

Blue Jay track starts Monday with 48 athletes

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwks.com
Norton Community High School's fourth year head coach Jason Jones has welcomed 18 young women and 30 young men to the 2010 season's Blue Jay track teams.

The Norton track and field athletes include eight women letter winners and three state meet qualifiers from last season and 11 men lettermen and seven state qualifiers.

Norton will open the track season in the Kiwanis Junior Varsity Track Meet in Smith Center on Monday. Field events will begin at 4:30 p.m.

The 3200 meter run will also begin at 4:30 p.m. and will be followed by the other running events at 5 p.m. There will be no preliminaries.

Varsity competition for Norton will begin on Friday with the annual Norton Invitational Track Meet on the Jep Byrum Track at Travis Field.

Field events will begin at 3:30 p.m. and running events at 5:30 p.m. No preliminaries will be held and all events will be run as finals. All athletes may be entered.

In addition to Norton, competing teams will be from Colby,

Goodland, Logan, Northern Valley, Oberlin, Phillipsburg and Smith Center.

Plaques will be awarded to the first and second place teams in both girls and boys divisions. Medals will be awarded for the first three places in each event.

Assisting coach Jones again this season will be coaches Dale Engelbert, Doug Reusink, Todd Fulton and Lucas Melvin.

Managers will be Vanessa Danesan, Rachel Shepard and David Cressler.

Coach Jones is a Logan native. A 1994 Logan High School graduate, he was the Class 1A state pole vault champion.

He attended Fort Hays State University in Hays on a track scholarship and pole vaulted for the Tigers. He was an all-conference performer and graduated in December, 1998.

He was head track coach and assistant football coach at Fowler High School for three years before moving to Norton. He was a teacher and assistant football and track coach in Norton for four years before becoming head track coach.

"As always, we are excited to begin track season," said coach Jones.

"We have a solid core of returning letter winners and state qualifiers.

"Our freshmen numbers are as high as we have seen in a long time, which is great. We look to these nine females and seven males from the freshmen class to add depth to our team. Again, we will feel the impact of pre-existing, major injuries as we begin the season with a few athletes already sidelined.

"Our girls and boys track and field athletes are off to a solid start at practice and they continue to ready themselves every day for competition and success. Our junior varsity will begin with the Smith Center meet on Monday and most all of our athletes will compete in our home meet next Friday.

These meets will provide us with competition baselines and will offer our youngsters, who have been working hard, a chance to compete and have some fun doing it.

"We cannot wait to start competing and invite all sports fans and community members to join us at our home track meet on April 9. We look forward to seeing everyone at the track supporting our athletes while they compete

at home."

Girls team

The eight returning letter winners for the Norton girls team are: Raven Brown, Kendra Engelbert, Alyssa Thomson, Hannah Waggoner, seniors; Kaylen Rossi, Dustyna Sprigg, juniors; Abby Bainter, Erin Terrell, sophomores.

Other squad members are: Caren Thomson, sophomore; Katherine Boteler, Maggie Henry, Kamilla Jones, Brianna Karnopp, Julia Kent, Alec Melvin, Juliana Miller, Teslee Nickell, Regan Simpson, freshmen.

Last season's Lady Jays placed second in the Norton Invitational, third in the Smith Center Redmen Relays, second in the Plainville Invitational, fourth in the Goldsmith Relays at WaKeeney, first in the Oberlin Invitational, third in the Russell Relays, third in the Mid-Continent League Championships at Plainville, second in the Class 3A Regional Championships in Cimarron and sixth in the Kansas State Championships in Wichita.

Hannah Waggoner earned two state meet medals last season. She was fifth in the 100 meter dash and fifth in the 200 meter dash. Hannah also won the bronze medal in

both events in the Mid-Continent League Meet and in the Class 3A Regional Meet.

Raven Brown ran with Hannah on the 4 x 100 meter relay team which placed fourth in the regional meet to qualify for the state meet. Alyssa Thomson also qualified for the state meet with a fourth place finish in the regional high jump.

Boys team

The 11 returning lettermen on the Norton boys team are: Ashton Draper, Zane Perez, Casey Robison, seniors; Troy Bainter, Dakota Dreher, Justin Griffith, Terrell Lane, juniors; Bryan Henry, Zach Hartwell, Joe LeClair, Tye Nickell, sophomores.

Other squad members are: Landon Hamel, senior; Ryan Blecha, Billy Broeckelman, Josiah Laughlin, Jeremy Sproul, Brett Terrell, Kegan Vanover, juniors; Robert Blecha, Damien Davis, Kurt Douglas, Trey Millan, Justin Waggoner, sophomores; Lane Bigge, Jacob Brooks, Lucas Engel, Carson McKenna, Dalton Miller, John Renner, Dylan Sprigg, freshmen.

The Norton boys finished third in the Norton Invitational, third in the Plainville Invitational, fourth in the Oberlin Invitational, sixth

in the Russell Relays, sixth in the Hill City Invitational, fourth in the Mid-Continent League Championships at Plainville, second in the Class 3A Regional Championships in Cimarron and seventh in the Class 3A Kansas State Championships in Wichita.

Ashton Draper placed eighth in the state meet in the 400 meter dash. Ashton won the bronze medal in the 400 meter dash in the Mid-Continent League Meet and won the gold medal in the 400 meter dash in the Class 3A Regional Meet as well as the bronze medal in the 200 meter dash to qualify for the state meet in both events.

Justin Griffith and Terrell Lane were members of Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team which qualified for the state meet with a second place finish in the regional meet.

Lane also placed fourth in the 200 meter dash in the regional to qualify for the state meet in that event.

Troy Bainter, Tye Nickell, Zach Hartwell and Bryan Henry placed fourth in the 4 x 800 meter relay in the regional meet and qualified for the state meet in that event.

Lettermen return to Blue Jay golf team

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwks.com
Norton head coach David Stover returns four lettermen on the 2010 Norton Community High School golf team.

Senior Marcus Herman is a returning state tournament qualifier and senior teammates J.D. Gall and Connor Pfannenstiel are also returning lettermen. Junior Cole Archer is the other returning letter winner.

Other juniors on the Blue Jay golf squad are Tanner Morel, Nikki McVey, Ashley Millan and Jana Kalendova.

Only one sophomore, Taylor Meder, returns.

This year's team is loaded with freshmen, thirteen to be exact. They are: Jordan Hartwell, Ryan Bainter, Chris Fisher, Treven Rossi, Javen Colip, John Risewick, Jade Braun, Dustan Daniels, Eli Bozarth, Andrew Ellis, Jared Bohl, Cassius Dole and Vaughn Newman.

The Norton golfers will open the season in the annual Redmen

Invitational Golf Tournament on Tuesday in Smith Center. Competing in addition to Norton and Smith Center will be teams from Beloit, Osborne, Phillipsburg, Lakeside, Rock Hills (Mankato), Trego Community and Belleville.

Tee off time will be 3 p.m. Norton will also host the annual Norton Invitational Golf Tournament on Friday, April 9 on the Prairie Dog Recreation Association golf course south of Norton.

The Norton tournament will begin at 9 a.m.

Competing teams, in addition to Norton, will be Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Hill City, Hoxie, Ness City, Northern Valley, Oakley, Phillipsburg, Quinter, Smith Center and Stockton.

Team medals will be awarded to the members of the top three teams and to the top ten individuals. A plaque will be awarded to the top team.

Norton will also host the Norton Junior Varsity Golf Tourna-

ment on Tuesday, May 4. Tee off will be at 3 p.m.

Norton placed seventh in the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament in Goodland last season. Marcus Herman was No. 8 medalist and qualified for the Class 3A State Tournament in Wichita.

The Blue Jays were also fifth last season in the Mid-Continent League Golf Tournament which was held in Hill City. J.D. Gall was No. 7 medalist which earned him All-League honors.

Coach Stover is a graduate of St. John's Beloit High School and Fort Hays State University. He is completing his 21st year of teaching. After teaching six years at Maeksville, he is in his 15th year of teaching and coaching in Norton.

He has been the Norton Community High School head golf coach during his entire tenure at Norton and has also been boys assistant basketball coach all 15 years.

Coach Stover has also been an assistant Norton high school

football coach the past four years. Prior to that he was Norton junior high assistant football coach of five years and Norton junior high head football coach for five years.

Clayton Cox is the assistant golf coach again this season.

"I am very excited about the upcoming season," said coach Stover. "We have the opportunity to develop into a very competitive team this season.

"Seniors J.D. Gall, Marcus Herman and Connor Pfannenstiel all have three years of varsity experience and junior Cole Archer is also a returning letter winner.

"The key to our season will be the development of our underclassmen. If they can improve throughout the season, it will greatly improve our chances for success.

"Once again, it should be a very competitive Mid-Continent League season. Smith Center, Trego Community, Phillipsburg and Norton should compete for top league honors."

Norton Golf schedule

Tues., April 6 - Smith Center Invitational, Smith Center, 3 p.m.
Fri., April 9 - Norton Invitational, Norton, 9 a.m.
Mon., April 12 - Ellis Invitational, Ellis, 3 p.m.
Tues., April 13 - Goodland Invitational, Goodland, 2 p.m.
Fri., April 16 - Hill City JV Invitational, Hill City, 3 p.m.
Tues., April 20 - Goodland JV Invitational, Goodland, 2 p.m.
Fri., April 23 - Hill City Invitational, Hill City, 3 p.m.
Tues., April 27 - Smith Center JV Invitational, Smith Center, 3 p.m.
Thurs., April 29 - Trego Invitational, WaKeeney, 9 a.m.

Mon., May 3 - TMP Invitational, Hays (Smoky Hill), 9 a.m.
Tues., May 4 - Norton JV Invitational, Norton, 3 p.m.
Thurs., May 6 - Colby Invitational, Colby, 3 p.m.
Thurs., May 6 - Trego JV Invitational, WaKeeney, 9 a.m.
Mon., May 10 - Phillipsburg Invitational, Phillipsburg, 1 p.m.
Thurs., May 13 - Mid-Continent League Tourney, Norton, 3 p.m.
Mon., May 17 - Regional Golf, Smith Center, 9 a.m.
Mon., May 24 - State Golf, Hays (Smoky Hill CC), 9 a.m.

Norton Track schedule

Mon., April 5 - Smith Center JV Meet, Smith Center, 4:30 p.m.
Fri., April 9 - Norton Invitational, Norton, 3:30 p.m.
Mon., April 12 - Freshmen/Sophomore Meet, Goodland, 4:45 p.m.
Tues., April 13 - Smith Center Invite, Smith Center, 3 p.m.
Mon., April 19 - Trego Freshmen/Sophomore Meet, WaKeeney, 4 p.m.
Tues., April 20 - Plainville Invitational, Plainville, 3 p.m.
Fri., April 23 - Phillipsburg Invitational, Phillipsburg, 3 p.m.
Mon., April 26 - Freshmen/

Sophomore Meet, Hill City, 4 p.m.
Fri., April 30 - Goldsmith Relays, WaKeeney, 3:30 p.m.
Tues., May 4 - Oberlin Invitational, Oberlin, 3 p.m.
Fri., May 7 - Russell Relays, Russell, 3 p.m.
Mon., May 10 - Hill City Invitational, Hill City, 4 p.m.
Fri., May 14 - Mid-Continent League Meet, Smith Center, 3 p.m.
Fri., May 21 - Regional Championships, TBA
Fri., Sat., May 28-29 - State Championships in Wichita

Northern Valley Junior High releases track schedule

The Northern Valley Huskies will have 34 students out for junior high track this year. Jim Cole will coach the boys team, Kirsten Baird will coach the girls team and Lisa Miller will serve as assistant coach.

There are 23 boys and 11 girls out for track this season. The squad started practice on March 22. The junior huskies will be attending 6 meets this spring.

BOYS TRACK TEAM

Sixth grade: Colten Bach, Jesse Courtain, Camden Cox, Trey Hall, Cody Land and Eli Lowry. Seventh grade: Gabriel Anderson, Tony Anderson, Ame Baird, Phillip Bryant, Clint Cole, Brant Cox, Macy Kasson, Carson Montgom-

ery, Philip Rupp, Matt Stutsman, Kobie Unterseher and Stewart Whitney. Eighth grade: Jordan Baird, Hunter Chandler, Kolton Hilburn, Dallas Stillion and Ian Vincent

GIRLS TRACK TEAM

Sixth grade: Elexsa Anderson, Brooke Baird, Sarah Baird, Kirsten Burger, Allison Keith,

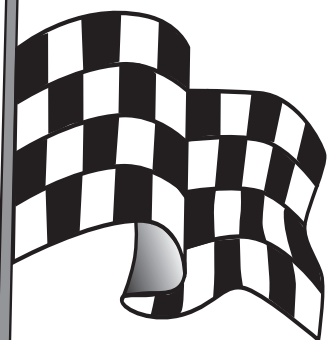
Talia Lowry, Brianna Martin and Shayna Vincent. Seventh grade: Alyssa Bryant, Kortney Cunningham and Makayla Smith.

The schedule includes the following meets:

April 8 - Norton Inv, Norton, 10:30 a.m.
April 15 - Husky Inv, Norton, 9:30 a.m.

April 22 - Hill City Inv, Hill City, 10 a.m.
April 30 - Quinter Inv, Quinter, 10 a.m.
May 6 - Logan Inv, Logan, 9:30 a.m.
May 13 - GNEC/Pike Trail, Mankato, 9 a.m.

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361



NEPRA

Norton Elmwood Park Speedway

— 2010 Schedule —

Class Key: Hobby Stocks-HS, Stock Cars-SC, Sport Mods-SM, Modified-M, 305 Sprints

DATE	START TIME	CLASS
Saturday, April 10	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes
Saturday, April 24	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes
Replica 57 Chevy Pedal Car to be Given Away— Sponsored by Downtown Carwash		
Saturday, May 8	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes
Saturday, May 22	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes
Saturday, June 12	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes
Replica 57 Chevy Pedal Car to be Given Away— Sponsored by Norton Glass Company		
Saturday, June 19	6:00 p.m.	ALL Classes

TICKETS FOR RACES: 5 and Under-Free; 6-12-\$5.00; 13 and Up-\$10.00 • Tickets for Pedal Car Drawing: \$1.00 Each or 6 for \$5.00

Info, Call Jerry Bantam, 785-877-5353 with Questions or frakrstr@ruraltel.net or www.nepra.mbmotorsports.com