

Races provide lots of thrills

By MIKE HUGHES

Fans at Elmwood Park Speedway were kept on the edge of their seats last weekend as the feature races proved to be some of the best to date in the four divisions.

Twenty-one cars took the green in the 15-lap IMCA Hobby Stock feature with Garrett Brown of Downs taking the early lead, followed by Brandon Naasz, Kale Shank, Cory Struckhoff and Kelly Karnopp. Brown led the first six laps before a caution waved on lap 7 for a stalled Justin Wagner. On the restart, Struckhoff was second, followed by Karnopp and 11th starting Wade Wagenblast. After the green replaced the yellow, Struckhoff, of Kensington, charged to the front to take the point. The top four cars ran tooth-and-nail the rest of the way to the checkers, with Struckhoff holding off Karnopp, Wagenblast and Brady Schoen for the win. Brown finished fifth. Heat race winners were Brady Schoen, Barry Schoen and Wagenblast.

The IMCA Stock Car feature was just as exciting with the top 6 finishers just car-lengths apart. Stockton's Tyler Hahn took control at the start and was able to hold on the first 8 laps before Athol's Josh Hudson roared past. Hudson, who won the night before at The Speed Bowl in Red Cloud, NE, held the top spot, followed closely by Randy Clydesdale, Hahn, and Jason Schoenberger of Russell, who made his way through the field after starting last in the 14-car field after a lap 3 restart. After a restart on lap 17, Hudson got high and made heavy contact with the guardrail in turn four, ending his night and Schoenberger inherited the lead, who had raced past Clydesdale and Hahn. Schoenberger was able to hold on for the victory, followed by Clydesdale, Hahn, Jason Davis and Jason Rogers. Hudson and Hahn won the two heat races.

Defending IMCA Modified national champion David Murray Jr. of Oberlin dominated the main event in that division after taking the lead on lap 4. Tim Watts of Beloit led the first 3 laps before giving way to Murray. A couple of more cautions bunched the field up, but each time Murray pulled away on the restart and scored an easy win, his second in as many nights as he won Friday night at McCook, NE. Watts finished second and Jon Thompson was third. Rick Schwab won the battle for fourth over Jim Arnold. Watts and Murray were victorious in the two heat races.

The 12-lap Cruiser feature saw its fair share of cautions. Jeremy Jensen & Rick Touslee led the first 2 laps before spinning on lap 3 and getting hit by Macy & Kimberly Thomas, putting the leaders in the pits for the remainder of the night. Heat two winners Wes & Chuck Eagleburger then took the helm, but were passed two laps later by Kirk Persinger & Justin Graham who led the field the remainder of the way to the checkers. Jeff Kleen

& Mark Goebel finished second, followed by Jim & Joe Carter and heat one winners Jason Albrecht/Gary Rannebeck. The Eagleburger brothers finished fifth.

Racing action returns to Elmwood Park Speedway on Saturday evening, June 19, at 7 p.m. with the regular four classes.

RESULTS

IMCA Hobby Stocks
Heat 1: 1. Brady Schoen, 2. Kale Shank, 3. Gene Sneath, 4. John Annon.

Heat 2: 1. Barry Schoen, 2. Kelly Karnopp, 3. Dustin McClurg, 4. Wade Meitl.

Heat 3: 1. Wade Wagenblast, 2. Cory Struckhoff, 3. Garrett Brown, 4. Brandon Naasz.

Feature: 1. Struckhoff, 2. Karnopp, 3. Wagenblast, 4. Brady Schoen, 5. Brown, 6. Shank, 7. Robert Rutherford, 8. Danny Bricker, 9. Barry Schoen, 10. Bret Hagan, 11. Rickey Gitchel, 12. Justin Wagner, 13. Naasz, 14. Meitl, 15. Sneath, 16. McClurg (DNF), 17. Adam Balthazor (DNF), 18. Laura Hinger (DNF), 19. Annon (DNF), 20. Rhett Kingsbury (DNF), 21. Tim Colburn (DNS).

IMCA Stock Cars
Heat 1: 1. Josh Hudson, 2. Jason Schoenberger, 3. Nathan Glendening, 4. Randy Clydesdale.

Heat 2: 1. Tyler Hahn, 2. J.R. McCreery, 3. Jason Davis, 4. Mark Zorn.

Feature: 1. Schoenberger, 2. Clydesdale, 3. Hahn, 4. Davis, 5. Jason Rogers, 6. Zorn, 7. Dan Lauer, 8. Glendening, 9. Phil Hinger, 10. Larry Snodgrass, 11. Jay Hachmeister (DNF), 12. Josh Hudson (DNF), 13. Kelly Ford (DNF), 14. McCreery (DNF).

IMCA Modifieds
Heat 1: 1. Tim Watts, 2. Doug Shearer, 3. Jeff Walters, 4. Jon Thompson.

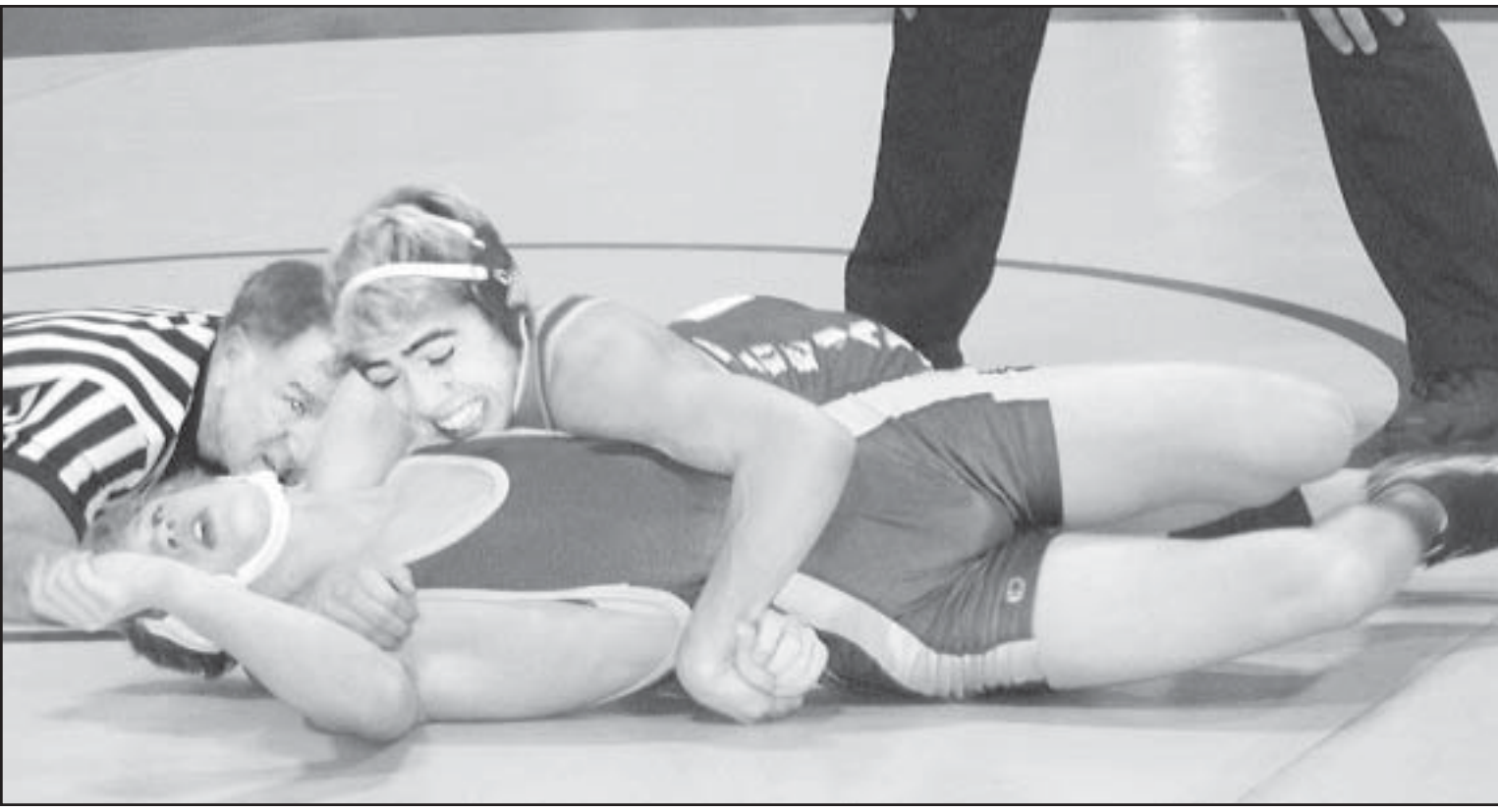
Heat 2: 1. David Murray Jr., 2. Rick Schwab, 3. Marty Clark, 4. Justin Basart.

Feature: 1. Murray, 2. Watts, 3. Thompson, 4. Schwab, 5. Jim Arnold, 6. Walters, 7. Basart, 8. Blake Smith Jr., 9. Roger Boland, 10. Kyle Field, 11. Dave Jewett Jr. (DNF), 12. Clark, 13. Brian Calhoon (DNF), 14. Shearer (DNF), 15. Steve Reedy (DNF).

Cruisers
Heat 1: 1. Jason Albrecht/Gary Rannebeck, 2. Kirk Persinger/Justin Graham, 3. Rhona Annon/Josh Wonderly, 4. Jeff Kleen/Mark Goebel.

Heat 2: 1. Wes Eagleburger/Chuck Eagleburger Jr., 2. Joe Carter/Jim Carter, 3. Jeremy Jensen/Rick Touslee, 4. Troy Wentz/Mark Bailey.

Feature: 1. Persinger/Graham, 2. Kleen/Goebel, 3. Carter/Carter, 4. Albrecht/Rannebeck, 5. Eagleburger/Eagleburger, 6. Nick Horn/Tim Horn, 7. Annon/Wonderly, 8. Bret Marietta/Jason Thomas, 9. Michael Graf/Brian Smith, 10. Macy Thomas/Kimberly Thomas, 11. Michael Hockemeier/Jim Ellis (DNF), 12. Wentz/Bailey (DNF), 13. James Sisk/Kari Sisk (DNF), 14. Jensen/Touslee (DNF), 15. Daniel Eagleburger/Chuck Gleason (DNS).



James Annon, Norton's 130 pound defending state champion, earned three points for a near fall with this move during his 19-5 major decision over Jordan

Gienger, St. Francis, in the championship semi-finals of the regional tourney in Norton.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Norton wrestler signs with Fort Hays

By DICK BOYD

James Annon, one of the most exciting wrestlers ever to compete at Norton Community High School, has signed a letter of intent to wrestle for Fort Hays State University, Hays.

Annon, who was a senior this year, compiled a career record at the school of 113-23. A three-time state medalist, he went 35-2 this season in winning the 130 pound state championship. Last season, he put together a 32-1 record en route to his first state championship at 125 pounds. His sophomore year, he was 28-7 and finished fifth in the Class 4A State Tournament in Wichita at 119 pounds. He is also a two-time regional champion and three time Mid-Continent League champion. Annon was chosen "Most Outstanding Wrestler" on the Blue Jay team both his junior and senior seasons.

He was chosen to the Salina Journal's All-Area first team as a

junior and received honorable mention as a sophomore and senior. The first team selection by the Salina Journal in his weight class was four-time state champion Jake Kriegbaum of Abilene. Annon was chosen to compete in the prestigious Senior Wrestling Classic and Kriegbaum was his opponent. Annon lost a very close 3-1 match to Kriegbaum.

Annon has the career record at Norton for two point near falls with 75. He has the season record for two point near falls with 27, which he set in 2000-2001. He also has the season record for technical falls at 8, which he set in 2002-2003. He was the total points leader this season with 172.

"When he wrestled varsity as a freshman, James gave the best wrestlers in the state fits," said Norton Head Coach Bill Johnson. "We knew there was something special about James. He always went 110 percent all the time. It got him in trouble as a freshman, but,

the last three years, it earned him a lot of points.

"James is in constant action. He is always looking to score more points or put you on your back. He is able to do this, not with brute strength, but with cat-like quickness. Even good wrestlers don't have time to react and, before they know it, he's grabbed their legs.

"College will be a whole new challenge for him. Most of the matches in college are close. Guys are so evenly matched that one take down will decide a lot of matches.

"In high school, James would get in a bad situation but was able to get out with his God-given gift. After another learning curve, I look forward to seeing him as an exciting wrestler for several years in the lineup at Fort Hays."

"I've been able to watch James wrestle the past two years and he has a lot of potential if he continues to work hard," said Fort Hays Head Wrestling Coach Cody

Bickley. "He is a fine young man from a fine family.

"I watched James wrestle Kriegbaum in the Senior Classic and was really impressed with the way James wrestled. Realistically, I think James should have beaten him.

"His unorthodox style gives his opponents trouble; he has very good body control.

"In college, he'll wrestle quality wrestlers week in and week out. He'll get knocked down and he'll need to get back up. If he keeps working hard, he'll be all right."

Annon will be joining an outstanding wrestling program at Fort Hays. Coach Bickley just completed his fourth year as head coach and the Tigers finished tenth in the national tournament. They also compiled a 10-4 dual record, the best in the past 34 years at Fort Hays.

Annon is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Annon, Norton.

Ambulance service looks at new home

(Continued from Page 1)

building will be downtown it will be outlined with brick to make it more attractive, bringing the price up to about \$400,000.

To account for possible increases in the price of building materials, Mr. Nielsen said \$440,000 was a rough estimate of what would be needed.

Mr. Nielsen said the service would like 25 percent of the cost, a total of \$110,000, to come from the county in the form of matching money. The rest would come from a grant.

The commissioners said they would look at what could be done about finding the money.

The new building would be west of the post office in a vacant lot already owned by the county. The building would also house the office of emergency preparedness.

Mr. Nielsen said the service should know by mid-October whether or not they will receive the grant. He said a building could be completed by July or August of next year.

Mr. Nielsen suggested selling the old ambulance building to Norton's Rural Fire Department.

Mr. Nielsen said the transaction would increase the benefit to the county and would help the service attain the grant.

"If we build a new building and they purchase ours, it benefits everybody," Mr. Nielsen said.

The commissioners said they don't know if the Rural Fire Department had the resources to purchase the building, however.

Mr. Nielsen also reported that the response to the upcoming First Responder class, which will begin with an orientation on Wednesday, June 16, is growing. So far 12 students have signed up.

The commissioners said the county would pay for books and tuition.

The commissioners agreed to let Mr. Nielsen hold an emergency medical technician intermediate and defibrillation class. He said many technicians are interested in the class. The training would allow technicians to start IVs and be able to more effectively read heart monitor strips.

"We're all for getting our people updated to provide the best service for the county," said Commissioner John Miller.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Met with Tom Brannon, Norton County Road and Bridge supervisor, for an update on recent projects.

Mr. Brannon reported that the Road and Bridge department accidentally damaged 52 bails of oat hay on property owned by Merlynn Colip. The department pushed the bails straight back out of the right-of-way. According to Dr. Colip, the strings on the bails were damaged and when he began to move them back, they started to come loose.

The department received permission to move bails from a neighbor, but did not realize they were on Dr. Colip's land.

Dr. Colip has requested to be paid for the hay, valued at \$780. The commissioners informed Mr. Brannon they had interest in purchasing the damaged hay and putting it up for public bid. Mr. Brannon said he had talked to parties interested in paying \$7 a bail.

- Met with Solid Waster supervisor Curt Archibald. Mr. Archibald reported that a public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. on Satur-

Two receive scholarships

Kelsey Noel, a 2004 Logan High School graduate, accepted a \$1,200 Miller Black and Gold Award.

She was in Kansas Association for Youth, Catholic Youth Organization, Teens for Christ, volleyball, basketball, golf, dance, band, choir and the National Honor Society and was on the honor roll.

Miss Noel is the daughter of Christ and Kathy Noel, Logan. She plans to major in journalism and mass communications.



Kelsey Noel



Stacey Roth

Stacey Roth, 2002 Norton Community High School graduate and a junior at Fort Hays State University, accepted a \$216 Roger Brown Academic Award.

She volunteered in Special Olympics and was on the Dean's and President's Honor Roll in college.

Miss Roth, the daughter of Dave and Linda Long, Norton, is majoring in fine arts.

K-18 game postponed

The K-18 baseball double-header between Norton and Stockton that was scheduled for Thursday at John Ryan Field in Norton was postponed until Saturday.

The first game will begin at 6:30 p.m.

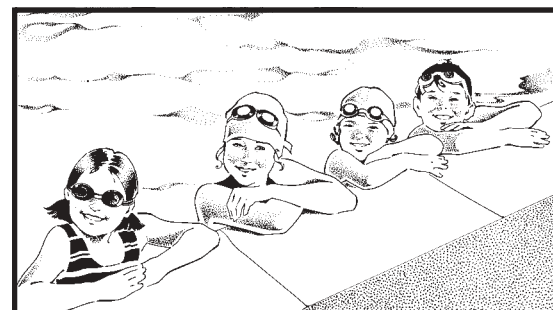
Thank You

The Norton Recreation Commission would like to sincerely thank all of the businesses, patrons, and community volunteers for the donations and help in making the K-18 raffle, Norton's Rec youth baseball and softball programs a huge success. Without your support our programs would not be possible.

—Steve Schrum, N.R.C. Director

Nobody covers the Blue Jays like we do!

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



RED CROSS CERTIFIED SWIMMING LESSONS

LESSON ENROLLMENT WILL BE AT THE SHELTER WEST OF THE POOL ON MONDAY, JUNE 14 FROM 8 A.M.-1 P.M. AND FROM 5 P.M.-7 P.M.

FIRST SESSION:
\$15.00 (30 Minute Classes)
June 28 - July 9

SECOND SESSION:
\$15.00 (30 Minute Classes)
July 19 - July 30

(MUST BE 4 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER)

CLASS SCHEDULE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- 9:00-9:30—Level V and Level VI
- 9:40-10:10—Level IV and Level V
- 10:20-10:50—Level III and Level IV
- 11:00-11:30—Level I, Level II and Level III
- 11:40-12:10—Level I, Level II and Level III

NO PHONE ENROLLMENTS, PLEASE

THERE WILL BE A \$5 FEE FOR LATE ENROLLMENT