

Blue Jay wrestling to kick off season Saturday

By Dick Boyd

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Coach Bill Johnson's Norton Community High School wrestling team, who has won the Class 3-2-1A state championship the past two years, will open their 2011-12 season this Saturday in the annual Hoxie Invitational, beginning at 9 a.m.

Norton second team wrestlers will also compete this Saturday in the varsity Alma Invitational, beginning at 10 a.m.

Competing in the Hoxie Invitational, in addition to Norton and Hoxie, will be varsity teams from Cimarron, Oberlin, Holcomb, Lakin, Meade, Oakley, Plainville, Scott City and Trego Community.

Teams in the Alma Invitational, in addition to Norton's second team and Alma's varsity, will be varsity teams from Eustis-Farnam, Hitchcock County/Wauneta-Palisade, Overton, Pleasanton and Wilcox-Hildreth and the Bertrand/Loomis junior varsity.

Prior to the Hoxie and Alma competition, ranking and exhibition matches for public viewing will be at 6 p.m. this evening in the annual Blue & Yellow Classic in the Norton Junior High Gym.

"To say that this is a rebuilding year in Norton Wrestling is a major understatement," said coach Johnson. "Our Blue Jays have grown used to returning six to eight prior state medalists per year over the past decade. But, this season begins with only one returning state medalist. Yes, only one state medalist returns for our Blue Jay grapplers. Junior John Risewick is the lone returning medalist, after finishing runner-up at 112 pounds and state champion at 103 pounds his freshman year."

In addition to Risewick, sophomore Branson Addington qualified for the state tournament at 103 pounds in 2011. These two

wrestlers accounted for only 19 of 131.5 points earned by Norton in winning the state tournament in 2011. The other state tournament points have been lost to graduation.

"In order for our Norton wrestlers to be competitive, our young men have to improve each and every week of this season," said coach Johnson.

"We have our work cut out for us this season. On paper, it appears that we should not even be in the top 20 of the state tournament."

After winning the state championship three years in a row, Norton missed the championship by one and one-half points to place third in 2006-07, then finished fourth in the state in 2007-08 and third in the state tournament in 2008-09 before winning it all in 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Norton had a 9-1 overall record last season and won the Mid-Continent League with a perfect 8-0 mark. The Blue Jays won both the regional and state championship as well last season.

Coach Johnson is starting his 23rd year as the head wrestling coach at Norton. His career record at Norton is 195-48.

His assistant coaches again this season are Doug Ray, Shane Miller and Tony Fiscus.

Returning lettermen

Senior R.J. Ellis is a three-year varsity letterman. He had a 14-11 record last season at 112 pounds. Senior Justin Waggoner at 125 pounds had a 19-11 record last season and is a two-year letterman. The other senior letterman is Cayleb Campbell, 189 pounds last season, who was injured before regionals and ended with a 12-5 record. He has lettered one year.

Three junior lettermen return: John Risewick, 112 last season; Eli Bozarth, 145 last season and Jared Bohl, 152 last season

Risewick is a two-year letterman who compiled a 30-7 record last season in placing runner-up in the state. Bozarth is also a two-year letterman with a record last season of 25-14. Bohl is also a two-year letterman with a record last season of 8-16.

Two sophomore lettermen return: Branson Addington and Kolton Harting. At 103 pounds last season, Addington had a 1-2 record in the state tournament and an overall record of 12-15. Harting wrestled at 215, was injured before Christmas and finished the season 4-1.

Top wrestlers

"John Risewick and Branson Addington are our top two returning wrestlers," said coach Johnson.

"Branson looks to benefit in the new 106 pound weight class.

"Our strength will be in numbers. With 32 athletes, there will be good competition in many of the weight classes.

"The lower half of the line-up looks to be very competitive and has good numbers. Our weakness will be in the lack of numbers in the upper weights."

Top newcomers

"Three of our wrestlers spent all of last season in the varsity line-up and just missed qualifying for the state tournament," said coach Johnson. "Seniors R.J. Ellis and Justin Waggoner held down varsity positions and look to make some noise this season.

"Junior Eli Bozarth won 25 matches on the varsity level last year but could not make it out of the always tough Western Regional tournament. We look for Eli to be in the running for his first state medal.

"Other varsity letter winners include senior Cayleb Campbell, junior Jared Bohl and sophomore Kolton Harting. All of these young men spent some time in the varsity line-up.

Squad members

There are some different weight classes this season.

Squad members by weight class are: sophomore Branson Addington, 106; freshman Caysean Campbell, 106; sophomore Garret Otter, 106; freshman Jordan Baker, 113; freshman Jared Tallent, 113; freshman Dalton Vanover, 113; sophomore Ethan Ross, 113; sophomore Alec Hager, 120; junior John Risewick, 126; sophomore Toby Nickell, 132; senior Justin Waggoner, 132; freshman Derek Rowh, 132; sophomore Cody Temmel, 132; junior Javen Colip, 132; senior R.J. Ellis, 138; freshman Kendall Miller, 138; freshman Christian Boser, 138; sophomore Austin Hager, 138; sophomore Keith Sanders, 138; junior Eli Bozarth, 145; junior Cody Ellis, 145; freshman Stewart Whitney, 152; junior Jared Bohl, 152; sophomore Cole Renner, 160; freshman Chris Chastain, 170; junior Trevan Rossi, 170; junior Lucas Engel, 170; sophomore Kolton Harting, 182; freshman Lance Armbrister, 195; sophomore Michael Johnson, 195; senior Cayleb Campbell, 195; freshman Wyatt Harting, 195.

Coach has the credentials

A graduate of Flinthills High School, Rosalia, coach Johnson wrestled for Fort Hays State University. In addition to winning the national championship, he was national runner-up twice and placed fourth once.

He was chosen the "Outstanding Senior Male Athlete" at Fort Hays State in 1989. He also placed tenth in the wrestling Olympic trials at 114.5 pounds in 1988.

Coach Johnson was inducted in the fall of 1999 into the Tiger Sports Hall of Fame at Fort Hays State University. He has also been inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame.

In 2005, he was named the Head Coach of the Year in Kansas by the National High School Wrestling Coaches Association. He was also one of the 18 coaches and boosters of high school wrestling named "2005 Man-of-the-Year" by Wrestling USA Magazine.

2011-12 Blue Jay Wrestling Schedule

- Tuesday, Nov. 29**
Blue and Yellow Classic, Jr. High Gym, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 3**
Hoxie Invitational in Hoxie, 9 a.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 3**
Alma Invitational in Alma, 10 a.m.
- Friday, Dec. 9**
Southern Valley Invitational in Oxford, 3:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 10**
Clay Center Invitational (V) in Clay Center, 9 a.m.
- Friday, Dec. 16**
Mid-Continent League Dual Tournament in Plainville, 3 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 17**
Goodland Holiday Classic in Goodland, 9 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 20**
Phillipsburg Dual in Norton, 6 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 6**
Silver Lake Dual in Norton, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 7**
Jake Durham Invitational in Norton, 9:30 a.m.
- Friday, Saturday, Jan. 13-14**
Newton Tournament of Champions, 11 a.m., 9 a.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13**
JV at Elm Creek Invitational in Elm Creek, 2:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 19**
Colby Dual in Colby, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 28**
JV at Arapahoe Invitational in Arapahoe, 10 a.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 28**
Western Kansas TOC in Smith Center, 9:30 a.m.
- Friday, Feb. 3**
Smith Center Dual in Norton, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 4**
Panther Classic (Varsity, JV) in Phillipsburg, 9 a.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 11**
Colby JV Tournament in Colby, 9 a.m.
- Friday, Sat, Feb. 17-18**
3-2-1A Regional Wrestling Tournament TBA, 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Fri., Feb. 23-24**
3-2-1A State Wrestling Tournament at Fort Hays, 9 a.m.

BOWLING RESULTS

Ladies Inter-City League

Standings as of Nov. 7

1. Animal Health- 33 wins, 11 losses
 2. BEB & Assoc.- 27 wins, 17 losses
 3. Geezeretts- 26 wins, 18 losses
 4. Nelson Bros.- 21 wins, 23 losses
 5. Logan Gals- 19.5 wins, 24.5 losses
- High Line: Becky Williams-166, Becky Williams-158, Kathleen Berlier-151, BEB & Assoc.-432, BEB & Assoc.-421, BEB & Assoc.-409.

High Line Handicap: Vendla Tacha-218, Becky Williams-208, Kathleen Berlier-205, BEB & Assoc.-595, BEB & Assoc.-584, Animal Health-576.

High Series: Becky Williams-477, Kathleen Berlier-421, Lynn Nelson-364, BEB & Assoc.-1262, Animal Health-1021, Nelson Bros.-1017.

High Series Handicap: Kathleen Berlier-604, Becky Williams-603, Vendla Tacha-595, BEB & Assoc.-1751, Animal Health-1714, Nelson Bros.-1659.

Standings as of Nov. 14

1. Animal Health- 36 wins, 12 losses
 2. BEB & Assoc.- 30 wins, 18 losses
 3. Geezeretts- 29 wins, 19 losses
 4. Nelson Bros.- 22 wins, 26 losses
 5. Logan Gals- 20.5 wins, 27.5 losses
- High Line: Becky Williams-177, Kathleen Berlier-161, Becky Williams-160, BEB & Assoc.-479, BEB & Assoc.-456, BEB & Assoc.-390.

High Line Handicap: Becky Williams-217, Jackie Wright-215, Kathleen Berlier-214, BEB & Assoc.-640, BEB & Assoc.-617, Nelson Bros.-600.

High Series: Kathleen Berlier-463, Becky Williams-459, Jackie Wright-403, BEB & Assoc.-1325, Nelson Bros.-1119, Geezeretts-924.

High Series Handicap: Kathleen Berlier-622, Judy Luft-610, Jackie Wright-607, BEB & Assoc.-1808, Nelson Bros.-1764, Geezeretts-1638.

Standings as of Nov. 21

1. Animal Health- 39 wins, 13 losses
 2. BEB & Assoc.- 34 wins, 18 losses
 3. Geezeretts- 30 wins, 22 losses
 4. Nelson Bros.- 26 wins, 26 losses
 5. Logan Gals- 20.5 wins, 31.5 losses
- High Line: Kathleen Berlier-170, Becky Williams-164, Kathleen Berlier-149, BEB & Assoc.-437, BEB & Assoc.-408, BEB & Assoc.-398.

High Line Handicap: Kathleen Berlier-221, Charlene Hildebrand-215, Donna VanKooten-212, BEB & Assoc.-595, Nelson Bros.-584, Nelson Bros.-575.

High Series: Kathleen Berlier-456, Becky Williams-438, Lynn Nelson-368, BEB & Assoc.-1243, Nelson Bros.-1091, Animal Health-959.

High Series Handicap: Kathleen Berlier-609, Lyndelle Linde-602, Charlene Hildebrand-592, Nelson Bros.-1730, BEB & Assoc.-1717, Animal Health-1655.

Tuesday Housewife League

Standings as of Nov. 8

1. Lenora Nutrition Center- 27.5 wins, 16.5 losses
 2. BEB & Assoc.- 23.5 wins, 20.5 losses
 3. Moffet Drug- 19 wins, 25 losses
 4. Amateurs- 18 wins, 26 losses
- High Line: Sharron Smith-171, Deb Keiswetter-164, Cheri Brooks-157, Lenora Nutrition Center-444, Moffet Drug-424.

High Line Handicap: Deb Keiswetter-238, Vendla Tacha-223, Sharron Smith-218, Amateurs-621, Lenora Nutrition Center-610.

High Series: Sharron Smith-465, Cheri Brooks-445, Deb Keiswetter-430, Lenora Nutrition Center, BEB & Assoc.-1185.

High Series Handicap: Deb Keiswetter-652, Sharron Smith-606, Jackie Wright-593, Lenora Nutrition Center-1800, BEB & Assoc.-1722.

Standings as of Nov. 15

1. Lenora Nutrition Center- 29.5 wins, 18.5 losses
 2. BEB & Assoc.- 25.5 wins, 22.5 losses
 3. Moffet Drug- 21 wins, 27 losses
 4. Amateurs- 20 wins, 28 losses
- High Line: Jacque Griffey-215, Sharron Smith-160, Kathleen Berlier-155, Lenora Nutrition Center-495, BEB & Assoc.-420.

High Line Handicap: Jacque Griffey-261, Abby Rice-213, Deb Keiswetter-208, Lenora Nutrition Center-659, BEB & Assoc.-599.

High Series: Jacque Griffey-522, Sharron Smith-446, Kathleen Berlier-441, Lenora Nutrition Center-1307, BEB & Assoc.-1217.

High Series Handicap: Jacque Griffey-660, Carol Ross-594, Kathleen Berlier-588, Lenora Nutrition Center-1799, BEB & Assoc.-1754.

Tuesday Night Mens League

Standings as of Nov. 8

1. Don's Floor Coverings- 47 wins, 34 losses
 2. Team #2- 46 wins, 35 losses
 3. D & M Service- 38 wins, 43 losses
 4. The WIFS- 31 wins, 50 losses
- High Line: Doug Ray-194, Al Burk-188, Fig Millan-187, Don's Floor Coverings-635.

High Line Handicap: Al Burk-254, Fig Millan-244, Warren Francis-232, Doug Ray-232, Don's Floor Coverings-845.

High Series: Doug Ray-523, Rusty Miller-458, Brent Carlton-441, Al Burk-441, Don's Floor Coverings-1776.

Al Burk-639, Doug Ray-637, Don's Floor Coverings-2406.

Standings as of Nov. 15

1. Don's Floor Coverings- 54 wins, 36 losses
 2. WGAHA- 48 wins, 42 losses
 3. D & M Service- 41 wins, 49 losses
 4. The WIFS- 37 wins, 53 losses
- High Line: Rick Green-222, Jane Engelhardt-171, Dale Carlson-165, D & M Service-611.

High Line Handicap: Rick Green-261, Jane Engelhardt-228, Ray Caldwell-224, The WIFS-830.

High Series: Rick Green-577, Jane Engelhardt-480, Dale Carlson-467, Don's Floor Coverings-1769.

High Series Handicap: Rick Green-694, Jane Engelhardt-651, Dale Carlson-623, The WIFS-2425.

Inter-City League

Standings as of Nov. 10

1. Bailey Electric- 59.5 wins, 39.5 losses
2. Heartland Partners- 59.5 wins, 39.5 losses
3. Jett SS- 51.5 wins, 47.5 losses
4. Brooks Harvesting- 48.5 wins, 50.5 losses
5. Hawks Depot- 42 wins, 57 losses
6. The Where Evers- 36 wins, 63 losses

High Line: Nick Daniels-196, Robert Daniels-196, Kris Knapp-172, Jane Engelhardt-169, Bailey Electric-665.

High Line Handicap: Robert Daniels-248, Nick Daniels-243, Jane Engelhardt-227, Luke Bailey-223, Bailey Electric-845.

High Series: Mark Bailey-474, Nick Daniels-470, Bill LaSalle-470, Jane Engelhardt-442, Craig Knapp-442, Bailey Electric-1854.

High Series Handicap: Luke Bailey-626, Jane Engelhardt-616, Al Burk-612, Nick Daniels-611, Bailey Electric-2394.

Standings as of Nov. 17

1. Bailey Electric- 67 wins, 41 losses
 2. Heartland Partners- 62.5 wins, 45.5 losses
 3. Jett SS- 57.5 wins, 50.5 losses
 4. BLD's- 55.5 wins, 52.5 losses
 5. Hawks Depot- 43.5 wins, 64.5 losses
 6. The Where Evers- 38 wins, 70 losses
- High Line: Bill LaSalle-199, Craig Knapp-195, Mark Bailey-176, Nick Daniels-173, Bailey Electric-663.

High Line Handicap: Craig Knapp-240, Bill LaSalle-239, Nick Daniels-219, Dave Swisher-217, Dave Keller-217.

High Series: Bill LaSalle-526, Craig Knapp-485, Nick Daniels-454, Rusty Miller-439, Bailey Electric-1825.

High Series Handicap: Bill LaSalle-646, Craig Knapp-620, Dave Swisher-618, Vaughn Newman-618, Bailey Electric-2356.

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Farm Equipment Auction

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011-10:00CDT
Location: Stanton County, KS
3 1/2 Miles N. of Johnson on HWY 27

2-2011 9770 John Deere Combines Tier 3 Engines, Extended Wear Pkg, Extended Auger: 400-500 Hrs., Under Warranty-2011 John Deere 9230 4x4 Tractor-Brent Avalanche Grain Cart 1194: 1100 BU-2008 Ford F350 Service Truck 4x4 Crew Cab Diesel with fuel tanks, compressor, pump, and more-Beechcraft Bonanza A36-1975 300HP McCauly 3 Blade Prop.-2 Hopper Bottom Trailers 40' Aluminum with Electric Tarps-Combine Trailer-1983 4850 2WD Tractor-25' Miller Series 1 Disk and More!

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