

# Norton Blue Jays compete at State track meet

By DICK BOYD

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Eight Norton Community High School girls and boys competed in the 104th Kansas State Track & Field Championships on Friday and Saturday in Cessna Stadium in Wichita.

The six Lady Jays who competed placed 20th out of 41 teams and the two Norton boys competing finished 15th out of 46 teams.

The top four finishers in all events in the four regional meets the week before qualified to compete in the Kansas State Meet, the largest high school track and field meet in the United States! Around 3,500 athletes competed in the meet.

Cheney and Garden Plain switched places from last year's Class 3A girls championship race. Cheney won it this year with 69 points and last year's champion Garden Plain scored 54 to place second this year. The Hiawatha girls placed third with 43 points, followed by Hesston, 41; Marion, 39; Silver Lake, 29.33; Beloit, 28.33; Kingman, 27; Wichita Collegiate, 26; Hutchinson Trinity, 26 in the top ten.

The Norton girls scored 13.5 points. Phillipsburg and Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays tied for 35th with 3 points each.

The Phillipsburg boys placed second last year but earned the title this season with 69 points. Beloit was second with 64 points, followed by Hesston, 55; Caney Valley, 49; Sacred Heart, 43; Wichita Collegiate, 39; Haven, 31, Holcomb, 29; Chaparral, 27.5; Thomas More Prep of Hays, 24 for the top ten teams.

In Class 1A, the Northern Valley girls scored 6 points and the Logan girls tallied 5 points.

Valley Heights was the girls 1A champion with 62 points, followed by Pike Valley, 54; Marais des Cygne, 51; Linn, 37; Wheatland, 31; Minneola, 27.5; Beloit St. John's 24; Triplains, 24; Hoxie, 23, Cunningham, 22 in the top ten. Quinter placed 11th with 19 points, Weskan tied for 18th with 15, Osborne tied for 21st with 12, St. Francis tied for 25th with 10, Cheylin tied for 27th with 9, Golden Plains was 30th with 8.25. Thunder Ridge scored 3 points and Sharon Springs tallied 1 point.

In 1A boys competition, Centralia won the championship with 51 points, followed by Macksville, 48.5; Hanover, 41; Osborne, 37; Valley Heights, 36.5; La Crosse, 35; Linn, 31; Sharon Springs, 30; Otis-Bison, 30 and Stockton 29 to round out the top ten. Hoxie tied for 15th with 17, St. Francis was 20th with 12, Wheatland tied for 23rd with 10, Victoria tied for 28th with 10, Thunder Ridge tied for 37th with 5 and Weskan was 52nd with 1.5.

In Class 2A girls, Marantha Academy won the championship with 62 points, followed

by Ellinwood, 52; Meade, 48.5; Inman, 41; Kowa County, 35.5; El-Saline, 35; Sterling, 31; West Elk, 28.5; Jefferson County North, 28.5 and Moundridge, 28.5 in the top ten. The Oberlin girls placed 12th with 25 points, Atwood was 14th with 22, Ellis was 16th with 21, Smith Center placed 19th with 13, Plainville tied for 31st with 5, Hill City tied for 34th with 4.

Berean Academy won the Class 2A boys championship with 54 points, followed by Washington County, 41; Olpe, 36; Ell-Saline, 35; Smith Center, 35; Plainville, 33; Medicine Lodge, 33, Marantha Academy, 30; Ellinwood, 27; South Central, 27 in the top ten. Ellis tied for 16th with 19, Oakley was 19th with 15, Atwood tied for 33rd with 4, Trego Community tied for 33rd with 4 and Oberlin tied for 39th with 2.

In Class 4A girls, Colby tied for 23rd with 12 points and the Goodland girls tied for 31st with 6. Among Class 4A boys, Goodland tied for 29th with 5 points and Colby tied for 33rd with 5.

**Coach's comments**  
"We had a very good weekend!" said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones. "We are proud of our athletes who represented Norton at the state track meet. As always, they deserve what they earned and their efforts and performances command respect. They did a nice job and this trip was a great conclusion to a great season.

"All of our athletes competed hard and well and their performances reflected that. Earning the right to compete in this meet is a testament to their track and field success and, for earning that chance, they each deserve recognition. It is an honor for them to earn this competitive opportunity.

"Not everything went exactly how we would have scripted it. Cristine Nelson, who made her first appearance at the state meet, finished in 15th overall in the shot put and Bailey Ambrosier medaled in the pole vault with her sixth place finish but she would have loved to finish much higher. Both young ladies handled themselves and their disappointment very well and with class. The chips of competition don't always fall how we would like them to but these two young ladies competed and handled themselves like champions. We are proud of them for that.

"On the flip side, though, we came home with six state medals, one individual state championship and one new school record! On Friday afternoon, Kenzie Esslinger and Bailey Ambrosier both medaled in the pole vault, in eighth and sixth, respectively and Deon Lyle, in his first appearance at the state meet, medaled in third in a very competitive high jump field. Austin Hager finished his high school career by winning an



Norton senior Katelyn Engelbert begins her leg of the Class 3A 4 x 800 meter relay after receiving the baton from junior Sierra Griffith during the Kansas State Track and Field Meet in Wichita last weekend. The Lady Jays' team of Engelbert, Griffith, sophomore Casey Ambrosier and senior Bailey Ambrosier placed second in a school record time of 10:00.77.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton senior Austin Hager is shown reaching toward the sky in one of his vaults during his gold medal performance in the Class 3A pole vault in the Kansas State Track and Field Meet in Wichita last weekend. He cleared 14' to win the event.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

individual state championship in the pole vault! He is a four-year state meet competitor in that event and he closed his career with the finish he has been working towards for four years. We had a great Friday, ending

the day with four medals, one of them gold!

"On Saturday, our performances brought in two more medals. Our girls 4 x 800 meter relay team of junior Sierra Griffith, senior Katelyn Engle-

bert, sophomore Casey Ambrosier and senior Bailey Ambrosier set a new school record by nine seconds in their silver medal-winning performance!

"To close out the day and our meet, Katelyn earned a seventh place medal in the 800 meter run, an event in which she has competed before, finishing outside the medals.

"As a team, it was good to see our girls finish 20th and our boys in 15th. We are exceedingly proud of each one of our athletes for doing what they did as champions, with class, character and pride. These student-athletes finished off a great season for us and for themselves with an impressive showing at the state track and field meet!"

Assisting coach Jones again this season were coaches Dale Engelbert, Lucas Melvin, Doug Reusink and Jeremy Hawks.

**GIRLS**

In placing second with a new NCHS school record in the 4 x 800 meter relay, Sierra Griffith, Katelyn Engelbert, Casey Ambrosier and Bailey Ambrosier were timed in 10:00.77.

Their time broke the previous school record of 10:09.03 set by Bailey Ambrosier, Astrid Moen,

Kamilla Jones and Dustyna Sprigg in the Regional Track Meet in 2011.

Bailey Ambrosier placed sixth in the pole vault with a clearance of 10'. Four of the five girls ahead of her also cleared 10' but with fewer misses. The champion was Alicia Maloney of Marion with a clearance of 10'6".

Norton junior Kenzie Esslinger finished eighth in the pole vault with a clearance of 9'6".

In placing seventh in the 800 meter run in 2:27.46, Katelyn Engelbert was 33 hundredths of a second out of fourth place!

Cristine Nelson heaved the shot 30'5" to place 15th in that event.

**BOYS**

Austin Hager won the gold medal in the pole vault by clearing 14' with fewer misses than Samuel Dreiling of Hays TMP and Jackson Meyer of Rock Creek.

Norton's Deon Lyle finished third in the high jump by clearing 6'4", the same height as Ryan Mayorga, Hays TMP, who placed second with fewer misses. The winner was Nicholas Camper of Caney Valley with a jump of 6'6".

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# Beloit to host All Star football games

The 29th Annual Kansas 8 Man All Star Football games will be played in Beloit on Saturday, June 7th. The Division II game will be held at 1:30 p.m. at Trojan Field on North Hersey Avenue. Pre-game will begin at 1:00 p.m. with introduction of the players.

Jordan Baird, Long Island, has been selected for the West squad. He is a 2014 graduate of Northern Valley High School.

Jordan's football statistics, accomplishments and honors include: 2011: 161 carries for 1160 yards and 17 TD's; 11 pass receptions for 69 yards and 2 TD's; 54 tackles, 1 interception, 7 punt returns for 644 yards, 7 kick returns for 113 yards; 2012: 161 carries for 1160 yards, 17 TD's; 11 pass receptions for 69 yards, 2 TD's; 54 tackles, 1 interception, 7 punt returns for 64 yards and 7 kick returns for 113 yards; 2013: 138 carries for 935 yards, 13 TD's; 16 pass catches for 331 yards, 5 TD's; 62 tackles, 2 interceptions, 6 punt returns for 87 yards, 16 kick returns for 400 yards.

All District 2nd Team Punt Return, Honorable Mention Running Back; All League 2nd Team Running Back and 2nd Team Return Specialist; Hays Daily News Honorable Mention Running Back. 2013: All District 2nd Team Kick Return, 2nd Team Punt Return; All League 1st Team Running Back, 1st Team Return Specialist; Hays Daily News, 2nd Team Running Back.

Northern Valley was Conference Co-Champion in 2012-2013. Honors and accomplishments in other sports include: Basketball: Heart of America Camp in Salina 3 Time All Star Team, 2 Time All Star Game MUPC, 2011, 2013; WKLL All League 2nd Team sophomore year and All League Honorable Mention junior year; Hill City C-Team Tournament All Tournament Team freshman year.

Jordan worked for All American Glass and enjoys sports, fishing, hunting and going to the lake. Honors in school include Academic Honorable Mention

4 years. Jordan's parents are Shane and Kirsten Baird. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University.

Ian Vincent, Long Island, has been selected for the West squad. He is a 2014 graduate of Northern Valley High School.

Football statistics, accomplishments and honors include: 277 career tackles. 2012: Selected 2nd Team WKLL Offensive Team Guard, 1st Team WKLL Defensive Back, All District 1st Team Guard, All District 1st Team Linebacker; 2013: 1st Team WKLL Guard, All District 1st Team Guard, Honorable Mention All-District Linebacker.

Northern Valley was the WKLL Co-Champion in 2012. Ian lettered in Basketball and Track.

He enjoys hunting, farming and sports. Activities and honors in school include: WKLL All-League Academic Team, FFA, Honor Roll, Student Council. Ian's parents are Paul and Tammy Vincent. He plans to at-

tend Kansas State University. Chuck Fessenden, Northern Valley, will be an assistant Coach for Division II West.

He is a 1972 graduate of Clifton High School and a 1976 graduate of Kansas State University with a BS in Mathematics Education.

He has been teaching mathematics and coaching at Northern Valley High School for 38 years. His football team has reached the playoffs 19 times and his overall coaching record is 265-122. Northern Valley won state championships in 1986, 1987, and 1990. They were runner-up in 1982, 1983, 1988, and 1989.

Chuck is currently the head boys basketball coach. His team qualified for the state tournament this past season. He also serves as the head boys and girls track coach.

He and his wife Jennifer have been married for 34 years. They have two daughters, Cathryn (33) and Regan (28), along with 5 grandchildren.

**8-Man All-Star Football Games**  
**Saturday, June 7, 2014**  
**Beloit High Trojan Field**  
N. Hersey Avenue  
Beloit, KS

**Division I -- 10:00 a.m.**  
**Division II -- 1:30 p.m.**

Division II West includes players Jordan Baird and Ian Vincent, plus Coach Chuck Fessenden, Northern Valley

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