

Tennis season opens Saturday

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls tennis team will open play in the 2013 season this Saturday, Aug. 31 in the annual Trego Round Robin Tournament in WaKeeney, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Veteran head coach Jim Green has welcomed 14 girls on this year's team: three seniors, two juniors, five sophomores and four freshmen.

Included are six returning letter winners: Rিকেle Green, Ashley Hildebrand, Jessica White, seniors; Molly Scott, Brooke Sumner, juniors and Audrie Burge, sophomore.

Other squad members are: Hailey Branek, Morgan Griffey, Rachel Jones, Lexi Voss, sophomores; Alexandria Aldridge, Christine Figurski, Kennedy Leibbrandt, Brianna White, freshmen.

Coach Green guided Norton's tennis team for 25 years and returned four years ago after a two-year absence.

Assistant coach again this season is Crystal Montgomery.

"We graduated our two singles players Tawni Griffey and Sierra Black," said coach Green. "Tawni placed second in the state in singles twice and was also state champion in singles during the three years she competed for Norton. Tawni will be missed. She was a phenomenal player and showed great leadership for her teammates. Sierra Black was a great singles player, finishing first in a number of tournaments and always giving solid performances. Both of these girls will be difficult to replace."

"Returning from last year, we have all four doubles players: Molly Scott, Jessica White, Ashley Hildebrand and Rিকেle Green. Ashley and Rিকেle played No.1 doubles and Molly and Jessica played No.2 doubles. Their experience should be a great help."

"To replace our singles players, we are looking at a junior and our sophomores. In singles, junior Brooke Sumner has a

hard serve and a lot of experience at singles on the junior varsity level. We hope that she will fill one of the spots on the varsity team and be successful.

"For our other singles position, we have a number of possibilities which include sophomore Hailey Branek, sophomore Audrie Burge and sophomore Morgan Griffey. All three of these girls were members of our team last year and have made a lot of improvement in their play."

"We are looking forward to having a good season."

"In Mid-Continent League play, we expect Phillipsburg and Trego Community to have very strong teams and to be tough to beat."

Coaches' backgrounds

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

Assistant coach Crystal Montgomery played tennis four years at Colby High School, where she placed third in the state in

doubles.

She was also a four-year member of the tennis team at Bethany College, where she played in national competition two years.

Pictures on Friday

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

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

Fans are also invited to bring canned goods, non-perishable food items, soap or deodorant for the non-profit God's Pantry in Norton.



Lady Jays Tennis Schedule



Saturday, Aug. 31 - Trego Round Robin (A) 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 3 - Russell JV Singles Tourney (A) 3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 5 - Hays Invitational (A) 3 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 7 - Colby Tournament (A) 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Phillipsburg Tennis Quad (A) 1 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 12 - Trego JV Round Robin (A) 1 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 14 - Norton JV Tourney (H) 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 17 - Russell JV Tourney (A) 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 17 - Phillipsburg Quad (A) 3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 19 - Phillipsburg JV Tourney (A) 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 24 - Tribune-Greeley JV Tourney in Goodland 3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 26 - Russell Invitational (A) 1 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28 - Phillipsburg JV Tourney (A) 9 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28 - Trego Invitational in WaKeeney 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Colby Tournament (A) 3 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 5 - Salina Sacred Heart Tournament 10 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 5 - Colby JV Tournament (A) 9 a.m.
Friday, Saturday, Oct. 11-12 - Regional Tennis Tourney TBA
Friday, Saturday, Oct. 18-19 - State Tennis Tourney TBA

Norton volleyball team to hit the court on Friday

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkanssas.com
The Norton Community High School volleyball team will open their 2013 season this Friday, Aug. 30 under the guidance of new head coach Christine Thompson when they travel to Plainville to play the Lady Cardinals and Northern Valley Lady Huskies.

Matches will begin at 4:30 p.m.

A 1993 graduate of Norton Community High School, coach Thompson has extensive volleyball experience, both playing and coaching.

Her assistant coaches will be Traci Uehlin and Peggy Cox, both of whom are experienced coaches.

This year's Norton volleyball roster includes 18 girls but only two seniors, Johnnye Ruder, 5'7" and Bailey Ambrosier, 5'9" and three juniors, Adrienne Hager, 5'4" Kaitlyn Bohl, 6'0" and Erin Archer, 5'4".

Ruder and Ambrosier are both returning starters.

Other squad members are: Peyton Renner, 5'7"; Hanna Brooks, 5'7"; Casey Ambro-

sier, 5'10"; Kirstin Georgeson, 5'7"; Nickala O'Hare, 5'4"; Cayanna Campbell, 5'4"; Lexi Hartwell, 5'3"; Lauren Mordecai, 5'11", sophomores; Caitlyn Cox, 5'10"; Baylee Miller, 5'5" Miah Melvin, 5'4"; Kristen Dole, 5'5"; Jena Risewick, 5'7", freshmen.

Student managers for the team are Morgan Farber, Trae Braun and Sabrina Gibson.

"Due to so many seniors graduating last year, we will be depending on a lot of players who had little or no experience at the varsity level," said coach Thompson.

"Our young ladies have been working very hard during two-a-day practices and their attitudes have been great."

"This team is willing to do what it takes to get better and push their teammates as well."

"My assistants and I are looking forward to coaching this group of ladies throughout the season."

Coach's experience

Coach Thompson is the daughter of Debra and Curtis Eveleigh of Norton. Her husband is Brian Thompson, who

is originally from Almena, and they have one daughter, Bailey.

She played volleyball and basketball and competed in track while at NCHS and played softball in the summer.

Christine graduated from NCHS in 1993.

She competed in volleyball at Barton County Community College and Missouri Western State University.

Christine was a graduate assistant coach for two years at Missouri Western State, was head volleyball coach for two years at Fort Scott Community College, assistant coach for one year at Missouri Southern State College and assistant coach for one year at Fort Hays State University.

She has coached volleyball in high school for eight years. She was head volleyball coach at Northern Valley High School for four years and assistant volleyball coach at Norton Community High School for four years.

She has taught special education at NCHS for the past six years.



Norton Lady Jays Volleyball Schedule

Friday, Aug. 30 - Plainville with Northern Valley at Plainville 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 3 - Colby, TMP, Holcomb at Norton 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Stockton, Osborne, Phillipsburg at Stockton 4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 14 - Quinter Junior Varsity Tourney at Quinter 9 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 19 - Goodland, Dundey County at Norton 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 24 - Hill City, Hoxie at Hill City 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Goodland, Wheatland, Wray County at Goodland 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 3 - Hays, Abilene, Salina South at Hays 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 5 - Oberlin Tournament V/JV at Oberlin 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 8 - Trego, Smith Center in WaKeeney 5 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 10 - Ellis, Goodland at Norton 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 12 - Scott City Tourney at Scott City 9 a.m.
Thursday, Oct. 17 - Mid-Continent League Play-in 6 p.m.
TBA
Saturday, Oct. 19 - Mid-Continent League Tourney at Plainville 9 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 26 - Sub-State Tournament TBA
Friday, Saturday, Nov. 1-2 State Tournament TBA

C-TEAM

Thursday, Sept. 5 - Colby, TMP, Oakley at Colby 4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 19 - Wheatland-Grinnell, Colby, Hays at Wheatland-Grinnell 3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 23 - Phillipsbug, Russell, Smith Center at Phillipsburg 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28 - Hill City Tournament at Hill City 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Goodland, Wheatland, Wray County at Goodland 4:30 p.m.

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Deadlines for Labor Day

AD DEADLINE NOON, WED., AUGUST 28 FOR THE FRIDAY, AUGUST 29 ISSUE.

The Monday EXTRA and Tuesday, September 3 paper will be combined and delivered on Wed., Sept. 4

The Telegram Office will be CLOSED on Monday, September 2

215 S. Kansas Avenue
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THE NORTON TELEGRAM

THE SHOPKO AND JAMBOREE FOODS INSERT WILL BE IN THE SEPT. 3 ISSUE THAT WILL BE FREE TO EVERYONE AND IN HOMES SEPTEMBER 4

E-mail: nortontelegram@nwkanssas.com