

Norton golfers third in season opening tourney

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School varsity golf team opened the 2009 season on Tuesday with a third place finish in the annual Redmen Invitational Golf Tournament in Smith Center.

Phillipsburg won the championship with a 339, followed by Trego Community, 341; Norton, 377; Smith Center, 378; Rock Hills, 403; Osborne, 440; Beloit, 452.

Norton junior J.D. Gall shot a 44/44-88 for the Blue Jays' lowest score and just missed medalist honors by one stroke. The rest of Norton's four-man team and their scores were: junior Marcus Herman, 46/46-92; junior Connor Pfannenstiel, 49/48-97 and senior Logan Kelly, 46/54-100.

Also competing for Norton and their scores were: sophomore Cole

Archer, 54/50-104 and senior Kyle Mindrup, 55/55-110.

Medalists were: Jeff Jarvis, Phillipsburg, 75; Eric Cunningham, Trego, 80; Alex Hobelman, Smith Center, 81; Mark Harmon, Phillipsburg, 84; Brock Morgan, Phillipsburg, 86; Ryan Pfannenstiel, Trego, 86; Jade Bliss, Trego, 87.

"We were able to begin the season with a solid start, finishing third to very good squads from Phillipsburg and Trego," said Norton head golf coach David Stover.

Phillipsburg tied for the Class 3A state championship and Trego won the Class 2A state title last season and both return quality teams and individuals from last season.

"As is generally the case early in the season, our short game was not

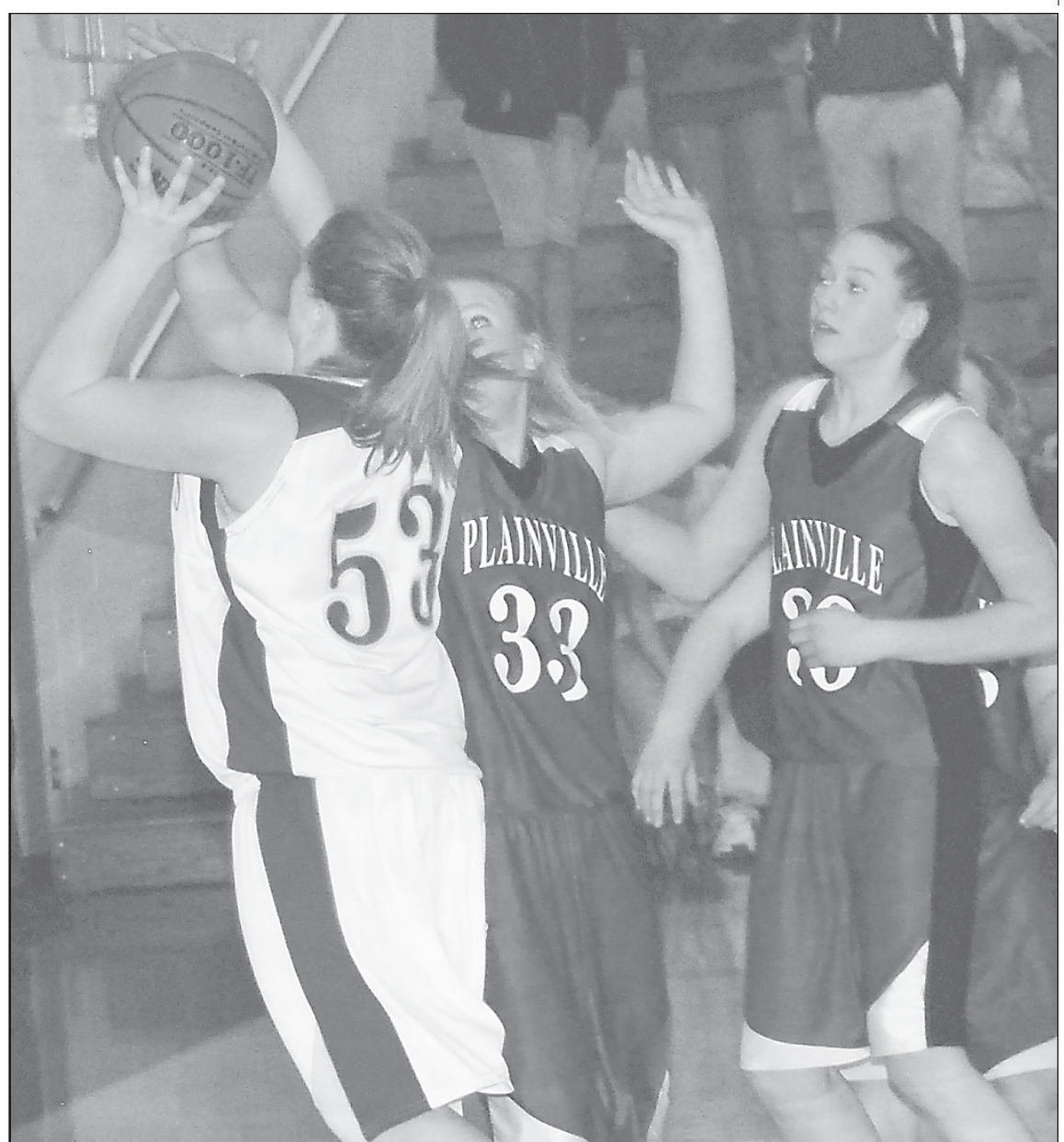
very sharp today, especially on the putting green," said coach Stover. "We also hurt ourselves with too many penalty strokes but these are both areas where we can and will be able to improve as the season progresses."

"Individually, it was good to see J.D. Gall get the season off to an excellent start, just missing medaling."

Next action

Norton hosted the annual Norton Invitational tournament on Thursday but results were not available at press time.

The Blue Jays will split their team for competition on Tuesday. Some members will travel to Ellis for the Ellis Invitational, which begins at 3 p.m., and others will travel to Goodland for the Goodland Invitational, which begins at 2 p.m.



Norton senior Hayli Bozarth is pictured scoring against Plainville during "Senior Night" in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium on Feb. 23. Bozarth tallied 15 points and pulled down 7 rebounds in the Mid-Continent League victory for the Lady Jays.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Lady Huskies gain All-Conference

The Northern Valley High School girls' basketball team was well represented when the final votes were tallied by the conference coaches when they chose the All-Conference teams.

After having won both the conference regular season race and conference tournament this season and defeating all the teams by around a 20+ point margin, Northern Valley placed three players on the All-Conference 1st team and one on the 2nd team.

First team selections
(comments by coach Zimmerman)

"Christina Anderson was chosen as she led the team in assists and was second in scoring and rebounding.

"Chris brings 'fire' to the court and is a good all around player. She will be counted on heavily next season to help the team take that next step.

"Alison Cole led our team in scoring and rebounding with

numerous blocked shots. Alison was double and triple teamed this season and still put up very good numbers. She also has a 'fire' in her that all coaches love to see in their players. She will also be counted upon to take us further next season.

"Megan Cole was a player who on certain nights could dominate an opponent with her defense and light up the gym with her shooting. The conference coaches recognized this with her selection. Megan will also be counted on to improve and build on this year's success and lead our team to higher goals next season.

"Our Second Team selection was Staci Dole, who is our point guard and probably our most improved player from last season. Only a sophomore, Staci was handed the responsibility of getting us into our offenses, she also had to play great defense (led the team in steals, held Dighton's star guard to only four points), and she

needed to be able to score. She did all of these and the conference coaches rewarded her for her efforts. Staci will certainly be called upon to improve so we may improve as a team for next season.

"All of our All-Conference selections also made the Salina Journal's 'Leader Board' in the final stats of the year.

"Alison in points and rebounds (if they would have kept blocks I'm positive she would have been near the top).

"Chris in points, rebounds and assists. Megan in points and steals and Staci in points, steals and assists.

"All-in-all a good ending to a good season — even though it ended too soon. With all these ladies returning and with another year under our belt and with hopefully the young players from this season and incoming players improving over the off-season — we hope to improve greatly."

Lady Jay to play in All-Star Game

By DICK BOYD
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Norton Community High School senior Hayli Bozarth has been selected by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association to the second team of their Class 3A All-State Girls Team for 2008-09.

Hayli, a 5-foot-10-inch post player for the Mid-Continent League champion Norton quintet, was the leading scorer for the Lady Jays during their recently concluded 17-5 season. She averaged 17.1 points per game and was the most accurate shooter on the squad, hitting 57 percent from the field.

She was also rebounds leader with 117 and second in steals with 44.

Along with her selection, Hayli was also chosen to play in the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Game which will be held Aug. 5 in Topeka.

Other Class 3A girls players who were honored are: Vivian Olvera, sr., Southwestern Heights; Kaylee Hoffman, jr., Thomas More Prep-Marian, Hays, first team; Deni Jacobs, so., Southwestern Heights, honorable mention.

Whitney Taylor, senior for the Class 2A state runner-up Ellis

squad, was selected to the Class 2A girls first team. Lexi Hardiek, so., Hill City, was named to the 2A second team.

A first team choice from Class 1A is Kendra Spreser, sr., Hoxie. Named to the 1A second team was Kylie Moore, sr., Lakeside.

Those receiving honorable mention included Kelsey Hubin, sr., Dighton and Cassandra Welsh, sr., Weskan.

Chosen to the boys Class 4A team with an honorable mention was Levi Schlick, sr., Colby.

Class 3A boys recipients included Jordan Wilcox, sr., Holcomb, first team; Dylan Frantz, sr., Phillipsburg; Trenton Spentz, sr., Southwestern Heights; Zevin Roth, sr., Holcomb.

Chosen to the Class 2A first team is Spencer Hemmert, sr., Trego Community, who was the leading scorer in Northwest Kansas in all classes.

Among those named to the Class 1A second team is Edward

Machen, sr., Quinter. Receiving honorable mention from Class 1A are Tate Andrews, jr., Sharon Springs; Taylor Kuhlmann, sr., Thunder Ridge; Matt Weis, sr., Hoxie and Michael Yoxall, jr., Thunder Ridge.

Topeka Hayden's Jeff Reid was named "Mr. Kansas Basketball" and Goddard's Lindsey Keller earned the "Miss Kansas Basketball" honor.

"Coach of the Year" awards went to Southwestern Heights girls coach Barry Mellen and Hanover boys coach Kim Lohse.

Other All-Star Game choices

Selected to play in the All-Star Girls Game, along with Hayli Bozarth, were Whitney Taylor of Ellis and Vivian Olvera of Southwestern Heights.

Area players included on the roster for the All-Star Boys Game on the same night are Spencer Hemmert of Trego, Zach Daner of Hays and Jordan Wilcox, Holcomb.

Jayvee track finishes 3rd and 5th

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton Community High School junior varsity track team got the season underway on Tuesday in the Junior Varsity Track Meet on Monday in Smith Center.

The boys placed third with 53 points and the girls finished in fifth with 28.

"We are pleased with the attitude and effort of our 13 young ladies and young men in this meet," said Norton head track coach Jason Jones.

"This was their first taste of track and field competition in a long time. The weather was not ideal with strong, constant, cool north winds all day long but our youngsters did an excellent job of handling themselves and competing very well in adverse conditions.

"Our young people competed very hard! They were able to establish some impressive early marks in the heat of competition and it always does wonders to finally get out and perform.

"We brought home seven medals and they scored in many events. In addition, we brought home solid team finishes!"

"We are excited about the future for these youngsters and the improvements that are sure to come for them as they continue to compete throughout the junior varsity season!"

finished fourth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 27.35.

Sophomore Justin Griffith set a personal record in the discus with a throw of 103'11.25" to place fifth and was sixth in the shot put with a heave of 34'4.5". Griffith also finished fifth in the 100 meter dash in 13.64.

Freshman Kurt Douglas placed fifth in the 3200 meter run in 13:24.06.

Events in which Norton boys did not place were: freshman Damien Davis, 28'1", shot put; Damien Davis, 38", discus; Justin Griffith, 98'4", javelin; Damien Davis, 100 meter dash; Justin Waggoner, 100 meter dash.

Lady Jay freshman Caren Thomson won silver medals in three events. She placed second in the long jump with a leap of 12'5"; second in the 100 meter hurdles in 19.60 and second in the 100 meter dash in 14.60.

Junior Kelsey Nuzum placed fifth in the 100 meter hurdles in 25.30 and fifth in the 100 meter dash in 16.52.

Other events in which Norton girls competed were: sophomore Morgan Baumann, 24', tenth; sophomore Katie Scott, 16'8.25", 19th; senior Emily Scott, 16'4.25", 20th, shot put; Morgan Baumann, 55'2"; Katie Scott, 46'9"; Emily Scott, 30'2", discus.

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