

Blue Jays win fifth league title

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School wrestling team won their fifth straight Mid-Continent League Wrestling Tournament on Saturday in Stockton as they outscored runnerup Smith Center by 59 points and placed all 13 wrestlers they entered in the competition.

Norton rolled up a team score of 216 points, followed by Smith Center, 157; Ellis, 113; Phillipsburg, 106; Plainville, 90; Osborne, 52; Trego, 50; Hill City, 46; Stockton, 29.

Winning championships were freshman Kent Mann, 103; freshman Nathan Broeckelman, 119; senior James Annon, 130; sophomore Lance Roe, 135; and junior Michael Sprigg, 275.

Earning silver medals were sophomore Clay Madden, 112; senior Jordon Haussermann, 152; senior C.J. Thiele, 160 and senior Bo Pfannenstiel, 171.

Senior Scott Goldsby placed third at 140 pounds.

Finishing in fourth place were senior Curtis Black, 125; sophomore Jeremy Harding, 145; and senior Josh Green, 189.

There was no catching the Blue Jays after they extended a 30-28 team lead over Smith Center to a 65 point margin in the semi-finals.

"Going into the tournament, we knew we should win it if we wrestled well," said Coach Johnson. "I'm pleased with the effort from most of our guys. Our opponents had to work hard to beat us.

"We took care of business in the lower weights but had some tough matchups in the heavier weights."

Norton had 27 wins and only 10 losses and had a 16-4 pin ratio in the tournament.

At 103 pounds, Mann was seeded No. 1. He drew a first round bye, then pinned No. 5 seed Dusty Unrein, Ellis, in 4:39. In the championship match, he won a 10-2 major decision over No. 3 seed Jeff Everett, Smith Center. Mann is now 9-5 for the season.

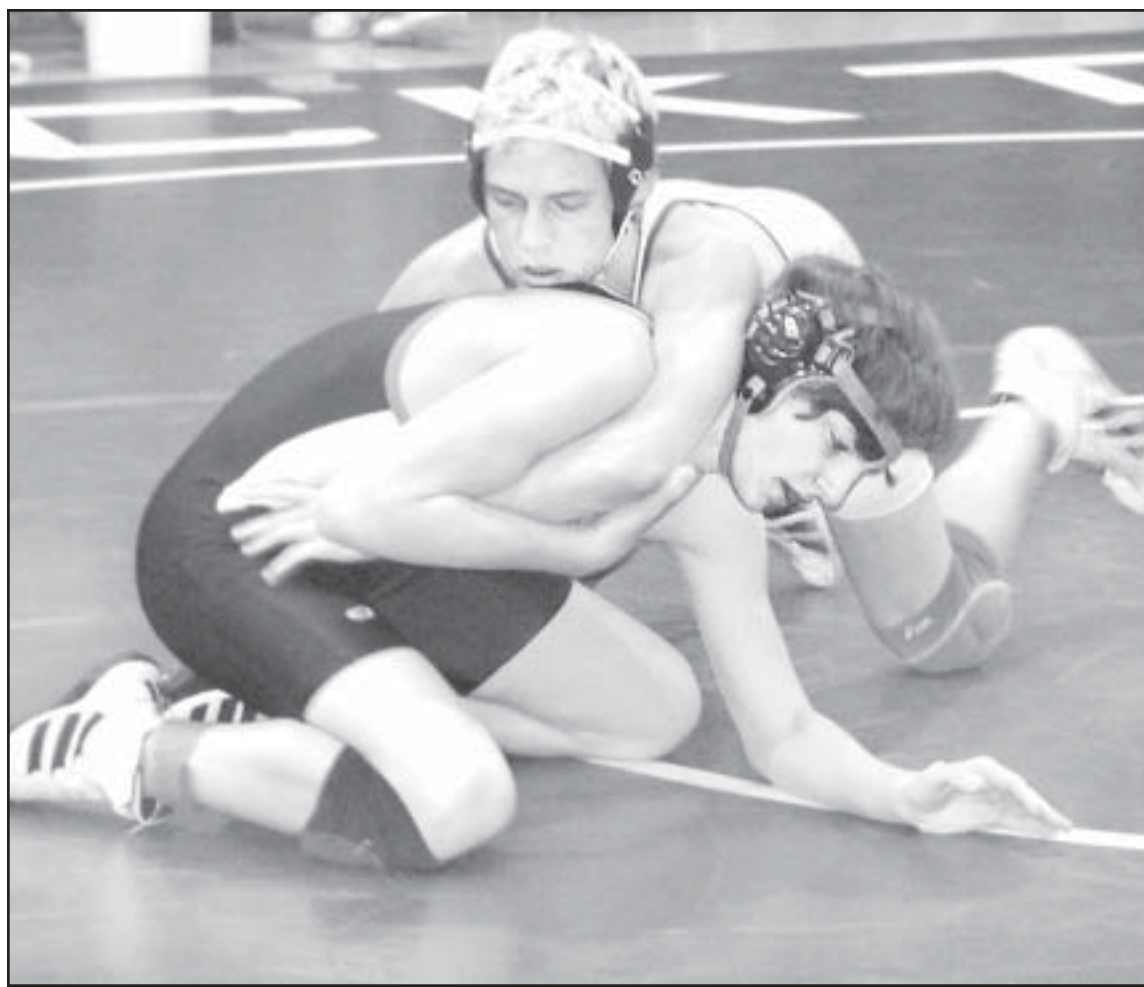
No. 2 seed Zach Ceman, Phillipsburg, won third place with a 12-4 major decision over Unrein.

Broeckelman was seeded No. 4 at 119 pounds. In the first round, he pinned No. 5 seed Jace Miller, Stockton, in 1:01. In the semi-finals, he pinned No. 1 seed Joe Olson, Trego, in 4:25. In the championship finals, he won a 7-5 decision over No. 3 seed Adam Walz, Ellis. In beating Olson, Broeckelman avenged an earlier loss and extended his season record to 20-10.

Coach Johnson named Broeckelman "Wrestler of the Week".

For third place at 119 pounds, Olson wrestled No. 2 seed Brandon Kaup, Phillipsburg, and defeated him 5-3 in overtime.

No. 1 seeded and No. 1 state



Sophomore Lance Roe completely dominated Cole King of Ellis in the 135 pound championship finals in the Mid-Continent League Tournament on Saturday in Stockton. Lance won a 16-3 major decision over King to earn the gold medal and extend his season record to 22-5. Roe is ranked No. 4 in the state. —Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

ranked Annon pinned his way to the 130 pound championship. After receiving a first round bye, he pinned No. 4 seed Clint Hackerott, Osborne, in 3:50. In the championship finals, he pinned No. 2 seed Jake Weigel, Plainville. In the championship finals, he won a 16-3 major decision over No. 2 seed Cole King, Ellis. Roe's record is now 22-5.

Hackerott won third place with a fall in 1:38 over No. 3 seed Mitch Beard, Phillipsburg.

Roe was seeded No. 1 at 135 pounds and is ranked No. 4 in the state. In the first round, he drew a bye. In the semi-finals, he won a 20-5 technical fall over No. 4 seed Jake Weigel, Plainville. In the championship finals, he won a 16-3 major decision over No. 2 seed Cole King, Ellis. Roe's record is now 22-5.

For third place, Zach Allen, Smith Center, pinned Weigel in 2:12.

At 275 pounds, Sprigg was seeded No. 2 and Ryan Honas, Ellis, was seeded No. 1. Honas is ranked No. 1 in the state and Sprigg is ranked No. 2.

Sprigg drew a first round bye, then pinned No. 3 seed Adam Rorabaugh, Smith Center, in 2:44 to reach the championship match versus Honas. The score was tied 1-1 after regulation. In the first overtime period, neither wrestler scored. Since Honas scored first in the match, he got his choice in the overtime tiebreaker and chose bottom. He was unable to escape from Sprigg's grasp so Sprigg was declared the winner. "It wasn't a very pretty match," said Coach

Johnson. "I was glad to see Sprigg win but felt he needed to wrestle more aggressively to avoid an overtime situation." Sprigg extended his season record to 20-2.

Rorabaugh won third place by pinning No. 6 seed Dustin Patee, Osborne, in 20 seconds.

Madden had not wrestled for some time due to an injury but the unbeaten state champion was seeded No. 1 at 112 pounds and ranked No. 1 in the state. After drawing a first round bye, he won a 17-2 technical fall over No. 5 seed Trey Kellner, Stockton. Coach Johnson did not want to chance another injury so he injury defaulted Madden after his semi-finals victory. He is now 13-0.

No. 2 seed Paul Owings, Plainville, who is also ranked No. 2 in the state, won the championship. Justin York, Smith Center, placed third by pinning No. 6 seed Brian Keller, Ellis, in 1:32.

At 152 pounds, Hill City's Tanner Long is ranked No. 4 in the state and Norton's Jordon Haussermann is ranked No. 6. Long was seeded No. 1 and Haussermann was No. 2 on Saturday. In the first round, Haussermann pinned Seth Brin, Plainville, in 1:17. In the semi-finals, he won a 12-3 major decision over No. 3 seed Tom Kriley, Smith Center. In the championship finals, he wrestled Long. He was competing with Long on even terms when he got out of position and was pinned in 1:57. "Haussermann has lost to Long previously but he was doing bet-

ter against him until he was pinned," said Coach Johnson. Haussermann is now 24-8 for the season.

Kriley won third place by pinning No. 4 seed Ricky Hilgers, Trego, in 2:57.

Thiele was seeded No. 2 at 160 pounds. In the first round, he pinned Casey Corbett, Osborne, in 1:48. In the semi-finals, he pinned No. 3 seed Aaron Honas, Ellis, in 2:40. In the championship finals, he wrestled No. 1 seed and No. 2 state ranked Austin Kingsbury, Smith Center. Kingsbury won the championship with a 4-1 decision.

"This was the third time Thiele has wrestled Kingsbury and lost to him but he is getting closer every time," said Coach Johnson. Thiele is now 15-8 for the season.

Honas placed third with a 5-0 decision over No. 4 seed Brian Hadley, Phillipsburg.

Pfannenstiel is ranked No. 4 in the state at 171 pounds and was seeded No. 1 on Saturday. In the first round, he pinned Levi Earl, Stockton, in 36 seconds. In the semi-finals, he pinned No. 5 seed Justin LaBarge, Ellis, in 2:30. In the championship finals, he was edged 5-4 by No. 2 seed Lance Underhill, Hill City. "Bo had beaten Underhill the first time they wrestled this season," said Coach Johnson. Pfannenstiel is now 16-4 for the season.

No. 3 seed Tyler Brungardt, Plainville, placed third with a 12-4 major decision over No. 6 seed Cody Colby, Osborne.

Goldsby was seeded No. 2 at 140 pounds. In the first round, he pinned Dustin Cross, Ellis, in 1:38. In the semi-finals, he lost a 10-8 overtime decision to No. 3 seed Adam Meyers, Plainville. In the consolation bracket, he won a 15-4 major decision over No. 5 seed Dan Atkisson, Stockton, then won a 10-5 decision over No. 4 seed Justin Hackerott, Osborne, to place third. Goldsby is now 16-10 for the season.

No. 1 seed Brad Rachow, Phillipsburg, won the championship with an 8-6 decision over Meyers.

Black was seeded No. 3 at 125 pounds. In the first round, he pinned Michael Baxter, Stockton, in 1:32. In the semi-finals, he lost a 4-0 decision to No. 2 seed John Kroeger, Ellis. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Brian Frick, Trego, in 1:31. In the consolation championship match, he lost a 6-4 decision to No. 4 seed Jason Calhoon, Phillipsburg. Black's record is now 10-8 for the season.

No. 1 seed Travis Warner, Smith Center, won the championship with a 4-0 decision over Kroeger.

Jeremy Harding was the No. 6 seed at 145 pounds. In the first round, he pinned Catlin Zahorsky, Plainville, in 5:53. In the semi-finals, he was pinned by No. 2 seed Cody Breon, Phillipsburg. In the consolation championship match, he wrestled Zahorsky again but this time he lost by a 14-5 decision. Harding is 8-11 for the season.

Breon won the championship with a 13-9 decision over No. 1 seed Jake Nichols, Smith Center.

At 189 pounds, Green was seeded No. 4. In the first round, he won a 4-2 decision over No. 5 seed Jacob Dougherty, Phillipsburg. In the semi-finals, he wrestled No. 1 seed and No. 2 state ranked Lucas Scott, Smith Center. He was pinned in 31 seconds by Scott. In the consolation bracket, Green won a 7-4 decision over Kyle Spena, Trego, then lost an 11-5 decision to Justin Hall, Stockton. Green is 10-8 for the season.

Scott won the championship with a 5-1 decision over No. 3 seed Dustin Spears, Osborne.

Norton was open at 215 pounds. Ty Brunswig, Trego, won the championship with a fall in 1:54 over Clayton Holsinger, Phillipsburg. A.J. Garcia, Plainville, placed third with a 7-4 decision over Chris Pulec, Stockton.

Next action

Norton will travel to Ellis on Friday to wrestle duals against Plainville and Ellis, beginning at 5 p.m. The Norton-Ellis dual will be first, followed by Norton-Plainville and Ellis-Plainville.

On Saturday, Norton will compete in the Panther Classic in Phillipsburg, beginning at 9 a.m.

Matmen take 6th in tourney

By DICK BOYD

The Norton junior varsity wrestlers placed sixth in the Elm Creek Invitational Wrestling Tournament on January 16.

Cozad won the championship, followed by Elm Creek, Alma, Overton, Burwell, Norton, Lexington Anselmo Merna, Pleasanton, Others Southern Valley, Elm Creek Holdrege, Rock County, Osceola, and Gibbon.

Seven wrestlers competed for Norton. Logan Keiswetter (103) and Jon Harding (125) won championships, Davvid Stanley (160) and C.J. Thiele (171) each placed third. Chris Davis (135), Corey Look (152) and Shane Stanley (215) also competed.

Keiswetter drew a first round bye, then pinned Dakota Schoenhofer, Elm Creek. In the championship match, he pinned Cory Snider, Overton.

Harding pinned Mike Linder, Holdrege in their 125 pound first round match. Next, he pinned Joe Gomez, Cozad. In the championship finals, he pinned Drew Boston, Alma.

Davvid Stanley pinned Will Morgan, Lexington in of their first round match. In the semi-finals, he lost 12-1 to Shaun Pfeil, Alma. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Dylan Smith, Osceola, then pinned Jeff Bartak, Anselmo Merna.

Pfeil won a 6-4 decision over Mitch Zook, Cozad, for the championship.

Thiele at 171 pounds was pinned by Auston Brockmeier, Others, in the first round. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Shane Davis, Overton, then won by forfeit from Brett Gumb, Burwell. In the consolation championship, he pinned Jesse Barton, Elm Creeks.

At 135 pounds, David lost his first match in overtime by 11-9 to Jeremy Wells, Anselmo Merna. In the consolation bracket, he won a 19-3 technical fall over Ivin Hubbard, Elm Creek, then was pinned Ryan Bohl, Southern Valley.

Korey Look wrestled at 152 pounds. In the first round, he was pinned in 1:56 by Kurt Gil, Cozad. In the consolation bracket, he was pinned by Manuel Becerra, Lexington.

Junior High starts wrestling

The Norton Junior High Wrestling team began its season last night in a dual against Oberlin and Oakley in Oberlin.

On the squad this year and their beginning weights are: seventh grade—Justin Gibson, 87.7; Zach Bainter, 92.3; Breyer Simmons, 102.2; Logan Kelly, 103.4; Cody Bredemeier, 106; Kirby Brandyberry, 109.2; Brad Nuzum, 117.3; Matt Stanley, 121; Brock Lauer, 121.8; Cody McMullen, 123.7; Jordan Bebb, 125.1; and Zac Dreher, 150.5; eighth grade—Elliott Conard, 84.7; Andrew Black, 99.6; Travis Ray, 105.2; Bryce Engelbert, 107; Aaron Van Der Wege, 112; Todd Bolt, 116.3; Jeff Soderlund, 120.2; Aaron Husted, 123.5; Caleb Hoft, 129; Clay McMullen, 134.6; Levi Ninemire, 136.9; Brian Sproul, 148.8; Kyle Edgett, 166.1; Zach Mannel, 184.5; Ben Rojas, 227.9; Ben Wuest, 186.6.

The annual Norton Junior High School Invitational Wrestling Tournament will be this Thursday with the wrestling to begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Norton Memorial Gym. The tourney will run straight through and will be on three mats.

Wrestling in the tournament will be Norton, Atwood, Colby, Hill City, Hoxie, Oakley, Osborne and Smith Center.

Admission prices will be \$5 for

adults and \$4 for students. No passes will be honored. Pre-school and cheerleaders in uniform will be admitted free.

A trophy will be awarded to the top three teams and medals to the top four placers in each bracket.

Norton Junior High School Wrestling Schedule

Jan. 29 — Oberlin and Oakley at Oberlin, 4 p.m.
Feb. 5 — Stockton and Osborne

at Norton, 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 7 — Norton Junior High School Invitational Tournament, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 12 — Plainville and Smith Center, 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 19 — WaKeeney and Hill City at WaKeeney, 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 26 — Phillipsburg and Ellis at Phillipsburg, 3:30 p.m.

March 6 — Mid-Continent Elementary League Tournament at Ellis, 9:30 a.m.

Norton County Forecast for February 3rd-9th

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
	33/13	35/25	28/15	25/10	30/15	28/18	30/15
Normal High	43				Sunrise 7:40 to 7:46am		
Normal Low	17				Sunset 6:01 to 6:08pm		

A storm over the weekend brought 1-3" of snow across the area with heavier amounts across Central and Eastern Kansas, Eastern Nebraska, and Iowa. Today will be the calm before a second storm swings out of the Rockies this evening and tonight. A nice 4" to 8" snow looks promising over the Tri-State area starting this evening, continuing overnight and tomorrow, then ending early Thursday. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will bring sunshine, but temperatures will still be below normal. An active upper level Jet Stream and colder temperatures will continue over the second week of February.

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