

Junior high wrestlers first

Here are the results of the early March Mid-Continent Elementary League wrestling tourney, as they apply to Norton participants. Team scores:
 1. Norton, 269.50 points
 2. Smith Center, 184.00
 3. Trego, 120.50
 4. Ellis, 111.50
 5. Phillipsburg, 97.00 (they had a non-scoring wrestler)
 6. Hill City, 91.00
 7. Stockton, 48.50
 8. Osborne, 43.00
 9. Plainville, 30.00
 Norton had 8 first-place finishers, 5 placed second, 1 placed third and 1 placed fourth.

Individually for Norton:
 • 80-lbs.: RJ Ellis had a first round bye; lost to Kristian Tuttle of Trego; and pinned Kolin Roth of Phillipsburg for **second** place.
 • 84-lbs.: Andy Nickell won over Brandon McDowell of Smith Center; lost to Joey Richmeier of Trego; won over Brendon Beach of Phillipsburg; and won by technical fall over McDowell of Smith Center for **third** place.
 • 88-lbs.: Colby Poage had a first round bye; won over Clay Pickel of Smith Center; and then beat Pickel for **second** place.
 • 96-lbs.: Brett Terrell had a first round bye; won over Seth Conway of Osborne; and then beat Matt Schneider of Phillipsburg by a major decision for **first** place.
 • 100-lbs.: Troy Bainter won over Josh Henke of Osborne; beat

Troy Weeks of Smith Center; and pinned Austin Lopez of Ellis for **first** place.
 • 105 lbs.: Billy Broeckelman had a first round bye; beat Adam Pfeifer of Hill City; and pinned Trey Molzahn of Smith Center for **first** place.
 • 110 lbs.: Landon Keiswetter had a first round bye; beat Louis Frazier of Smith Center; and decisioned Tanner Gugler of Ellis for **first** place.
 • 115 lbs.: Cayleb Campbell beat Will Papes of Trego; won over Brock Long of Ellis; and lost by major decision to Josh Crain of Phillipsburg for **second** place.
 • 120 lbs.: Spencer Shirk had a first round bye; beat Colten Gideon of Trego; and pinned Chris Wanner of Smith Center for **first** place.
 • 125 lbs.: Kaid McKenna had a first round bye; beat Sheldyne Brown of Phillipsburg; and decisioned Casey Sedbrook of Trego for **first** place.
 • 132 lbs.: Rylee Stanley had a first round bye; won over Dereek McNary of Smith Center; and lost by a fall to Thomas Rachow of Phillipsburg for **second** place.
 • 138 lbs.: Luke Ninemire lost to Tyler Bess of Hill City; won over Taylar Bohl of Phillipsburg; and lost to Jacob Fielder of Stockton. No placing.
 • 145 lbs.: Jesse Gallentine beat Nolan Hill of Hill City; won over Jonathan Bellerive of Stockton;

and lost to Willie Overmiller of Smith Center by a fall for **second** place.
 • 152 lbs.: Ryan Blecha won over Devin Henderson of Ellis; lost to Van Tucker of Smith Center; won over Cole Smith of Plainville; and lost by a major decision to David Ghumm of Trego for **fourth** place.
 • 160 lbs.: Jeremy Sproul had a first round bye; beat Josh McDowell of Smith Center; and decisioned Reggie Jordan of Hill City for **first** place.
 • 175 lbs.: Terrell Lane had a first round bye; beat Bryce Hjelm of Stockton; and won by technical fall over Logan Mattheyer of Ellis for **first** place.

Conference honors noted

James Annon, a sophomore from Norton and 141 pound wrestler for Fort Hays State University, Hays, is one of seven Tiger wrestlers to receive all-Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference honors. Annon, who recently placed second in the conference championship tournament to extend his record to 16-10, was chosen to the first team. Also named to the first team was Andrew Ubben, senior from Phillipsburg at 285, who is ranked fourth in the nation in Division II. He extended his record to 23-6. Freshmen Danny Grater, 157 and Tyler Gonzales, 197, were also first team selections. Tigers receiving honorable mention were seniors Derek Patterson, Mikel Delk and Mike Howell.

Husky junior high track details given

Students out for track: 37
 Boys coach: Jim Cole
 Girls coach: Kirsten Baird
 Assistant coach: Lisa Miller
 There are 19 boys and 18 girls on the roster. The squad starts practice on March 26. The Huskies will be attending 6 meets this spring.
BOYS
 6th Grade – 3, Tyson Callaway, Phillip Compton, Alex Tharman.
 7th Grade – 8, Calen Bach, Daniel Field, Gunnar Hays, Austin Herman, Dillon Hogan, Nate Land, Zane Miller, Tyler Montgomery.

8th Grade – 8, Caleb Bach, Matthew Dole, Dusty Eagleburger, Ethan Gallentine, Skyler Harris, Colton Lowry, Chris Pinzenscham, Zachary Vincent.
GIRLS
 6th Grade – 7, Erika Chandler, Patience Coffman, McKinsey Evans, Haley Graham, Olivia Lowry, Regan Simpson, Sheila Stillion.
 7th Grade – 8, Ashley Constable, Cassie Field, Melissa Hawks, Kenzi Husted, Kelsey Raburn, Kynzie Stevens, Katie Stillion, Sarah Whitney.

8th Grade – 3, Kenzie Chandler, Staci Dole, Kayla Field.

SCHEDULE
 • April 2, K-Town Inv., 6-7-8, Smith Center, 12:00;
 • April 12, Husky Inv., 6-7-8, Norton, 9:00;
 • April 19, Hill City Inv., 6-7-8, Hill City, 10:00;
 • April 27, Quinter Inv., 7-8, Quinter, 10:00;
 • May 3, Logan Inv., 6-7-8, Logan, 9:30;
 • May 10, League, 6-7-8, Logan, 2:00.

Fastpitch softball ladies begin practice

By DICK BOYD
 The Norton Lady Storm girl's 18 and under fastpitch softball team, who placed third in the Class C State Softball Championship Tournament last season, has begun indoor practices for the 2007 campaign. "Practices have begun and the coaches and I are looking forward to another successful season," said team manager Darin

Campbell. "The girls are also excited about starting the new season." Eight girls return from last season and a total of 11 players have signed up so far. Returnees and their grade this fall in school are: Lacey Roe, college freshman; Chantille Campbell, senior; Ashley Martinez, senior; Thea Wiseman, senior; Kayla Foley, junior, all of Norton; Karlie Boyd,

sophomore in college, Phillipsburg; Kiley Cooper, freshman in college, Ame Nicholson, senior, both from Hill City. New to the team this season will be Brittany Anderson, senior; Megan Jeffery, sophomore, both of Hill City and Kelsey Normandin, senior, Plainville. Coaches are Maggie Foley, Erin Hill and Kirk Foley.

Lady Storm player signs letter of intent

Kiley Cooper, a senior at Hill City High School, and the daughter of Bodie and Terry Cooper, Hill City, has signed a letter of intent to play softball at Central Christian College of Kansas in McPherson. Cooper was a member of the Norton Lady Storm fast-pitch softball team which finished third in last year's state tournament. She



Cooper

was active in Hill City girls softball teams prior to that relationship and has also been a member of the Hill City High School volleyball team. "We are glad to have Kiley as part of our Tiger program," said Central Christian head coach Brian Wissehr. Cooper expects to start her collegiate softball career at the McPherson college after the start of classes late this summer. "I'm really excited about the opportunity to play college softball and am very much looking forward to starting school in

McPherson," said Cooper. "I'm really proud of Kiley's achievements," said Darin Campbell, Lady Storm manager. "She'll be back playing for us again this summer. This will be the fourth year I've worked with her. Not only am I looking forward to seeing her play in college but I'm also anxious to see her play this summer. "She has a great attitude. She never gets down on herself or the other players. "She'll do well in college because she's that kind of person," manager Campbell said.

Time Out (with TD)

NOW we go outdoors. The indoor sports season has concluded, for all practical purposes, and eyes are now beginning to focus on school athletic efforts that take place in the world's largest tent without a top — the great outdoors. For a few days — a few days ago — it seemed like spring was here and it even felt briefly like a hint of early summer. Temperatures in the 70s (yep, 70s at this point in March). We know that this is just another Mother Nature tease. We're still in for some cool, and cold, readings. Maybe even a little bit of snow will fall from the gathering clouds. But we've been through it year after year after year so it's nothing new. We wear coats, or put on shorts at this time of year. The main thing is, however, to get out there and support the kids.

JACK Becker up at Beaver City tells us their 3-on-3 basketball tournament is scheduled for March 24. It will involve boys and girls, grade 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12. The tourney will be held at Southern Valley Jr/Sr High at highway junction 46 and 89 between Beaver City, Orleans and Oxford. The deadline is upon us. Contact Mr. Becker at PO Box 396, Beaver City, Neb. 68926, or call (evenings) 308-268-5855 or (daytime) 308-268-5345.

KANSAS State opened the NIT with a win at Bramlage Coliseum over Vermont, 59-57. Seeded second in the West Region, the 'Cats will play #3 seed DePaul Monday night. K-State is now 23-11. KU goes up against Niagara in the NCAA Tournament tonight in Chicago's United Center. The Jayhawks are 30-4 and Niagara 23-11. Go Jayhawks! Go Wildcats!

TIME for me to go home. - TD

AN IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE FROM

Motor vehicle crashes are the No. 1 killer of teens.

A bill that is before the Kansas House Transportation Committee right now could change that. This bill proposes to strengthen our novice, graduated driver system (GDL) of licensing.

Why is improving our novice driver licensing system so important?

- Vehicle crashes are the No. 1 killer of teens.
- 80 deaths, 7,000 injuries and 16,000 accidents per year means nearly \$630 million in accident costs for Kansans.
- Kansas is one of only five states without an intermediate stage of licensing between a permit stage and full-privilege licensing.
- Six out of 10 Kansans killed in crashes involve 15- to 17-year-old drivers.
- The greatest risks to novice drivers are driving at night and distractions of other young passengers.

What will the proposed system do?

- Provide a one-year, adult-supervised driving period, which is proven to significantly reduce

crashes in other states by 25% to 50%.

- Provide a six-month intermediate stage that continues adult-supervised driving after 9 p.m. and limits the number of non-sibling passengers under the age of 21 to one passenger.
- Maintains the current Farm Permit.
- Restricts the use of wireless communication devices by novice drivers.

More than 95% of parents — and most teens — that have experienced this GDL system in other states approve of it. It's time for Kansas to join the rest of the nation in protecting our novice drivers and giving parents the tools they need. Your urgent action will encourage their support of this improvement to the Kansas GDL, which will save hundreds of lives and thousands of injuries.

Please contact your legislator at 1-800-432-3924 today!

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