



### **By Shari Friedel**

*Tribune Staff*

Austin Thelander, 2013 graduating senior, is headed to State Golf as a result of the skill he displayed during the C-5 District meet held at Kearney Catholic's Meadowlark Hills course on Monday. Results of the day's meet were not received by press time and will appear next week.

The Plainsmen took part in two meets leading up to districts, one in Sutherland on May 7; the other on May 9 in Ogallala.

### **Ogallala Invite**

The Plainsmen experienced their toughest competition of the season at the Ogallala Invite on May 9, experiencing difficulty putting together a string of good holes, said Coach Troy Kemling.

Perkins County placed 10th with a score of 376. McCook took top honors with a score of 309, while Scottsbluff came in a close second with 312. Other competing teams were Sidney third, 329; Cozad fourth, 350; Alliance fifth, 355; Chadron sixth, 361; Gering seventh, 361; Ogallala eighth, 362; Chase County ninth, 365; Gothenburg 11th, 395; Ogallala JV 12th, 411; Hershey 13th, 435; Kimball 14th, no score.

"It might have been a little pre-graduation let down with focus on the weekend," said Kemling. "Overall, we are not alarmed, as these scores are not indicative of the quality of play we have been outputting at practice."

Kemling said Chase Miyamoto played very much up to his own expectations.

"This was his first time on the entire 18 holes at Westwind and he handled it well, playing within

himself,” said Kemling. “Actually, Chase was a last minute substitution due to sickness and he was mentally ready to go.”

Kemling said a couple of the players were not feeling 100 percent that day and was hopeful that some rest over the weekend would prepare them for districts.

“Valentine looks to be the easy favorite with several teams challenging for the next two qualifying spots,” he said. “I know the boys will put forth their best on Monday” [the day of districts].

Individual scores: A. Thelander 43 48 91, Blake Poppe 51 53 104, Colton White 51 45 96, Jacob Sexson 46 51 97, Chase Miyamoto 46 46 92.

### **Sutherland Invite**

Plainsmen golfers continued their streak of successful and consistent play by taking top honors at the Sutherland Invite held at the Oregon Trail golf course on May 7.

With a team score of 335, the Plainsmen finished ahead of other participating teams North Platte, second place, 350; Hershey third, 404; Garden County fourth, 411; Creek Valley fifth, 418 and Sutherland sixth, 426.

Five Plainsmen managed places in the top ten: Cole Whalen finished second, scoring 81 with 10 pars on the day and only one double bogie; Austin Thelander was third with a score of 84; Colton White secured the fourth place position with a playoff; Blake Poppe was seventh with 85 and Chase Miyamoto finished in ninth place with 88.

“We had a great day!” said Coach Troy Kemling. “The key for us today was limiting the extra strokes—throwaway shots. The boys did well to limit that today to a minimum.”

“I was pleased with the efforts of each today,” said Kemling. “I thought Cole played exceptionally well with very steady golf.”

Although disappointed with his putting game, Austin Thelander, who finished second, hit the ball well from tee to green.

“Colton [White] and Blake [Poppe] seem to be our twins this year,” said Kemling. The two consistently score within a few points of each other, if not the exact same score. Their scores of 85 are personal lows for each of them.

“Our scores are getting down just when we need them to be,” Kemling added.

Perkins County’s final participant was senior Jacob Sexson, who struggled on the first nine holes, but recovered nicely on the back nine, scoring 42 for a total of 97.