

Norton girls first, boys second in league meet

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School girls and boys track teams placed first and second, respectively, in the annual Mid-Continent League Track Meet held on Friday in Norton.

The Norton women compiled 132 points to earn the championship. Osborne placed second with 108, followed by Ellis, 78.5; Phillipsburg, 61.5; Hill City, 47; Plainville, 47; Smith Center, 43; Trego, 39; Stockton, 1.

Phillipsburg was champion of the men's division with 120 points. The Blue Jays were runnerup with 105 and were followed by Hill City, 92; Ellis, 68; Osborne, 64; Smith Center, 52; Stockton, 32; Trego, 15; Plainville, 8.

"I was overwhelmed with pride in our young people and the effort they gave in the league track meet," said coach Graber.

"It was especially sweet to have it all happen on our home track.

"We knew we had a chance to win both men's and women's division and every youngster on this team did everything they could to achieve that goal. We just fell a little short on the men's side and that was as much due to a great performance by the Phillipsburg athletes as it was by any lack of success by our young men.

"There were too many great moments to talk about each individually but I think our women's 1600 meter relay team of Jones, Cox, Streck and Baird put a great exclamation point on a great day with a meet record time!

"And, we were all very thankful for the beautiful weather we had to compete in!"

GIRLS

Freshman Laura Lee Baird had another outstanding meet. She won the 400 meter dash with a personal record time of 58.9, edging another top area runner Demi French of Osborne, who was timed in 59.65.

Baird also won the 800 meter run in 2:24.92 and defeated another excellent area runner Aubrey Frederking of Plainville, who was clocked in 2:25.18. Frederking won both the 1600 meter and 3200 meter runs.

Baird anchored Norton's 1600 meter relay team to a meet record time of 4:09.26. Team members and time splits were: freshman KaraJo Jones, 62; senior Chelsea Cox, 64, personal record; senior Naomi Streck, 64; Baird, 59. The previous record was 4:11.34 and was set by Norton in 1982.

Baird ran in a fourth race as well. She anchored the Lady Jays' 3200 meter relay team which placed fourth in 11:54. Freshman Taylor Rossi was also a member of the team and ran a personal record 2:41 for her leg. Freshman Katharine Roy and Jones were the other members of the relay.

"Laura Lee was just phenomenal," said coach Graber. "Her 58.9 in the open 400 was the fast-

est time I have ever had run by a young lady on one of my track teams in my 32 years of coaching. Her efforts in the 800 meters and the 1600 meter relay were something to watch."

Jones placed third in the 400 meter dash with a personal best clocking of 61.3 and Cox was sixth in a personal best time of 65.6.

"The smile on KaraJo's face when she found out she ran under 62 seconds in the 400 meters was worth more than I can tell you," said coach Graber.

Sophomore Courtney LeClair was a double gold medal winner in personal record time in the hurdles races. She won the 100 meter hurdles in 16.3 and earned the gold in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles with a clocking of 48.4. She also placed fourth in the triple jump with a distance of 30'10".

"Courtney came back after a couple of tough meets and had the best day of her life in the hurdle races," said coach Graber. "I was very proud of her focus and efforts."

Cox set a personal record in winning the gold medal in the triple jump with a distance of 32'7".

"Chelsea picked a great time to hit a personal record and win the triple jump," said coach Graber. "Then, she ran a personal best time in that great 1600 meter relay effort."

"Naomi Streck was running on the 1600 meter relay team for only the second time all year and posted a 64 second lap. That was a great show of grit and determination."

The Lady Jays tallied 11 points in the shot put event. Freshman Hayli Bozarth placed third with a 34'2.5" effort. Freshman Wiyanna Paxton finished just behind her in fourth with a distance of 31'9". Senior Klaire Mann was sixth with a distance of 31'3.5".

Bozarth also scored points in two other events. She was second in the discus with a throw of 104'10" and third in the javelin with a distance of 105'9".

"Hayli was huge for us in getting us 20 points in the three throwing events with some outstanding throws," said coach Graber.

Junior Lacey Roe won the silver medal in the javelin with a season's best throw of 112'10.5".

Senior Chelle Donovan placed second in the pole vault with a 9' vault. Teammates senior Amanda Antrim tied for third with a height of 8' and freshman Taylor Rossi had the seventh best vault with a 7'6" clearance.

The Lady Jays' 400 meter relay team of Antrim, senior Jaclyn Krueger, junior Hannah Mills and Streck placed third in 53.7.

Roy finished fifth in the triple jump with a distance of 30'4".

Performances by Norton girls which did not place were: Krueger, 14.1; senior Amber Waggoner, 14.3, 100 meter dash; Courtney Cox, 1600 meters; Waggoner, 55.9, personal record,



Norton's Blake VanEaton received the baton from Jared Engelbert to start the anchor leg of the 3200 meter relay during the Mid-Continent League Track Meet on Friday in Norton. The junior foursome of Engelbert, VanEaton, Logan Keiswetter and Jared Bebb won the gold in 8:46.06.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

seventh best time; Roy, 55.9, personal record, eighth best time, 300 meter hurdles; Mills, 29.7; Jones, 28.8; Streck, 28.8, 200 meter dash; Mann, 95'5"; junior Laura Delimont, 96'5"; freshman Amanda Delimont, 30'1", personal record; sophomore Tabitha Vincent, 27'4", discus; Paxton, 92'5.5", personal record, javelin; Streck, 13'10"; Krueger, 13'7", long jump.

"I was very excited and happy with Katharine Roy," said coach Graber. "I asked her on Wednesday to try the 300 meter hurdles and she took to the hurdles very well. She gave us a great effort for her first time through them and that is a great testament to her commitment to team before self. I'm very proud of her."

BOYS

Norton junior Blake VanEaton won the 400 meter dash in the outstanding personal best time of 51.3 and anchored the winning 3200 meter relay team, which was clocked in 8:46.1. He also placed fifth in the 200 meter dash and set a personal record of 23.2 in the preliminaries. VanEaton also anchored the fourth place 1600 meter relay team which was timed in 3:34.8.

The Blue Jay 3200 meter relay team members and time splits were: junior Logan Keiswetter, 2:10.7; junior Jared Bebb, 2:14.6; junior Jared Engelbert, 2:07.8; VanEaton, 2:13.7.

Norton's 1600 meter relay team members and time splits were: senior Andrew Ables, 54; sophomore Jared Cox, 54; sophomore Logan Kats, 54; VanEaton, 52.

"Blake ran a great time in winning the 400 meter dash and got us some unexpected points in the 200 meter dash," said coach Graber.

Engelbert ran a personal record 2:07.7 to place third in the 800 meter run.

"Jared Engelbert ran two 800 meter runs at 2:07, which was faster than any he had ever run in his life," said coach Graber. "He gave us a chance to win the 3200 meter relay and got us six big

points in the open 800."

Junior Kent Mann ran another outstanding 1600 meter race, placing first in 4:45.7. He also finished sixth in the 3200 meter run in 11:41.4.

Keiswetter had a good 3200 meter race and placed second in a personal best time of 10:53.5.

Freshman Zach Bainter ran a lot of distance in three races, placing fifth in all three. He was timed in 2:12.3 in the 800, 4:52.4 in the 1600 and 11:31.6 in the 3200.

"I was extremely proud of Zach's efforts," said coach Graber. "He gave up his spot on the 3200 meter relay so that we could use him in the 1600, 800 and 3200 meters. He wasn't feeling too sound after his 800 and, with very little recovery, got back on the track and got points for his team in the 3200 with a real show of heart."

Bebb also set a personal record when he finished sixth in the 800 meter run in 2:12.8.

Kats finished fifth in the 400 meter dash in a personal best time of 55.0.

The three Norton hurdlers earned five places in two races. Junior Nic Lewis placed second in the 110 meter high hurdles with a personal best time of 16.14. A whisker behind him was sophomore Jared Cox, who recorded a personal best time of 16.15. Sophomore Wes Georgeson placed sixth in 18.8, after setting a personal record of 17.3 in the preliminaries.

In the 300 meter intermediate hurdles, Cox finished third in 41.7 and Lewis was sixth in 44.4.

"Cox, Lewis and Georgeson all three ran well and, if Wes doesn't go down over the last hurdle, we have the second, third and fourth spots in the 110 meter high hurdles," said coach Graber.

Norton's 400 meter relay team placed fifth in 45.8. Team members and time splits were: junior Brett Thomson, 12.56; Ables, 11.55; Lewis, 10.54; senior Lance Roe, 11.25.

Thomson also placed sixth in the 100 meter dash in 11.7.

Roe continued his steady performance in the pole vault. He won the event with a height of 13'.

"Lance came through in a tough situation when everyone expected him to and that is the toughest situation to be in most of the time," said coach Graber. "He is in a pretty good groove right now."

Senior Heath Vincent heaved a personal record 47'8" in the shot put to win the bronze medal.

"Heath uncorked a great throw for a personal record in the shot put and I think you will see an even bigger throw this week," said coach Graber.

Ables won fifth place in the shot put with a 43'10" effort.

Sophomore Tanner Griffith placed fifth in the triple jump with a personal best distance of 39'7.5".

Performances by Norton boys which did not place were: Bolt, 12.7, 100 meter dash; 400 meter relay B team, freshman Matt Stanley, 13.5; freshman Brad Nuzum, 12.5; freshman Brock Lauer, 11.5; freshman Zac Dreyer, 12.5, total time, 50.05; Georgeson, 46.03, 300 meter hurdles; senior Philip Van Der Wee, 2:40.7, personal record; freshman Josh Gallentine, 2:44.6, personal record, 800 meter run; Thomson, 24.3; Lauer, 26.0, personal record; Stanley, 26.7, personal record;

Nuzum, 26.8, personal record, 200 meter dash; Stanley, 35'3.5"; Josh VanSkiike, 33'1", shot put; Vincent, 112'4.5"; freshman Nish Millan, 81'3"; Dreyer, 95'3", discus; Ables, 130'10.5"; Dreyer, 115'10", javelin; Bolt, seventh, 5'4", high jump; Griffith, 9'6", pole vault; Bolt, 18'3"; Griffith, 16'6", long jump; Lewis, 37'8"; Bolt, 36'9.5", triple jump.

Next action

Norton will compete Friday in the Class 3A Regional Track and Field Meet at Ellsworth High School.

Teams competing, in addition to Norton and Ellsworth, will be: Beloit, Bennington, Cimarron, Ellinwood, Hoisington, Holcomb, Lakin, Lyons, Medicine Lodge, Oberlin, Phillipsburg, Sacred Heart and Southeast of Saline.

The meet will begin at 3 p.m. with the field events. Preliminary running events will begin at 4 p.m. Finals will begin 30 minutes after the completion of the preliminaries.

Medals will be awarded to the top four places in each event as well as to the top two teams.

The top four place winners in each event will advance to the State Track and Field Meet on May 26-27 at Cessna Stadium at Wichita State University in Wichita.

Norton third in Regional Golf Tournament

By DICK BOYD

Coach David Stover's Norton Community High School golf team placed third in the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament on Monday in Phillipsburg and senior Dane Krizek qualified for next Monday's State Tournament in Hesston.

The top two teams qualify for the state tournament but also the top five individuals not members of the qualifying teams.

Krizek shot an outstanding 73, the best score of the day, to become the No. 1 medalist.

Phillipsburg won the team championship with a 316, followed by Oberlin, 332; Norton, 343; Hoisington, 362; Ellinwood, 370; Beloit, 379.

In addition to Krizek's 38-35-73, other Norton scores were: sophomore Preston Herman, 44-44-88; senior Clay Madden, 44-46-90; senior Jordan Herman, 47-45-92.

Also playing for Norton and their scores were: junior Michael Ward, 41-52-93 and junior Pat Burton, 51-56-106.

Medalists were: Dane Krizek, 73; Jonathon Richards, Oberlin, 74; Kolton Cook, Hoisington, 76; Jeff Jarvis, Phillipsburg, 77; Breck Simonsson, Oberlin, 79; Matt Eck, Beloit, 79; Nam Nguyen, Phillipsburg, 79; Chris Suhler, Lyons, 79; Travis Yoxall, Phillipsburg, 80; Joseph Monroe, Phillipsburg, 80.

Brent Schartz, Ellinwood,

shot an 82 and is an additional individual state qualifier.

Krizek and Ward are Norton's only two letter winners on this year's squad. This will be Krizek's third trip to the state tournament. He was a member of the Norton team which won the Class 3A regional championship and placed tenth in the state tournament in 2003. Last season, Krizek and Corey Look took second in two-man in the regional tournament and competed in the state tournament.

"We knew coming into the regional tournament that we were going to have to play well to get past two quality teams in Phillipsburg and Oberlin and we weren't able to get it done," said coach Stover.

"As has been the case most of the season, we struggled for the most part on the back nine, especially with the short game.

"I am extremely proud of this group. They have improved throughout the entire season and have represented Norton with pride and class.

"The highlight of the day was the performance of Dane Krizek. After battling injuries much of the season, he was able to put it all together and earn the regional championship medalist honors, qualifying him for the Class 3A state tournament."



Norton senior Heath Vincent heaved the shot a personal record distance of 47'8" to place third in that event, just three inches behind second place, in the Mid-Continent League Track Meet on Friday in Norton.

— Telegram photos by Dick Boyd



In a battle between two of the top female runners in the area, Norton freshman Laura Lee Baird edged Plainville sophomore Aubrey Frederking to win the 800 meter run in the Mid-Continent League Track Meet on Friday in Norton. Baird also won the 400 meter dash in 58.91 and anchored Norton's gold medal winning 1600 meter relay team which broke the league meet record with a 4:09.26 clocking.

WOMEN'S SUMMER TENNIS LEAGUE

Any woman age 16 or older interested in participating in a summer tennis league, please contact:

Kay Mills, 877-3135 or Shawnee Branek, 874-4796

**WE NEED TO KNOW BY MAY 25!
HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON!**