

Norton golfers take home Phillipsburg championship



Norton's Kyle Kats tees off during a recent high school golf practice at the Prairie Dog Recreation Association Golf Course south of Norton. Observing are, from left, teammates Josh Jackson, Ryan Maddy and Jared Mindrup. On Monday, the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament will be held on the Norton course. — Photos by Dick Boyd

By DICK BOYD
Coach David Stover's Norton Community High School varsity golf team won the championship of the Phillipsburg Invitational Golf Tournament on Monday.

The tournament was played in warm, sunny weather with a slight breeze.

The Blue Jays recorded a 500 six-man score to earn the team title. Phillipsburg followed with a 510 and Trego also scored a 510 to finish third. Stockton was fourth with a 519, followed by Oberlin, 530; Phillipsburg B, 570; Ellis, 573; Osborne, 573; Plainville, 621; Smith Center, 648; Thomas More Prep junior varsity, 706; Phillipsburg C, 771.

Norton's two-man team of Korey Look and Dane Krizek tied with Trego for the two-man championship with a 162 but placed second based on the lowest first score tiebreaker. Look and Krizek each shot 40/41-81.

Other two-man team scores were: Hill City, 167; Ellis, 177;

Phillipsburg, 177; Oberlin, 177; Smith Center, 181; Stockton, 185; Osborne, 192; Thomas More Prep junior varsity, 202; Phillipsburg B, 214.

Phillipsburg won the four-man team championship with a 333, followed by Stockton, 334 and Norton in third with a 338. Trego finished fourth with a 348, followed by Oberlin, 353; Phillipsburg B, 356; Plainville, 374; Osborne, 381; Ellis, 396; Phillipsburg C, 411; Smith Center, 467.

Low scorer for Norton's four-man team was Jared Mindrup with a 38/40-78, followed by Ryan Maddy, 40/42-82; Nick Evans, 42/45-87; Kyle Kats, 41/50-91.

Four Norton golfers were among the top 15 medalists. They were Mindrup, No.4; Look, No.8; Krizek, No.9 and Maddy, No.11.

Other medalists were: Brandon Karlin, Phillipsburg, 75, No.1; Carter Atkins, Hill City, 77, No.2; Grant Babcock, Phillipsburg, 78, No.3; Nathan Locke, Trego, 79,

No.5; Jordan Stithem, Stockton, 80, No.6; Chris Billinger, Trego, 80, No.7; Heath Muir, Stockton, 82, No.10; Andy Gilliam, Oberlin, 82, No.12; Matt Pfannenstiel, Trego, 83, No.13; Joseph Monroe, Phillipsburg, B, 83, No.14; Brett Mickelson, Ellis, 84, No.15.

"We took advantage of ideal scoring conditions to shoot a season best team score and earn a hard-fought tournament victory over very good teams from Phillipsburg and Trego," said Coach Stover.

"As a team, we shot an outstanding front nine score. I was very pleased with all our golfers' performances today. All six players shot at or below their season averages.

"Four Norton golfers earning individual medalist honors is a great accomplishment. Jared Mindrup and Ryan Maddy both shot season and career low rounds with Ryan earning his first varsity individual medalist honors.

"Korey and Dane also played well, earning a tie for first in the two-man division until the first score tiebreaker.

"Hopefully, we can carry the momentum we generated today into equally solid performances on Thursday in our return trip to Phillipsburg for the Mid-Continent League Tournament and next Monday in the Regional Tournament in Norton."

The Regional Tournament will be held on the Prairie Dog Recreation Association Golf Course south of Norton. The tournament is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m.

The top two teams and top 10 medalists from each regional tournament qualify for the state tournament.



Some members of the Norton Community High School golf team hit balls on the driving range at the Prairie Dog Recreation Association Golf Course south of Norton during a recent practice. They are, from back to front, Jordan Durham, Lacy Ellis, Nolan Evans, Preston Herman and Kyle Edgett. On Monday, the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament will be held on the Norton course.



Jays third at league tourney

By DICK BOYD
On Thursday afternoon, the Norton Community High School golf team returned to the Phillipsburg golf course where they had won the championship of the Phillipsburg Invitational on Monday and played better golf in the Mid-Continent League Tournament but Phillipsburg and Trego played even better and Coach David Stover's Blue Jays had to settle for third place.

Phillipsburg won the six-man championship with a 474, 36 shots better than Monday's score and Trego placed second with a 479, 31 strokes better than Monday.

The Blue Jays shot an even 500 to win Monday's Phillipsburg Invitational and carded a 497 on Thursday for third.

Stockton placed fourth in the league tournament on Thursday with a 520, followed by Osborne, 532; Ellis, 544; Plainville, 559; Smith Center, 571.

"We played good golf today but Phillipsburg and Trego played great golf on their way to the league championship and runnerup status," said Coach Stover.

"We improved our tournament-winning six-man team score from Monday by three shots and were still defeated by a 25 stroke margin."

Norton's two-man team of Dane Krizek and Korey Look placed second with a 156. They shot identical scores of 41/37-78. Krizek and Look shot a 162 on Monday to tie for first but placed second based on the lowest first score tiebreaker.

Josh Jackson also played two-man for Norton and scored a 53/54-107.

Trego won the two-man championship with a 152. Smith Center was third with a 165, followed by Hill City, 170; Phillipsburg, 170; Ellis, 172; Plainville, 192; Osborne, 193; Stockton, 227.

The Blue Jays' four-man team finished in fourth place. Phillipsburg won the four-man title with a 309, followed by Trego, 330; Stockton, 333; Norton, 341; Osborne, 349; Plainville, 370; Ellis, 372; Smith Center, 423.

On Monday, Norton's four-man team placed third with a 338.

Scoring for the Blue Jay four-man team were: Ryan Maddy, 41/43-84; Nick Evans, 44/40-84; Jared Mindrup, 43/42-85 and Kyle Kats, 42/46-88.

Also playing four-man for Norton was Michael Ward, who shot a 49/45-94.

Krizek was No.6 medalist and Look was No.8 medalist. Other medalists were: Brandon Karlin, Phillipsburg, 73, No.1; Matt Pfannenstiel, Trego, 74, No.2; Grant Babcock, Phillipsburg, 74, No.3; Carter Atkins, Hill City, 75, No.4; Chris Billinger, Trego, 76, No.5; Nathan Locke, Trego, 78, No.7; Heath Muir, Stockton, 79, No.9 and Josh Linn, Smith Center, 79, No.10.

"I am pleased with the way all our golfers played today," said Coach Stover.

"They continue to improve every day they are on the course.

"We were led by our two man duo of Dane Krizek and Korey Look. Both earned all-league status with their individual medalist honors today.

"This sets up an exciting regional golf tournament Monday in Norton. It should be a close tournament with many teams having a legitimate shot at earning a state tournament berth one week from Monday in Hays."

Next action
The Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Monday on the Prairie Dog Recreation Association Golf Course south of Norton.

The top two teams and top 10 medalists will qualify for the state tournament.

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