Lady Jays cross country team does it again

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com For the sixth year in a row, the Norton Community High School girls cross country team won the championship of the Mid-Continent League Cross Country Meet on Thursday at the golf course in Phillipsburg.

The NCHS boys cross country team had won the league championship for nine straight years but had to settle for runner-up this year.

The Norton girls scored 17 points to win the title again, followed by Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 34; Plainville, 48; Oakley, 57. TMP and Oakley are new members of the league.

The meet was also run as an invitational and the Norton girls also won that championship. The Lady Jays compiled 42 points, followed by Oberlin, 65; TMP, 77; Colby, 89; Plainvile, 106; Oakley, 127.

The Norton boys were edged for the league crown by Phillipsburg, who scored 32 points compared to the Blue Jays' 39. They were followed by TMP, 42; Plainville, 78; Hill City, 83; Smith Center, 89.

The Blue Jay boys finished third in the invitational standings. Phillipsburg won with 54, followed by TMP, 69; Norton, 82; Hill City, 120; Plainville, 121; Colby, 153.

It should be noted that the top four runners for each team were scored for the Mid-Continent League and the top five for the Invitational Meet.

GIRLS

to cross the finish line for the Norton girls. She placed second in both the league and the invitational with a time of 17:21. She was followed by senior Darcy Bainter, 17:32, fourth MCL, fifth invitational; senior Marisa



ward the finish of the Mid-Continent League Cross Country Meet on Thursday in Phillipsburg. Sierra was first to cross the finish line for the champion Norton team and second overall.

- Courtesy photo by Connie Miller

11th invitational; senior Katelyn 13th invitational and sophomore Molly Maddy, 19:14, ninth MCL, 16th invitational.

Also running for Norton was sophomore Raenee Patterson, 20:02, 14th MCL, 25th invita-

The top ten finishers in the league received medals as All-Mid-Continent League runners.

Norton freshman Shania Burns won the junior varsity Junior Sierra Griffith was first race with a time of 20:00. She was followed by freshman Macayla Kent, 20:55, third; sophomore Kylie Perez, 21:11, fifth; freshman Starla Tischhauser, 27:02, eighth.

> "The MCL is changing looks with TMP and Oakley joining

Maddy, 18:23, seventh MCL, us for the league race tonight," said Norton head cross coun-Engelbert, 18:42, eighth MCL, try coach George Rossi. "Our girls came out and defended our league title with conviction. I am very proud of their effort. The course has changed yet once again so it is hard to compare times from last year.

"Every team is gunning for us and the other teams really want to beat us and that is why we run the schedule we do. We have run against and beaten teams ranked in 1A to 5A. I know that puts a lot of pressure on our girls but it also makes them great competitors. To have a chance down the road you have to be prepared and run in tough races. This group has answered every challenge. Their goal is in our control; we just have to stay



Norton junior Sierra Griffith passes a Plainville runner to- Norton junior Dalton Vanover is shown overtaking a Colby runner during the annual Mid-Continent League Cross Country Meet in Phillipsburg on Thursday. Dalton is a steady runner for the Blue Jays and helped them finish runner-up in the league race.

focused and tough."

The top ten girls finishers

in the invitational were: Les-

lie VanLoenen, Hill City, first,

16:59; Sierra Griffith, Norton,

second, 17:21; Cassidy Rath-

bun, Plainville, third, 17:23;

Andrea Browne, Colby, fourth,

17:24; Darcy Bainter, Norton,

fifth, 17:32; Caitie Shields,

Oberlin, sixth, 17:41; Kayla

Walker, TMP, seventh, 18:07;

Sierra Hendrickson, Oberlin,

eighth, 18:14; Jakobi Blau,

Oberlin, ninth, 18:16; Kaelyn

VanEaton, Oakley, tenth, 18:18.

Valley placed 17th with a time

of 19:26 and Allison Keith fin-

Senior Marc Miller was the

fastest for the Norton boys with

our young kids. With only a

few possessions in the half, no

points were put on the board.

The only other scoring was a

punt return by Jace Ruder for 36

yards. Oakly was able to put a

score on the board late in their

biggest drive of the night that

began on Norton's own 39 (yard

line). With the running clock,

this took up most of the fourth

PUBLIC NOTICE

PRAIRIE DOG CREEK

WTAP SIGN-UP OPEN

The Kansas Department of Agriculture will be accepting

ished 41st in 23:35.

BOYS

Brooke Baird of Northern

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

a third place in both the league and invitational in 18:55. Freshman Nate Hartwell placed fifth in the league and the invitational with a 19:05 clocking. Junior Dalton Vanover placed 15th in the league and 17th overall with a 20:00 time. Senior Alec Hager finished right behind Vanover in 16th in the league and 18th in the invitational with a 20:06 time. Senior Keith Sander was 36th in the league and 43rd in the invitational in 22:20.

senior Garret Otter, 22:34, 37th in league, 45th in invitational; sophomore Weston Erbert, 22:55, 40th in league, 49th in invitational. Competing in the junior varsi-

Also running for Norton were

ty race and their times and place were: sophomore Skylar John-

son, 22:56, fourth; sophomore James King, 23:17, fifth; junior David Smith, 25:37, tenth; freshman Harrison Woodyard, 26:42, 12th; junior Gin Lee, 28:25, 16th. It was the first meet for Lee, who is an exchange stu-

dent from Korea. "Tonight was the first time this year that we had a team that we are planning on taking to regionals," said coach Rossi. "Nate Hartwell ran his first race since week two at Wamego and did a great job, finishing fifth along with Marc Miller who also ran a great race to finish third in both the MCL and Invitational.

'We were very curious as to how we would finish. I think our boys are still far from their best. We have two weeks before regionals in Ellsworth and, with hard work and if we have some guys step up, we can continue into the postseason."

The top ten boys finishers in the invitational were: Wyatt Ratzlaff, Phillipsburg, first, 18:06; Hunter Kline, Smith Center, second, 18:49; Marc Miller, Norton, third, 18:59; Andrew Hess, TMP, fourth, 19:00; Nate Hartwell, Norton, fifth, 19:05; Aaron Faber, Colby, sixth, 19:14; Quinn Dewey, Plainville, seventh, 19:19; Mark Loftus, TMP, eighth, 19:23; Tanner Colburn, Hill City, ninth, 19:37; Austin Tien, Phillipsburg, tenth, 19:40.

Macy Kasson of Northern Valley placed 27th in 20:54. Camden Cox of Northern Valley finished third in the junior varsity race in 22:23.

Next action

Norton competed in the Lakeside Invitational Cross Country Meet on Thursday in Downs, with the varsity girls and followed by the varsity boys and junior varsity girls and boys

Norton Junior Jays have a big win

LANDFILL DIRECTOR

Clay County, Kansas has an immediate opening for a Solid Waste/Noxious Weed

department manager. This position is responsible for successful operation of the

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landfill, household hazardous waste certificate, and an applicators license for the

requirements. Applications will be received until position is filled. Applications

may be obtained from the Clay County Clerk's office; 712 5th Street; Clay Center

By Mike Stephens mstephens@nwkansas.com

The Norton Junior High Blue Jays hosted Oakley on Thursday, Sept. 26, and came away with a big 52-12 victory.

Blue Jays scoring: 1st Quarter

Jace Ruder, 60 yard run, PAT-

Petrie run Tevin Petrie, 33 yard run,

PAT-failed Seth Otter, 13 yard pass from

Ruder, PAT-failed

Jace Ruder, 75 yard run, PAT-

2nd Quarter

Jace Ruder, 23 yard run, PAT-

Ryan Johnson, 42 yard run, PAT-failed

Hayden Wiltfong, 72 yard pass from Ruder, PAT-Johnson

3rd Quarter

Jace Ruder, 36 yard punt return, PAT-failed

Blue Jays rushing:

Jace Ruder - 3 rushes, 109 yards

Tevin Petrie - 1 rush, 33 yards Ryan Johnson - 3 rushes, 44

Blue Jays passing:

Jace Ruder - 2 for 10, 85 yards

Blue Jays receiving:

Hayden Wiltfong - 1 reception, 75 yards

Seth Otter - 1 reception, 13

football team. Oakley scored of those included touchdown on their first possession of the runs by Tevin Petrie and Ryan game with a half back pass. We were playing the run aggressively and that is a play we will give up. However, the Blue Jays scored on their very first offensive play, as Jace Ruder dropped back to pass and scrambled his way for a 60 yard touchdown run. Tevin Petrie converted on the point after attempt to put the Blue Jays on top. We dominated the game from that point on. We scored on every possession we had in the first half, to lead 46-6

at intermission, "Coach Miller commented. "It was a great ball game for our offense. We were able to dominate the Plainsmen up front and create some "Another great win for our nice holes for big gains. A few Johnson of 30 and 40 yards, respectively. Credit needs to go to our offensive line for their performance. They have been improving each week and they did a great job tonight. The lead gave us a chance to try and work on our passing game as well. We still have a ways to go but had two great catches by Seth Otter and Hayden Wiltfong for touchdowns."

"Most of the second half was played with a running clock and

olications for the Water Right Transition Assistance Pro am (WTAP) from October 1 to November 15. WTAP is a voluntary, incentive-based program designed

help restore aquifers and streams in critical areas by retir ing water rights. The Prairie Dog Creek Basin is significan in requirements to maintain compliance in the Republican River Compact with the State of Nebraska. The "high prior ity" areas of this basin in Phillips, Norton, Decatur, Sherida and Thomas counties have been determined to be in need o stream restoration and aquifer recovery and are now close to further water appropriations

Applicants who are selected for WTAP grants are com isated by the department's Division of Conservation in exchange for the permanent retirement of water rights of

For more information contact Steve Frost water conservati ogram manager, at (785) 296-8964 or HYPERLINK "C:\\Docu nents and Settings\\sfrost\\Local Settings\\Temporary Internet Files\ Content.Outlook\\SB55R7VL\\steve.frost@kda.ks.gov"steve.frost@ kda.ks.gov. WTAP rules and regulations, applications, maps an other details are available on the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation website at HYPERLINK "http://agriculture ks.gov/divisions-programs/division-of-conservation/water-conse http://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs vation-programs" ivision-of-conservation/water-conservation-programs.

Information and assistance is also available on the Kansa Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources field office in Stockton at (785) 425-6787 or at the Northwest Kan sas Groundwater Management District No. 4 in Colby at (785)

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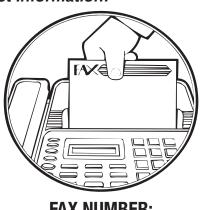
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