

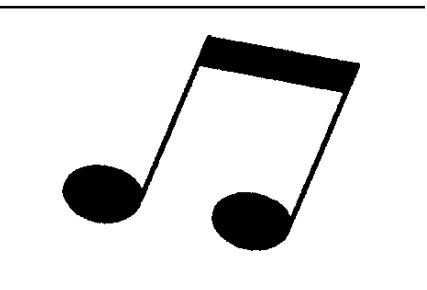
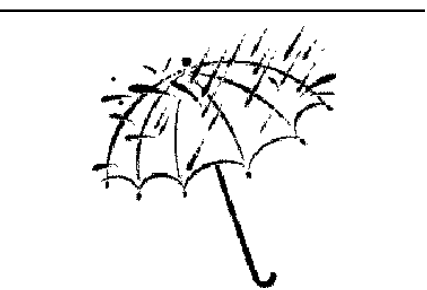
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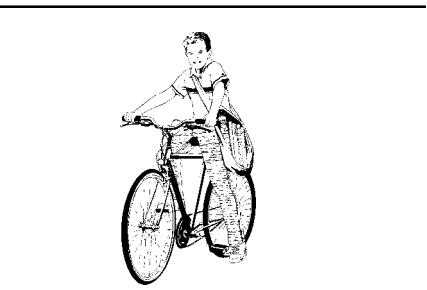
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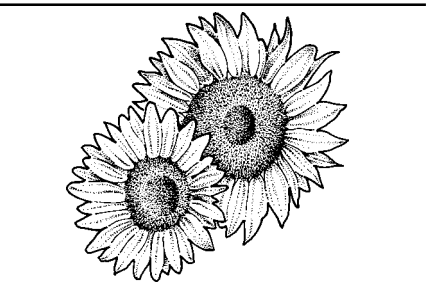


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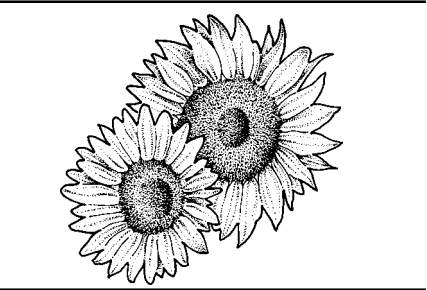
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*Good job, Goodland swimmers,  
for a fine season,  
for raising your own money  
and for promoting team growth!*



The Goodland swim team ended the season with a fifth place finish at the Northwest Kansas League Championship July 8 and 9 in Oakley and met for an end-of-season picnic Sunday, Aug. 21. Members of the team are: Front row from left: Gerell Miller, Kelsey White (standing), Sianna Miller (standing), Johanna Gruskin, Kasarah Woodrow, Shycol Woodrow, Shayley Miller and Paetyn Barricklow. Middle row: Berkley White, Alex Goodwin, Drew Dautel, Brianna White, Zach Miller, Holton Witman, Chloe Goodwin and Brooke Lockhart. Back row: Cassie Cooper, Halli Stone and Brennan Clouse. Not pictured: Alicia Barrie, Ashley Barrie, Dani Bedore, Taryn Bedore, Daniel Blake, Hannah Blake, Ian Bonsell, Carlee Cooper, Colton Cooper, Chelsey Horney, Rachel Horney, Hagan Hoss, Elizabeth House, Drew House, Toby Hurst, Abby Jolly, Kerek Mason, Tanner Oharah, Riley Oharah, Austin Rains, Caleb Rains, Erik Roeder and Parker Sieck.

## Swim team grows despite having to raise own money

By Sharon Corcoran  
The Goodland Star-News

What do you do when you're a coach whose team loses its place to practice and then financial support? What if you are a parent whose children want to be on that team?

If you are part of Goodland's swim team, you use the money on hand for registration fees, you conduct your own fund-raisers, and you give your support to the team and work to build it up.

The team lost its place to practice when Goodland's swimming pool closed at the end of the 1999 season and was closed through 2000 while being replaced with the new Steever Water Park. The team dropped from about 50 members to 12 in 2000, when they all had to drive to Colby to practice.

The next year, Coach Glenna Jarmin said, the team gained a few swimmers when the new pool opened, but then lost some because the water was too cold and ended up with about 15. The team also lost financial support from the city.

The city used to sponsor the team and pay coaches, Jarmin said, but now just lets them use the pool. The team pays its fees and buys supplies from money in its account from past years, she said; most of the work is done by volunteers, and parents do fund-raisers.

Nonetheless, the team has grown to nearly 45 swimmers and finished in fourth or fifth place at several meets this year, including a fifth place finish out of 10 teams at the Northwest Kansas League Champi-

onship the second weekend of July.

The team had several first-place individual finishes at each meet and had first place relay teams at the meets.

Many of the swimmers are new, Jarmin said, so they and their parents are learning. Last year, she said, the team gained 20 new members, doubling the number of swimmers 10 and under. It was hectic, she said, because they were just learning.

She credits the parents and swimmers with the team's level of success. Sometimes when you don't have enough help, Jarmin said, you put the parents to work. Some have been drafted as coaches.

When you're in your 70s and can't take the heat at the pool, Jarmin said, you need to have others to take over. Peggy Blake has been helping, Jarmin said, and Brian Horney.

The team needs the parents involved, Jarmin said; they have to take their kids to the meets, and there's work on the computer and a lot of other things to do when Goodland serves as a meet's host.

Gennifer House did the computer work at this year's meet, Jarmin said; two years ago, Goodland held a meet because Colby's team couldn't get their pool for it. People from Colby helped with that meet, she said.

There's also the need to send letters and e-mails to keep everyone informed, she said; it takes more than a few people.

And the swimmers do better if they practice through the winter. The team goes to the Colby Community College pool once a month during the winter, Jarmin said, and

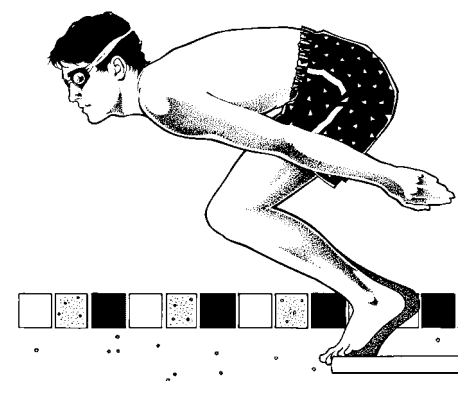
holds some practices at the Howard Johnson Hotel. They practice mostly on strokes at the hotel, she said, not much on distance.

The team did this last winter, the coach said, and the ones who took the time to do it benefited. The coach said the benefits of off-season practice show up in the competition as well.

Colby dominates the meets, she said; they have a lot of swimmers, and they have the college pool right there. Jarmin said she thinks the Colby team uses the indoor pool once a week during the winter rather than once a month like the Goodland team.

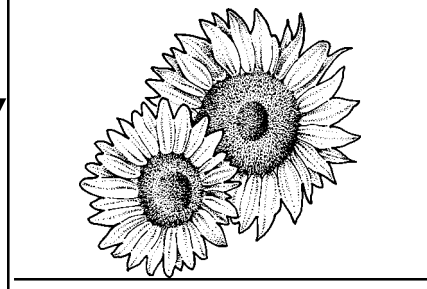
Besides the dedication of swimmers who practice during the winter, Jarmin also appreciates the parents who take the time and effort to drive their kids over to Colby to practice.

"I credit the parents for doing this for their kids," she said.



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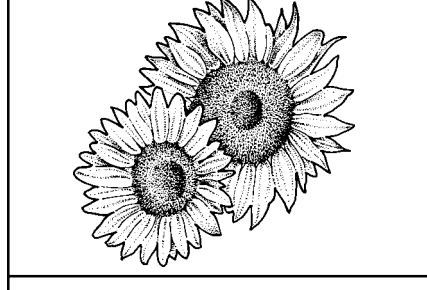
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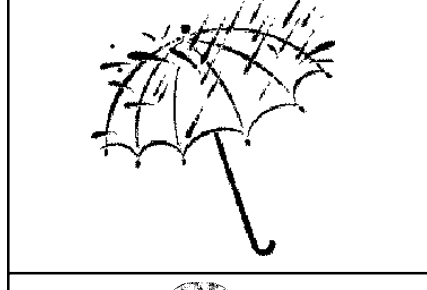
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