

# Track squads perform

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School girls track team placed fourth and his Blue Jay boys thinclads finished in seventh place in the annual Redmen Relays Track Meet held on Tuesday in cold, windy weather in Smith Center.

"We saw a lot of very good athletes whom we are going to have to compete against at our regional meet later on," said Coach Graber.

"I hope we are a healthier group come that time and I hope I have them better prepared to meet the competition.

"Some nicer weather wouldn't hurt our youngsters' mind set either.

"We have now seen what we have to do and I think our youngsters will work very hard between now and then."

## GIRLS

Phillipsburg won the girls championship with 119 points, followed by Smith Center, 104; Thayer Central, Neb., 90; Norton, 71.3; Trego, 71; Beloit, 70.8; Belleville, 44.8; Hoisington, 14.

"Our young ladies kind of turned the tables on our performance from last week," said Coach Graber.

"We had a fair day last week but we got after it pretty darn well at Smith Center. I am very proud of our fourth place team finish with the numbers we have this year."

Freshman Courtney LeClair, who hit the last hurdle and fell in both the 100 meter high hurdles and 300 meter intermediate hurdles in last Friday's Norton Invitational, cleared every hurdle in the second meet of her high school career to win both events.

LeClair was timed in a personal best 17.45 seconds in the 100 meter hurdles and in a personal record 53.22 seconds in the 300 meter hurdles.

"Courtney LeClair managed that last hurdle, just as I expected she would, and won both hurdles races with some very solid times under the conditions," said Coach Graber.

Amber Engelbert placed third in both hurdles races. She was timed in 18.12 in the 100 meter hurdles and clocked in 55.05 in the 300 meter hurdles.

"Amber continued to show her true grit with great finishes in the last 15-20 yards to place third in

both hurdles races," said Coach Graber.

"I always know we are going to get every bit of effort she can give. Amber is a great competitor!"

Karlie Jones won the silver medal in the 800 meter run with a clocking of 2-minutes 43.83 seconds.

"Karlie finished in a great flurry the last 20 meters to put herself in the No. 2 spot in the 800 meter run," said Coach Graber. "She ran better than 10 seconds faster than last Friday."

Jones also anchored Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team which placed second in 54.48 and the Lady Jays' 4 x 400 meter relay team which finished fifth in 4:44.2.

"Although not at full strength, Karlie managed some really good performances," said Coach Graber.

Members of Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team and their time splits were Amanda Antrim, 14.98; Chelle Donovan, 13.25; Danielle LeClair, 13.75; Jones, 12.59.

Making up the Lady Jays' 4 x

400 meter relay team and their time splits were Courtney LeClair, 70.7; Engelbert, 73.4; Chelsea Dodson, 70.2; Jones, 69.8.

"Our 4 x 100 meter relay team did a much better job of handling the stick and cut a full second and a half from last Friday's race," said Coach Graber.

"Danielle LeClair ran really well in her first time running with this group. The other three girls also ran well."

Lacey Roe finished second in the javelin throw with a season's best toss of 113-foot-11-inches.

"It was good to see Lacey improve on her winning throw from last Friday to finish second this week," said Coach Graber.

Three Lady Jays placed in the pole vault event. Donovan placed second with a vault of 8-6. Antrim was fourth with a height of 7 and Dodson finished in a tie for sixth at 6-6.

"Donovan, Antrim and Dodson managed the poor vaulting conditions (directly into the wind) and did a great job in scoring 13 points," said Coach Graber.

Antrim placed sixth in the 100



Norton freshman Jared Cox has begun his high school track career with some outstanding hurdles performances. Above, he is shown winning the 300 meter intermediate hurdles in 42.8 in the Norton Invitational last Friday. He also placed third in the 100 meter high hurdles in 17.13. In the Smith Center Invitational on Tuesday, he finished fourth in the 300s in 43.74 and third in the 110s in 16.31.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

meter dash with a season's best clocking of 13.94.

Other performances by Norton girls which did not place were Klaire Mann, 30-2.5; Laura Delimont, 28-1, shot put; Mann, 90-5, season's best; Delimont, 80, discus; Delimont, 71-3, javelin; Brienne Nelson, 11; Danielle LeClair, 12-6.5, long jump; Danielle LeClair, 25, triple jump; Naomi Streck, 14.29; Dodson, 14.6, 100 meter dash; Streck, 70.7; Jackie Krueger, 74.1, 400 meter dash; Courtney Cox, 3:18, 800 meter run; Dodson, 30.6; Streck, 30.4; Nelson, 31.5, 200 meter dash.

## BOYS

Beloit won the boys championship with 125 points, followed by Thayer Central, Neb., 114; Smith Center, 107; Phillipsburg, 100; Hoisington, 62; Belleville, 62; Norton, 59; Trego, 16.

"Some of our guys made some poor mental approach decisions as to tactics and so forth as they related to the weather and the competition and that was my fault," said Coach Graber.

"I needed to be at more places at once than I was to help with some of those decisions.

"The wind and temperature beat some of us before we got off the bus and that was disappointing to a degree."

Justin Shirk remained unbeaten

in the 110 meter high hurdles, winning the gold medal with a time of 15.88. In addition to winning the 110s in last Friday's season-opening Norton Invitational, Shirk placed third in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles.

On Tuesday, he did not run the 300s.

"Justin pulled a hamstring in the prelims of the 110 meter hurdles but sucked it up and came back and still found a way to win the finals and looked very solid in doing so," said Coach Graber.

"We then pulled him from the rest of the meet."

Freshman Jared Cox won the 300 meter hurdles and placed third in the 110 meter hurdles in the Norton Invitational. On Tuesday, he finished third in the 110s in 16.31 and fourth in the 300s in 43.74.

"Jared had another outstanding performance, placing in both hurdles races," said Coach Graber.

Blake VanEaton placed fourth in the 800 meter run in 2:12.7, anchored the 4 x 800 meter relay team which placed third in 8:59.05, anchored the 4 x 100 meter relay team which finished in sixth place with a clocking of 47.65 and anchored the 4 x 400 meter relay team which also placed sixth in a time of 3:48.3.

Team members and time splits in the 4 x 800 meter relay were Kent Mann, 2:16; Jared Engelbert, 2:14.7; Logan Kats, 2:18.2; VanEaton, 2:09.7.

Members of the Norton 4 x 100 meter relay team and time splits were Seth Mills, 12.35; Lance Roe, 12.33; Nathan Broeckelman, 11.48; VanEaton, 11.49.

On the Norton 4 x 400 meter relay team and their time splits were Mills, 58; Roe, 57.4; Nathan Morse, 57.7; VanEaton, 55.1.

Mann placed fourth in the 3200 meter run in 11:21.98 and sixth in the 1600 meter run in 5:13.7.

Derek Volgamore finished in fifth place in the 1600 meter run in 5:12.

"We had some youngsters give

a great effort while not being at full strength," said Coach Graber.

"Jared Engelbert and Kent Mann are both running on some sore wheels but still managed really good performances."

The two Norton freshmen relay teams both won gold medals.

Norton won the freshmen 4 x 100 meter relay with a time of 49.97. Team members and time splits were Todd Bolt, 13.56; Cox, 11.93; Bryce Engelbert, 13.05; Wes Georgeson, 11.42.

The young Blue Jays won the freshmen 4 x 400 meter relay with a clocking of 4:00.6. Team members and time splits were Bolt, 58.64; Cox, 60.87; Engelbert, 63.4; Kats, 57.8.

"The freshmen relays were really fun to watch," said Coach Graber.

"Our youngsters handled the stick very well and really went to compete. I am very proud of the way these young men are performing."

Not placing were Heath Vincent, 36-1; Andrew Ables, 36-1, shot put; Vincent, 111-1; Ables, 86-7, discus; Ables, 111-1; Shirk, 123-11; Roe, 108-7, javelin; Roe, foh; Nathan Broeckelman, foh, pole vault; Broeckelman, foh; Jared Engelbert, foh, high jump; Morse, 16-1; Lucas Wiseman, 16-8; Bolt, 16-8, long jump; Wiseman, 34-10.75; Bolt, 33-3.75; Georgeson, 35-9, triple jump; Mills, 11.8; Morse, 12.6, 100 meter dash; Logan Keiswetter, 5:18, 1600 meter run; Broeckelman, 45.59, 300 meter hurdles; Kats, 2:18.7, 800 meter run; Mills, 24.7; Morse, 25.78; Ables, 25.2, 200 meter dash; Keiswetter, 11:41.7; Volgamore, 12:21, 3200 meter run.

## Next action

Norton is scheduled to compete in a Freshmen-Sophomore Track Meet in WaKeeney on Monday, beginning at 4 p.m.

Next competition for the Norton varsity track team will be on Tuesday at Plainville. The meet is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m.



Norton sophomore Lacey Roe aims the javelin for a throw in the Smith Center Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday. Roe placed second with a throw of 113-11, which bettered her gold medal winning throw of 109-10 in the Norton Invitational last Friday.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Norton wrestler is All-American

By DICK BOYD

Norton Community High School senior Michael Sprigg completed a brilliant prep wrestling career by placing fourth at 275 pounds and earning All-American honors in the NHSCA Senior National Wrestling Championships on March 30-April 2 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Five Kansas wrestlers were named All-American. Also earning this prestigious honor were Josh Baldrige, Campus High School, third, 130 pounds; Joseph Cornejo, Campus High School, fourth, 145 pounds; Ross Taplin, Abilene High School, fourth, 160 pounds and Jacob Marrs, Clay Center High School, fifth, 215 pounds.

Sprigg drew a first round bye. In the second round, he won by a fall in 3:45 over Jared Schwanz from California.

In the third round he won a 4-2 decision over Jon Hamilton, Arkansas and advanced to the championship quarter-finals where he wrestled Dalin Norton, Utah, the No. 1 ranked heavyweight in the nation.

Sprigg defeated Norton 3-2 in overtime to advance to the championship semi-finals where he lost by a fall in 2:13 to Brady Wilson, Minnesota.

In the consolation semi-finals, Sprigg won an 8-2 decision over Jake Wood, Ohio to advance to the consolation finals where he lost a close 8-6 decision to Joey White, South Dakota.

Forty-seven states entered teams in the tournament. New York won the championship with 222 points, followed by Ohio, 210.5; California, 186; New Jersey, 180; Iowa, 148; Kansas, 137; Minnesota, 122; Illinois, 120.5; Michigan, 118.5 and Utah, 116, to round out the top ten.

"This was a very good year for the Kansas team," said Norton wrestling coach Bill Johnson.

"Placing sixth out of 47 states with five All-Americans was tremendous. We could have had another All-American but two Kansas wrestlers (Danny Grater and Cornejo at 145 pounds) had to meet each other in the All-American round and Cornejo won 2-1 in overtime.

"Michael wrestled outstanding in the tournament. He and Jacob Marrs of Clay Center were the only two Kansas wrestlers to make it to the championship

semi-finals.

"Defeating the nation's No. 1 heavyweight was a great victory for Michael. He was able to ride him out in the 30 second tiebreaker to win the match and guarantee himself All-American status.

"All of Michael's matches were tough, hard fought battles. I am really proud of him. Year in and year out, there are many great high school wrestlers who do not place in this tournament. This is a great accomplishment for Michael.

"It proves that he can wrestle with anyone in the nation.

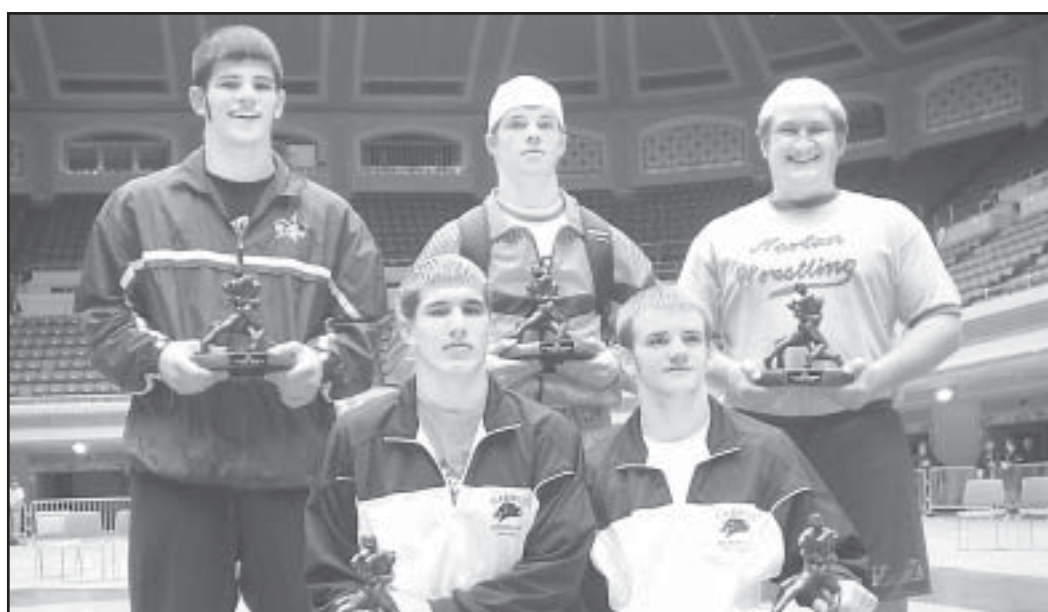
"Michael's new college coach Chuck Barbee, West Point, was there to watch him and he was very happy with Michael's wrestling skills."

Sprigg was a four-time state medalist for the Blue Jays. He placed fourth in the Class 4A state tournament his freshman year, then finished second in the Class 3-2-1A state tournament his sophomore year. Last season he won the state championship in Class 3-2-1A and this season he won his second Class 3-2-1A state championship and finished with a perfect 37-0 season.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### Michael for winning High School Wrestling All-American Honors!!

— Coach Johnson, Ray and Hager



2005 All-American High School wrestlers from Kansas are, from left, front row: Joseph Cornejo, Campus High School, 4th place, 145 lbs.; Josh Baldrige, Campus High School, 3rd place, 130 lbs.; back row: Jacob Marrs, Clay Center High School, 5th place, 215 lbs.; Ross Taplin, Abilene High School, 4th place, 160 lbs.; Michael Sprigg, Norton Community High School, 4th place, 275 lbs.

## Want Gas Mileage?

### Let's Drive One Of These

- 2004 CHRYSLER SEBRING LX SEDAN — Bright white with gray cloth bucket seats, 2.7 liter V-6, automatic, air conditioning, tilt wheel, cruise control, power seat, windows, locks and mirrors, stereo with CD player, keyless entry, aluminum wheels.
- 2004 CHRYSLER CONCORDE LX 4 DOOR SEDAN — Inferno red pearl with gray cloth V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power seat, windows, locks and mirrors, CD, keyless entry, aluminum wheels, 23,000 miles.
- 2004 CHRYSLER MONTE CARLO LS COUPE — Sandstone beige metallic with cloth 55/45 seating, 3.4 V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power windows, locks and mirrors, CD, keyless entry, aluminum wheels, rear spoiler, 28,000 miles.
- 2004 OLDSMOBILE ALERO GL 4 DOOR — Sterling silver metallic with cloth bucket seats, V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power seat, windows, locks and mirrors, CD player, keyless entry, aluminum wheels, rear spoiler, 29,000 miles.
- 2001 DODGE STRATUS R/T COUPE — Indy red with gray leather bucket seats, V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power windows, locks and mirrors, power sunroof, stereo with Cd player, keyless entry, chrome wheels, 53,000 miles.
- 2001 DODGE INTREPID SE 4 DOOR SEDAN — Inferno red pearl with gray cloth 50/50 bench seat, V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power windows, locks and mirrors, stereo cassette, keyless entry, 25,000 miles.
- 2003 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4 DOOR 4 WHEEL DRIVE — Summit white with gray cloth bucket seats, 3.7 liter V-6, automatic, air, tilt, cruise, power seat, windows, locks and mirrors, stereo with CD player, styled steel wheels, keyless entry, 18,000 miles.

Get The "Faw" Better Deal

## FAW GARAGE

Mini-Van Store • Phone 308-962-7415

Service Hours: Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday, Friday 8-6; Saturday 9-5

ARAPAHOE, NEBRASKA

We accept approved personal checks, and

