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THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Boys and girls basketball and Norton wrestling.

Tuesday
February 17, 2004

Norton, Kansas
Home of Dale Severns

Briefly Surplus food to be distributed

The Norton County Senior Citizens will be distributing government surplus food for low income families and individuals in Norton County.

Distribution sites include the Almena Senior Center, 9-11 a.m., Lenora Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. and Norton Senior Center, 2-5 p.m., Wednesday; and the Clayton library, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Saturday.

The food will include peas, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, peaches, refried beans, salmon and English walnuts.

To learn more call Ramona Pabian at 877-5352.

Church to hold pancake supper

Trinity Episcopal Church will celebrate Shrove Tuesday with its annual pancake supper from 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the church, 102 E. Waverly.

The menu includes pancakes, sausage, applesauce, coffee and milk.

Shrove Tuesday, the last Tuesday before Lent, is also known as "Fat Tuesday". The custom is to feast on that day to use up all household fats before the beginning of fasting during Lent. The most common way to use fat during medieval times was to make pancakes, a custom that continues to this day.

Daffodils available

For a donation of \$5 to the American Cancer Society, you can have a bouquet of daffodils delivered to you.

The fresh-cut flowers may be ordered now through Feb. 20 by calling Norma Rumford, 877-3835, or Beverly Kindler, 877-3497.

Weather Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows in the upper 20s. **Wednesday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 60s. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy with lows around 30. **Thursday** — Mostly cloudy and cooler. **Thursday Night** — Cloudy with 30 percent chance of snow.

Howell report:

Friday High 46, Low 20
Saturday High 30, Low 9
Sunday High 39, Low 21
Monday High 47, Low 26
Week ago High 43, Low 20
Month ago High 55, Low 35
Year ago High 45, Low 26
February precipitation60 inches
Year-to-date precipitation 1.15 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Dearest God, you walk beside us on every step of our earthly journey. May we always call on you for strength, courage, and assurance. Amen



Norton Lions Club member Ed Witt (top) gets two cars ready to race at Saturday's annual Pinewood Derby. Cub Scouts of all ages, as well as their families, (above) watched as the wooden cars flew down the track.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

Cub Scouts race cars in Pinewood Derby

The annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby was held Saturday afternoon at Eisenhower Elementary in Norton.

Members of Cub Scout Pack 181, their families and past Pinewood Derby car builders all gathered to watch as the little wooden cars, the scouts built, were raced on a track built by Ed Witt.

Brett Pulec won the race, making this his second championship. Taking second was John Renner, while Cole Renner's car came in third and Bradon Carlton's placed fourth.

John Coe won the slowpoke award and

John Renner took best in show.

All of the scouts, who participated, received a trophy.

After the awards were given out, the past car builders had a chance to see how well their cars still did in the racing circuit.

The derby is sponsored by the Norton Lions Club, whose members ran the races and did the judging.

The next event for Cub Scout Pack 181 will be the annual Blue and Gold Banquet this Sunday at the Norton Christian Church.

Taxpayers protest county's care of roads

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

A former Norton County treasurer and her husband have protested the county's property tax levy for roads with the state, claiming that the county does not take good enough care of their road.

Phillip and Valerie Babcock are protesting the levy for roads and bridges because, according to documents filed with the state, the county crews have not properly maintained the road on which they live.

The Babcocks live in Aldine Township

off U.S. 283 on County Road W3, near the Nebraska state line.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan talked to the commissioners about the appeal at their last two meetings.

Mr. Brannan said that he feels that his crew has been maintaining W3 as well as or better than any other road in the area.

"We've actually spent more on her road than any other in the township," he said. "... we put millings on past her driveway. It's in as good a shape as any other road

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Citizens look at rebuilding, repairing city tennis courts

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton's tennis courts are in such bad repair that the school board has decided to discontinue the sport, which is why people gathered Sunday afternoon to see what can be done about the problem.

Norton Superintendent Greg Mann explained why the school board decided to stop the sport. He said the condition of the courts was brought to his attention in September and he was appalled at their condition.

Mr. Mann said the courts had been repaired at least three times in the past 16 years and that they have two sets of cracks which are starting to split and become uneven.

"I'm going to have to stand behind this," he said. "Unless something happens with the courts before August, we won't be able to play. It's just too dangerous."

He said a consulting firm had looked at the courts for the school board.

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Norton to host regional wrestling

By DICK BOYD

Norton Community High School will host the Class 3-2-1A Regional Wrestling Tournament this Friday and Saturday in the high school gym.

With eight of the top 10 ranked Class 3-2-1A teams in the state of Kansas competing, it should be the toughest regional tournament in the state.

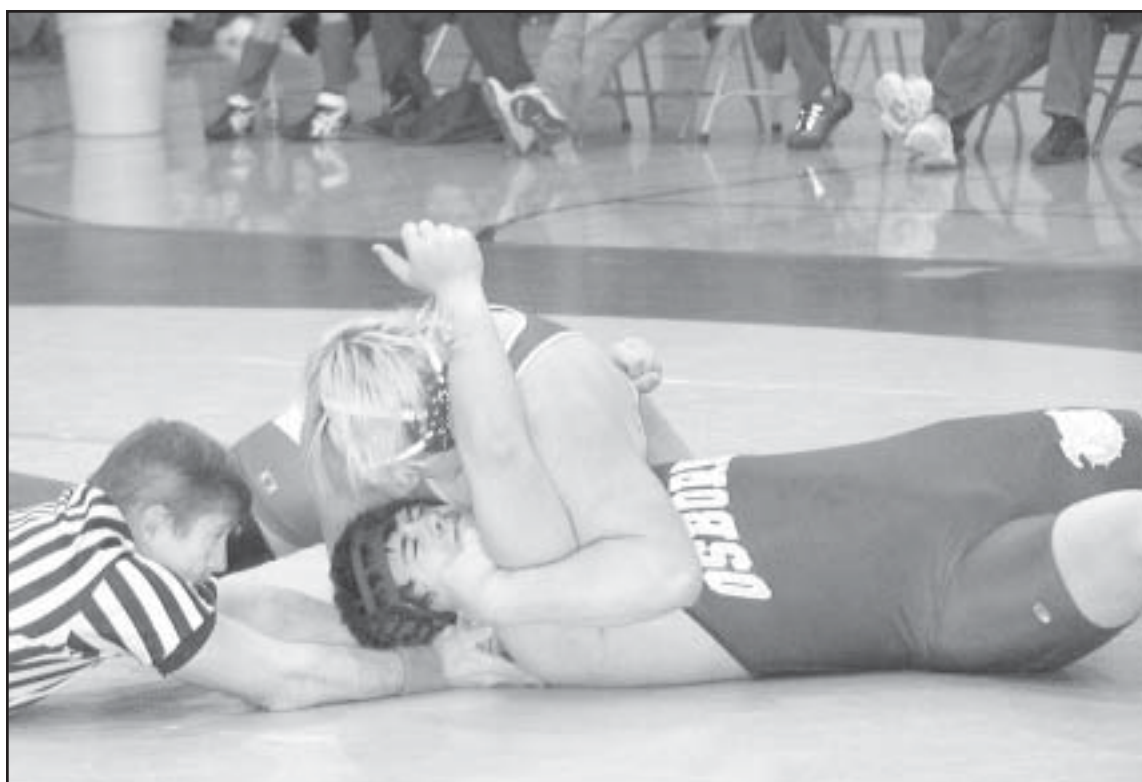
Competing will be teams from No. 1 ranked Hoxie, No. 2 Norton, No. 4 Oberlin, No. 5 St. Francis, No. 6 Oakley, No. 8 Beloit and Smith Center and Atwood, tied for No. 9 and 10.

Other teams in the tournament will be from Belleville, Eastern Heights, Hill City, Kensington, Lincoln, Minneapolis, Osborne, Phillipsburg, Plainville, St. John's Military, Sylvan Grove and Stockton.

Out of 85 state-ranked wrestlers, 41 are on teams which will compete in this tournament.

Norton has had a great season so far. Coach Bill Johnson's Blue Jay wrestlers have compiled an impressive 16-0 dual record. In addition, they won championships at the Hoxie Invitational.

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Michael Sprigg, Norton's No. 2 state ranked junior 275 pound wrestler, put the finishing touches on the Blue Jays' 75-3 dual victory over Osborne on Thursday by pinning Dustin Patee in 1:14.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Don't gamble on love



First place winner in *The Norton Telegram's* Valentine promotion was Holly Puga (right). Mrs. Puga was one of many shoppers who picked up playing cards at Moffet Drug Store, The End Zone, Russ' Jewelry, Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse, Kellie's and ComputerPro. First prize was an arrangement of a dozen silk roses but Mrs. Puga gave them to her mother, Deb Jones (top) who was the second prizewinner, and took the stuffed teddy bear since that is the theme for the nursery she is decorating. Third-prize winner was Anita Hildebrand (above left) who is sampling the scented candle she took home.

—Photos by Carolyn Plotts and Carol Erlenbusch

Regional wrestling tourney to bring athletes, fans to town

(Continued from Page 1)
tational Tournament, Clay Center Tournament, J.R. Durham Tournament, Mid-Continent League Tournament and Panther Classic in Phillipsburg. They placed fourth in the prestigious Newton Tournament of Champions behind Bishop Carroll, Manhattan and Emporia.

Norton's state-ranked wrestlers are sophomore Clay Madden, No. 1, 112 pounds; freshman Nathan Broeckelman, No. 6, 119 pounds; senior James Annon, No. 1, 130 pounds; sophomore Lance Roe, No. 4, 135 pounds; senior Bo Pfannenstiel, No. 4, 171 pounds; and junior Michael Sprigg, No. 2, 275 pounds.

Other state-ranked wrestlers expected are: Trevor Richard, St. Francis, No. 2; Matt Migchelbrink, Atwood, No. 3; Mark Samuelson, Oakley, No. 5, 103 pounds; Paul Owings, Plainville, No. 2, 112 pounds;

Cale Farber, Hoxie, No. 1, 119 pounds; Levi Younkin, Oakley, No. 2; Dylan Lloyd, St. Francis, No. 3; Tyler Baker, Hoxie, No. 4; Bradly Esterl, Beloit, No. 6, 125 pounds; Michael Schamberger, Hoxie, No. 4, 130 pounds; Tracy Jordan, Beloit, No. 2, 135

pounds; Mat Gilliland, Hoxie, No. 1; Brad Rachow, Phillipsburg, No. 4; Adam Meyers, Plainville, No. 5, 140 pounds; Jason Schippers, Hoxie, No. 1; Matt Coleman, Oberlin, No. 2; Trey Hilt, St. Francis, No. 5; Shawn Kuhlman, Oakley, No. 6, 145 pounds;

Matt Schippers, Hoxie, No. 1; Logan Glaze, Oberlin, No. 2; Tanner Long, Hill City, No. 3; Jeff Doering, Minneapolis, tie for No. 6, 152 pounds; Chance Harman, Oberlin, No. 1; Jeff Dennis, Oakley, No. 4; Doug Campbell, Hoxie, No. 5, 160 pounds; Derek Ross, St. Francis, No. 2; Brett Keck, Oberlin, No. 3, 171 pounds;

Bob Dennis, Oakley, No. 1; Lucas Scott, Smith Center, No. 2; Eric Larson, Lincoln, No. 3, 189 pounds; Jeff Horinek, Atwood, No. 1; Chance Mitchell, Belleville, No. 3; Gabe Walz, St. Francis, No. 6, 215 pounds; and Adam Rorabaugh, Smith Center, No. 4; Heath Klein, Atwood, No. 5, 275 pounds.

"With this many state-ranked wrestlers in the tournament, it should be a barn burner," said Coach Johnson.

"We will have to wrestle our best to qualify enough wrestlers for the state tournament to chal-

lenge for the state title. Only four from each weight class will qualify."

Schedule

Wrestling will begin at 2 p.m. on Friday with the first round matches. They will be followed by the championship quarter-finals around 5 p.m. The first round consolation matches will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the consolation cross-bracketing will begin around 7:30 p.m..

On Saturday the championship semi-finals will start at 11 a.m., followed by the consolation quarter-finals around 1 p.m., consolation semi-finals about 3 p.m., consolation finals on two mats around 5 p.m. and the championship finals on one mat at 6:30 p.m.

The top four placers in each weight class will receive medals and will advance to the Class 3-2-1A State Tournament in Hays on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 27-28.

The top two teams in the regional tournament will receive plaques.

Admission on Friday will be \$4 for adults and \$3 for K-12 students. Saturday's will be \$7 for adults and \$5 for K-12. Admission on Saturday evening only will be \$4 for adults and \$3 for students.

Citizens look at ways to save courts

(Continued from Page 1)
"The bottom line is that's a lot of money to spend on something that doesn't belong to us (the school district) and that we only use nine weeks out of the year," he said.

City Parks Supervisor Steve Cole said the city has made some repairs over the years and is not opposed to helping. He said he thought the city would rather put money into rebuilding the courts elsewhere rather than repairing them again. Because of the poor condition the base, the cracks would just return, he said.

Jay Holste, who organized the community meeting, said he had talked to City Administrator Rob Lawson about the possibility of temporarily repairing the courts. "The repairs may not be the

same color and may not look as nice, but we're not going for that. It just needs to be safe," he said. "What we need to do, if it's possible, is to give ourselves enough time to come up with some fundraising ideas to pay for new courts."

Mr. Holste said he had done some research on what grants might be available, the interest of the Hansen Foundation, and what funds, both public and private, were available. If they could find a way to build new courts, he said Mr. Lawson said the city would contribute the lights and fencing from the current courts and would still provide electricity.

"I think we can do this," he said. "I think we can find the money. We should thank the board for playing the bad guy... to get us

motivated to do something about this as a community.

"Norton is a community that rallies around it's projects. We're not in the same economic times as before but I think that we as a community can come up with some fund-raisers to get this done.

"There are enough possibilities that I'm willing to try."

Mr. Holste asked for volunteers to help him to look at grants, come up with fundraising possibilities and to keep in contact with the city and the school board.

Mr. Cole said that he and Mr. Lawson would see if the city could temporarily repair the courts, making them safe to use for another season.

Mr. Mann said everything will depend on what the city can do about the courts.

Telegram, sister papers win award from college for enterprise reporting

The Nor'West Newspapers group, including *The Norton Telegram*, has won the 2004 Burton Marvin Award for News Enterprise from the William Allen White Foundation at the University of Kansas.

The Marvin award is the only statewide news honor given by the foundation and the William Allen White School of Journalism.

The Telegram and its sister papers won for their special edition, "Rural Schools... on the Bubble," last spring. The 32-page section, produced by the staff of all six Nor'West papers, examined the condition of school districts across northwest Kansas, including enrollment and budget trends.

It went into the probability of consolidation down the road, and the impact of the last round of school consolidation on Kansas towns.

"This package of stories represents the newspaper group's dedication to coverage of an issue of overriding public concern, repre-

sending a commitment to serve the public and initiative in acting on that commitment," the judge said.

Under the ownership and direction of Steve and Cynthia Haynes, Nor'West includes the *Bird City Times*, *Colby Free Press*, *Goodland Star-News*, *Norton Telegram*, *Oberlin Herald* and *Saint Francis Herald*, ranging in circulation from 489 to 2,160. The total news staff for all six papers is just eight, and all eight were involved in the analysis of rural school districts in 12 northwest Kansas counties.

Norton Editor Cynthia Haynes designed and edited the special section while Mrs. Haynes and reporters Veronica Monier and Carolyn Plotts and former publisher Kurt Gaston wrote stories for the edition.

"This award represents a lot of hard work by our staff, from the news department through advertising and the press," said Mr. Haynes. "They should be proud of this recognition by the White

Foundation judges."

The Marvin award is named for an early dean of the School of Journalism. It usually goes to a project by a larger newspaper that is considered above and beyond the ordinary run of news coverage, but judges are allowed to split the award if they consider an effort by smaller newspapers to be worthy.

In this case, the judges gave two awards. The other went to *The Wichita Eagle* for a three-year project to reveal crimes by Kansas parolees. The newspaper had to sue to get the information, taking the case to the state Supreme Court under the Open Records Act. It eventually discovered more than two dozen murders by felons supposedly under state supervision.

Steve Haynes is a 1970 graduate of the White School of Journalism and Cynthia Haynes is a 1971 pharmacy graduate. They have operated Nor'West Newspapers since moving to back to Kansas from Colorado in September 1993.

HANSEN MUSEUM

By LEE FAVRE, director
Who doesn't love quilts?

Everyone entering the Hansen Museum seems to adore this dual exhibit of quilts representing the best of the new and old. "Oxymorons" and "Pieces of the Past" end on Sunday. I hope you have the opportunity to see them while on display at the museum. They are worth every stitch of effort made to get them here.

Oxymorons! What an insanely practical idea for a quilt exhibit. It took the Renegades (Judi Bastion, Sally Field, Dianne Hire, Ellie Pancoe, and Nancy Wheelwright) to come up with this fabulous idea and the backing of the American Quilter's Society to turn it into a nationwide traveling exhibit. These quilts may well be the coolest/hottest collection to come

around in a long while. Thirty-five contemporary quilt artists from throughout the United States were asked to join the Renegades in expressing a chosen Oxymoron and conveying it through the use of fabric. The only creative limitation given to the artists was a size restriction. What an adventure these artists undertook in the development of 40 fabulous Oxy-art quilts. See what 38 women and two men have done with the freedom to explore and pursue their personal interpretation of their chosen oxymoron. "Black Light", by Ellie Pancoe, Bangor, Maine, combines commercial cottons, blends, silks, and hand-painted and photo-transferred fabrics with techniques such as appliqué, beading and machine quilting. Alison Goss, Durango, Colo., uses

scribble stitch with variegated rayon thread and machine quilting on hand painted fabrics to create "Eternal Moment". Many of these quilt artists are nationally known and have won numerous awards for their expertise in quilt artistry.

Linda Rice, Athol, honors the Museum with her dried floral craft as "Artist of the Month" for February. See her wreaths, swags, and other delicate creations from the flower garden.

Wanna' take a break from cabin fever and learn a few foot stompin' ho-down dance steps? Get registered for our "Country Dance" beginning on Saturday, Feb. 28, taught by Kerry Ferguson, Kensington. If you are interested in signing up or simply need more information, contact me at the museum at (785) 689-4846.

County to plead case in Phillipsburg

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in that area."

Mr. Brannan said that his crew did not put asphalt millings down all the way to the state line because the last mile or two are dirt rather than gravel.

A hearing has been set for 3 p.m. Wednesday before the Small Claims division of the state Board

of Tax Appeals at the Phillipsburg Public Library. Each side will have 15 minutes to explain their case.

Mrs. Babcock wrote in her complaint that the only time the county has graded her road is when she has called. She claimed that she and her husband have had to put gravel on the road because the

county hasn't.

County Appraiser Alan Hale suggested that Mr. Brannan should offer proof from his records that his crews have not treated the road any differently than any other in the area.

Mr. Brannan said that he would pull the records of work on that road and a couple of others.

Bulletin Board

Business and Professional Directory

Your Guide to Services Available in Northwest Kansas

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