BB Gun team season kicks off with 21 shooters

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com Classroom meetings for girls and boys ages 8-14 years who are prospective members of the Norton County Rotary BB Gun Team in the 2011-12 season have been completed and marksmanship training has begun in the BB Gun Museum on east U.S. 36 Highway in

Cameron Archer, who has been with the program for 10 year's is beginning his seventh season as head coach. Last year, he was really pleased with all the new shooters he had and this year he has even more first time marksmen.

"We have another young team," said coach Archer.

"We'll have to work really hard for it to pay off in the

Chandra McKenna, a former outstanding shooter for the Norton team, has returned as the Classroom Instructor.

There are 10 returning shooters and 11 new ones. The returnees and their ages are: Erin Archer, 14; James Berry, 13; Evan Chambers, 13; Miles Harrington, 11; Adson Day, 10; Stacie Elliott, 10; Dylan Goss, 10; Colton Mulder, 10; Riley Goss, 9 and Greyson Tanner, 9.

New shooters are: Kayla Coffey, 14; Zach Coffey, 11; Alex Howe, 11; Nick Davis, 10; Sierra Howe, 10; Ryan Lively, 10; Sydney Rutherford, 10; Carol Schoenthaler, 10;

Alexzander Olliff, 9; Hunter Mulder, 8; Tia Paxton, 8.

Erin Archer and James Berry are the only returning shooters (formerly National International) experience. Both shot on the Norton team at the National Shoot two years ago and James shot at National last year as an alternate.

Shooters are not allowed to compete in the National shoot two years in a row but this rule does not apply to alternates.

Winning performances by Norton BB Gun Teams at the state and national (formerly international) level have earned them an admirable reputation in marksmanship circles.

Norton teams have won 38 Kansas state championships out of 46, including March 13, 2010 in Alma.. Norton did not compete in the state shoot in 1982 because there was no Jaycees chapter to sponsor

Norton has competed in 42 of the 46 international shoots and has also won eight international championships, more than any other community in the world!

The Norton County team was in the hunt again this year in placing ninth in the National BB Gun Championship Match held on the Fourth of July weekend in Rogers, Ark., the home of Daisy Outdoor Products. The national shoot is the largest junior marksmanship competition in

Norton's preparation for the state shoots, the one originated by the U.S. Jaycees and now sponsored by the Kansas Rifle Association, and a second sponsored by the Kansas 4-H, begins in October with the gun safety program.

The participating youngsters have completed three weeks of classroom instruction from the Daisy 10-Lesson Curriculum Book. They are now practicing marksmanship and studying for the written test on shooting safety, which is included in both the state and national shoots.

The team members meet every Monday evening in the BB Gun Museum.

Norton is associated with the beginning of the gun safety program. It is based on a format proposed by the late Norton Jaycees member Duane Winder. This program was adopted nationwide when Daisy and the U.S. Jaycees began the program.

The program was designed to introduce young shooters to the basics of safe gun handling and marksmanship.

About 250,000 young people take part in the program each

"The community of Norton has supported this program because they know it passes on to the children and parents the proper safety knowledge of hunting," said coach Archer.

"These youngsters have stepped it up in both the classroom and shooting through the years to become well known on the international and national

Some members of the 2011-12 Norton County Rotary BB Gun Team are pictured here with head coach Cameron Archer and parents during a recent Monday evening practice in the BB Gun Museum on East U.S. Highway 36 in Norton. Shown during marksmanship from the kneeling position are, from left, coach Archer, Adson Day, coach Trenton

level." In recent history, Norton won the international title in 1990, 1991, 1998 and 2000, placed second in 2003 and third in 1996. In 2008, Norton finished runner-up in shooting and fifth overall. Norton placed seventh in 2008 and qualified for but did not compete in the national shoot

The top three marksmanship teams in each state shoot qualify to compete in the national shoot. This now includes 4-H sponsored teams.

in 2009 before finishing ninth in

2010 and ninth in 2011.

The Norton County BB Gun Team was originally sponsored by the Norton Jaycees and

the Norton Rotary assumed sponsorship when there was no longer a Jaycees chapter in

Sprague, Alexzander Olliff, coach Jeff Elliott, Alex Howe, coach Chris Mulder, Hunter

BB Gun Museum

A plaque in honor of the international BB gun program originator Duane Winder is in the BB Gun Museum on East U.S. 36 in Norton.

The Museum contains trophies, medals, newspaper articles and other memorabilia of the Norton shooting education program.

Coach's comments

Coach Archer stresses that shooters will have a practice night every Monday until after the state shoots and more often

prior to the national shoot.

"Our young people will learn proper gun safety and that even a BB gun can be dangerous," he

-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

"You must know shooting safety rules before you get a gun to shoot. We are serious about this program and expect shooters to be as well."

He said being part of the program is not that expensive and that guns are provided if a youth doesn't own one. He said cost of targets, BBs and books is minimal.

"We also ask that we have some volunteer parents to help with grading targets and assist with coaching," he said.

Second team wrestlers finish third in tourney

By Dick Boyd

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The Norton Community High School second team wrestlers turned in an outstanding performance with a third place finish in the varsity Southern Valley Tournament on Friday in

An extra Norton second team also competed and placed 13th out of the 15 teams entered.

Medicine Valley won the championship with 302 points, followed by Southern Valley, 294; Norton, 198; Franklin, 183; Red Cloud Blue Hill, 176; Bertrand/Loomis, 164; Centura, 158; Elwood, 145; Arapahoe, 143; Wilcox Hildreth, 95; Axtell, 63; Alma, 61; Norton extra second team, 30; Southern Valley Junior Varsity, 12; Red Cloud Blue Hill Junior Varsity, 6.

"The Southern Valley Invitational was a step up in competition from earlier in the week," said Norton assistant wrestling coach Shane Miller.

"Not only was the quantity of the tournament better but also the quality of wrestling.

"Two of our wrestlers were crowned champions and eight others placed.

"Leading the way was freshman Caysean

Campbell at 106 pounds. He had four pins, including a first round fall in his final match. En route to the finals, Caysean defeated last year's champion, Levi Vogler of Red Cloud Blue Hill. "For his championship performance in both

the Alma and Southern Valley tournaments, our coaches named him "Junior Varsity Wrestler of

"Jared Bohl, varsity wrestler at 152, was taking the ACT on Saturday so entered this tournament. Wrestling at 160 pounds, he went a perfect 5-0, including three pins and a dominating 13-4 major decision over Dustin Langenberg of Loomis Bertrand. In his final match, Jared beat Class D state medalist Patrick Gardner of Arapahoe 6-3.

"Our lower to middle weights had a respective showing as well. Third and fourth place finishes were secured by Dalton Vanover, 120; Jared Tallent, 126; Toby Nickell, 132; Kendall Miller, 138. The combined record for this group was 12-

"I was proud that we collectively wrestled better as the day progressed but we are going to have to wrestle better in opening rounds.

"The competition was definitely tougher and we had to rise up to the challenge. Overall, it was a quality performance by this young group of wrestlers.

Norton second team placings were: 106, freshman Caysean Campbell, first; 113, sophomore Garret Otter, fifth; 120, freshman Dalton Vanover, fourth; 126, freshman Jared Tallent, third; 132, sophomore Toby Nickell, third; 138, freshman Kendall Miller, fourth; 145, sophomore Cody Temmel, sixth; 160, junior Jared Bohl, first; 182.

Norton extra second team placings were: 182, freshman Chris Chastain, third and freshman Lance Armbrister, sixth.

Also competing for Norton and not placing were freshman Derek Rowh, 126; Christian Boser, 145 and junior Javen Colip, 152.

Individual results

106 - Caysean Campbell pinned Colin Frink, Arapahoe JV, in 1:43; pinned Kevin Lienemann, Alma, in 1:02; pinned Levi Vogler, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in 3:16 and pinned Brandon Pruitt,

Arapahoe, in :39 to place first.

113 - Garret Otter was pinned in 1:24 by Logan Miller, Southern Valley; pinned Tyler Detlefsen, Franklin JV, in 3:34; was pinned in :49 by Lukas Cox, Alma and pinned Garrett Vogler, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in 1:43 to place fifth.

120 - Dalton Vanover was pinned in 2:45 by Coile Remmenga, Elwood; pinned Nate Clapp, Axtell, in 3:59; pinned Dakota Ridpath, Southern Valley JV, in 5:44 and was pinned in 1:31 by Thomas Foster, Medicine Valley to place fourth.

126 - Jared Tallent pinned TJ Linnemeyer, Centura, in 1:29; won a technical fall over Dalton James, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in 5:58; pinned Brian Pederson Franklin in .52. lost a 5-1 decision to Tucker Bergquist, Southern Valley and pinned Nick Johnson, Wilcox Hildreth, in 4:38 to place

132 - Toby Nickell pinned Jon Dobish, Axtell, in 1:33; pinned Erik Lienemann, Alma, in 2:48; was pinned in 4:48 by Wyatt Kipp, Arapahoe, and won a 6-3 decision over Lucas Kyhn, Centura, to

138 - Kendall Miller pinned Levi Rosenquist, Centura, in 3:55; lost a 7-1 decision to Dallas Johnson, Axtell; pinned Calvin Webster, Alma, in 1:28; won a 5-4 decision over Brandon Trueblood, Southern Valley and lost a 2-1 decision to Dillon Schnuerle, Franklin, to place fourth.

145 - Cody Temmel was pinned in 1:11 by Cyrus Thomas, Southern Valley; lost an 8-3 decision to Anthony Warta, Bertrand/Loomis; won a 9-6 decision over Nolan Charron, Centura and was pinned in 3:21 by Hunter Schnuerle, Franklin, to place sixth.

152 - Javen Colip pinned Jorne Smith, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in:59 and lost by injury default to Lane Asp, Wilcox Hildreth; Tyler Kipp, Arapahoe and Lance Taylor, Axtell, and did not place.

160 - Jared Bohl pinned Gage Crowell, Elwood JV, in 3:26; pinned Bailey Brown, Centura, in 1:52; pinned Eli Vanboening, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in 3:57; won a 13-4 major decision over Dustin Langenberg, Bertrand/Loomis and won a 6-3 decision over Patrick Gardner, Arapahoe, to

182 - Lance Armbrister was pinned in :29 by Hector Rodriguez, Red Cloud Blue Hill; was pinned in :22 by Tyler Dahlgren, Bertrand/ Loomis; lost a 5-2 decision to Axel Cassell, Axtell; was pinned in :50 by Vade Jensen, Wilcox Hildreth and was pinned in 4:44 by Chris Chastain of Norton's extra second team.

126 - Derek Rowh was pinned in 1:46 by Nick Johnson, Wilcox Hildreth, in 1:46; was pinned in 1:59 by Walter Flint, Elwood; lost a 6-0 decision to Rodger Farr, Medicine Valley and lost a 16-8 major decision to Brian Pederson, Franklin.

145 - Christian Boser was pinned in :35 by Hunter Timmons, Medicine Valley; lost a 9-4 decision to Hunter Schnuerle, Franklin; forfeited to Tanner Rupprecht, Red Cloud Blue Hill and defaulted to Nolan Charron, Centura.

182 - Chris Chastain was pinned in :52 by Vade Jensen, Wilcox Hildreth; pinned Hector Rodriguez, Red Cloud Blue Hill, in 2:43; was pinned in :41 by Tyler Dahlgren, Bertrand Loomis; pinned Axel Cassell, Axtell, in :37 and pinned Lance Armbrister, Norton, in 4:44 to place

Holiday Classic tournament set for Saturday in Goodland Wrestling will begin at 10 a.m. Central Time. The Norton Community High School varsity

wrestling team will compete this Saturday in the annual Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament in Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland.

Other competing teams, in addition to Norton and Goodland, will be Cherokee Trails, Colo.; Colby; Burlington, Colo.; Holcomb; Hugoton; Leoti; Scott City; Springfield High School, Colo.; Ulysses.

The teams will be divided into three pools for the start of competition. Norton will be in a pool with Goodland, Cherokee Trails and Holcomb. Pool matches will be divided into three rounds,

beginning at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Placing rounds will begin at 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m.

and 6 p.m.

Congratulations to Taryn Graham, Norton 2011 Pigskin Pick-Em Champion!



Winner of \$50 in Scrip and Trophy

Thanks to all the football fans who entered the 12-week contest and to the sponsoring businesses:

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