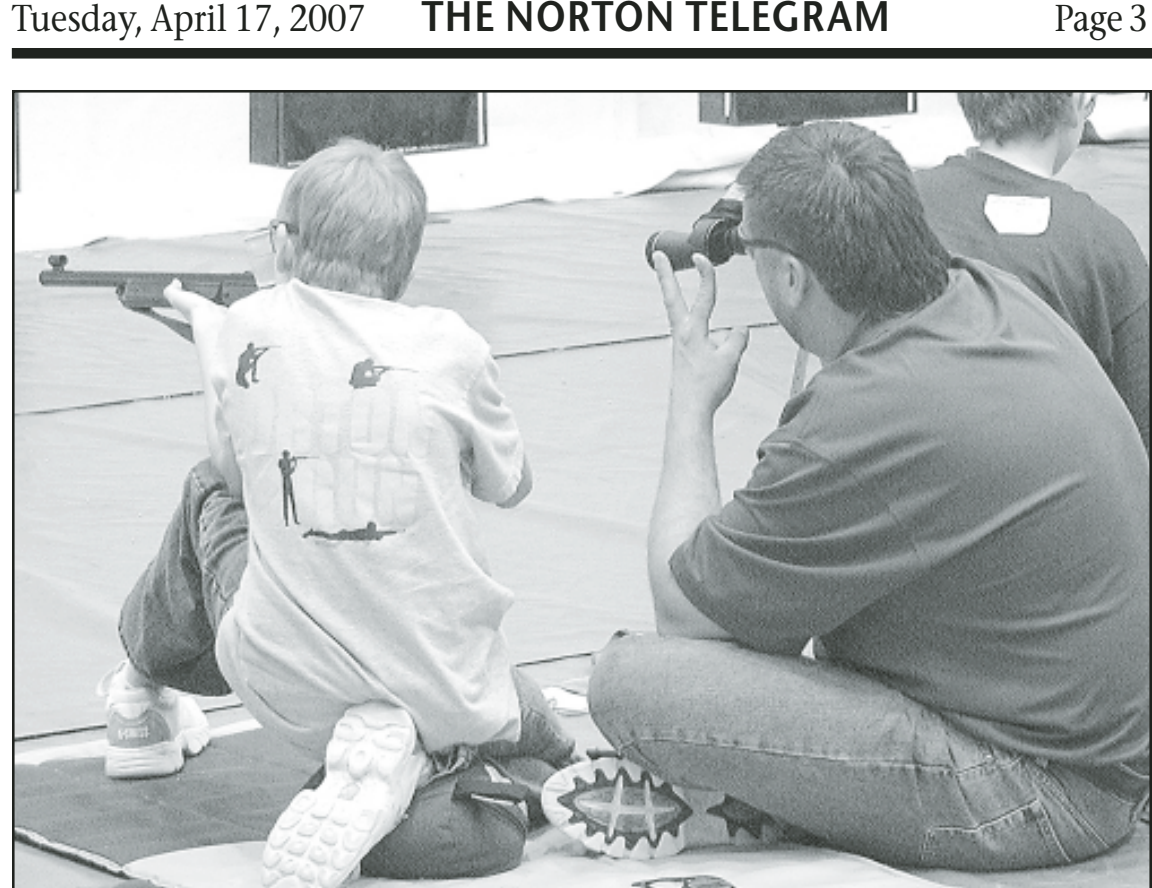




Erin Archer, left, of the Norton Blue team and Jessica Brown, of the Norton Red team, (left photo) competed here from the standing position, the toughest of the four. Their best scores were in the prone position where both recorded a 94 to tie for sixth best in the shoot. Coaches on the line with them are, from left, Brian McMullen and Mike Campbell. Norton Yellow



team alternate Lane Archer (right photo) put another bull's eye in the target from the kneeling position as Norton coach Cameron Archer checked his accuracy with binoculars. Lane placed fourth in aggregate with a 462-10x's, missing third by one bull's eye. He was also third in standing, sitting and kneeling and fourth in prone. —Telegram photos by Dick Boyd

BB gun team takes state championship

(Continued from Page 1)
 prised of alternates so they were not eligible to compete in the international shoot this year.

Flinthills Jr. Shooters No.1 placed fourth with a shooting score of 1,680, written test score of 430 and total score of 2,110. In fifth place was Jefferson County No.1 with a shooting tally of 1,665, written test score of 434 and total score of 2,099.

Sixth place went to Phillips County No.1 with a shooting score of 1,668, written test score of 420 and total score of 2,088. In seventh place was the Norton Blue team with a shooting score of 1,620, written test score of 428 and total score of 2,048.

Eighth place went to Manhattan Silver with a shooting score of 1,379, written test score of 422 and total score of 1,801. In ninth place was Phillips County No.2 with a shooting score of 1,396, written test of 398 and total score of 1,794.

The Norton Red team finished in tenth place with a shooting score of 1,392, written test score of 386 and total score of 1,778.

The Flinthills Jr. Shooters No.2 team had just four shooters with a total of 1,522 and the Jefferson County No.2 team also had just four shooters and they compiled a total of 1,383.

The Norton Yellow team scored well in the written test. Their 462 was second best to Manhattan Purple's 468.

Norton got off to a good start by winning the prone competition with a 473 score. Ark City was second with a 458, Manhattan Purple third with a 453 and Jefferson County No.1 fourth with a 451.

The written test scores were figured into the overall scores after the prone firing. Norton won marksmanship from the standing position, the toughest of the four.

Norton shot a 426 compared to Manhattan Purple's 407. Ark City shot a 393, Norton Blue a 377 and Jefferson County No.1 a 353. After standing, Norton had a lead of 1,361 over No.2 Manhattan Purple's 1,328. Ark City was third with a 1,267 and Norton Blue in fourth with a 1,241 and Jefferson County No.1 fifth with a 1,238.

Norton was also champion of firing from the sitting position with a 468. Manhattan Purple and Ark City both shot a 461. Jefferson County shot a 439 and Norton Blue a 426. After sitting, Norton had a total of 1,829. Manhattan was second with 1,789 and Ark City third with 1,728. Jefferson County moved past Norton Blue with a total of 1,677 and Norton Blue had a 1,667.

Kneeling was the final position and Norton swept all four positions by winning that one as well with a 453 compared to Manhattan's 435 to complete a championship run which saw them defeat the second place Manhattan team by 58 points.

TEAM MEMBERS
 Members of this year's Yellow team and their ages were: Kegan Vanover, 14; Cole Archer, 14; Kaitlyn Campbell, 12; Lane Vanover, 12; Cristine Nelson, 11. Alternate was Lane Archer, 12.

Cameron Archer returned as the head coach and the Yellow team coach. Shooting for the Blue team

were: Erin Archer, 10; Cameron Heikes, 9; Andrew Bashford, 9; Clay Vanover, 9; Dalton Vanover, 9. Head coach was Brian McMullen.

Members of the Red team were: Jessica Brown, 14; Alexis Lively, 12; Nick Peterson, 9; Cody Campbell, 9; Evan Chambers, 9. Coach of the Red team was Mike Campbell.

INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Scores of the Yellow team shooters were: Cole Archer, 96 prone, 90 standing, 96 sitting, 91 kneeling, 373 total shooting, 94 test, 467 total score; Kegan Vanover, 94 prone, 84 standing, 93 sitting, 94 kneeling, 365 total shooting, 100 test, 465 total score; Kaitlyn Campbell, 96 prone, 87 standing, 97 sitting, 88 kneeling, 368 total shooting, 88 test, 456 total score; Lane Vanover, 97 prone, 83 standing, 90 sitting, 89 kneeling, 359 total shooting, 94 test, 453 total score; Cristine Nelson, 90 prone, 82 standing, 92 sitting, 91 kneeling, 355 total shooting, 86 test, 441 total score.

Scores of Yellow team alternate Lane Archer were: 94 prone, 87 standing, 95 sitting, 92 kneeling, 368 total shooting, 94 test, 462 total score.

Scores of the Blue team shooters were: Erin Archer, 94 prone, 77 standing, 89 sitting, 71 kneeling, 331 total shooting, 88 test, 419 total score; Andrew Bashford, 83 prone, 80 standing, 86 sitting, 85 kneeling, 334 total shooting, test 84, 418 total score; Clay Vanover, 94 prone, 74 standing, 87 sitting, 79 kneeling, 334 total shooting, 84 test, 418 total score; Cameron Heikes, 79 prone, 71 standing, 84 sitting, 87 kneeling, 321 total shooting, 82 test, 403 total score; Dalton Vanover, 86 prone, 75 standing, 80 sitting, 59 kneeling, 300 total shooting, 90 test, 390 total score.

Norton Red team scores were: Jessica Brown, 94 prone, 75 standing, 79 sitting, 79 kneeling, 327 total shooting, 86 test, 413 total score; Nick Peterson, 87 prone, 54 standing, 81 sitting, 74 kneeling, 296 total shooting, 86 test, 382 total score; Cody Campbell, 88 prone, 49 standing, 81 sitting, 82 kneeling, 300 total shooting, 60 test, 360 total score; Alexis Lively, 64 prone, 74 standing, 63 sitting, 71 kneeling, 272 total shooting, test 84, 356 total score; Evan Chambers, 63 prone, 27 standing, 58 sitting, 49 kneeling, 197 total shooting, 70 test, 267 total score.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

The three top aggregate scorers were from the Norton Yellow team. Cole Archer was first with a 467, followed by Kegan Vanover, second, 465 and Kaitlyn Campbell, third, 456. Lane Vanover tied for fourth aggregate with a 453.

All four individual shooting champions and the written test champion were from the Norton Yellow team.

Cole Archer was the standing champion with a 90 and placed third in sitting with a 96-5x's (bull's eyes). He missed second by one bull's eye and first by one point. He was also fourth in prone, missing third by one bull's eye.

Cole Archer and Cristine Nelson tied for fourth in kneeling with 91s. Kegan Vanover was the only

competitor to receive a perfect 100 on the written test. He was also the champion in the kneeling position with a 94 and tied for sixth in prone with a score of 94.

Kaitlyn Campbell was the sitting champion with a 97, third in prone with a 96-5x's and fourth in standing with an 87.

The Norton Blue team's Erin Archer and Clay Vanover and the Red team's Jessica Brown also tied for sixth in prone with 94s.

Lane Vanover was the prone champion with a 97-5x's. Judges had to go to center shots (perfect shots) to determine that Lane was the champion.

Shooters fire their BB gun from a distance of 16-feet-4.75-inches and the center of the target is the same size as a BB. A perfect shot comes when the BB hits exactly on the center of the target. A bull's eye can be a few millimeters off center but not much.

Norton Yellow team alternate Lane Archer was fourth in aggregate competition, just missing third. He had a 462 score with 10x's, missing third by one bull's eye and second by two bull's eyes. Lane was third in standing with an 87, third in sitting with a 95 and third in kneeling with a 92. He just missed third in prone when he shot a 94-4x's to place fourth. He missed third in prone by two bull's eyes.

LOTS OF SUPPORT

Coach Archer said he really appreciated the large crowd of fans who traveled to Manhattan to support the young Norton marksmen. He thanked the assistant coaches and other volunteers. Assisting Lynette Archer in the classroom and grading room have been Sara Campbell, Keri Vanover, Missy McMullen and Dr. R.A Peterson. Helping out Saturday were April and Tim Bashford, Jill Lively, Keri and Greg Vanover and Coady McMullen.

Kyle Jones loaned his laptop for scorekeeping and Shawn Mortensen wrote the computer program.

"We shot very well all day," said coach Archer. "Our prone was above normal, sitting and kneeling were about average and standing was a little below what we usually shoot."

"Having another year of experience really helped our young marksmen. They moved up from last year's Blue and Red teams and shot like the champions they are."

"We still have room for improvement before the international shoot and I'm sure we will improve because these young people are hard workers."

"We didn't have any gun problems and that was great."

"We did well on the written test considering that it was a much more detailed one than we normally have at the state level," said Lynette Archer. "It was more like the tests the shooters take at the international level. It challenged everyone but we did as well as any other team. Congratulations to Kegan Vanover for being the only shooter with a perfect 100 on the written test."

"Our young people were really consistent throughout the day. We didn't have any really bad targets. Although certain individuals shined, those who didn't receive medals was a significant part of

our three teams' success."

"We had just a few shooters who got off focus but there was no problem getting them focused back on the target. We're so proud of all of our young people," said coach Archer.

Coach Archer thanked the parents who encourage their children to do their best and practice regularly. Norton's preparation for the state shoot began in October when the shooters entered the gun safety program, sponsored by Daisy and the National Rifle Association. After passing the course, they began practicing marksmanship in each of the four positions and studying for the written test. Practices are held every Wednesday evening.

Coach Archer thanked the First State Bank; New Age Industrial Corp., Inc.; the City of Norton; the Longspur chapter of Pheasants Forever and Norman Olliff for monetary gifts; the Rotary Club for sponsoring the program and Alberta Slaby for giving the team a place to practice. He also thanked the *Norton Telegram* for continued news coverage and the entire community for always supporting in any way possible.

He also thanked the BB gun families: Sara and Mike Campbell, Missy and Brian McMullen, Keri and Greg Vanover, Hazel and Bobby Peterson, Ruth and Brad Chambers, April and Tim Bashford, Jill and Eddie Lively, Kendra Merchant, Shari and Wayne Archer.

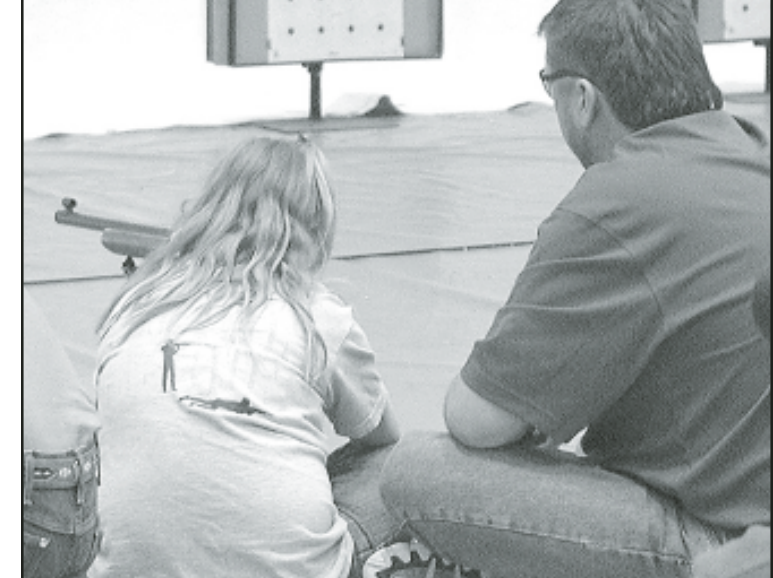
Shoot officials were Mark Lesperance, match director; Paul Seematter, range officer; Dr. Bob Robel, chief statistical officer with assistance from his wife, Anice. Doug Anspaugh, Kansas State Jaycees president, assisted with the awards ceremony.

The shoot was hosted by the Manhattan Jaycees, Riley/Pottawatomie County 4-H Shooting Sports and Manhattan Rifle Club and was held at the Flint Hills Christian School at 3905 Green Valley Road.

NOTE: A full page advertisement congratulating the Norton County Rotary BB Gun team on their state championship will appear in Friday's Norton Telegram.



Norton Yellow team member Lane Vanover focused on the target while competing from the kneeling position as coach Cameron Archer observed. Lane tied for fourth aggregate with a 453 and won the prone championship with a 97-5x's.



The Norton Yellow team's Cristine Nelson took careful aim as she fired from the sitting position with coach Cameron Archer looking on. She shot a 92 which tied for 11th in sitting and was just two points out of fifth. She also shot a 91 in kneeling to tie for fourth with Cole Archer of the Norton Yellow team.



Lynette Archer, left, and April Bashford examined targets for possible protests during the State BB Gun Shoot on Saturday.

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