



# The Jayhawker

By Jim Merriott  
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## Catholic nun wrote the book on fishing

In what is thought to be a macho sport, men owe a woman by the name of Dame Juliana Berners for inventing "sport fishing." Prior to this time, it was strictly catch by what ever means possible. Fishing was not considered a sport, it was a way of survival.

On a piece of parchment in England, there is an inked writing by this Catholic nun who was born to a royal family and did some hunting and fishing as a girl.

After she entered the Convent at St. Alban, she wrote the first known works on fishing.

This woman wasn't a slouch—she developed the idea of a fishing rod, in that time called a pole. Fishing then became the art of angling as she proposed.

She recommended that one cut a smooth six-foot staff of willow or aspen, heat it in an oven, get it good and straight, and let it dry for about four weeks. The nun-cum-angler took a piece of plumber's wire, heated it red hot, and burned a hole through the staff. Then the staff was stored in a smokehouse for a period of time.

After this was done, she wrote that the angler should stroll through the woods and cut a slender slip (similar to a whip) of hazel wood the same length as the staff. Soak it thoroughly, then straighten it out, and let it dry in the smokehouse also.

The next step Dame Juliana Berners outlined was to trim the hazel wood whip so it could be inserted into the butt section of the willow staff. Then she fashioned a metal pin to hold the two limbs together, making a two-section fishing rod (kind of like a two-piece break down rod today).

She advocated that the two-piece stick also became a good walking stick, and if you came upon a nice fishing hole on your daily walk, you would be ready to fish.

For line, she used long horsehairs woven together and colored in a mixture of ale, crushed walnut leaves, and alum. Such a line, she felt, blended with the water and fooled the fish.

In her tips for anglers, Dame Juliana Berners recommended not to cast a shadow on the water as it would spook the fish.

One should fish below the waterfalls or in deep pools, fish when the wind is either out of the south or west, and use a wire leader when fishing for pike.

Her last recommendation, almost 600 years old, is true today: choose your bait wisely. Fish only strike what they like to eat.

So, who says fishing is only for the guys? My suggestion is, take your girlfriend or wife out on a fishing date some time. You just may get a partner for life. I did.

## Ball teams brave hot, dusty diamonds

Dust was flying on the heated diamonds of Oberlin last week as summer ball teams hit the field.

The Little League teams started action Monday as the undefeated Fredrickson Dental team kept its record intact, defeating Ward Drug 19-7. In game two, Nelson Concrete beat Ward, 14-7. The final game of the evening saw Nelson edge Countryside Vet 15-14.

Tuesday evening in Pony League play, Black Gold defeated Farmers Bank and Trust 15-4 in the first game. In game two, The Bank upset the undefeated Black Gold 5-4 in the most exciting game of the season.

Wednesday evening, the Bantam

girls slow pitch softball teams ended this week's action with Salem Graphics handling Countryside 9-5. In game two, Countryside came back to edge Fredrickson Insurance 6-5. The final game of the evening pitted Salem Graphics against Fredrickson. Salem crushed them 11-1.

The coed games from June 21 which were canceled due to harvest have been rescheduled for Monday:

- 6 p.m. — Culligan vs. LYF.
- 7 p.m. — Purple Pack vs. Lund Covenant.
- 8 p.m. — Pauls vs. Freshmen.
- 9 p.m. — Fortins vs. Rambos.
- 10 p.m. — Edgerton Auto vs. High Plains Vet.

## Summer Ball Standings

### Co-ed Wednesday Softball

Team	Wins	Losses	Runs
LYF	4	1	54
High Plains Vet	3	2	52
Freshmen	3	2	37
Lund Covenant	1	4	27
Rambos	0	5	21

### Co-ed Sunday Softball

Team	Wins	Losses	Runs
Pauls	4	1	78
Fortins	4	1	77
Purple Pack	4	1	60
Edgerton	2	3	48
Culligan	1	4	58

### Little League

Team	Wins	Losses	Runs
Fredrickson Dental	6	0	111
Nelson Construction	4	2	83
Countryside Vet	1	5	72
Ward Drug	1	5	54

### Pony League

Team	Wins	Losses	Tie	Runs
Black Gold	5	1	0	62
The Bank	2	2	1	24
Farmers Bank & Trust	0	4	1	24

### Bantam League

Team	Wins	Losses	Runs
Salem Graphics	7	1	71
Countryside Vet	3	5	38
Fredrickson Ins.	2	6	45

### K-18 Jayhawk League

Team	Wins	Losses	Runs
Colby No. 1	2	0	36
Quinter	2	1	45
Oberlin	1	3	37

## Distance runners need to start

Decatur Community High cross country Coach Dick Ahlberg says he hopes runners will start preparing for the fall season by building up their running base miles this month.

Monday, Aug. 14 will be check-out for equipment and the team's first practice. Runners will need to have their physical exams when they report to Ahlberg's classroom at 3:30 p.m.

The team opens the season with the annual Soap Run at Smick Field on Thursday, Aug. 24, then goes to Norton a week later for the first meet of the year.

With last year's seniors Kellen Doeden, Teryn Grafel, Zeke Ruzicka, Brett Stallman, Scott Miller, Lora Marietta and Whitney Beinke graduating this summer, Ahlberg said, they are looking for good runners.

"We have many varsity spots open on both boys and girls teams," he said.

The boys will have two senior returning letter winners, Andy Leitner and Aaron Helm. The girls have junior Becky Helm, returning All-northwest Kansas League and state qualifier.

"Cross country provides a great opportunity for our athletes to participate, compete and have fun," the coach said.

The 2006 cross country schedule:

- Monday, Aug. 14, Check-out, first practice, 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 24, Soap Run, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 31, Norton Invitational, 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 7, Quinter Invitational, 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 14, McCook Invitational, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 26, 38th annual Oberlin Invitational, 5 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 7, Phillipsburg Invitational, 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 14, Northwest Kansas League meet at Oakley, 11 a.m.



JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER Rebecca Helm medaled in several races last year including taking seventh at the Norton Invitational.

—Herald file photo

- Saturday, Oct. 21, regional meet, to be announced.
- Saturday, Oct. 28, state meet, at Wamego, to be announced.

Ahlberg is entering his 30th season as head coach.

## Sprint cars return

### Jack Metcalf to be honored

The stars of the United Rebel Sprint Series will return to Oberlin Speedway on Sunday, July 16, for the Jack Metcalf Memorial.

Mr. Metcalf, who died Jan. 30, was a retired businessman and was instrumental in rebuilding and finishing the speedway.

"Jack loved motor sports and the town of Oberlin, which is why the URSS will be dedicating this race to him," said Rick Salem, founder of the traveling sprint car series.

Several drivers and teams are expected to make their debut with the series. Larry Radcliffe of Hill City has purchased another car and is preparing it for the race, while hotshot Josh Hudson from Agra will make his sprint car debut, Mr. Salem said.

Mr. Salem said that Mr. Hudson is the current track champion in the International Motor Contest Association stocks and should soon be a tough competitor in the sprint ranks.

Other teams planning on making their first appearance include Bill Berry, McCook, who will pilot Larry Hannaborg's Coors Light-sponsored sprinter from North Platte. Kyle Fields, Norton, will field his own car and get his first taste of open-wheel racing while Randy Bantam will field a second car to be driven by Norton modified driver Billy Smith.

Planning to return is Smokey Fairbank, Ransom, who took a wild series of flips at the Oberlin Speedway over Memorial Day weekend, destroying his car. He bought a new chassis.

For information, go to [www.unitedrebelsprintseries.com](http://www.unitedrebelsprintseries.com) or call Mr. Salem at (785) 475-7010.

## Basketball team needs direction

By JIM MERRIOTT

The Oberlin Cyclones boys high school summer basketball team finds itself in a gray area. Since it is made up of members of the Decatur Community High winter squad, the team is not only in search of a new coach to replace the retiring Dick Ahlberg, it is in search of an identity.

The Cyclones have Rusty Grafel, a former Red Devil and current Fort Hays State University basketball player, as their coach in Mid-American Youth Basketball play.

"It has been difficult getting everybody together this summer," said Grafel, son of longtime Red Devils assistant coach Keith Grafel. "With kids working during the summer and wheat harvest, it has been difficult to get the same five players to each practice. Some kids come as far as 25 miles to participate."

The Cyclones faced the Colby Fleet Feet team, Norton, Hill City and Hoxie in a weekend tournament Saturday and Sunday.

The Cyclones went 0-5 during the tournament. Game scores and individual statistics were not available.

After four defeats by double figures and a loss to rival Hoxie by 50



CYCLONES COACH RUSTY GRAFEL encouraged his players during the Hill City game at Saturday's Hoxie Summer Invitational.

—Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

points, the team sat down with Grafel and discussed the situation.

"It seems if we hit the magical number of being down by 13 points, we just seem to fall apart," said se-

nior Seth Ritter.

The Cyclones decided they have a tendency to play teams fairly even until the second half, then comes the melt down.

Out of the shambles came some positive aspects. At times the front line came to life on the offensive and defensive boards, out rebounding the other teams in spurts.

## Golfers play in Goodland

The Oberlin Junior Golfers played in Goodland at the Sugar Hills Golf Club last week. Kade Brown took first place in the 10-11 boys competition with a 41 on the front nine-hole, par 35 course.

"This gives our younger golfers an opportunity to see what it is like competing against other area golfers," said Connie Livengood, Goodland Junior Golf coordinator. "We were pleased with the turnout of 54 players."

Goodland results:

- Chance Uehlin, 8-9 boys, 71, third.

- K. Brown, 10-11 boys, 41, first.
- Zach May, 10-11 boys, 50.
- Channing Farr, 10-11 boys, 56.
- Ryan May, 10-11 boys, 60.
- James Peterson, 10-11 boys, 76.
- Ashleigh Peterson, 12-13 girls, (front nine) 74.

June 19, the golfers traveled to Hoxie. Hoxie Golf Course results:

- C. Uehlin, 8-9 boys, 74, third.
- C. Farr, 10-11 boys, 48, third.
- Z. May, 10-11 boys, 56.
- R. May, 10-11 boys, 69.
- Nehemiah Langness, 10-11 boys, 96.
- Tim Larson, 12-13 boys, 66.

## Swim club sets fun day

The Oberlin Swim Club and City of Oberlin will hold a Fun Swim Meet on Saturday, Aug. 5, at the pool to raise money for the pool and for the club. Everyone is invited.

Since it is a fun meet, there will be no disqualifications on strokes.

Age groups are: 6 and under, 7 and 8, 9 and 10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-18, 19-25, and 25 and up.

Events include: 6-10, 25-yard freestyle, 25 backstroke, 25 breaststroke, 25 butterfly stroke, 100 freestyle and 100 individual medley.

11 and up: 50 freestyle, 50 backstroke, 50 breaststroke, 50 butterfly,

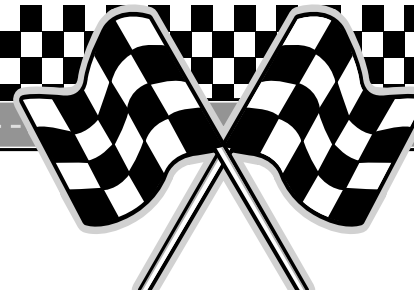
100 freestyle and 100 individual medley.

Entry fees are \$1.50 per event. No times are required with submission. The deadline for fees is Monday, July 31.

Contact Rusty Grafel at (785) 475-3112 or 8360; Stephanie Blau, 475-3617 or 0222; or Kelly Shields, 475-3450 for entries.

No late entries will be accepted. Grafel and Blau are looking for volunteers to help. Concessions will be available.

Warm-up for 12 and under will start at 8 a.m. and for those 13 and up at 8:30. The meet begins at 9 a.m.



# STOCK CAR RACES

## Saturday, July 8

Starting Time: 7:00 p.m.

ELMWOOD PARK SPEEDWAY  
NORTON, KANSAS

Admission Fee: Adults—\$8; Ages 6-11—\$4; 5 & Under Free

•IMCA Modifieds •IMCA Stock  
•IMCA Hobby •Cruisers

Pit Gate Opens 2 Hours Before Start  
For Race Information Call:  
Don or Paula Bolt (785) 678-2416

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