

# Blue Jay variety

## Time to check out the fall athletes

By DICK BOYD

The fall sports season at Norton Community High School will begin with food drive scrimmages on Friday and Saturday.

Admission to tennis, cross country, volleyball and football activities is a canned good, non-perishable food item, laundry or dish soap or deodorant for God's Pantry in Norton.

"We've added laundry soap, dish soap, deodorant and even diapers to the list of items we accept as donations because we thought these things are about as important to a family as food," said Elaine Mann, chairman of the non-profit food pantry.

"Our stock is low enough that we are spending money to purchase items so you can see that anything and everything that can be used by needy families is welcome.

"It warms your heart to see everyone giving so generously. The people in this county are wonderful at taking care of their own.

We'll receive checks in the mail, donations from churches or even anonymous bags of groceries left on our doorstep.

"The people who receive these necessities always express their gratitude to the community."

Connie Johnson, treasurer, and Michael Woodyard are also instrumental in the operation of God's Pantry.

Boxes for donated items will be placed at entrances for the scrimmages.

"Thank you for your support for our teams and also for your support of God's Pantry," said Norton Community High School Athletic Director Larry Mills.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Fans will get their first look at Norton's cross country team at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the Pool Park.

You are invited to meet the team members and take photos.

### TENNIS

Everyone is invited to meet the high school tennis team at 4 p.m. Friday at the tennis courts in the

Swimming Pool Park.

After fans have taken pictures, everyone is invited to stay for team matches.

### VOLLEYBALL

See and meet members of the volleyball team on Friday in the high school gym.

You may take pictures of your favorite players, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The scrimmage will begin at 6 p.m.

### FOOTBALL

Fans may take pictures of the football team, beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday at Travis Field. The scrimmage will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Fans of the Norton Junior High football team will want to be present at 8 a.m. at Travis Field for a scrimmage while pictures are being taken of the high school players.

In addition to the seventh and eighth-grade scrimmage, an eighth and ninth-grade scrimmage is tentatively scheduled for later in the morning.

# Elmwood Park Speedway features new faces in Saturday victory lane

By MIKE HUGHES

With only one repeat feature winner, several new faces appeared in victory lane at Elmwood Park Speedway in Norton on Saturday evening, Aug. 19.

'The Red Cloud Rocket,' Lonnie Schriener of Red Cloud, Neb., made the trip worthwhile with his first feature win in the IMCA Modified division at Elmwood Park. Schriener is the current point-leader at Mid-Nebraska Speedway in Doniphan, where he competes on Saturday night; however, with a rainout there, Schriener headed to the 1/2-mile oval at Norton.

After winning the first heat race, Schriener took advantage of his front row starting spot in the feature to grab the lead on lap 2 from Brice Riley and score the win.

Several cautions bunched the field throughout the race, but Schriener was up to the challenge. David Murray Jr. worked his way to second with Tim Watts and Brandon Blochlinger close behind.

Rick Schwab rounded out the top five. However, following the race, track officials docked Murray 2 positions for contact on Blochlinger late in the race in turn 2, moving Watts and Blochlinger both up one position. Brian Calhoun won the other heat race.

Smith Center's Jason McCartney picked up his first win in the IMCA Stock Car feature. McCartney led the first five laps before being passed by Jason Schoenberger on lap 6. But on the following lap, Schoenberger stalled on the track which brought

out a caution. Schoenberger would then retire to the pits. McCartney then led the field back to green and was able to hold off a determined J.R. McCreery for the win. Jason Rogers was a close third, followed by Tyler Hahn and Cory Struckhoff. Schoenberger and McCartney won the two heat races.

Norton's Kelly Karnopp was the lone repeat winner on the night, scoring his fifth IMCA Hobby Stock feature win. Karnopp took the lead from Logan's Dustin McClurg on lap 4 and led the rest of the way in the caution free 15-lap race. Adam Balthazor was second, trailed by McClurg, Brady Schoen and Jerry Hudson. Karnopp also was victorious in the heat race.

Mike Hockemeier and Jim Ellis of Arapahoe and Edison, Neb., scored their first Cruiser feature win. The Nebraska duo led the first two laps before heat race winners Joe and Jim Carter of Russell took over the top spot.

But on the following lap, the Carters lost a wheel in turn 4, ending their night. Hockemeier and Ellis inherited the lead on the restart and led the remaining 6 laps to the checkers. Wes and Chuck Eagleburger finished second, with Macy and Kimberly Thomas third.

Kiser Ag Services of Logan and Stockton was the evening's race sponsor. Racing action returns to Elmwood Park Speedway on Saturday, Sept. 16. Race time will be 7 p.m.

### RESULTS

•IMCA Hobby Stocks

Heat: 1. Kelly Karnopp, 2. Adam Balthazor, 3. Dustin McClurg, 4. Brady Schoen.

Feature: 1. Karnopp, 2. Balthazor, 3. McClurg, 4. Schoen, 5. Jerry Hudson, 6. Phil Hinger, 7. Laura Hinger.

•IMCA Stock Cars  
Heat 1: 1. Jason Schoenberger, 2. Jason Rogers, 3. Michael Zajic, 4. Cory Struckhoff.

Heat 2: 1. Jason McCartney, 2. J.R. McCreery, 3. Caleb Peters, 4. Tyler Hahn.

Feature: 1. McCartney, 2. McCreery, 3. Rogers, 4. Hahn, 5. Struckhoff, 6. Peters, 7. Zajic, 8. Josh Hudson (DNF), 9. Jason Davis (DNF), 10. Schoenberger (DNF), 11. Jay Hachmeister.

•IMCA Modifieds  
Heat 1: 1. Lonnie Schriener, 2. David Murray Jr., 3. Rick Schwab, 4. Mitch Kline.

Heat 2: 1. Brian Calhoun, 2. Brandon Blochlinger, 3. Jason Schoenberger, 4. Brice Riley.  
Feature: 1. Schriener, 2. Tim Watts, 3. Blochlinger, 4. Murray, 5. Schwab, 6. Schoenberger, 7. Randy Wilson, 8. Kline, 9. Marty Clark, 10. Riley (DNF), 11. Jerry Teel (DNF), 12. Calhoun (DNF), 13. Randy Washburn (DNS).

•Cruisers  
Heat: 1. Joe Carter/Jim Carter, 2. Mike Hockemeier/Jim Ellis, 3. Josh Hudson/Tyson Garrison, 4. Macy Thomas/Kimberly Thomas.

Feature: 1. Hockemeier/Ellis, 2. Wes Eagleburger/Chuck Eagleburger, 3. Thomas/Thomas, 4. Jim Palmer/Joann Ellis, 5. Dennis Eagleburger/Roger Deal, 6. Hudson/Garrison (DNF), 7. Carter/Carter (DNF).

# Former coaches placed on probation

WICHITA — Two former Barton County Community College coaches were placed on federal probation this past week. Both had pleaded guilty to charges arising from an investigation of the athletic program at the junior college in Great Bend.

Ryan Wolf, 33, former head basketball coach and Shane Hawkins, 30, former assistant basketball coach, each were placed on three years probation.

"In addition to probation, Mr. Wolf will pay \$122,123.35 in restitution, and Mr. Hawkins will pay a fine of \$1,500," said U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren. "They also will be required to abide by standard conditions of probation, which include prohibitions against drug use and possession of a firearm and a requirement for regular contact with a probation officer."

Mr. Wolf pleaded guilty in December to one count of misapplication of student assistance funds, two counts of theft of federal funds, and one count of mail fraud. Starting as an assistant basketball coach at Barton in May 1998, Mr. Wolf later became head coach, a job he held through 2003. His duties included coaching the men's basketball team, teaching courses,

serving as an academic advisor to student athletes and supervising student athletes participating in the campus and federal work study programs.

In his plea, Mr. Wolf admitted that:

•He prepared a Free Application for Federal Student Assistance falsely representing that Carlton Baker, an 18-year-old resident of Indiana, would have a high school diploma or GED before he enrolled at Barton. In fact, Mr. Wolf was aware that Mr. Baker did not graduate from high school or obtain a GED prior to attending Barton and therefore did not qualify for assistance.

As a result, the U.S. Department of Education processed the form and approved Mr. Baker to receive a Pell Grant and federally subsidized student loans. Between July 5, 2000 and June 20, 2001, approximately \$6,800 was provided to Barton and Mr. Baker through Pell Grants and federally subsidized students funds.

•Mr. Wolf knowingly caused time sheets to be prepared and submitted for payment falsely representing that student athletes had performed work under the Federal Work Study Program and the cam-

pus work study program. As a result, \$71,981.75 in campus work study funds and \$17,633 in Federal Work Study funds were misapplied.

•Mr. Wolf committed academic fraud. Specifically, he paid Damon Howard to take a GED test offered at Warrent Central High School in Indianapolis, Ind., in the name of student athlete Carlton Baker. Mr. Howard passed the test in Mr. Baker's name and a GED was issued to Mr. Baker and made part of his academic file.

Based on that information, San Jose State University believed that Mr. Baker was eligible to enroll and to play NCAA Division I basketball, when in fact he was not eligible.

In the other case, Mr. Hawkins pleaded guilty in March to one count of perjury. I

In his plea, he admitted that he was called to testify before a federal grand jury in 2004 as part of an investigation by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General, and the U.S. Postal Service concerning allegations that Barton student athletes were receiving student assistance funds that they were not eligible to receive.

# Tennis opens Saturday

By DICK BOYD

The Norton Community High School girls tennis team will open the season at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday in the Trego Round Robin Tournament in WaKeeney.

Coach Jim Green has been with the Norton tennis program for 24 of the 27 years he has been in the school system. He started as head girls and boys tennis coach in 1979 when the Blue Jays were playing intramural tennis. He continued as head coach until both programs became varsity.

Bill Johnson replaced him as head girls and boys coach and Green became assistant coach. Green was also head coach of the boys tennis team for several years. After the boys tennis program was dropped, he remained as assistant coach of the girls tennis team. Last season, he became head coach of the girls team once again.

Coach Green has 18 players on this year's team and 11 of them are returning letter winners.

Returning letter winners are: Kayleigh Brooks, Lisa Jones, Tiffany Marx, Hannah Mills, Gena Myers, Brianna Nelson, Reesa Volgamore, seniors; Sara Campbell, Ashley Maybon, Tabitha Vincent, Valerie Wagoner, juniors.

Other team members are exchange student Arlene May, junior; Hannah Fulton, Steph Shepard, Bethany Wicker, sophomores; Allie Corbin, Emily Juenemann, Kelsey Nuzum, freshmen.

Shawnee Branek returns for a second year as the assistant coach. "She was great help last year," said coach Green. "It is good to have her back for another year."

## Norton Tennis Schedule

Saturday, Aug. 26 - V-Trego Round Robin (T) 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 2 - V-Colby (T) 9 a.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 5 - V-Phillipsburg Quad (T) 1 p.m.  
Thursday, Sept. 7 - JV-Trego Round Robin (T) 1 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 9 - Norton JV Quad (H) 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 12 - Phillipsburg Varsity Quad (T) 3 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 12 - Goodland (T) 3 p.m.  
Thursday, Sept. 14 - Phillipsburg JV Quad (T) 3 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 19 - Goodland

JV (T) 3 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 23 - V-Trego Invitational (T) 9 a.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 23 - Phillipsburg JV Invitational (T) 9 a.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 26 - V-Colby (T) 3 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 30 - Trego MCL/Pre-Regional (T) 9 a.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 30 - Colby JV Tournament (T) 9 a.m.  
Monday, Oct. 9 - Regional Tennis Tournament TBA  
Friday, Oct. 13 - State Tennis Tournament TBA  
Saturday, Oct. 14 - State Tennis Tournament TBA

"There will be a lot of competition for the top six spots on our varsity. Competing for the singles position are Kayleigh Brooks, Ashley Maybon, Brianna Nelson and Valerie Wagoner. "After early practices, the top two players are Kayleigh and Ashley. "In doubles, we have three teams that have a chance to fill the varsity position. They are Lisa Jones and Tiffany Marx, Hannah Mills and Reesa Volgamore and Gena Myers and Sara Campbell. It will be a difficult choice. Lisa, Hannah and Reesa all played varsity last year and have a lot of experience playing at the varsity level."

Coach Green expects Mid-Continental League competition to be tough this year. "Phillipsburg and Osborne return state qualifiers

from last year," he said. "Kayla Jarvis from Phillipsburg competed in state tennis on a doubles team. Also playing for Phillipsburg will be Melinda Schremmer, who qualified for state tennis by placing fourth in regional singles. Sloane Hardman of Osborne placed second in the regional tournament in singles and she will return. Both teams have other returning quality tennis players as well."

Fans are invited to take team and individual photos Friday at the tennis courts in Pool Park, beginning at 4 p.m. Following the picture session, there will be some exhibition matches.

Admission to the picture session and matches will be a canned good, non-perishable food item, laundry or dish soap or deodorant for God's Pantry in Norton.

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