

Norton third in wrestling invite

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High wrestling team placed third in the annual Clay Center Invitational Tournament on Saturday.

Class 4A Clay Center won the championship with 174.5 points. Class 4A Andale placed second with 172 points. The Blue Jays scored 168 points.

Class 3A Beloit was fourth with 103.5; followed by Class 6A Junction City, 100; Class 5A Salina South, 52; Class 5A Salina Central, 22; Class 3A Ellsworth, 10.

Norton had four champions — Clay Madden, 119; Jon Harding, 135; Blake VanEaton, 140 and Jeremy Harding, 145.

Nathan Broeckelman, 125; Kent Mann, 130 and Lance Roe, 160, placed second. Luke Pfannenstiel, 152, was third and Davvid Stanley, 189, was fourth.

“Going into the tournament, we were open at four weights and we lost two wrestlers due to injuries so we were limited in the number of points we could score,” said Coach Bill Johnson. “Still, we would have won the tournament if we had won the matches we should have won.”

“We did not wrestle well. We had a lot of sick wrestlers during the week and cut practices short.

“This was a humbling experience. We discovered that you just can’t hide weaknesses from being sick all week and that an injury can take you out of competition really quickly. Kent Mann at 130 and William Wilhite at 171 were both injured in their first matches and were unable to wrestle the rest of the day. Wilhite had to default his first match. Mann won his first match by a fall but could not continue the rest of the tournament.

“Lance Roe’s only practice of the week was Friday. He wrestled well considering that he’d been sick all week.

“We also learned that we will have to have more wrestlers scoring for us than we had in this tournament or a variety of teams will be able to beat us. With the weak spots in our current lineup, we’ll do better in tough tournaments than in duals. How well we do in dual competition will be determined by how much our newcomers improve.”

Coach Johnson named Jon Harding “Wrestler of the Week”.

“Jon started very poorly with a loss and ended with a good win over a previous state runnerup to win the 135 pound championship,” said Coach Johnson.

Norton had an outstanding 24-6 won-loss record and 15-1 pin ratio in the tournament.

Norton was open at 103 pounds and 112 pounds, where freshman Zach Bainter, who was the champion in the Hoxie Tournament the previous Saturday, was nursing an injury.

Wrestling were:
 • 119-pound — Madden, seeded No. 1, pinned his way to the championship. He pinned Quint Hall, Salina Central; No. 4 seed Nathan Gile, Clay Center; and No. 2 seed J.T. Kozlowski, Junction City.

No. 3 seed Cas Spangler, Beloit, placed third with a 12-10 decision over Gile.

• 125 — Broeckelman pinned four straight opponents, then was pinned. He pinned Kale Plush, Beloit; Garrett Gabriel, Salina South; Hector Guillen, Junction City and Taylor James, Clay Center. He was pinned by Blake Fisher, Andale, who earned the championship by pinning all five of his opponents.

Guillen placed third with a 3-2 record and James was fourth with a 2-4 mark.

• 130 — Mann, seeded No. 2, pinned No. 6 seed Chris Bowser, Clay Center. He was injured in the match and was unable to continue. He forfeited the championship match to No. 1 seed Brent Fisher, Andale.

No. 3 seed Kaid Calhoon, Beloit, placed third with a 13-8 decision over Bowser.

• 135 — Jon Harding lost a 6-3 decision to Blake Willmann, Clay Center; pinned Jeremy Plott, Salina South; pinned Cody Munsch, Salina Central, won a 15-4 major decision over Mitch Dill, Junction City; and an 11-9 decision over Brad Esterl, Beloit. Esterl placed second with a 4-1

record, followed by Dill, third, 2-3 and Plott, fourth, 2-3.

• 140 — VanEaton, No. 1 seed, pinned Jeff Childs, Junction City; won a 4-1 decision over No. 4 seed Wade Adams, Beloit; and won a 13-3 major decision over No. 3 seed Jordan Kolterman, Clay Center, to earn the gold medal.

No. 6 seed Willy Eck, Andale, placed third with a 5-2 decision over No. 2 seed Brandon Moberly, Salina South.

• 145 — Jeremy Harding pinned Jesse May, Salina South; pinned No. 4 seed Ben Davis, Clay Center; and won a 13-5 major decision over No. 2 seed Sam Thoman, Andale.

No. 3 seed Blake Mayes, Beloit, won third with a 5-1 decision over Davis.

• 152 — Pfannenstiel, No. 3 seed, lost 3-1 to No. 2 seed Kyle Allen, Clay Center; pinned No. 5 seed Matt Hyman, Beloit; and won a 13-5 major decision over No. 4 seed Jayme Hoover, Salina South.

No. 1 seed Judd Schroeder, Andale, won the championship with a 5-2 decision over Allen.

• 160 — Roe won a 16-1 technical fall over Alex Shepack, Ellsworth; won a 17-7 major decision over James Wright, Beloit; and lost an 8-4 decision to Brendan Lund, Clay Center.

Lund placed first with a 4-0 record, Roe was second 2-1; Wright, third at 1-2; and Shepack, fourth, 0-3.

• 171 — William Wilhite was injured in his first match against Nate Alvarez, Salina South, and had to injury default.

Alvarez placed third with a 2-2 record. Peter Eck, Andale, won the championship with a 4-0 record and Nic Gunter, Clay Center, was second with 3-1.

• 189 — Stanley, No. 5 seed, won a 19-2 technical fall over No. 4 seed Nick Scheer, Andale; lost a 16-10 decision to No. 1 seed Chris Berlucci, Junction City; pinned No. 6 seed Tyler Augustine, Salina South; and lost a 9-6 decision to No. 3 seed Eric Short, Beloit, to place fourth.

Berlucci won the championship with a 4-2 decision over No. 2 seed Josh Marrs, Clay Center.

Norton had no 215-pound wrestler. Matt James, Clay Center, won the championship with a 2-0 record. Matt Peters, Beloit, was second at 1-1 and Spencer Poppel, Junction City, placed third with an 0-2 mark.

Norton was also open at 275 pounds. Elijah Madison, Salina Central, was the champion with a 2-0 record, followed by Travis Blackwood, Clay Center, 1-1 and Jared Bowyer, Junction City, 0-2.

The round robin format was also used at 103. Trent Cox, Andale, was the champion with a perfect 4-0 record, followed by Lance Maldonado, Junction City, 3-1; Nick McGee, Clay Center, 2-2; Skyler Klein, Salina South, 1-3.

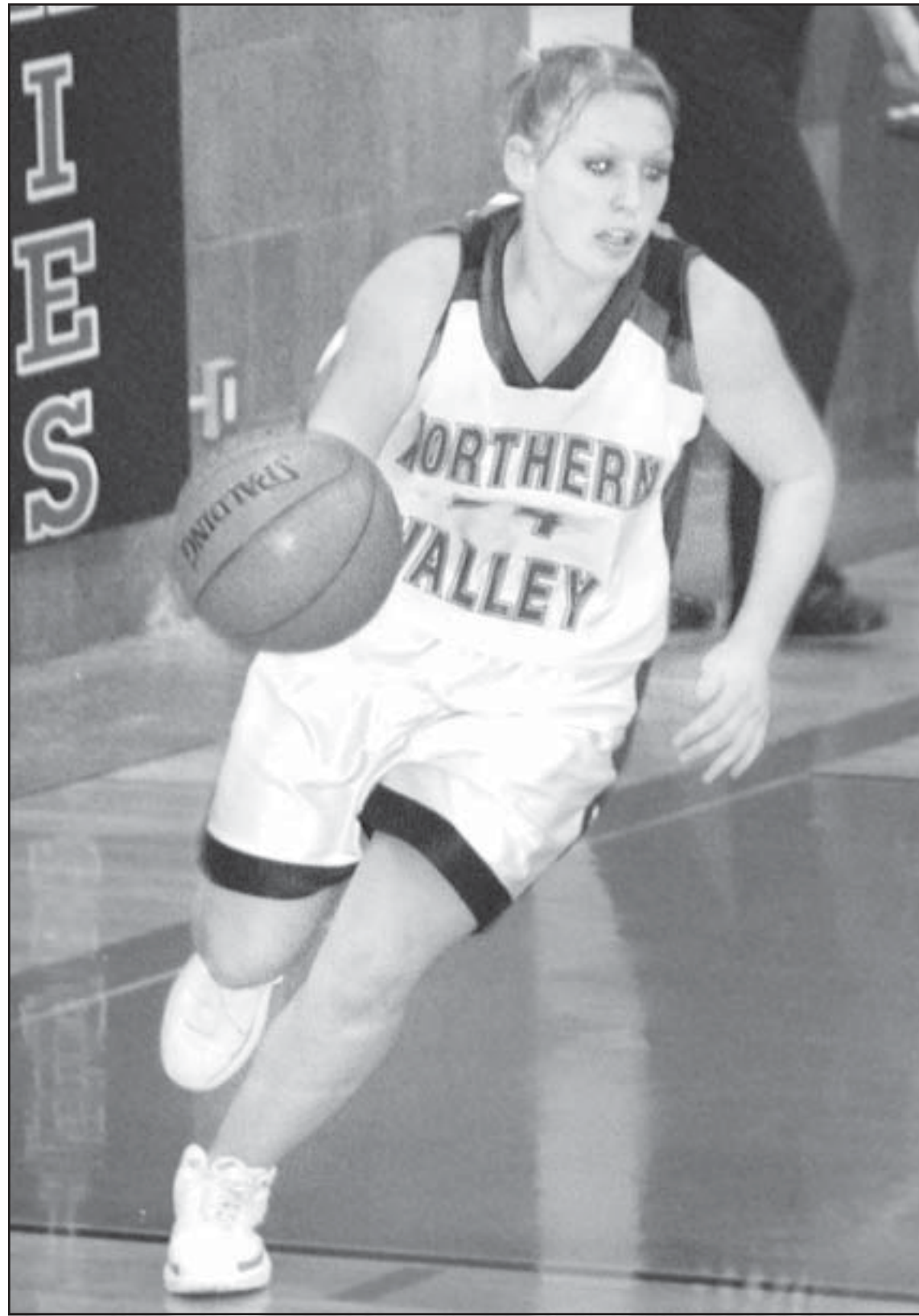
Shortage of wrestlers also required a round robin at 112 pounds. Cade Hewitt, Beloit, was the champion with a 3-0 record, followed by Gage Huffman, Clay Center, 2-1; Darrin Stroot, Andale, 1-2 and Rayne McClanahan, Salina Central, 0-3.

The Norton Blue Jays will begin Mid-Continent League dual action versus Stockton and Phillipsburg on Thursday in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym at East Campus. The Norton-Stockton dual will begin at 6 p.m. and will be followed by the Phillipsburg-Stockton and Norton-Phillipsburg duals.

These two duals will begin a busy three days for the Norton wrestlers. On Friday and Saturday, they will compete in the annual Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament in Goodland, which begins at 2 p.m. central time on Friday and 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Other teams competing will be Hoxie, Scott City, Ulysses, Oakley, Leoti, Hill City, Tonganoxie, Dodge City, Garden City, Buhler, Burlington, Colo. and Skyview High School, Colo.

Wrestlers will compete on four mats in the Max Jones Fieldhouse and two mats in the Junior High Gym, which adjoins the fieldhouse.



Lady Huskies get first win over Hill City

The Northern Valley High Lady Huskies won their first game of 2005-'06 Friday night when they beat Hill City 59-51.

The green team was behind in the first period, but managed to tie the score by the half. When they came back, they took the lead and still held it by the final sound of the buzzer: 15-7, 25-25, 41-29, 59-51.

Kelli Cole and Jena Jessup led scoring for the Lady Huskies with 18 points apiece. Also contributing to the team's victory were Jessica Largent, 7; Kelsey Kinderknecht and Serena Woodside, 5 each; and Andrea Lowry and Jessica Holmes, 3 each.

Northern Valley is playing Smith Center tonight beginning at 4 p.m. in Alma. Next Tuesday, the team will travel to Brewster, where play is set to start at 4 p.m.

**Northern Valley 59
Hill City 51**

Score by quarter:

N. Valley 7 18 16 18 — 59
H. City 15 10 4 22 — 51

Northern Valley

Cole 4 3 2-1 18, Jessup 6 2 4-0 18, Largent 2 0 4-3 7, Woodside 1 0 4-3 5, Kinderknecht 1 0 7-3 5, Lowry 0 1 0-0 3, Holmes 1 0 2-1 3. Totals 15 6 21-11 59.

Hill City

Jamie Alexander 7 0 3-3 17, Katelyn Keith 7 0 2-1 15, Holly Buss 3 0 1-0 6, Liz Miller 2 0 5-2 6, Tamra Cony 2-00-04, Brittany Anderson 1 0 4-1 3. Totals 22 0 15-7 51.



Jena Jessup (top) grabs a rebound and dribbles down the court to score a two-point basket for the Huskies in the game Friday against Hill City. Jessup and Kelli Cole tied for high scorers in the game with 18 points each. Senior Joey Copper (above) makes a jump shot for the

Huskies as the Northern Valley boys team worked hard to beat Hill City in overtime by two points. Copper was high scorer for Northern Valley with 15. Also shown for the Huskies is No. 24 Cole Kinderknecht.

— Telegram photos by Susie Marble

Northern Valley boys edge Hill City in overtime

The Northern Valley High boys basketball team edged Hill City, 64-62, in overtime Friday night for their first win this season.

The Huskies trailed by a smidgen at the end of the first three quarters, but managed to tie the game in the fourth, sending them into overtime where they won the game: 14-13, 31-24, 44-43, 57-57, 64-62.

Joey Copper led scoring for the green team with 15 points, followed closely by Avery Thalheim, Henry Griffiths and Andrew Sheley, 13 each; and Cole Kinderknecht, 10.

Northern Valley is playing Smith Center tonight beginning at 4 p.m. in Alma. Next Tuesday, the Huskies will travel to Brewster, where play is set to start at 4 p.m.

**Northern Valley 64
Hill City 62**

Score by quarter:
N. Valley 13 11 19 14 7—64
H. City 14 17 13 13 5—62

Northern Valley
Copper 6 0 5-3 15, Thalheim 1

3 4-2 13, Griffiths 5 1 0-0 13, Sheley 4 1 2-2 13, Kinderknecht 1 2 3-2 10. Totals 17 7 14-9 64.

Hill City
Welter 9 0 0-0 18, Brown 6 0 8-

5 17, Gerstner 1 1 6-4 9, Thompson 3 0 2-2 8, Knoll 2 0 3-3 7, Radcliffe 1 0 2-1 3. Totals 22 12-15 62.

High School Sports This Week



WRESTLING:

Norton vs. Phillipsburg/Stockton Duals (Here-Wilmeth Kirk Gym) 6 p.m., Thursday
Norton in Holiday Classic in Goodland 2 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m., Saturday

BASKETBALL:

Northern Valley vs. Smith Center (Here) 4 p.m., Today
Northern Valley vs. Brewster (There) 4 p.m., Tuesday
Logan vs. Kensington (There) 4:30 p.m., Friday
Logan vs. Natoma (Here) 4 p.m., Tuesday
Norton vs. Phillipsburg (There) 6:30 p.m., Friday
Norton vs. Stockton (Here) 6:30 p.m., Saturday