



Prairie Dog State Park is full of wildlife, including this hawk who was perched on a railing on the west side of the lake.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

# Carp derby results

By **ERICA BRADLEY**

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The annual Norton Carp Derby took place at Keith Sebelius Reservoir on July 18 with 25 teams competing in the archery and rod reel categories.

In the archery category, first place went to Randy West and Luke Leibrandt for catching 15 fish, Brandon McChesney and Rusty Goss received second place for their 12 fish and Travis Carroll, Atwood, and Myron Withington, Garden City, received third place for their 6 fish.

In the rod reel category Tim and Cindy Rabe, Bucklin, won first place with 57 fish, Gary Williams and Reggie Beckman received second place for 37 fish and Dustan and Doug Daniels received third place for their 31 fish.

Sam Schmidt and Danny Williams won the big carp award for a 14 inch fish.

John Baker, derby coordinator, said the first place winners each received a trophy and a cash prize.

The second and third place winners each received cash prizes.

Mr. Baker said local businesses donated door prizes, ranging from everything from a tackle box, to bait

boxes to T-shirts.

He said every contestant was able to receive a door prize thanks to the generosity of the sponsors.

"The businesses and community are really supportive," Mr. Baker said.

Mr. Baker said this is the derby's 29th year. Teams travel from areas such as Colby, Garden City, Atwood, Oberlin, Manhattan and Hastings, Neb.

Rules for the event included paying the entry fee, catching the fish in Keith Sebelius Reservoir, fishing between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., one team could fish from a boat and teams had to start and stop at the Leota Cove boat ramp.

"We do it as a fundraiser for the 4-H shooting sports," he said.

Mr. Baker said community support is high for the derby.

"Too many people want to do it. We really enjoy it," he said.

Teams had to pay a \$30 registration fee prior to the event and a \$35 fee if they registered the day of the event.

"Next year will be our 30th anniversary. We hope to do something special," he said.

Mr. Baker said he is not sure what will be planned, but he hopes to get suggestions from the community.

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