

Lady Jays take runner-up

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls track and field team placed runner-up and the Blue Jay boys finished fifth out of nine teams, just two points out of fourth, in the annual Mid-Continent League Track Meet held on Thursday in Hill City.

Phillipsburg was the girls champion with 101 points and the Lady Jays were just four points behind them with 97. Ellis placed third with 71.5 points, followed by Smith Center, 70; Osborne, 69; Trego Community, 48; Plainville, 48; Hill City, 43.5; Stockton, 6.

Phillipsburg also won the boys title with 180 points, followed by Plainville, 90; Smith Center, 73; Ellis, 57; Norton, 55; Osborne, 53; Hill City, 26; Stockton, 24.

"Our athletes put forth a great effort in this league meet," said Norton head track and field

coach Jason Jones. "They competed hard, even through the wind changes and the rain and we are proud of their efforts, performances and results."

"We had some more personal records on both sides and that is great to see as we enter regionals and state in the next two weeks."

"We are still nursing and will continue to nurse some injuries on both sides but we are, at the same time, still working to continue to improve our marks as we head into Regional and State competition."

"We are proud of our girls and boys and we are very excited about the next couple of weeks!"

GIRLS

The Norton girls had two individual gold medal winners and a gold medal winning relay team.

Senior Alec Melvin set a personal record in the shot put with a heave of 38'6" to win the gold in that event. She also placed

third in the discus with a throw of 113'5" and sixth in the javelin with a 107'5" distance.

Lady Jay junior Bailey Ambrosier won the pole vault with a clearance of 10', was runner-up in the 400 meter dash with a time of 1:04.82 and was a member of the gold medal winning 4 x 800 meter relay team that was timed in 10:59.24. On the relay foursome with her were junior Katelyn Engelbert, senior Kamilla Jones and freshman Casey Ambrosier.

Engelbert also placed runner-up in the 800 meter run with a clocking of 2:37.46, placed third in the high jump with a 4'8" clearance and was a member of the third place 4 x 400 meter relay team. Engelbert ran with Bailey Ambrosier, Kamilla Jones and freshman Hanna Brooks. They were timed in 4:36.98.

Sophomore Kenzie Esslinger finished runner-up in the pole vault with a clearance of 9'6" and Kamilla Jones was fifth with an 8' clearance.

Junior Darcy Bainter scored points in both distance races. She placed runner-up in the 3200 meter run with a time of 13:15.88 and fourth in the 1600 meter run in 6:06.68.

Freshman Molly Maddy finished fourth in the 3200 meter run in 13:43.58.

Freshman Peyton Renner placed fourth in the triple jump with a 31' distance.

Kamilla Jones was fifth in the long jump with a leap of 14'10.75".

Distances and times by Norton girls which did not place were: junior Cristine Nelson, 31'1.25", 7th; senior Teslee Nickell, 30'.25", 10th, shot put; freshman Lexi Voss, personal best 94'8", 7th; Cristine Nelson, 91'3", 9th, discus; Lexi Voss, 88'4", 9th; Teslee Nickell, 73'4", 13th, javelin; Peyton Renner, 13'1.75", 11th; Casey Ambrosier, 12'4.5", 15th, long jump; Casey Ambrosier, 30'1.75", 9th; Hanna Brooks, personal best 29'.25", 11th, triple jump; junior Johnnye Ruder, 19.56, 14th, 100 meter hurdles; Johnnye Ruder, personal best 54.31, 8th, 300 meter hurdles; freshman Lizzie Smith, 18.72, 12th, 100 meter dash; junior

Marisa Maddy, 30.69, 9th, 200 meter dash; Casey Ambrosier, 1:10.93, 7th; Peyton Renner, 1:16.78, 11th, 400 meter dash; Molly Maddy, 6:35.82, 7th; freshman Raenee Patterson, 6:49.00, 1600 meter run; Johnnye Ruder, Kenzie Esslinger, Marisa Maddy, Hanna Brooks, no time, 4 x 100 meter relay.

BOYS

Junior Marc Miller was the Norton boys only gold medal winner. He outran the field of the 800 meter run in 2:09.94.

Senior Jacob Brooks cleared 6'2" in the high jump but he was edged for the gold medal by Seth Derr, Phillipsburg, who cleared the same height but with fewer misses. Brooks also placed fourth in the 100 meter dash in 11.40.

Junior Austin Hager, who broke the Norton school record in his last meet, was unable to go as high in the pole vault and had to settle for runner-up with a clearance of 13" on a rainy, cold afternoon. Meitler of Smith Center won the event with a vault of 13'6".

Marc Miller placed fifth in the pole vault with a clearance of 11'.

Freshman Brenden Frack scored points in both distance races. He finished runner-up in the 3200 meter run with a time of 11:09.85 and fourth in the 1600 meter run with a personal best clocking of 5:00.00.

Sophomore Dalton Vanover placed fourth in the 3200 meter run with a clocking of 12:11.62.

Junior Trever Lewis finished fifth in the long jump with a leap of 19'1.75" and junior Tanner Furbush placed sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 36'8".

Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team of Austin Hager, Trever Lewis, sophomore Kobie Unterseher and Tanner Furbush placed fifth in 47.04.

The Blue Jay boys 4 x 800 meter relay team also placed fifth. On that foursome were junior Alec Hager, senior John Renner, freshman Ryan Thraikill and Marc Miller. They were timed in 9:33.07.

Distances and times of Norton boys which did not place were: senior Lucas Engel, 40'6.5",



Norton senior Lucas Engel heaves the shot during the Mid-Continent League Track and Field Meet on Thursday in Hill City. Engel, who won a gold medal in the shot put earlier this season, made the finals on the cold, damp day but just missed placing.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Next action

The Norton girls and boys track teams will make a bid for state tournament competition this Friday when they compete in the Class 3A Regional Track Meet in Holcomb.

The meet will begin at 3 p.m. with field events. Preliminary running events will begin at 4:30 p.m. with running finals set for 6 p.m.

Competing teams, in addition to Norton and Holcomb, will be Anthony-Harper-Chaparral, Cheney, Cimarron, Conway Springs, Ellsworth, Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, Hoisington, Kingman, Southwestern Heights, Lakin, Lyons, Phillipsburg, Russell, Scott City.

Plaques will be awarded to the first place and runner-up girls and boys teams. Medals will be awarded to the top four placers in all events and those same athletes will qualify for the Kansas State Track and Field Meet the next Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25 at Cessna Stadium in Wichita.



Norton freshman Molly Maddy, left, and junior Darcy Bainter have earned points all season in the distance races. They are pictured here competing in the Mid-Continent League Track and Field Meet on Thursday in Hill City. Bainter was runner-up in the 3200 meter run and fourth in the 1600 meter run. Maddy placed fourth in the 3200 meter run.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Blue Jay golf team places fifth in Mid-Continent tournament

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School varsity golf team placed fifth in the rugged Mid-Continent League Tournament held Thursday in Plainville.

"Once again we were able to equal our season-best team score but, against the high-quality teams in the Mid-Continent League this season, our overall placing was not what we had hoped coming into the tournament," said Norton head golf coach David Stover.

"Once again, we had to battle the elements and I think we did a

good job of handling that. What we must do from here on out is put together an entire round, not just good nine-hole scores."

"I was especially happy for John Risewick, stepping up with a career-low round to earn individual medalist honors. We have had many personal bests in recent tournaments but, for us to have success in the post season, we must have multiple golfers have that type of success on the same day and we are very capable of achieving that."

Phillipsburg won the league championship with a 323, followed by Plainville, 329; Ellis,

329; Trego Community, 329; Norton, 342; Stockton, 355; Smith Center, 359; Osborne, 391; Hill City, 400.

Phillipsburg and Smith Center tied for the two-man title with 159, followed by Stockton, 167; Plainville, 181; Norton, 185; Hill City, 189; Trego, 193; Ellis, 218.

Playing on Norton's two-man team and their scores were senior Treven Rossi, 46/45-91 and junior Garret Otter, 48/46-94. Also on the team was senior Eli Bozarth, who shot a 49/45-94.

Tied for the four-man championship were Plainville, El-

lis and Trego, each with a 329. They were followed by Phillipsburg, 338; Norton, 344; Osborne, 391; Stockton, 411.

Leading the Blue Jays' four-man team was senior John Risewick with a 37/42-79. He was followed by senior Andrew Ellis, 44/40-84; senior Christopher Fisher, 45/45-90 and senior Jordan Hartwell, 48/45-93.

Also playing for Norton's four-man team was senior Dustin Daniels, who shot a 45/49-94.

Medalists were: Skyler Tebo, Ellis, 71; Koby Beougher, Stockton, 75; Connor Collins,

Plainville, 76; Zach Linn, Smith Center, 78; Blake Huxman, Trego, 78; Michael Dusin, Phillipsburg, 79; Tyler Walters, Ellis, 79; John Risewick, Norton, 79; Ryan Hoover, Phillipsburg, 80; Lucas Jacobs, Phillipsburg, 80.

Final action

On Monday, the Norton golfers competed in the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament in Cimarron.

Competing, in addition to Norton and Cimarron, were Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, Holcomb, Southwestern Heights, Lakin, Phillipsburg

and Scott City.

Results were not available at time of publication.

The top three teams and top five individuals not on one of these three teams qualified for the Class 3A State Golf Tournament, which will be held on Monday, May 20 in Seneca.

"Our hectic stretch continues as we travel to Cimarron to compete in the Class 3A Regional Tournament on Monday," said coach Stover.

Norton athlete commits to Manhattan

By DICK BOYD

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John Renner, an outstanding senior runner for Norton Community High School, has signed a letter of intent to run cross country in college for Manhattan Christian College in Manhattan.

John is a four-year letterman in cross country for the Blue Jays and will also be a four-year letterman in track, where he runs distances. He is also a four-year member of the Norton basketball team.

"It is exciting to see John get a chance to run at the collegiate level," said Norton head cross country coach George Rossi. "A four-year letterman for the Blue Jay cross country team, John was a two-time Mid-Continent

League medalist and a member of our Class 3A state third place team this year.

"This year, at the state cross country meet, John had his second best time ever and his best time of the season to seal the third place trophy."

"I think John has the potential to become an important member of the Manhattan Christian College cross country program."

Cross country is a fairly new sport for Manhattan Christian College but they have done very well in their three years.

A member of the Midwest Christian College Conference, nationally they are in the National Christian College Athletic Association, Division II.

Their girls team was third in the nation and their boys team

was fourth in the nation last season.

Larry Olson is the head cross country and head girls basketball coach for Manhattan Christian College.

"We are looking for three things when we recruit athletes," said coach Olson. "We want someone with high character, a good student and competitive in their sport."

"Lots of athletes in northwest Kansas are overlooked. John comes from a program that knows how to win."

"We have a Christian atmosphere and life style at Manhattan Christian College. It's a plus that you can also attend classes at Kansas State University and obtain a dual degree."



John Renner, outstanding senior runner for Norton Community High School, is pictured signing a letter of intent to run cross country for Manhattan Christian College. Pictured with him are his mother Cheri and father Craig Renner. Standing are, from left, Larry Olson, head cross country coach at Manhattan Christian College and George Rossi, head cross country coach at Norton Community High School.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

*We are so proud of all the area athletes.
You have made us proud to be Blue Jays!*