

It was a rebuilding season for Norton golf team

By DICK BOYD

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The 2014 Norton Community High School golf team had only one returning letterman, two seniors, one junior and the rest were underclassmen so spent the entire season rebuilding.

The only letterman was senior Garret Otter.

The other senior on the team was Ty Burns and the junior was Derek Rowh.

Sophomores were James Berry, Skylar Johnson, Nick Peterson and Quinton Porter

Freshmen members of the team were Wilson Ellis, Mitchell Hickman, Layton Miller and Landon Porter.

David Stover was in his 19th season as the head golf coach at NCHS. His assistant coach was Don Burge.

"We are going to be a very young and inexperienced team this season," said coach Stover at the beginning of the campaign. "With only one returning letterman, we will look to make improvement as this group gains tournament experience as the season progresses."

The Blue Jay golfers did, in fact, improve as the season continued and built a good base for a more competitive team in 2015.

The Norton golfers opened the season with a fourth place tie in the Smith Center Invitational on Tuesday, April 8. Phillipsburg won the championship with a 352 team score, followed by Beloit, 396; Osborne, 396; Norton, 465. Smith Center, 465, Stockton, 469.

Leading golfers for Norton were senior Garret Otter and sophomore Quinton Porter. Otter shot a 56/55-111 and Porter carded a 58/53-111. Junior Derek Rowh shot a 61/58-119 and freshman Landon Porter recorded a 64/60-124.

On Tuesday, April 15, the Blue Jays traveled to Goodland for the tough 13-team Goodland Invitational. Goodland won with a 333, followed by Ulysses, 355; Thomas More Prep of Hays, 356; Colby, 373; Hays High JV, 375; Oberlin, 392; Atwood, 393; Ellis, 394; Scott City, 397; Hugoton, 407; Hoxie, 417; Oakley, 418; Norton, 440.

"Our overall team score was

15 strokes better than last week and our top four scorers all shot better today," said coach Stover. Norton's top golfers were Garret Otter, 54/47-101; Quinton Porter, 52/54-106; Derek Rowh, 59-55-114; Landon Porter, 60-59-119; sophomore Skylar Johnson, 68/72-140.

Norton competed in the Hill City Junior Varsity Invitational on Thursday, April 17. No team scores were kept. Sophomore Nick Peterson shot a 48, followed by freshman Mitchell Hickman, 57; sophomore James Berry, 58; freshman Layton Miller, 58; freshman Wilson Ellis, 59. "Our highlight was Nick Peterson shooting a career tournament low and earning the first NCHS medal of the season," said coach Stover.

The Norton Invitational Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, April 24 at the Prairie Dog Golf Course south of Norton. Goodland was the champion with a 324 team score, followed by Phillipsburg, 333; Plainville, 348; Colby, 359; Ness City, 371; Hoxie, 379; Ellis, 390; Oakley, 408; Norton, 424. "We shot our season team best score," said coach Stover. "We have a long way to go but I like the direction we're going as a team."

Garret Otter was low scorer for Norton with a 53/44-97, followed by Quinton Porter, 47/54-101; Derek Rowh, 52/59-111; Nick Peterson, 62/53-115. Also playing for Norton and their scores were: Landon Porter, 74/58-132 and Skylar Johnson, 72/77-149.

On Thursday, May 1, Norton competed in the unique, endurance testing Trego/Ellis I-70 Classic. Despite placing ninth in both, the Norton golfers received praise from coach Stover. "The format is different but, once again, we saw improvement," he stated. At Trego, Norton scores were: Quinton Porter, 47/46-93; Garret Otter, 52/56-108; Derek Rowh, 52/56-108; Nick Peterson, 61/51-112. At Ellis, Blue Jay scores were: Otter and Rowh, both 52/53-105; Peterson, 55/51-106; Quinton Porter, 54/53-107.

Trego won the title with a 324 at Ellis, 324 at Trego, 628 total; followed by Ellinwood, 345 at Ellis, 353 at Trego, 698 total; Plainville, 361 at Ellis, 364 at



Norton senior Garret Otter putts during the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament hosted by Norton on the Prairie Dog Golf Course south of Norton. Garret was the only returning letterman for the Blue Jays this season and was a good role model for the younger golfers.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Trego, 725 total; Ness City, 364 at Ellis, 361 at Trego, 725 total; Atwood, 363 at Ellis, 376 at Trego, 739 total for the top five teams.

Only three members of the Norton golf team competed in the tough TMP Invitational Golf Tournament on Monday, May 5 in Hays. Quinton Porter shot a 51/55-106; followed by Derek Rowh, 55/52-107 and Garret Otter, 56/53-109. Goodland won the championship with a 346, followed by Larned, 347; TMP, 358; Trego, 363; Phillipsburg, 367; Oberlin, 379; Colby, 382; Hays High JV, 396; Ellis, 398.; Hoisington, 422.

On Tuesday, May 6, Norton hosted the Norton JV Invitational at the Prairie Dog Golf Course south of Norton and the Blue Jays won the championship!

Norton's team score was 193, followed by Colby, 215; Trego, 222; Phillipsburg, 230; Colby B, 246; Plainville, 250; Hoxie, 264. Nick Peterson and Landon Porter each carded a 45, followed by Wilson Ellis, 49; James Ber-

ry, 54. Also playing for Norton were freshman Layton Miller with a 54 and senior Ty Burns with a 66. Norton had the top three medalists: Nick Peterson, Landon Porter and Wilson Ellis.

"This group has been working very hard and was able to take advantage of ideal scoring conditions," said coach Stover. "Each one of our six golfers shot a season low round. The highlight was having the top three medalists and Nick earning his first tournament championship in a card playoff over Landon."

The Norton junior varsity completed their 2014 season by playing in the Trego JV Tournament on Thursday, May 8 and placing fifth. Trego won the championship with 405 points, followed by Hill City, 407; Plainville, 425; Phillipsburg, 433; Norton, 434; Oakley, 444; Ness City, 467.

Top Norton golfer was Wilson Ellis with a 51/50-101; followed by Landon Porter, 48/55-103; Layton Miller, 60/54-114; Skylar Johnson, 55/61-116. Also playing for Norton was James

Berry, with a 61/65-126. Ellis was the No.9 medalist and Landon Porter was the No. 11 medalist.

"This group has gained valuable experience this season and looks forward to benefits in the future," said coach Stover.

The Hill City Invitational Golf Tournament was held on Friday, May 9 and, despite playing some of their best golf of the season, the Blue Jays did not finish high in the standings. Trego won the championship with a 331, followed by Plainville, 339; Ness City, 354; Phillipsburg, 359; Hoxie, 368; Osborne, 369; Ellis, 372; Stockton, 381; Hill City, 383; Norton, 384.

Norton shot their best team score of the season by 37 strokes. Wilson Ellis shot a career low score of 45/46-91 and Nick Peterson shot a career low score of 45/50-95. Quinton Porter carded a 45/51-96 and Derek Rowh shot a 52/50-102. Also playing for Norton and their scores were: Garret Otter, 47/55-102 and Layton Miller, 63/58-121.

On Monday, May 12, the Blue Jays competed in the Mel Schremmer Invitational Golf Tournament in Phillipsburg. Norton's four-man team placed fourth out of nine teams and the Blue Jay two-man team was tenth out of 11 teams. Plainville won the four-man competition with a 342, followed by Phillipsburg, 347; Osborne, 380; Norton, 388. Oberlin won the two-man title with a 161, followed by Phillipsburg, 164; Ellis, 171; TMP, 171; Plainville, 178.

In four-man play, Quinton Porter shot a 43/49-92, followed by Derek Rowh, 50/46-96; Garret Otter, 50/48-98; Nick Peterson, 55/47-102. In two-man play, Landon Porter shot a 54/52-106 and Skylar Johnson carded a 61/60-121.

The annual Mid-Continent League Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, May 15 in Smith Center. Norton recorded their best team finishes of the season with a third place in four-man, seventh in two-man and fifth overall.

Phillipsburg was the champion with a 355, followed by Plainville, 364; TMP, 365; Ellis,

393; Norton, 409; Oakley, 412; Hill City, 438; Stockton, 438. Plainville won the four-man competition and Phillipsburg was the two-man champion.

Norton's best golfer on their four-man team was Garret Otter with a 49/48-97, followed by Derek Rowh, 50/52-102; Quinton Porter, 58/46-104; Nick Peterson, 56/56-112.

The Blue Jays' two-man team consisted of Wilson Ellis with a 54/51-105 and Landon Porter with a 59/56-115. Also on Norton's four-man team was Skylar Johnson with a 64/68-132. Also playing on the Blue Jay two-man team was Layton Miller with a 63/59-122.

Norton hosted the Class 3A Regional Golf Tournament on Monday, May 19 on the Prairie Dog Golf Course south of Norton. Winning and qualifying for the State Tournament were Thomas More Prep with a 333 and Phillipsburg with a 351.

Scores of teams in addition to the two qualifying for the state tournament were: Sacred Heart, 351; Ellsworth, 370; Beloit, 395; Hoisington, 418; Norton, 426; Minneapolis, 475.

Norton's scores were: Quinton Porter, 50/52-102; Garret Otter, 54/50-104; Landon Porter, 55/53-108; Wilson Ellis, 63/49-112. Also playing for Norton and their scores were: Nick Peterson, 62/59-121 and Derek Rowh, 66/59-125.

"Regional golf is a different atmosphere and, added to the fact that we were playing on our home course, we played very tight early in our rounds," said coach Stover.

"Because of our poor starts, we weren't able to shoot the scores we needed to shoot to qualify for the state tournament but we never stopped competing all day.

"It has been a season of improvement and I am very proud of each and every one of our golfers. They have continued to work hard to improve and have represented NCHS in a very positive manner.

"With continued commitment, this group's golf future is very bright!"

Wrestling camp to be held in Norton

The 12-time National Champion University of Central Oklahoma Wrestling Team will be hosting a wrestling camp in the Norton Wrestling Room July 1-3.

Under the leadership of head coach David James, for the past 33 years Central Oklahoma has amassed 24 top four national finishes to go along with the 12 national titles. An amazing accomplishment by any standards. Coach James has also coached 47 individual national champions, 181 All-Americans and recorded a 321-54-1 dual meet record during his tenure as head coach.

Clinicians for the Camp will include:

Kyle Evans- Central Oklahoma assistant coach, a two-time national champion, and a four-time All-American at Central Oklahoma.

Casy Rowell- 2014 National Champion and Outstanding Wrestler of National Tournament (3 X AA)

Wes Ruth - Head wrestling coach in Del City, Okla., as of May 12, and a former Central Oklahoma wrestler.

Brent Sarette - Asst. Coach Southmoore High School in Oklahoma, and a former Central Oklahoma wrestler .

Coach Johnson commented: "We are very excited to have UCO come to Norton to host a camp. All four Clinicians are well respected for their skills in wrestling. We are especially fortunate to have UCO assistant coach Kyle Evans come to town. Evans was almost unbeatable in his final two years at UCO, racking up a 71-2 record while claiming back to back national titles. As an athlete Evans was a technically sound wrestler that used finesse to win matches. In my opinion those are the types of wrestlers that make the best coaches. Hopefully all of Norton's wrestlers will turn out and

learn from some of the best in the nation."

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JUNIOR GOLF

Starts Monday, July 7

Junior golf will start on Monday, July 7 with registration at 5:30 and begin at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and runs July 7 - July 14 - July 21

July 28 will highlight the year with a Pizza Party at 5:15, followed by a 9-hole golf tournament at 5:45 and a swimming party following golf

Cost this year is \$25.00 per participant aged 7 to 14. Registration this year will include a golf shirt. Come and learn the lifelong game of golf. Adults are welcome to come, watch, and help mentor the junior golfers

Pre-register by mailing it to: Tyler Rutherford
1014 Truman Drive, Norton, KS 67654,
or call 785-202-0214 with the name, age, and shirt size of the participant.

Call Dana for your next ad.
785 - 877 - 3361!

NORTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

Broncho's Wrestling Camp

JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 3, 2014

Norton High School Wrestling Room

600 N. State Street - Norton, Kansas

Grades 1 through 6 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Grades 7 through 12 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

(GRADES FOR THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR)

COST:

Grades 1 through 6 \$30.00

Grades 7 through 12 \$50.00

Norton Wrestling Club members will be admitted for 1/2 price
MAKE CHECKS TO THE NORTON WRESTLING CLUB
(Price includes Free Camp T-Shirt if payment is returned by June 23)

Camp Director: Bill Johnson, NCHS Head Coach
15590 US Hwy. 283, Norton, KS 67654 - (785) 871-0429
e-mail: bjohnson@usd211.org

CLINICIANS:

Kyle Evans - Assistant Coach at UCO

2 x Division II National Champion; Division II National Runner-up; 4 x Division II All-American; 125-20 Career Record at UCO; Oklahoma H.S. State Champion at Edmond North

Casy Rowell - 2014 National Champion

2014 OW of National Tournament; 3x Division II All-American; 134-32 Career Record at UCO; 3x Oklahoma State Champion at Duncan H.S.; 2x State Pole Vault Champion

Wes Ruth - Head Coach at Del City High School, OK

2 x Oklahoma State Runner-Up, Ardmore H.S.; UCO Varsity Letter Winner

Brent Sarette - Asst. Coach at Southmoore, High School, OK

UCO 4 x Letterman; 2 x All State Texas Wrestling Team

Please return with payment by June 23 to Bill Johnson, 15590 US Hwy. 283, Norton, KS 67654

Name: _____ Grade 2014-15: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Name and phone number of individuals to contact in case of emergency.

Waiver: My son/daughter has been examined by a physician in the last year and is in good health. I authorize the Norton Wrestling Camp Staff to act for me, according to their best judgment in any medical emergency while trying to contact me, and I hereby waive and release said camp from any liability for injuries or illness incurred by my son/daughter while attending camp.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____