

Junior varsity wrestlers win at Arapahoe

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton Community High School junior varsity wrestlers had a good day last Saturday when they won the championship of the varsity Arapahoe Warrior Invitational tournament.

The Norton junior varsity wrestlers compiled 161 points, followed by Elm Creek, 144; Pleasanton, 81.5; Eustis Farnam, 80; Arapahoe, 73.5; SEM, 69; Axtell, 65; Elwood, 55; Chase County, 54; Hitchcock County, 26; Wauneta-Palisade, 26.

All 11 Norton wrestlers placed and the Blue Jays had two individual champions: Gavin Lively, 152 and Jordan Dole, 195.

Kade Unterseher, 113, was a runner-up and Kyle Bell, 120; Dalton Vanover, 138; Layton Miller, 160; Maverick Engel, 170 and Alex Hjort, 182, all finished in third place.

Placing fourth were Derek Rowh, 132 and Weston Erbert, 145. Garret Otter, 138, finished sixth.

Norton was open at 106, 220 and 285.

"I thought our wrestlers com-

peted well today," said Norton assistant coach Shane Miller. "There were only a few matches in which we had opportunities to change the outcome.

"We still need to be patient in a few situations and be smarter in what we are doing. We have practiced on mat strategy and wrestling at the end of periods. We need to continue to improve in this area.

"I love our wrestlers' effort; we just need to be patient and not let our opponent score at the end of a period. I also appreciate the fact that some of our wrestlers wrestled up or down in weight. Because they sacrificed, we were able to win the team title.

"In a few situations, we wrestled boys that we have seen earlier this season. I always like to see if we have improved. One such weight was Kade Unterseher at 113 pounds. Kade faced West of Elm Creek for the third or fourth time this season. He keeps gaining on him and lost a tough 4-3 battle to finish second. West is a quality wrestler and Kade continues to improve.

"Others worth noting were Gavin Lively at 152 and Jordan

Dole at 195. Both dominated their bracket to come away with championships. Jordan wrestled with more confidence and seemed to be more relaxed on the mat. Jordan has a lot of athletic ability and, if he can learn not to worry about what is going on in the match and just wrestle, he will see some things go his way. I was excited for Jordan having a good tournament.

"It was nice to have Gavin Lively back wrestling. He has been out since before Christmas with an injury. Gavin did well for his first tournament back. You always have concern about their conditioning or how one will perform in those first few matches. Gavin was very physical and dominated in all four of his matches. Two of those were against state qualifiers from last season."

Gavin Lively finished the day with four pins and, for his efforts, he was recognized by the Norton coaches as the "Norton JV Wrestler of the Week".

Norton match results

113 - Kade Unterseher won a 5-3 decision over Ben Bogle, Elwood and lost a 4-3 decision to Jeffrey West, Elm Creek.

120 - Kyle Bell was pinned in

3:07 by Aaron Hueftle, Eustis Farnam; pinned Zach Beckman, Axtell, in :59; pinned Jerry Ellis, Arapahoe, in :26; was pinned in 3:59 by William Bloom, Elm Creek; pinned Dalton Loeffelholz, Pleasanton, in 1:53.

132 - Derek Rowh won a 6-2 decision over Nate Clapp, Axtell; lost a 7-6 decision to Deone Wilson, Elwood; won a 6-0 decision over Yantsy Claflin, SEM; was pinned in :49 by Coleton Doetker, Hitchcock County; won a 7-2 decision over Hunter Dillan, Chase County.

138 - Garret Otter was pinned in 5:06 by Dalton Vanover of Norton; lost a 3-1 decision to Jake Neal, Pleasanton; received a bye; pinned Ashton Wasenius, Arapahoe, in 2:29; was pinned in 4:42 by Jacob Gardner, Arapahoe.

138 - Dalton Vanover pinned Garret Otter of Norton in 5:06; received a bye; won by injury default over Jake Neal, Pleasanton; lost a 10-9 decision to Ace Bloom, Elm Creek; won by forfeit over Jake Neal, Pleasanton.

145 - Weston Erbert was pinned in 3:10 by Austin White, Chase County; pinned Derek Monie, Arapahoe, in :39; won a 5-3 decision over Dalton Shim-

min, Arapahoe; was pinned in 3:13 by Colton Lammers, Pleasanton; was pinned in 2:53 by Cole Remmenga, Elwood.

152 - Gavin Lively pinned Dallas Johnson, Axtell, in 1:59; pinned Patrick Cure, Elm Creek, in 2:12; pinned Devon Strunkmartin, Hitchcock County, in :31; pinned Anthony Shimmin, Arapahoe, in 5:03.

160 - Layton Miller was pinned in :51 by Khristofer Kuhlmann, Chase County; pinned Brady Jones, Hitchcock County, in 3:37; was pinned in 3:10 by Tanner Wernsman, Arapahoe.

170 - Maverick Engel pinned Bryce Wessels, Arapahoe, in 1:13; was pinned in 1:39 by Isaac Cure, Elm Creek; was pinned in 3:40 by Gage Crowell, Wauneta-Palisade; pinned Joey Hoblyn-Hill, SEM, in 1:52; pinned Joe Jones, Hitchcock County, in :57.

182 - Alex Hjort lost a 16-1 tech fall in 2:00 to Brett Gardner, Arapahoe; was pinned in 3:48 by Axel Cassel, Axtell.

195 - Jordan Dole pinned Chantz Klein, SEM, in 1:28; pinned Fabian Heseding, Elm Creek, in 2:23; won an 8-1 decision over Michael Winberg,

Pleasanton.

Next action

Norton's varsity and junior varsity wrestlers will host Smith Center this evening in Mid-Continent League action in the Wilmett Kirk Memorial Gym, beginning at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, both the Norton varsity and junior varsity wrestlers will compete in the annual Panther Classic in Phillipsburg, beginning at 9 a.m.

Competing, in addition to Norton and Phillipsburg, will be teams from Abilene, Beloit, Ellis, Ellsworth, Hill City, Hoisington, Hoxie, Lincoln, Marysville, Minneapolis, Oakley, St. Francis, Stockton and Thomas More Prep-Hays.

Medals will be awarded to the top four places in each weight class in both varsity and junior varsity competition. Plaques will be awarded to the top three teams. The outstanding wrestler will also receive a plaque. This award is in honor of Chuck Lovenstein, who started the tournament in the early 70's.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students K-12.

The Huskies host games against Triplains/Brewster

By Mike Stephens

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The Northern Valley Junior High boys basketball team hosted the Titans of Triplains/Brewster on Thursday, Jan. 30 in Almena.

The Huskies swept all three games from the Titans. The A and B-teams won in impressive

fashion and improved to 10-0 on the season. The C-team finished its last game of the season with an 18-0 shutout of the Titans. The C-team finished with a 3-1 record.

Coach Cole's Comments - "The A-team boys came out ready to play jumping out to a 16-5 first quarter lead and win-

ning 56-24. We started the game with aggressive defense and shot the ball well. Eight Huskies scored points with Riley Sides leading the team with 18. The B-team boys won 39-7, led by seventh graders Jesus Saenz and Ross Cole scoring 18 and 13 points. The C-team boys played well, winning 18-0. Kale Cox

led the C-team with 8 points."

A-team Boys (10-0)

Northern Valley - 56

Triplains/Brewster - 24

Scoring

Riley Sides - 18
Caden Bach - 8
Nick Stutsman - 8
Briely Yocum - 7
Caden Kinderknecht - 6
Jesus Saenz - 5
Cooper Mussman - 2
Chris Lowry - 2

B-team Boys (10-0)

Northern Valley - 39

Triplains/Brewster - 7

Scoring

Jesus Saenz - 18
Ross Cole - 13
Cooper Mussman - 4
Kale Cox - 2
Brady Rogers - 2

C-team Boys (3-1)

Northern Valley - 18

Triplains/Brewster - 0

Scoring

Kale Cox - 8
Brady Rogers - 4

Alex Van Patten - 4

Gunner Yocum - 2

The Northern Valley Junior High girls basketball team won three games against Triplains/Brewster on Thursday, Jan. 30 in Almena.

The A-team improved to 9-1 with a 35 point win over the Titans. The B-team improved to 8-2 with an 11 point victory and the C-team earned its second win of the season by outscoring the Titans by 12 points.

Coach Cole's Comments - "The A-team girls won 42-7. The girls ran their offense very well, finding the open player and taking good shots. Paige Baird had the hot hand scoring 18 points. The B-team girls fought hard and won 26-15. Jasmine Covington and Brianna Sammons led the B-team with 10 and eight points, respectively. The Husky C-team girls won their second game of the season 16-4. Sydney Brands was the leading scorer with six points."

A-team Girls (9-1)

Northern Valley - 42

Triplains/Brewster - 7

Scoring

Paige Baird - 18
Hall Lee Linner - 8
Chaylee Lowry - 6
Brianna Johns - 4
Katie Johnson - 2
Makensy Schroeder - 2
Brianna Sammons - 2

B-team Girls (8-2)

Northern Valley - 26

Triplains/Brewster - 15

Scoring

Jasmine Covington - 10
Brianna Sammons - 8
Makensy Schroeder - 4
Jaden Smith - 2
Kailey Hammond - 2

C-team Girls (2-4)

Northern Valley - 16

Triplains/Brewster - 4

Scoring

Sydney Brands - 6
Zoe Cox - 4
Isabelle Schemper - 4
Makenna Hammond - 2



Goalkeeper Brian Holt, who has relatives in Norton and had a tremendous college career at Creighton University, has signed to play professional soccer with Philadelphia Union. His accolades included two different First Team All-America honors.

- Courtesy photo

Call Dana for your next ad. 785 - 877- 3361!
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Soccer player with ties to Norton goes pro

By DICK BOYD

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Brian Holt, a four-year starter with a decorated resume at Creighton University, has signed to play professional soccer with Philadelphia Union.

Holt has spent time with Union affiliates Reading United A.C. (PDL) and Harrisburg City Islanders (USL PRO). Per club and MLS policy, terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Brian is the son of Claudia and Dan Holt, Omaha, grandson of Bev Klein, Norton and nephew of Mark and Bill Klein, Norton.

"Brian is a tremendous competitor and we have seen a lot of his dedication, hard work and resolve while he trained with us last year," team manager John Hackworth said. "We're really happy to have him as part of our team going into the season."

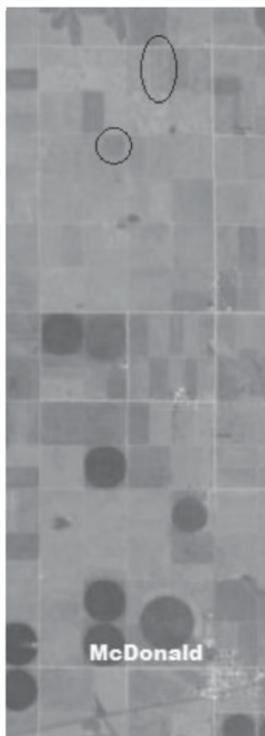
After redshirting his freshman year, Brian played four years at Creighton University, where he earned numerous accolades for his goalkeeper play.

As a senior at Creighton, he set an NCAA record with a .208 goals against average while leading the NCAA with 19 shutouts and a 92.3 save percentage. In 24 starts, Brian allowed just five goals in 2011, earning the NSCAA All-America First Team, College Cup All-Tournament Team, Missouri Valley Conference Goalkeeper of the Year, College Soccer News All-America First Team and MAC Hermann Trophy Semifinalist.

After his redshirt freshman year in 2008, he was named MVC Freshman of the Year.

The Nebraska native played for Philadelphia's PDL Affiliate partner Reading United A.C. in 2011, where he was an All-Eastern Conference selection and PDL Rookie of the Year finalist with 16 starts with the club.

Brian signed with the Union's USL PRO Affiliate partner Harrisburg City Islanders in 2012, a year after finishing his time at Creighton. He joins the Union after training with the club for much of last year and preseason this year.



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Keeping our eye on
the area sports scene!