

Track teams shine through illness and absences

By Dick Boyd
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Despite illnesses and absences due to school schedule conflicts, the Norton Community High School girls and boys varsity track and field teams turned in some excellent performances in the annual Russell Relays on Friday.

The Norton girls placed seventh, just nine points out of fourth, and the Blue Jay boys finished fifth, just two points out of fourth.

“We are generally pleased with the results from the Russell meet,” said Norton head high school track and field coach Jason Jones. “Most of our girls and boys competed hard and well. Outside of the illness and absences that we are battling right now, we feel like things are beginning to come together for us.

“We will have our entire team together again this week, we are beginning to get healthy again and we will continue to work to reach full strength as a team.

“We posted multiple personal records at Russell and we hope to see more of that in the coming weeks!”

Beloit was the girls champion with 116 points, followed by Concordia, 110; Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 98.5; Abilene, 57.25; Scott City, 56; Phillipsburg, 55; Norton, 49; Russell, 9.75.

Beloit also won the boys championship. The

Trojans amassed 136 points and were followed by Concordia, 92.5; Scott City, 86; Phillipsburg, 66; Norton, 64.5; TMP, 51; Abilene, 41.5; Russell, 18.

GIRLS

Norton’s two junior throwers Alec Melvin and Teslee Nickell were outstanding once again and totaled 29 points.

Melvin won the gold medal in the shot put with a heave of 36’6” and also earned the gold in the discus with a throw of 109’5”. She also placed fourth in the javelin with a distance of 107’4”.

Nickell placed fourth in the shot put with a heave of 34’11” and sixth in the discus with a distance of 89’3”.

Lady Jay junior Julia Kent ran a solid race in the grueling 3200 meter run and finished in third with a time of 13:46.45. Norton freshman Sierra Griffith placed fourth in 13:55.59.

Norton junior Kamilla Jones continued to perform well in the long jump and recorded a personal best leap of 15’8” to place fourth.

Jones, Griffith, junior Tawni Griffey and sophomore Marisa Maddy combined to place fourth in the 4 x 800 meter relay with a clocking of 11:35.85. It was the only relay race entered by the Norton girls in this meet.

Griffey also finished sixth in the 1600 meter run in 6:14.99.

Also placing sixth in the pole vault with a clear-



Norton junior Alec Melvin releases the discus during the Russell Relays on Friday. Alec won the gold medal in the discus with a throw of 109’5” and also placed first in the shot with a heave of 36’6”.

–Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Blue Jay senior Seth Antrim clears 13’ to win the gold medal in the Russell Relays on Friday. Antrim’s sophomore teammate Austin Hager placed fourth with a 12’ effort.

–Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

ance of 8’6” was freshman Kenzie Esslinger.

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: Maddy, 29’7”, 9th, triple jump; Jones, 7’6”, 9th, pole vault; sophomore Johnnye Ruder, personal best 17.89, 9th, 100 meter hurdles; Ruder, 57.13, 9th, 300 meter hurdles; Jones, 1:10.79, 7th, 400 meter dash; Maddy, 3:00.85, 8th, 800 meter run; Griffith, 6:29.73, 8th, 1600 meter run.

BOYS

Three Norton boys earned gold medals.

Senior Seth Antrim took the pole vault gold with a 13’ clearance. Senior Bryan Henry set a personal record in winning the 400 meter dash in 51.81. Junior Jacob Brooks won the 200 meter dash in a personal record time of 22.10.

Brooks also placed fourth in the 100 meter dash, also with a personal best time of 10.97. It was a very close race and Brooks was just 25 hundredths of a second out of first! Finishing ahead

of him and their times were Rodney Deus, TMP, 10.72; Aren Coppoc, Concordia, 10.73 and Dalton Smith, Scott City, 10.84.

Deus placed runner-up to Brooks in the 200 meter dash and Coppoc was third.

Brooks also finished sixth in the high jump with a clearance of 5’10”.

Blue Jay senior Zach Hartwell ran well again. He set a personal record of 10:43.77 in placing runner-up in the 3200 meter run and also placed fourth in the 1600 meter run in 5:02.07.

Norton sophomore Marc Miller also broke his personal record in the 800 meter run with a third place finish in 2:06.91.

Blue Jay sophomore Austin Hager placed fourth in the pole vault with a clearance of 12’.

Two Norton relays recorded fourth place finishes. The 4 x 100 meter relay team of Hager, Henry, senior Trey Millan and Brooks was timed in 44.61.

The Blue Jays’ 4 x 400 meter relay team of junior Carson McKenna, Miller, Millan and Henry was clocked in 3:42.38.

Distances and times of Norton boys which did not place were: junior Dalton Miller, 112’2”, 10th; junior Dylan Sprigg, 110’00”, 11th, discus; senior Damien Davis, personal best 126’2”, 9th, javelin; Millan, 16’11.5”, 14th, long jump; Miller, 10’6”, 8th, pole vault; McKenna, personal best 11.82, 14th; Hager, did not qualify, 100 meter dash; Millan, personal best 23.86, 10th; Antrim, personal best 24.44, 15th, 200 meter dash; McKenna, personal best 57.19, 12th, 400 meter dash.

Next action

The Norton girls and boys track and field junior varsity teams competed in the Hill City Invitational on Monday but results were not available at the Norton Telegram’s press time.

The Blue Jays will have the rest of the week to prepare for the annual Mid-Continent League Meet, which will be held on Friday in WaKeeney, beginning at 3 p.m.

The Class 3A Regional Track and Field Championships will be held the next Friday, May 18 in Beloit with the State Championships to follow the next Friday and Saturday, May 25-26 in Wichita.

Varsity track teams finish third, fourth at Goldsmith Relays

By Dick Boyd
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The Norton Community High School girls varsity track and field team placed third and the Blue Jay boys finished fourth last Monday at the Goldsmith Relays in WaKeeney.

The meet was postponed from the prior Friday due to inclement weather.

“Overall, we are very happy with the results from this meet,” said Norton head high school track and field coach Jason Jones. “When it was rescheduled that gave us three varsity meets this week so we adjusted our entries quite a bit. We did not load people down with their normal competitive schedules and our girls and boys handled things very well.

“Our athletes did post some personal records and we got to take some looks at some athletes in new events so we got some questions answered for us.

“Overall, our athletes handled most of these challenges well and they competed hard against the entire field. Again, we were pleased to see individual improvements and personal records and we hope for that to continue!”

Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays won the girls championship with 111 points, followed by Phillipsburg, 107; Trego, 101; Norton, 62; Russell, 52; Plainville, 49; Leoti, 35; Ness City, 11; Victoria, 10.

Phillipsburg was the boys champion with 137 points, followed by Plainville, 119; Norton, 88; TMP, 64; Victoria, 46; Leoti, 35; Russell, 26; Ness City, 24; Trego, 14.

GIRLS

Norton juniors Alec Melvin and Teslee Nickell scored a total of 28 points in the throwing events. Nickell won the shot with a heave of 36’6” and Melvin was third with a distance of 34’11”.

Melvin was runner-up in the javelin with a throw of 103’1” and fourth in the discus with a

distance of 104’1”.

The Norton girls ran in only one relay: the 4 x 800 meter relay. Placing runner-up in 10:41.07 was the foursome of freshman Sierra Griffith, junior Tawni Griffey, junior Kamilla Jones and sophomore Katelyn Engelbert.

Jones also placed third in the long jump with a leap of 14’10.75”.

Lady Jay freshman Kenzie Esslinger finished third in the pole vault with a clearance of 8’6”. Jones was fifth with an 8’ vault.

Engelbert broke her personal record in the 800 meter run with a third place finish in 2:33.76. Griffith was right behind her in fourth with a clocking of 2:35.37.

Junior Julia Kent placed fifth in the 1600 meter run in 6:21.44.

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: sophomore Rিকেle Green, 28’6.5”, 10th, shot put; sophomore Cristine Nelson, 90’4”, 7th; Nickell, 85’, 8th, discus;

Green, personal record 87’11”, 7th, javelin; junior Stephanie Hager, 1:06.17, 9th, 300 meter hurdles; senior Erin Terrell, 14.17, 7th; Esslinger, 16.32, 14th, 100 meter dash; Terrell, 29.19, 7th, 200 meter dash; Griffey, 2:47.16, 8th, 800 meter run; Hager, 8:05.21, 9th, 1600 meter run.

BOYS

Norton junior Jacob Brooks had a good meet, earning two gold medals and a silver and anchoring a relay to a third place finish.

Brooks won the high jump with a 6’ clearance and the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.65. He placed runner-up in the 200 meter dash with a personal best time of 22.64.

Brooks and teammates junior Carson McKenna, senior Bryan Henry and senior Trey Millan were timed in 44.87 in their third place finish in the 4 x 100 meter relay.

Norton’s 4 x 800 meter relay team of sophomore Marc Miller, senior Zach Hartwell, sophomore Alec Hager and Henry

earned the gold with a first place in a time of 8:52.13.

Hartwell also placed runner-up in the 1600 meter run with a time of 5:02.79.

Miller and Henry also earned gold medals individually. Miller won the 800 meter run in 2:10.16 and Henry hit the finish line first in the 400 meter dash with a clocking of 52.64.

Miller also placed runner-up in the pole vault with a clearance of 11’. Freshman Kobie Unterseher was fifth in the pole vault with a height of 9’6”.

Senior Damien Davis placed fourth in the javelin with a throw of 122’4” and junior Dalton Miller threw the discus a personal record distance of 125’2” to place fifth.

Distances and times of Norton boys which did not place were: freshman Stewart Whitney, 35’5.5”, 11th; Davis, 35’1”, 12th; junior Lucas Engel, 34’11.5”, 14th, shot put; junior Lane Bigge, 102’; Whitney, personal best 100’1”, 10th, discus; Whitney, personal best 101’2”, 9th, javelin; Henry, 17’10”, 12th; senior Trey Millan, 17’5.75”, 14th; senior Dillon McCon-

ney, 17’5.5”, 16th, long jump; freshman Breven Sondergaard, 34’1.25”, 11th; sophomore Travis Cressler, 32’4”, 13th, triple jump; Millan, 12.31, 9th; freshman Derick Campbell, 13:08, 16th, 100 meter dash; McCon-

ney, personal best 25.67, 12th; Campbell, 26.97, 15th, 200 meter dash; McKenna, 57.56, 7th, 400 meter dash; Hager, 2:32.75, 7th, 800 meter run; sophomore Chris Chambers, personal best 6:31.85, 8th, 1600 meter run.

Community Calendar

JUNE

JULY

AUG

Please submit your events for the
Community Calendar
which is printed in the Monday EXTRA.
Events may be e-mailed to:
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
or mailed to 215 South Kansas Avenue

THE NORTON
TELEGRAM

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Norton Elmwood Park Racing Association

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SATURDAY, MAY 12

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