thomson, Wolf, 1 each; assists - Jones, 14; Winkel, 3; Engelbert, 2; blocks - Terrell, 1.

JV volleyball completes season

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity volleyball team completed their 2009 season with victories over Golden Plains with scores of 25-7, 25-8; over Ulysses by 25-17, 25-16 and over Goodland by 25-16, 25-23 to finish the season with an outstanding 14-7 record.

Golden Plains

In their victory over Golden Plains, the Lady Jays traveled to Golden Plains on October 13.

"We kept control over the match by playing smart and disciplined the entire match," said Norton assistant volleyball coach Christine Thompson. "I was very pleased with the performance of our girls for the entire match."

Individual statistics: kills - Sharrelle Shinn, 4; Teslee Nickell, Brianna Karnopp, Caren Thomson, Shaylyn Boteler, 2 each; Alexis Henson, 1; setting assists

- Nickell, 5; Brooklyn Winkel, 4; Mariah Farber, 2; serving aces - Shinn, 4; Kylie Nuzum, 2; Boteler, Juliana Miller, 1 each; digs - Katie Gall, 4; Nuzum, Miller, 3 each; Shinn, 1.

Ulysses

The Norton junior varsity traveled to Goodland on Tuesday to play Ulysses and Goodland.

"We had difficulties with Ulysses since we did not know what to expect each time the ball came over the net," said coach Thompson. "They were very scrappy and, at times, there were a lot of unexpected plays but we kept control of the match to come away with the win."

Individual statistics: kills - Shinn, 6; Karnopp, 5; Bekah Streck, 5; Boteler, 3; Nickell, 2; Thomson, 1; setting assists - Nickell, 11; Henson, Winkel, Farber, 1 each; serving aces - Nuzum, 4; Boteler, 3; Farber, 2; Nickell, 1; digs - Boteler, 7; Nuzum, Miller,

Thomson, 3 each; Nickell, Shinn, 2 each; Katie Gall, 1.

Goodland

"In the win over Goodland, we played smart and disciplined to come away with an easy win," said coach Thompson.

"Throughout the season, I have been very impressed with how our girls have come together as a team and played. I have noticed great improvement from everyone individually and as a team."

"I am very pleased with our performance and season ending record."

Individual statistics: kills - Karnopp, 6; Shinn, 4; Streck, 3; Henson, Nickell, 1 each; setting assists - Nickell, 14; Winkel, Farber, 2; serving aces - Boteler, 3; Nuzum, Miller, 2 each; Nickell, Shinn, 1 each; digs - Nuzum, 5; Miller, Karnopp, Shinn, 3 each; Boteler, Gall, Nickell, 2 each; Thomson, Farber, 1 each.



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