

Wrestlers win Goodland tournament

By DICK BOYD

Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School varsity wrestling team successfully defended last year's championship of the Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament on Saturday in Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland.

Norton entered the tournament for the first time last season.

Twelve teams competed and were divided into three pools of four teams. Norton was in a pool with Leoti, Holton and Burlington, Colo.

The Blue Jays opened with a 65-13 win over Leoti, followed by a 73-6 victory over Holton and 57-18 win over Burlington to win its pool.

Scott City won its pool with a 58-21 win over John F. Kennedy of Denver, 48-27 victory over Smith Center and a 54-21 win over Hoxie.

Goodland was the winner of the other pool. The Cowboys outpointed Tonganoxie 62-18, Junction City 50-30 and Ulysses 57-18.

In the final two rounds, each team wrestled the other two teams with their same placing in pool play. For first place, Goodland wrestled Scott City and defeated them 46-19. Norton then wrestled Scott City and won 61-9.

As the two undefeated teams from pool play, Norton and Goodland wrestled and the Blue Jays prevailed 42-25 to take home the championship for the second straight year.

Scott City finished third. Junction City, Burlington and Hoxie each placed second in their pools. Junction City defeated Burlington 57-18 and Hoxie 48-17 to place fourth. Hoxie defeated Burlington 43-33.

Norton wrestlers compiled a 37-13 won-loss record and had a 21-6 pin ratio.

Nathan Broeckelman, 119-pound sophomore; Lance Roe, 152-pound junior and Michael Sprigg, 275-pound senior, had perfect 4-0 records in the tournament.

Logan Keiswetter, 103-pound sophomore and Luke Pfannenstiel, 140-pound junior, had perfect 3-0 records.

These five Norton wrestlers were among the unbeaten who received special awards at the end of the tournament.

Jeremy Harding, 135-pound junior and Davvid Stanley, 171-pound junior, both compiled outstanding 4-1 records for the day. Clay Madden, 112-pound junior, was 3-1 for the tournament.

Jon Harding, 130-pound junior and Paul Juenemann, 189-pound senior, went 2-2. Todd Bolt, 125-pound freshman and Blake VanEaton, 145-pound sophomore, each had a 1-1 record.

Brian Sproul, 160-pound freshman and Blake Hillebrand, 215-pound senior, ended with 1-2 records.

Norton 42, Goodland 25
Norton got off to a good start in the championship match with Goodland when Keiswetter won 5-0 in overtime over Jordan Albers.

Two-time state champion Madden wrestled Brett Bahe, state runner-up in Class 4A last season, in the 112-pound match. Madden was unable to earn any points against Bahe and his opponent scored on a takedown in the first period and reversal in the third to win 4-0 and tie the team score at 3-3.

Broeckelman, a state runner-up last season, won a 13-2 major decision over Brandon Zelfer to put Norton back on top 7-3.

Bolt was pinned in 2:51 by A.J. Stephens at 125 pounds and Goodland had a 9-7 lead.

Jon Harding came through with a 16-3 major decision over Aaron Deeds and the Blue Jays led 11-9.

Jeremy Harding wrestled Dexter Deeds at 135 pounds and suffered his only loss of the tournament by a 13-3 major decision to put the Cowboys back on top 13-11. At the end of the tournament, Deeds won the "Outstanding Wrestler" award.

VanEaton won by forfeit at 140 pounds and Norton was ahead 17-13.

Pfannenstiel, a former state medalist, manhandled Blake Saint at 145 pounds, winning a 10-2 major decision to extend the Norton lead to 21-13.

Goodland narrowed the Blue Jay lead to 21-19 when Sproul was pinned in 5:35 of the 152-pound match by Brandon Hatfield.

That was as close as the Cowboys came as the Blue Jays won the next three matches to pull away for the team victory. Roe, a two-time state medalist, won his fourth match of the day by a 10-5 score over Jon Cook at 160 pounds.

In the 171-pound match, Stanley made Brett Jarmin count the lights in just 28 seconds and it took Juenemann just 1:25 to put T.J. Hawkins down for the count at 189 pounds. These three victories extended the Norton team lead to 36-19 and ensured the championship.

At 215 pounds, Hillebrand was pinned in 58 seconds by Mark Starr, who went undefeated for the tournament along with Bahe and Deeds.

Many times in his Blue Jay career, Sprigg has been called upon to win the final match of the night to bring a Norton team victory but, this time, the damage had already been done by his teammates. Sprigg still made short work of his opponent, Robert Doxon, pinning him in just 13 seconds to make the final team score 42-25.

Coach Johnson was pleased with his Blue Jays' performance in the tournament, especially in the Goodland dual which he didn't see. His oldest son, Eric, who wrestles in college, was home for the holiday break and became ill with an abscessed tonsil. He was taken to the hospital in Kearney, Neb. and Coach Johnson listened to the Goodland dual on the radio on the way to the hospital.

"I was able to listen to the entire dual and I felt that we wrestled extremely well," said Coach Johnson. "In the first eight matches, neither team won two matches in a row. When we got to Pfannenstiel and Roe, we thought they would be our last two trump cards because, other than Sprigg, we don't have that much experience at the heavier weights."

"I thought we'd probably need a 20 or 30-point lead after Roe's match in order to win but Stanley and Juenemann both pinned for us to clinch the championship. When the match was on the line, they came through in flying colors."

"I was a little uncertain going into the tournament but, as the day went on, we looked more in shape and saved the best matches for last. We wrestled outstanding in the last two duals. The win over Scott City was a major, major victory."

"My compliments to my assistant coaches Doug Ray and Dayton Hager for taking over for me in the match with Goodland. They did an outstanding job of guiding our wrestlers to the championship. Coach Johnson named the entire Norton team as recipients of the "Wrestler of the Week" award."

Norton 61, Scott City 9

103—Logan Keiswetter pinned Tyrel George in 2:51.

112—Clay Madden won a 17-1 technical fall over Justin Sauer.

119—Nathan Broeckelman pinned Nick Kough in 2:52.

125—Jared Bebb won by forfeit.

130—Jon Harding lost a 7-4 decision to Logan Dreiling.

135—Jeremy Harding pinned Tanner Stucky in 21 seconds.

140—Blake VanEaton won an 11-2 decision over Dustin Warta.

145—Luke Pfannenstiel won an 8-4 decision over Ben Mettlen.

152—Brian Sproul pinned Todd Kendrick in 4:58.

160—Lance Roe won an 11-3 major decision over Aaron Rosin.

171—Davvid Stanley pinned William Radnor in 1:23.

189—Paul Juenemann pinned Kaleb McDaniel in 1:41.

215—Blake Hillebrand was pinned in 1:17 by Lucas Fox.

275—Michael Sprigg won a 7-3 decision over Guy Miller.

Norton 57, Burlington 18

103—Logan Keiswetter won by forfeit.

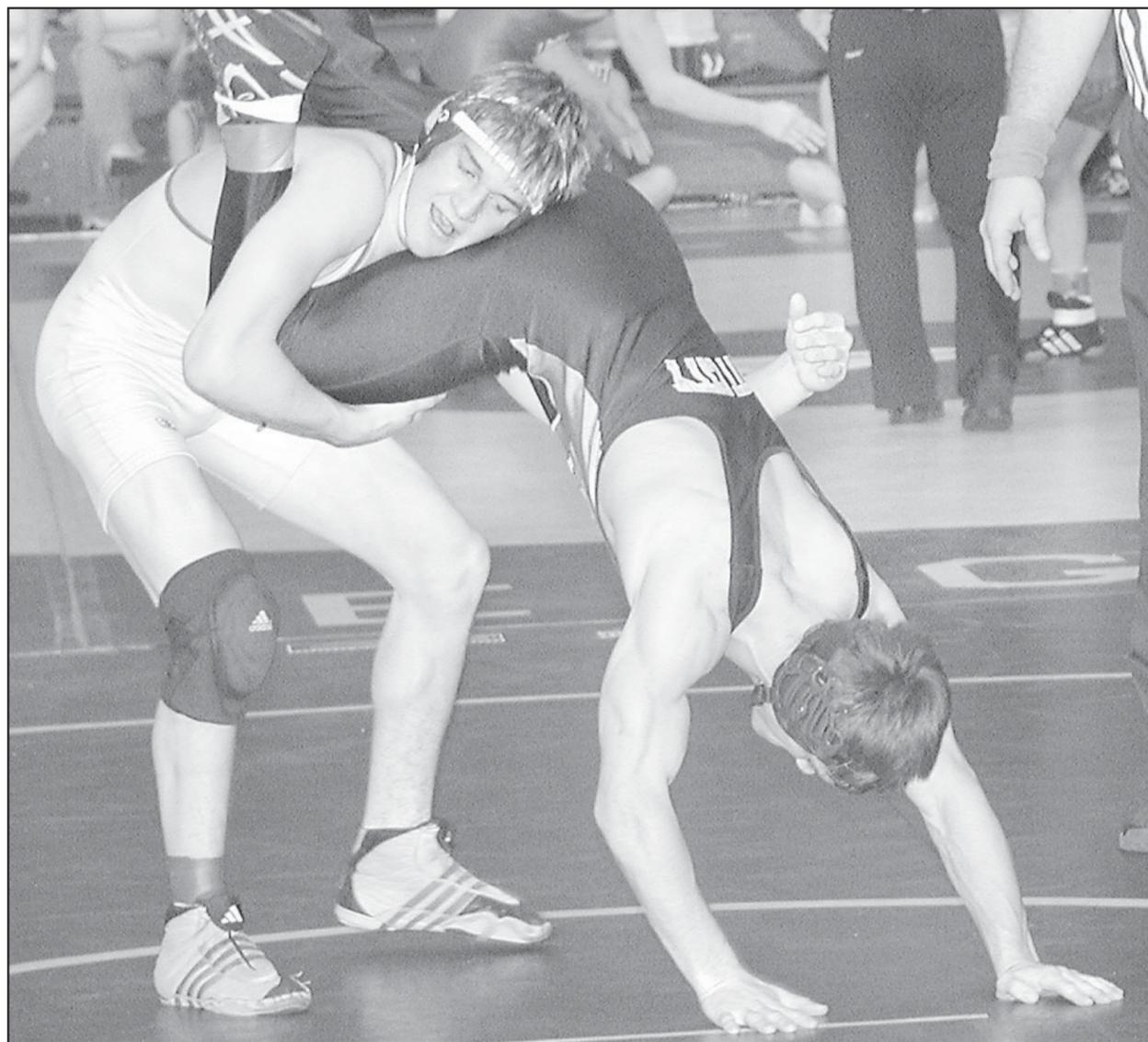
112—Clay Madden shutout Chris Penny 9-0.

119—Nathan Broeckelman pinned Brock Sharon in 38 seconds.

125—Logan Hines, Burlington, won by forfeit.

130—Jon Harding lost a 12-5 decision to Trevor Aeschliman.

135—Jeremy Harding pinned



Norton junior Luke Pfannenstiel scores two points en route to an 8-4 decision over Scott City's Ben Mettlen at 145 pounds at the Holiday Classic Tournament on Saturday in Goodland. Pfannenstiel was one of five Norton

wrestlers who went unbeaten in the tournament. The other four were: Logan Keiswetter, 103; Nathan Broeckelman, 119; Lance Roe, 152 and Michael Sprigg, 275.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Josh Johnson in 2:46.

140—Luke Pfannenstiel won by forfeit.

145—Blake VanEaton lost a 7-2 decision to Rodrik David.

152—Lance Roe won an 18-1 technical fall over Brad Hertnecky.

160—Brian Sproul won by forfeit.

171—Davvid Stanley pinned Justin Sandoval in 32 seconds.

189—Paul Juenemann won by forfeit.

215—Blake Hillebrand won by forfeit.

275—Michael Sprigg pinned Jeff Quinn in 1:38.

Norton 73, Holton 6

103—Logan Keiswetter won by forfeit.

112—Clay Madden won by forfeit.

119—Travis Ray won by forfeit.

125—Nathan Broeckelman pinned Matt Spade in 5:25.

130—Jon Harding won a 13-3 major decision over Sheldon Rinkes.

135—Jeremy Harding pinned Jordan Robbins in 1:25.

140—Luke Pfannenstiel won by forfeit.

145—Blake VanEaton won by forfeit.

152—Lance Roe pinned Zach Shields in 3:45.

160—Brian Sproul won by forfeit.

171—Davvid Stanley shutout Aaron Minde 7-0.

189—Paul Juenemann was

pinned in 50 seconds by Jesse Strawn.

215—Blake Hillebrand won by forfeit.

275—Michael Sprigg won by forfeit.

Norton 65, Leoti 13

103—Logan Keiswetter won a 15-0 technical fall over Francisco Fierro.

112—Clay Madden pinned Nathan Porter in 3:45.

119—Nathan Broeckelman won by forfeit.

125—Todd Bolt pinned Tucker Graff in 1:10.

130—Jon Harding won by forfeit.

135—Jeremy Harding pinned Jason Baker in 1:24.

140—Luke Pfannenstiel pinned

Equer Fierro in 13 seconds.

145—Blake VanEaton won by forfeit.

152—Lance Roe won by forfeit.

160—Brian Sproul lost a 9-0 major decision to Matt Baker.

171—Davvid Stanley lost a 15-13 decision to Braxton Berning.

189—Paul Juenemann was pinned in 5:55 by Ed Vargus.

215—Blake Hillebrand pinned Remington Smith in 50 seconds.

275—Michael Sprigg pinned Marty Rodriguez in 1:58.

Next action

The Norton wrestling team's next action will be in the J.R. Durham Invitational Tournament on Saturday, January 8 in the NCHS Memorial Gym in Norton. Wrestling will begin at 10 a.m.

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