

Norton cross country team second

By DICK BOYD

Coach Deyton Hager's Norton Community High School varsity boys cross country team had another good day Thursday when they placed second in the Wheatland Invitational Meet in Grainfield.

Greeley County scored 54 points to edge Norton for the championship. The Blue Jays scored 57. Third place went to Brewster, 66; followed by Wheatland, 68; and Trego, 88.

Finishing highest for Norton was Derek Volgamore, fourth in 18-minutes, 43-seconds. Logan Keiswetter placed 10th in 19:04 and Jared Engelbert was right behind him in 11th in 19:05.

Kent Mann placed 14th in 19:21, Jeremy Harding, 21st, 20:05; Nathan Morse, 35th, 22:22; and Jake Kramer, 39th, 24:05.

In girls competition, Amber Overlease placed 11th in 13:59 and Karlie Jones was right behind her in 12th in 14 flat.

Morgan Bailey placed 15th in 14:07 and Crista Rhoades was 28th in 15:17.

David Counter finished second among freshmen and junior varsity boys in 20:50. Andrew Black placed sixth in 21:49.

"We ran well today but didn't have this meet on our minds like I would like to see," said Coach Hager. "The weather didn't help but everybody had to run in it the same as us."

"Derek told the boys that Wheatland hadn't beaten us all year and we shouldn't let them do it today. With this not as big a meet, I am sure we were thinking about the regional meet coming up soon."

But, it was good to run on this flat course and pick up four medals and a team medal as well.

"David Counter had a great day. I stuck him in the freshmen race to run with boys his age just to see how he would compare to them and he ran great. We knew this would be a great way to pick up a top three finish and he pulled out a second."

"Our girls did a good job of running as well, picking up three medals. But, they will have to run some



Norton sophomore Logan Keiswetter placed 10th at the Wheatland Invitational Cross Country Meet on Thursday. Logan was the Blue Jays' second place runner.

— Telegram photo by Susie Marble

good times in the regional to qualify for the state meet."

Next competition for the Norton cross country runners will be in the Class 3A Regional Cross Country Meet this Saturday in Lakin. The races will be run at the Lakin Municipal Golf Course one mile west of Lakin on U.S. 50.

Competing, in addition to Lakin and Norton, will be runners from Anthony-Harper-Chaparral, Cheney, Cimarron, Ellinwood, Ellsworth, Thomas More Prep-

Marian of Hays, Hoisington, Holcomb, Lyons, Medicine Lodge, Phillipsburg and Sterling.

The girls two-mile race will begin at 2 p.m. and the boys 3.2-mile race at 2:30 p.m.

The top three teams and top ten runners plus top five individuals from non-qualifying teams if they are not included in the top ten will advance to the State Cross Country Meet at Wamego on Saturday, Oct. 30.

Norton varsity spikers second

By DICK BOYD

Coach Jill Lively's Norton Community High School varsity girls team placed second in the Scott City Invitational Volleyball Tournament on October 9 in Scott City.

"We played well in all our pool play matches," said Coach Lively.

"Defensively, we worked very hard together. Our blocking has improved, which allows our other defenders to rack up a lot of digs."

"We finished pool play with a 2-1 record, which was good enough for first place in our pool. Leoti finished second in our pool. Teams advancing from the other pool were Colby, first, and Holcomb, second."

"We entered bracket play with the advantage of staying in the same gym."

"Our serving wasn't as focused as normal but we had several aces."

By the time we reached the championship match, our team was pretty drained physically. We continued to work hard and stayed together as a group but just didn't have the energy to come away with the win."

"I am extremely proud of how well these girls pulled together to reach several of their goals. All of our players had moments of great play and several were nominated for the all-tournament team. We were happy to see that Chelsea Cox and Klaire Mann received all-tournament recognition and the support they received from their teammates helped them achieve that honor. This was really a tremendous team effort."

Oakley

Norton defeated Oakley 26-24, 26-24.

Team statistics were: serving, 88 percent, 7 aces; hitting, 89 percent, 13 kills; defense, 4 blocks, 32 digs.

Individual leaders were: Amber Engelbert, 100 percent, 2 aces; Klaire Mann and Whitney Newell, 100 percent, serving; Amanda Antrim led in serve reception; Mann passed well during rallies, passing; Casey Carter and Chelsea Cox, 5 and 4 assists, respectively, setting; Cox, 6 kills; Rachael Lentz, 100 percent, 2 kills, hitting; Cox 3 blocks; Carter and Mann, 7 digs each, defense.

Leoti

Norton defeated Leoti 25-18, 23-25, 25-14.

Team statistics were: serving, 86 percent, 9 aces; hitting, 81 percent, 24 kills; defense, 3 blocks, 32 digs.

Individual leaders were: Mann and Cox, 92 percent; Cox, 3 aces, serving; Engelbert led in serve reception; Cox and Newell passed well during rallies, passing; Cox and Carter had 14 and 6 assists, respectively, setting; Becca Ebert, 8 kills; Cox, 7 kills, hitting; Cox, 2 blocks; Pam Foley, 1 block; Newell, 10 digs; Mann, 8, defense.

Scott City

Norton lost to Scott City 19-25, 25-23, 16-25.

Team statistics were: serving, 87 percent, 4 kills; hitting, 84 percent, 29 kills; defense, 5 blocks, 34 digs.

Individual leaders were: Newell, 100 percent, serving; Mann led in serve reception; Cox passed well during rallies, pass-

ing; Cox and Carter, 16 and 12 assists, respectively, setting; Cox, 10 kills, followed by Ebert 8, Engelbert, 5; Foley, 3, hitting; Cox, 3 blocks; Lentz 2 blocks; Amanda Antrim and Engelbert, 8 digs each, followed by Mann, 5; Lentz, Newell, Cox, 4 each, defense.

Holcomb

Norton defeated Holcomb 22-25, 25-22, 25-18 in the semi-finals to advance to the championship finals.

Team statistics were: serving, 88 percent, 9 aces; hitting, 80 percent, 24 kills; defense, 9 blocks, 25 digs.

Individual leaders were: Cox 93 percent, 3 aces, serving; Engelbert led serve reception; Engelbert and Antrim passed well during rallies, passing; Cox and Carter, 11 and 5 assists, respectively, setting; Ebert and Newell, 6 kills each, hitting; Cox, 6 blocks; Newell, 6 digs; Engelbert, 5 digs, defense.

Championship

Norton lost to Colby 16-25, 23-25 to place second in the tournament.

Team statistics were: serving, 87 percent, 4 aces; hitting, 80 percent, 13 kills; defense, 5 blocks, 14 digs.

Individual leaders were: Engelbert, 100 percent, 2 aces; Lentz and Newell, 100 percent each, serving; Lentz and Danielle LeClair led serve reception; Mann passed well during rallies, passing; Carter and Cox, 5 assists each, setting; Cox 8 kills; Engelbert, 100 percent, hitting; Cox, 3 blocks; LeClair, Engelbert, Newell, 3 digs each, defense.

Northern Valley will host Eastern Heights

The Northern Valley High School Huskies didn't have a football game last week because the scheduled opponent, Jennings, doesn't have a team this year.

Jennings had too few students to field a football team this year so those Coyotes, who wanted to play, are traveling to Hoxie to play with the Indians. The Jennings Junior High students joined the

young Oberlin Red Devils and only the girls volleyball team is carrying on the school's sports traditions.

The Huskies defeated the Logan Trojans in their game on Oct. 8 which was called at half time because of the 54-6 score.

This Friday Northern Valley will play host to the Eastern Heights Mustangs with kick off at

7 p.m.

Eastern Heights lost to Logan 44-20 on Friday in a Cheyenne Conference matchup.

Northern Valley Football Coach Chuck Fessenden's Huskies have a 5-1 record going into Friday's game.

Logan will play at Palco on Friday.

Norton Lady Jays competed in Regional Tennis Tournament

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School girls team competed in the Class 3-2-1A Regional Tennis Tournament on Oct. 11 in WaKeeney.

While none of the Norton players were among the top four singles and doubles teams qualifying for state in Hesston, the Norton doubles teams of Keesha Holste-Sara Johnson and Reesa Volgamore-Hannah Mills came within one match of qualifying.

"In the doubles division, we received the seeds we wanted," said Coach Johnson. "We were seeded fifth and sixth and stood a good chance of getting through our first round matches and playing in the second round, which would have qualified us for the state tournament."

"Both our teams won their first round matches in good fashion."

Volgamore and Mills were seeded No. 5 and defeated No. 12 seed Deming and Kanak, Ellsworth, 8-3 in the first round. Holste and Johnson were seeded No. 6 and defeated No. 11 seed Applegate and Oliver, Osborne, 8-2 in the first round.

"In the second round, both played very familiar foes from Phillipsburg," said Coach Johnson. "It was kind of ironic that both of our teams played both of the Phillipsburg teams. We had been beaten by Phillipsburg several times throughout the regular

season but were hoping that this time would be different. We can honestly say that this was the best position possible on the bracket for both of our doubles teams."

"When the matches were played against Phillipsburg, however, both of our teams did not play their best and ended up losing both matches to end their season."

Volgamore and Mills played No. 4 seed Alyssa Kirchhoff and Kayla Jarvis of Phillipsburg and lost 1-6, 3-6.

Holste and Johnson played No. 3 seed Jill Dusin and Allison Dusin of Phillipsburg and lost 0-6, 2-6.

"In the singles division, we did not fare very well in the seeding meeting," said Coach Johnson. "The drawing resulted in us having to play the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds. This was especially tough for Jessi Duscher. I thought she stood a chance to make some noise if she had been in a place on the bracket where she could have played the No. 4 or No. 5 seeded girl. The way it ended up, Jessi had to play No. 2 seed Jordan Bates of Hoisington in the first round of the regular tournament. That would have been great had Jessi played well enough to knock Bates out but she did not have her best day and fell short."

Duscher was seeded No. 15 and had to play No. 18 seed Summer Burgardt, Beloit, in the feather bracket to qualify for the tournament. She easily defeated

Burgardt 8-1 to advance to the first round match versus Bates. Duscher lost 1-8 to Bates.

Chelle Donovan was seeded No. 14 and played No. 3 seed Sloane Hardman, Osborne, in the first round. She lost 0-8.

Kirchhoff and Jarvis and Dusin and Dusin each lost their semi-finals matches and played each other for third. Dusin-Dusin won 7-5, 6-4. No. 1 seed Koester-Crotinger, Hoisington, won the championship by scores of 6-1, 6-3 over No. 2 seed Deines-Mattke, Trego.

Bates won the singles championship by a score of 6-3, 6-4 over No. 1 seed Brittney Parke, Trego. Hardman placed third with a 6-0, 6-1 win over No. 5 seed Leanna Newcomer, Trego.

Hoisington won the tournament with 11 points, followed by Trego, 10; Phillipsburg, 6; Osborne, 3; Norton, 2; Victoria, 2; Plainville, 1; Ellsworth, 1; Beloit, 0.

"I'm proud of all of our tennis players," said Coach Johnson. "This was a major rebuilding year and we improved greatly throughout the season."

"We will miss the seniors but we have a good number of varsity players returning who want to do better in the future."

Norton will lose five seniors off this year's tennis team — Keesha Holste, Jessi Duscher, Claudia Lacy, Kelli Johnson and Sara Johnson.

Volleyball team gets second in Mid-Continent League Tourney

By DICK BOYD

Coach Jill Lively's Norton Community High School varsity girls volleyball team had another good performance on Saturday and placed second in the annual Mid-Continent League Volleyball Tournament held in Plainville.

Smith Center won the championship, followed by Norton, Hill City, third and Phillipsburg, fourth.

In pool play, Norton defeated Osborne 25-9, 25-18; split with Smith Center 17-25, 27-25; defeated Stockton 27-25, 25-16 and

defeated Trego 25-21, 25-9.

The Lady Jays came out of their pool ranked No. 1 and Smith Center was No. 2. Phillipsburg came out of the other pool ranked No. 1 and Hill City was ranked No. 2.

In the semi-finals, Norton defeated Hill City 25-14, 22-25, 25-9 and Smith Center defeated Phillipsburg.

In the exciting championship match, Norton lost 23-25, 23-25 to the Lady Redmen.

A complete story, including individual and team statistics, will be printed in Friday's issue of *The*

Telegram.

Next action

The Lady Blue Jay volleyball team will compete Saturday in the Class 3A Sub-State Volleyball Tournament in Lakin. Teams competing, in addition to Norton and Lakin, will be Cimarron, Holcomb, Medicine Lodge, Phillipsburg and Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays.

This is a single elimination tournament. Brackets will be released on Wednesday afternoon after records through Tuesday are turned in for seeding.

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