

TOP AREA PLAYERS Tricia Dorshorst (left) and Lauren Fortin (above), both seniors, have been picked to play in the Northwest Kansas Girls All-Star game to be held in Colby at the Community Building. — Herald staff photos by Jim Merriott

Oberlin girls chosen for all stars

Oberlin seniors Lauren Fortin and Tricia Dorshorst have been picked for the annual Northwest Kansas Girls All-Star basketball game. The teams are made up of outstanding area high school players. The game will be held April 1 at the Community Building in Colby. The girls game will be at 5 p.m. and

the boys game will follow, around 7 p.m. The players are divided into two teams, the light team and the dark team. Members of the light team include Fortin and Dorshorst, Oberlin; Cierra Bergman, St. John's-Beloit; Whitney Archer, Goodland; Ashley Simon and Stephanie Brown (who is injured), Leoti; Megan Cavane, Tribune; Nikki Welsh, Sharon Springs; Lauren Eck, Beloit; and Katie Spreser, Golden Plains. The coach is Steve Rapiere and the assistant coach is Lou Berning. The dark team members include Jannica Schultz, Osborne; Addie

Bayse, Hays; Kaylee Billinger and Emily Murray, Goodland; Lindsay Schamburg, Beloit; Avery Schultz, Brewster; Callie Baalman and Megan Dennis, Oakley; Kristin Waldschmidt, Ellis; and Ashley Barnes, Colby. The coaches are Willie Schaffer and Stephanie Schaffer.

Heckling causes problems

From the first time I attended a sporting event way back in the day (1955), I remember the "Boo-Birds." The average working-class stiff, frustrated with events in his life, could always buy a ticket to a sporting event and release his anger at any person or player who didn't live up to what he or she felt was a top-notch performance.



The Jayhawker

By Jim Merriott

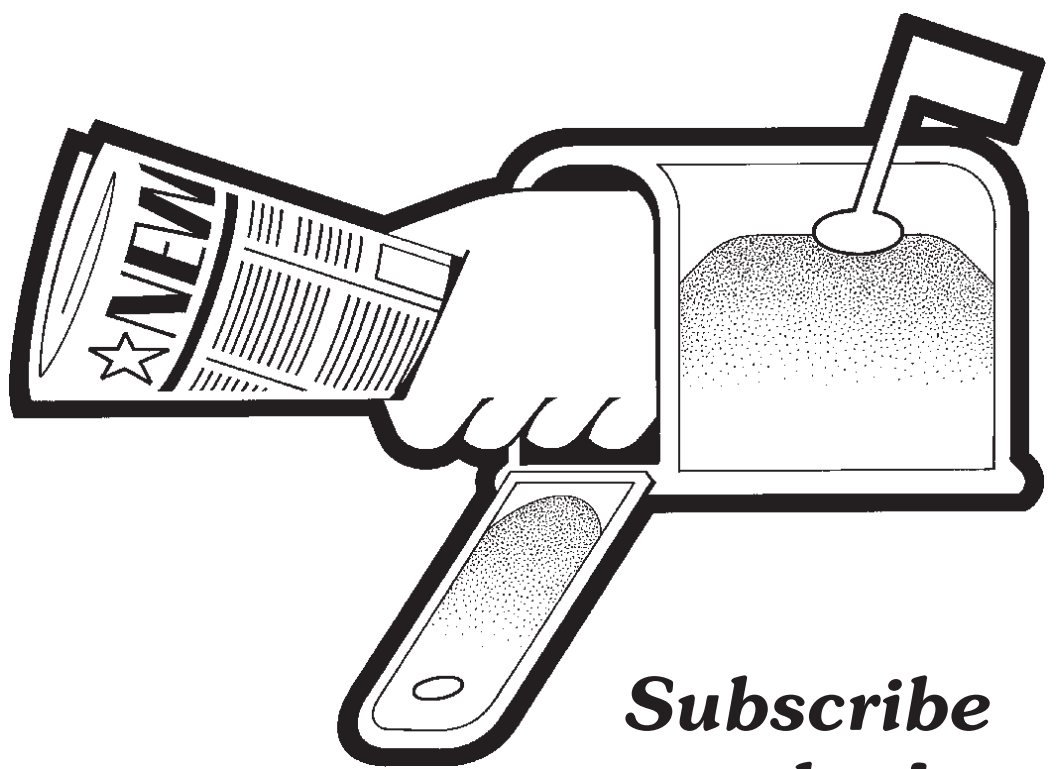
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Heckling developed into an art form. Even way back when America was first being settled, poor performances on any stage, including theatrical presentations, were fair game. Paying customers would throw rotten vegetables at the stage and performers. I guess today, we'd call them bad sports. Heckling has become a vicious and vulgar national expression, which creates negative attitudes toward everyone who witnesses these actions. Heckling across America has become a virus, that only ends with the ejection of the fans who heckle players and coaches. For example, the Auburn Hills, Mich., police were called in Nov. 19, 2005, when fans caused a melee after hecklers threw cups and beer at the Indiana Pacers during a Detroit Pistons National Basketball game.

this past season. A few fans vented their frustration during both home and away games and alarmed people from other towns. This representation of Decatur County only gives us a black eye. If we live our lives through the players and coaches, it becomes a no-win situation. Anyone who spent their time on the basketball court working to achieve a winning goal should be commended for their efforts. Sometimes it is difficult to understand just what's going on during the games because of the fans who don't know what the coaches, players and officials are going through. The old saying should be, "Unless you have walked a mile in the other person's shoes, you should bite your tongue." It is up to us fans to represent the community in a positive way. Sports is what it says, but a few people still haven't learned sports-

manship. No one likes to lose, and losing is contagious, but learning how to walk away a good sport teaches young people about life. It teaches a person that in life everything doesn't always go your way; so, learn how to deal. The Alcoholics Anonymous serenity prayer is the example that fans should live by: "God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can and wisdom to know the difference." If a person has given everything that they have on the court, mat, track or field, then no matter what the score or the outcome, that individual is a winner. We should all represent our community in a positive way; after all, we want to help improve the economics of the community, not run business away because of a few people with poor attitudes.

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Writer to help pick Hall of Fame members

Oberlin Herald sports reporter Jim Merriott has been selected by the National Football Foundation as a voting member for the 2007 College Football Hall of Fame. Hall of fame members include Red Grange, Illinois; Knute Rockne, Notre Dame; Amos Alonzo Stagg, four schools; Jim Thorpe, Carlisle; Joe Paterno, Penn State; Bobby Bowden, Florida State; Emmitt Smith, Florida; Bruce Smith, Virginia Tech; Charlie Ward, Florida State; Chad Hennings, Air Force Academy; Bobby Anderson, Colorado; Jerry Rice,

Mississippi Valley State; and Mike Rozier, Nebraska. This year's ballot includes nominees Troy Aikman, UCLA; Tim Brown, Notre Dame; Doug Flutie, Boston College; and Eric Dickerson, Southern Methodist. Winners will be announced after April 4.



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