

By Tim Linscott

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Finishing second behind Bayard at the Creek Valley Invite in Chappell on May 6 was the Perkins Perkins County High School boys golf team.

Several personal bests were made by the Plainsmen.

"I think the work the guys are doing in practice is paying off with lower scores. Of course the guys know this course well and generally do well on it as it is similar to the setup we have at Grant," Troy Kemling, boys golf coach for PCS, said. "The green speeds and hole designs are similar."

The team finished with a team score of 340 points while Bayard captured the title with a 324. Out of 54 golfers Austin Fay of PCS ended the day in fifth place. He ended with an 82, a personal best, shooting a 40 on the front nine and a 42 on the back nine holes.

Setting a personal best at Creek Valley was Plainsmen senior Chase Miyamoto, finishing with an 84, placing seventh overall.

Miyamoto started the course with a 42 and stayed consistent on the back nine holes, shooting another 42.

"Chase was able to have a solid short game today - namely his putting," Kemling said. "Chase will usually be around the green after his approach shot. He plays solid golf where there are not many chances taken or big mistakes made."

Close behind Miyamoto was Tyler Thelander, coming in eighth place, shooting an 85.

Thelander shot a 44 on the front nine holes and skimmed three strokes off of his card with an 85.

Brennan Toner barely missed the top 10 with an 89. Toner was just one stroke off of the top 10 held by Curtis Laird of Chase County. Kaden Kammerer set a personal best with his 118 on the day.

Kemling will keep his team staying sharp for district play on May 19 at Kimball.

"I hope to see them all eliminate wasted strokes, the muffed chip or the three putt, in order to lower their scores more. We plan on traveling to Kimball on a Saturday to play a practice round to get us ready for our best at districts," Kemling said.

Knowing the competition and what his team needs to do to be successful, Kemling must stay sharp as well.

"Districts will prove to be a challenge," he said. "We have a young team where none of the players have ever played at such a tournament before. I hope that we can play well enough to give ourselves a chance as a team to advance to the state tourney," Kemling said.

The state golf invitational is set for Wednesday-Thursday, May 28-29 at Kearney.