

# Norton track teams perform well at Oberlin meet

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton Community High School girls placed runner-up and the Blue Jay boys finished sixth in the Decatur Community Invitational Track and Field Meet on Tuesday in Oberlin.

Oberlin won the girls championship with 144 points, followed by Norton, 97; Smith Center, 77; Atwood, 61; Dighton, 56; Oakley, 49; Wheatland, 32; Phillipsburg, 28; St. Francis, 12.

The boys champion was Smith Center with 97 points, followed by Oberlin, 81; Oakley, 68.66; Wheatland, 68; Hoxie, 68; Norton, 61; St. Francis, 56; Phillipsburg, 34; Atwood, 14.33; Dighton, 10.

"This meet went well for us," said Norton Community High School head track and field coach Jason Jones. "We were missing some athletes due to other commitments and we were coming off a meet on Monday but both teams put up very solid performances."

"We are continuing to get better in a number of areas and that is our goal at this point in the season. Our athletes posted new personal records and we still hope to build on those performances and gain some more confidence in some areas as we prepare to enter the league meet next Friday. We are looking forward to getting our whole team back together again for the upcoming meets!"

## GIRLS

Norton juniors Alec Melvin and Teslee Nickell continued their outstanding performances in the shot, discus and javelin, scoring a total of 26 points in the three events.

Nickell placed runner-up in the shot put with a heave of 36'8.75" and Melvin placed



Norton junior Teslee Nickell gives it her all as she launches the shot during the Oberlin Invitational on Tuesday. Teslee recorded a distance of 36'8.75" to place runner-up.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

fourth with a distance of 34'8.5". Melvin was runner-up in the discus with a throw of 109'10" and placed third in the javelin with a throw of 110'6".

The pole vault was another outstanding event for the Lady Jays where they tallied 18 points. Sophomore Bailey Ambrosier won the event with a clearance of 9'. Freshman Kenzie Esslinger placed third with a height of 8'6" and junior

Kamilla Jones was fifth with an 8' clearance.

Also scoring a total of 18 points in the 3200 meter run were Norton's distance runners from three different classes: junior Julia Kent, sophomore Darcy Bainter and freshman Sierra Griffith. Kent placed runner-up in 13:35.42, Griffith was third in 13:37.97 and Bainter placed fourth in 14:03.50.

Norton junior Tawni Griffey

also set a personal record of 6:06.78 in placing third in the 1600 meter run.

Sophomore Katelyn Engelbert also had a good meet. She placed runner-up in the 800 meter run in 2:34.03 and anchored two relays to medal-winning performances. She ran with Griffith, Ambrosier and Jones in the 4 x 800 meter relay where the Lady Jays placed runner-up in 10:39.57.

In the 4 x 400 meter relay, she teamed with senior Erin Terrell, Ambrosier and Jones to place third in 4:25.36.

Ambrosier also placed fourth in the 400 meter dash with a personal best time of 1:02.98 and Jones also placed fifth in the long jump with a leap of 14'3.5".

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: sophomore Cristine Nelson, personal best 30'10.25", 11th, shot put; Nickell, 89'2", 11th; sophomore Riekele Green, personal best 83', 16th, discus; Green, 82', 11th, javelin; junior Stephanie Hager, personal best 1:01.34, 12th, 300 meter hurdles; Terrell, personal best 13.82, 9th, 100 meter dash.

## BOYS

Senior Bryan Henry earned the only gold medal for the Blue Jay boys. He won the 400 meter dash with a personal record time of 51.94. He also anchored

two relays to medal-winning performance.

Henry teamed with junior Jacob Brooks, junior Carson McKenna and senior Dillon McConney to place runner-up in the 4 x 400 meter relay with a time of 3:37.54.

Henry also ran with sophomore Marc Miller, senior Zach Hartwell and sophomore Alec Hager to finish third in the 4 x 800 meter relay in 8:53.56.

Henry was also a member of Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team which placed fourth in 45.50. Running with him were McKenna, senior Trey Millan and junior Jacob Brooks.

Hartwell and Hager also scored points in the 3200 meter run where Hartwell placed third in 10:57.50 and Hager finished behind him in fourth with a clocking of 11:34.62.

Brooks also scored points in two other events. He placed runner-up in the 100 meter dash in 11.30 and was third in the high jump with a clearance of 5'10".

Miller also placed third in the pole vault with a clearance of 11'6" and fifth in the 800 meter run in 2:10.58.

Freshman Dalton Vanover finished sixth in the 1600 meter run in a personal best time of 5:24.03.

Distances and times of Norton boys which did not place were:

freshman Stewart Whitney, 36'3.75", 10th; junior Lane Bigge, 32'6.75", 17th; freshman Jordan Karnopp, 31'4.5", 21st, shot put; junior Dalton Miller, 107', 11th; Bigge, 97'4", 15th; junior Lucas Engel, personal best 94'3", 18th, discus; Whitney, personal best 104'1", 16th; Karnopp, no distance, javelin; McConney, 17'2.5", 8th; Millan, 16'8", 12th; freshman Derick Campbell, 16'6", 13th, long jump; sophomore Travis Cressler, 30'11", 9th, triple jump; freshman Kobie Unterseher, 9'6", 11th, pole vault; Karnopp, 19.44, 8th, 110 meter hurdles; McKenna, 12.39, 19th; Campbell, 12.91, 26th, 100 meter dash; Millan, 24.66, 9th; Engel, 25.67, 18th; Unterseher, 27.06, 23rd, 200 meter dash; McConney, 57.29, 8th; Cressler, 1:04.41, 20th, 400 meter dash; freshman Christian Boser, personal best 2:19.26, 7th, 800 meter run; sophomore Chris Chambers, personal best 6:27.32, 1600 meter run; Dalton Vanover, 12:10.58, 8th, 3200 meter run.

## Next action

Norton will compete today in the annual Russell Invitational, beginning at 3 p.m. and will travel to Hill City on Monday for their Invitational, beginning at 4 p.m.

# JV golf team takes top honors at invitation tourney in Norton

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton Community High School junior varsity golf team had a great day on Tuesday when they won the championship of their own Norton JV Invitational Tournament on the Prairie Dog Recreation Association course south of Norton.

The Blue Jays shot a 176 to easily outdistance runner-up Phillipsburg, who shot a 205. Third place went to Ellis with a 218, followed by Atwood, 231; Plainville, 234; Norton B, 258; Colby, 263.

Only four players' scores figure in a team score but five of Norton's players earned medalist honors.

Best golfer for the day for Norton was junior Dustan Daniels with a 41, which also earned him No.1 medalist honors!

Next for Norton came junior Javen Colip, 45; junior Cassius Dole, 45 and sophomore Garret Otter, 45. Also playing for Norton and their scores were: junior Ryan Bainter, 46 and freshman Chance Uehlin, 59.

Members of the Norton B team and their scores

were: freshman Derek Rowh, 57; sophomore Branson Addington, 60; freshman Connor Griffey, 62 and freshman David Smith, 79.

The medalists were: Dustan Daniels, 41; Jaron Kellerman, Phillipsburg, 43; Hunter Scheib, Trego, 44; Javen Colip, 45; Cassius Dole, 45; Garret Otter, 45; Ryan Bainter, 46; Matt Stutzman, Northern Valley, 47; Josh Tway, Ellis, 47; Tanner Crist, Phillipsburg, 49.

"Everyone did a great job for us today!" said Norton head golf coach David Stover. "In good playing conditions, we experienced many season and career best rounds today, led by Dustan Daniels' first individual tournament title and placing five golfers in the top seven."

"This group is doing an excellent job as the season continues. Their hard work is paying off and, hopefully, it will carry over to the season-ending junior varsity tournament at WaKeeney."

## Next action

The Trego JV Invitational was held on Thursday but results were not available at the Telegram's press time.



Norton sophomore Alec Hager and an Oberlin runner jockey for position during the grueling 3200 meter run in the Oberlin Invitational. Hager held off the challenger to finish fourth in 11:34.62 behind senior teammate Zach Hartwell, who placed third.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Varsity golf team ties for eighth at Thomas More Prep Invitational

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton Community High School varsity golf team tied for eighth with Ellis in the tough Thomas More Prep of Hays Invitational played on Monday on the Smoky Hill Golf Course in Hays.

Goodland won the championship with a 336, followed by Phillipsburg, 344; Colby, 351; Oberlin, 353; TMP, 354; Ellsworth, 357; Dodge City JV,

364; Ellis, 371; Norton, 371; Lamed, 383; Russell, 388; Hays High JV, 389; TMP B, 432; Hays High B, 435; TMP C, 517.

Low scorer for Norton once again was junior Christopher Fisher with a 47/42-89. He was followed by juniors Andrew Ellis, 49/43-92; Eli Bozarth, 54/41-95 and John Risewick, 49/46-95.

Also playing for Norton and their scores were junior Jordan Hartwell,

58/52-110 and senior Taylor Meder, 60/53-113.

"We showed signs of improvement today but old habits continue to haunt us," said Norton head high school golf coach David Stover. "This tournament, and the course itself, is traditionally one of the most difficult we play during the season and today was no exception. As a team, we played very well on the back nine of the course, which was our first nine holes played. Unfortunately,

we did not make necessary adjustments where we needed and scores went upward.

"Our overall goal is to get a little better every day and we will take what we have learned today to prepare us for a busy end-of-the-season schedule, continuing Thursday at Colby."

Medalists were: Kade Brown, Oberlin, 72; Mark Cunningham, Ellsworth, 74; Gage Ihrig, Goodland, 77; Joel Linin, Goodland, 78; Konnor Criss,

Colby, 78; Garrett Berry, Oberlin, 79; Brady Rohr, TMP, 80; Michael Reece, Lamed, 83; Ryan Hoover, Phillipsburg, 84; Kade Megaffin, TMP, 85.

## Next action

Norton traveled to Colby for their Invitational on Thursday. Results were not available at the Telegram's press time. Next action for the Norton varsity will be today in the Hill City Invitational, beginning at 3 p.m.

# Northern Valley track teams take second, eighth in Logan Invite

By Mike Stephens

mstephens@nwkansas.com

The Northern Valley Huskies varsity track team competed at the Logan Invitational on Tuesday in Logan.

The Husky boys team had an excellent showing, finishing in second place overall. Gunnar Hays once again dominated in the 800 meter and 1600 meter with first place finishes in both races and several other Huskies achieved personal bests.

"Our kids had a good meet at Logan. We were very happy to pick up a second place trophy. We had several athletes have personal bests, Ian Vincent in the javelin, Hunter Chandler in the high jump, Jordan Baird in the 100, Gunnar Hays in the 800 and Macy Kasson in the 3200," said head

coach Chuck Fessenden.

"In the pole vault we were happy to see Clint Cole make 10'6" for the second week in a row. Our boys did a nice job in the 3200 meter relay," said Fessenden.

"Our goal for Gunnar this week was to get a good time in the 800 and he responded with an outstanding time of 2:03.77."

The Husky girls team finished in eighth place but had another impressive performance by freshman Kortney Cunningham.

"Kortney was able to get four medals. We felt like she high jumped very well and had some good attempts at 5'1"," Fessenden said.

The Huskies track team will travel to Mankato to compete on Friday, May 4.

## Logan Invitational Results

Boys-77 points, 2nd place  
3200m Relay-Brant Cox, Gunnar Hays, Philip Rupp, Hunter Chandler-9:21.32, 1st place  
100m Run-Jordan Baird-11.88, 4th place  
200m Run-Phillip Bryant-25.22, 6th place  
800m Run-Gunnar Hays-2:03.77, 1st place  
1600m Run-Gunnar Hays-4:43.96, 1st place,  
Brant Cox-5:32.15, 6th place  
3200m Run-Brant Cox-12:24.16, 4th place,  
Macy Kasson-12:47.5, 6th place  
400m Relay-Phillip Bryant, Hunter Chandler, Philip Rupp, Jordan Baird-48.50, 3rd place  
1600m Relay-Phillip Bryant, Hunter Chandler, Philip Rupp, Gunnar Hays-3:55.59, 4th place  
Long Jump-Jordan Baird-17'10.75", 4th place

High Jump-Hunter Chandler-5'10", 2nd place,  
Clint Cole-5'4", 4th place  
Pole Vault-Clint Cole-10'6", 2nd place  
Javelin-Ian Vincent-141'1", 4th place

## Girls-30 points, 8th place

100m High Hurdles-Kortney Cunningham-18.51, 2nd place  
300m Low Hurdles-Kortney Cunningham-55.81, 3rd place  
High Jump-Kortney Cunningham-5'0", 1st place  
Triple Jump-Kortney Cunningham-30'10.75", 3rd place