

Indians defeated

Oberlin defeated St. Francis 34-19 in eighth grade basketball competition on Thursday, Feb. 20. This was the final regular-season game for the team as they moved into tournament action on Monday. The final tournament games will be played today (Thursday).

Against Oberlin, six different ladies scored with three players Danielle Flemming, Lauren Ross and Alecia Zimbelman leading with four points each.

"It was a pretty close game for the first three quarters," Coach Rob

Schiltz said. "We just couldn't hit enough shots to get caught up."

"Oberlin did a good job against our man-to-man defense of driving the ball to the basket and scoring. When we switched to a zone, they had a girl that got hot from the outside. It was a tough game for us, one we probably should have won."

SF	05	04	06	04	19
A	09	07	06	12	34

Scoring: Flemming 4, Ross 4, Zimbelman 4, Mindy Cooper 3, Janelle Zwegardt 2, Addie Swihart 2.

Bowling News

Wednesday Coffee
2/12
Team standings: The 3 G's 14-6; Flower Magic 12.5-7.5; Snyder's Hay Gals 12-8; Sam's Electric 11-9; Cheyenne Bowl 9-11; Windmill Restaurant 8-12; Dairy King 8-12; Krien Steel Buildings 5.5-14.5
High game (scratch): Mary Walz 182, Kathy Snyder 179, Charlene Counce 177
High series (scratch): Walz 480, Pat confer 478, Shirley Adkinson 462.

High game (scratch): Pat Confer 195, Marsha Kechter 193, Vickey Harford 184
High series (scratch): Kechter 504, Confer 503, Harford 495.

Ladies Nite Out
2/20
Team standings: First National Bank 20-7, Jake's 18-9, Great Plains Co-Op 17-10, Wright Carpet 17-11, Troy's Alley Cat 13-15, Cheyenne Bowl 9-18, Jersey Maids 8-20, Dundy Ag 8-20

Monday Mixed League
10/15
Team standings: Z-Tubing 23.5-16.5; Captain Hooks Fine Dining 22-18; Bandel Home Center 20-20; Krien Pharmacy 19-21; Hooks Auction & Realty 18.5-21.5; Cueballs 17-23.
High game (handicap): Rick Burton 230, Wade Krien 219, Kale Zimbelman 215; Christina Zwegardt 230, Erica Harlan 228, Janice Krien 216.
High series (handicap): Mary Merklin 624, Zwegardt 614, Tami Merchant 602; K. Zimbelman 612, Rell Zimbelman 606, Krien 601.



FEEDING HORSES and other livestock has been pretty cold for the farmers and ranchers. The temperatures have been in the single digits and the wind chills been below zero. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Former Cheyenne County resident remembers space shuttle Columbia

Editor's note: The following article, written by Kay Hively, was taken in part from the Neosho (Mo.) Daily News and is about former Cheyenne County resident Perry Whipple who helped with the building of the space shuttle Columbia.

"I just knew it was breaking up." That was the thought that went through Perry Whipple's mind on Feb. 1 as he watched television to see the landing of the space shuttle, Columbia.

Mr. Whipple, who lives west of Neosho, Mo., has a more than passing interest in the Columbia. He helped build the big cargo doors on Columbia, which was the first space shuttle built. And ever since Columbia took its maiden flight in 1981, Mr. Whipple has followed its progress.

Whipple started working on space projects in 1957 at the Neosho Rocketdyne plant but was transferred to Tulsa in 1968. With no special training, Mr. Whipple made his way to the top of the department that built the huge doors. Only the cargo doors were made in Tulsa. The rest of the shuttle was made in Palmdale, Calif., and it was tested at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

The department where Mr. Whipple worked was left without leadership at one point when the chief

of the department left the company. Mr. Whipple, who had developed a deep interest in layup composition and had taken every course available, was chosen to take over the department.

His first job was to learn everything he could about composition.

"At first, all the work was done with figerglass, but we switched over to graphite epoxy. That's what the doors were made of," he explained.

As he learned, Mr. Whipple began to write his findings and eventually he wrote the manual on how to build the doors. That manual was the blueprint used on all the shuttles.

Mr. Whipple noted that Columbia was the heaviest of all the shuttles.

Because it was first we overdid everything in the name of safety. That made everything heavy. Once Columbia went up, we learned that we could use some lighter materials and less materials in some places."

With the destruction of Columbia, Mr. Whipple is looking back at his place in the American space program. He is very proud of his work on the shuttle, but he is equally proud of the work done in Neosho.

"I don't think we ever realized what important work we were doing here," he said. "I think we took our work for granted. Remember, most of the

people who worked at Rocketdyne were just country people, but they did magnificent work. They did things that had never been done before. They just did them not knowing that most people who should know didn't think it could be done."

As Mr. Whipple sat in front of his television set that morning, he was in shock at the events unfolding in front of him.

"I knew when they said contact was lost that it was all over. You just can't lose contact. There's not enough time to lose contact," he said. "It was the biggest letdown for me that you can imagine. I was so sure it was going to land and all those people would be there to greet them. But it didn't happen."

Now Mr. Whipple is turning his attention to the three Americans who are on board the space station. "We have to get the other three shuttles ready to fly. We must get those Americans home. The Russians don't have the money or the means to take care of our people at the space station. We must fly again."

Mr. Whipple likes to tell the story of how, when he was only six days old, his mother harnessed a horse to the wagon and drove herself and him to town to register his birth. So, his life has spanned from horse and buggy

days into the space age.

Mr. Whipple and his wife Irene were raised in the St. Francis area with Mr. Whipple going to school with the class of 1941 and Mrs. Whipple graduating with the class of 1942. They were married in 1942 and Mr. Whipple worked with Mrs. Whipple's father Fred Schlepp who was in the construction business but his main trade was being a farmer. When they left in 1950, they had a large farm sale with the auctioneers being Ernie Sherlock and son Fred.

They fondly remember St. Francis and the good times they had. They told about playing cards in the winter with the Keith Loyds, Kenny Robersons, Eddie Lauers, Paul DeGoods, John Schultzs, George Schields, Albert Burrs, Bud Stuarts, Dr. Crams and Warren Northrups, just to name some.

"We had some good times," Mr. Whipple said.

The Whipples have been back for class reunions and have stayed with Paul and Mardell DeGood.

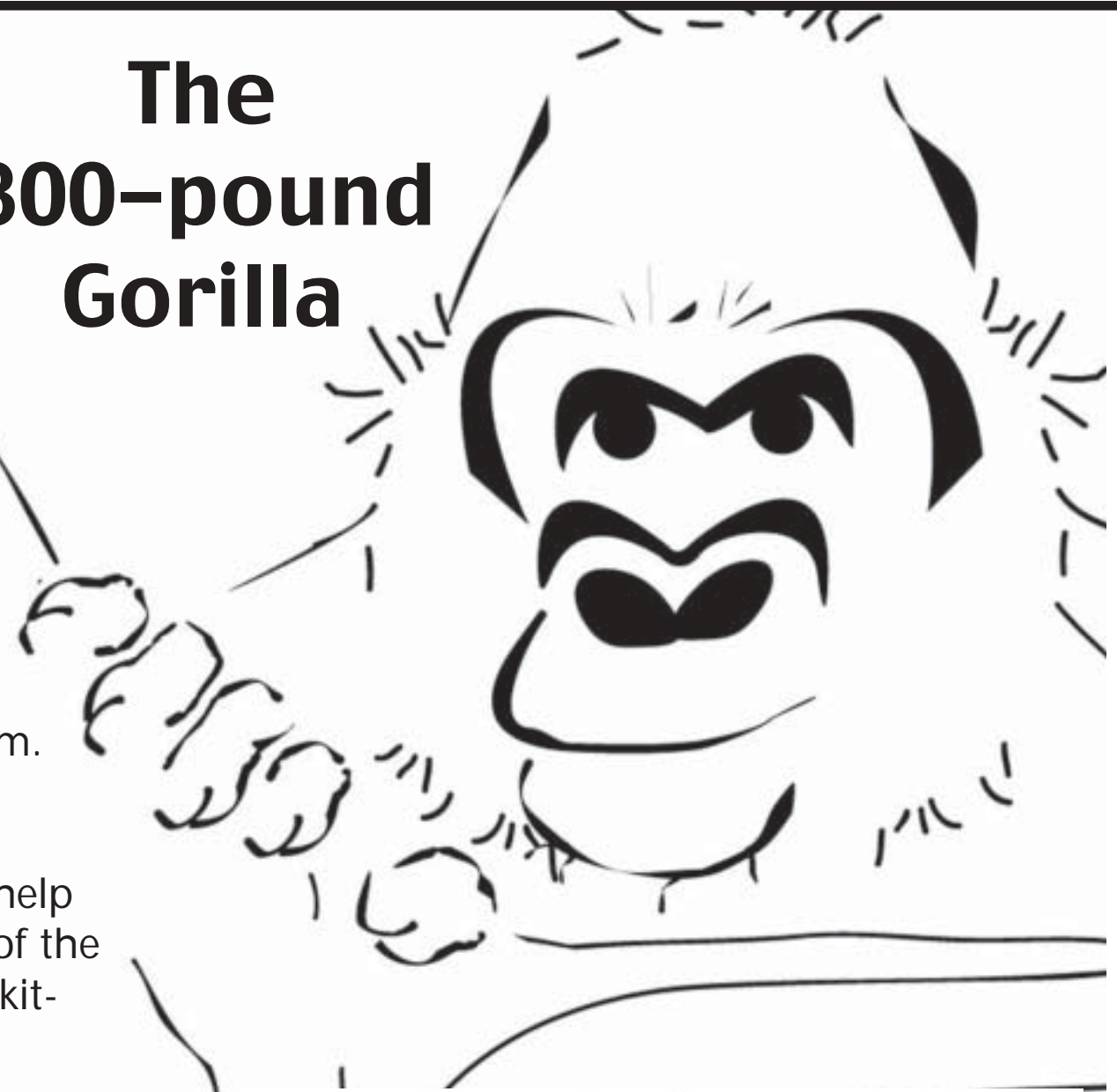
The Whipples moved from Oklahoma to Neosho several years ago where they are retired. In fact, Mr. Whipple celebrated his 80th birthday on Sunday surrounded by friends and family.

Boy Scout page will be featured next week!

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