Many honored at Norton Wrestling Banquet

By DICK BOYD
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Following the potluck meal at the 2012-13 Norton Community High School Wrestling Banquet, head coach Bill Johnson and his assistant coaches spoke to the large crowd and presented awards.

The "Most Outstanding Wrestler" award, the most prestigious of all, was awarded for the second year to senior John Risewick, who won the state championship and compiled an impressive season record of 44-3. He led his team in five of 10 statistical categories. Risewick was the leader in team points with 197, most takedowns, 71; most two-point near falls, 27; most major decisions, 7 and most technical falls, 5.

Receiving the "Coach Durham" award was Cody Ellis. The award is based on hard work, sportsmanship, academics and good citizenship. Cody also won the senior class academic award with a 3.62 grade point average. He was also honored by the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association with a first team academic award.

John Risewick received honorable mention among the academic awards from the KWCA. The entire Norton team also received fourth place in the state in Class 3-2-1A academically from the KWCA.

Other classroom "Academic Award" winners and their grade point averages were: junior Branson Addington, 3.51; sophomore Derek Rowh, 3.47 and freshmen Kyle Bell and Weston Erbert, 4.0.

Cody Ellis was one of three wrestlers named "Most Improved Wrestlers of the Year". The others receiving the award were junior Ethan Ross and senior Lucas Engel.

The "Most Promising Freshman" award was won by Gavin Lively and the "Outstanding Sophomore" award went to Caysean Campbell and Jared Tallent.

Skylar Johnson was named the "Outstanding JV Wrestler" and Derek Rowh was the winner of the "Most Improved JV Wrestler" award.

The "Underdog Match of the Year" award went to Lucas Engel in honor of all his State Tournament matches. Lucas Engel also received the "Most Exciting Match of the Year" award for his win over the Sylvan Grove wrestler in the Regional Tournament.

The "Key Match of the Year" award went to Jared Tallent for his 13-5 major decision over Macen Shull, Colby and to Caysean Campbell for his pin of Rogers, Smith Center, in the Regional Tournament.

The "Fan of the Year" award went to Rick Green.

Winners of the varsity statistical awards, in addition to Risewick's, were: Alec Hager, most reversals, 27; Jared Tallent, most 3 point near falls, 24; Branson Addington, most decisions, 12; Ethan Ross, most falls, 19; Caysean Campbell, fastest fall, 6 seconds.

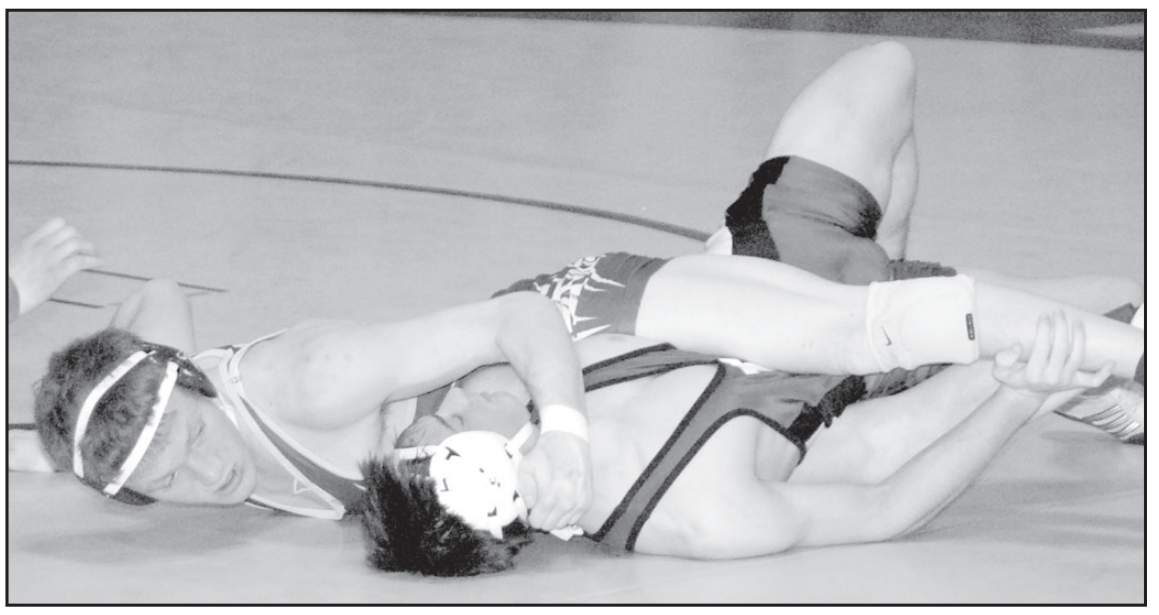
Receiving junior varsity statistical awards were; Skylar Johnson, most points, 161; Skylar Johnson, most takedowns, 38; Garret Otter, most reversals, 18; Skylar Johnson, most 2 point near falls, 15; Skylar Johnson, most 3 point near falls, 18; Toby Nickell, most decisions, 9; Kendall Miller and Garret Otter, most major decisions, 4; Skylar Johnson, most technical falls, 2; Skylar Johnson, most falls, 16; Andre Valencia, fastest fall, 17 seconds.

Coach Johnson presented colorful plaque awards to the following senior wrestlers for competing four years: Eli Bozarth, John Risewick, Cody Ellis and Jared Bohl. He had a special award for senior Lucas Engel who wrestled for three years.

The seniors also presented to the coaches special t-shirts commemorating the championship season.

Receiving a "Liver Shack Quack" award was Ed Lively. He was among the volunteers who encourage the wrestlers to eat their liver before competition.

It was announced that coach Johnson was named Class 3-2-1A "Coach of the Year" by the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association and "Wrestling Coach of the Year" in all classes by the Kansas Coaches Association and that coach Tony Fiscus was named junior high wrestling "Coach of the Year".



Norton senior John Risewick received the "Most Outstanding Wrestler" award during the recent Norton Community High School Wrestling Banquet. Risewick compiled an impressive 44-3 record this past season en route to his second state championship. He is pictured winning an 18-0 technical fall over Adam Gehring, Plainville, in the Regional Tournament.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Coach Johnson thanked his wife, his assistant coaches and their wives, school administration and staff, parents, Dick Boyd of the Norton Telegram, Fig Millan of KQNK Radio and fans for their tremendous support of the Norton wrestling program. He especially thanked Angie Hager for all the photos of the wrestlers she took during the season.

Coach Johnson also handed out some "fun" awards. Winners were: Lucas Engel, third year for "Quiz the Coach" award; Andre Valencia, "Clockwatcher" award; Alec Hager, "Six Pound Orange" award; Garret Otter, "Assistant Coach" award; Alec Hager, "Porker of the Year" award; Michael Johnson, "Leaner of the Year" award.

Each member of the wrestling team and managers received a copy of the Kansas Senate Resolution honoring the Norton team for their state championship, special poster, special commemorative patch and yearbook.

During the evening, a highlight video of the Blue Jay wrestlers in action throughout the season was shown on a large screen. The video was prepared by assistant coach Shane Miller.

"I'm so proud of these wrestlers," said coach Johnson. "Whether they win or lose, we're proud of them doing their best.

"I thank our wrestlers for their help, guidance and dedication."

Northern Valley Huskies take fourth at Osborne meet

By Mike Stephens
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The Northern Valley boys track team finished in fourth place at the Kaser Relays on Friday in Osborne. Hunter Chandler was the only Husky champion, winning the high jump at five-feet, 10 inches. There were three Huskies with second place finishes, Jordan Baird in the 200-meter dash, Jon Compton in the 3200-meter run and Clint Cole in the pole vault.

Boys - 4th place, 55 points

1600m - Jon Compton (5:12.4), 4th

1600m - Brant Cox (5:18.18), 5th

200m - Jordan Baird (23.93), 2nd

200m - Phillip Bryant (24.67), 4th

3200m Relay - Jon Compton, Macy Kasson, Camden Cox, Brant Cox (10:15.7), 6th

3200m - Jon Compton (11:16.31), 2nd

400m Relay - Phillip Bryant, Hunter Chandler, Philip Rupp, Jordan Baird (47.66), 5th

Long Jump - Jordan Baird (18'.5"), 4th

Long Jump - Phillip Bryant, (17'6.5"), 5th

High Jump - Hunter Chandler (5'10"), 1st

Pole Vault - Clint Cole (11'6"), 2nd

"Jon Compton had a good day in the 1600 and 3200. He ran his best times of the season," coach Chuck Fessenden said. "Brant Cox ran PR's (personal record) in both the 800 and 1600. Clint Cole got a PR in the pole vault at 11-feet, 6-inches. We were glad to see Jordan and Phillip both make finals and place for us in the 200. Hunter Chandler was our lone champion for us when he won the high jump. We should see more improvement from all our athletes when we get a little warmer weather."

Girls - 5th place, 54 points

100m Hurdles - Brooke Baird (17.25), 1st

300m Hurdles-Brooke Baird (53.53), 4th

3200m - Brooke Baird (13:40.62), 2nd

400m - Sarah Baird (1:08.98), 4th

High Jump - Kortney Cunningham (4'10"), 5th

Javelin - Erika Chandler (100'6"), 5th

Long Jump - Kortney Cunningham (13'8.25"), 4th

Pole Vault - Brooke Baird (7'6"), 1st

Triple Jump - Kortney Cunningham (31'10"), 1st

"The girls had a good day at Osborne," coach Staci Montgomery said. "Brooke led the way for us again, significantly improving her 3200-meter time. Erika was able to get a PR (personal record) in the javelin, and we were excited with how well Sarah ran the 400-meters. We need to continue to gain confidence as the season progresses."

The Huskies will travel to Quinter tonight to compete again.

Motocross racers attend first race of season

The Norton Motocross track held the first points race of the season on April 14. A one day race that riders from Nebraska and Kansas competing in 19 classes.

Only one local racer entered the Open Outlaw class. Jeremy Sproul of Norton took third in the event to earn himself 20 points.

Prairie View rider, Tray Kats finished seventh in the Mini-Open for 14 points.

There were no local competitors in the Women B class but in the Women C class Kyleana D. Blau of Oberlin won it for 25 points.

Ty S. Kats of Prairie View took second in the Open 65 class and earned himself 22 points followed by John Burmaster of Oberlin in fifth for 16 points.

There were no locals in the VET B and VET C classes this year but in the PeeWee Open Almena's Jeremiah Hansen got himself 14 points by coming in seventh.

In the 250 C class, Kelson Kats of Prairie View placed second for 22 points followed by Garret Otter of Norton in ninth for 12 points.

There were no local riders in the 65 606 class but in the 65 9-11 class John Burmaster of Oberlin took fifth for 16 points.

Once again no riders in the 250 A and 250 B classes.

Norton rider, Corbin Puga took second in the Pee Wee 4-6 class earning himself 22 points. There were no locals in the Pee Wee 4-6 class.

In the Open Amateur Garret Otter of Norton placed eleventh for ten points added to his tally.

No riders competed in the Over 40 class.

In the 85 12-16 class Trenton Chisham of Norton placed fifth for 16 points and in the 85 7-11 class Trey Kats of Prairie View came in second for 22 points.

In the 450 Open A class Jeremy Sproul of Norton took second for 22 points and then in the 450 Open C class Kelson Kats of Prairie View also took second for 22 points.

The next races held at the Norton track will be a two day race taking place on June 1 and June 2. Consessions are available on sight so be sure to hold that weekend for some great racing fun.

Strong winds made conditions difficult for racers at the Norton MX races held on Sunday, April 14. Despite the windy conditions, a good crowd turned out to watch the races.

–Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

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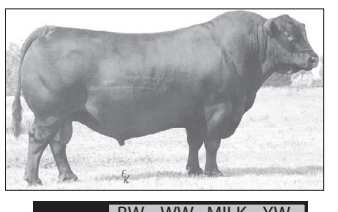

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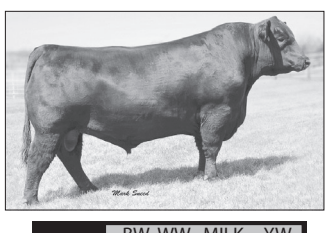

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