

# Blue Jay boys track team earns fifth at Smith Center

**By DICK BOYD**

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School boys track team placed fifth in the Redmen Relays on Tuesday at Smith Center.

Beloit won the championship with 161 points, followed by Thayer Central, 131; Phillipsburg, 101; Belleville, 76; Norton, 60; Smith Center, 53.60; Hoisington, 33; Trego, 25.30.

Norton senior Jered Sloan was missing from the Blue Jay lineup since he will compete in the annual K.U. Relays this weekend. Sloan won the 300 meter intermediate hurdles, 110 meter high hurdles and high jump with a school record-tying height and anchored the Norton 4 x 100 meter relay to second place in the season-opening Norton Invitational Track Meet, which was won by the Blue Jays.

Sloan will run the 300 meter hurdles on Friday afternoon and the 110 meter hurdles on Saturday at K.U.

Senior Joel Griffiths was Norton's toppoint-getter on Tuesday with a first place finish in the shot put with a heave of 50'8.75 inches and a second place in the discus with a distance of 136'2" for 18 total points.

"A first and second place with two solid throws should really bolster Joel's confidence," said Coach Graber. "These throws should raise his expectations for the rest of the season."

Junior Justin Shirk scored in both hurdles events. He placed third in the 110 meter hurdles with a time of 16.69 and fourth in the 300 meter hurdles with a personal best clocking of 45.17.

"Justin showed he is really close to a big breakthrough in the 110 meter hurdles as he again struggled with his step pattern but still finished third," said Coach Graber. "I see him running in the high 15 seconds range in a few weeks."

Freshman Nathan Broeckelman placed fifth in the 300 meter hurdles with a personal best time of 46.27. "We got personal records from both Justin and Nathan in the 300 meter hurdles even though Justin struggled a little with his step pattern," said Coach Graber.

Junior Derek Volgamore placed third in the 1600 meter run with a time of 5:00 and was a member of the 4 x 800 meter relay team which placed fifth with a time of 9:09.77. Volgamore ran his leg in 2:10.76. Other members of the team and their times were: Jared Engelbert, 2:18; Kent Mann, 2:20.35 and Logan Keiswetter, 2:20.66.

"Derek came back after the 4 x 800 meter relay for the first time this season and ran the same time he ran fresh last week in the 1600 meter run," said Coach Graber. "He is struggling with a hip injury which hindered him in the 3200 meter run."

Senior Tom Graham won the bronze medal in the javelin with a personal best throw of 156'4". "Tom improved with every throw and jumped his personal record up by 12 feet over last week," said Coach Graber. "He is really beginning to get it all together with the javelin."

Freshman Blake VanEaton finished fourth in the 400 meter dash, with a time of 53.99, which was less than one second behind the second place finisher. "Blake ran a very solid race and showed that rookies can compete at this level," said Coach Graber.

Freshman Logan Keiswetter finished in fifth place in the 3200 meter run with a time of 11:24.79.

Sophomore Heath Vincent placed sixth in the discus with a personal best throw of 121'3". "Heath improved his personal record by 20 feet in the discus and that is a huge jump," said Coach Graber. "I'm really proud of his efforts."

Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team placed sixth with a clocking of 47.42. Team members and their splits were: VanEaton, 10.97; Nick McKee, 11.66; Charlie Kohfeld, 11.82; Lucas Wiseman, 12.97.

Junior Lucas Wiseman came within 2.75 inches of placing in the triple jump. He leaped 37'11". "Lucas jumped a very solid distance in his first effort in the triple jump," said Coach Graber. "He showed me a great deal about which to get excited."

Sophomore Andrew Ables set a personal record in the javelin throw with a 91'3" effort but did not place. "Andrew improved his personal record by approximately seven feet in a good, tough competition," said Coach Graber.

Norton's weight man 4 x 100 meter relay team placed second with a time of 49.83. Team members and their splits were: Ables, 10.91; Blake Hillebrand, 12.18; Vincent, 12.78; Graham, 13.96.

"Our weight men had a lot of fun and ran very well," said Coach Graber. "They handled the exchanges extremely smoothly."

Competing but not placing and their times and distances were: Kohfeld, 12.54; Lance Roe, 12.17, 100 meter dash; Kohfeld, 25.7; VanEaton, 25.0, 200 meter dash; Mann, 2:23.1; Jared Engelbert, 2:20.6; Jason Green, 2:31.9, 800 meter run; Keiswetter, 5:19; Eric Burton, 6:10, 1600 meter run; Volgamore, 12:40; Burton, 14:10.0, 3200 meter run; Vincent, 40'3"; Graham, 36'7.75", shot put; Hillebrand, 116', discus; Hillebrand, 91'3", javelin; Broeckelman, 5'6", high jump; Roe, 9'6"; Broeckelman, missed opening height, pole vault; McKee, 17'10"; Burton, 16'10"; Wiseman, 16'6.75", long jump; McKee, 37'3.75", triple jump; McKee, 56.3; Wiseman, 59.49; Broeckelman, 58.3; VanEaton, 54.38; team 3:48.2, 4 x 400 meter relay.

"I think we will bounce back next week in areas where we didn't perform quite as well today and show improvement," said Coach Graber. "We've been battling quite a few injuries to a number of our athletes but we had a lot to be happy about in terms of our performance."

**Next action**

On Monday, the Norton boys and girls will compete in the Freshman-Sophomore Track Meet in WaKeeney, beginning at 4 p.m.

The Blue Jay boys and girls varsity will compete in the Plainville Invitational Meet on Tuesday, beginning at 3:30 p.m.



Lady Jay sophomore Amanda Antrim handed the baton to sophomore Naomi Streck during the 4 x 100 meter relay at the Redmen Relays in Smith Center on Tuesday. Other relay members were sophomores Chelsea Cox and Karlie Jones. They finished second in 54.08 seconds.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

## Girls do well at Redmen Relays

**By DICK BOYD**

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School girls track team placed fifth in the Redmen Relays Track Meet on Tuesday in Smith Center.

Beloit won the team title with 149.5 points, followed by Belleville, 124; Smith Center, 107; Hoisington, 55; Norton, 51.5; Thayer Central, 50; Trego, 27; Phillipsburg, 22.

The Lady Jays' pole vaulters scored 15 points. Sophomore Chelle Donovan and sophomore Amanda Antrim cleared 8'6". Donovan placed second and Antrim third. Sophomore Amber Overlease finished in sixth place with a vault of 7'. "All three young ladies vaulted very well," said Coach Graber.

**Season's best**

Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team placed second with a season's best clocking of 54.08. Team members and their splits were: sophomore Chelsea Cox, 12.98; sophomore Karlie Jones, 13.19; Antrim, 13.87; sophomore Naomi Streck, 14.04.

"Our 4 x 100 meter girls did a great job with the stick with smooth exchanges at each pass," said Coach Graber. "Antrim got us out to a great start and the girls just kept it going from there. I'm really proud of this group!"

Antrim also placed third in the 100 meter dash in 13.77. "Amanda had a great run in the 100 meter dash," said Coach Graber. "She showed that she will be a presence in that event this season."

Junior Amber Engelbert placed fourth in the 100 meter hurdles in 17.8 and fourth in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 54.1. "Amber is just a fighter," said Coach Graber. "She isn't the quickest hurdler out there but she competes every time she lines up!"

Cox set a personal record in the triple jump with a leap of 30'7.5" to place third.

"Chelsea improved dramatically and came through with a third place finish," said Coach Graber.

Norton's 4 x 400 meter relay team placed fourth with a time of 4:38.8. Team members and splits were: Cox, 66.7; Jones, 69.16; Overlease, 71.24; freshman Hannah Mills, 71.7.

The Lady Jays' 4x800 meter relay team finished in fifth place with a clocking of 11:25.66. Team members and splits were: Jones, 2:47.24; Overlease, 2:51.0; sophomore Rachael Lentz, 2:52.28; sophomore Whitney Newell, 2:55.14.

Lentz tied for fifth place in the high jump with a height of 4'2", which was a new personal record.

Placing sixth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 30.57 was Streck.

Although she did not place in either event, sophomore Klaire Mann set a personal record in the discus with a distance of 93'1" and personal record in the shot put with a heave of 29'1". "Klaire had a great day with two personal records," said Coach Graber. "She increased her distance in the discus by 10 feet."

"We had a tough day in the distance runs against a very tough bunch of distance runners. I think a lot of it is a confidence factor because our girls have run well in their workouts."

"Overall, we just need to get healthy, keep working hard and keep believing in our training and our abilities."

Times and distances of girls who did not place were: Danece Payne, 19.8, 100 meter high hurdles; Chelle Donovan, 14.95; Naomi Streck, 14.67, 100 meter dash; Hannah Mills, 30.85, 200 meter dash; Chelsea Cox, 66.51; Karlie Jones, 67.09; Alyssa Kaus, 72.99, 400 meter dash; Whitney Newell, 2:54.8; Amber Overlease, 2:53.8, 800 meter run; Amy Myers, 6:34; Jessica Nielsen, 6:37; Rachael Lentz, 6:44, 1600 meter run; Rachael Lentz, 14:20; Amy Myers, 14:03; Jessica Nielsen, 14:36, 3200 meter run; Laura Delimont, 25'7"; Elise Engelbert, 27'3.75", personal best, shot put; Laura Delimont, 85'4"; Elise Engelbert, 76'7", discus; Laura Delimont, 61'7"; Klaire Mann, 68'4"; Elise Engelbert, 70'5", javelin; Hannah Mills, didn't make opening height, high jump; Whitney Newell, 12'9"; Danece Payne, 12', long jump; Danece Payne, 26'7", triple jump.

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