

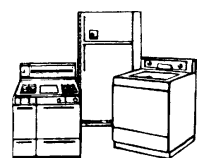
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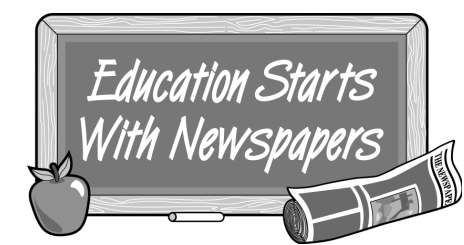
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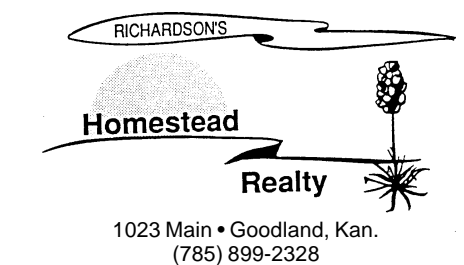
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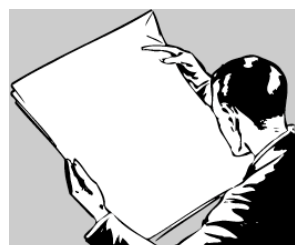
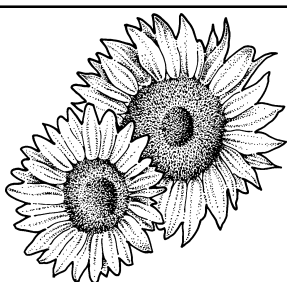


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# Congratulations summer players!

## Program lets teams compete

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

Three teams from Goodland competed in the Mid-America Youth Basketball program this summer, traveling to tournaments in Garden City, Colby, Colorado Springs and Sterling, Colo.

A basketball coach in Kansas started the program 10 years ago, Coach Jon McLean said. He said the program has tournaments in the Midwest region of the country.

Twenty-one high school athletes from Goodland participated in the program, forming teams in three age groups, seventh and eighth grades, ninth and 10th grades and 11th and 12th grades. Ten to 15 teams in each age group participated in each tournament, Coach McLean said. Some of the players played on more than one team.

Before each tournament, he said, the teams played three to four games in pool play, which determined where they were seeded in the double elimination tournament.

The highlight of the season, McLean said, was the tournament in Sterling, Colo. There, he said, the Goodland seventh and eighth grade and ninth and 10th grade teams won the tournament. The 11th and 12th grade team placed third in the same tournament.

Goodland failed to place at the other tournaments, he said, because the players lost before they reached the games in which the teams place.

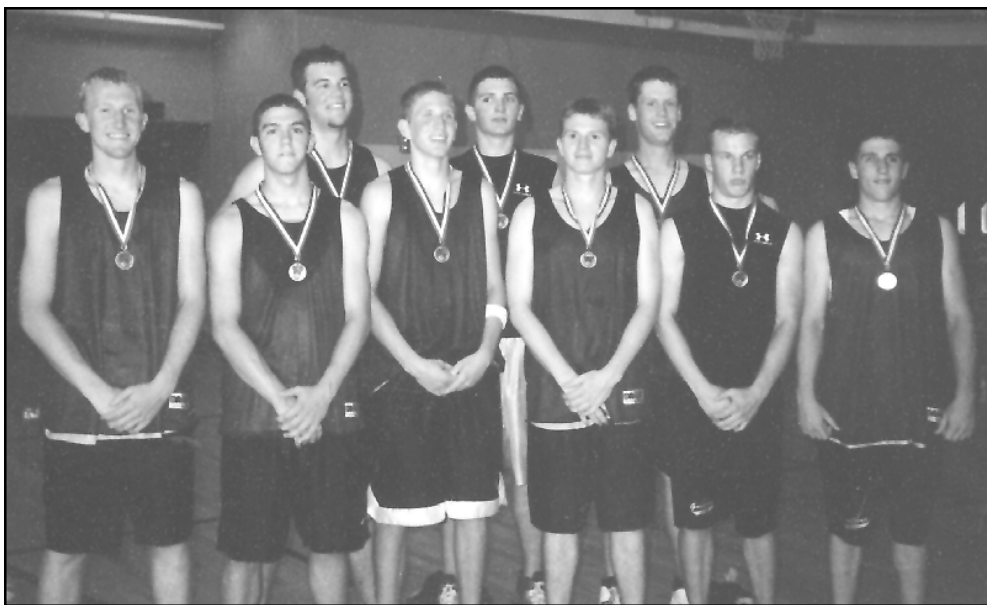
The teams received sponsorship from local businesses and individuals, the coach said, and the program required time and dedication on the part of the players and their parents.

McLean was assisted by coaches Jay Herl, Brady Stindt and Chris Walters, who volunteered their time for the summer program.



The 9th and 10th grade team won the Mid-America Youth Basketball Tournament in Sterling, Colo. this summer. Front row left to right: Lance Tedford, Kevin Schulte, Alan Cebula, Matt Hall, Don Raymer and Lane Winter. Back row left to right: Jared Doke, Bill Linin and Josh Topliff.

Photos courtesy Jon McLean



The 11th and 12th grade team placed third in the Mid-America Youth Basketball Tournament at Sterling, Colo. this summer. Front row left to right: Bryan Mai, Jordan Riebel, Aaron Gittinger, Kris Rubio, Alan Cebula and Kevin Schulte. Back row: Andrew Melia, Don Raymer and Josh Topliff.



The junior high team finished in first place at the Mid-America Youth Basketball Tournament in Sterling, Colo. this summer. Front row left to right: Wade Taylor, Bobby Miller and Drew Wilkens. Back row left to right: David Livengood, Darrick Raymer and Jase Herl.

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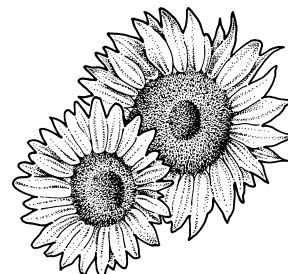
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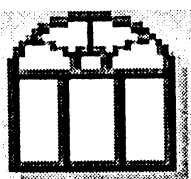
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