

Blue Jay wrestlers take fourth at Newton

By DICK BOYD

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Norton Community High School, the smallest school competing in last Friday and Saturday's prestigious 48th annual Newton Wrestling Tournament of Champions in Newton, displayed their wrestling prowess with a solid fourth place finish in the team standings out of 26 teams.

The Newton tournament is considered to be the toughest high school wrestling tournament in the state of Kansas and even included a top Oklahoma team this year.

That Oklahoma high school, Tulsa Union, won the championship with 228.5 points, followed by Derby, 163; Clay Center, 140; Norton, 120.5; Arkansas City, 118.5; Garden City, 109.5; Lawrence, 109; Newton, 103.5; Colby, 97; Emporia, 93; Wichita Heights, 87; Gardner Edgerton, 85; Manhattan, 80; Wichita Northwest, 75.5; McPherson, 73; Hutchinson, 70.5; Dodge City, 68; Mill Valley, 59; Campus, 54.5; Maize, 51.5; Leavenworth, 46.5; Salina South, 39; Liberal, 32; Bishop Carroll, 25; Maize South, 22; Shawnee Mission West, 13.

Norton is the smallest enrollment school to ever win the Newton tournament championship. The Blue Jays won the team title in 2005 and 2006 and did not compete in 2007 due to inclement weather. In 2008 and 2009, Norton finished ninth as a team and in 2010 placed fifth.

Norton's fourth place finish this year is even more amazing when you realize the Blue Jays entered only one-half a team! That's right, Norton only had seven wrestlers competing out of 14 weight classes!

Six of the seven Norton wrestlers placed in the tournament and two competed for individual championships.

Seniors Troy Bainter, 130, and Landon "Tug" Keiswetter, 160, placed runner-up in their weights.

Seniors Billy Broeckelman, 140, and Spencer Shirk, 171, each placed third and sophomore John Risewick, 112, finished in fourth place.

Sophomore Eli Bozarth, 145, placed seventh.

Freshman Branson Addington, 103, went 2-2 in the tournament and came within one match of finishing no lower than eighth.

Receiving the "Outstanding Wrestler" Award was Tim Prescott, McPherson, the 119 pound champion.

Billy Ross, Derby, was named "Outstanding Coach" of the tournament.

Norton's won-loss record was an outstanding 26-10 and their pin ratio was an impressive 8-1. The Norton coaches chose Troy Bainter as Norton's "Wrestler of the Week".

Former Norton state wrestling champion Nathan Broeckelman was present at the tournament as an assistant coach at Manhattan High School.

"I feel we really took a step forward this week," said Norton head wrestling coach Bill Johnson.

"I felt we wrestled with intensity and emotion in each and every match regardless of the outcome. We competed well in the matches we lost and learned from our mistakes. The losses should help us in the future.

"Our 26-10 won-loss record was good and we were only pinned one time! This is a huge improvement over last week in the J.R. Durham Tournament even though we won it."

Individual Norton wrestlers

103 - Freshman Branson Addington wrestled a feather bracket match to start his tournament action and won a 13-0 major decision over Jacob Wigers, Maize. In the first round, he was pinned in 3:17 by Shuan Bennett, Wichita Northwest. In the consolation bracket, he won a 5-3 decision over Gage Wells, Derby, then lost a 4-2 decision to Garrett Girard, Lawrence.

No.1 seed Javier Bieyra, Salina South, placed first with an 8-4 decision over No.3 seed Dalton Dietrich, Ark City. Third place winner was Daniel Wilson, Leavenworth, with a 3-2 decision over Jake Roberts, Clay Center. Girard placed fifth with a 3-2 decision over Jace Stone, Manhattan. Tommy Miller, Campus, finished seventh by forfeit over Bennett.

112 - Sophomore John Risewick was seeded No.2. He pinned Jacob Baker, Leavenworth, in

1:36, then won a 13-6 decision over Jaysten McClure, Maize South. Next, he wrestled No.3 seed Quinton Harrison, Newton, and lost an 8-3 decision. In the consolation bracket, he won a 10-0 major decision over Jeffrey Morrow, Derby, to reach the consolation finals. He lost a 7-5 decision to Mike Lindlar, Wichita Northwest to place fourth.

No.1 seed Dustin Reed, Colby, placed first with a 6-0 shutout of Harrison. Fifth place went to Justin Lombardo, Tulsa Union, with an 8-0 major decision over Morrow. Alex Garcia, Dodge City, finished in seventh with an 8-2 decision over Kaden Kretzer, McPherson.

130 - Senior Troy Bainter was seeded No.5. He pinned Wyatt Villers, Ark City, in 5:30, won 6-4 in overtime over Konnor Kriss, Colby and wrestled No.1 seed Daniel DeShazer, Wichita Heights, in the semi-finals. DeShazer was undefeated and had pinned three wrestlers in the tournament. Troy was equal to the occasion and decided DeShazer 3-2 to reach the championship finals. He wrestled No.2 seed Brian Crutchmer, Tulsa Union, for the gold medal and lost a hard-fought 9-4 decision to finisher runner-up.

Colt McElroy, Garden City, placed third with a 6-3 decision over Skylar McComb, Derby. Kriss placed fifth with a forfeit by DeShazer. Shane Goetz, Hutchinson, placed seventh with a 7-4 decision over Jake Ellis, Mill Valley.

140 - Senior Billy Broeckelman was seeded No.1. He won a 15-2 major decision over Tyson Phillis, Garden City; pinned Tre Davis, Manhattan, in 2:22 and won a 12-2 major decision over Trey Dice, Ark City, to reach the semi-finals. A 10-5 loss to No.5 seed Trevor Cox, Maize, dropped him into the consolation bracket. He won an 18-4 major decision over Trey Schrimmscher, Wichita Heights, to reach the consolation finals where he placed third with a 15-4 major decision over Ben Becker, Derby.

Dustin Williams, Gardner Edgerton, won the title with a 3-1 decision over Cox. Dice placed fifth by pinning Schrimmscher in 4:24. Seventh place went to Noel

Torres, Emporia, with a 7-4 win over Phillis.

145 - Sophomore Eli Bozarth won a 10-1 major decision over Travis Steenson, McPherson, in a feather bracket match. In the first round, he lost a 6-4 decision to No.3 seed Andrew Denning, Lawrence. In the consolation bracket, he won a 6-1 decision over Jake Ryals, Salina South; decided Manny Luna, Hutchinson, 14-7; won a 3-2 decision over Jesse Garcia, Maize and lost a 4-1 decision to Chris Adler, Garden City, in the consolation semifinals. Bozarth placed seventh by pinning Austin Keehn, Gardner Edgerton, in 2:16.

No.1 seed Bradley Little, Derby, won the championship with a 9-6 decision over No.2 seed Throncon Samuels, Tulsa Union. No.4 seed Gavin Grater, Clay Center, finished in third by pinning No.3 seed Andrew Denning, Lawrence, in 1:42. Keaton Dugan, Bishop Carroll, placed fifth with a 7-5 decision over Chris Adler, Garden City.

160 - Blue Jay senior Landon "Tug" Keiswetter was seeded No.1. He pinned Aaron Elsasser, McPherson, in 1:58; won a 17-3 technical fall over Andrew Taylor, Colby; pinned Andrew VanHolland, Mill Valley, in 5:38 and won a 12-5 decision over No.4 seed Colton Easterberg, Clay Center, to reach the championship finals versus No.2 seed Matt Reed, Wichita Heights. Keiswetter and Reed had a good match but Reed edged him 3-1 for the title.

Easterberg placed third with a 10-8 win over Brad Wagner, Hutchinson. Fifth place went to Sterling Terry, Ark City, by forfeit over Jacob Eggers, Dodge City. Winning seventh was Josh Hernandez, Tulsa Union, by a 2-0 decision over VanHolland.

171 - Norton senior Spencer Shirk was a good bet to make it to the championship finals but he had to injury default in the semifinals and finished in third place.

Shirk was seeded No.3. He pinned Dylan Cox, Ark City, in 1:29 and won a 10-6 decision over Andrew Flanagan, Colby. He wrestled No.2 seed Reece Wright-Conklin, Lawrence, in the semi-finals and suffered a match-ending injury.

Shirk recovered enough to

wrestle in the consolation bracket, where he pinned Dominique Henderson, Wichita Heights, in 3:06 to reach the consolation championship match, where he won a 10-5 decision to place third.

Reece Wright-Conklin, Lawrence, won the championship with a 3-2 decision over No.1 seed Kyle Crutchmer, Tulsa Union. Fifth place winner was Henderson with a 4-3 decision over Anthony Shockley, Garden City. Dillon Archer, Newton, placed seventh by forfeit over Trey Campbell, Manhattan.

Other weight class results

119 - Tim Prescott, McPherson, won the championship with an 8-4 decision over Josh Walker, Tulsa Union. Hunter Haralson, Lawrence, placed third after Dane Norris, Manhattan, forfeited. Fifth place went to Cody Eastman, Ark City, who pinned Dane Edwards, Dodge City, in 2:11. Seventh place winner was Chris Sullivan, Hutchinson, with a 3-2 decision over Matt Urrutia, Garden City.

125 - T.J. Stokes, Gardner Edgerton, decided Cody Beasley, Campus, 8-1, to win the championship. Luke Wolfenberger, Tulsa Union, was third with a 4-2 decision over Zach Vesta, Manhattan. Fifth place went to Colby Watters, Ark City, who pinned A.J. Hurtado, Garden City, in 2:36. Winning seventh place was Ryan Hodges, Mill Valley, with a 6-4 decision over Barry Newton, Wichita Heights.

135 - Connor Baxter, Tulsa Union, won the championship by injury default over Brandon Charbonneau, Emporia. Miles Johns, Newton, decided Bradey Heincker, Derby, 7-2, to place third. Levi Flohrschutz, Lawrence, pinned Antonio Terrell, Wichita Northwest, in 1:23 to place fifth. Winning seventh place was Jayde Kolterman, Clay Center, by forfeit over Matt Ziegler, Bishop Carroll.

152 - Kyle Ash, Tulsa Union, won an 11-4 decision over Chase Sanchez, Emporia, to win the championship. Jamon Cotton,

won a 6-4 decision over Jon Heiman, Garden City, for third. Rusty Yarrow, Clay Center, won by forfeit over Uyleses DeShazer, Wichita Heights, to place fifth. Tyler Cassidy, Maize, pinned Jerod Morrow, Derby, in 1:38 to place seventh.

189 - Zach Anderson, Clay Center, pinned Ty Suggs, Manhattan, in 3:57 to win the championship. George Smollock, Colby, won a 1-0 decision over Nehemiah Scott, Maize South, to place third. Hugh McConnell, Newton, won a 4-3 decision over Aaron DeLeon, Garden City, to place fifth. Blase Walser, Tulsa Union, finished seventh with a 5-3 decision over Alex Stockton, Gardner Edgerton.

215 - Shawn Marlatt, Derby, won an 8-3 decision over Justin McPhail, Liberal, for the championship. Nathan Butler, Leavenworth, won a 4-2 decision over Adam D'Angelo, Emporia, to place third. Kyle Pacheco, Gardner Edgerton, won a 3-2 decision in overtime over Leo Beck, Mill Valley, for fifth. Zach Lanning, McPherson, pinned Justin Reynolds, Wichita Heights, in 4:08 to place seventh.

285 - Jesse Trent, Dodge City, won a 2-1 decision over Travis Anderson, Derby, to win the championship. Zach Callahan, Mill Valley, decided Taylor Krier, McPherson, 3-2 to place third. Terrez Griffen, Wichita Northwest, pinned Garret Lee, Newton, in 18 seconds to place fifth. Johnny Reardon, Clay Center, won a 1-0 decision over Khary Jones, Wichita Heights, to place seventh.

Next action

Norton hosted Colby in a dual in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym on Thursday, which was "Senior Night" for the Blue Jays. Complete results were not available at the Norton Telegram's press time but Norton was the winner.

The Norton wrestlers will travel to Kearney on Tuesday to wrestle a dual against the always-tough Kearney squad.

Wrestling will begin at 5 p.m.

Husky boys lose to Lakeside

By DANA PAXTON

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On January 8, the Northern Valley Huskies boys basketball team took on Lakeside and lost 63-45.

In the first quarter, Dusty Eagleburger of Northern Valley was the leading scorer with a three pointer, a two pointer and two free throws. Phillip Compton followed with one basket and Colton Lowry with a free throw. Lakeside also played a strong first quarter outscoring the Huskies by three ending the quarter with a lead of 13-10.

During the second quarter, the Huskies made some good big

shots. Gunnar Hays and Lowry each had three point baskets followed by Austin Herman with a two pointer. Lakeside poured it on with seven two point baskets and then they were able to hit five of seven free throws. This gave Lakeside a huge lead of 33-18.

In the second half of the game the Huskies tried to redeem themselves by coming back and outscored Lakeside for the third quarter. Eagleburger had a two pointer and a three pointer followed by Lowry with two, 2 pointers, Zachary Vincent with two and Herman with one free throw. Yet, Lakeside maintained

their lead by scoring nine points and ended the quarter 42-30.

The Huskies rallied in the final quarter with Herman sinking a three pointer and two, 2 pointers followed by Lowry with a three point shot and Hays and Bryant Tharman each scored two. Lakeside continued their point gain by adding nineteen to their tally to win the game 63-45.

Huskies head coach Chuck Fessenden said, "We played a much better game than we did on Tuesday night. Lakeside had a very solid team. For most of the game we were able to handle their full court pressure. Their bigger

players hurt us on the inside. We were able to get the score under ten a couple of times in the second half but they were able to spread it back out."

The leading rebounder was Lowry with 7.

In junior varsity play Lakeside had another win over the Huskies 44-37. Northern Valley's leading scorer was Tyler Montgomery with nine follows by Daniel Field with 8. Leading rebounder was also Montgomery with seven and Field and Ian Vincent tied with six each.

Northern Valley in Cheyenne Tournament

By DANA PAXTON

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Last Sunday the Northern Valley Huskies boys basketball team played in the Cheyenne Conference Tournament. The first game was against Palco and the Huskies lost 54-30.

In the first quarter, Colton Lowry led the scoring with two, 2 pointers followed by Dusty Eagleburger with a two pointer and one free throw. Austin Herman added to the tally with a two point basket. Palco doubled the score when they made three, 3 pointers three, 2 pointers and one of two free throws ending the quarter in the lead 16-9.

During the second quarter numbers were almost cut in half. The Huskies scored four which Dusty Eagleburger made. Palco added nine to their total with two, 3 pointers a two pointer and one free throw. This ended the first half with Palco leading 25-13.

Palco doubled their scoring again in the third quarter with 18. They hit another three pointer, five, 2 pointers and then they hit five of nine free throws. Northern

Valley fought back but the six points they made weren't enough. Lowry had a two pointer and one of two free throws followed by Tyler Montgomery with 2 and Calen Bach with one of two free throws. The score was 43-19 at the end of this quarter.

In the final quarter, Eagleburger scored a two pointer and hit five of seven free throws followed by Gunnar Hays with a two pointer and one of two free throws and Bryant Tharman with one of two free throws. Palco matched the Huskies scoring with eleven of their own, four, 2 pointers and three of six free throws. This effort ended the game with a Palco win of 54-30.

Head Coach Chuck Fessenden said, "We had really poor execution of our half court man to man offense. People were not moving and were out of position. As a result, we did not get very good shots. Our defense was fair but not as good as it needs to be."

The leading rebounders were, Herman with six followed by Montgomery, 5 and Tharman 5.

The next game was against Thunder Ridge where Northern Valley lost 48-37.

In the first quarter, Colton Lowry sank a two pointer as well as a three pointer for the Huskies. He was followed by Bryant Tharman with two. Thunder Ridge scored eleven with a three pointer and four, 2 pointers to take an early lead of 11-7.

During the second quarter, Northern Valley matched their points from the first quarter with Lowry hitting a three pointer followed by Austin Herman and Tyler Montgomery each getting two. Thunder Ridge bettered their score by two. They hit six, 2 pointers and one free throw to maintain the lead 24-14.

Northern Valley came back in the third quarter with Dusty Eagleburger making two, 3 pointers followed by Montgomery with a two pointer and a free throw. Lowry and Herman each had two to add to the tally for 13. Thunder Ridge maintained their lead by making eleven points with a three pointer and four, 2 pointers. The quarter

ended with Thunder Ridge still leading 35-27.

In the final quarter the Huskies put ten more on the score board. Herman had two, 2 pointers followed by Montgomery and Gunnar Hays with two each and Lowry with two more by free throw. Thunder Ridge never slowed down scoring 13; three, 2 pointers and seven out of nine free throws. This ended the Huskies play with a loss of 48-37.

Husky head coach Chuck Fessenden said, "Thunder Ridge played a zone defense and we executed our offense quite a little better than we did the previous night. We did not shoot the ball very well. Particularly from behind the 3 point line. Our free throw shooting hurt us towards the end of the game. Our kids did show some determination that we haven't seen in other games. We were down by 16 in the second half and were able to get the lead cut to five late in the game."

The leading rebounder for Northern Valley was Austin Herman with 10.

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