

# Sports

## Oberlin Devils fall to Hoxie Indians, Quinter Bulldogs

The Decatur Community High boys ran into a couple of hot teams last week, dropping their record to 4-6 with losses to Hoxie and Quinter.

On Tuesday, the Red Devils traveled to Hoxie (8-1) and played a close game against the Indians before losing a third-quarter lead and falling in defeat, 70-60.

"The game was closer than the score," Coach Dick Ahlberg said. "Turnovers killed us. We let the game slip right through our hands. We had a couple of good chances to take control".

"We were playing hard but just a fraction out of control."

The first half of the game was fairly close, with Hoxie leading 10-8 at the end of the first quarter and 27-24 at the half. In the third quarter, Oberlin got fired up and was ahead 44-40. The fourth quarter was the killer, however, as Hoxie put 30 points up to Oberlin's 16.

"Our fouls got us in trouble," Coach Ahlberg said. "They made 19 free throws and we made nine."

Oberlin out rebounded the Indians

44-30 and each team had 25 turnovers. Hoxie had 21 fouls and Oberlin 28.

Scoring for the Red Devils were Ryan Ruf, 32 points; Rusty Grafel, 13; Tyson Nicholson and Skyler Tacchini, 4 each; Aaron Ploussard, 3; and Nathan Carr and Egan Grafel, 2 each.

R. Grafel led in rebounds with 13 followed by Ruf, 12; Nicholson, seven; Rollie Leitner and Tacchini, five each; and E. Grafel, two. Nicholson, R. Grafel and Tacchini each had a steal.

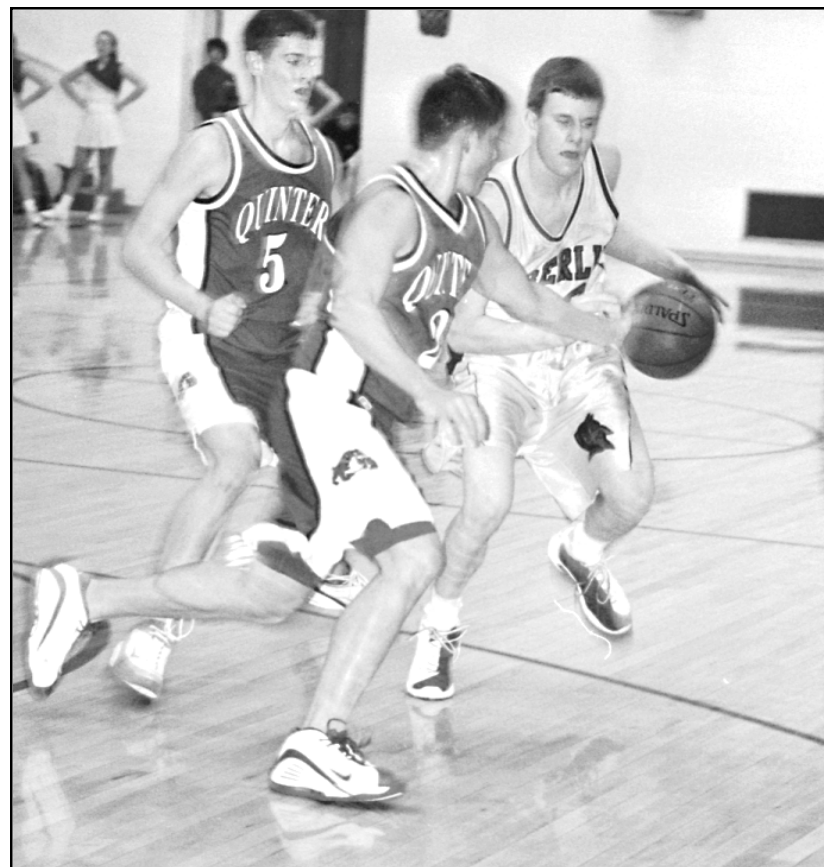
On Friday, the Quinter Bulldogs (9-1) came to town and tore up the Devils 88-58.

"We did not play very well against a good team," Coach Ahlberg said.

The Devils rebounded well having 34 to Quinter's 37 but Oberlin suffered 25 turnovers to the Dogs 11.

Quinter jumped out to a big lead in the first quarter 21-11 and never looked back leading 44 to 30 at the half and 69-43 at the end of the third quarter.

Scoring for Oberlin were R. Grafel,



**DRIVING FOR THE GOAL**, Ryan Ruf fought off a pair of Bulldog defenders during the Oberlin-Quinter basketball game on Friday. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

25; Ruf, 17; Nicholson, 8; and Ploussard and E. Grafel, 4 each.

Just about everyone on the team was in on rebounds, with R. Grafel making the most with nine followed by Ruf, six; Nicholson and E. Grafel, five each; Tacchini, three; Leitner,

Ploussard and Corey Fortin two each; and Brandon Metcalf, one.

The Oberlin Invitational Basketball Tournament was scheduled to start on Tuesday and will continue on Friday and Saturday. Play will start at 3:30 p.m. each day.

## Devil girls drop games to Hoxie, Quinter

The Decatur Community High girls basketball team lost both games last week, falling 62-50 last Tuesday to Hoxie and 55-46 on Friday to Quinter.

The young girls team — there are no seniors on the squad — has had a tough year so far, with no wins but a couple of close games. The junior varsity squad, however, beat Quinter 42-17 but lost to Hoxie.

Against Hoxie, the Devils led at the end of the first quarter 12-9 but couldn't maintain their momentum and fell behind at the half 29-26. Hoxie increased its lead in the third quarter leading 42-35.

"It was a better effort offensively," Coach Paul Nepodal said. "We must

keep working to be more consistent."

Scoring for Oberlin were Haley Vollertsen, 17 points; Jennifer Thomas, 10; Kortney Stapp, 9; Abby Ream and Dani Dorshorst, 6 each; and Lindsay Fortin, 2.

Both Vollertsen and Ream hit for two three-point shots.

Fouling hurt the girls as Hoxie was able to make 16 out of 30 at the free throw line while Oberlin only got 19 chances and made eight. Stapp and Dorshorst were the leading rebounders for the game.

On Friday, the Quinter Bulldogs came to town and took home a win.

The first half was all Dogs, as the Quinter girls lead 14-7 at the end of

the first quarter and 31-16 at the half. In the second half, the Devils came alive and outscored the Dogs, but it was too late.

In the third quarter Oberlin hit for 18 to Quinter's 15 but Quinter still led 46-34. In the fourth quarter, Oberlin outgunned the Dogs by 12-9.

"Our second half was by far one of our best of the season," Coach Nepodal said. "Our girls played with desire and character, which are two things we try to strive for. It gives us a good one to go into our tournament with."

The Oberlin Invitational Tournament was to start on Tuesday and will continue through Friday and Saturday.

Scoring against the Bulldogs were

Dorshorst, 19; Vollertsen and Stapp, 8 each; Ream, 7; Kelsey Dorshorst, 3; and Dana Sattler, 1.

Vollertsen put up a three-point shot in the first quarter. Stapp was the leading rebounder with five followed by Ream with four.

In the junior varsity game, D. Dorshorst was the leading scorer with 12 followed by Sarah Ruf with 8.

"Our girls played extremely hard," Coach Terry Ream said. "I was pleased with every girl that went out on the floor."

## Junior varsity wins two, loses one game

The Decatur Community High junior varsity basketball team mopped the floor with the Atwood and Hoxie boys, beating the Buffaloes 78-42 on Jan. 5 and the Indians 72-48 last Tuesday, but fell 66-51 to the Quinter Bulldogs on Friday.

The team was excited about their first win of the season when they beat Atwood.

"We played a fine game," Coach Keith Grafel said. "We talked before the game about the fact that we needed to score more points, and that we needed to do a better job of keeping our opponents off the free-throw line. We succeeded in doing both."

"Our overall effort was very good. We got great efforts from both our inside and outside players. This was a very nice win for us."

Scoring for Oberlin were Kyle Inman, 21 points; Egan Grafel, 18;

Brandon Metcalf, 13; Matt Mondero, 7; Erik Ahlberg, 6; Bobby Fossum and Rollie Leitner, 5 each; and Aaron Ploussard, 3.

Metcalf made three three-point shots while Ploussard, Fossum, Mondero and Grafel each made one.

In their second win, over Hoxie, the boys came out strong, leading 23-9 in the first quarter.

"It was nice to score over 70 points in two games in a row," Coach Grafel said. "We are starting to play more aggressive and are really starting to step up our defense."

Scoring against the Indians were Kyle Inman, 14; Ahlberg, 13, including a three-pointer; Grafel, 12; Fossum, 11, including three three-pointers; Leitner, 7; Metcalf, 6; Mondero, 5; and Brent Smith and Ploussard, 2 each.

Against Quinter, the Devils and

Dogs played even for three quarters and then fouls and missed opportunities cost Oberlin the game.

Quinter led 13-12 at the end of the first quarter and the teams were tied at 23 at the end of the half. At the end of the third quarter, Quinter led 44-42.

In the last quarter, Quinter made seven of 10 free-throw attempts and hit seven field goals to Oberlin's three.

"We played well for three quarters," Coach Grafel said. "Foul trouble hurt us early, and we still need to do a better job of taking care of the ball."

"We need to get to the free throw line more and continue to attack the basket more offensively. Our next game will be against Goodland on Friday, Jan. 26. Our junior varsity tournament will be on Jan. 29 and Feb. 1 in Colby, so we hope to continue our playing well through it."

## Bowling

### DAYTIMERS LEAGUE

Gold Banc 4-0; Pauls Funeral Home 4-0; Music Lab 3-1; Beauty Boutique 1-3; Family Lumber 0-4.

JoAnne Morris 176,512,632; Heidi Wiebe 218; Gold Banc 622, 1808; Music Lab 809,2354.

### METROMIXED DOUBLES

Spring Creek Casting 17-3; Keith's Market 12 1/2-7 1/2; Spresser Construction 11-9; Hartman Telephone 10 1/2-9 1/2; Ag Vantage 9-6 (Inc); Baker-Petrolite 7 1/2-12 1/2; Gold Bank 7-13; Bishop Consulting 7-13; Reliance Body Shop 6 1/2-13 1/2; CabinetLand 7-8 (Inc).

Wayne Hackney 222, 691; Rocky Diederich 214, 744; Stan Miller 226, 203, 771; Rocky Courage 201, 203, 717; Monty Hunt 211, 758; Robert Fringer 208, 647.

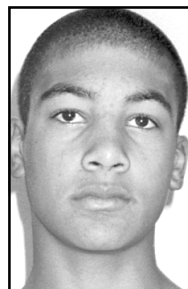
### PINETTE WOMEN'S

Spring Creek Casting 6-2; Reload 6-2; Tenna's Upholstery 4-4; NWKS Organ Donors 4-4; Barth Construction 3-5; Rayes Grocery 3-5; Post Office 3-5; Hair Gallery 3-5.

Rose Riffle 211, 203; Andrea Scott 203; Jamie Ellis 203.

## Youth makes tourney team

Egan Grafel, son of Keith and Roma Grafel of Oberlin, was selected for the all-tournament team at the Holiday Freshman Tournament in Hill City.



Egan Grafel

Grafel, a freshman at Decatur Community High, scored 24, 25 and 24 points in the three games the Red Devils played during the tournament.

Quinter won the tournament, with Norton coming in second. Oberlin won one game and lost two.

Grafel was the only Oberlin player chosen.

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**Play-by-Play Guy is Cody Richards!!**

Game Time is 3:15 p.m.

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