

Blue Jays win second track championship

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School boys track team won their second championship of the young season and the Blue Jay girls placed sixth in the Plainville Invitational on Tuesday.

The Norton boys scored 116 points and were followed by Russell, 102; La Crosse, 98; Victoria, 70; Oberlin, 66; Plainville, 45; Trego Community, 30; Ellis, 24; Phillipsburg, 1.

Russell won the girls team championship with 112 points and was followed by Victoria, 91; Oberlin, 86; Trego Community, 72; Plainville, 63; Norton, 57.

"In our third varsity meet of the season, our athletes had a good day," said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones.

"We are continuing to work to figure out in which events to enter athletes to give us our best team shot in the championship season.

"The weather challenged our athletes with off and on rain showers in the early part of the meet but our young people responded very well.

"Times and distances are a little tough to compare to previous performances in some events but we did post new personal records in a number of areas by both the

girls and boys. That is what we want to see at this point.

"We are very proud of the effort our athletes are giving and we continue to be pleased with the results they are posting. We plan to continue to work to improve and we are excited about the future of our teams."

BOYS

The Norton boys had three gold medal winners: junior Terrell Lane with a 40'1.5" distance in the triple jump, senior Landon Hamel with a personal best time of 42.98 in the 300 meter hurdles and senior Ashton Draper with a 51.37 clocking in the 400 meter dash.

Hamel, Draper and Lane also won silver medals in the 4 x 100 meter relay when their foursome, which included junior Justin Griffith, was timed in 45.81.

Lane also was runner-up in the long jump with a leap of 19'4" and Draper was runner-up in the 200 meter dash in 23.93.

Draper anchored the Blue Jays' 4 x 400 meter relay team, which included Hamel and sophomores Tye Nickell and Bryan Henry, to a bronze medal with a time of 3:37.93. Draper was edged for the silver medal at the finish line by Oberlin's anchor Keithen Fortin by three hundredths of a second!

Norton sophomore Zach Hartwell won a silver medal in the 1600 meter run with a personal best time of 5:01.43. Sophomore Bryan Henry also was runner-up in the 800 meter run with a 2:13.56 clocking.

Hartwell placed third in the 3200 meter run with a time of 11:10.84.

Blue Jay junior Ryan Blecha earned two bronze medals. He was third in the javelin with a personal record distance of 139' and third in the shot put with a heave of 44'.

Lane finished fourth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 24.42.

Three Norton athletes earned points in the pole vault. Nickell placed fourth, senior Casey Robison was fifth and junior Billy Broeckelman was sixth. All three cleared 11'. The height was a personal record for Robison and Broeckelman.

Junior Troy Bainter placed fourth in the 1600 meter run with



Norton's Ashton Draper and Oberlin's Keithen Fortin had a photo finish for runner-up in the 4 x 400 meter relay in the Plainville Invitational track meet on Tuesday. Fortin edged Draper by three hundredths of a second! Other members of the Norton relay team were Landon Hamel, Tye Nickell and Bryan Henry.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

a personal best time of 5:03.50 and fourth in the 3200 meter run in 11:11.96.

Henry finished the 400 meter dash in 53.62 to place fifth.

Blecha was sixth in the discus with a throw of 116'6".

Times and distances of Norton boys' performances which did not place were: Justin Griffith, 38'8", 13th; freshman Dalton Miller, 29'1.5", 20th, shot put; Justin Griffith, 119'9", 11th; Dalton Miller, 94'9", 18th, discus; Justin Griffith, 106'2", 14th; Dalton Miller, 100'5", 18th, javelin; senior Zane Perez, 16'7.25", 11th, long jump; Casey Robison, personal best 5'2", 7th, high jump; Landon Hamel, 12.28, 8th; Zane Perez, 12.35, 9th, 100 meter dash; Billy Broeckelman, personal best 25.60, 11th, 200 meter dash; junior Kegan Vanover, personal best 2:33.10, 800 meter run; Kegan Vanover, personal best 5:34.81, 7th, 1600 meter run.

GIRLS

Lady Jay junior Dustyna Sprigg and freshman Regan Simpson each won two gold medals and

senior Alyssa Thomson won one gold medal for Norton.

Sprigg won the triple jump with a distance of 32'2.75", Simpson was the victor in the 1600 meter run with a personal best time of 5:53.85 and Thomson cleared a personal best height of 5'2" in the high jump to win that event.

Sprigg and Simpson combined with freshman Kamilla Jones and sophomore Erin Terrell to win the 4 x 800 meter relay with a clocking of 10:37.21.

A time of 1:06.59 placed Sprigg fourth in the 400 meter dash.

Freshman Julia Kent finished fourth in the 3200 meter run with a personal best clocking of 13:45.00.

Simpson also placed fifth in the 800 meter run in 2:47.00 and Jones followed her in sixth place with a time of 2:48.28.

Jones finished fourth in the pole vault with a clearance of 7' and freshman Katherine Boteler had the same clearance to place sixth.

Freshman Alec Melvin threw the discus a personal best distance

of 96'10" to place fifth.

Nickell was sixth in the shot put with a heave of 32'4".

Times and distances recorded by Norton girls which did not place were: Alec Melvin, 32', 8th, shot put; Teslee Nickell, 69'11", 17th, discus; Alec Melvin, 89'5", 10th; Teslee Nickell, 76'3.5", 17th; Alyssa Thomson, 70'7", 18th, javelin; Kamilla Jones, 13', 10th; Regan Simpson, 12'5.5", 13th, long jump; Juliana Miller, 4'4", 9th, high jump; Juliana Miller, 6'6", 7th, pole vault; Katherine Boteler, 15.01, 17th, 100 meter dash; Dustyna Sprigg, 29.34, 9th; Erin Terrell, 29.71, 12th; Alyssa Thomson, 31.48, 19th, 200 meter dash; sophomore Abby Bainter, 14:30.34, 7th, 3200 meter run.

Next action

Norton will compete in the Phillipsburg Invitational track meet today. Field events will begin at 3 p.m.

Norton will also compete in the Freshman/Sophomore track meet in Hill City on Monday, beginning at 4 p.m.



Norton junior Ryan Blecha earned two bronze medals in the Plainville Invitational track meet on Tuesday. Above, he is shown throwing the javelin a personal best distance of 139'. He also placed third in the shot put with a heave of 44'.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Lady Jays place fifth

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls junior varsity track team placed fifth with 31 points and the Blue Jay boys junior varsity track team finished seventh with 31 points in the Freshman/Sophomore Meet on Monday, April 12 in Goodland.

"Our athletes who attended this meet had a great day competing," said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones. "We left with personal records in a few areas, despite very windy conditions.

"Some of our people tried some new events and did well and we finished very competitively in the team standings.

"We love to see the hard work in practice paying off for our girls and boys in better performances and we look for that improvement to continue throughout the remainder of the junior varsity season."

GIRLS

Three Norton girls won bronze medals in the meet.

Sophomore Caren Thomson was timed in 18.97 in the 100 meter hurdles and had a clocking of 1:00.91 in the 300 meter hurdles to win two bronzes. She also placed sixth in the 100 meter dash in 14.99.

Freshman Brianna Karnopp placed third in the high jump with

a 4' clearance.

Freshman Maggie Henry also won a bronze medal in the 100 meter dash with a personal best clocking of 14.77.

Maggie Henry also finished fourth in the 200 meter dash in 32.50 and fifth in the 400 meter dash in a personal record time of 1:14.27.

Brianna Karnopp also competed in the 100 meter dash and was timed in 15.07 but did not place.

BOYS

Freshman Carson McKenna was the only gold medal winner for the Norton boys. He won the pole vault with a personal best height of 10'9".

Sophomore Justin Waggoner also competed in the pole vault and placed third with a personal record 9'6" clearance.

Junior Brett Terrell was Norton's third entry in the pole vault and he finished fourth with a 9'6" height.

Norton's two relays both finished fourth.

The 4 x 100 meter relay team of Justin Waggoner, Brett Terrell, Carson McKenna and sophomore Trey Millan was timed in 49.22.

The Blue Jay 4 x 400 meter relay foursome of Brett Terrell, freshman Lane Bigge, sophomore Damien Davis and Carson McKenna had a 4:11.38 clocking.

Norton sophomore Kurt Douglas placed fifth in the 1600 meter run in 6:15.08.

Trey Millan finished sixth in the shot put with a heave of 33'.

Norton boys' times and distances which did not place were: Damien Davis, 30'4"; freshman Lucas Engel, 29'7"; freshman Dylan Sprigg, personal record 28'9"; sophomore Robert Blecha, personal record 26'8", shot put; Dylan Sprigg, 88'5"; Lucas Engel, personal record 86'4"; Trey Millan, 83'6"; Damien Davis, personal record 81'8"; Robert Blecha, personal record 79'2", discus; Trey Millan, 98'6"; Damien Davis, personal record 90'; Dylan Sprigg, 83'2"; Robert Blecha, 58'1", javelin; Lane Bigge, 15'3.5", long jump; Lane Bigge, 29'8.25", triple jump; Brett Terrell, personal record 12.62; Lane Bigge, personal record 12.63; Justin Waggoner, personal record 12.71; Robert Blecha, personal record 12.93; Carson McKenna, 13.08, 100 meter dash; Justin Waggoner, 27.47; Lucas Engel, 28.44, 200 meter dash.

Next action

Next track and field action for the Norton junior varsity will be on Monday in the Hill City Freshman/Sophomore Meet in Hill City, beginning at 4 p.m.

Golfers win championship

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity golf team had an outstanding performance in the Hill City JV Invitational Tournament on Friday, April 16 as they won the team championship and all six golfers medaled.

Norton's foursome tallied a 195 team score, followed by Ness City, 206; Phillipsburg, 208; Hoxie, 212; Ellis, 228; Hill City, 229; Osborne, 230; Plainville, 233.

Placing for Norton were freshman John Risewick, 46; junior Ashley Millan, 48; junior

Tanner Morel, 49; junior Nikki McVey, 52.

Also playing for the Blue Jays and their scores were: freshman Andrew Ellis, 52 and freshman Treven Rossi, 53.

Medalists were: Jaxson Moss, Hoxie, 41; Joel Iman, Phillipsburg, 43; Hutch Gehrke, Northern Valley, 46; John Risewick, 46; Ashley Millan, 48; Nate Thyfault, Plainville, 49; Tanner Morel, 49; Kyle Stoeklein, Ness City, 50; Aaron Luckert, Brewster, 51; Joey Rufenacht, Ness City, 51; Nikki McVey, 52; Andrew Ellis, 52; Dylan Means, Phillipsburg, 52; Koltyn Ratliff, Ness City, 52; Treven

Rossi, 53.

"I was very proud of the way we played today," said Norton head golf coach David Stover. "We played extremely well throughout the entire lineup as we not only won the team championship but all six golfers earned individual medals.

"All six of our golfers shot equal to or better than their previous season and career high nine hole scores.

"This group is starting to show improvement in all aspects of their games and we look forward to that continued improvement for the rest of the season."

JV golfers medal in Goodland

By DICK BOYD

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No team scores were kept but three Norton Community High School golfers medaled in the Goodland JV Invitational on Tuesday.

Blue Jay individual scores were: freshman Chris Fisher, 49; freshman Eli Bozarth, 49; junior Ashley Millan, 50; freshman Andrew Ellis, 52; junior Nikki McVey, 53; freshman John Risewick, 54; freshman Treven Rossi, 54.

Medalists were: Johnny Castillo, Dundy County, 40; Willie Matthews, Dundy County, 41; Drew White, Colby, 48; Coby Baalman, Hoxie, 49; Chris Fisher, 49; Eli Bozarth, 49; Caleb Yauney, Dundy County, 50; Ashley Millan,

50; Cameron Crocker, Colby, 51; Kaid Wark, Colby, 51.

"This group continues to improve as the season progresses," said Norton head golf coach David Stover.

"They were able to take advantage of good scoring conditions to post scores at or better than their season averages on a course that tends to be one of the more difficult junior varsity courses we play.

"The highlight of the day was the play of Chris Fisher and Eli Bozarth, both earning their first individual medals in their high school career."

Next action

The Norton varsity golfers will return to action today when they play in the Hill City Invitational.

Golfers will tee off at 3 p.m.

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