

Girls first, boys second at Oberlin Invite

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls and boys track and field teams were very successful once again during the Oberlin Invitational on Tuesday as the girls continued unbeaten for the season and the boys placed second.

The Lady Jays totaled 106 points to beat Atwood for the championship. Atwood tallied 88 points, followed by Oakley, 85; Smith Center, 71; Oberlin, 67; Phillipsburg, 60; St. Francis, 39; Wheatland-Grinnell, 20; Southwest (Indianola and Bartley), 17; Hoxie, 4.

The Norton boys earned 97 points to place behind Phillipsburg, who scored 105 points. Third place went to Atwood with 74, followed by , 64; St. Francis, 56; Smith Center, 49; Oakley, 46; Hoxie, 27; Goodland, 23; Wheatland-Grinnell, 21.

Girls

Junior Laura Lee Baird had another outstanding day in the running events, winning three gold medals once again. In the 800 meter run, she was clocked in 2:19.43, which broke her meet record of 2:23.12 by almost four seconds.

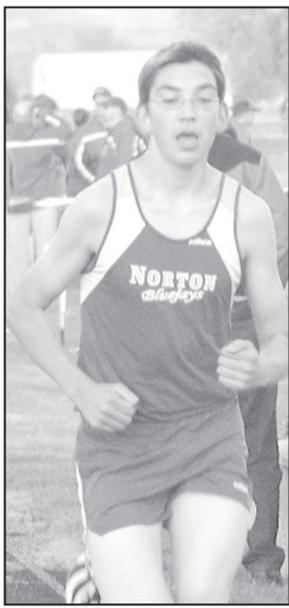
She had to beat two excellent runners who also broke her record. Kuhlman of Oakley was second in 2:21.97 and Wolters of Atwood was third in 2:22.60.

Laura Lee also won the 1600 meter run with an excellent time of 5:24.

She ended the day by anchoring the Norton 4 x 400 meter relay team to gold medals in 4:16.43. Running with her were junior KaraJo Jones, senior Courtney LeClair and freshman Dustyna Sprigg.

Also breaking a meet record and a personal record was junior Hayli Bozarth in the shot put. She heaved the iron ball 41'4.5" to break the meet record of 39'5", which was held by Miller of Atwood. Hayli also placed second in the discus with a throw of 126'3" and fifth in the javelin with a distance of 103'10".

Atwood's Miller also held the discus meet record of 128'2" and she broke that with a 137'4" to win the gold medal.



Norton senior David Counter left the field behind as he powered to the gold medal in the 3200 meter run in a personal best time of 10:55.83 in the Oberlin Invitational Meet on Tuesday.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Junior Taylor Rossi won her specialty, the pole vault, with a clearance of 8'9".

KaraJo Jones won the silver medal in the long jump with a leap of 15'1.5" and finished fourth in the 200 meter dash in 27.48.

In addition to running on the winning 4 x 400 meter relay team, she was also a member of the 4 x 100 meter relay team which placed fourth in 53.63. Running with her were Courtney LeClair, and sophomores Raven Brown and Hannah Waggoner.

Courtney LeClair had another good day in the hurdles. She placed third in the 300 meter hurdles in 49.29 and fifth in the 100 meter hurdles in 17.21.

Freshman Kaylen Rossi ran a solid 3200 meter race and placed third with a personal record time of 14:00.64.

Junior Wiyanna Paxton won the bronze medal in the discus with a personal best throw of 108'2".

In addition to anchoring the 4 x 100 meter relay, Hannah Wag-

goner placed third in the 100 meter dash in 13.18 and fifth in the 200 meter dash in 27.55.

Taylor Rossi placed sixth in the 800 meter run in 2:51.38.

Sister Kaylen Rossi anchored the 4 x 800 meter relay team which placed sixth in 12:16.24. Running with her were sophomore Bethany Roy, Courtney Cox and freshman Sophie Mills.

Times and distances of Norton girls performances which did not place were: junior Amanda Delimont, 31'1.25"; Wiyanna Paxton, 30'9", shot put; Amanda Delimont, personal record 84'11", discus; Wiyanna Paxton, 90'; Bethany Roy, personal record 87'11", javelin; Raven Brown, 13'5", long jump; Dustyna Sprigg, 28'4"; Raven Brown, 26'3.5", triple jump; Dustyna Sprigg, 4'6"; sophomore Brandi Graham, 4', high jump; Raven Brown, 13.63; Brandi Graham, 15.11, 100 meter dash; Dustyna Sprigg, personal record 1:07.36; junior Katharine Roy, personal record 1:10.43, 400 meter dash; Sophie Mills, 3:10.57, 800 meter run; Courtney Cox, 6:59.06; sophomore Amanda Ray, 6:59.09, 1600 meter run.

Boys

Norton freshman Terrell Lane had his best day as a Blue Jay track and field athlete as he set two personal records and won three gold medals!

Terrell won the 200 meter dash in a personal record time of 22.79 and won the triple jump with a personal best distance of 40'9". He also won the long jump with a leap of 21', coming close to the meet record of 21'7.5" set by Krannawitter, Hoxie, in 1980. Lane also anchored the 4 x 100 meter relay team which placed sixth in 46.25. Running with him were senior Todd Bolt, sophomore Landon Hamel and junior Brock Lauer.

Senior Jared Cox had another good meet in the hurdles. He won the 300 meter hurdles in a personal best time of 40.11 and placed third in the 110 meter hurdles in 15.65.

Junior Zach Bainter ran outstanding again. In his two main events, the 800 meter and 1600 meter runs, he battled Atwood's Basgall and split golds with him

in two great races. Zach beat Basgall to the finish line in the 800 meter run where he was timed in a career best 2:02.64 and Basgall in 2:02.73.

Earlier in the day, the two ran all out for the gold in the 1600 meter run and Basgall edged him 4:38.12 to 4:40.09. Zach's time was a personal best. The meet record of 4:37.4 is held by Jackson of Oberlin and was set in 1970.

Zach also anchored the 4 x 400 meter relay team to a fourth place finish in 3:39.82. Running with him were Jared Cox, senior Logan Kats and Landon Hamel.

Senior David Counter also had a great day in his specialty, the 3200 meter run. David ran away from the field to win the gold medal in a personal best time of 10:55.83.

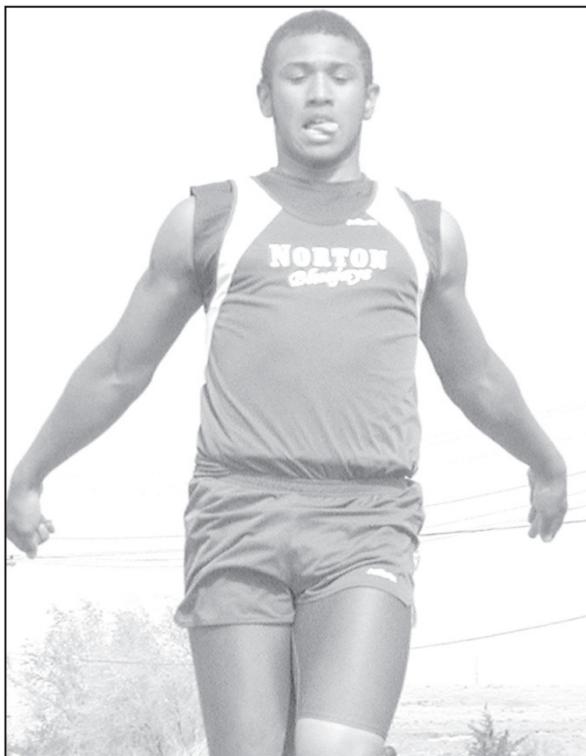
Senior Wes Georgeson won the bronze medal in the javelin with a personal best throw of 154'6" and placed sixth in the 110 meter hurdles in 16.43.

Sophomore Chris Maddy finished third in the 3200 meter run with a personal best clocking of 11:11.02.

Junior Zac Dreher finished fourth in the javelin with a throw of 149'11".

Freshman Dakota Dreher placed sixth in the high jump with a personal record clearance of 5'6".

Times and distances by Norton boys which did not place were: Zac Dreher, 37'3"; junior Brad Nuzum, 34'4.5"; freshman Ryan Blecha, 33'7", shot put; Ryan Blecha, 95'1"; Zac Dreher, 93'6"; senior Bryce Engelbert, 89'11", discus; Bryce Engelbert, ND, javelin; Todd Bolt, 17'10"; Landon Hamel, 17'8", long jump; Todd Bolt, 37'10"; sophomore Casey Robison, 33'4", triple jump; freshman Billy Broeckelman, personal record 5', high jump; freshman Kaid McKenna, 9'6"; Casey Robison, 9'6"; Billy Broeckelman, 9', pole vault; Wes Georgeson, personal record 43.85; Landon Hamel, personal record 44.72, 300 meter hurdles; Brock Lauer, 11.90; Brad Nuzum, 12.31; Kaid McKenna, 13.81, 100 meter dash; Todd Bolt, 24.31; freshman Spencer Shirk, personal best 28.49, 200 meter dash; Logan Kats, 57.72; Spencer Shirk, personal best 1:02.86, 400 meter dash; Dakota



Norton freshman Terrell Lane is shown winning the triple jump with a personal record distance of 40'9" at the Oberlin Invitational Track Meet on Tuesday.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Dreher, 2:31.69, 800 meter run; senior Luke VanSkike, 5:26.01; junior Josh Gallentine, 6:16, 1600 meter run; freshman Troy Bainter, personal record 12:02.94, 3200 meter run; Dakota Dreher, David Counter, Troy Bainter, Chris Maddy, 9:42.27, 4 x 800 meter relay.

Coach's comments

"Tuesday's meet in Oberlin turned out to be great for us!" said Norton head track coach Jason Jones.

"Our girls team defeated some pretty solid point-scoring teams to win the meet and our boys' team was a much closer second in this meet.

"We are getting better in a number of areas and that is our goal at this point in the season.

"Our girls posted seven new personal records in five events and our boys put up 15 new personal records in nine separate events!

"We hope to build on those performances and gain some

more confidence from them as we prepare to enter the league meet next Friday. Those types of efforts are awesome to see as we gear up for the final portion of our season. We are proud of the way we competed, across the board, in this meet and look forward with excitement to the upcoming meets on our schedule!"

Next action

Norton competed in the 48th annual Russell Relays today, beginning at 3 p.m.

Competing, in addition to Norton and Russell, were teams from Abilene, Beloit, Chapman, Concordia, Minneapolis, Phillipsburg and Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays.

On Monday, Norton junior varsity athletes will compete in the Hill City Invitational, which begins at 4 p.m.

The Mid-Continent League Meet will be held on the new track in Phillipsburg on Friday, May 9, beginning at 3 p.m.

Blue Jays finish ninth at toughest golf test this season

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School golf team competed in their toughest tournament this

season when they played in the Thomas More Prep of Hays Invitational on Monday on the Smoky Hill course in Hays.

The Blue Jays finished ninth out

of 13 teams.

Hays High won the championship with a 338, followed by Colby, 342; Phillipsburg, 350; Russell, 364; Trego, 365; Good-

land, 368; Hays High JV, 372; Thomas More Prep, 385; Norton, 396; Larned, 407; Scott City, 416; Ellis, 437; Oberlin, 443.

Norton senior Preston Herman carded the low score for the Blue Jays with a 47-44-91, followed by sophomore J.D. Gall, 51-48-99; senior Kyle Edgett, 52-51-103 and junior Logan Kelly, 52-51-103.

Also playing for Norton was sophomore Marcus Herman, who shot a 53-52-105.

Medalists were: Rylee Haas, Colby, 79; Jeff Jarvis, Phillipsburg, 80; Kyle Molstad, Colby, 82; Kris Newhauser, Hays High, 82; Dalton Ginther, Russell, 84;

Jon Westhusin, Hays High, 84; Nolan Smith, Trego, 84; Jason Ball, Hays High, 86; Jesse Hart, Hays High, 86; Carter Curtis Hays High JV, 86; Chris Schneider, Phillipsburg, 86.

"We did not play as well today as we had in tournaments leading up to this one," said Norton head golf coach David Stover.

"We have never played well in this tournament and this year was no exception.

"The Smoky Hill course is one of the tougher setups we see and today, at least in our case, the course won.

"We did not handle the thick

rough very well and our short game was not as sharp as it needed to be.

"Today should be a good preparation for our late season stretch beginning with the Colby Invitational."

Next action

The Norton varsity played in the Colby Invitational on Thursday and the Norton junior varsity competed in the Trego JV Invitational on Thursday but results were not available at press time.

On Monday, the Norton varsity will compete in the Phillipsburg Invitational, beginning at 1 p.m.

Blue Jay inks with Ottawa U.

By DICK BOYD

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Courtney Cox, senior at Norton Community High School, has signed a letter of intent to play volleyball at Ottawa University next year.

Cox, a 5'7" outside hitter, earned three letters in volleyball, two in basketball and two in track for the Blue Jays. She helped lead her volleyball team to the Class 3A Kansas State High School Tournament and her basketball team to the 3A Kansas State High School Tournament this past season.

Cox earned second team All-Mid-Continent League volley-

ball honors her junior and senior seasons. She was also selected to play in the Colby Volleyball All-Star game and earned Scott City Tournament honors.

"Courtney's fundamentals and confidence on the court really caught my eye," said Ottawa head coach Lorrie Hammit. "She is in the habit of doing things correctly, which will really help her become a great player for us.

"We are very pleased to have Courtney in the Lady Brave Volleyball Program!"

Cox is the daughter of Clark and Peggy Cox and also the niece of Ottawa Assistant Athletic Direc-

tor and assistant football coach Tom Taldo. Peggy is the Norton Community High School head volleyball coach.

Cox plans to major in biology. Founded in 1865, Ottawa University is a comprehensive, not-for-profit educational institution affiliated with the American Baptist Churches USA. Ottawa University's educational mission brings together a residential campus in Ottawa and adult campuses in Overland Park; Kansas City, Mo.; Phoenix, Mesa and Tempe, Ariz.; Milwaukee; Jeffersonville, Ind. as well as multiple international instructional sites.

Junior varsity golfers place fifth

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton JV Invitational Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday and the Norton Community High School junior varsity placed fifth and the Norton reserves B team ninth out of 11 schools.

The Phillipsburg junior varsity won the championship with a 194, followed by Colby, 197; Northern Valley, 199; Trego Community, 200; Norton, 210; Smith Center, 214; Plainville, 239; Atwood, 242; Norton B, 246; Hill City, 247; Stockton, 271.

Senior Lacy Ellis was low scorer for Norton with a 51, followed by junior Ashley Colip, 52; freshman Cole Archer, 53; senior Andrew Black, 54. Junior Kyle Mindrup shot a 59 and freshman Andrew Otter carded a 66.

Junior Jacob VanSkike was low scorer for the Norton B team with a 60, followed by senior Kylie Morel, 61; freshman Katie Gall, 61; freshman Shaylyn Boteler, 64. Also playing for the Norton B team and their scores were: freshman Nikki McVey, 65; freshman Ashley Millan, 69.

Individual medalists were: Chris Crocker, Colby, 44; Justin Lee, Northern Valley, 45; Derrick Pruitt, Phillipsburg, 45; Jesse Mudd, Smith Center, 45; Jade Bliss, Trego, 47; Ruben Sherwood, Trego, 47; Josh Boyington, Phillipsburg, 48; Travis Kisner, Atwood, 48; Brad Eller, Phillipsburg, 48; Taylor Moeder, Colby, 48.

On Northern Valley's four-man team with Lee and their scores were: Hutch Gerhke, 50; Michael

Calloway, 51; Jacob Gallentine, 53. Also playing for Northern Valley and their scores were Taylor Hammond, 58; Sam Fields, 68.

Coach's comments

"I am happy with the performance of our golfers today," said Norton head golf coach David Stover.

"We took advantage of good scoring conditions to shoot many season-best rounds for this group. They have shown improvement from the beginning of the season.

"We will look to finish the junior varsity season on a good note Thursday (yesterday) at Trego."

SPORTS:

(785) 877-3361

Cox signs with Ottawa University



Photo courtesy of Ottawa University

Good Luck and Congratulations *Bridges Group, Inc.* from... **INSURANCE**

Norton Community High School senior Courtney Cox signed a letter of intent to play volleyball next year for Ottawa University.

She is pictured here with her mother and Lady Jay head volleyball coach Peggy Cox. Standing is Ottawa University head volleyball coach Lorrie Hammit.

Not pictured is Courtney's father Clark Cox.