

Despite lack of bodies, wrestlers finish 9th

By DICK BOYD

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Only eight Norton Community High School wrestlers competed in the prestigious 46th annual Newton Tournament of Champions on Friday and Saturday in Newton but the "Fighting Blue Jays" left a positive impression with a ninth place team finish.

Although there are 14 weight classes, head coach Bill Johnson's squad has been decimated by injuries this season and he had only eight able bodies to compete. But, they battled their hearts out during two days of wrestling against the best wrestlers in all classes in the state.

"I'm pleased with everyone's performance," said coach Johnson. "We had great effort, even in matches we lost. We placed five wrestlers and the other three came within one match of placing in what is, without a doubt, the toughest wrestling tournament in the state of Kansas in all classes."

"We placed five wrestlers but all eight scored a good amount of points for us."

"I like the direction we're going. We're working hard toward the tough part of the season, the regional and state. The tests we pass or fail at this point will help us down the road. We won't win every match but will put all our effort into each match."

"To show how tough it is to get in the top 10 out of 24 teams in this tournament, we placed ahead of Ark City, who had three championship finalists and two champions."

Placing for the Blue Jays were Landon Keiswetter, 135 pound sophomore, third; Billy Broeckelman, 119 pound sophomore, fifth; Zane Perez, 152 pound junior, fifth; Troy Bainter, 112 pound sophomore, sixth and Matt Stanley, 160 pound senior, eighth.

Just one match away from placing were: Brett Terrell, 125 pound sophomore; Spencer Shirk, 140 pound sophomore and Brock Lauer, 171 pound senior.

Norton's won-loss record was 25-14 and their pin ratio was an impressive 11-3.

Emporia won the team championship with 194 points, followed by Colby, 191.5; Clay Center, 172; Liberal, 138; Wichita Heights, 128.5; Derby, 116; Bishop Carroll, 113.5; Gardner-Edgerton, 104; Norton, 92.5; Ark City, 91; Wichita Northwest, 88.5; Newton, 80.5; Maize, 74; Salina South, 73.5; Manhattan, 70; Campus, 66.5; Mill Valley, 61.50; Hutchinson, 61; McPherson, 45; Lawrence, 44; Shawnee Mission, 41.5; Dodge City, 36; Leavenworth, 21; Wichita East, 0.

Colby was the team leader until the final championship match of the evening.

Norton is the smallest school to ever win this tournament. The Blue Jays won it in 2005 and 2006, did not compete in 2007 and placed ninth in 2008 when Norton entered 13 wrestlers, eight of them placing.

Troy Bainter placed seventh last year at 103; Landon Keiswetter placed eighth at 119 and Zane Perez placed seventh at 130. Norton senior Zach Bainter placed third at 135 and junior Kaenon Keiswetter placed second at 125. Zach and Kaenon are both injured at this time.

"I'm really pleased that we came down with only eight wrestlers and scored almost 100 points," said coach Johnson.

Bishop Carroll is the defending Class 5A state champion and Clay Center is the defending Class 4A state champion.

Coach Johnson named Landon Keiswetter the "Norton Wrestler of the Week" for his outstanding tournament.

"Landon went 1-1 the first day, then came storming through the back side on Saturday with five straight wins, three major decisions and a fall on the way to the consolation championship," said coach Johnson.

"His win by fall avenged a loss in his second match on Friday and, when he won third place, he avenged a loss in the Clay Center tournament."

Three former Norton Community High School wrestlers were also present at the tournament as assistant coaches. Nathan Broeckelman and Clay Madden, students

at Kansas State University and former state champions for the Blue Jays, are assistant coaches for Manhattan High and Kale Mann, former state runner-up for the Blue Jays, is an assistant coach for Mill Valley High.

Named "Outstanding Wrestler" for the tournament by vote of the coaches was Tanner Kriss, 215 pound Colby senior, who extended his unbeaten record to 22-0 with a 7-0 decision for the title over No. 1 seed and defending Class 6A state champion Kyle Caylor, Wichita Northwest. It was Caylor's first loss of the season.

Named "Outstanding Coach" of the tournament was Greg Buckbee, Emporia.

Individual Norton matches

*112 - Troy Bainter was seeded No. 4. He decisioned Canaan Coker, Shawnee Mission West, 7-1, then lost a 5-2 decision to No. 5 seed Adrian Salas, Liberal. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Matt Ziegler, Bishop Carroll, in 2:28, then won a 10-1 major decision over Tim Prescott, McPherson. In the consolation semi-finals against Trevor Boyer, Mill Valley, he was injured and had to default. He was unable to wrestle Dane Norris, Manhattan, for fifth place and finished in sixth.

Troy is now 18-5 for the season.

No. 1 seed Dalton Miller, Campus, won the championship with a 5-2 decision over No. 2 seed Nathan Reed, Colby. Salas placed third with a 10-3 decision over Boyer. Prescott placed seventh with an 11-5 decision over T.J. Stokes, Gardner-Edgerton.

*119 - Billy Broeckelman was seeded No. 6. He pinned Victor Perez, Liberal, in 1:46, then lost a 9-3 decision to No. 3 seed Jeff Vesta, Manhattan. In the consolation bracket, Billy pinned Jonathan Peterson, Hutchinson, in 1:15, then shutout Jared Dakin, Emporia, 5-0. In the consolation semi-finals, he was pinned in :21 by Dondre Davis, Wichita Heights. Next, he won a 6-1 decision over Cody Beasley, Campus, to place fifth.

Billy's season record is now 17-5.

Vesta won the championship with a 3-1 decision over No. 5 seed Garrett Jones, Ark City. Tyler Stokes, Gardner-Edgerton, placed third with a fall over Davis in 5:41. Dakin placed seventh by injury default over Blaine Smith, Salina South.

*125 - Brett Terrell pinned Tim Wise, Hutchinson, in 2:14, then lost by a fall in 1:42 to No. 1 seed Daniel DeShazer, Wichita Heights. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Joey Stinson, Shawnee Mission West, in :59,

then won a 5-3 decision over Zach Litvak, Gardner-Edgerton. Next, he lost a 4-3 decision to Seth Klein, Newton.

Brett is now 15-8 for the season.

DeShazer extended his season record to 18-1 with a 3-1 overtime decision over No. 3 seed Dylan Penka, Bishop Carroll, to win the gold medal. Third place went to Steven Plott, Salina South, with a 2-1 decision over Brandon Charbonneau, Clay Center. Travis Reihart, Derby, was fifth with a 7-0 decision over Jason Harper, Campus, and Klein placed seventh by pinning Chris Baldwin, Maize, in 1:15.

*135 - Landon Keiswetter was seeded No. 5. He pinned Jacob Sanchez, Wichita East, in :53, then lost an 8-4 decision to Sterling Terry, Ark City. In the consolation bracket, he won a 12-2 major decision over Matt Korte, Mill Valley; won a 15-5 major decision over Micah Flora-Swick, Gardner-Edgerton; won a 14-4 major decision over Lorenzo Rios, Liberal; then pinned Terry in 1:15 of their re-match to reach the consolation championship where he won a 6-4 decision over Trent Hoover, Salina South, who had beaten him in the Clay Center Invitational.

Landon is now 12-7 for the season.

No. 1 seed Tyler Anderson, Clay Center, extended his unbeaten record for the season to 22-0 with a 12-6 decision over No. 2 seed Sal Tovar, Emporia, to win the championship. Luke Schroeder, Colby, placed fifth by pinning Terry in 4:12. Seventh place went to J.R. Roman, Hutchinson, who pinned Rios in 1:28.

*140 - Spencer Shirk pinned Luke Thompson, Campus, in :20, then won an 11-2 major decision over Jake Pfannenstiel, Lawrence. Next, he wrestled No. 1 seed and unbeaten Kendrick Maple, Wichita Heights, and was pinned. In the consolation bracket, Spencer lost a 4-2 decision to Rusty Yarrow, Clay Center.

Spencer is now 16-5 for the season.

Maple extended his unbeaten season to 19-0 by pinning No. 2 seed Tavo Dikin, Emporia, to win the gold medal. Cody Shavilk, Derby, placed third with a 2-0 decision over Jake Mainz, Bishop Carroll. Winning fifth place was Jason Seibel, Salina South, with a 5-3 decision over Heath Stephens, Colby. Seventh place winner was Yarrow, who pinned Will Price, Leavenworth.

*152 - Zane Perez was seeded No. 4. He pinned Justin Moorman, Hutchinson, in :54, then won an 18-2 technical fall over Sylves-



Norton sophomore Brett Terrell shutout Smith Center's Shawn Stansbury 7-0 in their 125 pound match on Thursday evening in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym in Norton.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

ter Ribaldo, Campus. Next he decisioned No. 5 seed Zeb Peak, Emporia, 5-4. Zane then wrestled No. 1 seed and unbeaten Tyler Sutherland, Liberal, and lost a close 4-3 decision. In the consolation bracket, he lost a close 3-2 decision to No. 2 seed Blake Fulbright, Maize. Next, Zane wrestled Peak for the second time in the tournament and won by a larger 11-4 score this time around to place fifth.

Zane is now 17-6 for the season.

Sutherland extended his unbeaten season record to 23-0 with a 4-2 decision over Reese Wright-Conklin, Lawrence, to win the title. Fulbright placed third by pinning Sean Gaither, Wichita Northwest, in 3:49. Zach Kuipers, Derby, placed seventh by pinning Nathan Murphy, Newton, in :32.

*160 - Matt Stanley pinned Carlos Rodriguez, Liberal, in 2:50, then lost a 17-2 major decision to No. 1 seed Kyle Detmer, Bishop Carroll. In the consolation bracket, he pinned Andy Davison, Maize, in 3:47, then lost a 3-2 decision to Sammy Sanders, Hutchinson. In the seventh place match, Matt lost a 5-1 decision to Kyle Powers, Wichita Northwest.

Matt is now 13-5 for the season.

Detmer won the championship by pinning No. 3 seed Zach Anderson, Clay Center. Detmer is now 23-1 for the season. Todd Curtis, Gardner-Edgerton, placed third with an 8-6 decision over Andrew Flanagan, Colby. Travis Rogers, Newton, placed fifth with a 7-2 decision over Sammy Sanders, Hutchinson.

*171 - Brock Lauer lost a 5-3 decision to Devon Keith, Bishop Carroll. In the consolation bracket, he won a 14-3 major decision over

Nehemiah Scott, Maize, then lost a 3-2 decision to Chance Davis, Emporia, 5-4.

Brock is now 7-11 for the season.

Breck Arnberger, Colby, the unbeaten No. 2 seed, won a 9-4 decision over No. 1 seed and two time defending Class 6A state champion Chase Nelson, Wichita Heights, to win the gold medal. Arnberger is now 24-0 for the season and Nelson is now 17-3 for the season.

No. 3 seed Greg Curtis, Gardner, placed third by injury default over No. 4 seed Alex Feldkamp, Derby. Josh VanHolland, Mill Valley, placed fifth with a 3-1 decision over Keith. Seventh place went to Chance Davis, Clay Center, with a 5-2 decision over Dustin Walthall, Lawrence.

Other weight class results

*103 - No. 1 seed Colby Waters, Ark City, decisioned No. 2 seed Roger Windham, Derby, for the championship. Ryan Hodges, Mill Valley, pinned Konnor Kriss, Colby, in 4:12 for third. Ty Koltnerman, Clay Center, won fifth by injury default over Colby Witten, Maize. Bryce Dakin, Emporia, won seventh with a 9-1 major decision over Javier Vieyra, Salina South.

*130 - Kash Biddle, Ark City, decisioned No. 1 seed Justin Rose, Emporia, 6-3 for the championship. Rylan Dalke, Newton, placed third with a 7-5 decision over Victor Cruz, Liberal. Bradley Little, Derby, placed fifth with a 3-0 decision over Kasey Lien, Salina South. Nick McGee, Clay Center, placed seventh with a 12-1 major decision over Dalton Snyder, Colby.

*145 - No. 1 seed Colby Crank, Hutchinson, won the championship by pinning No. 2 seed

Tyler Davis, McPherson. Chase Sanchez, Emporia, placed third by pinning Matt Reed, Wichita Heights, in 4:04. Raymond Marquez, Dodge City, placed fifth with a 9-4 decision over Colton Easterberg, Clay Center. Garrett Zwegardt, Colby, placed seventh with a 4-3 decision over Michael Martin, Ark City.

*189 - No. 2 seed Mark Kolmer, Emporia, won the championship with a 5-4 decision over No. 1 seed Joel Marrs, Clay Center. Kolmer is now 19-1 and Marrs is now 19-2. Nate Davis, Liberal, placed third by pinning Brandon Reif, Campus, in 2:45. Treat Bugbee, Colby, placed fifth with a 7-3 decision over Jarad Sanches, Shawnee Mission West. Tyler West, Manhattan, placed seventh with a 5-2 decision over Nathaniel Martens, Newton.

*215 - Tanner Kriss, Colby, kept his unbeaten string intact and handed No. 1 seed Kyle Caylor, Wichita Northwest, his first loss by a 7-0 decision in the championship finals. Michael Patenaude, Clay Center, placed third by pinning Chuy Torres, Liberal, in 1:33. Jesse Trent, Dodge City, placed fifth with a 4-0 decision over Cole Inghram, Newton. Josh Sanches, Shawnee Mission West, placed seventh by pinning Chris Collins, Maize, in 2:07.

*285 - No. 1 seed Lorenzo Serna, Emporia, won the championship with a 3-1 decision over No. 2 seed Trey Page, Wichita Northwest. Kyle Westmoreland, Derby, placed third with a 3-2 decision over Tony Marquez, Bishop Carroll. Ricky Gomez, Liberal, placed fifth with a 3-1 decision over Adam Weber, Colby. Pat Thomas, Gardner-Edgerton, placed seventh by pinning John Close, Maize, in 2:10.

Blue Jay wrestlers go 1-1 in home duals

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The Norton Community High School wrestling team defeated Trego Community but lost to Smith Center in duals on Friday evening in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym in Norton.

The Blue Jays easily outscored Trego 63-18 in the opening dual of the night and the Redmen followed with an easy 69-6 victory over the Golden Eagles. In the final dual of the evening, Norton took an early lead over the defending state champion Redmen but Smith Center rallied for a 43-25 victory.

"We were very short-handed tonight but still thought we had a slight chance to win the dual with Smith Center," said Norton head coach Bill Johnson. "Smith Center has a strong wrestling program right now. We competed well and were in better shape but that doesn't win matches."

Trego Community

Only three matches were wrestled in the dual with Trego. Norton's only win was at 171 pounds where Brock Lauer won a 9-7 decision over Jon James.

At 130 pounds, Norton's Justin Waggoner was pinned in 3:09 by Ethan Ghummand, at 189 pounds, the Blue Jays' Casey Robison was pinned in 3:39 by Ethan James.

Winning by forfeit for Norton were R.J. Ellis, 103; Taylor Gordon, 112; Andy Nickell, 119; Brett

Terrell, 125; Landon Keiswetter, 135; Spencer Shirk, 140; Kaenon Keiswetter, 145; Zane Perez, 152; Logan Kelly, 160 and Jordan Bebb, 215.

Trego's Tyler James won by forfeit at 285.

Smith Center

103 - R.J. Ellis won by forfeit

112 - Troy Bainter won by forfeit

119 - Billy Broeckelman won a 12-2 major decision over Garrett Kuhlman

125 - Brett Terrell won a 7-0 decision over Shawn Stansbury

130 - Justin Waggoner was pinned in :41 by Colt Rogers

135 - Landon Keiswetter lost a 7-3 decision to Kale Newell

140 - Spencer Shirk pinned Kyle Hrabe in 3:24

145 - Trevor Rempe, Smith Center, won by forfeit

152 - Zane Perez lost a 5-2 decision to Marshall McCall

160 - Matt Stanley lost a 9-0

major decision to Travis Rempe

171 - Brock Lauer lost a 6-1

decision to Matt Atwood

189 - Casey Robison was pinned

in 3:35 by Kris Lehman

215 - Jordan Bebb was pinned

in 1:03 by Joel Osburn

285 - Jeremy Sproul was pinned

in :31 by Cody Tucker

High School Sports This Week



Norton Blue Jays



Northern Valley Huskies



Logan Trojans

WRESTLING:

Norton vs. Kearney dual in Kearney 5 p.m. Tuesday

BASKETBALL:

Norton Girls vs. Stockton in MCL Tournament in Norton 7 p.m. Today

Mid-Continent League Tournament Semi-Finals and Finals,

Friday and Saturday, Gross Memorial Coliseum, Hays

Norton vs. Goodland in Varsity, JV in Norton 5 p.m. Tuesday

Northern Valley Girls and Boys vs. Thunder Ridge 4 p.m. Today in Kensington

Northern Valley Girls and Boys vs. Logan 4 p.m. Friday in Logan

Northern Valley Girls and Boys vs. Heartland 4 p.m. Tuesday in Almena

Logan Girls and Boys vs. Palco 4 p.m. Today in Palco

Logan Girls and Boys vs. Northern Valley 4 p.m. Friday in Logan

Logan Girls and Boys vs. Rock Hills 4 p.m. Tuesday in Logan