

Ten Jays qualify for State Track

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School girls and boys track and field teams had an outstanding day in the Class 3A Regional Meet on Friday in Holcomb, competing well and qualifying ten individuals for the State Track Meet in Wichita this weekend.

"We had a great day of competition!" said Norton head track and field coach Jason Jones. "It was warm and very breezy but our athletes got off the bus and competed well.

"Our girls finished fifth overall and our boys placed sixth for two very respectable performances.

"We qualified seven girls and

three boys for state meet competition. We put up performances that led to seven individual personal records and four individual regional championships.

"Alec Melvin had a highlight day by earning two individual championships, one in the shot put and one in the discus, where she is now a two-time consecutive regional champion.

"Jacob Brooks had an awesome day by qualifying for state in all four of his individual events. That is very tough to do and an amazing performance for anyone.

"One other outstanding performance was Austin Hager's regional championship with a personal record and school record 14'6" pole vault. He bet-

tered his own school record that he set two weeks ago at Russell.

"These three athletes had great days!"

Thomas More-Prep Marian of Hays won the girls championship with 89 points, followed by Cimarron, 68.5; Scott City, 64.5; Cheney, 58; Norton, 51; Kingman, 51; Hoisington, 41; Phillipsburg, 38; Conway Springs, 22; Lakin, 19; Holcomb, 16; Chaparral, 16; Southwestern Heights, 15; Ellsworth, 8.

Boys champion was Phillipsburg with 119 points, followed by Holcomb, 73; Cheney, 64.5; Scott City, 51; Thomas More Prep of Hays, 49.5; Norton, 39; Chaparral, 37; Hoisington, 28; Cimarron, 27; Southwestern Heights, 20; Ellsworth, 20; Conway Springs, 13; Lakin, 11; Russell, 4; Kingman, 2.

"Our athletes did exactly what we asked them to do," said coach Jones.

"This track meet was about being tough, competing tough and leaving it all on the track, on the runway or in the ring. Our athletes did just those things.

"Our younger athletes learned a lot about competing at a championship level and our athletes displayed sportsmanship and class.

"We are proud of the effort with which our athletes competed and we are happy about the personal records that came our way.

"We are also excited about our athletes who qualified and earned opportunities to compete at the state meet and look forward to all that the coming week will bring!"

Norton girls qualifiers for state competition were senior Alec Melvin, shot put and discus; junior Bailey Ambrosier, pole vault and 4 x 800 meter relay; junior Darcy Bainter, 3200 meter run; sophomore Kenzie Esslinger, pole vault; junior Katelyn Engelbert, 4 x 800 meter relay; senior Kamilla Jones, 4 x 800 meter relay and freshman Casey Ambrosier, 4 x 800 meter relay.

Norton boys who qualified for the state meet were senior Jacob Brooks, high jump, 100 meter

dash; 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash; junior Austin Hager, pole vault and junior Marc Miller, 800 meter run.

GIRLS

Senior Alec Melvin won the shot put gold medal with a heave of 35'9.5" and also won the gold medal in the discus where she threw 106'1". She also threw the javelin 109'3" which placed sixth.

Junior Bailey Ambrosier received a gold medal for tying for first place in the pole vault with Natalie Sanders, Hoisington. Both girls cleared 10'. Lady Jay sophomore Kenzie Esslinger tied for third in the pole vault with Megan Gottschalk, Thomas More Prep-Marian, with a 9'6" clearance.

Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay foursome of junior Katelyn Engelbert, senior Kamilla Jones, freshman Casey Ambrosier and Bailey Ambrosier placed runner-up with a time of 10:38.02.

Junior Darcy Bainter ran another very steady race in the 3200 meter competition and placed fourth in 13:15.20.

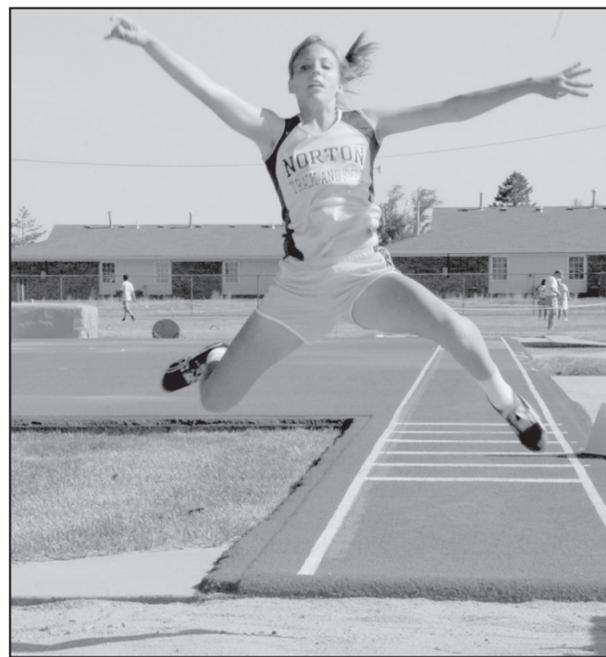
Bailey Ambrosier also ran the 400 meter dash and placed sixth in 1:03.71 and Engelbert also ran the 800 meter run and also placed sixth in 2:38.18.

Freshman Peyton Renner broke her personal record in the triple jump with a distance of 32'7.25" but just missed a trip to the state meet with a fifth place finish.

Distances and times of Norton girls which did not place were: junior Cristine Nelson, 30'10.5", 8th; senior Teslee Nickell, 29'7.75", 10th, shot put; freshman Lexi Voss, 88'4", 7th, discus; Kamilla Jones, 15'75", 11th; Peyton Renner, 14'2.25", 13th, long jump; Casey Ambrosier, personal best 32'6", 7th, triple jump; freshman Molly Maddy, 13:50.95, 8th, 3200 meter run; junior Katelyn Engelbert, Kamilla Jones, Casey Ambrosier, Bailey Ambrosier, 4:34.99, 9th, 4 x 400 meter relay; junior Johnnye Ruder, Kenzie Esslinger, Peyton Renner, freshman Hanna Brooks, 4 x 100 meter relay.

BOYS

Senior Jacob Brooks had a



Norton freshman Peyton Renner flies through the air to place fifth in the triple jump with a personal best distance of 32'7.25" in the Class 3A Regional Track and Field Meet in Holcomb on Friday. Since the top four finishers in each event qualified for the State Meet, she just missed a trip to the big meet.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

busy day, qualifying for the state meet in four events. He tied for runner-up in the high jump by clearing 6', placed third in the 400 meter dash in 53.12, finished fourth in the 100 meter dash in 10.99 and fourth in the 200 meter dash in 22.42.

Junior Austin Hager broke his own school record in the pole vault with a 14'6" clearance, which broke the Blue Jay mark he set earlier of 14'25".

Junior Marc Miller placed third in the 800 meter run with a clocking of 2:09.53.

Junior Trevor Lewis finished sixth in the long jump with a personal record leap of 19'8.25".

Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team of Marc Miller, junior Alec Hager, senior John Renner and freshman Brenden Frack placed fifth in 9:00.25 to just miss a trip to the state track meet.

Other Norton distances and times that did not place were: senior Lucas Engel, 39'9", 14th; sophomore Stewart Whitney, 37'8", 19th, shot put; senior Dylan Sprigg, personal best 130'1", 8th; senior Lane Bigge, personal best 119', 14th, discus;

Stewart Whitney, 130'1", 15th; junior Travis Cressler, 116'4", 21st, javelin; junior Tanner Furbush, 39'9.5", 7th, triple jump; Tanner Furbush, personal best 24.43, 15th, 200 meter dash; sophomore Christian Boser, 1:00.00, 12th, 400 meter dash; sophomore Dalton Vanover, 12:20.34, 9th, 3200 meter run; Austin Hager, Trevor Lewis, Kobie Unterseher, Tanner Furbush, 47.38, 7th, 4 x 100 meter relay; Kobie Unterseher, Alec Hager, Christian Boser, Trevor Lewis, 3:53.34, 9th, 4 x 400 meter relay.

Next action

Norton's 10 athletes who qualified will compete Friday and Saturday in the Kansas State Track and Field Meet at Cessna Stadium on the campus of Wichita State University in Wichita.

With all six classes competing at one location, it is the largest high school track meet in the nation and always attracts a large crowd.

Competition will begin at 7:45 a.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

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Norton senior Jacob Brooks charges across the finish line to place fourth in the 100 meter dash in the Class 3A Regional Track and Field Meet in Holcomb on Friday. Jacob also tied for second in the high jump, placed third in the 400 meter dash and fourth in the 200 meter dash to qualify in all four events for the State Meet in Wichita this weekend.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Logan, Northern Valley thinclads headed to state

By DICK BOYD

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Four athletes from Logan and three from Northern Valley qualified for the Kansas Track and Field Meet this weekend in Wichita during the Class 1A Regional Track Meet in Hays on Friday.

The Logan girls tied with Palco and Quinter for eighth place and the Northern Valley girls placed 14th.

The Northern Valley boys tied for 13th with Golden Plains and the Logan boys tied for 22nd with Triplains.

The girls champion was Hoxie with 75 points, followed by Grainfield-Wheatland, 68; Atwood, 58; Dighton, 50; Greeley County, 33; Trego Community, 28; Natoma, 27; Palco, 26; Quinter, 26; Logan, 26; Triplains, 23; Weskan, 21; Golden Plains, 21; Northern Valley, 19; Cheylin, 12; Sharon Springs, 12; St. Francis, 12; Otis-Bison, 10; Victoria, 7; Ransom, 2; Stockton, 2.

La Crosse was the boys champion with 136 points, followed by Weskan, 59; St. Francis, 53; Sharon Springs, 42; Grainfield-Wheatland, 40; Otis-Bison, 32; Hoxie, 30; Brewster, 26; Greeley County, 22; Natoma, 20; Dighton, 14; Victoria, 14; Golden Plains, 11; Northern Valley, 11; Palco, 10; Trego Community, 10; Ransom, 8; Atwood, 8; Stockton, 5; Quinter, 2; Cheylin, 2; Logan, 1; Triplains, 1.

The top four individuals or relays in each event qualified for the State Meet this Friday and Saturday at Cessna Stadium in Wichita.

Logan

The four athletes from Logan who qualified for the state meet were girls.

The Lady Trojan 4 x 100 meter relay team placed fourth with

a time of 53.19. Running on the foursome were junior Michaela Girard, freshman Christen Greving, freshman Renee Becker and sophomore Justice Bonner.

Greving also qualified in the shot put where she placed runner-up with a heave of 32'10.25" and Girard placed third in the 100 meter dash in 13:54 and third in the 200 meter dash in 28.19.

Bonner just missed the state meet in the 100 meter dash with a fifth place with a 13.55 time.

Greving also threw the javelin 94'4", which was ninth best.

"It is exciting that we only had four girls competing in the regional meet and all four qualified for the state meet," said Logan head track and field coach Tammy Girard.

The Logan boy who came closest to qualifying was freshman Austin Tien who placed sixth in the pole vault with a 12' clearance.

The 4 x 100 meter relay team of junior Brett Pinkerton, junior Dillon Schmidt, junior Logan Kiser and sophomore Aaron Tien was timed in 47.51, ninth best.

Other Logan boys who did not place were: Brett Pinkerton, 45.21, 14th, 300 meter hurdles; Brett Pinkerton, Aaron Tien, Dillon Schmidt, Austin Tien, 3:47.81, 10th, 4 x 400 meter relay; freshman Regan Kats, 34'1.75", 19th, shot put; Logan Kiser, 30'4.5", 20th, shot put; Regan Kats, 108'10", 17th, discus; Logan Kiser, 89'7", 22nd, discus; Aaron Tien, 115'8", 18th, javelin.

Northern Valley

Two Northern Valley girls and one Husky boy qualified for the state meet.

Sophomore Kortney Cunningham placed third in the high jump with a clearance of 4'10"

and fourth in the triple jump with a 33'9.75" distance. She also just missed the state in the long jump with a sixth place and distance of 15'75".

Senior Erika Chandler placed third in the javelin with a throw of 107'1".

Freshman Brooke Baird just missed a trip to the state meet with a fifth place in the pole vault with a clearance of 8'6".

"We are very excited to have Kortney and Erika headed to the State Track Meet," said head girls track and field coach Staci Montgomery. "Erika had her best throw of the season in the javelin. I am also excited to have Kortney qualify in both the high jump and triple jump. Her last jump in the triple jump got her a new school record and pushed

her into fourth place, which was an unexpected surprise.

"Brooke was able to increase her pole vault by a foot, which is incredible, but placed fifth on misses, which was disappointing."

Other Northern Valley girls who competed but did not place were: Brooke Baird, 14:38.56, eighth, 3200 meter run; Brooke Baird, 18.46, eighth, 100 meter hurdles; Kortney Cunningham, 15'75", sixth, long jump; Erika Chandler, 30'7.75", 7th, shot put; freshman Shayna Vincent, 29'11.75", ninth, shot put.

Junior Hunter Chandler cleared 5'10" in the high jump to place third and punch his ticket to the big show.

Junior Jordan Baird just missed a trip to Wichita with a

fifth place in the 200 meter dash with a time of 24.28. Sophomore Clint Cole also just missed qualifying with a fifth place in the pole vault with a clearance of 12'.

Senior Jon Compton finished sixth in the 3200 meter run with a clocking of 10:55.3.

Other Northern Valley performances which did not place were: sophomore Brant Cox, 5:12.37, seventh, 1600 meter run; sophomore Phillip Bryant, Hunter Chandler, sophomore Philip Rupp, Jordan Baird, 47.14, eighth, 4 x 100 meter relay; Jordan Baird, 19'10", 7th, long jump; Phillip Bryant, 18'7.25", 11th, long jump; junior Ian Vincent, 93'6", 21st, discus; Ian Vincent, 131'8", 12th, javelin; freshman Eli

Lowry, 129'11", 14th, javelin.

"The regional was as tough as we expected and Hunter Chandler was our only state qualifier," said head boys track and field coach Chuck Fessenden.

"Hunter was able to clear 5'10" with no misses. Jordan made the finals in the 200 and long jump. He ran well in the 200 to place fifth. He had a personal best long jump at 19'10" but it was only good for seventh. Jon Compton recorded a personal best in the 3200 for a sixth place and finish to his senior career. Clint Cole duplicated his performances from the league meet. Unfortunately, he could not do it without a couple of misses.

"Overall, our athletes performed well against some very good competition."

FLYING HIGH



The Norton Flyers Youth Track Team Competed in Their First Track Meet
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