

Another successful season for track boys

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton Community High School boys track and field team had another successful season in 2013 under the guidance of head coach Jason Jones.

The Norton boys season highlights were: eighth, Smith Center JV Meet; third, Norton Invitational; fourth, Smith Center Redmen Relays; sixth, Trego Freshmen/Sophomore Meet; fourth, Plainville Invitational; fourth, Phillipsburg Invitational; sixth, Goldsmith Relays in Wakeeney; runner-up, 45th Oberlin Relays; fifth, Russell Relays; tenth, Hill City Invitational; fifth, Mid-Continent League Championships at Hill City; sixth, Class 3A Regional Championships in Holcomb; 30th, 103rd Kansas State Track & Field Championships in Wichita.

High point scorer for the Norton boys for the third year in a row was senior Jacob Brooks with 194.25 points.

Coach Jones announced the following letter winners for the 2013 season: Lane Bigge, Jacob Brooks, Lucas Engel, John Renner, Dylan Sprigg, seniors; Tanner Furbush, Alec Hager, Austin Hager, Trevor Lewis, Marc Miller, juniors; Christian Boser, Derick Campbell, Conor Cox, Jordan Karnopp, Kobie Unterseher, Dalton Vanover, sophomores; Brenden Frack, Ryan Thraikill, freshmen.

Managers were Adrienne Hager and Lizzie Smith.

Assistant coaches this season were Dale Engelbert, Lucas Melvin, Doug Reusink and Jeremy Hawks.

Review of the season

On Monday, April 1, Norton took mostly freshmen to the Smith Center JV Track Meet. Northern Valley won the championship; Norton scored 25 points. Freshman Riley Hager and freshman Ryan Thraikill tied for runner-up in the pole vault at 8'6". Thraikill was also third in the 1600 meter run in 5:46.64. Thraikill, Hager, freshman Weston Erbert and junior Kai Kawahara placed fourth in the 4 x 400 meter relay in 4:30.89. Erbert finished sixth in the 400 meter dash in 1:05.68.

Norton hosted the annual Norton Invitational on Friday, April 5 and placed third with 76 points. Phillipsburg finished first with 201 and Goodland was second with 98. Colby was fourth with 51, Smith Center fifth with 36; Oberlin sixth with 27; Northern Valley seventh with 25 and Logan eighth with 12.

Jacob Brooks scored 26 points to lead Norton. He won the 400 meter dash in 51.50, won the high jump at 6' and placed third in the 100 meter dash in 11.59. Other Norton results were: Trevor Lewis, runner-up, long jump, 19'5.75"; Marc Miller, runner-up, 800 meter run, 2:17.06; Alec Hager, third, 800 meter run, 2:20.66; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Miller, Brenden Frack, John Renner and Alec Hager, runner-up, 9:17.12; Dylan Sprigg, third, discus, 126'9.5"; Lane Bigge, fifth, discus, personal record 113'1"; Stewart Whitney, fifth, shot, 37'10"; Dalton Vanover, fourth, 3200 meter run, 12:08.12; Frack, sixth, 1600 meter run, 5:13.92; Tanner Furbush, sixth, triple jump, 37'9.75"; 4 x 400 meter relay team of Kobie Unterseher, Alec Hager, Conor Cox, Trevor Lewis, fifth, 3:56.25; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Whitney, Christian Boser, Cox, Unterseher, fifth, 48.42.

On Friday, April 12, Norton competed in the Redmen Relays

in Smith Center. Beloit won the championship with 208 points, followed by Thayer Central, 163; Smith Center, 69; Norton, 56. Brooks won the 200 meter dash in 22.93, placed runner-up in the high jump at 6' and was fourth in the 100 meter dash in 11.37.

Other Norton results were: Austin Hager, runner-up, pole vault, 13'; Frack, runner-up, 3200 meter run, 10:56.74; Vanover, sixth, 3200 meter run, 11:58.48; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Frack, Miller, Alec Hager, Renner, third, 9:08.67; Furbush, fourth, triple jump, personal record 38'4.5"; Lewis, fifth, long jump, 18'6.5"; Miller, sixth, 800 meter run, 2:15.94; 4 x 400 meter relay team of Unterseher, Alec Hager, Cox, Miller, fifth, 3:52.49; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Austin Hager, Boser, Unterseher, Furbush, fifth, 47.18.

On Monday, April 15, the Norton junior varsity competed in the Freshmen-Sophomore Trego Invitational in Wakeeney and placed eighth. Riley Hager placed runner-up in the pole vault with a personal record 9'6", followed by Travis Cressler, third, javelin, personal record 103'3.5"; Weston Erbert, fourth, 400 meter dash, 1:04.83; 4 x 400 meter relay team of Riley Hager, Erbert, Ryan Thraikill, Kai Kawahara, fourth, 4:24.81; Kawahara, fifth, 200 meter dash, personal record 26.19; sixth, 100 meter dash, personal record 12.92; Thraikill, fifth, 1600 meter run, 5:48.17; sixth, pole vault, 8'6".

The Plainville Invitational was held on Tuesday, April 16 and Norton placed fourth. Brooks had another good meet, scoring 24 points. He won the high jump at 5'10", won the 400 meter dash in 51.72 and placed fourth in the 200 meter dash in 23.75. Other Norton results were: Miller, first, 800 meter run, 2:13.66; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Miller, Frack, Renner, Alec Hager, runner-up, 9:07.75; Frack, third, 1600 meter run, 5:14.63; Austin Hager, third, pole vault, 11'6"; Furbush, fourth, triple jump, personal record 39'4"; fifth, high jump, 5'4"; Lewis, fifth, long jump, 19'2"; Renner, fifth, 800 meter run, 2:22.94; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Austin Hager, Derick Campbell, Unterseher, Furbush, fifth, 46.90; Jordan Karnopp, fifth, 110 meter hurdles, personal record 18.22; Vanover, sixth, 200 meter run, 12.17; 4 x 100 meter weight relay team of Whitney, Bigge, Sprigg, Engel, first, 49.52.

On Friday, April 19, Norton placed fourth in the Phillipsburg Invitational. Norton results were: Austin Hager, first, pole vault, 13'6"; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Miller, Alec Hager, Renner, Frack, first, 9:03.89; Brooks, runner-up, high jump, 5'10"; fourth, 100 meter dash, 11.43; fifth, 400 meter dash, 55.43; Miller, third, 800 meter run, 2:12.93; Lewis, third, long jump, 18'11.5"; fifth, 200 meter dash, 24.62; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Brooks, Austin Hager, Campbell, Furbush, fourth, 46.60; Karnopp, fourth, 110 meter hurdles, personal record 17.81; Frack, fifth, 3200 meter run, 11:05.88; Sprigg, sixth, discus, 123'10".

The Goldsmith Relays were held on Friday, April 26 in Wakeeney and Norton finished sixth, three points out of fifth, out of 14 teams.

Norton results were: Brooks, first, high jump, 5'11"; runner-up, 100 meter dash, 11.44; fifth,

400 meter dash, 52.95; Frack, first, 3200 meter run, 11:05.51; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Frack, Miller, Renner, Alec Hager, third, 9:13.91; Austin Hager, runner-up, pole vault, 12'6"; Miller, fourth, 800 meter run, 2:08.94; Sprigg, fifth, discus, 115'5".

On Tuesday, April 30, Norton finished runner-up in the Oberlin Invitational and the Blue Jays produced five gold medal winners. They were: Brooks, high jump, 5'10"; 100 meter dash, personal record 10.96; 200 meter dash, 23.20; Lucas Engel, shot, personal record 42'6.5" and Austin Hager, pole vault, 13'. Other Norton results were: Frack, 3200 meter run, runner-up, 11:24.17; Brooks, fifth, 400 meter dash, 56.33; Frack, runner-up, 3200 meter run, 11:24.17; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Miller, Alec Hager, Renner, Frack, third, 8:58.29; Miller, third, 800 meter run, 2:11.43; Lewis, fourth, long jump, 18'4.5"; Karnopp, fifth, 110 meter hurdles, 17.97; Thraikill, fifth, 1600 meter run, personal record 5:31.58; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Austin Hager, Lewis, Boser, Furbush, fifth, 47.75; 4 x 400 meter relay team of Unterseher, Alec Hager, Boser, Miller, sixth, 3:54.89; Miller, sixth, pole vault, personal record 11'; Sprigg, sixth, discus, 114'4".

Norton took a partial team to compete in the Russell Relays on Friday, May 3 and placed fifth. It was a big day for Austin Hager, who won the pole vault with a school record height of 14'00.25". He broke the record of 14' set 45 years ago in 1968 by John Lorimor. Brooks won the high jump at 6', placed runner-up in the 200 meter dash in 22.90, third in the 100 meter dash with a personal record time of 10.87 and ran on the 4 x 400 meter relay team with Alec Hager, Lewis and Miller to place sixth in 3:44.82.

Other Norton results were: Miller, first, 800 meter run, 2:07.67; Frack, fourth, 1600 meter run, personal record 5:00.74; fifth, 3200 meter run, 10:58.70; Furbush, fifth, triple jump, personal record 40'2.5"; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Furbush, Austin Hager, Lewis, Unterseher, fifth, 46.79.

On Monday, May 6, the Norton junior varsity entered the Hill City Invitational Varsity Meet. Riley Hager placed fifth in the pole vault at 9'.

The Norton varsity competed in the Mid-Continent League Meet, which was held in Hill City on Thursday, May 9 and finished runner-up. Miller won the only gold for Norton in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:09.94 and was fifth in the pole vault at 11'. Other Norton results were: Brooks, runner-up, high jump, 6'2"; fourth, 100 meter dash, 11.40; Austin Hager, runner-up, pole vault, 13'; Frack, runner-up, 3200 meter run, 11:09.85; fourth, 1600 meter run, personal record 5:00.00; Vanover, fourth, 3200 meter, 12:11.62; Lewis, fifth, long jump, 19'1.75"; Furbush, sixth, triple jump, 36'8"; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Austin Hager, Lewis, Unterseher, Furbush, fifth, 47.04; 4 x 800 meter relay team of Alec Hager, Renner, Thraikill, Miller, fifth, 9:33.07.

The Class 3A Regional Track Meet was held on Friday, May 17 in Holcomb and Norton finished sixth. Brooks qualified for the State Meet in four events. He tied for runner-up in the high jump at 6', placed third in the 400 meter dash in 53.12; fourth



Norton senior Jacob Brooks outsprints Trego's Clayton Riedel to win the 400 meter dash in 51.72 and earn the gold medal in the Plainville Invitational on Tuesday, April 16. Jacob also won the high jump and placed fourth in the 200 meter dash in this same meet. Jacob was the high point man for the Norton boys track team for the third consecutive season, earning 194.25 points .

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

in the 200 meter dash in 22.42 and fourth in the 100 meter dash in 10.99.

Austin Hager broke his own school record in the pole vault with a clearance of 14'6". Miller placed third in the 800 meter run in 2:09.53. Lewis placed sixth in the long jump with a personal record leap of 19'8.25". Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team of Miller, Alec Hager, Renner, Frack, placed fifth in 9:00.25.

The 103rd Kansas State Track & Field Meet was held Friday and Saturday, May 24-25 at Cessna Stadium in Wichita.

With all enrollment classes competing, it is the largest high school track meet in the nation! The Norton boys placed 30th out of 56 teams competing.

Austin Hager placed third in the pole vault at 13'. Marc Mill-

er ran the 800 meter run in a personal record time of 2:04.84 to place ninth.

After qualifying in four events, Jacob Brooks pulled up lame in the 200 meter dash after recording the 13th best time in the 400 meter dash preliminaries with a 52.90. He was unable to compete in the 100 meter dash or the high jump.

Coach's comments

"We are proud of the athletes and managers who formed the 2013 NCHS track and field team," said coach Jones. "As a team, they gained success in many ways. Additionally, they have given us more success and tradition to build upon next year.

"We plan to return 20 athletes from the boys team who have all gained valuable experience that

will help them in future successes. As always, we sincerely hope that those who have graduated will be able to take some of what they gained from us this year, and over their years as Blue Jay track and field athletes, to their futures.

"We showed improvement all season and were competitive through the post-season. We need to get better at some little things that can make a big difference and will focus on doing so next year.

"Our athletes responded well when they needed to in order to keep competing and found a way to do their very best. We enjoyed sharing the season with them, are proud of them and look forward to the future with them."

LET US HELP YOU

ONE-STOP shopping

For All Your

Advertising Needs

WE CAN PUT YOUR AD IN SEVERAL PAPERS



Classified Word Ads, Classified Display Ads, Display Ads and Inserts

Norton Telegram	4,500 Circulation on Monday
Tuesday and Friday	1,600 Circulation
Oberlin Herald	2,105 Circulation
Colby Free Press	1,954 Circulation
Goodland Star New	1,501 Circulation
St. Francis Herald	1,237 Circulation
Bird City Times	1,028 Circulation
Country Advocate	17,600 Circulation

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

215 SOUTH KANSAS AVENUE, NORTON, KANSAS

Call Dana Paxton at 785-877-3361 or email dpaxton@nwkansas.com



Great job

in a great season

athletes!