



Norton senior Joel Griffiths set a personal record with a throw of 147'4" to win the discus event at the Plainville Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday. Griffiths also won the shot put with a heave of 46'9.5".

— Telegram photos by Dick Boyd

Norton boys are champions at Plainville track meet Tuesday

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School boys track team edged Phillipsburg 171-170 to win the team championship at the Plainville Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday in Plainville.

The Blue Jays held a 163-160 lead after outscoring Phillipsburg 15-6 in the 3200 meter run, the next to last event. The Panthers won the 4 x 400 meter relay, the final event of the day, but Norton placed second to lose only two points to Phillipsburg and win the title.

The team victory by the Blue Jays featured eight first place finishes, four of them by senior hurdler, jumper Jared Sloan.

Sloan set a new school record in the high jump when he cleared 6'5". In the first meet of the season (Norton Invitational), where Norton also edged Phillipsburg for the team championship, Sloan tied the record of 6'4 1/4" set by Cam Danielson in 1972. Sloan was held out of the Redmen Relays a week ago Tuesday since he competed last weekend in the Kansas University Relays.

Competing for the first time this season in the long jump on Tuesday, Sloan won that event with a personal best leap of 21'3". He also won the 110 meter hurdles in 14.9 and the 300 meter intermediate hurdles in 41.3.

"Jered jumped well at Plainville," said Coach Graber. "He had not long jumped in practice this season. In the high jump, we quit after he made 6'5". He was having a great day jumping and probably could have gone higher. His hurdle times were not as good as normal due to the wind."

In the relays, which attracted top runners from Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma and Colorado, Sloan tied for fourth in the 110 meter hurdles with a 14.65 time and tied for fifth in the 300 meter hurdles in 39.45. "It was a great weekend for him," said Coach Graber. "He had fun, competed well and ran well technique-wise."

Senior thrower Joel Griffiths won two gold medals for the Blue Jays. He set a personal record in throwing the discus 147'4" and won the shot put with a heave of 46'9.5". "Joel had another great day with two first place finishes," said Coach Graber.

Junior Derek Volgamore ran strong to win the 1600 meter run with a time of 5:04. With a hip injury bothering him, he also ran steady in the 3200 meter run where he finished third in 12:13.9. "Derek really turned it on the last 200 meters of the 3200 to place third," said Coach Graber.

"There were many places where you could see people fighting through pain and adversity. When

it really counted, our people competed. That extra point that gave us the championship could have come from many places."

Senior Jared Foley showed that he is recovering from a leg injury as he earned the gold medal in the 200 meter dash with a career best time of 23.18. Foley was also a member of Norton's 4 x 400 meter relay team which ended the day with a second place finish with a clocking of 3:41.08. Foley was also a member of the 4 x 100 meter relay team which did not finish due to a handoff problem. "It was sure nice getting Jared Foley back," said Coach Graber. "He ran a personal best in the 200 meters and gave us a lift in the 4 x 400 meter relay. If we can keep him healthy, it will be a huge key for us."

Members of the 4 x 400 meter relay team and their time splits were: junior Seth Mills, 57.44; senior Nick McKee, 56.12; Foley, 53.86; freshman Blake VanEaton, 53.66. "Our 4 x 400 meter relay runners knew they had to stay close to Phillipsburg and they all really ran hard," said Coach Graber.

Freshman Logan Keiswetter had a good day in the distance races. He placed second in the 3200 meter run with a time of 11:48.5 and fourth in the 1600 meter run in 6:28 and sixth in the 3200 meter run in 14:31.3, to earn two valuable points that were enough to make the difference in the team race.

Burton also anchored the 4 x 800 meter relay team which placed second with a time of 10:17.5. Team members and their time splits were: freshman Jared Engelbert, 2:28.5; freshman Kent Mann, 2:34.97; junior Jason Green, 2:35.42 and Burton, 2:38.61.

"Our distance runners did not have any great times with the wind blowing pretty hard but scored quite a few points," said Coach Graber. "Eric Burton's two points were big."

Mann and Engelbert scored valuable points in the 800 meter run. Mann placed second with a time of 2:20.5 and Engelbert was right behind him in third with a time of 2:21.2. "Our two rookies in the 800 meter run were outstanding," said Coach Graber.

"Placing second and third really helped."

Junior Justin Shirk placed second in the 110 meter hurdles with a time of 16.3 and sixth in the 300 meter hurdles in 46.3.

Freshman Nathan Broeckelman finished fifth in the 300 meter hurdles with a clocking of 45.7 and also placed third in the high jump with a personal best height of 5'10". "Broeckelman added four inches to his personal best in the high jump," said Coach Graber.

Sophomore Lance Roe set a personal record in the pole vault with a 12' vault to place second. Freshman Blake VanEaton finished third in the 400 meter dash with a time of 56.7. Junior Lucas Wiseman set a personal record with a 39'2.5" distance to place third in the triple jump.

Senior Tom Graham threw the javelin 136'6.5" to place fourth.

Norton's weight man 4 x 100 meter relay team placed second with a time of 49.95. Team members and time splits were: sophomore Andrew Ables, 11.3; junior Blake Hillebrand, 12.29; Griffiths, 12.87; Graham, 13.49.

Members of the 4 x 100 meter relay team, along with Foley, are Mills, VanEaton and McKee.

Times and distance of those who competed but did not place were: Seth Mills, 11.86; Charlie Kohfeld, 12.15; Lance Roe, 12.5, 100 meter dash; Charlie Kohfeld, 25.56, 200 meter dash; Nick McKee, 58.8; Lucas Wiseman, 64.5, 400 meter dash; Jason Green, 2:30.8, 800 meter run; Heath Vincent, 39'4"; Blake Hillebrand, 39'2.25", personal best shot put; Blake Hillebrand, 105'11"; Heath Vincent, 105'2", discuss; Andrew Ables, 95'11", personal best; Blake Hillebrand, 101'9.25", javelin; Nathan Broeckelman, no place, pole vault; Blake VanEaton, 17'9.5", personal best; Eric Burton, 17'8", personal best, long jump; Nick McKee, 37'1", triple jump.

Next action

The Norton varsity boys and girls track squads are competing today in the Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet which began at 3:30 p.m.

The freshmen and sophomores will compete Monday in the Hill City Invitational, which begins at 4 p.m.



Blue Jay junior Derek Volgamore puts on a finishing kick to win the gold medal in the 1600 meter run at the Plainville Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday.

— Telegram photos by Dick Boyd

Norton girls win Plainville meet

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School girls track team won the championship of the Plainville Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday.

The Lady Jays scored 111 points. Second place was Hill City with 102 points, followed by Ellis, 95; Phillipsburg, 78; Plainville, 64; Stockton, 53; Natoma, 51.

Norton won only three events and placed second in just three events but had enough team strength to earn plenty of third through sixth places to secure the team victory, their first this season. "Our ladies showed a lot of stuff," said Coach Graber. "They were clawing and scratching and getting points wherever they could."

"It's nice for these girls to come home with a win; they work so hard. As young and thin as we are at some events, it is hard to compete for a title."

"Our distance runners had to fight the wind but they got quite a few points."

Norton scored 12 points in the 1600 meter run and 15 points in the 3200 meter run. Senior Amy Myers placed second in the 3200 meters with a time of 14:14. Senior Jessica Nielsen finished in third place with a clocking of 14:53.9. Junior Crista Rhoades placed sixth in 17:18.

In the 1600 meters, sophomore Amber Overlease placed third with a time of 6:37.1. Myers was right behind her in fourth place with a time of 6:39.7. Sophomore Rachael Lentz finished fifth with a clocking of 6:46.2.

Norton's 4 x 400 meter relay team won the gold medal with a time of 4:36.52. The Lady Jays led Hill City 101 to 94 for the team title

with just the 4 x 400 meter relay remaining. Hill City finished second in the relay to earn eight points so Norton's ten points were crucial in the team race.

Relay team members for Norton and their time splits were: sophomore Chelsea Cox, 68.9; sophomore Amanda Antrim, 69.0; sophomore Karlie Jones, 69.02; sophomore Naomi Streck, 69.6.

Sophomore Klaire Mann heaved the shot 30'4" to win that event and Antrim won the pole vault with a height of 8'.

Norton's 4 x 400 meter relay team placed second with a time of 11:22.39. Team members and time splits were: Jones, 2:46.78; Overlease, 2:50.8; Lentz, 2:51.83 and sophomore Whitney Newell, 2:52.98.

Cox won the silver medal in the triple jump with a distance of 30'6.5". Cox was third in the 400 meter dash in 68.1.

Jones finished third in the 800 meter run in 2:48.0.

Norton's 4 x 100 meter relay team placed third with a time of 55.18. Team members and time splits were: Jones, 12.78; freshman Hannah Mills, 13.8; Cox, 14.28; Antrim, 14.32.

Junior Amber Engelbert placed fourth in the 100 meter high hurdles with a time of 18.1 and fourth in the 300 meter hurdles in 55.6 seconds.

Freshman Lacey Roe threw the javelin 93'9" to place fourth.

Fifth place in the shot put went to senior Elise Engelbert with a distance of 27'3".

Placing sixth in their events were Antrim, 13.78, 100 meter dash; sophomore Danielle LeClair, 75.5, 400 meter dash; Mann, 78'1", personal record, discuss; Lentz, 4'8", personal record,

high jump; sophomore Danae Payne, 28'1", triple jump.

Times and distances of girls who entered but did not place were: Kylee Witt, 19.54; Payne, 19.61, 100 meter hurdles; Witt, 61.85; Payne, 61.2, 300 meter hurdles; Streck, 14.34; Mills, 14.34, personal record, 100 meter dash; Streck, 29.9, 200 meter dash; Alyssa Kauter, 2:58.5; Lentz, 2:57.6, 800 meter run; Roe, 21'6", shot put; Roe, 58'2"; Elise Engelbert, 75'6", discuss; Elise Engelbert, 72'7", javelin; Overlease, 6'6", pole vault; Newell, 13'3"; Witt, 12'1"; LeClair, 12'.25", long jump.

Next action

Norton's varsity girls and boys are competing today in the Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet, which began at 3:30 p.m.

The freshmen and sophomores will compete on Monday in the Hill City Invitational, beginning at 4 p.m.

Legion will hold baseball meeting

The organizational meeting and first practice of the season for the Norton American Legion baseball team will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the American Legion Field, said Coach Craig Foley.

Players who are unable to attend Saturday's meeting and practice are asked to call Coach Foley at 877-3162.

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