

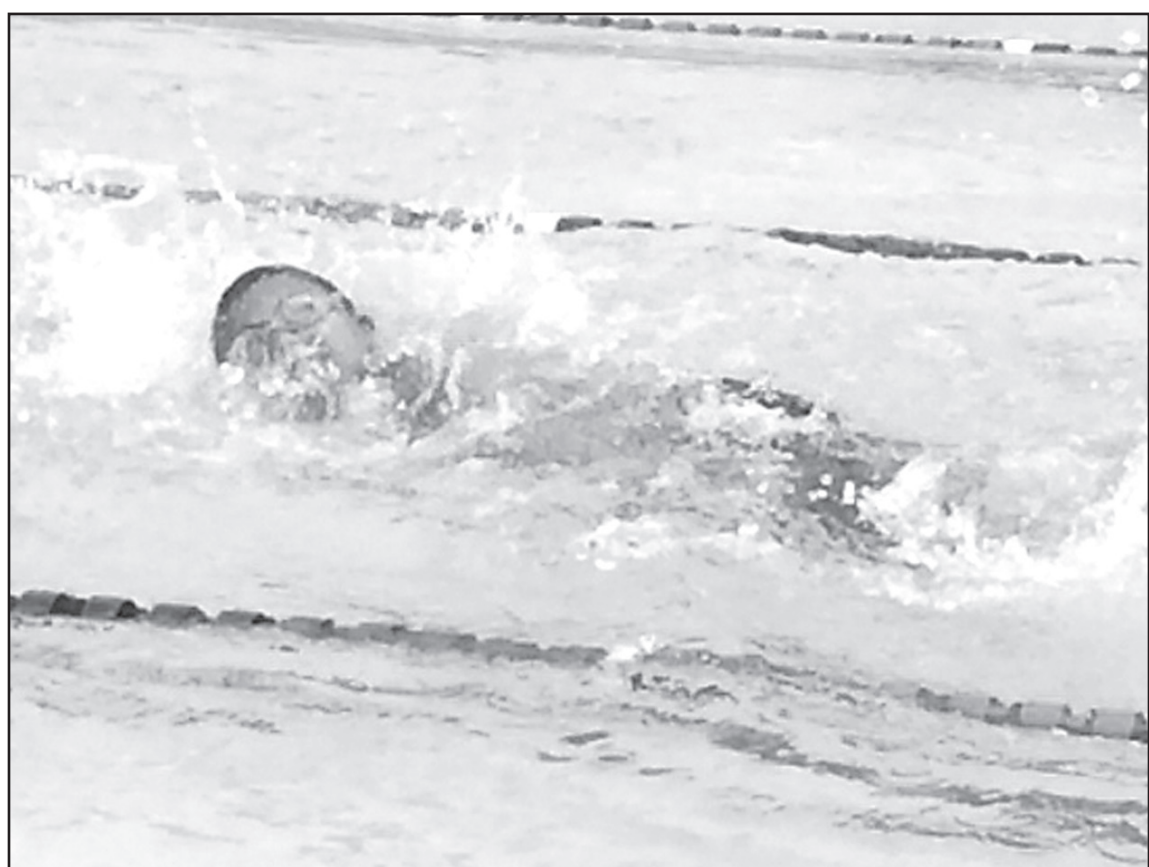
Sharks swim in qualifying meet

The Sainty Sharks traveled to Atwood on Saturday to participate in the qualifying meet to determine who would go to the Championship Meet which will be held in Lexington Neb. on Saturday July, 19. Ten teams participated in the largest qualifying meet of the league. Including the St. Francis Sharks there were teams from Atwood, Cheylin, Benkelman, Imperial, Indianola, Grant, McCook, Phillipsburg and Southern Valley.

Working hard was our goal last week as the swimmers prepared for the qualifying meet. Every swimmer who attended from the Sainty Shark team qualified for the Championship Meet, said Coach Margaret Poling. We did a lot of "out of the box" relay building. I had several swimmers who did not attend and that made us scratch some relays and scramble others. It was a fun, but hot meet and I know that some of the parents were surprised by the outcomes of some of the races. We had some parents come in and help work the meet which is a great thing.

Super Swimmers: Madison Siegfried came through big time by swimming 50 yards in the long free relay for the open team. Dawn Rice had to swim a freestyle instead of the breaststroke as a coaches error, but had a great swim and didn't get too upset (we are sorry). Matilyn Smull, Madison Siegfried and Breck Lohr had to do some running from one end of a race to swim again in the next heat. It was hard, keeping up but they did a super job although Breck at one time told the timer that she was probably going to drown. I promise no one did drown, said Coach Poling.

I was very proud of all the swimmers, but especially in the Individual Medley. We had eight participate in this event for the first time. Grace Landers, Dawn



ASAINTY SHARK swims fast in Saturday's meet at Atwood to qualify for the Championship Meet being held on July 19 in Lexington, Neb.

Rice, Ali Rice, Emma Johnson, Shadryon Blanka, Audry Meyers, and Kattie Wurm. This is the hardest race of the meet because it uses four strokes in order, butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and the American crawl. This is the only race where the American crawl has to be performed because our races are called freestyle and any stroke can be used. So here are the swimmers headed to Lexington for the Championship meet:

Medley Relay

Open: Emma Johnson, Alexis Frink, Emily Elfers, Lindsey Patterson.

Backstroke

8 and under girls: Skye Feldman.
9-10 girls: Emma Johnson.
11-12 boys: Shadryon Blanka.
15-18 girls: Emily Elfers.

Long Free Relay

14 and under girls: Audrey Meyer, Kattie Wurm. Ali Rice, Dawn Rice.

Open: Madison Siegfried, Lindsey Patterson, Alexis Frink, Emily Elfers.

Butterfly

8 and under girls: Skye Feldman.

9-10 girls: Emma Johnson.
9-10 boys: Jayce Landers.
11-12 boys: Shadryon Blanka.
15-18 girls: Alexis Frink.
19 and over girls: Lindsey Patterson.

Breaststroke

8 and under girls: Grace Landers.
9-10 boys: Jayce Landers.
19 and over girls: Lindsey Patterson.

Freestyle

9-10 girls: Emma Johnson.

11-12 boys: Shadryon Blanka.
19 and over girls: Lindsey Patterson.

Individual Medley

8 and under girls: Skye Feldman, Grace Landers.
9-10 girls: Emma Johnson.
9-10 boys: Jayce Landers.
11-12 boys: Shadryon Blanka.
15-18 girls: Alexis Frink.

Freestyle Relays

12 and under girls: Matilyn Smull, Skye Feldman, Madison Siegfried, Grace Landers, Breck Lohr.
12 and under girls: Audrey Meyer, Dawn Rice, Ali Rice, Kattie Wurm, Madison Siegfried.
12 and under boys: Jasper Hunt, Cutter Neitzel, Jayce Landers, Shadryon Blanka.
Open: Emma Johnson, Alexis Frink, Emily Elfers, Lindsey Patterson.



SHADRYON BLANKA makes it safely to third base prior to Cheylin's Miguel Gonzales getting possession of the ball.

Photo courtesy of Darci Shields



YOUNG GOLFER, DANI BROUGHMAN, prepares to put on the green during the Northwest Kansas Junior Golf Championship in Goodland on July 7.

Local golfer places in championship

Amanda Miller

amiller@nwkansas.com

A young St. Francis woman played in the Northwest Kansas Junior Golf Championship in Goodland on July 7, and brought home third place.

Dani Broughman, daughter of Dana and Delores Broughman, participated in the regional competition after a series of tournaments that led up to the regional championship. Dani just completed fourth grade in the St. Francis Community School District.

The Northwest Kansas Junior Golf Championship was held in Goodland after tournaments in each town in the east and west divisions took place. St. Francis held a tournament on June 2.

The west division is comprised of St. Francis, Colby, Atwood, Goodland and Hoxie. The east division includes Plainville, WaKeeney, Phillipsburg, Hays and Ellis. Players representing each of these towns went to Goodland July 7 to compete for the regional championship.

The young golfers are divided up according to their ages. Age 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 and 16-17.

In the Age 8-9 division, Talei McCrae from Plainville took the first place with a 44. Anna Starbuck of Colby placed second with a 73, and Dani Broughman of St. Francis came in right behind her, winning third with a 74.

Organic certification funds now available

Kansas farmers who currently use organic production practices or would like to pursue organic certification are encouraged to apply for cost share funds from the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

The program, funded by the 2014 Farm Bill, is administered through the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. The program is intended to assist Kansas farmers by offsetting costs associated with organic certification or recertification. Under the state's agreement with USDA, they are eligible for up to 75 percent of the cost of their organic certification, up to \$750, for certification occurring between Oct. 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2014, as long as funds remain.

"This is a great opportunity for farmers to achieve this certification at a reduced cost," said Annarose Hart, marketing specialist with the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

To receive cost share funds, Kansas organic farmers and handlers must complete the Organic Certification Cost Share Program Application, and submit it along with a copy of the organic certification document, an invoice showing the amount paid for that certification and a W-9 form.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture was allocated nearly \$73,000 in funds for the cost share program for farms certified between Oct. 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2014.

Upon receipt of cost share documents, the department will confirm certification and then provide reimbursement. Based on the receipt of the completed application packet, reimbursements will be on a first-come, first-served basis until the limited program funds are exhausted.

The program application is posted on the Kansas Department

of Agriculture's website, Organic Cost Share Program. The site is also a great resource for program updates.

Questions about cost-share funds for organic certification may be directed to Josh Roe at

(785) 564-6707 or Annarose Hart at (785) 564-6755 or by email to Annarose.Hart@kda.ks.gov.

Information is also available from the National Organic Program website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/nop>.

Book Review

Sycamore Row

By John Grisham

John Grisham's *A Time to Kill* is one of the the most popular novels of our time. Now we return to that famous courthouse in Clanton as Jake Brigance once again finds himself embroiled in a fiercely controversial trial--a trial that will expose old racial tensions and force Ford County to confront its tortured history.

Seth Hubbard is a wealthy man dying of lung cancer. He trusts no one. Before he hangs himself from a sycamore tree, Hubbard leaves a new, handwritten will.

It is an act that drags his adult children, his black maid, and Jake into a conflict as riveting and dramatic as the murder trail that made Brigance one of Ford County's most notorious citizens, just three weeks earlier.

The second will raises many more questions than it answers. Why would Hubbard leave nearly all of his fortune to his maid? Had chemotherapy and painkillers affected his ability to think clearly? And what does it all have to do with a piece of land once known as Sycamore Row.

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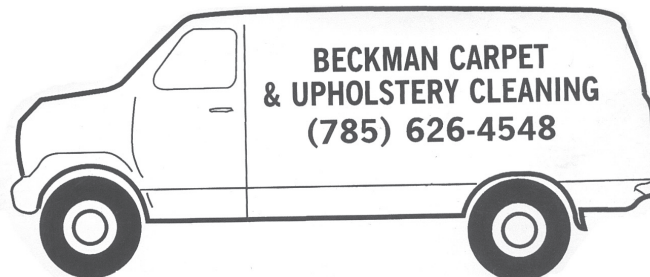
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