

People in Our Community

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SENIOR TERYN GRAFEL showed what it takes to be a three-time state champion in the 110 hurdles at the Oberlin Invitational this year. —Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

Dedication, encouragement helps Oberlin hurdler win big

This is the sixth in a series on Decatur Community High athletes who are heading off to college, designed to let younger kids understand what it takes to be a success in a sport.

By JIM MERRIOTT
So what does it take to become a three-time state champion in the 110-meter hurdles?

Oberlin senior Teryn Grafel, who recently signed to run track for Cloud County Community College in Concordia, knows.

"It takes dedication," said Grafel. "I owe it all to my dad, Keith. He is the junior high school track coach. He realized when I was in seventh grade that I had potential running the hurdles. He encouraged me to work at it. I did what he said, and it paid off."

Grafel did more than just dedicate himself to the hurdles. He lettered four years in cross country, three in basketball, and four in track despite being run over by a homecoming float his freshman year, suffering a broken ankle.

Is this guy tough or what?

Teryn comes from an athletic family. An older brother, Rusty, plays basketball for Fort Hays State University. Egan, his second-oldest brother, played basketball at Cloud County the past two years and is headed to Northern Illinois University this fall. His father played basketball at Colby Community College back in his day.

"It just came naturally," Teryn says. "We all are competitive in

sports. Our whole family enjoys and participates in them. My younger sister Sydney plays sports, along with my youngest brother Saeger, who is a big jock."

Grafel started athletics in grade school, playing basketball and running at track meets.

His dedication has earned him All-Northwest Kansas League and All-State honors the past three years.

"Track just fascinated me," he said. "I was a fast runner and I have always loved to run and jump."

"I owe a lot to my hurdle coach, Mrs. (Pat) Dorshorst. She pushed me; she was always there for me. She had the insight and tact to know what buttons to push to make me work harder in practice, which prepared me for the big meets."

When I ran the 300-meter hurdles, she would always be at the corner turn, yelling encouragement to me to finish hard. She is a great coach and person."

Grafel said he ran on his own during the summer and prepared for cross country, which helped him improve his times.

"Coach Dick Ahlberg also helped me along the way," he said. "Not only did he help me running cross country, he taught me a lot about basketball and how to live my life. He taught me the important things in life: Family, following my faith, taking care of my studies, and dedication to my sport. I owe a lot to him, too. He

is a great coach."

Grafel said he wishes he would have worked out in the weight room harder to build up his strength and speed.

"I would recommend to all the younger athletes to get started in the weight room to build your body up," he said. "Also, listen to your coaches, because they know how to help you improve in the sport you choose."

"My only regret is that I should have spent more time in the weight room than I did. This coming fall, when I go to junior college, I plan on working with the strength coach, as competition will only get tougher."

He believes Oberlin will gradually begin to lose its population base if new business growth doesn't occur.

"It is tough on the young people here," he said. "There is not much to do. We need The Gateway to expand. It needs a weight room that is open to the public with hours that are suitable to the public, especially the kids. The hours don't fit kids' schedules."

"We also need a year-around swimming pool, which would help the whole community, not just the kids. Senior citizens need a place where they can exercise to keep their health up. It is a sign of the times."

Grafel said he feels that his mother, Roma, has been a guiding force in his life.

"My mother is a super sports mom," he said. "I owe a lot to her for her unconditional love. She is a great mother and person."

Britton Scott of Oberlin and Landon Truetken of Selden are among Kansas State University of Salina students who have earned aviation mechanic achievements. Both are juniors and earned mechanic certificates with airframe and powerplant ratings.

All certifications and ratings were given by the Federal Aviation Administration upon successful completion of the required written and practical examinations. Before students are able to take the exams, they must have completed a minimum of 1,900 contact hours of instruction, covering the material dictated by the FAA. Their parents, respectively, are Lee Don and Melanie Scott, and Lad and Lori Truetken.

Marjorie Ankenman of Federal Way, Wash., accompanied her son, David Ankenman of Topeka, to Oberlin where they were Memorial weekend guests of her sister, Patty McIntire. They all met Mrs. Ankenman's brother-in-law, Fritz Ankenman of Lebanon, Neb., and his son, Larry and Bella Ankenman of Colo-

rado Springs, at the Norcatur Cemetery, then they visited Bob Sawdon.

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Donna Kent, Veanna Carman, Max Carman, Dorothy Moore and Doris Miller. Lows went to Aleen Van Vleet, Barb Solko, Dewaine Stapp and Max Carman. Pitch highs were won by Henry Edgett and Aleen Van Vleet with lows going to Floyd Edgett and Dorothy Moore. Bridge winners were Leone Purton and Annette Miller.

Nadean Stoney is recuperating from heart bypass surgery, which she underwent last week at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb.

Diana Hashenberger graduated from the carpentry program at the Northwest Kansas Technical College with a Technical Certificate. She is a 2005 graduate of Decatur Community High School. Her foster parents are John and Caroline

Kingery. Christina Jennings Coalter of Maryville, Mo., graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Pharmacy with a doctor of pharmacy degree on May 6. She is the daughter of James and Delores Jennings of Oberlin. After completing her licensing exams in June, she plans to work as a hospital-based clinical pharmacist in Northwest Missouri.

Two-year-old Jordan Christopher Coburn enjoyed a week with his grandparents, Jim and Linda Hollowell, while his parents, Christopher and Hollie (Hollowell) Coburn, vacationed in San Antonio, Texas.

Johnnie and Christina Richards of Olathe visited over Memorial Day weekend with relatives and friends.

Cecil Hess spent Friday and Saturday in St. Francis with Steve and Jean Ann Confer, Jenna and Jessica and helped Jenna celebrate her birthday.

Jennings banquet draws many alumni back home

The Jennings High School Alumni Association drew the largest crowd in the history of the association Saturday when 292 graduates, spouses and guests gathered for its 81st annual alumni banquet at the Jennings School gymnasium.

This was the final banquet to be held in the high school. The high school closed last year, and this was the last year for the grade school.

Officers elected were Jesse Carter, Denise Carter Taylor, Tonya Fleckenstein Juenemann and Becky Carter.

After the meal and roll call of classes, a discussion was held about the future of the banquet. The group voted to continue to hold it each year, if possible, in Jennings.

Neoma Tacha told the alumni about the effort of the Jennings Museum to move the school memorabilia to the museum. Copies of *The Hays Daily News*, which did a feature article on the Jennings School, were available for everyone. The meeting concluded with the school song, after which a dance was held at the Jennings City Hall.

Alumni, spouses and guests attending included:

- 1929: Mildred Tacha.
- 1934: William Carter.
- 1935: Elaine VonSchuetz Mizell.
- 1938: Harwood Kolsky.
- 1939: Bob Tacha, Connie Kienitz, Don Stapp, Ethlyn Tacha, Flossie Mowry, Goldie Stapp, Nadine Chandler, Toni Graham, Vic Mowry.
- 1940: Arch Harman, Geraldine Packer, Jay Kump, Rosa Brock, Vendla Tacha.
- 1941: Betty Votapka, Boyd Bainter, Paula Bainter, Rachel Carter, Thelma Bainter.
- 1942: Edwin Slipke, Lewis Linden, Miriam Slipke.
- 1943: Elmo Bailey, Marguerite Bailey, Mary Smith, Neoma Tacha.
- 1944: Marie Zimmerman, Robert Ross.
- 1945: Aleta Phelps, Aneta McKay, Chris Schmidt, Dona Mrstik, Eugene Mrstik, Galen Carper, Janice Winters, Kandy Schmidt, Meme Carper, Royal McKay, Terry Mrstik.
- 1946: Alfred VanWinkle, Alice Kolsky, Estella Harold, Gayle Bainter, Grace VanWinkle, Mary Votapka, Paula Herd, Ruth Bainter.
- 1947: Darrel Follis, Pat Follis.

1948: Agnes Wahlmeier, Delmar Follis, Helen Muirhead, Ida Hoover, Keith Muirhead, Sister Frances Cabrini.

1949: Bob Hartzog, Catherine Wahlmeier, Robert Wahlmeier, Vayle Rohan.

1950: Dalene Gawith, Dean Gawith, Dean Vacura, Lawrence Jennings, Lila Jennings, Louis Hahn, Louise Cressler, Wayne Cressler.

1951: Bob Keenan, Darlene Robben, Ethel Taylor, Eula Forjione, June McGatlin, Keith Carter, Lila Keenan, Loren Harris, Margaret Gartrell, Merald Tice, Norman Davis, Phyllis Harris, Shirley Tice.

1952: Darlene LaRue, Galen Wahlmeier, Kenneth Krizek, Martin LaRue, Violet Krizek.

1953: Jimmy Kappers.

1954: Gordian Hickert, Helen Rhodes, Lila Hickert, Richard Rhodes.

1955: Betty Lou Richards, Doyle Brown, Peggy Highfill, Thad Richards.

1956: Betty Bailey, Daryl Hartzog, Gloria McKenna, Kay Brown, Marge Hartzog, Marilyn Otter, Marion Otter, Mary Ann Amack, Norma Hahn, Starla McQuade.

1957: Donna Poage, Rich Poage.

1958: Bill Dowell, Dorothy Vacura, Elinor Wiltfong, Glen Wiltfong, Janiece Dowell, Kenny Campbell, Mary Kathryn Campbell.

1959: Bev Randolph, Bill Lampe, Bridgit Otter, Galen Randolph, George Jones, Geraldine Lampe, Judy Vaughn, Lois Stacey, Ronald Stacey, Zach Otter.

1960: Carl Wahlmeier, Doreen Zimmerman, Gary Vaughn, John Paul Jones, Micky Jones.

1961: Bill Brock, Bill Brooks, Bruce Stockman, Carolyn Juene-mann, Diana McCarbrey, Dorene Hager, Gail Brooks, Jim Jones, Judy Stockman, Larry Wahlmeier, Linda Wahlmeier, Luke Wahlmeier, Rich Hager, Taylor Wahlmeier.

1962: Carolyn Brock.

1963: Arlis Koerner, Jerry Kinser, Jim Koerner, Mary Wright, Sandi Kinser, Thomas Wright.

1964: Jim Gaumer, Judy Gaumer.

1965: Ann Graner, Dick Graner, Jane Urban, Larry Urban, Rex Rowh.

1966: Alice Barnett, Darrel Barnett, Dave Ward, John Keenan, John Mast, Larry Stapp, Lester Mizell, Lynn Tacha, Marcia Stapp, Peggy Rule Mast, Sue Long, Warren Tacha.

1967: Ann Rowh, Bill Heilman, Irene Foster, Janeil Dilling, Kathy Otter, Lois Heilman, Morris Foster, Nick Otter.

1968: Bernie Vacura, Charles Bailey, Janice McDill, Kay Reedy, Marcia Hejny, Othelia Vacura, Ralph Hejny, Sharon Gaston.

1969: Dee Foster, Gary Shipley, Jack Foster, Julie Carter, Ken Carter, Roberta Shipley.

1970: Joan McKenna, Len Randolph, Mike McKenna.

1971: Cheryl Roberts, Dan Lippelmann, Don Brooks, Don McClelland, Frank Rutherford, Joleene Younger, Ray Mizell, Ron Shipley, Vickie Lippelmann.

1972: Annette Bailey, Barbara Brooks, Cecil Bailey, Christy Carter, Dan Carter, Jane Wahlmeier, Jim Wahlmeier, K.T. Bailey, Luke Carter, Mary Shipley, Susan Carter.

1973: Jim Keenan, Kenny Wildeman, Rhonda Wildeman, Terri Hankie, Tom Votapka.

1974: Benny Bennett, Connie Dreher, Dan Walker, Darrell Dreher, Gayle Tacha, Moriah Bennett, Royal Tacha, Vonda Leasia.

1975: Butch Whelchel, Charlotte Doherty, Lynette Whelchel, Miles Doherty.

1976: Dave Krizek, Gary Kaus, John Ritter, Keith Green, Linda Kaus, Michelle Zodrow, Steve Ritter, Susan Green, Tamala Schulze, Tammi Ritter.

1978: Jana Slansky.

1980: Jerry Foster, Patty Foster.

1981: Daniel Bosch, Jeanette Bosch.

1982: Steve Hartzog.

1983: Dennis Ritter, Jeff Wahlmeier, Stann Hartzog.

1984: Bill Noone, Marilyn Noone, Mary Wahlmeier.

1985: Rick Foster.

1987: Jocelyn Hartzog, Stacy Hartzog.

1991: Bobbi Barton, Jeff Barton.

1992: Aden Schillig, Ruth Schillig.

1993: Anna Casperson.

1994: Jesse Carter, Julie Waggoner, Lisa Nelson, Matt Waggoner, Megan Carter.

1995: Denise Taylor, Scott Taylor.

1997: Curtis Mizell, Joni Smith.

1999: Becky Carter, Gary Aschenbrenner, Tara Gassmann.

2001: David Givens, Joel Sowers, Kristi Smith, Lori Vahling, Martin Kollman.

2002: Ann Dubois, Wes Dubois.

2006: Elise Kinser, Allan Carter.

K-18 Baseball Schedule-

- Monday, June 5**
6:30 p.m. Oberlin at Quinter Bullpups (double header)
- Monday, June 12**
6:30 p.m. Oberlin Red Devils at Oakley Plainsmen (double header)
- Thursday, June 15**
6:30 p.m. Colby # 2 Eagles at Oberlin Red Devils (double header)
- Monday, June 19**
6:30 p.m. Colby #1 Eagles at Oberlin Red Devils (double header)
- Thursday, June 22**
6:30 p.m. Quinter Bullpups at Oberlin Red Devils (double header)
- Monday, June 26**
6:30 p.m. Colby # 2 Eagles at Oberlin Red Devils (double header)
- Thursday, June 29**
6:30 p.m. Oberlin Red Devils at Atwood Buffaloes
- Monday, July 3**
6:30 p.m. Oakley Plainsmen at Oberlin Red Devils
- Monday, July 10**
6:30 p.m. Goodland Cowboys at Oberlin Red Devils
- Thursday, July 13**
6:30 p.m. Oberlin Red Devils at Colby #1 Eagles
- Monday, July 17**
7 p.m.-Oberlin Red Devils at Goodland Cowboys
- Wednesday, July 19**
6:30 p.m. Oberlin Red Devils at Colby Eagles
- Friday - Sunday, July 21 - 23**
Regional tournament at Russell
- Friday - Tuesday, July 28 - Aug. 1**
State tournament at Lucas



Oberlin graduate earns honors

Lora Marietta of Oberlin was selected to attend the 23rd annual Governor's Scholars Award Program May 7 in Topeka.

The ceremony honored the top academic 1 percent of high school seniors from accredited public and private schools in Kansas.

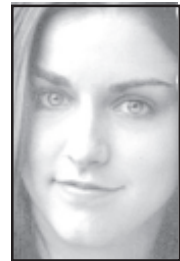
"These high school seniors have shown dedication in their studies and a commitment to learning," said Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. "They've earned this honor, and I want to congratulate all of them on this achievement. We should also recognize their families, teachers and mentors for helping these outstanding students achieve their academic goals."

The program is coordinated by the Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force and paid for by donations from the Kansas Bank-

ers Association and other business groups.

The task force, formed 23 years ago, includes the American Association of University Women, Kansas Association of School Boards, Kansas Congress of Parents and

Teachers, state Department of Education, Kansas-National Education Association, Kansas School Public Relations Association, Kansas State High School Activities Association and the United School Administrators of Kansas.



L. Marietta

Tuesday
Senior Buffet
(55 and over)
\$4.29
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pizza Hut of Oberlin, Kansas
Located along U.S. Hwy. 36 - Phone 785-475-3638
Open 11 a.m. till 9 p.m. Sundays - Thursdays
Open 11 a.m. till 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays