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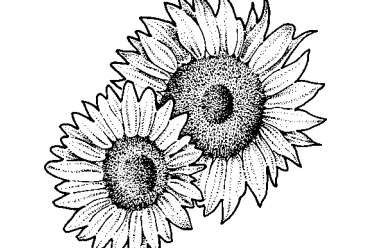
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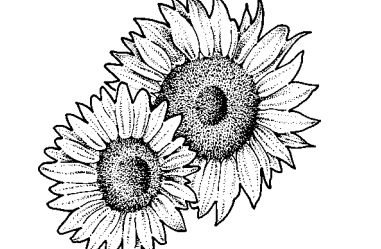
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Goodland High School scholars put heads together for tough play



Buzzers away

With her trigger finger ready, senior Scholars' Bowl team member Mallory Younger (above left) contemplated tough questions in a match against the staff of *The Goodland Star-News* Monday. Students and challengers alike had to keep their wits about them to buzz in an answer (left) before their opponents. Sarah Borneman (above) was in charge of the team's lucky hedgehog during the challenge.

Photos by Tom Betz and Evan Barnum
The Goodland Star-News



Competitions foster students' learning

By Kathryn Burke
The Goodland Star-News

Hearts pumping and hands on buzzers, students on the Scholars' Bowl team at Goodland High School are always ready to exercise their brains.

The matches may not draw a crowd like a football game, but students on the team practice hard and battle their wits out.

The mix of freshmen, sophomores and seniors meets Mondays after school and Tuesdays each week to practice for meets. The students take questions in social sciences, fine arts, science, math, current event and a foreign language translation.

JoAnn Wahrman, high school librarian and Scholars' Bowl sponsor, said she is proud of how hard the team works.

"We're doing better than last year," she said. "The number of points scored is more this year."

Some members of the group, she said, are developing expertise in the various categories. For example, she said, senior Charles Lammers has memorized a list of famous people who died in the past year.

"I look for things during the day," he said,

"that might help us in a meet."

Mallory Younger, a senior, said she seeks out new information in her math classes, reading extra boxes in the margins of her textbook.

Wahrman said in the study sessions, the team practices on Constitutional Amendments and works on listening to the whole question for clues. The students, she said, have to be sure enough in themselves to ring in on the buzzers.

"We have a good group of kids," she said. "They all get along together and like to work together."

"We love it," said Simon Wang, an exchange student from China and the team's math whiz.

"It's a lot of fun," said Lammers.

The team agreed the questions are not easy and they need the practice.

Freshman Jonathan McClung said he remembers a particularly difficult question in a meet where he found the common thread, the color green, through a few items.

Like other activities, the team has a limited number of matches, with each student only allowed to participate in eight per year. Wahrman said they are scheduled for nine

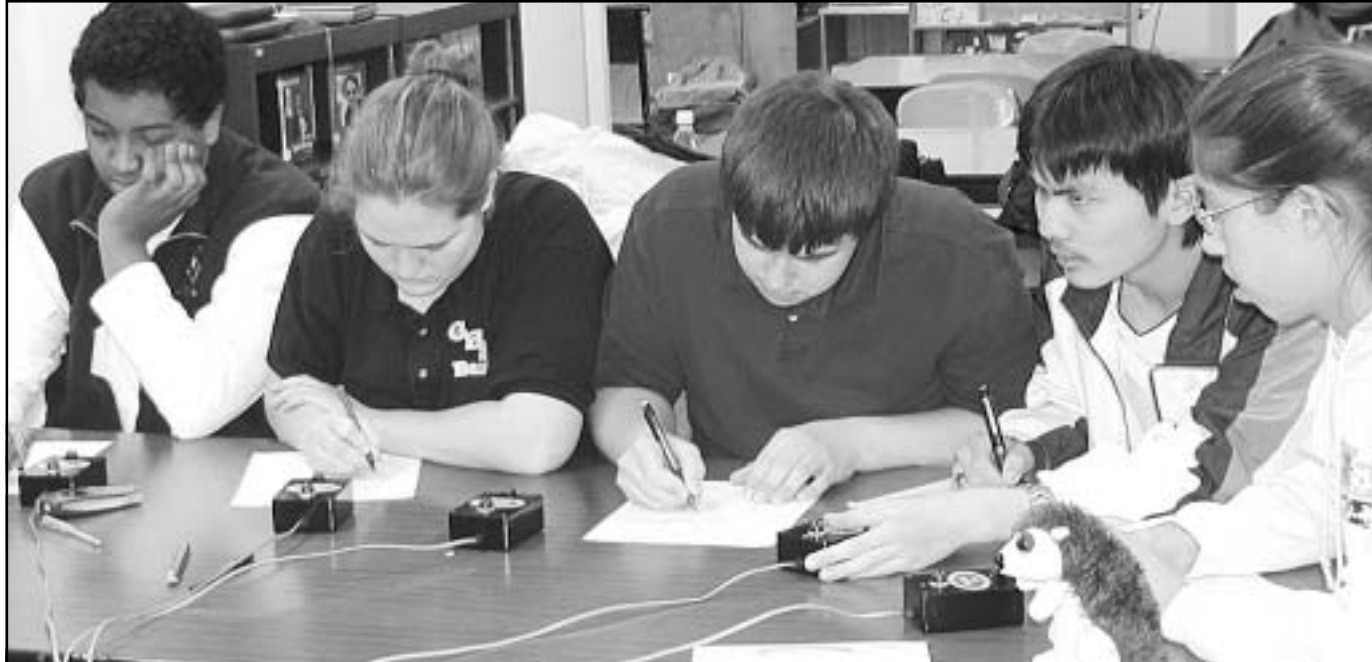
meets, but each one only has seats for five students, so some sit out.

On Monday, the team went up against six other teams in the Northwest Kansas League Scholars Bowl meet. Goodland beat Oakley 50-40, and lost to Atwood 30-90, Quinter 50-55, Colby 40-50 and Oberlin 5-45. Colby won the meet with 4 wins and 1 loss.

On Tuesday, the team played an exhibition match against the staff at *The Goodland Star-News*. Wahrman said the match, which was 8-2 in favor of the newspaper, counted as a match on the team's record.

The next meet is on Tuesday in Scott City. The regional competition will be in Kingman on Thursday, Feb. 3, Wahrman said, where the team will play against 10 to 12 area teams, with the top two teams moving on to state.

The Scholars' Bowl team is made up of five seniors, Lammers, Jenna McGinley, Younger, Wang and Abby Murray; five sophomores, Sarah Borneman, Michael Bryce, Cody Engel, Lea Shores and Michael Smith; and two freshmen, Robert Borneman and McClung.



Michael Smith (from left), Mallory Younger, Charles Lammers, Simon Wang and Sarah Borneman scribbled furiously through one of the Scholars' Bowl math questions. Although team members agree that Wang is best in math,

Younger said she seeks out new information in her math classes, reading the extra boxes in the margins of her text book.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



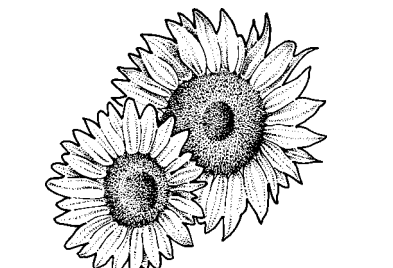
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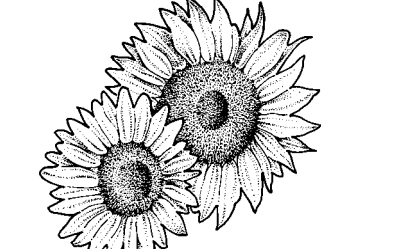
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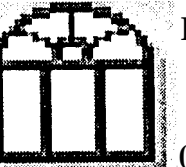
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