

Former Cowgirl takes golf game to next level

By Kathryn Gurfinkel
The Goodland-Star-News

In high school, Jessica Osborn was good at all her sports, but it was basketball that really turned her crank.

That and golf. She won a letter in golf all four years of high school. Golf will take her to college and maybe beyond.

Osborn, a native of Goodland and a May graduate of Goodland High School, said she has been golfing since she was 4. She said her father, Chuck, was an avid golfer and she followed suit.

"I'm really competitive," she said. "Losing's not my thing."

After her parents got divorced she moved in with her aunt and uncle Loretta and Michael Borgmann. Her father manages the Travel Shoppe and restaurant in Burlington, Colo. She has an older brother, Blake, 24 and a four-year-old niece, Devinee, who she says is like a sister.

"We have two girls," said her aunt. "We have a 4-year-old and an 18-year-old."

Osborn, 18, said she started out with a miniature set of golf clubs that have now been passed on to Devinee.

"We're getting her started," said Borgmann.

Osborn played in the junior golf leagues until she got into high school and started to play for the Cowgirls. The year she was a freshman was the first year golf was offered as a sport at Goodland High.

To letter in the sport, she had to win a medal in at least one varsity meet. The varsity team was made up of the six players who shot the lowest scores each week. Osborn scored the lowest of all of the players in her last two years. Letter winners also had to be on the team that went to the regional competition.

She won medals at the state tournament all four years of high school and did her best her senior year, when she took sixth place. She won the high school's Outstanding Athlete of the Year award for 2004.

Her talent on the golf course has won her a scholarship to play with the Lady Conquistadors at Dodge City Community College this season. Osborn said she will go to New



Jessica Osborn practiced her drives last Friday at Sugar Hills Golf Club in preparation for the fall season as member of the Dodge City Community College women's golf team.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma to play for the school. She said the Dodge City team has made it to the national competition in Florida for the past three years.

Her dream is to complete two years of college in Dodge City and then go on to play golf for a Division I college in Georgia or Florida.

"I want to be by the ocean," she



Jessica Osborn (right) along with Stephanie Fairbanks painted the curbs on street corners along Main Avenue yellow Wednesday as one of their assigned jobs while working for the city/county recreation department this summer.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

said.

For her studies, Osborn plans to get her basics out of the way while working towards a career in sports medicine.

"I want to stay in the sports department," she said.

She said the college had a golf pro fit her with an all new set of clubs.

"Hopefully, that will knock a few strokes off," she said.

Osborn said she wants to get her score down into the lower 30s for a nine-hole game.

She will stay in dorms on campus and have tutors to make sure she keeps up her grades. Although she

is looking forward to college, she said she will miss her family.

"She'll be fine when she gets down there," said her aunt.

"I'll be back a lot, I'm sure," said Osborn.

To keep in good physical condition, she said she lifts weights, which makes her drives longer. She practices on the golf course with a warm up, chipping and putting, and then spends some time at the driving range. She said she will start going out on the course at least five days a week to get ready for college.

When she starts school, she will be on a strict workout schedule,

starting with two hours per day of weights. After the workout, she will be expected to spend four hours per day on the golf course. This schedule will be set for the spring and fall seasons. Over the winter, she said, she will only have to do the weightlifting.

Although it is her best sport, golf is not the only sport Osborn loves. She is partial to team sports and likes basketball the most.

"Basketball is what she loves," said Borgmann. "Golf is something that comes natural to her."

She played basketball, volleyball and track in junior high. In high school, she played softball for the first two years and then switched to throw the javelin and the shot put in track for her last two years. She won a letter for both years she played softball, both years in track and for three years in basketball.

Right now, Osborn works for the City County Recreational Department mowing fields and getting the diamonds ready for summer baseball games.

She umpires for girl's rookie teams and plays softball on a co-ed team with Stephens Construction in Colby.

In her spare time, she said she likes to hang out with her friends or stay home with her family.

Osborn said she plans to see where her golf career will take her. Her short-term goal is to make it to a Division I college, but after that, who knows?

"If I was good enough to play pro, I would for sure," she said. "I'll just see where it takes me."

Sports television schedule

SATURDAY MORNING	
10:00	28/37 TNT NASCAR Nextel Cup Happy Hour (Live) (CC)
11:00	28/37 TNT NASCAR Racing Busch Series — New England 200. From New Hampshire International Speedway in Loudon, N.H. (Live) (CC)
AFTERNOON	
1:00	7/11 CBS PGA Golf U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee — Third Round. From Brown Deer Park Golf Course in Milwaukee. (Live) (CC)
13/7	FOX MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox. From Fenway Park in Boston. (Live) (CC)
2:30/3/9	NBC 8/8 NBCAVP Volleyball Hermosa Beach Open. From Hermosa Beach, Calif. (Live) (CC)
3:00	54/57 ESPN2 MLS Soccer Columbus Crew at Colorado Rapids. From INVESCO Field at Mile High in Denver. (Live) (CC)
4:00	22/56 ESPN SportsCenter (Live) (CC)
5:00	22/56 ESPN Horse Racing John C. Mabee and Bing Crosby Handicap. From Del Mar Thoroughbred Club in Del Mar, Calif. (Live)
99/36	WGN MLB Baseball Detroit Tigers at Chicago White Sox. From U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago. (Live) (CC)
SUNDAY MORNING	
10:30	22/56 ESPN Baseball Tonight (Live) (CC)
11:00	25/35 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at New York Mets. From Shea Stadium in Flushing, N.Y. (Live)
11:30	28/37 TNT NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series — New England 300. From New Hampshire International Speedway in Loudon, N.H. (Live) (CC)
99/36	WGN MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Philadelphia Phillies. From Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. (Live) (CC)
AFTERNOON	
1:00	7/11 CBS PGA Golf U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee — Final Round. From Brown Deer Park Golf Course in Milwaukee. (Live) (CC)
1:30	4/6 ABC IRL Racing Milwaukee Indy 225. From the Milwaukee Mile in West Allis, Wis. (Live) (CC)
60/89	UNIV Fútbol Copa América Final: Equipos Se Anunciarán. (En Vivo)
2:00	54/57 ESPN2 WTA Tennis JPMorgan Chase Open — Final. From Carson, Calif. (Live) (CC)
2:15	99/36 WGN Tenth Inning (Live) (CC)
2:30	3/9 NBC 8/8 NBCAVP Volleyball Hermosa Beach Open. From Hermosa Beach, Calif. (Live) (CC)
3:00	22/56 ESPN Horse Racing Eddie Read Handicap. From Del Mar, Calif. (Live)
4:00	22/56 ESPN SportsCenter (Live) (CC)
5:00	22/56 ESPN Baseball Tonight From Fenway Park in Boston. (Live) (CC)

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Is Proud to Introduce

Sheryl Davis Investment Representative
For our new office in Goodland, Kansas.

After working for 17 years as an assistant to a local broker she has her own securities license and is opening her own office at **1109 Main Street in Goodland** on Monday, July 26th.

Sheryl is very excited about the many new products and programs she will have to offer which have not been available to the area residents in the past, and in working with veteran investment broker Mike van Maarth.

Sheryl is looking forward to seeing all her friends and will be glad to discuss the many alternative investments she now has available, along with all your traditional investment needs and a very extensive bond inventory.

The Office will be opening on Monday the 26th, and Sheryl will be holding an **open house on Thursday, July 29th**. She hopes all her old friends will stop by And wish her luck.

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