

Blue Jay Boosters honor longtime fan



By DICK BOYD

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Sue Rossi of Norton has been named the 22nd recipient of the prestigious "Blue Jay Booster of the Year" award, presented annually by the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club.

Sue received the plaque for the honor during a break in the Norton-Osborne basketball games last Friday in the NCHS Stull Gym in Norton. She received a loud round of applause as the award was presented to her on behalf of the Blue Jay Booster Club by current club president Connie Miller.

The award is given annually to a person in our community who supports Norton Community High School programs and activities in a positive way. "Sue has taken on many leadership roles for our area youth," said Norton basketball announcer David Will over the public address system.

"She is the past Blue Jay Booster Club president and has also served on the Post Prom Committee.

"You will find her serving meals to the cross country or

basketball teams, working in the concession stands, keeping statistics for the basketball games and at the cross country finish line trying to figure out the teams' placing. This only names a few of the ways Sue assists our area youth.

"Sue is a positive role model and an influence on our athletes. Her encouraging words and positive comments are always welcomed by our athletes. She is always complimenting them when they perform well and encourages them when they don't perform as they would have liked.

"Sue is a perfect choice for this award. Thank you, Sue, for everything you do for our area athletes. You make us proud to be a Blue Jay.

"This year, Dan Pfannenstiel, owner of Pfonz's Grill, is donating a \$50 gift card to the Blue Jay Booster of the Year. Dan is a former outstanding Norton athlete and longtime supporter of the NCHS athletic teams. We thank him for his very generous donation for this award!"

Sue works for NWKSEC as an occupational therapist. Sue's husband George Rossi is the NCHS cross country and girls basketball coach. They have three children: Taylor, Kaylen and Treven.

Background of award

The annual award by the Blue Jay Booster Club is made possible by a memorial in honor of the late Tommy Davison, who was considered to be the ulti-



Sue Rossi admires the plaque she received as the latest recipient of the prestigious "Blue Jay Booster of the Year" award during a break in the basketball games with

Osborne last Friday evening in the NCHS Stull Gym in Norton. Looking on is Connie Miller, current president of the booster club, who made the presentation.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

mate Norton Blue Jay sports booster.

The award is based upon nominations by the booster club members of persons who have gone above and beyond as a fan of Norton sports.

Sue's name will be engraved along with the names of previous winners on the plaque in the lobby of the NCHS Stull Gym.

Thank you Sue, for being such a great supporter of the Norton Athletics program for so long.



JV wrestlers perform well in season finale

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity wrestlers completed an outstanding season by medaling nine wrestlers in the annual Bill Voss Novice Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 15 in Colby.

Winning gold medals were: Kade Unterseher, 113; Toby Nickell, 132 and Dalton Vanover, 138. Finishing runner-up were: Kyle Bell, 120; Trenton Wright, 126; Garret Otter, 145; Maverick Engel, 170 and Alex Hjort, 182.

Jordan Dole finished third at 195 pounds.

Also competing for Norton were Derek Rowh, 138 and Layton Miller, 152.

Norton had an outstanding 30-12 won-loss record and an excellent 17-5 pin ratio.

"We had a good tournament showing. It was a nice way to finish the season," said Norton assistant coach Shane Miller.

"Alex Hjort at 182 pounds placed second and is recognized as our 'JV Wrestler of the Week'. Alex had two pins on his way to the finals match. This is Alex's first year in wrestling and he has worked extremely hard in the practice room. It was nice to watch him learn and progress throughout the year and see him put it all together towards the end of the season.

"I always like to watch a group of young men work at something and observe their abilities and confidence as wres-

tlers, and just athletes in general. Several of these young men have the potential to do very well and contribute a great deal to the tradition of Norton wrestling. It should be fun!"

Match results

113A - Kade Unterseher pinned Alex Franco, Garden City, in :37; won an 11-7 decision over Jose Ledesma, Goodland; won an 11-5 decision over Tanner Reed, Colby; pinned Juan Beltran, Liberal, in 2:07; pinned Rance Rumbaugh, Hays, in 3:18.

120 - Kyle Bell pinned Ty Dittmer, Greeley County in :56; pinned Mryna Ruiz, Goodland, in :13 won a 7-0 decision over Kayla Tran, Liberal; pinned Irvin Lozano, Scott City, in :51; lost a 7-4 decision to Chris Vividor, Garden City.

126A - Trenton Wright lost a 5-2 decision to Conrad Vajnar, Hays; won a 12-4 major decision over Tyler Schritter, Colby; won a 15-0 tech fall over Zach Chavez, Greeley County; pinned Daniel Kramer, Garden City, in 1:57.

132A - Toby Nickell won a 19-4 tech fall over Zeke Stone, Greeley County; pinned Keaton Hoft, Phillipsburg, in 1:10; pinned Edgar Valdez, Garden City, in :52; won by an injury default over Stephen Windholz, Hays.

138A - Derek Rowh lost a 7-5 decision to Kevin Aguilera, Scott City; lost an 8-4 decision to Andrew Voss, Colby; lost a 9-1 major decision to Tyler

Park, Oakley; pinned Dylan Unger, Garden City, in 5:32; lost a 5-3 decision to Cade Wurm, Oberlin.

138B - Dalton Vanover pinned Trevor DePriest, Trego Community, in 3:20; pinned Jude Wallinder, Oberlin, in 1:06; pinned Daisy Ramirez, Garden City, in :32; pinned Matt White, St. Francis, in 1:49.

145 - Garret Otter won a 16-4 major decision over Angel Herrera, Garden City; won an 11-6 decision over Sawyer Skolout, Atwood; was pinned in 3:25 by Joshua Martinez, Liberal.

152 - Layton Miller won a 14-7 decision over Drew Stapel, Phillipsburg; was pinned in 4:28 by James Dinkel, Goodland; lost a 5-3 decision to Allen Goff, Trego Community.

170B - Maverick Engel won a 5-1 decision over Chase Holzmeister, Colby; won a 14-4 major decision over Austin Hayes, Hays; lost a 7-0 decision to Brandon Derryberry, Garden City; won by injury default over D.J. Glassman, Goodland.

182B - Alex Hjort pinned Kylee Baca, Lakin, in 2:12; pinned Jorge Martinez, Garden City, in :38; was pinned in :50 by Tre Stewart, Scott City.

195 - Jordan Dole pinned Dayton Kempt, Oberlin, in 1:12; was pinned in 1:47 by Jon Mahathey, Phillipsburg; pinned Brayden Dorzweiler, Hays, in 1:33; pinned Dayton Kempt, Oberlin, in 2:02.

Fort Hays vaulter hits provisional national mark

By DICK BOYD

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Brady Tien, a native of Prairie View who competes in the pole vault for Fort Hays State University, is getting his junior indoor season underway in great fashion.

On Saturday, Feb. 1 in the Concordia Classic in Seward, Neb., he posted a provisional qualifying mark for the second time this season when he cleared 15'7", which matched

his earlier mark.

His clearance was good for a third place finish.

Hitting a provisional mark means he is in the running for being chosen to compete in the NCAA Division II Indoor National Track & Field Meet depending how other athletes do in the pole vault event up until that time.

Brady was the only Fort Hays men's track and field athlete to post a provisional mark in the

meet.

An MIAA Scholar Athlete, Brady also hit provisional marks in the pole vault for both the indoor and outdoor seasons last year.

Brady is the son of Patty and Scott Tien of Prairie View. His grandparents are Ann Tien and the late Henry Tien, Ron Shellito and the late Virginia Shellito and Connie and Doug Rice.

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