

Norton boys team wins Hill City Invitational Cross Country Meet

By DICK BOYD

Coach Deyton Hager's Norton Community High School varsity boys cross country team placed five runners in the top 21 to win the championship of the Hill City Invitational Cross Country Meet on Thursday in Hill City.

Norton scored 64 points to win the title and was followed by Colby, 76; Phillipsburg, 108; Quinter, 134; Trego, 140; Greeley County, 155; Ness City, 161; Hill City, 169; Wheatland, 190; Ellis, 192; Oberlin, 259.

Zach Bainter was Norton's best finisher. He placed third in 18 minutes, 10 seconds. Bainter was very close to the first and second place runners. Josh Baden, Colby, won with an 18:01. He edged Karman Selby, Brewster, who was timed in 18:02 for second.

Bainter's time was his second best of the season. He ran the 3.1 miles at Trego in 17:20 to place seventh.

Placing 15th for Norton was Logan Keiswetter in 19:05, his third best time. His best clocking was also at Trego where he was eighth in 17:44.

Kent Mann was right behind Keiswetter in 16th in 19:13. It was also his third best time. He was 18th at Trego in 18:26 for his best clocking of the year so far.

Jared Engelbert finished in 18th place with a time of 19:16. This was his second best time of the year. He was timed in 17:56 at Trego where he finished 13th.

Jared Bebb placed 21st in 19:37, his second best time of the season. His best was at Trego where he placed 26th in 19:03.

Cody Nickell placed 42nd in 20:21. He won the junior varsity competition at Trego with a time of 19:29.

Luke VanSlike placed 50th in 20:48. VanSlike placed second in junior varsity competition at Trego with a 19:36.

Seventy-five runners competed in the boys varsity division.

"This was a good win for us," said Coach Hager.

"We needed this win to put us back on track with what we are trying to do this year. Our boys were ready to run and that is for sure!

"Even though the day was very windy and slowed the times down a little, they all seemed to get out great and stay together. Jared Bebb ran his best race so far and the rest of the boys knew it.

"Zach Bainter came out and ran a good race to help lead the team to a victory but, in cross country, the whole team has to help get that victory."

David Counter placed eighth for Norton in the junior varsity race with a time of 21:39. His previous best was fourth at Trego in 20:01. Philip Van Der Weele was 32nd in 24:01 and Bryce Engelbert placed 45th in 26:25.

"David Counter ran a great race and was the only one of our runners to medal in the junior varsity boys race," said Coach Hager.

Girls division

Laura Lee Baird placed third for Norton in the girls two mile race with a time of 13:03. This was her second fastest time of the year. She ran 12:44 at Trego to win the individual championship.

Jessica Stephens, Colby, won the individual championship with a clocking of 12:30. Aubrey Frederking, Ellis, was second in 12:45.

KaraJo Jones placed 19th in 14:13. This was also her second best time of the season. She ran 13:48 at Trego where she placed fifth.

Amber Overlease finished in 48th place with a clocking of 15:27. Her best time was at Trego where she was clocked in 15:10 to place 16th.

Karlie Jones placed 56th in 16:22.

"Laura Lee had some good competition with a state champion in the lead and a state runnerup just in front of her," said Coach Hager.

"She showed that she could hold her own.

"We didn't have all of our girls present to run due to sickness."

Since Norton did not have enough girls competing, the Lady Jays were not in the running for the



Freshman Laura Lee Baird was the first Nortongirl to cross the finish line in the Hill City Invitational. She came in third with a time of 13:03. — Telegram photo by Susie Marble

Norton seventh in Trego varsity tennis invitational

By DICK BOYD

Coach Jim Green's Norton Community High School varsity tennis team placed seventh in the Trego Invitational held Saturday in WaKeeney.

Some of the top teams in the area competed in the double elimination tournament.

Clafin won the team championship with 52 points, followed by Hoisington, 39; Phillipsburg, 30; Russell, 14; Osborne, 10; Victoria, 10; Norton, 7; Trego, 6.

Norton's No.1 doubles team of Chelle Donovan and Hannah Mills was seeded No.5. In the first round they defeated C. Oliver and F. Efken, Osborne, 8-4. In the next round, they lost to No.4 seed E. Stephens and M. Kirmer, Clafin, 3-8. In the consolation bracket, they defeated No.6 seed S. Sheppman and K. Demel, Hoisington, 8-3 and lost to No.3 seed J.Gfeller and J. Gudenkauf, Russell, 3-8 to place sixth.

"Chelle and Hannah were seeded fifth and placed sixth," said Coach Green.

"They continue to show improvement and place the ball well."

The Lady Jays' No.2 doubles team of Kayleigh Brooks and Reesa Volgamore was not seeded. In their first match, they lost to No.2 seed K. Jarvis and A. Dusin, Phillipsburg, 1-8. In the consolation bracket, they lost to No.7 seed A. Krug and K. Reinhardt, Russell, 6-8.

"Kayleigh and Reesa played well in both of their matches," said Coach Green.

"Even though they lost, I was proud of their effort against the No.2 seeded team from Phillipsburg and the No.7 seeded team from Russell."

The Lady Jays' No.1 singles player Jessica Cook was seeded No.12. In her first match, she lost to Melinda Schremmer,

Phillipsburg, 0-8. In the consolation bracket, she defeated No. 13 seed Dacia Schiesser, Victoria, 8-6. In her next match, she lost to No.16 seed Sara Fawver, Phillipsburg, 3-8, and placed 11th.

Norton's No.2 singles player Lisa Jones received a No.10 seeding. In the first round, she lost to Rebecca Crotinger, Hoisington, 0-8. In the consolation bracket, she defeated No.15 seed Bailey Driscoll, Russell, 8-4. In her next match, she lost to No.11 seed Mallory Mahoney, Russell, 1-8, and placed 12th.

"Both of our singles players played well and placed 11th and 12th out of the 16 entries," said Coach Green.

Next action

The Norton varsity tennis team will return to WaKeeney this Saturday for the Mid-Continent League Tournament.

Play will begin at 9 a.m.

Norton fourth in tennis at Colby

By DICK BOYD

Coach Jim Green's Norton Community High School varsity tennis team placed fourth in the Round Robin Tennis Invitational on Tuesday at Colby.

Colby won the championship with 48 points, followed by Goodland, 31; Scott City, 30; Norton, 16; Garden City, 13; Tribune, 12.

Jessica Cook placed sixth in No.1 singles. She lost to Celine Coovert, Tribune, 1-6; lost to Logan Wark, Colby, 0-6; lost to Jessie McNutt, Garden City, 3-6; lost to Miranda Appel, Scott City, 1-6 and lost to Jillian Parker, Goodland, 1-6.

"Although Jessica Cook did not win any matches, she continues to make great strides in improving her play," said Coach Green.

Hannah Mills and Chelle Donovan placed fourth in No.1 doubles with a 2-3 record. They

defeated Shancee Howell and Colleen Fuller, Tribune, 6-1; lost to Nicole Schroeder and Robyn Wilson, Colby, 4-6; outscored Johanna Bacz and Amanda Seibert, Garden City, 6-2; lost to Brooke Boulware and Bailee Hess, Scott City, 1-6 and lost to Jena McCall and Sandy Johnson, Goodland, 1-6.

"Hannah and Chelle found some good competition from Colby and Scott City," said Coach Green.

Norton's No.2 singles player Lisa Jones placed fourth with a 3-2 record. She defeated Morgan Schmidt, Tribune, 6-2; lost to Rachael Funk, Colby, 0-6; outscored Jara Strickland, Garden City, 6-5(10-8); lost to LaTasha West, Scott City, 4-6 and defeated Shonna Webster, Goodland, 6-3.

"Lisa Jones stepped up her level of play to finish in fourth place,"

said Coach Green.

Playing No.2 doubles for Norton were Kayleigh Brooks and Reesa Volgamore and they finished in fourth place with a 2-3 record. They defeated Kayla Reynolds and Brittany Wendt, Tribune, 6-2; lost to Kaylie Dugger and Rishaun Wilson, Colby, 1-6; outscored Ellen Huschka and Nicole Walz, Garden City, 6-4; lost to Amanda Murphy and Kelsey Tankersley, Scott City, 2-6 and lost to Megan Stefan and Kali Rietcheck, Goodland, 0-6.

"Kayleigh and Reesa are improving in their net play and coverage of the court," said Coach Green.

Next action

The Norton varsity tennis team will compete in the Mid-Continent League Tournament on Saturday in WaKeeney.

Play will begin at 9 a.m.

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