

Blue Jays compete in Goldsmith Relays



Norton sophomore John Renner passes the baton to Blue Jay junior Bryan Henry during the 4 x 800 meter relay in the Goldsmith Relays on Friday in WaKeeney. The foursome of Renner, Henry, senior Troy Bainter and junior Zach Hartwell placed runner-up in 8:51.32, missing gold medals by just over a second!

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton sophomore Teslee Nickell, shown competing in the Goldsmith Relays, is a consistent scorer in the shot put event. She heaved the shot 37'8" on Friday in WaKeeney to place runner-up.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls and boys track teams placed fourth and seventh, respectively, in the annual Goldsmith Relays on Friday in WaKeeney.

It was the largest track and field meet so far this season for the Norton athletes. There were 14 teams competing. The Norton boys were just two points out of sixth and five points out of fifth place.

Colby won the girls championship with 84.5 points, followed by Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 67; Holcomb, 64; Norton, 56; Leoti, 52.5; Phillipsburg, 51; Victoria, 50; Plainville, 26; Ness City, 24; Oakley, 23; Trego Community, 22; Russell, 20; Atwood, 12; La Crosse, 3.

The boys champion was La Crosse with 89 points, followed by Russell, 67; Phillipsburg, 61; Ness City, 61; Plainville, 51; Holcomb, 48; Norton, 47; Colby, 41; Oakley, 27; Victoria, 18; Atwood, 16; Leoti, 15; TMP, 15; Stockton, 2.

"With 14 teams competing, this was by far the largest meet that we have attended this season and we finally got to compete in some warm weather," said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones.

"Some of our athletes set some new personal records with some great performances and we certainly did get better in some spots. However, we also let the size of the competition field and the heat bother us a little. Hopefully, we will learn from this and get better before we enter the championship season.

"We had the opportunity to compete against some athletes who we hadn't seen yet this season, which is always good. Overall, our young people handled most of these challenges well and they competed hard against the entire field.

"Again, we were pleased to see individual improvements and personal records in many areas and look for that to continue!"

GIRLS

The Norton Lady Jays scored 28 of their 56 points in field events. Freshman Bailey Ambrosier missed a gold medal in the pole vault by more misses when she cleared a personal record height of 9'6". Emilie Taylor, TMP, cleared the same height to win the gold medal.

Norton sophomore Teslee Nickell heaved the shot 37'8" to place runner-up and sophomore Alec Melvin was right behind her with a distance of 35'9.75" to finish third.

Melvin also placed third in the discus with a throw of 98'8". Ambrosier also finished fourth in the 400 meter dash with a personal record time of 1:03.78. Freshman Katelyn Engelbert placed just behind her in fifth with a clocking of 1:03.95.

Norton had one other runner-up finish. Junior Astrid Moen won the silver medal in the 3200 meter run in 13:02.78.

The Norton girls 4 x 400 meter relay team of junior Erin Terrell, Engelbert, senior Dustyna Sprigg and Ambrosier placed third with a time of 4:26.86. They finished just over one second behind runner-up Holcomb.

The Lady Jays' 4 x 800 meter relay team of Moen, Engelbert, sophomore Kamilla Jones and Sprigg placed fifth in 10:55.54.

Sprigg also placed fifth in the 800 meter run in 2:34.85.

Freshman Darcy Bainter finished fifth in the 1600 meter run in a career best time of 6:08.00 and fifth in the 3200 meter run in 13:14.81.

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: freshman Rickete Green, 27'2", 20th, shot put; Green, 69'4", 24th; freshman Haley Wallingford, 69'4", 24th, discus; Green, 74'9", 23rd; Wallingford, 69'2", 24th; senior Bekah Streck, 62'1", 32nd, javelin; Jones, 14'1.5", 10th; Streck, personal best 12'9", 24th, long jump; Sprigg, 31'10", 10th; Engelbert, personal best 31'4", 13th, triple jump; sophomore Juliana Miller, no height, high

jump; Jones, 8', 7th; freshman Marisa Maddy, 7'6", 9th, pole vault; freshman Johnnye Ruder, 19.25, 11th, 100 meter hurdles; Terrell, 54.89, 14th, 300 meter hurdles; Terrell, personal best 14.13, 15th; sophomore Katherine Boteler, 14.89, 26th, 100 meter dash; Ambrosier, 28.39, 10th, 200 meter dash; Maddy, personal best 2:47.13, 12th; Jones, 2:50.44, 15th, 800 meter run; Moen, 6:17.25, 7th; sophomore Julia Kent, 6:24.56, 9th, 1600 meter run; Kent, 14:09.33, 9th, 3200 meter run; Boteler, Maddy, Ruder, Terrell, 55.44, 4 x 100 meter relay.

BOYS

Norton sophomore Jacob Brooks had another good day, scoring 22 points in three events and anchoring the 4 x 100 meter relay team to a fifth place finish. Brooks placed runner-up in the high jump with a 5'4" clearance, runner-up in the 200 meter dash with a personal best time of 23.21 and third place in the 100 meter dash in 11.39.

Brooks just missed the gold medal in the 200 meter dash where Levi Morss of La Crosse edged him by three hundredths of a second! It was a repeat of the Plainville Track Meet where Morss also edged Brooks in a 200 meter dash photo-finish!

Running with Brooks in the 4 x 100 meter relay were freshman Austin Hager, senior Billy Broeckelman and junior Trey Millan. They were timed in 45.01. The fifth place finish is misleading since the top six teams in the race were within the same second! Colby's winning team was clocked in 44.48 and sixth place La Crosse was timed in 45.40.

Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team was just edged out of a gold medal as they were timed in 8:51.32 and the winning La Crosse team was clocked in 8:50.11!

On this Blue Jay foursome were senior Troy Bainter, junior Zach Hartwell, sophomore John Renner and junior Bryan Henry. Norton junior Jordan Wahl-

meier placed third in the triple jump with a personal record distance of 39'9".

In addition to running in the 4 x 100 meter relay, Broeckelman placed third in the pole vault by clearing 12'. Placing right behind him was junior Seth Antrim with an 11'6" clearance for fifth place.

Hartwell also placed fifth in the 3200 meter run in 11:17.37.

Distances and times by Norton boys which did not score were: junior Casey Temmel, 38'2", 11th; junior Damien Davis, personal best 34'7", 21st; sophomore Lucas Engel, 32'5", 29th, shot put; sophomore Dylan Sprigg, 112'9", 12th; sophomore Dalton Miller, 106'10", 14th; Temmel, 91'9", 22nd, discus; Miller, 110'9", 18th; Davis, 105', 21st; Sprigg, 94'2", 27th, javelin; freshman Trevor Lewis, personal best 18'9.25", 12th; junior Dillon McConney, 17'11.5", 15th, long jump; Lewis, 36'6", 12th, triple jump; senior Dakota Dreher, 5'4", 7th; Wahlmeier, 5'4", 7th, high jump; Austin Hager, 11', 7th, pole vault; Millan, 12.02, 14th, 100 meter dash; Millan, personal best 24.72, 14th, 200 meter dash; McConney, personal best 56.94, 8th; Austin Hager, 1:00.62, 22nd, 400 meter dash; Henry, 2:14.98, 11th; Renner, personal best 2:19.28, 18th; Dreher, 2:19.53, 19th, 800 meter run; Bainter, 4:59.06, 8th; Hartwell, 5:11.87, 10th; freshman Alec Hager, 5:18.65, 14th, 1600 meter run; Alec Hager, 11:54.78, 13th; senior Kegan Vanover, 12:37.82, 23rd, 3200 meter run; McConney, Broeckelman, Lewis, Dreher, 4:01.98, 4 x 400 meter relay.

Next action

Norton competed today in the Oberlin Invitational Track Meet but results were not available at the Norton Telegram's press time.

The Blue Jays will compete next in the Russell Relays which will be held Friday, beginning at 3 p.m.

Norton golfers show improvement

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity golfers continued to show improvement when they competed Thursday in the varsity Trego Invitational Tournament in WaKeeney.

Trego had the lowest six-man score, carding a 516. They were followed by Ellis, 529; Ness City, 549; Atwood, 554; Oakley, 558; Plainville, 571; Hill City, 593; Norton, 594; Osborne, 635.

In four-man competition, Trego was the winner with a 329, followed by Oakley, 351; Ness City, 366; Ellis, 377; Atwood, 378; Norton, 388; Hill City, 393; Plainville, 418; Osborne, 419.

Ellis won two-man play with a 152, followed by Plainville, 163;

Atwood, 176; Ness City, 185; Trego, 190; Wheatland/Grinnell, 198; Hill City, 200; Norton, 206; Oakley, 207; Osborne, 216.

Members of Norton's four-man team and their scores were: freshman Marc Miller, 46/47/93; junior Taylor Meder, 47/47/94; senior Ashley Millan, 48/49/97; senior Josh Asbury, 51/53/104.

On the Blue Jays' two-man team and their scores were: senior Nikki McVey, 49/49/98 and sophomore Ryan Bainter, 57/51/108.

"Once again, this junior varsity group continues to improve each time out on the course," said Norton head golf coach David Stover. "We were competitive with this group today against varsity squads.

"For the second time this season, our junior varsity squad broke the 400 barrier during a varsity tournament. Any time a junior varsity squad can do this, they have played very well and we were able to do that today.

"We were led by the continued improved play of Marc Miller and Taylor Meder but I think all our golfers played well today.

"This has been a hard working group and it is definitely starting to pay dividends for them."

Individual medalists were: Skyler Tebo, Ellis, 73; Patrick Loftus, Oakley, 77; Blake Huxman, Trego, 79; Tyler Compton, Plainville, 79; Brad Pfannenstiel, Trego, 79; Austin Lopez, Ellis, 79; Marcus Portschy, Atwood, 82; Cameron Staples, Trego,

84; Cole Werner, Plainville, 84; Cayle Hubert, Oakley, 86; Blake Fritts, Trego, 87; Darby Swartzkopf, Ness City, 87; Jacob Romme, Atwood, 87; Marcus Goetz, Hill City, 87; Eric Albers, Oakley, 87.

Next action

The Norton junior varsity golfers hosted the Norton JV Invitational Golf Tournament today but results were not available at the Norton Telegram's press time.

Their next competition will be on Thursday when they return to WaKeeney for the Trego JV Invitational, which begins at 9 a.m.

The Norton varsity will also compete on Thursday in the Colby Invitational, which begins at 3 p.m.

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CORRECTION
On the front page of the Norton Telegram's Spring Sports Album which was inserted in Friday's paper, Logan senior Brady Tien, the Trojans' star pole vaulter, was incorrectly listed as being a Norton senior.

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