

# Four Huskies named to Liberty League team

MIKE STEPHENS

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The Northern Valley High School football team finished the 2013 season with a 5-4 record under head coach Chuck Fessenden, and four starters were named first team on the Western Kansas Liberty League 2013 All-League team.

They are senior guard Ian Vincent, senior quarterback Hunter Chandler, senior running back Jordan Baird and junior defensive lineman Phillip Bryant.

"Ian, Hunter and Jordan have been a big part of our program over the past three years," said head coach Chuck Fessenden.

Vincent earned first team honors despite playing in only five games this season. He suffered a season ending ankle injury on October 4 in the Beloit-St. John's game. The injury required surgery, but even with the abbreviated season, Vincent's play garnered the respect of the league's coaches.

"Ian saw significant playing time as a freshman and has been a great player for us during his last three years of football," said coach Fessenden.

Reaping the benefits of Vincent's stellar blocking were Hunter Chandler and Jordan Baird, who racked up huge offensive numbers on the season.

Chandler had respectable passing numbers with 43 completions on 84 attempts for 571 yards, 11 touchdowns and two interceptions. But the big numbers came with the ground game.

In nine games, Chandler carried the ball 154 times for 1,036 yards and 17 touchdowns, and averaged 115.1 yards per game.

Baird amassed 935 rushing yards on 138 carries, 13 touchdowns, and averaged 103.9 yards per game. Baird also received first team All-League honors as a return specialist. He averaged 25 yards on 16 kickoffs, with a long run of 78 yards. On punt returns, he averaged 14.50 yards with a long return of 40 yards.

"Hunter and Jordan have really produced for us on the offensive side of the ball. Their graduation is going to leave a huge hole for us to fill in the backfield. They are all fine young men and I have enjoyed coaching them," said Fessenden.

Defensively, Phillip Bryant was the only Husky named to the first team. Bryant, at 5'7" and 156 pounds, has been a force on the defensive line for the Huskies. Bryant led the team with 66 solo tackles, 79 total tackles, and 8.8 tackles per game.

Bryant will be expected to fill part of the void on offense with the graduation of Chandler and Baird. The junior rushed for 736 yards on 99 rushes, 14 touchdowns, and a team best 7.43 yards per carry average.

"Phillip had a great year on both sides of the ball and we are looking forward to a very productive season from him next year."

The Western Kansas Liberty League coaches met on Nov. 25, 2013 to select their 2013 All-



Four Northern Valley Huskies were named to the first team of the Western Kansas Liberty League 2013 All-League football team. (Pictured from left to right) Senior running back Jordan Baird, junior defensive lineman Phillip Bryant, senior guard Ian Vincent and senior quarterback Hunter Chandler.

-Photo courtesy of Amy McKinney

League football team. The following are the results of that meeting:

#### OFFENSE

##### First Team:

Quarterback - Hunter Chandler, senior - Northern Valley  
Running Back - Jordan Baird, senior - Northern Valley  
Running Back - Tyler Compton, senior - Weskan  
Center - Seth Smith, senior - Triplains/Brewster  
Guard - Ian Vincent, senior - Northern Valley  
Guard - Robert Martin, senior - Weskan  
Tight End/Receiver - Walker Janicke, senior - Cheylin  
Tight End/Receiver - Chad Becker, senior - Logan/Palco  
Punter/Kicker - Walker

Janicke, senior - Cheylin

##### Second Team:

Quarterback - Hayden Walker, senior - Weskan  
Running Back - Devon Janicke, sophomore - Cheylin  
Running Back - Richard Zeiters, junior - Logan/Palco  
Running Back - Nathan Jorgensen, senior - Triplains/Brewster  
Center - Leyton Miller, senior - Weskan  
Guard - Kyle Pakkebier, senior - Logan/Palco  
Guard - Stetson Nyp, senior - Logan/Palco  
Tight End/Receiver - Matt Stutsman, junior - Northern Valley  
Tight End/Receiver - Justin Culwell, senior - Triplains/

Brewster

Punter/Kicker - Robert Marin, senior - Weskan

##### Honorable Mention:

Quarterback - Ty Carmichael, senior - Cheylin  
Quarterback - Ryan Gfeller, sophomore - Triplains/Brewster  
Running Back - Josh Barnhart, senior - Golden Plains  
Running Back - Tristan Schwarz, senior - Golden Plains  
Running Back - Juan Mendez, senior - Western Plains  
Running Back - Jace Jorgensen, junior - Triplains/Brewster  
Center - Andrew Flax, senior - Western Plains  
Center - Carson Montgomery, junior - Northern Valley  
Guard - Ame Baird, junior -

Northern Valley

Guard - Grant Frasier, junior - Weskan  
Guard - Rusty Porubsky, senior - Cheylin  
Tight End/Receiver - Peter Cress, sophomore - Weskan  
Tight End/Receiver - Edgar Valenzuela, sophomore - Weskan  
Tight End/Receiver - Dominic Zimmerman, junior - Wheatland-Grinnell  
Tight End/Receiver - Clint Cole, junior - Northern Valley

#### DEFENSE

##### First Team:

Defensive Line - Phillip Bryant, junior - Northern Valley  
Defensive Line - Leighton Miller, senior - Weskan  
Defensive Line - Walker Janicke, senior - Cheylin  
Defensive Line - Grant Spreser, senior - Golden Plains  
Defensive Line - Grant Frasier, junior - Weskan  
Defensive Back - Seth Smith, senior - Triplains/Brewster  
Defensive Back - Benny Martinez, junior - Golden Plains  
Defensive Back - Robert Martin, senior - Weskan  
Defensive Back - Toker Gillespie, senior - Wheatland-Grinnell  
Return Specialist - Jordan Baird, senior - Northern Valley

##### Second Team:

Defensive Line - Shawn Pochop, junior - Cheylin  
Defensive Line - Regan Kats, sophomore - Logan/Palco  
Defensive Line - Joseph Salinas, sophomore - Logan/Palco  
Defensive Line - Ame Baird, junior - Northern Valley  
Defensive Line - Nick Jasper, sophomore - Western Plains  
Defensive Back - Kyle Pakkebier, senior - Logan/Palco  
Defensive Back - Tyler Compton, senior - Weskan  
Defensive Back - Sam Rivera, senior - Western Plains  
Defensive Back - Eddie Frisbie, senior - Cheylin  
Defensive Back - Brant Cox, junior - Northern Valley  
**Honorable Mention:**  
Defensive Line - Kaleb Holaday, sophomore - Wheatland-Grinnell  
Defensive Line - Chance Bedore, senior - Logan/Palco  
Defensive Back - Hayden Walker, senior - Weskan  
Defensive Back - Edgar Valenzuela, sophomore - Weskan  
Defensive Back - Brett Pinkerton, senior - Logan/Palco

# Blue Jays take seventh in St. Francis invite

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity wrestlers placed seventh, just three points out of sixth, in the varsity St. Francis Invitational Wrestling Tournament last Saturday.

Goodland won the championship with 164 points, followed by Sterling, 147; Colby, 114; Wray, 112; St. Francis, 73; Wichita County, 59; Norton, 56; Atwood, 52.5; Trego Community, 48; Holyoke, 47; Greeley County, 18.

"I was very proud of how our wrestlers competed," said Norton assistant coach Shane Miller.

"Although we only placed three wrestlers, the St. Francis Invitational is a challenging tournament to begin the season with the second team.

"A lot of positives came out of this early season tournament and to score 56 points with our young competitors is not bad.

"In the lower weights, Skylar Johnson, 106 and Kade Un-

terseher, 113, proved to be very solid. Skylar recorded two falls on his way to the championship match with Tate Withington of Goodland. Skylar controlled the final match with a 6-2 decision. At 113, Kade Unterseher went 3-1 with his only loss coming to the eventual champion, Colby Duncan from Sterling, in the semifinals. Duncan is a returning state medalist from a year ago when he placed fourth in Class 4A in the Colorado State Championships.

"For his performance, Kade was voted 'Wrestler of the Week'.

"Kyle Bell was also in a great position to come away with a medal but had to injury default in the consolation semifinals. Kyle was wrestling very well and was disappointed in the injury. Hopefully, Kyle will be out for only a short period of time as he is a quality wrestler and will score a lot of points for our second team.

"Mike Kasson, 152, was our only other medalist. The

152 pound bracket was very competitive with several quality wrestlers. Mike started the day with a 3-0 loss to Krier of Sterling. Mike battled his way through the backside, recording two falls to set up a second match with Krier, which he lost 3-1 to place fourth."

Others wrestling for Norton were Trenton Wright, 132; Derek Rowh, 138; Weston Erbert, 145; Maverick Engel, 160; Lance Armbrister, 285.

#### Match results

106 - Skylar Johnson pinned Ernie Leija, Colby, in 3:20; won a 6-2 decision over Tate Withington, Goodland and pinned John Kuhn, Trego, in :15 to place first.

113 - Kade Unterseher was pinned by Colby Duncan, unattached, in 3:41; pinned Brett Binns in :36; pinned Jose Ledesma, Goodland, in 5:06 and pinned Lane Ridder, unattached, in 3:50 to place third.

120 - Kyle Bell won an 11-6 decision over Orlando LeFever, unattached; lost an 8-3 decision

to Aaron Avelar, Goodland.

132 - Trenton Wright pinned Zeke Stone, Greeley County, in 4:14; lost a 9-8 decision to Zack Young, Colby; pinned Blaze Fisher, Wichita County and lost an 18-3 tech fall in 4:30 to Macrae Migchlbink, unattached.

138 - Derek Rowh was pinned in 4:55 by Rhett Mizer, Atwood; was pinned in 1:05 by Garrett Brunk, St. Francis.

145 - Weston Erbert was pinned in 2:41 by John Markland, Atwood; was pinned in 5:38 by Justin Pacheco, St. Francis.

152 - Mike Kasson pinned Corbin Schoenthaler, Trego, in 5:44; pinned Beau Beckman, Wray, in 5:55 and lost a 3-1 decision to Eric Krier, Sterling, to place fourth.

160 - Maverick Engel was pinned in 2:00 by Trace Combs, Wray; was pinned in :32 by Ty-

ler Lowry, Trego.

285 -Lance Armbrister was pinned in 1:53 by Aaron Escamila, Wray; was pinned in 4:00 by Sidney Struckmeyer, unattached.

#### Next action

The Norton junior varsity wrestlers will compete in another varsity tournament, the Southern Valley Invitational, today.

Wrestling will begin at 1 p.m. Teams competing, in addition to Southern Valley and Norton, will be Alma, Arapahoe, Ax-tell, Centura, Elwood, Franklin, Loomis/Bertrand, Med Valley, Red Cloud/Blue Hill, Sandy Creek, Wauneta-Pal and Wilcox-Hildreth.

Three team plaques will be awarded along with four individual medals in each weight class.

## Two Norton players named All-State

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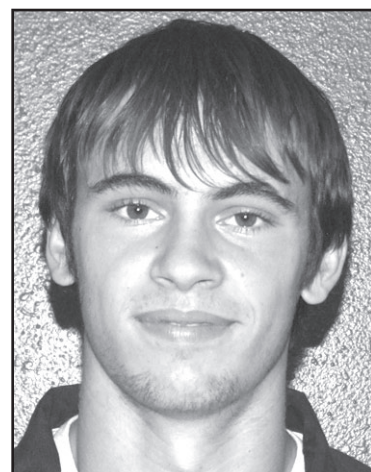
Two Norton senior players, Cole Renner and Austin Hager, have been chosen to the Class 3A All-State Football Team by the Kansas Football Coaches Association.

Renner was chosen on the defensive line where he played tackle. He was also a center on offense. Hager was selected as a defensive back but was also an outstanding kicker for the Blue Jays.

Among Norton opponents, Beloit had three players honored in 3A: Peyton Vetter, quarterback; Bowe Behymer, running back and Bryce Black, offensive line.

## Former Husky to sign with Baker University

2013 Cross Country Captain, sophomore Gunnar Hays, Alma, will sign with Baker University and be a mid-year enrollee. Gunnar was a major factor in Colby Community College winning the college's first ever Region VI Cross Country Championship in 2012 and earned All-Region VI honors in 2013 as he helped Colby repeat as Region VI Cross Country Champions. Gunnar chose Baker over Ottawa University, Wichita State University, Fort Hays State University, and University of Nebraska - Kearney.



Gunnar Hays

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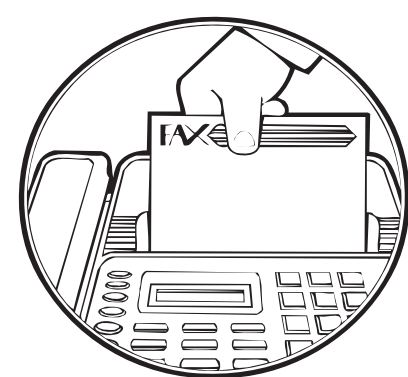
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