By Shari Friedel
Tribune Staff

Perkins County senior Jeannie Kuskie qualified individually for the state golf tournament scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 12 and 13.

Due to snow over the weekend, the tournament was shortened to Tuesday, Oct. 13 only, making it a challenge for Kuskie to come in prepared for the meet.

Practice rounds weren't allowed before the meet, but she was able to hit range balls for the first time in four days on Monday.

In spite of playing little in the days leading to the meet, Kuskie displayed some of her best golf of the year, according to Coach Troy Kemling. She kept the ball in play off the tee for much of the round with a lot of pars and bogeys.

She played the front nine in 43 which put her in about seventh place midway through her round. She continued the steady play until her driver left her in the trees on both holes 15 and 16. This led to a few extra strokes that pushed her score past 90, which she had wanted to better.

In the end, Kuskie experienced the heartbreak of finishing out of medals by one stroke.

"She was obviously disappointed but played and represented the school well," said Kemling. "I have enjoyed coaching Jeannie over her high school career."

State Meet

Individual Scores

1. D. Lemek, Don-Trum 75
2. B. Bolin, Boone Cent 78
3. S. Stone, St. Paul 79
4. C. Kozisek, Ainsworth 81
5. J. Pilkington, Bayard 84
6. B. Seda, Boone Cent 85
7. S. Rodgers, Syracuse 86
7. A. VenJohn, Kearn Cath 86
7. J. Gasper, Col Scotus 86
7. B. Dinkel, Pierce 86
11. A. Exstrom, Minden 87
11. M. Zavadil, Crofton 87
11. A. Ahlers, Boone Cent 87
14. M. Ostdiek, Gl Cent Cath 89
15. B. Peterson, Wayne 90

E. Wright, Bridge 91

Jeannie Kuskie, PC 91 (43-48)

District Meet

Perkins County girls golf team participated in districts on Monday, Oct. 5 in Ogallala. The girls finished seventh with a team score of 458, and qualified one player, Jeannie Kuskie, for the state meet. Kuskie scored a 90, finishing in sixth place.

Superintendent Tobin Buchanan and Activities Director Chip Kay stepped in and helped the team out as Coach Troy Kemling was unable to attend due to illness.

It was a cold, wet start to the day but the girls rose to the challenge. At the end of the first nine

holes, the girls were in a dogfight for third with Hershey and Garden County, right where Coach Kemling had hoped they'd be. Unfortunately, the back nine was hard on the girls and they didn't execute the shots that were needed to challenge for the third spot.

"I was thrilled that Jeannie qualified for the state meet, becoming the first girl to play in the state meet four times," said Kemling. "She has worked hard for this moment and deserves this reward. I know she will represent Perkins County well."

He added, "It is disappointing for the other girls that their season ended today. I thought the girls gave good effort all year long and showed a desire to get better each day. I appreciate their efforts."

District Team Scores
(Top three qualify for state)

1. Chadron 376
2. Bridgeport 392
3. Hershey 436
4. Garden County 437
5. Valentine 450
6. Mitchell 454
7. Perkins County, 458
8. Kimball 481
9. Bayard 516
10. Mullen 554
11. Gordon-Rushville 642

Crawford NTS
Creek Valley NTS
Dundy Co.-Strat NTS

Individual Qualifiers:

1. Kelli Haynes, Chad 85
2. Kaitlin Stevens, Chad 87
3. Emily Wright, Bridge 88
4. Taylor Huck, Bridge 88
5. JaCee Pilkington, Bay 89
6. Jeannie Kuskie, PC 90 (42-48)
7. Chelsea Murrell, Mit 90
8. Miranda Kluthe, Her 94
9. Tori Hager, Kim 96
10. Nicole Cox, Her 98

TIE Nicole Houston, Bridge 98

Other Perkins Co. Scores:

Emily Kiolbasa 112 (50-62)
Janet Kuskie 121 (50-71)
Stephanie Reichert 135 (67-68)