

Blue Jay boys 3rd at state, Bainter 9th and Baird 10th

By DICK BOYD

Coach Deyton Hager's Norton Community High School boys cross country runners won the third place team trophy and the two Lady Jay runners ran well, too, in the Class 3A State Cross Country Meet on Saturday morning on the golf course at Wamego.

The Norton boys team qualified for the state meet for the first time last season and placed sixth. This time, they had their sights set higher.

"Our youngsters ran with their hearts today," said a jubilant coach Hager, who will leave Norton in January to attend Manhattan Technical College. "They laid it all on the line."

"We have been ranked behind the top three teams all year long and it was time to prove we had something more in us. We really didn't care whether we brought home first, second or third. We just knew we could get one of them."

"Our boys ran their best in a field of 107 of the best cross country runners in Kansas. The state meet proved how hard the regional was with all three of the teams finishing in the top five."

Boys

No.1 state ranked Kansas City Christian won the championship with 43 points. Placing second was No.2 state ranked Southeast of Saline with 76. Norton has been ranked No.4 all season behind Wichita Trinity Academy but the Blue Jays passed them to place third with 110 points.

Trinity Academy finished in fourth place with 132 points, followed by Holcomb, 133; Belleville, 147; Hesston, 186; Riley County, 187; Hillsboro, 220; Richmond-Central Heights, 225; Sabetha, 251; Osage City, 278.

Blue Jay sophomore Zach Bainter placed ninth individually with a 17:35 time after finishing tenth as a freshman.

Norton senior Logan Keiswetter was 26th in 18:24, which bettered his 48th place in last year's state meet.

Third finisher for Norton was senior Kent Mann in 35th with a clocking of 18:36. Mann placed 38th as a junior.

Fourth best runner for the Blue Jays was senior Jared Engelbert in 52nd with a time of 18:58. He placed 59th last year.

Completing Norton's five-man team was freshman Chris Maddy

in 56th with a clocking of 19:06.

Also running for the Jays were senior Jared Bebb, who placed 66th in 19:21 and sophomore Jordan Bebb, who finished 76th in 19:32. Jared placed 73rd for Norton last year and Jordan did not compete in the state meet a year ago.

"Zach Bainter had his best run of the year; coming in at ninth was super. There were only three underclassmen boys in the top ten," said coach Hager.

"Our senior boys ran their last cross country race and they are leaving here with a great record. Our boys had only three second place finishes this year. Two were to Southeast of Saline and one to Wichita Trinity by one point at Trego. It was great to beat Wichita Trinity this time by a pretty good margin."

"Last year finishing sixth and moving up to third met a goal for our boys and for myself. I will truly miss these boys who have been with me for a long time and have run more miles than a person could think of running."

Michael Ward was also a senior member of the Norton team.

Girls

No.1 state ranked Riley County won the girls championship with 55 points and No.2 state ranked Salina-Sacred Heart placed second with 81. Medicine Lodge had been tied for No.7 with Belleville but won the third place trophy with

114. Cheney, who had been ranked No.3, placed fourth with 136, followed by Whitewater-Remington, 137; Belleville, 162; Beloit, 174; Allen-Northern Heights, 210; Mound City, 219; Lakin, 222; Seneca, 236; Wellsville, 239.

Norton sophomore Laura Lee Baird placed tenth individually with a time of 15:49 and Lady Jay sophomore Taylor Rossi finished 39th in a personal best time of 17:04. Her previous personal record was 17:10, which she set at Lakeside.

"Laura Lee had a super race," said coach Hager. "I set a goal for her to get in the top ten and she met that goal. Taylor also ran a great race, beating per personal record."

Coach's comments

"I will really miss the cross country sport," said coach Hager. "There is drama in it, there is suspense, there is the camaraderie with the other runners and coaches. It is a sport that brings the fans right in it. In most sports, you get to sit in the stands away from the action. Well, this sport will open your eyes with the runners one foot away as you are yelling at them to push on. It will literally take your breath away as you run from one side of the course to the next."

"It is one of the best sports in high school today. I truly believe this. It is getting bigger every year in Norton and it is here to stay."

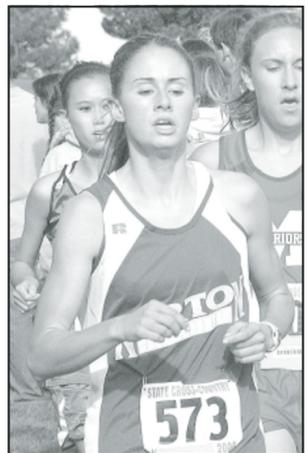
"There are so many people to

thank for what they have done over the years for this sport and my teams. I truly thank you all, but the ones I need to thank the most are my three children, the ones who had to do without dad for so long. It's time for me to coach them in their lives."

"Many thanks to everyone for everything."

Reporter's note

Nine years ago, coach Hager started the Norton cross country



The Lady Jays' Laura Lee Baird was concentrating on the course ahead when this photo was taken of her in the Class 3A state cross country meet on Saturday morning in Wamego. She placed tenth in the 2.5 mile race.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

program, which had not been in existence in 14 years. He has built the program into a state contender and will be missed by all the runners, parents and fans. Good luck to him in his new endeavor.



Norton's Zach Bainter is shown climbing one of the hills on the state cross country course in Wamego on Saturday morning. Bainter was Norton's fastest runner, placing ninth.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Jayvee tennis finishes 4th

By DICK BOYD

Coach Shawnee Branek's Norton Community High School junior varsity girls tennis team placed fourth in the Colby JV Invitational on Sat., Sept. 30 in Colby.

Phillipsburg won the championship with 40 points, followed by Colby, 36; Garden City, 27; Norton, 26; Scott City, 15; Goodland, 13; Ulysses, 12; Liberal, 10.

"Our inconsistency showed up in this tournament," said coach Branek.

"All our girls started really strong but we ran out of steam midway through the tournament."

Norton's Gena Myers and Sara Campbell placed first in No.1 doubles. In pool play, they shutout Ulysses' Mary Carmen Pierce and Kristen Torres 7-0, defeated Goodland's Leeanoora KeKalainen and Kathy Wood 7-3 and lost 7-6(7-4) to Phillipsburg's Becca Zillinger and Courtney Beard.

In the semi-finals, they defeated Garden City's Paige Russell and Tujana Weber 7-6(7-5). In the finals, they faced Zillinger and Beard again and, this time, defeated them 7-1 to win the title.

"It was good to see Gena and Sara beat the Phillipsburg girls for first place after losing to them in pool play," said coach Branek.

Valerie Wagoner played No.1 singles for Norton and placed fourth. She defeated Ulysses' Angela Baibo 7-1, outscored Hannah Fulton of Norton who was playing for Goodland 7-0 and lost 7-2 to Phillipsburg's Robbie Hadley in pool play.

In the semi-finals, she lost 7-1 to Colby's Barbara Buckner. In the

finals, she played Phillipsburg's Hadley a second time and lost.

"Valerie placed second in her pool by winning two matches but lost both matches in bracket play to finish in fourth," said coach Branek.

In No.2 singles, Tabitha Vincent played for the Lady Jays and finished fourth. In pool play, she defeated Ulysses' Tiffany Hall 7-1, shutout Goodland's Sandra Redlin 7-0 and lost 7-2 to Phillipsburg's MaryAnn Schremmer. In the semi-finals, she lost 7-4 to Colby's Laura Dougherty. In the finals, she lost 7-4 to Garden City's Shannon McNeil.

"Tabitha played her first two matches with complete confidence," said coach Branek. "She was hitting the ball very hard and strategically placing it as well."

"She has improved a great deal this year."

Emily Juenemann and Bethany Wicker played No.2 doubles for the Lady Jays and finished in fifth place. In pool play, they defeated Ulysses' Melissa Rose and Shalie Wachter 7-6(7-1), lost 7-5 to Goodland's Linsey Owens and Nicolette Wallis and were outscored 7-2 by Phillipsburg's Tristin Troyer and Chelsey Troyer.

In the finals, they defeated Liberal's Natalie Caiyo and Yahaida Zubia 7-3 to place fifth.

Hannah Fulton played No.1 singles for Goodland. In pool play, she lost 7-2 to Phillipsburg's Hadley, lost 7-0 to Norton's Wagoner and was outscored 7-4 by Ulysses' Baibo.

In the finals, she forfeited to Liberal's Caitlyn Workman and placed eighth.

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City-Wide Clean-Up

Fall Clean-up is a free service provided by the City of Norton

If residents take items to the landfill themselves, normal county fees will apply

City Trucks will make special trash pickup during these days. All items MUST be out at the curb by 8 a.m. on your regular route day.

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, November 6, 7, and 8

NO ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE ALLEY!

All types of trash will be picked up on your regular trash route day EXCEPT yard waste, tires, and household hazardous waste. Yard waste will be picked up on your regular yard waste route day. There will be a \$10.00 charge per item for appliances with Freon. Tree limbs must be cut no longer than 8 feet long. Yard waste must be in a solid container. Fireplace ash must be in plastic bags.

The maximum limit of items the City will pick up at each residence is one load of tree limbs and one load of metal and construction debris. Normal household trash will be picked up in the usual manner.

SPECIAL NOTE: TRASH MUST BE SEPARATED, i.e., tree limbs from metals, etc. because they are disposed of in different locations at the landfill. Mattresses and furniture need to be separate from other trash. Hazardous waste such as paint, motor oil, batteries, pesticides, poisons, caustic chemicals, etc. WILL NOT be picked up and should be taken by owners directly to the county landfill.



REMNINDER: Once-a-week pickup begins the week of November 20. Only regular household trash and recyclables will be picked up on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week.

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