



**A GROUP OF KIDS** (above) took off from one side of the tag zone to the other on Friday at Frogs day camp. Jakobi Blau (left below) and Jillian Peters ate lunch on top of the playground at City Park on Monday during the camp. The kids bring their own sack lunches.

## Kids play, eat, learn at camp

Kids ran from one side to another, trying not to get touched by the human trees standing in the middle of the grass.

The trees stretched their fingertips out, trying to touch a running girl or boy as they darted past.

It was Friday morning and the youngsters at FROGS day camp were playing tag. The object was to not get touched by one of the trees, who had to stand still in the middle of the course. If they tagged someone, then that person had to become a tree, too.

Tag is just one of the many games that the kids get to play at the summer camp, offered from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at City Park.

The FROGS camp — it stands for Fun, Radical, Outdoor, Getaway, Summer Camp — was started about five years ago by Pastor Heidi Wiebe and her congregation at the Oberlin Covenant Church. She said they saw a need to offer something for kids in second through fifth grade during the summer.

It's for free, said Pastor Wiebe, so no kids are excluded. The church gets money through grants, donations and the annual Seeds of Hope Telethon. She said they are still taking donations for the camp, which

can be sent to the church at 810 W. Cedar, Oberlin, Kan. 67749. She said people should note on their checks that the money is for the camp.

The money goes for arts and crafts items, to pay for the two young adults who run the camp and other expenses.

During camp, the kids get to sing and do crafts, and enjoy storytelling and games. They bring a lunch, but a snack and water are provided each day.

So far, they have averaged about 20 kids a day, she said, with the camp starting at the beginning of July and going until Friday, Aug. 3.

Pastor Wiebe said they have fun days where they do different things, like going to Sappa Park to explore, taking their pets to the nursing home, a water day when the firemen bring in their hoses and this year, an airport day. She said they will go to the city airport and check it out and also set off rockets.

They plan to hold two family barbecues where the kids put on performances.

The camp, she said, isn't just for members of the church; it's open to all kids in the area. Kids don't have to come every day, she added; just when they can or want to.



**AT THE PLAYGROUND,** Caleb Koerperich (above) ate lunch on Monday at Frogs camp. Rex Diederich (right) took a break after playing tag to have some popcorn and water on Friday.