

HHS swimmers dive into 2010-11 season

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Eight HHS swimmers, as well as one from Haxtun and one from Julesburg, are practicing with the local girls as part of the Sterling High School swim team.

They dive into their first competition this Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Valley Invite.

Holyoke boasts five returning letterwinners including seniors Briar Bergner and Pamela McWilliams, juniors Amy Krogmeier and Jordan Zeiler and sophomore Cierra Prella, who is a new HHS student this year, but lettered on the SHS swim team last year.

Other local team members are seniors Brandi Orand and Lauren Blomme, sophomores LaKyla Moore from Julesburg and Katlin Davis from Haxtun and freshman Malena McWilliams.



**HHS returning letterwinners on the Sterling HS girls' swim team are pictured from left, Jordan Zeiler, Briar Bergner, Amy Krogmeier, Cierra Prella and Pamela McWilliams.
—Enterprise photo**

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Adria Colver begins her 22nd year of coaching the local swim team.

She is assisted for the second straight year by Alyson Brinkema, who was a standout swimmer at HHS, earning 4A Swimmer of the Year honors as a senior in 2001. Brinkema was an Academic All-American swimmer and a Big 12 finalist at the University of Kansas. She represented KU at U.S. Nationals.

The loss of use of the local pool, due to boiler malfunction, has been a tremendous blow to the high school swim season, said coach Colver.

What was a daily two-hour practice now requires a time commitment of more than four hours in order to travel to another location.

Colver noted the team is currently practicing at both the Sterling and Ogallala indoor pools, with dryland work done at HHS. She indicated once meets start this week, the practice schedule may again need to be adjusted.

“Despite these obstacles, the team is working very hard, and we have had wonderful support,” said Colver.

“The city allowed us to practice locally as long as possible, Holyoke High has authorized much-needed transportation and parents have been great,” added Colver.

Some of the posted schedule is apt to change, but the girls look forward to several “home” duals at the Sterling pool.