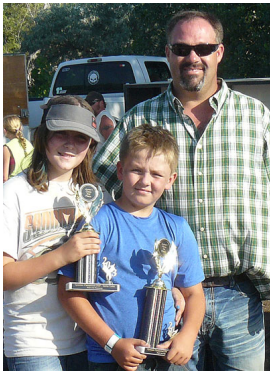


Go-kart races brings family closer together

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

For sibling go-kart racers 11-year-old Shianne Willmon and 9-year-old Koby Way, few things in life can compare to the adrenaline rush from zooming around the dirt oval, kicking up dust on those in the back of the pack and the thrill of getting the checkered flag.

Summertime for the last three years for the young Holyoke drivers has meant one thing ... racing season at the RedLine Raceway in North Platte, Neb.



After another successful day at the racetrack, Shianne Willmon and Koby Way pose with their trophies alongside their father, Kevin Way.

The idea of racing go-karts was a bit scary at first for the duo who were just 7 and 9 when they started. While Koby was initially leery of getting in a wreck and his kart catching on fire, Shianne was nervous because the safety equipment, especially the helmet, made her feel claustrophobic.

The first time trying on the helmet, Shianne said she immediately started screaming, but for all of the chaos that comes with flying around the track, racing actually has a calming effect on her.

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