

Track teams perform well in early season invite

By Dick Boyd
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The Norton Community High School girls and boys track and field teams continued to show improvement in just their third meet of the season with runner-up and third place finishes, respectively, in the annual Plainville Invitational on Tuesday.

Oberlin won the girls championship with 128 points, followed by Norton, 119; Trego Community, 90; Russell, 46; Hill City, 44; La Crosse, 38; Plainville, 34; Ellis, 33; Victoria, 23.

The boys champion was La Crosse with 151 points, followed by Plainville, 97; Norton, 90; Ellis, 65; Hill City, 58; Oberlin, 40; Russell, 21; Victoria, 20; Trego Community, 10.

“In our third varsity meet of the season, we had a great day!” said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones. “Our girls finished just nine points out of first place and our boys were a solid third!

“We are getting closer to figuring out in which events to enter girls and boys to give us our best team shot down the road in the championship season and we saw some great performances from our people. Austin Hager highlighted the day when he tied the meet record in the pole vault with his winning personal best vault of 13’6”.

“Again, we did post new personal records in a number of areas on both sides. That is what we want to see and we are very proud of the effort that our athletes are giving. We continue to be pleased with the results, as well.

“We plant to continue to work to improve and we are excited about this team’s future.”

GIRLS

The Norton girls scored 24 points in two different events, the pole vault and the 3200 meter run.

Sophomore Baily Ambrosier won the pole vault with a clearance of 8’6”, edging sophomore Marisa Maddy who was runner-up with the same height but more misses. Third place went to the Lady Jays’ junior Kamilla Jones with a vault of 8’.

Ambrosier also placed third in the 400 meter dash in 1:04.24.

Freshman Sierra Griffith won the 3200 meter run with a personal best time of 13:00.93. Sophomore Darcy Bainter was runner-up in 13:45 and junior Julia Kent placed third with a clocking of 13:50.50.

Sophomore Katelyn Engelbert won the gold medal in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:41.07.

Junior Alec Melvin won another gold medal with a personal best toss of the discus of 117’3”. She was also runner-up in the shot put with a heave of 36’5” and placed third in the javelin with a throw of 109’2”, which was only 1 inch out of second.

Junior Teslee Nickell finished fourth in the shot put with a heave of 35’6.

Junior Tawni Griffey placed third in the 1600 meter run with a time of 6:08.50 and fifth in the 800 meter run in a personal best time of 2:47.03.

Bainter placed fifth in the 1600 meter run in 6:25.06 and Kent was right behind her in sixth with a clocking of 6:28.81.

The Lady Jays’ 4 x 800 meter relay team of Engelbert, Ambrosier, junior Kamilla Jones and Griffith finished runner-up with a time of 11:00.74.

Senior Erin Terrell combined with Ambrosier, Griffith and Engelbert to place third in the 4 x 400

meter relay in a time of 4:22.5.

Norton’s 4 x 100 meter relay team of Terrell, Jones, sophomore Johnnye Ruder and Maddy placed sixth in 56.99.

Jones also finished sixth in the long jump with a leap of 14’3.75”.

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: Nickell, 95’5”, 7th, discus; Ruder, personal best 19.18, 8th, 100 meter hurdles; Maddy, personal best 57.53, 9th, 300 meter hurdles; Terrell, personal best 14.03, 7th; Ruder, 15.00, 12th, 100 meter dash.

BOYS

The Norton boys pole vaulters continued to dominate the field, scoring 22 total points. Sophomore Austin Hager set a personal record by clearing 13’6”. In so doing, he tied the meet record set by Brett Otley of Victoria in 2010.

Senior Seth Antrim cleared 12’6” for runner-up and sophomore Marc Miller cleared 10’6” to place fourth.

Miller also earned a gold medal in the 800 meter dash, leading the entire race and finishing in 2:14.96.

Norton senior Zach Hartwell also breezed to the win in the 1600 meter run with a time of 4:59.28.

Earning Norton’s other gold medal was sophomore Alec Hager with a first place finish in the 3200 meter run in 11:43.62.

Junior Jacob Brooks placed runner-up individually in the high jump with a 6’ clearance, third in the 200 meter dash in 23.96 and third in the 100 meter dash in 11.62.

Brooks also anchored the 4 x 100 meter relay team to a runner-up finish in 44.78. Running with him were Hager, senior Bryan Henry and senior Trey Millan.

Hartwell, Miller, Hager and Henry combined for a third place in the 4 x 800 meter relay with a clocking of 9:10.37.

Junior Carson McKenna, senior Dillon McConney, Hartwell and Henry also ran in the 4 x 400 meter relay where they finished fifth in 3:49.59.

Running in the 4 x 100 meter weight relay were junior Lucas Engel, junior Dalton Miller, junior Dylan Sprigg and senior Damien Davis. They finished fifth in 50.15.

Senior Casey Temmel placed sixth in the shotput with a heave of 39’2” and senior Trey Millan finished sixth in the 200 meter dash in a personal record time of 24.33.

Distances and times by Norton boys which did not place were: Davis, 37’5.5”, 10th; Engel, 35’1.5”, 13th, shot put; Miller, 109’11”, 8th; junior Dylan Sprigg, 109’4”, 9th; Engel, personal best 92’9”, 15th, discus; Davis, 113’4”, 11th; Sprigg, 91’10”, 14th, javelin; McConney, 16’9.5”, 14th, long jump; Millan, 12.41, 11th; McKenna, 12.62, 16th, 100 meter dash; Miller, 27.55, 18th, 200 meter dash; McConney, 57.46, 12th; Henry, 57.93, 15th; Engel, 1:04.46, 18th, 400 meter dash.

Next action

Norton competed in the Phillipsburg Track Meet today.

Field events began at 3 p.m. with running events set to begin at 4:30 p.m.



(Top) Norton sophomore Bailey Ambrosier clears the bar to win the pole vault in the Plainville Invitational on Tuesday. Her winning height was 8’6.”

(Above) Blue Jay sophomore Marc Miller has a good lead on the second place runner as he wins the 800 meter run in the Plainville Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Norton and area athletes earn post-season basketball honors

By Dick Boyd
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A number of Norton area high school basketball players, including two from Norton Community High School, one from Logan and one former Northern Valley player, have received post-season honors from the Hays Daily News, Wichita Eagle-Beacon and Topeka Capital-Journal.

Senior power forward Jordan Wahlmeier and junior point guard Tawni Griffey were the two Blue Jays honored. Both received honorable mention in Class 3A from the Eagle-Beacon and Capital-Journal.

In addition, Wahlmeier was named to the Second Team by the Hays Daily News.

Caley Greving, Logan senior post, moved up from a Girls Third Team choice in all classes from the Hays Daily News last season to Second Team this year. Caley was also chosen to the Second Team in Class 1A by the Capital-Journal and to the Second Team by the Eagle-Beacon.

Austin Herman, a former Northern Valley player who was a senior at Thunder Ridge this season, received Class 1A honorable mention from both the Capital-Journal and Eagle-Beacon.

GIRLS

Named to the Hays Daily News All-Area Girls First Team were Hillary Chvatal, Atwood senior; Tangie Hileman, Smith Center senior and Hallie Kuhlman, Sharon Springs senior.

Chosen to the Daily News Second Team along with Greving were Shelby Helm, Hoxie senior and Carly Heim, Hoxie freshman.

Included on the Hays Daily Third Team were Sydney Benoit, Smith Center junior;

Hannah Dietz, Trego senior; Kelsey Keith, Hill City senior and Raegan Vanderplas, Phillipsburg senior.

Receiving honorable mention from the Hays Daily News from our area were Morgan Bell, Colby senior; Hayley Pletcher, Sharon Springs senior; Mackenzie Mense, Hoxie senior and Bailey Hensley, Ellis junior.

Colby’s Morgan Bell received honorable mention All-State from the Capital-Journal and Eagle-Beacon in Class 4A.

Katie Pfeifer, Holcomb junior, was named to the Third Team in Class 3A by the Capital-Journal. Receiving honorable mention with Norton’s Griffey were Audrey Baker, Scott City senior and Raegan Vanderplas, Phillipsburg senior.

Chosen to the Class 2A Girls First Team by the Capital-Journal were Hillary Chvatal, Atwood senior and Tangie Hileman, Smith Center senior. Named to the Third Team was Kelsey Keith, Hill City senior.

Receiving honorable mention in Class 2A were Mackenzie Benoit, Smith Center senior; Sydney Benoit, Smith Center junior; Hannah Dietz, Trego senior; Bailey Hensley, Ellis junior and Kelsey Keith, Hill City senior.

Receiving honorable mention in Class 1A from the Eagle-Beacon were Kaitlin Figgins, St. Francis senior; Carly Heim, Hoxie freshman; Shelby Heim, Hoxie senior; Rachel Kuhlman, Sharon Springs freshman; Mackenzie Mense, Hoxie senior and Hayley Pletcher, Sharon Springs senior.

BOYS

Selected for the Hays Daily News All-Area Boys First Team were Andrew Casey, Plainville senior; Jaxsen Moss, Hoxie senior; Adam Pfeifer, Hill City senior and Isaac Schlitz, St. Francis senior.

Named to the Daily News Second Team, along with Wahlmeier, was Brian Ochs, Quinter senior. On the Third Team was Alex Hobelmann, Smith Center senior.

Boys receiving honorable mention from the Hays Daily News included Clayton Riedel, Trego sophomore; Kyle Becker, Plainville senior; Sean Newlan, Phillipsburg junior; Thatcher Brown, Ellis junior; Kade Spresser, Hoxie sophomore; Dalton Jones, Oberlin senior and James Peterson, Atwood sophomore.

Drew Kite, Scott City junior,

was named to the First Team in Class 3A by the Capital-Journal. Brett O’Neil, Scott City junior, was chosen to the 3A Boys Second Team. Tyler LaSalle, Holcomb junior, was selected to the Third Team in 3A. Named honorable mention along with Norton’s Wahlmeier were Ryan Hillmer, Goodland senior; Joey Meyer, Scott City junior and Sean Newlan, Phillipsburg junior.

In Class 2A, the Capital-Journal chose Andrew Casey, Plainville senior for the First Team. Receiving honorable mention were Kyle Becker, Plainville senior; Matt Craig, Hill City senior; Alex Hobelmann, Smith Center senior; Dalton Jones, Oberlin senior; Adam Pfeifer, Hill City senior and Kale Terrill, Smith Center senior.

Named to the Capital-Journal Class 1A Boys Second Team were Jaxen Moss, Hoxie senior and Isaac Schlitz, St. Francis senior. Those receiving honorable mention in addition to Herman were Gavin Mote, Sharon Springs junior; Brian Ochs, Quinter senior and Kade Spresser, Hoxie sophomore.

Chosen to the Class 3A First Team by the Eagle-Beacon was

Drew Kite, Scott City senior. Named to the Second Team was Brett O’Neill, Scott City junior.

Receiving Class 3A honorable mention from the Eagle-Beacon, along with Wahlmeier, were Ryan Hilmer, Goodland senior; Tyler LaSalle, Holcomb junior and Joey Meyer, Scott City junior.

Selected to the Class 2A First Team was Andrew Casey, Plainville senior. Named honorable mention were Kyle Becker, Plainville senior; Matt Craig, Hill City senior; Alex Hobelmann, Smith Center senior; Dalton Jones, Oberlin senior; Adam Pfeifer, Hill City senior and Kale Terrill, Smith Center senior.

Named to the Second Team in Class 1A was Jaxsen Moss, Hoxie senior. Receiving honorable mention, in addition to Thunder Ridge’s Herman, from the Eagle-Beacon were Gavin Mote, Sharon Springs junior; Brian Ochs, Quinter senior; Kade Spresser, Hoxie sophomore and Isaac Schlitz, St. Francis senior.

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