

# Lady Jays improving; win Oberlin Tourney

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity volleyball team has been very busy lately and has shown improvement every time out.

They played very well against larger schools in Hays on Thursday, Oct. 3 despite losing three matches, then traveled to Oberlin last Saturday where they won the championship of the always-tough Oberlin Tournament.

“Even though we came away with three losses at Hays, we played pretty well,” said Norton head volleyball coach Christine Thompson. “The playing date at Hays every year is a very difficult night for Norton volleyball. Both the junior varsity and varsity teams go up against much bigger schools than we are used to playing. Even though it is a difficult night, I believe it helps our varsity prepare for post-season play.

“Our varsity did very well in being aggressive and communicating the entire night. They took it upon themselves to make sure that the other teams earn almost every point they received.

“Our varsity’s play is starting to flow easier and they are able to keep up with the faster teams now. I was pretty impressed throughout the entire night with our hustle and defense. I feel that our girls are really starting to gel together, being more aggressive and confident.”

At Hays, Norton lost 21-25, 19-25 to Abilene, lost 22-25, 23-35 to Hays High and lost 16-25, 14-25 to Salina South.

## ABILENE

Senior Johnnye Ruder and freshman Caitlyn Cox led in serving aces with 2 each; freshman Baylee Miller had 1.

Ruder was the leader in setting assists with 15, followed by Miller, 1.

Kills leader was junior Katie

Bohl with 10, followed by senior Bailey Ambrosier, Cox, 4 each; Ruder, 2.

Cox had 2 serving aces with 9, followed by Miller, Bohl, 7 each; Bailey Ambrosier, Ruder, 4 each; junior Adrienne Hager, sophomore Casey Ambrosier, sophomore Peyton Renner, 1 each.

Bohl had 1 block.

## HAYS HIGH

Cox had 2 serving aces and Bohl and Miller had 1 each.

Setting assists leader again was Ruder with 13, followed by Miller, 4; Cox, 1.

Ruder and Bohl led in kills with 6 each, followed by Cox, 5; Bailey Ambrosier, 3; Renner, 1.

Digs leaders with 6 each were Ruder and Cox, followed by Miller, 4; Bohl, Bailey Ambrosier, 2 each; Hager, 1.

Bohl and Ambrosier each had 2 blocks, followed by Cox, Casey Ambrosier, Renner, 1 each.

## SALINA SOUTH

Miller led serving aces with 3, followed by Bohl, Bailey Ambrosier, 1 each.

Ruder continued to be the leader in setting assists with 7, followed by Casey Ambrosier, 2; Miller, 1.

Kills leader was Bohl with 6, followed by Bailey Ambrosier, 3; Cox, 2; Ruder and Renner, 1 each.

Cox led in digs with 6, followed by Ruder, 5; Bohl, Bailey Ambrosier, 4 each; Miller, Hager, 2 each; Casey Ambrosier, 1.

## Oberlin Tournament champions

To win the always-tough Oberlin Tournament, Norton defeated St. Francis 25-22, 25-22; outscored Oberlin 25-16, 25-19; beat Atwood 27-29, 25-20, 25-22 and downed state-ranked Hoxie 25-22, 27-25.

“I am very proud of our players and how they played as a

team,” said coach Thompson. “We went into the day confident and played aggressive the entire day. We defeated every team in two sets except Atwood due to errors we made on our side of the net. Even though we made errors against Atwood, we did not let it get us down. We stayed aggressive throughout the entire match and came away with the win.

“The highlight of the day for us was when we beat Hoxie. They are a state ranked team in 1A and defeated us pretty easily earlier in the season. We played very aggressive and stayed ahead and kept them out of rhythm the entire match.

“Our team is really coming together right now and peaking at the right time of the season. All of our girls have grown physically and mentally and they are a delight to watch.”

## ST. FRANCIS

Bohl and Hager each had 3 serving aces, followed by Cox, 2; Ruder, 1.

Ruder had 14 setting assists.

Kills leader was Bohl with 8, followed by Bailey Ambrosier, 6; Ruder, Cox, 2 each; Hager, 1.

Miller and Bailey Ambrosier each had 8 digs, followed by Hager, 4; Ruder, 3; Bohl, 2; Co, Renner, 1 each.

Bailey Ambrosier, Ruder, Cox and Casey Ambrosier each had 1 block.

## OBERLIN

Ruder had 4 serving aces and Hager had 1.

Ruder led again in setting assists with 20; Miller had 2.

Kills leader was Bailey Ambrosier with 10, followed by Cox, 7; Ruder, 5; Casey Ambrosier, Cox, 3 each; Renner, 2.

Bailey Ambrosier had 15 digs, followed by Bohl, 6; Cox, Miller, 5 each; Ruder, Hager, 3 each.

Bailey Ambrosier had 2 blocks while Ruder, Cox, Casey Ambrosier and Renner had 1

block each.

## ATWOOD

Cox and Ruder each had 2 serving aces, followed by Miller, Bohl, Bailey Ambrosier, 1 each.

Setting assists leader again was Ruder with 31, followed by Bohl, Miller, 1 each.

Bohl had 15 kills, followed by Cox, 14; Bailey Ambrosier, 12; Ruder, 3.

Digs leaders were Bailey Ambrosier and Cox with 15 each, followed by Miller, 12; Ruder, 9; Bohl, 7; Renner, 2.

Renner had 3 blocks, Bohl had 2 blocks and Cox had 1 block.

## Junior varsity results

In Hays, the Norton junior varsity volleyball team lost to Hays 7-25, 14-25, lost to Abilene 11-25, 19-25 and lost to Salina South 5-25, 11-25.

“Our serving percentage has been improving,” said Norton assistant volleyball coach Traci Uehlin. “We made 88 percent of our serves in Hays.”

## Hays JV

Serving: sophomore Hanna Brooks, 1 point, 1 ace; freshman Miah Melvin, 3 points, 1 ace; sophomore Lauren Mordecai, 2 points, 1 ace; sophomore Lexi Hartwell, 2 points; sophomore Nickala O’Hare, 1 point.

Kills: Brooks, 1; O’Hare, 1; Mordecai, 1.

Assists: Melvin, 1.

Blocks: Mordecai, 1; Melvin, 1.

Digs: Brooks, 1; Melvin, 2.

## Abilene JV

Serving: freshman Baylee Miller, 3 points, 1 ace; Brooks, 1 point, 1 ace; Melvin, 4 points; Mordecai, 1 point, 1 ace; Hartwell, 1 point; O’Hare, 4 points, 1 ace.

Kills: Brooks, 2; freshman Jena Risewick, 1.

Assists: Hartwell, 3.

Blocks: Brooks, 2; Mordecai, 2.

Digs: Miller, 3; Mordecai, 2.

## Salina South JV

Serving: junior Erin Archer, 2 points; Brooks, 1 point; O’Hare, 1 point.

Kills: Brooks, 1.

Assists: Hartwell, 1.

Blocks: Brooks, 1.

Digs: Archer 4; Mordecai, 2; Melvin, 1.

## JV results in Oberlin

In the Oberlin Tournament, the Norton junior varsity lost to Atwood 10-25, 14-25; lost to Hoxie 16-25, 21-25; lost to Oberlin 22-25, 23-25 and lost to St. Francis 24-26, 25-23, 14-16.

“Our junior varsity had a tough day,” said coach Uehlin. “We started out moving very slowly in the morning against Atwood but the team played much better the rest of the day. Our girls showed tremendous hustle and worked hard. We served 86 percent for the day and played five very close sets with St. Francis and Oberlin. Our girls were disappointed with the final outcomes but their effort was excellent.”

## Atwood JV

Serving: Archer, 100 percent, 3 points; Brooks, 100 percent, 2 points, 2 aces; Melvin, 100 percent, 2 points; sophomore Cayanna Campbell, 80 percent, 3 points, 2 aces; O’Hare, 67 percent, 1 point.

Kills: Mordecai, 2; Melvin, 1; O’Hare, 1.

Assists: Brooks, 2; Hartwell, 1.

Digs: Melvin, 4; Archer, 3.

## Hoxie JV

Serving: Archer, 91 percent, 6 points; Brooks, 75 percent, 4 points; Melvin, 83 percent, 2 points, 2 aces; Campbell, 67 percent, 2 points, 1 ace; Hartwell, 50 percent, 1 point; O’Hare, 100 percent.

Kills: Mordecai, 5; Brooks, 3; O’Hare, 1; Hartwell, 1; Risewick, 1; Archer, 1.

Assists: Hartwell, 5; Brooks, 4; freshman Kristen Dole, 2.

Blocks: Mordecai, 2; Brooks,

1. Digs: Archer, 7; Brooks, 2; Melvin, 1; Campbell, 1.

## Oberlin JV

Serving: Campbell, 89 percent, 5 points; Hartwell, 100 percent, 5 points, 1 ace; Brooks, 88 percent, 4 points, 2 aces; Melvin, 100 percent, 4 points, 3 aces; O’Hare, 100 percent, 3 points; Archer, 67 percent, 2 points.

Kills: Mordecai, 5; Brooks, 2; Melvin, 1; Archer, 1; Dole, 1.

Assists: Hartwell, 7; Brooks, 6; Archer, 1.

Blocks: Brooks, 1; Dole, 1. Digs: O’Hare, 2; Archer, 2; Brooks, 1; Campbell, 1.

## St. Francis JV

Serving: Archer, 89 percent, 13 points, 2 aces; Campbell, 100 percent, 8 points, 2 aces; O’Hare, 90 percent, 6 points, 1 ace; Brooks, 56 percent, 3 points, 3 aces; Hartwell, 86 percent, 2 points; Melvin, 67 percent, 1 point.

Kills: Mordecai, 5; Brooks, 4; Archer, 4; Melvin, 3; O’Hare, 3; Dole, 2; Risewick, 1.

Assists: Brooks, 10; Hartwell, 6; Dole, 1; O’Hare, 1.

Blocks: Brooks, 4; Mordecai, 4; Dole, 1.

Digs: Hartwell, 7; Melvin, 7; O’Hare, 6; Brooks, 4; Campbell, 3; Archer, 3; Mordecai, 1.

## Next action

Norton hosted Ellis and Goodland on Thursday night in the NCHS Stull Gym. It was “Pink Out Night” to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

It was also “Senior Night”. The following seniors and their parents were honored: Johnnye Ruder and Bailey Ambrosier.

Results were not available at the Norton Telegram’s press time.

On Saturday, Norton will compete in the Scott City Volleyball Tournament, beginning at 9 a.m.

borne, 8-3; drew two byes and outscored Orianna Ratzlaff and Macey Witmer, Phillipsburg, 8-6.

“It was one of those days when wins were hard to come by but Rickele and Molly had two,” said coach Green.

## Next action

Norton will compete this Friday and Saturday in the Class 3A Regional Tennis Tournament in WaKeeney. Starting time Friday and Saturday will be 10 a.m.

# Norton places fourth in mixed league tennis tournament

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity tennis team had to battle the weather as well as quality players in the Mixed Leagues Championship Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 5 in Phillipsburg.

Norton tied for fourth. Trego Community won the championship with 37 points, followed by Phillipsburg, 23; Osborne, 16; Norton, 12; Victoria, 12.

“It was terrible conditions for

tennis with the temperatures in the 40s and a strong cross wind,” said Norton head tennis coach Jim Green. “The wind chill made it cold and the wind blew a number of balls off the court.

“The day didn’t start well when our team matched up against Trego in the first round. All four of our entries lost to the eventual champion Lady Golden Eagles.”

Norton junior Brooke Sumner placed fifth in No.1 singles.

She lost 8-1 to Tabitha Wolf, Trego; lost 8-2 to Taylor Noel, Osborne, lost 8-0 to Brooke Schmidt, Victoria and lost 8-0 to Amy Stapel, Phillipsburg.

“Brooke played well,” said coach Green. “Singles is the toughest division to compete in; all of the entries are very experienced and solid players. Brooke made a very good effort in all of her matches.”

Playing No.1 doubles for Norton and placing third were seniors Ashley Hildebrand

and Jessica White. They lost 8-5 to Ella Sherwood and Allyson Denning, Trego; drew a bye; shutout Ashlyn Hammer-schmidt and Sienna Hockersmith, Victoria, 8-0; drew a bye and lost 8-4 to Mariah Coomes and Brittni Groothoff, Phillipsburg.

“Ashley and Jessica played all of their opponents very close,” said coach Green.

No.2 singles player for Norton was sophomore Audrie Burge and she finished in fifth.

# Junior varsity volleyball team wins

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity volleyball team defeated Wheatland-Grinnell 25-21, 14-25, 15-8, lost to Goodland 20-25, 18-25 and lost to Wray, Colo. 19-25, 20-25 on Tuesday, Oct. 1 in Goodland.

“We had two close matches to start the evening but had disappointing endings,” said Norton assistant volleyball coach Traci Uehlin. “The win in our last match of the night against Wheatland-Grinnell was an exciting moment for our girls. We were able to defeat them even though they had previously won when we played at the Quinter JV Tournament.

“Our girls kept positive attitudes, even after losing the second set, to come back and win the third set in order to take home a win for the evening.”

## Goodland JV

Serving: junior Erin Archer, 7 points, 2 aces; sophomore Hanna Brooks, 4 points, 3 aces; freshman Miah Melvin, 2 points; sophomore Cayanna Campbell, 2 points; sophomore Nickala O’Hare, 3 points.

Kills: Brooks, 3; Melvin, 1; Archer, 1; freshman Jena Risewick, 1.

Assists: sophomore Lexi Hartwell, 5; Brooks, 1.

Blocks: Mordecai, 2; Melvin, 1.

## Wray JV

Serving: Archer, 5 points, 1

ace; Brooks, 3 points, 1 ace; Melvin, 2 points; Campbell, 2 points; Hartwell, 2 points.

Kills: Brooks, 1; Melvin, 1; Archer, 1.

Assists: Campbell, 1.

Blocks: Hartwell, 1; Archer, 1; Risewick, 1.

## Wheatland-Grinnell JV

Serving: Archer, 15 points, 6 aces; Brooks, 5 points; Melvin, 4 points, 1 ace; Campbell, 4 points, 1 ace; Hartwell, 1 point; O’Hare, 1 point.

Kills: Dole, 2; Mordecai, 1; O’Hare, 1.

Assists: Brooks, 2; Dole, 1; Hartwell, 1.

Blocks: Brooks, 1; Mordecai, 1.

Digs, O’Hare, 1.

# Freshmen football team sees action

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School football freshmen and junior varsity players competed for one half each against Hays High on Monday in Hays.

In the first quarter of the freshmen game, Hays scored with 6:05 left and the extra points conversion attempt was unsuccessful. With :39 remaining, Hays scored again and added a two-point conversion to take a 14-0 lead.

Hays also scored with 2:07 left in the second quarter. The Norton defense held Hays out of the end zone for two points. The game ended with Hays leading 20-0.

In the first quarter of the junior varsity half, Hays scored with 5:03 remaining. The Blue Jay defense stopped the two-point conversion try.

With 2:55 left, Norton junior tailback Jared Tallent scored on a 22 yard run. The two-point conversion attempt failed, leav-

ing the score tied at 6-all.

At the 1:10 mark of the first quarter, Hays scored again. The Norton defense stopped the two-point try, making the score 12-6.

Hays scored again with :47 remaining in the second quarter and added the two-point conversion for a final score of 20-6.

## Next action

The Norton junior varsity will play a full four-quarter game versus Colby on Monday at Travis Field in Norton.

Kickoff will be at 5:30 p.m.

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