



Blue Jays compete in state track meet

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

Short on numbers but not on effort, the Norton Community High School girls and boys track and field athletes competed in the 100th annual Kansas State Track & Field Championships on Friday and Saturday in Cessna Stadium in Wichita.

Only the top four finishers in each regional meet the week before qualified to compete at the state level and, unfortunately, Norton had many fifth, sixth and seventh place regional finishers who just missed the opportunity to participate in the big show.

Norton had four boys and two girls in the Class 3A competition for the state championship and one boy alternate who did not compete. The Blue Jay boys scored 18 points and tied for 13th out of 47 teams in 3A who scored points. The two Lady Jays did not score but were competitive.

Approximately 3,400 girl and boy athletes in Classes 1A through 6A competed in the meet, the largest high school track meet in the nation!

The Phillipsburg boys finished in 17th place, Smith Center placed 23rd and Goodland was 33rd.

Garden Plain won the 3A boys championship with 57 points, followed by Southeast of Saline, 45; Lyons, 44; Wichita Independent, 39; Riley County, 36; Holcomb, 28; Chaparral, 28; Hillsboro, 24; Beloit, 22; Conway Springs, 21; Marion, 20; Baxter Springs, 20; Norton, 18; Southwestern Heights, 18; Lakin, 16; Douglass, 13; Phillipsburg, 12; Halstead, 10; Neodesha, 10; Erie, 10; Sterling, 9; Caney, 8; Smith Center, 8; Hoisington, 8; Jefferson North, 8; Council Grove, 7; Atchison County, 7; Wichita Collegiate, 7; Central Heights, 6; Remington, 6; Northeast Arma, 5; Sedgwick, 4; Goodland, 4; Fredonia, 4; Galena, 4; Minneapolis, 4; Rock Creek, 4; Wellsville, 3; Marysville, 3; Rossville, 2; Burlington, 2; Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 2; Larned, 1; Ellinwood, 1; St. Mary's, 1; West Franklin, 1; Medicine Lodge, 1.

The girls 3A champion was Rossville with 61 points. There were 34 other teams who scored points. Runner-up was Douglass with 57 points. Thomas More Prep Marian of Hays finished fourth, Smith Center was sixth and Phillipsburg was 22nd.

Wichita Independent finished third with 50 points, followed by Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 50; Marion, 41; Smith Center, 30; Riley County, 23; Wichita Collegiate, 22; Medicine Lodge, 22; Conway Springs, 22; Garden Plain, 20; Beloit, 19; Central Heights, 16; Marysville, 14; Burlington, 14; Hoisington, 13; Lyons, 12; Northern Heights, 11; Ellinwood, 11; Phillipsburg, 9; Riverton, 8; Minneapolis, 8; Rock Creek, 8; Horton, 8; Hillsboro, 7; Baxter Springs, 6; Belle Plaine, 5; Holcomb, 4; Lakin, 4; Larned, 2; Eureka, 1; Ellsworth, 1; Sterling, 1.

Osborne was the Class 2A boys runner-up with 43 points. Plainville was 16th, Atwood was 20th, Ellis finished 24th, Oberlin was 27th, Oakley placed 29th and Hill City was 35th.

Champion of the 2A boys division was Bennington with 56 points, followed by Osborne, 43; Pittsburg Colgan, 42; Berean Academy, 41; Jayhawk Linn, 35; Stanton County, 33; Hutchinson Trinity, 31; Herington, 31; Sacred Heart, 28; Meade, 25; Washington County, 25; Wathena, 24; Goessel, 19; Inman, 19; Olpe, 17; Plainville, 15; Lebo, 12; Jackson Heights, 11; Sublette, 11; Atwood, 11; Solomon, 10; Chase County, 8; La Crosse, 7; Ellis, 6; Mission Valley, 6; Rock Hills, 6; Oberlin, 5; Burlington, 5; Oakley, 4; Onaga, 4; Troy, 4; Shawnee Marantha, 3; Valley Heights, 2; Lyndon, 2; Hill City, 2; Nemaha Valley, 2; Elkhart, 1; Syracuse, 1; Kinsley, 1; Peabody, 1; Valley Valls, 1; Moundridge, 1; Belleville, 1.

In girls Class 2A, Oakley placed third and Trego Community was fourth. Plainville was 10th. Hill

City was 13th, Oberlin placed 15th, Osborne was 17th and Ellis finished 29th.

Olpe was the champion of the girls Class 2A with 47 points, followed by Bennington, 39; Oakley, 31.5; Trego Community, 31; Peabody, 30; Jayhawk Linn, 29; Ell-Saline, 28; Shawnee Marantha, 25; Washington County, 23; Plainville, 22; Nemaha Valley, 21; Uniontown, 20; Hill City, 20; La Crosse, 20; Oberlin, 16; Belleville, 15; Osborne, 14; Mission Valley, 14; Berean Academy, 12; Chase County, 12; Immaculata, 12; Spearville, 11; Rock Hills, 10; Herington, 8; Oswego, 8; Oskaloosa, 8; Valley Falls, 8; Wakefield, 8; Ellis, 7; Troy, 7; Pittsburg Colgan, 7; Goessel, 7; Leoti, 7; Inman, 6; West Elk, 5; Moundridge, 4; Wathena, 4; Burlingame, 4; Fairfield, 3; Syracuse, 3; Sacred Heart, 2; Stanton County, 1.5; Wabaunsee, 1; Valley Heights, 1.

The Colby girls placed sixth in Class 4A with 29.5 points and the Russell girls were tenth with 18 points.

"Overall, we had a good weekend," said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones. "We are extremely proud of the seven athletes (six who qualified and one alternate) who represented the schools and community of Norton in our sport's highest level of competition. They deserve all that they earned and the entire community should feel proud of them. They did a great job and this trip was a great conclusion to a successful season.

"All our young people competed very hard and most of the performances reflect that. Even in the cases of those whose performances did not earn medals, our young people handled themselves well and did their very best. To earn the right to compete in this meet is alone a testament to their athletic success and for that they all deserve recognition as being great athletes. It is an honor in and of itself to earn this opportunity.

"Our girls and boys made the most of their weekend and put their best feet forward to compete on their largest stage and we are proud of them. When they won, they won with class and when they

lost, they lost with character.

"This was the final trip to high school competition for three of our young people. We will deeply miss them but we love to see our girls and boys have the opportunity to compete at this meet. We are very proud of each one of them for doing so as champions, with both character and class. These athletes capped off a great season for us with a solid showing at the state track and field meet!"

BOYS

Norton senior sprinter Ashton Draper had the third best time in the 400 meter dash in the preliminaries with a clocking of 51.10, then ran the race in his best time ever to place third and win the bronze medal on Saturday in 50.17 seconds.

Ashton also placed third in the 200 meter dash by running the fourth fastest time on Friday of 23.37 and coming back to run a 23.22 in Saturday's finals.

Ashton also anchored Norton's 4 x 400 meter relay team to a third place finish in 3:30.27. Running with him were sophomore Bryan Henry, freshman Jacob Brooks and junior Billy Broeckelman. On Friday, they qualified for finals with the eighth best time of 3:32.31. Sophomore Tye Nickell was their alternate.

Bryan Henry also qualified in the regional meet for the 400 meters and ran a 52.65 to record the 11th best time.

"Our trip was highlighted by the three medal-winning performances," said coach Jones. "Ashton Draper closed his high school career placing third in the 200 meter dash, running a new personal record time and placing third in the 400 meter dash and running with Bryan Henry, Jacob Brooks and Billy Broeckelman in anchoring the 4 x 400 meter relay team to third place.

"It was nice to see Bryan Henry finish 11th in the 400 meter dash in his first appearance in an individual event at the state meet."

GIRLS

Norton senior Alyssa Thomson competed in the high jump and her 4'10" jump was lower than she had been jumping and placed her in 14th. Norton's other senior, Hannah Waggoner, ran



Norton senior Ashton Draper leaned across the finish line to earn the bronze medal with a 23.22 time in the Class 3A 200 meter dash in the State Track Meet in Wichita. He also placed third in the 400 meter dash with a 50.17 clocking and anchored the 4 x 400 meter relay team to a third place finish with a sub-50 second 400 meters.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

the 200 meter dash. She had the seventh best time of 27.20 in the preliminaries and placed eighth in Saturday's finals with a 27.16 clocking.

"Hannah Waggoner ended her high school track career by finishing eighth in the 200 meter dash, which was just out of the med-

als," said coach Jones. "Alyssa Thomson bookended her tenure

on our squad by finishing 14th in the high jump."



Western Sprinklers, your complete Irrigation Store.

For all your irrigation needs.

- Pump Repair
- Underground PVC Pipe & Wire
- Gear Heads
- Valley Pivots
- Electric Motors
- Pivot Insurance
- Pivot Parts - All Brands

Western Sprinklers Inc.
Colby, Kan. 67701
785-462-6755

WESTERN
SPRINKLERS, INC.
COLBY, KANSAS
VALLEY 785-462-6755

SAVE \$\$'s BUY USED!

- *In business over 30 years
- *Buying all makes cars & trucks for parts & salvage
- *Rebuilders

Contact Dean, John, Randy or Mike
email: info@tri-cityautoparts.com
website: tri-cityautoparts.com

Holdrege: 308-995-6153
TOLL FREE: 1-800-445-9117



Tri City
AUTO PARTS, INC.

STEAMWAY CARPET CLEANING INC.

Lyle and Lou Ann, Owners—No Employees

Security and Safety Are Our Priority of Your Home and Business

We Are Masters of Cleaning, Known by Our Reputation

REASONABLE RATES, NO MILEAGE CHARGED

PALCO — 785-737-5741 OR 1-800-292-9497

HEAL YOUR PET

Norton Animal Health Center

is pleased to be the first to introduce a drug-free, surgery-free alternative to your pet's pain the

Companion Therapy Laser® System.

If your pet suffers from arthritis, joint disease, or chronic disorders, call today to setup a treatment!



These are some of the disorders that respond to Laser Therapy:

- Arthritis
- Numerous Skin Conditions
- Post Surgical Pain Relief
- Degenerative Joint Disease
- Insect Bites/Stings
- Lacerations/Abrasions
- Hip Dysplasia
- Wound Healing
- Otitis
- Cystitis
- Burns
- And More

CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR PET'S TREATMENT

NORTON ANIMAL
HEALTH CENTER, LTD

Aaron R. White, DVM • Sarah Ketterl White, DVM

801 W. Holme, Norton, Kansas • 785-877-2411





PUSH IT. PULL IT.

TRADE IT for a COUNTRY

CLIPPER



UP TO
\$1200
TRADE IN*

*or more, depending on trade-in condition



JOYSTICK
STEERING
CONTROL!



CONVENIENT
FLIP-UP DECK!

PUSH OR PULL YOUR OLD TRADE TO ONE OF THESE DEALERS

Winchells Inc.

S. Hwy. 183, Phillipsburg, KS • 785-543-2118