

Norton track season wrap up

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls and boys track and field teams had another successful season in 2011 under the tutelage of fifth year head coach Jason Jones.

The Lady Jays' season highlights were their first place finish in the Plainville Invitational, runner-up in the Mid-Continent League Championships in Phillipsburg, runner-up in the Smith Center Redmen Relays, runner-up in the Norton Invitational and third place in the Phillipsburg Invitational.

The Norton girls other placings were: third, Smith Center JV; eighth, Goodland Freshmen/Sophomore Meet; 13th, Trego Freshmen/Sophomore Meet; fourth, Goldsmith Relays in WaKeeney; fourth, Oberlin Invitational; sixth, Russell Relays; eighth, Hill City Invitational; fifth, Class 3A Regional Championships in Phillipsburg and 13th in the State Championships in Wichita.

The Norton boys team finished runner-up in the Oberlin Invitational, runner-up in the Smith Center JV Meet, third in the Plainville Invitational, third in the Phillipsburg Invitational and third in the Mid-Continent League Championships in Phillipsburg.

Other placings for the Norton boys were: fifth, Smith Center Redmen Relays; sixth, Norton Invitational; seventh, Goodland Freshmen/Sophomore Meet; tenth, Trego Freshman/Sophomore Meet; sixth, Russell Relays; seventh, Goldsmith Relays in WaKeeney; eighth, Hill City Invitational; seventh, Class 3A Regional Championships in Phillipsburg and 18th in the State Championships in Wichita.

High point performer for the Norton girls was sophomore Alec

Melvin with 119 points and high point boys athlete was sophomore Jacob Brooks with 147.5 points.

Coach Jones announced the following Norton Lady Jay letter winners for the season: Dustyna Sprigg, senior; Astrid Moen, Erin Terrell, juniors; Katherine Boteler, Kamilla Jones, Julia Kent, Alec Melvin, Teslee Nickell, Antjelica Pfannenstiel, sophomore; Bailey Ambrosier, Darcy Bainter, Katelyn Engelbert, Marisa Maddy, Johnnye Ruder, freshmen.

Norton boys letter winners are: Troy Bainter, Billy Broeckelman, Dakota Dreher, Kegan Vanover, seniors; Seth Antrim, Zach Hartwell, Bryan Henry, Dillon McConney, Trey Millan, Tye Nickell, Casey Temmel, Jordan Wahlmeier, juniors; Jacob Brooks, John Renner, sophomores; Alec Hager, Austin Hager, Trevor Lewis, freshmen.

Qualified for State Meet Norton sophomores Teslee Nickell and Alec Melvin scored 26 points in field events in the Regional Track Meet in Phillipsburg. Nickell won the gold medal in the shot put with a heave of 40'6.5".

Melvin qualified for the state meet in three events. Alec placed fourth in the shot put with a distance of 33'9.25"; third in the discus with a throw of 104'6" and third in the javelin with a personal best throw of 112'11".

Lady Jay junior Astrid Moen and freshman Darcy Bainter placed third and fourth, respectively, in the 3200 meter run and set personal records in the process to qualify for the state meet. Moen was timed in 12:31.60 and Bainter in 12:38.02.

Norton's 4 x 800 meter girls relay team of freshman Bailey Ambrosier, Moen, sophomore Kamilla Jones and senior Dustyna Sprigg placed fourth in a personal best 10:09.03, which also broke the Norton school record.

The previous record was set at the state meet in 2002 by Stef Sloan, Megan Walter, Callie Graber and Abbey Keiswetter with a time of 10:21.

The Norton girls 4 x 400 meter relay team also had a tremendous performance, placing third in the regional meet with a personal record clocking of 4:12.06. Running on that foursome were junior Erin Terrell, Ambrosier, Sprigg and freshman Katelyn Engelbert.

Two Norton boys placed in the pole vault and qualified for the state meet Junior Seth Antrim won the gold medal by vaulting 13'. Freshman Austin Hager finished runner-up with a personal best vault of 12'6".

In addition to Antrim and Hager, sophomore Jacob Brooks also qualified for the state meet with a runner-up finish in the 200 meter dash in 23:27.

In the state meet in Wichita the next weekend, the Norton girls 4 x 800 meter relay team placed third with a clocking of 10:14.04 and the Lady Jay 4 x 400 meter relay team set a personal record with a time of 4:09.75 to place fourth.

Moen also earned a fourth place medal in the 3200 meter run with a personal best clocking of 12:11.25.

Teslee Nickell also placed fourth in the shot put with a heave of 36'4".

All three Norton boys competing at the state meet earned medals.

Seth Antrim was the runner-up in the pole vault with a clearance of 13' and Austin Hager placed sixth with a height of 12'.

In the running events, Jacob Brooks placed fourth in the 200 meter dash in 23.07.

Assistant coaches again this season were: Dale Engelbert, Doug Reusink, Todd Fulton and Lucas Melvin.

Student manager was David

Cressler.

Coach's comments

"We are very proud of the 57 athletes and one manager who formed the 2011 Norton Community High School Track and Field Team," said head coach Jones.

"They put together a great season with many, many successes and they established a great foundation for us to build upon next year.

"We are looking to return 19 athletes from our girls' team and 29 athletes from our boys' team. They have gained valuable experience and learned a lot from this season. That will undoubtedly help them in their quest for future success on this team and we hope that those who have graduated will be able to apply some of what they gained as individuals from us this year, and over the last four years, to life's future competitions.

"We were competitive all season and we really continued to improve through the end of the season, competing very well through our post-season competitions. That has always been a major measuring stick in our program; we work towards and love to see athletes improving, especially late in the season. Our youngsters did continue to improve and to respond positively when they needed to do so to keep competing.

"Additionally, they always found a way to do their very best, even when the odds were not in their favor and that is all we could ever ask of them. That is the mark of athletes destined for success far beyond any interscholastic athletic competition!

"We enjoyed sharing the ups and downs of the season with them, we are proud of them and we look forward to them continuing to succeed and improve in the future."



Norton sophomore Alec Melvin is shown throwing the discus during the Class 3A Regional Track Meet at Phillipsburg on May 20. She was third in the discus, third in the javelin and fourth in the shot to qualify for the State Track Meet in Wichita in all three events.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Norton senior Kegan Vanover was a steady performer for the Blue Jays in the distance races during his high school track career. Here he is shown leading a competitor from another school as he competed in the 1600 meter run in the Russell Relays on May 6.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

K-18 team wins back to back games

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton K-18 baseball team won two very close contests at Plainville on Tuesday, June 28.

Norton edged Plainville 6-5 in the opener and 9-8 in the nightcap.

Opener

In the first game, Norton scored once in the top of the first inning when Clint Cole was hit by a pitch and advanced to first and Trevor Lewis doubled him home.

Norton's second run came in the top of the third when Lewis singled and Toby Nickell singled him home.

Plainville got on the scoreboard in the bottom of the fourth when they scored once to make the score 2-1.

The young Blue Jays ran four runs across home plate in the top of the fifth inning to take a 6-1

lead. Cole got on base on a fielder's choice, Lewis and Nickell both singled and Travis Cressler smashed a triple! Cole, Lewis and Nickell all scored and Brant Cox doubled Cressler home.

Plainville had three hits but Norton allowed just four runs in the bottom of the inning to win 6-5.

Norton had eight hits, five walks and seven strike outs. Lewis was a perfect 3 for 3 at the plate and Nickell was 2 for 3 with the bat.

Lewis was the winning pitcher for Norton, allowing five hits, walking six and striking out six batters.

Meitler was the Plainville hurler.

Nightcap

Norton scored two runs in the top of the first inning when Lewis singled and Nickell doubled and both young men scored.

The Cardinals took a 3-2 lead in the bottom of the first and extended it with one run in the bottom of the third.

Norton scored one run in the top of the fourth to make it 4-3. Matt Stutsman got on base on an error and scored later in the inning.

A four-run top of the fifth for Norton put them ahead 7-4. Noah Johnson doubled, Cole singled, Nickell blasted a home run and Cressler tripled! Cox and Stutsman followed with singles.

Johnson, Cole, Nickell and Cressler all scored.

Plainville tallied three more runs in the bottom of the fifth to tie the score at 7-all.

Norton came through with two runs in the top of the sixth inning to take a 9-7 lead. Johnson singled, Cole tripled, Nickell got on base on a fielder's choice and Cressler singled. Unterscher

was a pinch runner for Johnson. Unterscher and Cole both scored for the young Blue Jays.

In the bottom of the inning, Plainville was able to score one run to make the final score Norton 9, Plainville 8.

The Norton bats were really active in the game; the young Blue Jays recorded 13 hits. Norton had two walks and nine strike outs.

Cole was the winning pitcher for Norton. He allowed ten hits, walked four and struck out eight batters.

Next action

Norton was scheduled to play Friday at Phillipsburg and will not play again until Friday, July 8 when they host Smith Center in a doubleheader beginning at 6:30 p.m.

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361 email: dpaxton@nwkansas.com

Supporting All Norton Athletic Teams!

NORTON TENNIS RECREATION CAMP

JULY 25-29, 2011

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REGISTRATION DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

A tennis racket must be provided. If you have problems finding one, contact me at 785-443-3419

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Parental Release: We (I) give permission for the enrollment of _____ in the 2011 Tennis Recreational Program from July 25-29. We (I) hereby release the tennis staff from any claim on account of any accidental injury during the time of the camp. _____ Signature

Please note any physical problems your child has that I need to be aware of: _____

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Community Calendar

Please submit your events for the Community Calendar which is printed in the Monday EXTRA. Events may be e-mailed to: nortontelegram@nwkansas.com or mailed to 215 South Kansas Avenue

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