

# Blue Jays are Mid-Continent champions

BY DICK BOYD  
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The third time was the charm for the Norton Community High School girls and boys cross country teams as both earned the Mid-Continent League championships for the third year in a row on Thursday on the golf course in Phillipsburg.

It was the seventh league crown in a row for the Norton boys runners!

“Our Lady Jays reached one more milestone tonight by winning the Mid-Continent League championship,” said head coach George Rossi. “Our girls were able to place all seven runners in the top 20. Our splits between the one and five runners were also around 1:30 and that is good although we need to close up a bit more down the road in the upcoming races.”

“Astrid Moen ran a great race, fighting off Leslie VanLoenen of Hill City for the entire race.”

“Katelyn Engelbert also showed a great finishing kick.”

“Our girls have been working with great determination the past few weeks and I think it has paid off. They really need to understand that the hardest part of the season lies in front of us.”

“Preparation is the key to success. Never do we want to walk off the course thinking that we should have done more to get better. We need to leave nothing to chance.”

“One of our boys’ preseason goals was to win the league championship. Our boys ran an impressive race tonight.”

“Last year, the weather was cold and this year the weather was quite warm.”

“Our freshmen pair of Marc Miller and Alec Hager did a great

job of stepping up. Zach Hartwell also ran a great race to follow his win at Oberlin.

“Our junior varsity boys also ran a very quality race with all four winning medals. This course is a great warm up for the upcoming races at Lakeside and the regional.”

“We still have a great deal of work to do to get ready.”

## Girls

In league competition, the Norton girls scored 26 points, followed by Osborne, 45; Hill City, 61.

The Lady Jays also had the low point total in the invitational statistics for the meet with 33, followed by Franklin, Neb., 58; Osborne, 65; Hill City, 90; Oberlin, 108.

Norton junior Astrid Moen was fastest for the Lady Jays, finishing first in both the MCL and the invitational with a time of 17:06.

Lady Jay freshman Darcy Bainter was the next finisher for Norton with a fifth place in the MCL and sixth place overall and a time of 17:56. She was followed by freshman Katelyn Engelbert, sixth in the MCL and eighth overall in 18:17.

Finishing next for Norton was sophomore Julia Kent, eighth in the MCL and tenth overall in 18:25.

Rounding out the five team finishers for Norton was sophomore Kamilla Jones, 11th in the MCL and 13th overall. She was timed in 18:47.

Also running for Norton and their places and times were: junior Abby Bainter, 13th MCL, 16th overall, 19:07 and senior Dustyna Sprigg, 14th MCL, 17th overall, 19:26.

Freshman Marisa Maddy was the winner of the girls junior var-



Steady runners for the Norton Community High School girls cross country team are, from left, junior Abby Bainter and senior Dustyna Sprigg. They are shown above competing in the Mid-Continent League Meet on Thursday in Phillipsburg. Once again, Norton demonstrated their solid team composition by winning the league championship.

- Courtesy photo by Vicki Bainter

sity race with a time of 19:40.

The top ten girls finishers were: Astrid Moen, Norton, 17:06.75; Leslie VanLoenen, Hill City, 17:11.11; Kelsey Randall, Franklin, 17:23.39; Eileen Mick, Osborne, 17:39.97; Cassidy Rathbun, Plainville, 17:52.76; Darcy Bainter, Norton, 17:56.23; Jaylin Randall, Franklin, 18:13.81; Katelyn Engelbert, Norton, 18:17.20; Jordyn Sturgeon, Osborne, 18:23.27; Julia Kent, Norton, 18:25.17.

## Boys

The Norton boys won the Mid-Continent League championship with 32 points, followed by Plainville, 72; Phillipsburg, 77; Hill City, 98; Osborne, 137; Stockton, 138.

The Blue Jays also won the boys championship in the invitational with 39 points, followed by Oberlin, 75; Plainville, 88; Phillips-

burg, 92; Hill City, 98; Stockton, 138; Osborne, 162.

Junior Zach Hartwell continued to lead the Norton boys to the finish line. He placed runner-up in both the MCL and the invitational with a time of 17:46.

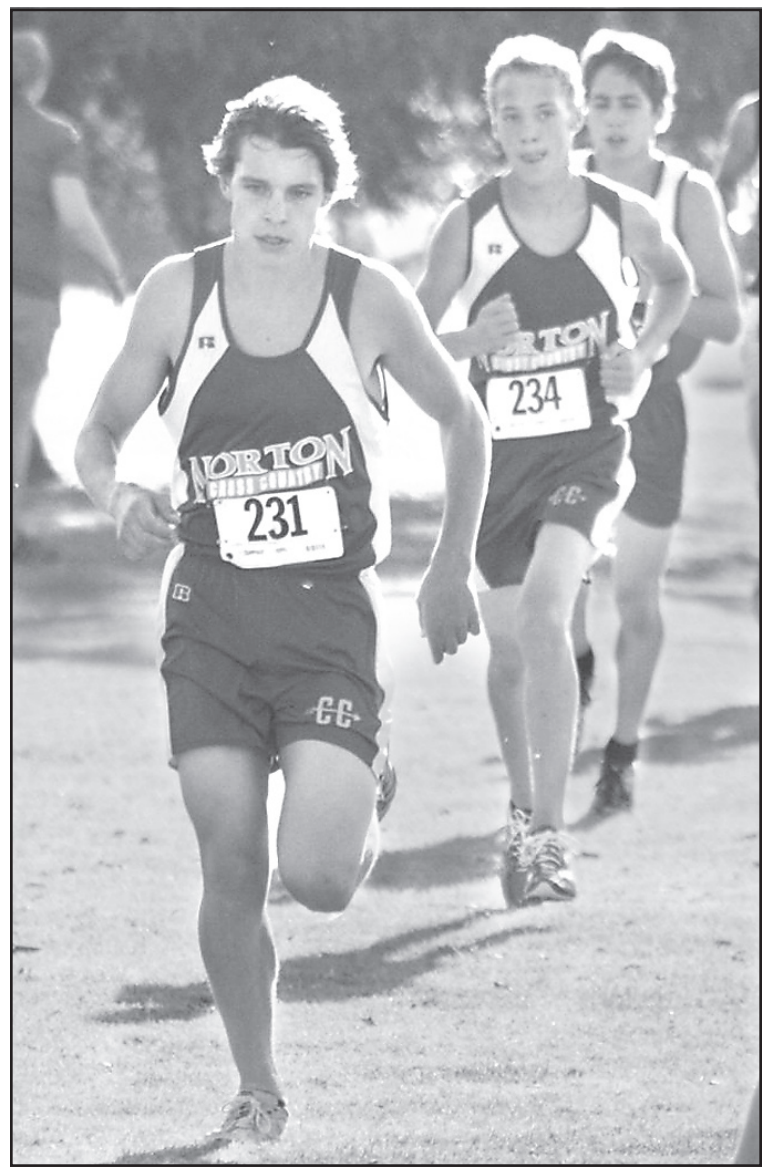
Next finisher for Norton was freshman Marc Miller who was sixth in the MCL and seventh overall in 19:03.

Senior Troy Bainter was third fastest for Norton with an eighth place in the MCL and tenth overall in 19:17.

Freshman Alec Hager was ninth in the MCL and 11th overall in 19:21.

Rounding out the top five team members was junior Bryan Henry, tenth in the MCL and 14th overall in 19:42.

Also running for the Norton boys varsity and their places and



Two outstanding runners for the Norton Community High School cross country team are shown here during the Mid-Continent League Meet on Thursday in Phillipsburg. Senior Troy Bainter, front, was the third fastest finisher for the Blue Jays and freshman Marc Miller was second fastest for the league champions.

- Courtesy photo by Vicki Bainter

times were: sophomore John Renner, 13th MCL, 16th overall, 19:50 and senior Kegan Vanover, 20th MCL, 26th overall, 20:57.

Four Norton boys ran in the junior varsity race. Senior Cole Archer placed third in 22:08, followed by sophomore Ryan Bainter, fifth in 22:37; freshman Garret Otter, sixth in 22:49 and freshman Chris Chambers, ninth in 23:07.

Gunnar Hays of Northern Valley continues to run well. He placed third in the boys varsity race with a time of 17:53.10. Gunnar’s Husky teammate Jon Compton finished in 20th place with a time

of 20:14.82.

The top ten boys finishers were: Brady Johnson, Plainville, 17:17.85; Zach Hartwell, Norton, 17:46.61; Gunnar Hays, Northern Valley, 17:53.10; Tyler Shields, Oberlin, 18:01.65; Mario Lopez, Phillipsburg, 18:33.84; Shane Jones, Hill City, 18:49.58; Marc Miller, Norton, 19:03.09; Dalton Jones, Oberlin, 19:04.39; Dustin Kriley, Stockton, 19:08.04; Troy Bainter, Norton, 19:17.49.

## Next action

Norton will compete next in the Lakeside Invitational Cross Country Meet on Thursday in Downs, beginning at 4 p.m.

# Mid-Continent league volleyball tournament to take place in Norton

The Norton Community High School girls varsity volleyball team will host Stockton in a feather bracket match for the

Mid-Continent League Volleyball Tournament at 6 p.m. Thursday in the NCHS Stull Gymnasium in Norton.

The winner will advance to play in the MCL Volleyball Tournament hosted by Norton on Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m.

# Tuesday Housewife bowling results

Tuesday Housewife Week of Sept 7:

Jamboree Foods: won 7 lost 1; Amateurs: won 5 lost 3; BEB & Associates: won 3 lost 5; Lenora Nutrition Center: won 1 lost 7.

High Scratch Game Team: Jamboree Foods 434; High Scratch Se-

ries Team: Jamboree Foods 1218; High Handicap Game Team: Amateurs 611; High Handicap Series Team: Amateurs 1730.

High Scratch Game: Oliva Krehbiel 177, Cheri Brooks 176, Jackie Wright 147.

High Scratch Series: Cheri

Brooks 497, Oliva Krehbiel 439, Sharron Smith 425.

High Handicap Game: Oliva Krehbiel 226, Donna Van Kooten 217, Margaret Thomas 214.

High Handicap Series: Donna Van Kooten 613, Oliva Krehbiel 586, Margaret Thomas 577.

# District football to start

By DICK BOYD  
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Following a bye week, coach Lucas Melvin’s Norton Community High School football team will begin District play on Friday with a 7 p.m. contest at Goodland.

The Blue Jays are still unbeaten, having defeated Ellis, St. Francis, Plainville, Oberlin and Smith Center.

The Cowboys are 4-2. They have wins over Holcomb, Hugoton, Lakin and Colby. Their losses have been to Ulysses and Scott City.

The Cowboys’ most recent win

was a weather-delayed 38-22 victory over longtime rival Colby at Colby on Friday night. Colby led 14-13 at halftime but Goodland prevailed in the second half. The Cowboys led 38-14 before a final Colby touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Goodland runs a spread offense and 4-3 defense. They are a senior dominated team. Quarterback Reed Bellamy was last season’s offensive leader and continues to shine for the Cowboys. He threw for one touchdown and ran for another on Friday night against Colby.

Bellamy had an outstanding

game against the Eagles. He completed 14 of 24 passes for 169 yards and carried the ball 24 times for 124 yards.

The Cowboys finished with 441 yards of total offense, 242 rushing and 169 yards passing and had 25 first downs.

“Goodland is a dangerous team,” said Norton coach Melvin. “They run a good sprint offense and run and pass well.”

“They have good skill players who can make plays.”

“We will have to play well to beat them.”

Come cheer the Blue Jays on at this upcoming game.

## High School Sports This Week

Norton  
Blue Jays

Northern Valley  
Huskies

Logan  
Trojans

**FOOTBALL:**  
 Norton Blue Jays vs. Goodland Cowboys ..... 7 p.m. Friday in Goodland  
 Northern Valley Huskies vs. Thunder Ridge ..... 7 p.m. Friday in Almena  
 Logan Trojans vs. Western Plains ..... 7 p.m. Friday in Logan

**VOLLEYBALL:**  
 Norton Lady Jays V, JV vs. Logan, Golden Plains ..... 4 p.m. Today in Logan  
 Norton Lady Jays V vs. Stockton Lady Tigers ..... MCL Tournament Feather Bracket Match ..... 6 p.m. Thursday in Stull Gym, Norton  
 Mid-Continent League Volleyball Tournament ..... Beginning 9 a.m. Saturday in Norton  
 Norton Lady Jays V, JV vs. Goodland, Ulysses ..... 5 p.m. Tuesday in Goodland  
 Northern Valley Lady Huskies vs. Stockton, Thunder Ridge ..... 4 p.m. Today in Almena  
 Northern Valley Lady Huskies in Cheyenne Conference Tournament ... 9 a.m. Saturday in Beloit  
 Northern Valley Lady Huskies vs. Palco, Victoria ..... 4 p.m. Tuesday in Victoria  
 Logan Lady Trojans vs. Norton, Golden Plains ..... 4 p.m. Today in Logan  
 Logan Lady Trojans in Cheyenne Conference Tournament ..... 9 a.m. Saturday in Beloit  
 Logan Lady Trojans vs. Western Plains, St. John ..... 4 p.m. Tuesday in Ransom

**CROSS COUNTRY:**  
 Norton Cross Country V, JV in Lakeside Invitational ..... 4 p.m. Thursday in Downs  
 Northern Valley Huskies V, JV in Wheatland Inviditational ..... 3 p.m. Thursday in Grainfield

## ADVANCE VOTING in Kansas is simple!

**1** Contact your county election office or visit [www.voteks.org](http://www.voteks.org) by October 29 to request your advance ballot.

**2** Fill out the ballot at your convenience.

**3** Return your ballot to your county election office before the polls close November 2.

Vote!  
Kansas  
stand up for democracy

[www.voteks.org](http://www.voteks.org)  
**800.262.VOTE**

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Secretary of State Chris Biggs