

Blue Jay cross country ushers in season Thursday

By DICK BOYD

Coach Deyton Hager's Norton Community High School cross country team will open the 2006 season by hosting the Norton Invitational Cross Country Meet Thursday at the Prairie Dog Golf Course south of Norton.

The meet will begin at 4:30 p.m. with the girls and boys junior varsity races and will continue with the girls varsity at 5 p.m. and the boys varsity at 5:30 p.m.

The boys will run three miles and the girls will run two miles.

Team medals will be awarded to the top three boys and girls teams. Individual medals will go to the top 15 varsity boys and girls and the top 10 junior varsity boys and girls.

Teams from Ellis, Hill City, Hoxie, Ness City, Northern Valley, Oberlin, Phillipsburg, Trego Community and Wheatland will compete in addition to Norton.

Coach Hager has 18 boys and seven girls on the team.

Returning boys lettermen are Logan Keiswetter, Jared Engelbert, Kent Mann, Jared Bebb, seniors; Luke VanSike, junior and Zach Bainter, sophomore. Girls returning letter winners are Karlynn Kent, junior and Laura Lee Baird and KaraJo Jones, sophomores.

Other boys on the team are: Michael Ward, senior; Matheus Martins, Bryce Engelbert, Andrew Black, Tanner Griffith, juniors; Jordan Bebb, Josh Gallentine, sophomores; Adam Myers, Chris Maddy, Matt Miller, Kaenon Keiswetter and Grant McClymont, freshmen.

Other girls on the squad are Kylie Morel, junior; Taylor Rossi, sophomore; Amanda Ray, Hannah Waggoner, freshmen.

Anne Stiles is the assistant coach again this year.

The Norton boys team won the Mid-Continent League championship last year. They were the runnerup team in the Class 3A re-

gional meet and placed sixth in the state meet.

Bainter had a great freshman season. He won the league championship, placed fourth in the regional meet and tenth in the state meet. Mann placed 11th in the regional meet and 38th in the state meet. Logan Keiswetter finished fourth in the league meet, 16th in the regional and 48th in the state meet.

Jared Engelbert was tenth in the league meet, 26th in the regional and 59th in the state meet. Jared Bebb placed 16th in the league, 32nd in the regional meet and 73rd in the state meet.

There were not enough Norton girls competing last season to make a team. This is expected to change this year. Last season, Baird placed second in the league meet, fifth in the regional meet and fell in the state meet and did not finish.

Jones placed ninth in the league and finished 27th in the regional

meet.

"For the last eight years, I have been trying to build up this Norton cross country program," said coach Hager. "It was a program that was lost and long forgotten for 14 years. We are now beginning the ninth year since starting over. Since I will soon be attending college, this will be my last year of coaching the cross country team. My last year could be the best year yet."

"Last year we achieved so much as a team but, as a school, it was Norton's first time ever to take a boys team or any team to compete in the state meet."

"I think we should have a great season this year as well. Our four senior boys Logan Keiswetter, Kent Mann, Jared Engelbert and Jared Bebb are very hungry and they are looking for more than just a sixth place finish at state. With everybody back on the boys side, including Zach Bainter, and some coming in to help, the four seniors

Norton cross country schedule

- Thursday, Aug. 31 - Norton Invitational - 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 - Wamego Invitational - 9 a.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 14 - Trego Invitational at WaKeeney - 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 21 - Hill City Invitational - 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 26 - Oberlin Invitational - 5 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 5 - Phillipsburg Invitational - 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 12 - Lakeside Invitational - 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 21 - Regional Meet TBA
- Saturday, Oct. 28 - State Meet in Wamego

might get their way. "On the girls side, it really could be a much better season. We are truly blessed to have some girls coming in this year to help Laura Lee Baird and KaraJo Jones that will help give us the numbers we lacked last year. But, most of all, these girls know how to run." The Jim Maska Pre-Season State Rankings rank the Norton boys No. 4 in the state of Kansas in Class 3A and list the Norton girls among others to watch. The No. 1 boys team is Kansas City Chris-

Northern Valley football hosts Palco

The Northern Valley High School football team will start its 2006 season Friday when they host Palco in Alma, beginning at 7 p.m.

The Huskies have several returning players and a few new ones as well. The bulk of the team is sophomores.

On the team this year are:

- Seniors — Cameron Duede, 6 foot, 160 pound guard; Chance Miller, 6-3, 208 pound center; and Chase Miller, 6-2, 165 pound end.
- Juniors — Blake Johnson, 5-6, 147 pound quarterback; Richie Kersch, 6-0, 160 pound running back; and Matt Crow, 5-11, 159 pound end.
- Sophomores — Ethan Hays, 5-

5, 149 pound quarterback; Taylor Hammond, 5-9, 139 pound running back; Cody Callaway, 6-0, 160 pound end; Drew Eagleburger, 5-8, 174 pound running back; Travis Redeker, 5-9, 210 pound running back; Nathaniel Graham, 5-9, 186 pound guard; Eric Woodside, 5-7, 191 pound guard; Tanner Jessup, 6-1, 191 pound end; and Chaim McMillin, 5-8, 148 pound running back.

• Freshmen — Jacob Gallentine, 5-6, 152 pound running back; Hutch Gehrke, 5-6, 158 pound guard; and Brandon Towery, 5-9, 235 pound center.

Chuck Fessenden will once again be coaching the Huskies

Northern Valley football schedule

- Sept. 1 — Palco, @ Alma, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 8 — Eastern Heights, @ Alma, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 15 — Kensington, @ Kensington, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 22 — Logan, @ Logan, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 29 — Cheylin, @ Alma, 7 p.m., homecoming
- Oct. 6 — Weskan, @ Alma, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 13 — Golden Plains, @ Rexford, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 20 — Brewster/Triplains, @ Alma, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 26 — Wallace County, @ Sharon Springs, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 31 — Bi-District, TBA
- Nov. 4 — Regionals, TBA
- Nov. 10 — Sub-State, TBA
- Nov. 18 — State, TBA

with help from assistant coaches Jason Dibble and Abner Williams. Jordan Herman is the team's manager for the 2006 football season.

Husky volleyball back in action again today

The Northern Valley High School volleyball team started its 2006 season last Friday against Lakeside and Tipton in Tipton. Today, they will play Kensington and Western Plains, beginning at 4 p.m. in Alma.

On the team this year are: Seniors — Kelli Cole, 5 foot 8 inches; Andrea Lowry, 5-4; Jessica Holmes, 5-5; and Alysia Shearer, 5-10.

Juniors — Joni Hilburn, 5-1; Kelsey Kinderknecht, 5-5; and Jessica Largent, 5-8.

Sophomores — Stephanie Tubbs, 5-9; and Brandi Conaway, 5-4.

Freshmen — Megan Cole, 5-3; and Alison Cole, 6-0.

Coach Christine Eveleigh will be leading the team with the help of her assistant coach Kevin Largent.

Northern Valley volleyball schedule

- Aug. 29 — Kensington and Western Plains, @ Alma, 4 p.m.
- Sept. 5 — Norton and Phillipsburg, @ Phillipsburg, 5 p.m.
- Sept. 12 — Palco and Eastern Heights, @ Alma, 4 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — Alma and Logan, @ Alma, 5 p.m.
- Sept. 23 — JV Tournament, @ Hill City, TBA
- Sept. 30 — Ellis Tournament, @ Ellis, 8:30 a.m.
- Oct. 3 — Golden Plains and Wheatland, @ Alma, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 7 — Hill City Tournament, @ Hill City, 8:30 p.m.
- Oct. 10 — Stockton, Western Plains and Eastern Heights, @ Stockton, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 14 — Cheyenne Conference, @ Palco, 10 a.m.
- Oct. 17 — Regionals, TBA
- Oct. 21 — Sub-State, TBA
- Oct. 27 & 28 — State, TBA

Logan football machine travels to Western Plains

The Logan High School football team will open its 2006 season Friday against Western Plains in Ransom. Kick-off is set for 7 p.m.

The Trojans have several returning seniors and juniors on the varsity team.

On the Trojan team this year are:

- Seniors — Kyle Brobst, 6 foot, 150 pounds; Tanner Pabst, 6-0, 160 pounds; Jeff Brown, 6-3, 170 pounds; Kevin Burge, 6-0, 150 pounds; Jake Tien, 6-0, 230 pounds; Tim McElroy, 6-1, 270 pounds; Lonnie Woods, 6-0, 240 pounds; and Kevin Pinkerton, 5-

- 10, 140 pounds.
- Juniors — Zach Long, 5-9, 160 pounds; Kodi Wallgren, 6-0, 160 pounds; Garrett Becker, 5-11, 190 pounds; Ethan Gottschalk, 6-5, 240 pounds; and Payton Chestnut, 6-3, 240 pounds.
- Sophomores — Levi Kiser, 5-

8, 150 pounds; and Charley Harmon, 5-10, 240 pounds.

• Freshmen — Bryce Sammons, 5-5, 140 pounds; Cody Leggett, 5-8, 190 pounds; Trevor Tien, 6-0, 150 pounds; and Tyson Pabst, 6-0, 140 pounds.

Coach Michael Wilmott will be leading the team's charge with the help of assistant coach Joel Lovesee.

Tracy Archer, Austin Schneider, Landon Schneider and Brady Tien are the team's managers for the new season.

Logan football schedule

- Sept. 1 — Western Plains, @ Ransom, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 8 — Kensington, @ Logan, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 15 — Golden Plains, @ Rexford, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 22 — Northern Valley, @ Logan, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 29 — Eastern Heights, @ Logan, 7 p.m.

- Oct. 6 — Palco, @ Logan, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 13 — Lucas Luray, @ Lucas, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 20 — Victoria, @ Logan, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 26 — Natoma, @ Natoma, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 31 — Bi-District, TBA
- Nov. 4 — Regionals, TBA
- Nov. 10 — Sub-State, TBA
- Nov. 18 — State, TBA

Northern Valley runners open at Norton

The Northern Valley High School cross country team starts its 2006 season Thursday at the Norton Invitational in Norton. The invitational is set to begin at 4:30 p.m.

The Huskies Harriers have five returning runners and one new runner.

On the team are:

- Juniors — Amanda Hopkins and Bryce Marble;
- Sophomore — Stanton Nelson; and
- Freshman — Megan Cole. Coach is Lonnie Brungardt.

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