



The girls golf team grabbed the 5A state championship for the fourth year in a row with a score of 365 Oct. 18 at Crestview Country Club. Senior Emma Whitaker finished her perfect season with an individual title as well, with 78 strokes.

“There was a lot of pressure after winning three state titles in a row,” coach Dan Harrison said. “We wanted to give ourselves the best chance possible to win a fourth straight state championship. It was a exciting to achieve a goal that was also a certain amount of relief.”

Whitaker has been in the top five for the last three years at the state championship, placing fifth her freshman year and second her sophomore and junior years. This year, Whitaker won by 12 strokes. Even though the individual title was a long-time goal, the team victory meant more to her this season, she said.

“When I made the putt on the last hole I knew I won,” Whitaker said. “That was a really exciting moment, but once I found out the team won, it was really emotional. I knew how hard we worked this season and we all wanted it so bad. At that point, I didn’t care if I won, I just wanted the team to win it so bad. Once I found

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-senior Emma Whitaker

out, I immediately started crying and so did everyone else.”

Along with the state titles, the team went undefeated all season, winning each team competition and Whitaker winning each individual tournament. At the regional tournament Oct. 10 at Hesston Golf Course, the team placed first with a team score of 342 strokes, beating Andover by 30 strokes. In the City League Tournament Oct. 4, the team scored a 330 and won by 38 strokes.

“I think our biggest accomplishment this season was finishing undefeated,” senior Erin Johnston said. “This was the first season we’ve been able to do that in all four seasons I played.”

Whitaker set a course record in Dodge City at the Mariah Hills Invitational Sept. 8 swinging two-under 70. She also set the women’s back nine scoring record at the Wichita North Invitational Sept. 28 at Sim Park with a 30 which is 6-under-par. Seniors Vivian Brown and Johnston also shot personal career bests of 81 at this meet.

“This will be a very exciting season to look back on,” Harrison said. “In five or 10 years from now, the players that were a part of this team will look back with amazement and fondness of their achievements.”

On the green, senior Emma Whitaker prepares to putt at Auburn Hills Golf Course Sept. 26. The team won with a score of 172 and Whitaker took first with a score of 36. Whitaker finished the season undefeated and won the individual 5A state title. photo by Emily Ostmeier



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THINKING ABOUT... WINNING STATE

“I was very excited to win but I was sad because I knew it was my last time playing golf competitively.”
-senior Erin Johnston

“I felt overcome with emotion. I was so proud of our girls and myself.”
-sophomore Maggi Duncan

“I was so proud of the team. I’m so grateful.”
-sophomore Sydney Harbert

“It was a crazy experience winning for four straight years. We were really determined.”
-senior Emma Whitaker

“We were all really emotional and so proud for one another. Our hard work finally paid off. It was an amazing experience I will never forget.”
-sophomore Nicole Graf