

Norton runners take first at Hays Invite

By Dick Boyd

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Coach George's Rossi's Norton Community High School girls and boys cross country teams won both championships at the Hays Invitational Cross County Meet on Thursday, Sept. 15 at Fort Hays State University.

The Norton girls scored 36 points to win the Class 1-4A championship, followed by Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 46; Oakley, 64; Colby, 84.

Norton won the boys championship with 35 points, followed by Colby, 74; Ness City, 80; TMP, 92; Plainville, 98; Stockton, 126.

GIRLS

"Tonight was fantastic!" said coach Rossi. "The weather for most people was yucky with 45 degrees and a bit of rain but for cross country runners it was just about perfect."

"Our girls did a great job of staying together with a one minute, seven second split between

our No.1 and 5 runners.

"This was a fast race with many talented girls entered. Eight of the top 10 runners were state medalists last year.

"Our girls team is getting faster in the second mile of the race and that has been an area they have been working on. Our average time was about 45 seconds faster than last year, which is fantastic for this time of the year."

Norton's five fastest runners on which the team score is based placed in the top 13 individually with four setting personal records.

Placing first for Norton was sophomore Katelyn Engelbert with a personal best time of 16:08 and seventh place finish. Right behind her in eighth place with a personal best clocking of 16:18 was sophomore Darcy Bainter. Third fastest for the Lady Jays with a personal best time of 16:34 was junior Julia Kent in 10th.

Sophomore Marisa Maddy was 11th with a personal best

clocking of 16:43 and junior Kamilla Jones was fifth fastest for Norton with a 13th place and time of 17:15.

Also running for the Lady Jays and their place and time were: freshman Sierra Griffith, 14th, personal best time of 17:21 and freshman Jesika Smith, 18th, personal best time of 18:04.

The top 10 individual runners and their times were: Heather Ruder, 15:41.44, fourth; Taylor Gabel, Ness City, 15:58.17, fifth; Hayley Ribordy, Oakley, 16:03.14, sixth; Katelyn Engelbert, Norton, 16:08.49, seventh; Darcy Bainter, Norton, 16:18.52, eighth; Cassidy Rathbun, Plainville, 16:31.25, ninth; Julia Kent, Norton, 16:34.82, tenth.

BOYS

"Our boys came out hot on this chilly night and also improved on their times from both this year and last year's meet,"

said coach Rossi.

"Zach Harwell and Bryan Henry did a great job of staying in the first group. Alec Hager and Marc Miller continue to smash their times from last year.

"John Renner is dealing with foot issues but, when we get him feeling better, our boys will be at full strength. This is the best overall race we have run this year. As in the girls race, there were many outstanding runners and our boys represented Norton well."

Norton senior Zach Hartwell led the way for the Blue Jays with a third place finish and a personal record time of 17:04. He was followed by senior Bryan Henry with a time of 17:40 and fifth place finish.

Sophomore Marc Miller was third best for Norton with a sixth place finish in a personal best time of 17:46. He was followed closely by sophomore Alec Hager who placed eighth with a personal best time of 18:00. Rounding out the five team members for Norton was

junior John Renner with a 13th place and time of 18:59.

Also running for the Norton boys and their place and time were: freshman Dalton Vanover, 19th, 19:20 and junior Ryan Bainter, 27th, 20:19.

Four Norton boys ran in the junior varsity race. Their finishes and times were: sophomore Andrew Smith, 48th, 20:21; senior Eric Becker, 69th, 21:29; sophomore Chris Chambers, 78th, 22:00; freshman David Smith, 103rd, 25:46.

The top ten boys runners in the varsity race were: Brady Johnson, Plainville, 15:45.59, first; Kyle Schauvliege, Ness City, 16:42.44, second; Zach Hartwell, Norton, 17:04.25, third; Dray Carson, Ness City, 17:18.85, fourth; Bryan Henry, Norton, 17:40.18, fifth; Marc Miller, Norton, 17:46.11, sixth; John Faber, Colby, 17:51.72, seventh; Alec Hager, Norton, 18:00.07, eighth; Lucas Walker, TMP, 18:13.50, ninth; Wyatt Beckman, Ness City, 18:20.11, tenth.

Next action

Norton's cross country runners will compete in the Hill City Invitational Meet on Thursday at the Prairie Trails Golf Course on the northeast side of Hill City, beginning at 5 p.m.

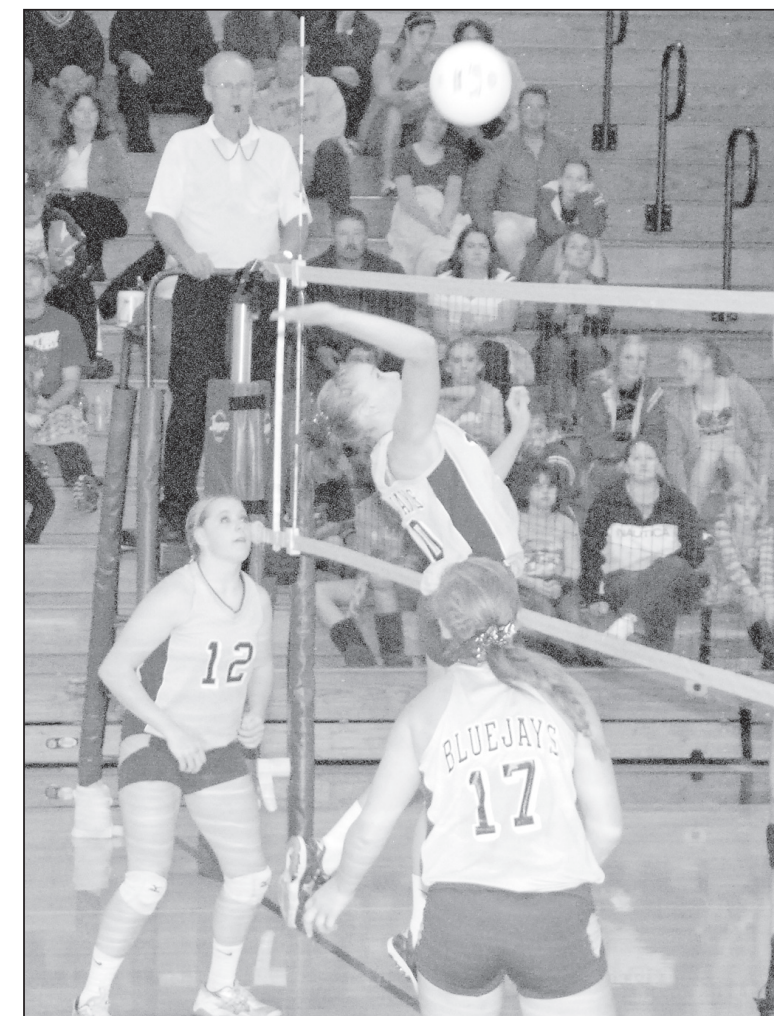
Competing teams in addition to Hill City and Norton will be: Brewster, Colby, Ellis, Hoxie, Lakeside, Ness City, North-ern Valley, Oakley, Oberlin, Osborne, Palco, Phillipsburg, Plainville, Quinter, Stockton, Trego Community, Victoria and Wheatland-Grinnell.

Norton's toughest cross country meet so far will be this Saturday in the Rim Rock Classic, which will be held south of Lawrence, beginning at 9 a.m.

"The real test for our girls and boys will be this Saturday when we compete in the Rim Rock Classic," said coach Rossi.

"There will be 43 girls teams from at least five states represented with more than 200 girls and our boys will see the top five teams from the state meet along with about 35 other teams."

Lady Jays lose to Goodland Cowgirls JV Tennis team plays at Russell



Norton senior Caren Thomson hits the ball over the net for a point against Goodland during action on Thursday evening in the Stull Gym in Norton. Also pictured for the Lady Jays are junior Teslee Nickell, No. 12 and senior Erin Terrell, No. 17.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

By Dick Boyd

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Coach Kevin Jilka's Norton Community High School volleyball team hosted Goodland in a best 3 of 5 games in the Stull Gym on Thursday evening.

Norton lost the first game by a score of 25-27, defeated the Lady Cowgirls 25-19, lost 20-25 and lost 22-25.

"Again, we gave great effort against Goodland but again when we needed a big play we just couldn't get one," said coach Jilka.

"During the game, there are just times where we have to get mentally tougher and we are just going to have to find a way to do that. All three losses could just have easily gone our way and we have to change that attitude.

"Hoxie and Hill City come to our place on Tuesday. They are both quality teams and we will need our best effort."

Individual statistics

Lady Jay senior Erin Terrell led in kills with 26, followed by senior Caren Thomson, 9; junior Teslee Nickell, 4 and sophomore Johnnye Ruder, 2.

Assists leader was also Terrell with 19 while Ruder had 9 assists.

Thomson had 3 blocks and Nickell had 1.

Thomson led in digs with 12, followed by Ruder, 10; Terrell, 5; Nickell, 4; senior Mariah Farber, 4; Melvin, 3.

Farber, Ruder and Nickell each served 3 aces, followed by Thomson and Melvin, 2 aces each.

The Norton junior varsity defeated Goodland 20-25, 25-16, 25-14 and 25-15.

Juniors Bri Karnopp and Antjelica Pfannenstiel each had 3 kills and freshman Morgan Farber had 1 kill.

Junior Juliana Miller and Farber each had 3 assists while freshman Adrienne Hager had 1 assist.

Freshman Sheridan Dillehay had 1 dig.

Karnopp led in serving aces with 4, followed by Miller, 3; Pfannenstiel, 3; junior Rachel Slipke, 2; freshman Kenzie Eslinger, 2; Farber, 2.

"Our girls did a great job stepping up to finally do what it took to win and not just play," said Norton assistant volleyball coach Jodi Ward.

"We have freshmen stepping up to fill critical roles, which is a long jump from junior high volleyball to junior varsity in high school.

"Our older girls are being more consistent and showing better leadership, which makes a huge difference in leading a team to win.

"Each week, I tell these girls to be better than the previous week and I think they finally showed that against Goodland."

Next action

Norton will host Hoxie and Hill City in varsity and junior varsity action this evening, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Junior varsity matches will be held in the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym and varsity matches in the Stull Gym.

The first varsity match will feature Norton versus Hoxie, followed by Hill City versus Hoxie and Norton versus Hill City.

By Dick Boyd

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Four members of the Norton Community High School junior varsity tennis team competed in the Russell Invitational last Tuesday.

Hays won the championship with 24 points, followed by Phillipsburg, 20; Beloit, 18; Russell Blue, 16; Russell Red, 2; Norton, 0; Russell White, 0.

"We had a tough day of competition with just four of our players entered," said Norton assistant coach Crystal Montgomery.

Our inexperience in the wind affected our playing. Our players had to spend the matches learning what to do and how to hit in the wind. They adjusted well to the wind by the end of the tournament and had some great matches!"

Playing No.1 doubles for the Lady Jays were sophomore Kristen Burge and freshman Brooke Summer. They lost to Tristan Hayes and Hannah Sander of Russell Blue, 6-2 and lost to Victoria Main and Heather Miller, Phillipsburg, 6-3. In the finals, they lost to Russell Red's Erin Risher and Kierra Mitchell, 6-5.

"Kristin and Brooke played doubles together for the first time," said coach Montgomery. "They worked hard in the wind and hustled to a lot of balls."

"Both Kristen and Brooke had some excellent shots throughout the day.

"I hope to see them both become more consistent players as the season progresses."

Norton sophomores Jordyn Gosselin and Hannah Pollock played No.2 doubles for the Lady Jays. They lost to Russell

LODGE NOTICES

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Darren McMullen, Commander
Curt Archibald, Adjutant

Eagles Lodge FOE 3288
Second and Fourth Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Larry Hawks, President
Secretary, Ron Miller

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Reg. 7:00 p.m.
First Mon. of each Month
Curt Archibald, Commander
Joe Ballinger, Quartermaster

I.O.O.F. No. 157
Meet at Eagles Club
First and Third Thursday
Each Month at 7:30 p.m.
Geneva Tier, Noble Grand
Randy Knoll, Secretary

The American Legion Riders Post 63
Meet at 5:00 p.m. at the American Legion Building on the Second Sunday of Every Month
website: www.alr63.org



Great Job Huskies!

Northern Valley wins Homecoming

By Dana Paxton

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Northern Valley High School had their Homecoming last Friday. They battled it out with the Logan Trojans and earned a big win with an ending score of 42-20.

The only Husky touchdown in the first quarter of play was made when Tyson Callaway had a three yard run. Dillon Hogan ran it in for the extra points starting the game off at 8-0. In less than two minutes, Logan scored their first touchdown of the game when Tracy Archer made a 50 yard touchdown run. He then ran it in for the extra points bringing the score to 8-8. Archer finished the quarter with a 37 yard touchdown run but the extra point attempt failed ending the quarter at 14-8 in favor of the Trojans.

Northern Valley was the only team to score in the second quarter. Jordan Baird scored on a 17 yard run. After the run for the extra points failed the first half final score stood at 14-14.

The Huskies dominated the third quarter of play. Baird

scored three touchdowns for the team. The first was on a 17 yard run and a failed extra point attempt bringing the score to 22-14. His second touchdown of the quarter was a 15 yard run followed up by a successful run by Callaway for the extra points leaving the score at 30-14. The final touchdown of the quarter, also by Baird was made on a six yard run. The extra point attempt failed and ended the quarter with a large Husky lead of 36-14.

In the final quarter of play, Dillon Schmidt of Logan made a five yard touchdown run. Since the attempt for the extra point failed, the score sat at 36-20. The final touchdown of the game was scored by Northern Valley running back Baird again, this time with a 29 yard run. The extra point attempt failed, ending the game with a Husky Homecoming win of 42-20.

Head coach Chuck Fessenden said, "Logan came out and played very well in the first quarter. Our defense stiffened in the second quarter and only

allowed then 13 yards rushing. We made some adjustments at half time and we were able to run the ball much better in the third quarter. The line did another good job of blocking and Jordan Baird was able to go over 200 yards for the second week in a row. Hunter Chandler ran very hard and got his first 100 yards rushing game."

Northern Valley had 47 carries of the ball for a total of 374 yards versus Logan's 51 carries for 225 yards rushing. Jordan Baird carried the ball 20 times for the Huskies for 237 yards followed by Hunter Chandler with 15 carries and 125 yards, Tyson Callaway with seven carries and 16 yards, and Dillon Hogan with two carries and five yards. Jon Compton had two carries but lost four yards in his attempts followed by Matt Stutman with one carry that lost the Huskies five yards.

The Huskies passed the ball seven times with two completions and 24 yards. Logan passed it 14 times and completed five for 51 yards. Jordan Baird caught both successful passes for the

yardage.

The Huskies intercepted three Trojan passes. Callaway got one with no yardage gained followed by Chandler with one for 20 yards and Baird with one for 27 yards.

Callaway punted the ball twice for 47 yards and Logan punted four times for 115 yards.

Northern Valley had three fumbles for the game and lost all three where Logan fumbled five times losing only one.

Calen Back was the leading tackler for Northern Valley. He had eleven tackles and seven assists followed by Callaway with ten and four assists, and J. Baird with ten and two assists, Ian Vincent had six tackles with four assists followed by Nate Land with six and three assists and Dillon Hogan with six and three. Hunter Chandler had five tackles and six assists and Tyson Montgomery had five tackles and four assists.

The next action will be a home game this Friday against Pike Valley at 7 p.m.

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