

# Norton girls, boys win track championships

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bruce Graber's Norton Community High School girls track team remained undefeated and his boys track team won their second meet in a row on Friday when they competed in the Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet at Phillipsburg High School. The Lady Jays compiled 138 points to outdistance second place Phillipsburg, who scored 101. Third place went to Smith Center with 60, followed by Victoria, 47; Russell, 25.

In the boys division, Norton totaled 136 points and Phillipsburg was second with 119.5, followed by Smith Center, 46; Russell, 40.5; Victoria, 33.

The Norton girls and boys each won gold medals in seven of the 18 events.

"We made several changes in our relay teams and that gave some youngsters a better opportunity to perform in individual events," said Coach Graber.

"The new people we ran all stepped up and performed very well.

"The sweep of men's and women's meets was especially sweet as we have always struggled at Phillipsburg for some reason. I was very proud of our youngsters as they all competed very well, even those who had their struggles.

"Sweeping two meets in a row is a credit to the work ethic these youngsters have demonstrated so far. I really think these girls and boys are having fun and understand if we stay focused on just getting better every day, we have an opportunity to do some special things this spring."

## GIRLS

Freshman Laura Lee Baird won three gold medals. She finished first in the 800 meter run in a personal best time of 2:29.28 and first in the 1600 meter run in 5:48.93. She also anchored Norton's gold medal winning 1600 meter relay team which was timed in a season's best 4:30.9 and anchored the Lady Jays' silver medal winning 3200 meter relay team which had a season's best clocking of 11:31.09.

Individual time splits in the 1600 meter relay were: sophomore Courtney LeClair, 68.2; senior Chelsea Cox, 71.1; freshman KaraJo Jones, 68.9 and Baird, 62.2. Norton was in third place when Baird received the baton. She immediately started gaining on the two runners ahead of her. After passing the second place runner, she chased Phillipsburg's Stacy Rachow to the finish line and just edged her to win the gold medal in a photo finish!

Time splits in the 3200 meter relay were: freshman Taylor Rossi, 2:51.8; freshman Katharine Roy, 3:04.9; Jones, 2:47.7 and Baird, 2:46.

"Nothing Laura Lee Baird does should surprise me but her anchor leg of 62 seconds on the 1600 meter relay was just awesome," said Coach Graber.

Freshman Hayli Bozarth scored points in three throwing events. She was second in the discus with a personal best throw of 104'5", third in the shot put with a heave of 34'1" and fourth in the javelin with a personal best throw of 98'8".

"This was an outstanding meet for Hayli Bozarth who set two personal records," said Coach Graber.

"She continues to improve day by day. She is a very dedicated young athlete."

LeClair also won three gold medals in the meet. In addition to running in the 1600 meter relay, she won the 300 meter low hurdles in a personal best time of 49.23 and won the 100 meter hurdles in 16.5. She also scored points in a fourth event when she placed second in the triple jump with a distance of 31'8".

"Courtney LeClair had two outstanding hurdles races with a personal record in the 300 meter hurdles and scored points for us in two other events," said Coach Graber.

In addition to running on the 1600 meter and 3200 meter relay teams, Jones scored points in two other events. She won the gold medal in the 400 meter dash with a personal record time of 65.6 and placed second in the 200 meter dash in 29.19.

"KaraJo Jones ran a personal record time in winning the 400 meter dash after also running a personal best 800 meter leg in the 3200 meter relay," said Coach Graber. "She also came in second in the 200 meter dash.

"KaraJo is quickly becoming a force to be reckoned with in several events."

Senior Jaelyn Krueger scored points in three events. She placed second in the 100 meter dash in 13.9, fourth in the long jump with a leap of 14'3" and was a member of the 400 meter relay team which placed second with a season's best time of 55.2. Team members and time splits were: junior Hannah Mills, 15.76; Krueger, 13.0; Chelsea Cox, 14.7; senior Naomi Streck, 12.60.

"This was Jaelyn Krueger's best day ever as a Blue Jay track athlete as far as point production is concerned," said Coach Graber. "I'm very proud of her."

Winning the pole vault again



was senior Chelle Donovan with a height of 9'. Senior Amanda Antrim was third with a clearance of 7'6" and Rossi was fourth with a 7' height.

Junior Lacey Roe finished second in the javelin throw with a distance of 101'3".

Rossi placed third in the 3200 meter run with a time of 14:00.

Chelsea Cox placed third in the triple jump with a distance of 31'1.5" and fifth in the 400 meter dash in 70.2.

Streck placed third in the 100 meter dash in 14.0, third in the 200 meter dash in 29.53 and fifth in the long jump with a leap of 14'1".

Mills placed fourth in the 100 meter dash in 14.15 and fifth in the 200 meter dash in 29.8.

Senior Amber Waggoner placed fifth in the 100 meter dash in 14.38.

Roy finished third in the high jump with a clearance of 4'4" and sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 29'10".

Freshman Wiyanna Paxton placed fourth in the shot put with a distance of 32'6".

Sophomore Courtney Cox finished sixth in the 1600 meter run in 7:26.

Norton girls performances that did not score were: senior Klaire Mann, 87'6", sophomore Chantille Campbell, 88'11", junior Laura Delimont, 91'2.75", discus; Campbell, 72'5"; Paxton, 80'7", javelin; Mann, 30'10"; Delimont, 29'3", shot put; Mills, 12'6"; Waggoner, 11'11", long jump; Courtney Cox, 3:14, 800 meter run; Waggoner, 30.3, 200 meter dash.

## BOYS

Blue Jay junior Kent Mann won



At left, Norton junior Kent Mann hits the tape to win the John Mason Mile for the second straight year in the Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet on Friday at Phillipsburg High School. At right, Kent and Norton Coach Bruce Graber admire the traveling trophy donated by John Mason of Phillipsburg, who was one of the top distance runners in the world in his prime. The trophy is presented each year to the winner of the race. Kent's name will be engraved on the trophy for the second straight year and it will be on display at Norton Community High School until next year's race.

— Telegram photos by Dick Boyd

the John Mason Mile for the second straight year with a personal best time of 4:52.5. His name will be engraved again on the large traveling trophy donated by world class runner John Mason, former Phillipsburg High School state champion and Fort Hays State University All-American.

As it has been the past year, the trophy will be on display at Norton Community High School until next year's race.

Mann also placed second in the 3200 meter run in 11:15 and fifth in the 800 meter run in 2:23.

"Kent Mann winning the John Mason Mile trophy for the second straight year was the highlight of the meet," said Coach Graber.

"He came back 10 minutes after running the open 800 to get us a second place finish in the 3200 behind teammate Logan Keiswetter."

Keiswetter, a junior, won the 3200 meter run with a time of 11:12. Keiswetter also anchored the 3200 meter relay team to a gold medal with a season's best time of 9:09.13 and placed fourth in the 1600 meter run in 5:17.

"Logan Keiswetter had a great day," said Coach Graber. "He made a super effort in winning the 3200 meter run."

Members of the 3200 meter relay and their times were: junior Blake VanEaton, 2:11; junior Jared Bebb, 2:19; junior Jared Engelbert, 2:15; Keiswetter, 2:22.

Freshman Zach Bainter placed third in the 1600 meter run with a personal best time of 5:10 and fourth in the 3200 meter run in 11:23.

"Kent Mann, Logan Keiswetter and Zach Bainter took the drama out of the men's team race with super efforts in the 3200 meter run," said Coach Graber.

In addition to running on the gold medal winning 3200 meter relay team, VanEaton scored points in three other races. He won the 400 meter dash in 52.6, placed second in the 200 meter dash in 23.76 and anchored the second

place 1600 meter relay team which was timed in 3:45.8.

Team members and time splits were: junior Nathan Broeckelman, 57.6; sophomore Jared Cox, 56.2; junior Brett Thomson, 57.7; VanEaton, 54.2.

"Blake VanEaton had another good day, scoring in four events," said Coach Graber.

Cox won both hurdles races. He was timed in 43.02 in the 300 meter hurdles and in 16.15 in the 100 meter high hurdles.

Junior Nic Lewis placed second in the 110 meter hurdles with a clocking of 16.94 and sophomore Wes Georgeson finished third in the 110s in 17.16. Lewis had a good race going in the 300 meter hurdles until he hit a hurdle and fell. He got up and finished in 48.6.

Lewis also placed third in the triple jump with a distance of 38'6" and third in the high jump with a clearance of 5'6".

"Jared Cox, Nic Lewis and Wes Georgeson going 1-2-3 in the 110 meter hurdles was huge in our effort to win the men's division," said Coach Graber.

"Nic and Wes are improving by leaps and bounds."

Senior weightman Heath Vincent had another good meet as he won silver medals in both the shot put and discus. He heaved the shot 45'11" and threw the discus 130'5".

"Heath Vincent had another solid day," said Coach Graber. "Heath has become a very dependable source of team points in the shot and discus."

In addition to running on the gold medal winning 3200 meter relay team, Engelbert won the gold medal in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:14.9.

Broeckelman won three silver medals and a bronze. In addition to running on the 1600 meter relay team, he placed second in the high jump by clearing 5'8", second in the pole vault with a height of 11' and ran on the 400 meter relay team which placed third.

"Nathan Broeckelman stepped

up with second place finishes in the pole vault and high jump," said Coach Graber. "He had a solid day in both events."

Norton's 400 meter relay team was timed in 46.8 and placed third. Team members and time splits were: Thomson, 12.5; Broeckelman, 12.15; senior Andrew Ables, 11.12; senior Lance Roe, 10.96.

Thomson placed fourth in the 100 meter dash in 11.75 and sixth in the 200 meter dash in 24.51. Ables had the seventh best time in the 200 meter dash with a clocking of 24.6.

Sophomore Logan Kats finished third in the 400 meter dash with a personal best time of 56.5.

Bebb placed fourth in the 800 meter run in 2:20.

Norton boys performances which did not place were: freshman Zach Dreyer, 99'8", discus; Ables, 116'3"; Dreyer, 111'7"; senior Josh VanSki, 100'10"; personal record, javelin; Ables, 42'1"; Dreyer, 35'1"; Josh VanSki, 30'8", shot put; sophomore Tanner Griffith, 9'6", pole vault; sophomore Todd Bolt, 17'5"; Griffith, 17'1.5"; Georgeson, 16', long jump; Bolt, 36'7"; Griffith, 37'1"; Georgeson, 34'7", triple jump; Kats, 12.45; Bolt, 12.44, 100 meter dash; Luke VanSki, 5:52, 1600 meter run; Georgeson, 52.0, 300 meter hurdles; Luke VanSki, 13:09, 3200 meter run.

The Norton Invitational Track Meet, which had been postponed from April 7 due to inclement weather, was rescheduled for today but was canceled this morning due to cold, rainy weather.

According to Norton Athletic Director Larry Mills, the meet will be re-scheduled again if an open date is available.

Next action for the Norton girls and boys track teams will be this Friday in the Goldsmith Relays in WaKeeney, beginning at 3:30 p.m.



Norton freshman Laura Lee Baird passes Stacy Rachow of Phillipsburg as she nears the finish line in the 1600 meter relay race in the Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet on Friday at Phillipsburg High School. Laura Lee and teammates sophomore Courtney LeClair, senior Chelsea Cox and freshman KaraJo Jones won the race with a season best time of 4:30.9.

# Norton golfers fifth at Hill City

By DICK BOYD

Coach David Stover's Norton Community High School varsity golf team shot their low score of the season on Friday to place fifth in the Hill City Invitational Golf Tournament in Hill City.

Phillipsburg won the team championship with a score of 311, followed by Trego Community, 319; Plainville, 324; Stockton, 329; Norton, 330; Ellis, 337; Grinnell, 337; Hill City, 342; Hoxie, 344; Osborne, 357; Oberlin, 381; Ness City, 403.

Norton senior Dane Krizek, who has been injured, played his first tournament of the season and shot the low score for the Blue Jays to take No. 6 medalist. Krizek shot a 41-37-78. He was followed by senior Clay Madden with a 38-45-83; junior Michael Ward, 40-44-84 and senior Jordan Herman, 42-43-85.

Also playing for Norton and

their scores were: junior Pat Burton, 47-42-89 and sophomore Preston Herman, 48-49-97.

Medalists were: Travis Yoxall, Phillipsburg, 74; Darren Goetz, Grinnell, 75; Nathan Locke, Trego, 76; Brett Mickelson, Ellis, 76; Aaron Roberts, Hill City, 77; Dane Krizek, 78; Justin Lacy, Plainville, 78; Chris Delzer, Phillipsburg, 78; Joe Monroe, Phillipsburg, 78; Grant Kollman, Stockton, 79.

Krizek and Ward are the only two returning letter winners on the Norton team.

"I was very pleased with our play," said Coach Stover. "We took advantage of ideal scoring conditions to shoot what is easily our best score of the season."

"We are still making mistakes at inopportune times but we are cutting down on that number as indicated by the improved results.

"It was good to get Dane back in the lineup after battling an injury problem and he shot a very solid opening round of the season to earn sixth place individual honors.

"We also received career-best tournament rounds from Clay Madden, Michael Ward, Jordan Herman and Pat Burton.

"I am pleased with the progress we are making to this point but will continue to look for consistency as we head into the stretch run."

## Next action

The Smith Center Junior Varsity Invitational Golf Tournament will be held today with tee off set for 3 p.m.

Norton will split varsity teams to compete on Thursday in the Trego Invitational at WaKeeney, beginning at 9 a.m. and the Logan Invitational on the sand greens golf course at Logan, beginning at 3 p.m.