

Inside Charlie's Corner

IT'S FOOTBALL SEASON, BEGORRAH!

Kansas State and Iowa State find themselves traveling across the ocean to continue the Farmageddon™ football series. The Wildcat-Cyclone rivalry is the longest continuous series in college football history, beginning in 1917. The Big 12, in its less-than-intelligent way, has announced that the rivalry's continuous streak is set to end in 2027 unless something changes. Does that make any sense?

The winner of this game at Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Ireland will have a leg up in the Big 12 race while the loser has a long, sad trip home with the knowledge that they will have a hard time winning the league championship.

Iowa State has owned this rivalry in recent years, winning four of the past five games. Kansas State has the most ballyhooed quarterback in Avery Johnson but Iowa State's Rocco Becht is top notch too. He has thrown for 6,625 yards over the past two seasons. K-State is higher ranked than Iowa State but Matt Campbell always puts together a gritty defensive ball club that is ready early in the season. Campbell has had a lot of opportunities to "move up" in college football but likes it just fine in Ames.

K-State is the betting favorite by 3 points. That doesn't help much in picking a winner. If the game were being played in Ames or Manhattan, that might be more important. Flying part way across the globe is sure to have an effect on some 18-21-year-olds. Will this be a shootout between the two quarterbacks? More likely it will be a low-scoring, defensive battle. That probably favors Iowa State.

Iowa State 20, Kansas State 17.

The Kansas Jayhawks, looking to redeem themselves from an unexpected 5-7 season last year, open against Fresno State in their newly renovated David Booth Memorial Stadium. That should provide a sellout in Lawrence as the stadium will hold about 40,000 until the east side renovations are completed, returning the capacity to approximately 50,000.

Don't look past Fresno State. They are not a patsy! Transfer E.J. Warner will open at quarterback for the Bulldogs. He is the son of Hall of Famer Kurt Warner so he knows his way around a quarterback room! A new head coach in Matt Entz should rejuvenate Fresno State. Entz won two national championships at North Dakota State, so he's used to winning. Entz has talent at Fresno State but they are not deep.

Despite the loss of All-League running back Devin Neal to the NFL, the Jayhawks could have a more explosive offense this year than last. Quarterback Jalon Daniels has looked like his old self in practices and the Jayhawk coaches are expecting big things out of running back Daniel Hishaw, Jr.

KU's season hopes won't depend on their offense, instead, their defense. Incoming transfers will make, or break, this football team. If a few defensive transfers hit the ground running, the Jayhawks could get off to a hot start this season and propel them to a strong season and a good bowl game.

Kansas scores early, and often. Jayhawks 44, Bulldogs 20.

KU and K-State aren't the only schools with an early opening to their season. Stanford tangles with Hawaii, Idaho State plays UNLV, and Sam Houston plays Western Kentucky.

Mitch Fiegel, long-time basketball coach at Wichita Collegiate, has retired. I liked his words in a recent interview when talking about his players: "Your job is not to be their friend. I'm over 60. I don't need 15-16-year-old friends. You want to coach them, push them, prod them, challenge them and help them understand it's not always going to be easy, and if you do it right, then they'll appreciate it for the rest of their lives and be your friends later in life."

You can reach Charlie at budtabler@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW.....That thirty years ago this month, new football coach Todd Wilson took over the Indian football program? The team won their first four games and finished 5-4 for the season. They upset Great Bend 14-6 in the season-opener.

Andover Teens Blossom into Top Junior Golfers

Editors Note: The following article is about the daughters of former Larned High School graduates, Lance and Carla Schartz and the grand-daughters of Mike and Jana Schartz of Larned.

By Taylor Eldridge

Pictured, Emerie (right) and Avery (left) Schartz, a pair of sisters from Andover, are two of the top girls golfers in the country. Emerie has been selected for the inaugural roster of the U.S. National Junior Team. Kansas Junior Girls Amateur came down to two players this summer: sisters who share a last name, a house and a practice green. When 17-year-old Emerie Schartz edged her younger sister, Avery, in a two-hole playoff, it marked more than her third straight title in the prestigious event, becoming just the third golfer in state history to achieve the feat.

It was the newest milestone in a six-year climb from complete beginner to one of the nation's top junior golfers. Six years ago, golf wasn't even on Emerie's radar.

Raised in a baseball-softball family — her dad, Lance, was a professional baseball player, and her mom, Carla, a college softball standout — Emerie spent her early years on the diamond, not in the fairway. But when Lance started spending more time on the golf course, the girls tagged along, disappearing into the sand bunkers to play. Curiosity soon pulled Emerie to the range. She took her first swings and something clicked.

Since then, her results have piled up: youngest-ever winner of the Kansas Women's Amateur at 15, quarterfinalist at the U.S. Girls' Junior Championship, multiple appearances in national amateur events and even a spot on the inaugural U.S. National Junior Team. "When I found out, it was a complete surprise to me honestly," Emerie said. "We really hadn't heard any news about the team, so it was a shock to me. It's just such a huge honor to be selected."

What followed that surprise selection has been a whirlwind journey that's reshaped Emerie's life and put her on a path few young athletes ever reach. A new home on the course As Emerie and Avery's passion for golf grew, so did the family's commitment to their daughters' dreams.

Recognizing the value of proximity to top-tier facilities and daily practice, Lance and Carla made a decisive move in 2021: leaving their home in Derby to settle into a townhouse right on the south course at Crestview Country Club. "Now we get the best of both worlds," Lance said. "We have a cute, little house and also afford them the opportunity to grow up on Crestview. And it's so cool to see how the community has accepted them. The people at Crestview love them." The move wasn't just logistical. It became a lifestyle. In the summer, it's not an exaggeration to say the sisters are at Crestview from sun up to sun down.

During school, their routine is to walk straight to Crestview and spend hours honing their swings, chipping around the practice greens or sinking putts as the sun dips. That sense of camaraderie has come together this summer



when the sisters teamed up to advance to bracket play in the U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball. And when Emerie played in U.S. Girls' Junior Championship in July, Avery was there to serve as caddy for her older sister. "People think that we make them go out to the course, but they just love being out there," Carla said. "Their biggest strength is that they have an automatic teammate in each other. Golf is a lonely sport, so it helps that they're always there for each other and really push each other." Winter months could have posed a challenge, but the Schartz family found a solution just down the road at the Josh Cook Academy inside Terradyne Country Club.

The indoor facilities keep the girls swinging and training year-round, turning what could be a downtime into another season of growth. "A place like that has allowed kids in a not-so-great climate to be able to work on their craft throughout those winter months," Lance said. "When other kids are maybe putting their clubs away for the winter, these kids can keep working and that's been a big part of what my kids have done." When asked how their daughters went from newcomers to sensations in such a short amount of time, the parents credit good old-fashioned hard work. "To achieve something like this, I knew they needed to understand the meaning of hard work," Lance said. "It's every day. It's sacrifice. With all of the distractions there are for kids nowadays, it's pretty neat to see a couple of kids really dig into something and really work at it."

"There's no secret," Carla said. "The girls made a choice and they've just worked really hard and put in a lot of time." , Lance Schartz knew that finding the right coach was crucial to unlocking Emerie and Avery's potential. That search brought him to Jeff Smith, a highly regarded swing coach based in Memphis who normally works with professional and college golfers. When Lance first reached out, Smith declined — he doesn't usually coach juniors. But after Lance explained they weren't looking for a coach, just an evaluation, Smith agreed. He told Lance to bring the girls to Memphis on October 1 at 4 p.m. for a swing assessment.

A month and a half later, both girls were there on time. After just five balls from Emerie, Smith turned to Lance and said, "I'm not going to give you an opinion. I want to coach her." After watching Emerie hit a few more shots, Smith asked to see her younger sister Avery, who was 11 at the time. Two swings later, Smith was convinced — and he's been coaching both ever since. "Jeff has been an instrumental piece in this plan, as far as improvement goes," Lance said. "Golf is a ball-hitting game and we had to get that ball-hitting piece right. Jeff has been more than a coach. He's part of our family. We don't have a big circle, but you've got to keep your people close to you in this thing."

Though Smith lives hours away, technology keeps the coaching close. The sisters use an app called CoachNow to upload videos of their swings, receive personalized feedback and ask questions — allowing Smith to guide their progress almost daily without the need for constant travel. Alongside expert coaching, Lance brought a data-driven approach to Emerie's development. Inspired by Marke Broadie's book Every Shot Counts, he began tracking Emerie's performance with the Decade app, measuring "strokes gained" from every one of her rounds the past four years to pinpoint strengths and areas for improvement. "You always hear that you drive for show and you putt for

dough," Lance said. "I prescribe to the thought that the people who win are the best putters of the best ball strikers. It's not the best putters, it's the best putters of that group of great ball-hitters."

With Smith's guidance and a foundation built on numbers and fundamentals, Emerie has steadily built a game that can compete with the country's best junior golfers. "I love how much you have to keep your mind focused and stay centered," said Emerie, who is committed to play for the University of Arkansas. "Golf is like putting a together and I love that process."

As impressive as the climb has been, Lance believes they're still only "halfway up the mountain." "If you would have told me five years ago that I was going to have a kid on the U.S. Junior National Team, I would have told you to check your medication," Lance said. "But I think this is a great example of having a dream and working hard and putting a plan in place to achieve your goals." For Emerie, the path forward is clear: more national tournaments, more dedication and the same relentless work ethic that has carried her this far. Before long, she will be competing in the SEC for Texas A&M. "Without my dad, I would definitely not have all of these opportunities," Emerie said. "He's been out there with us every day and he's just always been there for me. He's the reason I am where I am today."

Even as her star rises quickly, Emerie has remained humble, sometimes even amazed at how far she's come in such a short amount of time. "It's definitely surreal sometimes when I think about what is actually happening," Emerie said. "I never really expected any of this. But I'm just so excited to represent the United States and take advantage of this great opportunity."

Tailgate with the Tribe Friday

The popular TAILGATE WITH THE TRIBE is back Friday, August 22 from 6:30 to 8pm from 8th and 11th streets on Corse Avenue, close to the Larned Middle School and the Larned High School.

All USD 495 students get a free meal that includes a hot dog, chips and water. Parents and non-students can purchase the meal for \$3.00 or purchase food from several food trucks.

There will be activities for all ages, Slip-N-Slides and water games, Music by Tim's Tunes , an animal petting station, Fire Truck & Water and other games. All of this is a fun way to welcome back "Back To School!"



LEGAL

(First published in The Tiller & Toiler, August 21, 2025) 1t

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A CHANGE IN ZONING REGULATIONS OFFICIAL NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 6:00 PM on September 3, 2025, the Larned City/Pawnee County Planning Commission, in the Council Meeting Room, 417 Broadway, Larned, Kansas, will consider the following sections for changes:

CASE NO. 25-09-C
Sec. 5.111. - Erection of modular homes.
Sec. 5.120. - Erection of manufactured houses and modular homes.
Sec. 12.30. - Definitions. 42 and (40)

The Planning Board will discuss and consider the above sections for changes as provided in the Larned, Kansas Zoning Ordinance. All persons interested in these matters can be heard at this time or can contact the City Zoning Administrator, Will Tice, concerning their views and wishes. Any protest against any of the provisions of the proposed changes to the Zoning ordinance will be considered.

Will Tice
Building Inspector

Additional Information regarding this request may be obtained at City Hall, 417 Broadway.

Tiller & Toiler
Deadline
for
Advertising
and Articles -
2:00 PM
Tuesday
for
Thursday's
paper