

Lady Jays tracksters had an outstanding season

By DICK BOYD

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Under eighth year head coach Jason Jones, the Norton Community High School girls track and field team had another outstanding season in 2014.

The Lady Jays won three meet championships, finished runner-up in three more plus a third and fifth and seventh in the toughest regional in the state.

High point scorer was senior Bailey Ambrosier with 163.5 points.

Coach Jones announced the following Norton Lady Jay letter winners for the season: Bailey Ambrosier, Darcy Bainter, Katelyn Engelbert, Cristine Nelson, seniors; Kenzie Esslinger, Sierra Griffith, Burgundy Sorter, juniors; Casey Ambrosier, Molly Maddy (provisional), Raenee Patterson, Peyton Renner, Lexi Voss, sophomores; Caitlyn Cox, Miah Melvin, Baylee Miller, freshmen.

Sophomore Dawn Herring lettered as a manager.

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

Season review

The girls season began on Monday, April 7 in the Kiwanis JV Track Meet in Smith Center. Norton placed seventh. Freshman Macayla Kent placed third in the 1600 meter run in 7:30.39. Freshman Josie Otter finished sixth in the shot put with a heave of 25'.

Track and field action really picked up on Friday, April 11 when the Blue Jays hosted the Norton Invitational Track Meet at Travis Field on the Jep Byrum Track. The Norton girls just missed the championship. Colby scored 142 points, followed by Norton, 140; Oberlin, 113; Logan, 74; Northern Valley, 58; Smith Center, 22.

Senior Bailey Ambrosier picked up where she left off in 2013 by winning the pole vault with a clearance of 10'6". She also placed second in the 400 meter dash in 1:04.55. Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team of Bailey, senior Katelyn Engelbert, junior Sierra Griffith and sophomore Casey Ambrosier placed second in 10:57.35. The same foursome finished third in the 4 x 400 meter relay with a clocking of 4:29.09. Griffith won the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 50.00 in her first time to run the event in a meet. Freshman Baylee Miller won the high jump with a clearance of 5'. Senior Darcy Bainter placed second in the 1600 meter run in 6:01.61 and second in the 3200 meter run in 13:12.12. The 4 x 100 meter relay team of Miller, Engelbert, junior Kenzie Esslinger and freshman Caitlyn Cox finished third in 59.38.

Esslinger placed second in the pole vault with a clearance of 9'. Freshman Miah Melvin placed fourth with a vault of 8'. Casey Ambrosier placed second in the triple jump with a distance of 31'7.5". Sophomore Peyton Renner finished third in the triple jump with a distance of 30'6" and Miller was fourth in the triple jump with a jump of 28'6.75". Engelbert finished third in the 800 meter run in 2:43.42. Junior Burgundy Sorter was fourth in the 100 meter dash in 14.75 and fourth in the 100 meter hurdles in 20.86. Sophomore Lexi Voss finished third in the discus with a throw of 91'8" and third in the javelin with a personal best throw of 96'10". Sophomore Peyton Renner placed fourth in the long jump with a leap of 14'1.75".

The Redmen Relays were held on Tuesday, April 15 and Norton placed third. Marysville won with 113 points, followed by Beloit, 109; Norton, 88; Smith Center, 78; Phillipsburg, 77. Bailey Ambrosier won the pole vault with a 10' clearance and Katelyn Engelbert hit the finish line first in the 800 meter run in 2:37.95. Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team of Bailey Ambrosier, Engelbert, Griffith and Casey Ambrosier won gold medals with a clocking of 10:48.97. The same foursome placed third in the 4 x 400 meter relay with a time of 4:31.45. Darcy Bainter

was second in the 1600 meter run with a personal best time of 5:59.98 and second in the 3200 meter run in 12:53.10.

Bailey Ambrosier also placed third in the 400 meter dash in 1:05.04. Esslinger was third in the pole vault with a clearance of 9'. Griffith placed third in the 1600 meter run in 6:06.04. Baylee Miller was fourth in the high jump with a 4'8" clearance.

The Trego JV Track Meet was held on Monday, April 21. Norton scored 11 points and recorded five personal records. Freshman Kira Robertson placed third in the shot put with a personal record of 28'1.25"; freshman Josie Otter was fifth in the shot put with a personal record distance of 27'6.25", freshman Macayla Kent placed fifth in the 1600 meter run in 8:03.18. Freshman Starla Tishhauser finished sixth in the 1600 meter run in 8:04.37.

The Plainville Invitational Track Meet was held on Tuesday, April 22. Norton finished runner-up to champion Oberlin. The Lady Red Devils scored 111 points, followed by Norton, 103; Ellis, 98; Russell, 70; Plainville, 67; Trego, 54. Darcy Bainter had a tremendous day in the distance races. She won the 1600 meter run in a personal record time of 5:58.21 and won the 3200 meter run in 13:01.81. In the 3200, she finished over 50 seconds ahead of the second place finisher!

Bailey Ambrosier won the pole vault with a 9'6" clearance and also placed third in the 400 meter dash in 1:05.88. Cristine Nelson was second in the shot put with a heave of 30'4" and third in the discus with a personal record distance of 99'3". The foursome of Griffith, Casey Ambrosier, Engelbert and Bailey Ambrosier placed second in the 4 x 400 meter relay with a time of 4:28.02 and second in the 4 x 800 meter relay in 10:52.94.

Other Norton places included: Esslinger, second, pole vault, 9'; Griffith, second, 300 meter hurdles, 52.32; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Miller, Sorter, Cox, Engelbert, third, 54.53; sophomore Raenee Patterson, fourth, 3200, 14:40.72; Renner, fourth, triple jump, 30'5.5".

The Phillipsburg Invitational Track Meet was held on Friday, April 25. The Lady Jays faced their toughest competition of the season and placed fifth as a team. Beloit won with 127.67, followed by Concordia, 92.5; Phillipsburg, 76.5; Russell, 76; Norton, 66.5; Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays, 58; Smith Center, 54.

Bailey Ambrosier continued to win the pole vault event with a clearance of 9'6". Esslinger was fourth with a clearance of 8'6". Darcy Bainter won the gold again in the 3200 meter run with a clocking of 13:05.08. Darcy earned another gold medal as a member of the 4 x 800 meter relay team which was timed in 10:37.82. Running with her were Griffith, Engelbert and Casey Ambrosier. The same 4 x 400 meter relay team placed third in 4:21.37. Other Norton finishes were: Griffith, third, 1600 meter run, 6:08.95; Baylee Miller, third, high jump, 4'10"; Caitlyn Cox, personal best 98'3", fourth, javelin; Bailey Ambrosier, fourth, 800 meter run, 2:35.86.

The Lady Jays competed in the Goldsmith Relays in WaKeeney on Friday, May 2 and won their first championship of the season! Norton scored 87 points, followed by Colby, 84; Goodland, 80.5; Thomas More Prep-Marian, 66; Oberlin, 62.5; Ness City, 46; Plainville, 42; Wichita County, 33; Trego, 25; Victoria, 22; Oakley, 9.

"Many of our athletes really improved on their previously posted times and distances and really competed," said coach Jones. Bailey Ambrosier continued unbeaten in the pole vault with a clearance of 10'. Esslinger was second at 9'6" and freshman Miah Melvin placed fifth with an 8' clearance which totaled 20 points in that one event for Norton. Voss set a personal record in the discus with a 98' throw. Bainter placed second in the 3200 meter run in 12:54.56, Miller was third in the high jump at 4'10", Griffith



Norton senior Bailey Ambrosier clears the bar during pole vault competition in the Class 3A State Track Meet in Wichita. Bailey was the two-time defending state champion in the pole vault and broke both her NCHS record and the Mid-Continent League record this season with a high clearance of 10'9". The high point scorer for the Lady Jays this season, Bailey was a key member of the 4 x 400 meter and 4 x 800 meter relay teams and also scored points in the 400 meter dash.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

placed second in the 300 hurdles in 50.11 and fourth in the 1600 meter run in 6:01.50.

The same Lady Jays ran the 4 x 800 meter relay and placed third in 10:32.15 and third in the 4 x 400 meter relay in 4:17.02. Miller, Engelbert, Sorter and Cox placed fourth in the 4 x 100 meter relay in 53.90. Cox placed fourth in the javelin with a personal best 102'2". Renner was fourth in the long jump with a personal best leap of 14'9.5" and Bailey Ambrosier finished fourth in the 400 meter dash in 1:04.74.

The Lady Jays continued their winning ways with another championship performance in the Oberlin Track Meet held on Tuesday, May 6! Norton scored 109 points, followed by Oberlin, 94; Wheatland, 87; Smith Center, 72; Hoxie, 61; Phillipsburg, 48; Atwood, 47; Oakley, 18; St. Francis, 15. Bailey Ambrosier, Esslinger and Melvin dominated the pole vault event once again by scoring 22 points. The highlight was Bailey remaining unbeaten and breaking her Norton Community High School record with a 10'9" clearance to break the record she set in the State Meet in 2013. Esslinger was second at 9' and Melvin fourth with a personal record clearance of 8'6". Griffith won the 300 meter hurdles in 50.02 and regular foursome of Griffith, Casey Ambrosier, Engelbert and Bailey Ambrosier placed first in the 4 x 400 meter relay in 4:21.73. Nelson was second with a personal best 33'1" in the shot put and she also placed fifth in the discus with a distance of 96'2". Voss placed second in the discus with a personal record distance of 99'5". Engelbert was second in the 800 meter run in 2:33.84 and Bainter was

second in the 3200 meter run in 13:18.38 and fourth in the 1600 meter run with a personal record time of 5:55.28.

Other Norton placers were: Bailey Ambrosier, fourth, 800 meter run, 2:37.89; Casey Ambrosier, third, triple jump, 30'8.25" and third, 400 meter dash, personal record 1:07.90; Baylee Miller, third, high jump, 4'8".

The Russell Relays were held on Friday, May 9 and the Norton Lady Jays placed second as a team. Beloit won with 148 points, followed by Norton, 98; Scott City, 75; Russell, 64; Phillipsburg, 54; Thomas More Prep-Marian, 54; Minneapolis, 46; Hoisington, 15. Norton continued to score their most points in the pole vault but the order of finish was different. Esslinger won the championship with a personal best vault of 10'. Bailey Ambrosier was second at 9'6" and Melvin finished sixth with an 8' clearance.

Engelbert won gold in the 800 meter run in 2:29.23 and Bainter was a gold medal winner in the 3200 meter run in 13:05.28. The regular foursome of Griffith, Casey Ambrosier, Engelbert and Bailey Ambrosier in the 4 x 800 meter relay also placed first with a clocking of 10:39.37. Nelson was second in the discus with a throw of 95'6" and third in the shot with a heave of 30'8.5". Voss placed third in the discus with a throw of 88'8" and Griffith was third in the 1600 meter run with a personal record time of 5:55.47. Bainter was right behind her in fourth with a clocking of 6:01.91. The 4 x 400 meter relay team of Griffith, Casey Ambrosier, Engelbert and Bailey Ambrosier was third in 4:21.59 and Bailey Ambrosier placed fourth in the 400 meter

dash in 1:03.43.

On Thursday, May 15 the Mid-Continent League Track Meet was held in Phillipsburg and Norton won their third team championship of the season! The Lady Jays scored 113 points, followed by Smith Center, 100; Hill City, 82; Thomas More Prep-Marian, 77; Ellis, 61; Phillipsburg, 60; Plainville, 36; Oakley, 15; Stockton, 11. "We had some individuals really step up and compete," said coach Jones. "That is wonderful to see as we enter regionals and state competition." It was the Norton girls' second league championship in three years.

Bailey Ambrosier broke the league pole vault record with a vault of 10'1". Megan Hildebrand of Norton set the previous record of 10'2.25" in 2003. Bailey had a great day, winning four gold medals! She was first in the 400 meter dash in 1:03.57 and was a member of the gold medal winning 4 x 800 meter and 4 x 400 meter relay teams. Running with her in the relays were Griffith, Casey Ambrosier and Engelbert. Their time in the 4 x 800 meter relay was 10:48.43 and they were clocked in 4:19.73 in the 4 x 400. Engelbert earned her third gold medal of the day in the 800 meter run in 2:32.63.

Other Norton placings were: Griffith, second, 1600 meter run, 5:57.82; Bainter, third, 1600 meter run, 5:58.85; Bainter, second, 3200 meter run 12:50.61; Miller, second, high jump, 4'8"; Esslinger, second, pole vault, 9'6"; 4 x 100 meter relay team of Miller, Esslinger, Sorter, Cox, third, 54.46; Voss, fourth, shot put, personal best 32'1"; Nelson, fifth, shot put, 32'6.5"; Renner, fourth, triple jump, 32'4.25".

The Class 3A Regional Track Meet was held Friday, May 23 in Phillipsburg and was considered to be the toughest Class 3A regional in the state. Norton scored 39 points and qualified six girls for state competition. Hesston won the championship with 69 points, followed by Hutchinson Trinity, 66; Marion, 63; Marysville, 60; Beloit, 60; Southeast of Saline, 58; Norton, 39; Minneapolis, 28; Phillipsburg, 26; Halstead, 20 as the ten teams.

Norton's 4 x 800 meter relay team of Griffith, Engelbert, Casey Ambrosier and Bailey Ambrosier bettered their personal record by over 22 seconds to win first in 10:09.55. The same foursome just missed qualifying for the state meet in the 4X400 relay with a fifth place finish in 4:19.37. The top four in each event qualified for

the state meet. Bailey Ambrosier and Esslinger tied for third place in the pole vault at 9'6". Nelson hit a personal record in the shot put of 34'1.25" for third place. Engelbert placed second in the 800 meter run with a personal record time of 2:26.05, missing a gold medal by less than a second! Bainter placed sixth in the 3200 meter run in 12:43.90 and Miller was fifth in the high jump with a clearance of 4'10".

The 104th Kansas State Track and Field Meet was held in Wichita on Friday and Saturday, May 30-31. It is the largest high school track meet in the nation with all classes competing. The Norton girls placed 20th out of 41 teams, scoring 13.5 points. The Lady Jay 4 x 800 meter relay team extended their outstanding season performance with gold medals. Griffith, Engelbert, Casey Ambrosier and Bailey Ambrosier were timed in 10:00.77, breaking the school record by nine seconds. The previous Norton 4 x 800 meter record was held by Bailey Ambrosier, Astrid Moen, Kamilla Jones and Dustyna Sprigg. They set the record of 10:09.03 at the Regional Meet in 2011.

Bailey Ambrosier placed sixth in the pole vault at 10' and Esslinger finished eighth at 9'6". Engelbert placed seventh in the 800 meter run in 2:27.46, which was 33 hundredths of a second out of fourth! Nelson heaved the shot 30'5" to place 15th.

Coach's comments

"We are proud of the team members who formed the 2014 NCHS Track and Field Team," said coach Jones. "They found success in many ways and gave us more success to build upon next year."

"We plan to return 11 athletes from our girls team. They have gained valuable experience and will help toward future successes."

"As always, we hope that those who have graduated will take some of what they gained from us over their years in Blue Jay track and field into their futures. We will miss them deeply."

"As a team, we showed improvement all season long and were competitive all year long. Most of our girls responded well when needed and did their very best. We enjoyed sharing the season with them and look forward to the future with them."



•PUBLIC NOTICE•

Resolution to Levy Tax for Capital Outlay Fund

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RESOLUTION TO LEVY TAX FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 211, Norton County, State of Kansas, is authorized by K.S.A. 72-8801, to make an annual tax levy at a mill rate not exceeding the statutorily prescribed mill rate for a period of time as determined by the Board of Education upon the taxable tangible property in the district for the purpose specified in said law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined to exercise the authority vested in it by said law;

NOW, THEREFORE,

RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved that:

The above-named school board shall be authorized to make an annual tax levy for a period not to exceed FIVE (5) years in an amount not to exceed EIGHT (8) mills upon the taxable tangible property in the school district for the purpose of acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, remodeling, additions to, furnishing, maintaining and equipping of school district property and equipment necessary for school district purposes, including (1) Acquisition of computer software; (2) acquisition of performance uniforms; (3) housing and boarding pupils enrolled in an area vocational school operated under the board; (4) architectural expenses; (5) acquisition of building sites; (6) undertaking and maintenance of asbestos control projects; (7) acquisition of school buses; and (8) acquisition of other fixed assets, and for the purpose of paying a portion of the principal and interest on bonds issued by cities under the authority of K.S.A. 12-1774, and amendments thereto, for the financing of redevelopment projects upon property located within the school district. The tax levy authorized by this resolution may be made, unless a petition in opposition to the same, signed by not less than 10% of the qualified electors of the school district, is filed with the county election officer of the home county of the school district within 40 calendar days after the last publication of this resolution. In the event a petition is filed, the county election officer shall submit the question of whether the tax levy shall be authorized to the electors in the school district at an election called for that purpose or at the next general election, as is specified by the Board of Education of the above school district.

CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 211, Norton County, Kansas, on the 9th day of June, 2014.

Janice Russell

Clark of the above Board of Education

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