

Speech team takes 1st

By SARAH OLSON

The Speech team started off the year with a boom taking first place at its first tournament.

On Jan. 25 the team traveled to Tribune to compete to compete against 12 other schools and came home with 301 points, first place and seven events qualified for state championships and festival.

Weskan placed second with 273 points and Wallace placed third with 153 points.

Dane Anderson was high team scorer with 52 points, and qualified for the state championship tournament with a first in poetry and second in extemporaneous speaking.

Kelsey Jackson finished second in poetry and also qualified for state. Brent Smith and Andrea Marshall placed first and second in humorous solo acting and both qualified for state.

Greta Wendelin and Jess Elwood won improvised duet acting and qualified for state.

Rebekah Hasty qualified for state festival in prose, and Greta Wendelin in poetry, by placing third.

Others contributing points for the team total were Chris Jordan, Jeremy Tally, Kellen Doeden, Quintin Cundiff and Bryan Richards.

"This was an awesome start to our season," said Coach Leigh Davis.



SCHOLAR BOWL team members practice for the state tournament. Shown are (from left) Greta Wendelin, Sarah Olson, Grant Reichert and Jake Robinson.

Scholars win trip to state

By CHRIS BROWN

The Oberlin scholar bowl team is on their way to the state competition.

The Red Devils defeated Brookville, LaCrosse, WaKeeney and Solomon on their way to the regional scholar bowl championship.

In the finals the Devils defeated Bennington 70 to 40 to claim the first place trophy.

Students competing were Grant Reichert, Jake Robinson, Sarah Olson, Greta Wendelin and Dane Anderson.

Coach Marlene Moxter said, "I was very proud of the team this week, as I have been all season, and I can't wait to see how things turn out at state."

State will be held Saturday in Bennington.

Student wins geography contest

By KERRIE OLSON

Last week eighth grader Jace Robinson won the school-level National Geographic Bee and a chance at a \$25,000 scholarship.

The contest, at which students answered questions on geography, was the second round in the 15th Annual National Geographic Bee.

Contestants had to qualify by taking a geography test in December.

Last year's school-level winner Aaron Helm placed second. Breck Simonsson was third. Jessica Bremer, Andrew Dempewolf, Andy Gilliam, Melissa Hasty, Jennifer Hirsch, Nolan May and Rory Wendelin also qualified for the

test. Marlene Moxter is their junior high geography teacher.

Local winners across the nation next took a written test.

Up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will be eligible to compete in their state bee April 4.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the national championship on May 20 and 21.

The winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and a lifetime membership in the society.

"Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek will moderate the national finals,

which will air on the National Geographic Channel and public broadcasting stations.

Anyone can brush up on geography with GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which posts five questions a day from previous contests.

Questions range from the simple to a stumper such as "Name the ocean current that makes it possible for coral to form as far north as the Bermuda Islands. (The answer is: the Gulf Stream.)"

The National Geographic Society is the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organization. National Geographic magazine has a circulation of about 10 million.



Jace Robinson

.... and they take first again

By JANNA STEF

The Oberlin speech team took first place in the Hill City invitational tournament on Feb. 1. Oberlin won with a total of 292 points. Quinter came in second with 290 points, and Weskan placed third with 262 points. Eighteen schools competed in the tournament.

This is the second tournament in two weeks that Oberlin has won.

Junior Dane Anderson led the team with a total of 46 points. He finished in first place in serious solo acting, which qualified him for the state tournament. He also placed third in extemporaneous speaking.

Junior Brent Smith qualified for state by placing first in humorous solo acting. Andrea Marshall placed third and Anthony Marshall fourth.

Senior Kelsey Jackson placed second in poetry, which also qualified her for state. Bayley Bryan placed fourth, which qualified her for the state festival. Kelsey also placed fourth in original oration.

The brother/sister team of Anthony and Andrea Marshall qualified for state in duet acting by placing second. Also competing in duet acting were Sarah Olson and Kelsey Dorshorst, and Sarah Marcuson and Karyn Jordan.

Qualifying for state festival was senior Sarah Olson in prose. Others competing in prose were Rebekah Hasty and Sarah Marcuson.

Rebekah finished in sixth place in serious solo acting. Kelsey Dorshorst also competed in this event.

Other students who competed were Destry Jackson in extemporaneous speaking and Quinton Cundiff in humorous solo acting.

The team is coached by Leigh Davis, and the assistant coach is Elaine Marcuson.

Voice of Decatur Community High School

Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Wrestlers know art of pretzel making

Wrestling is a sport like none other. It's the only sport where you can have your left arm placed onto your right shoulder and your back bent into shapes that would make a chiropractor faint.

It's like a bout of two-man yoga. Minus the inner peace, that is.

Many wrestlers not only have to deal with an opponent that wants to make them into human origami, but also the constant battle to make weight.

The first few weeks the wrestler is on a diet usually go OK, but after that they get the desire to move to such delicious countries as Greece, Turkey and Chile. Fast food commercials bring them to the edge of their seats, and they fantasize about marrying Mrs. Butterworth.

Not me though. Food is the last thing on my mind. I've just gotta worry about working hard to meet my goals because as a senior I've got a lot at stake.

I really don't diet that hard (and couldn't if I wanted to — my mom is a veritable McGyver when it comes to cooking. She could whip up some fried chicken from a loaf of bread and a couple of pears, maybe even one).

The fact that I have the muscle mass of a midget in physical therapy, taffy-stretched into a 6-foot, 3-inch form, is not help much for winning matches.

The Way I See It

By Grant Reichert

I did have a muscle once, but it disappeared after a few days. (Everyone insists that it was a pimple, but I disagree).

Although I hope to win some matches and go to state, I feel sorry that anyone should have to lose to someone with a string cheese physique like me. But despite this musculature, sometimes I am a pretty cocky wrestler. If I was half as good as I thought I was, I would be twice as good as I am now.

Wrestling is alien to many people because they have trouble with the point scale.

But it's easy: takedowns are worth two points, tattoos are worth five, and being the coach's son is worth seven.

I tried using a stick-on tattoo once, but that actually got penalized points. (Maybe the pink unicorn riding a rainbow was a bit much).

In conclusion, cauliflower ear is not a vegetable, ringworm is not a worm, but Red Devil wrestlers don't know 'bout that one.

School Menus

February 17-21
OBERLIN HIGH

Monday — Breakfast: cereal. Lunch: hot dog, baked beans, pears. **Tuesday** — Breakfast: Toasted sticks, juice. Lunch: Tater Tot casserole, pineapple. **Wednesday** — Breakfast: eggs, toast, juice. Lunch: chicken enchilada, fruit bread, refried beans, pears. **Thursday** — Breakfast: cereal, juice. Lunch: chicken strips, green beans, peaches. **Friday** — Breakfast: cereal. Lunch: sub sandwich, chips, peaches, peas. Juice served with breakfast.

OBERLIN ELEMENTARY
Monday — Breakfast: Hot pocket, juice. Lunch: Burrito. **Tuesday** — Breakfast: cereal, toast, fruit. Lunch: ham/cheese roll-up. **Wednesday** — Breakfast: muffin, ham, fruit. Lunch: spaghetti. **Thursday** — Breakfast: cereal, toast, fruit. Lunch: corn dog. **Friday** — Breakfast: waffle, applesauce. Lunch:

chicken-fried steak.

PRAIRIE HEIGHTS

Monday — No School. **Tuesday** — Breakfast: pancakes. Lunch: chicken strips, potatoes/gravy, peas, rolls, fruit cocktail. **Wednesday** — Breakfast: twists. Lunch: McRibbs, mixed vegetables, pears, carrot cake. **Thursday** — Breakfast: blueberry muffins. Lunch: chicken supreme, corn, applesauce. **Friday** — Breakfast: breakfast pizza. Lunch: vegetable beef stew, grilled cheese fruit, cinnamon rolls.

HERNDON

Breakfast is served daily: cereal, toast, juice. Lunches: **Monday** — No School. **Tuesday** — Sno-capped dogs, tossed salad, strawberry shortcake. **Wednesday** — sausage burgers, baked beans, cheesy potatoes, apple salad, cookie. **Thursday** — tacos, corn, fruit, cookie. **Friday** — beef enchiladas, tossed salad, green beans, cherry crisp. Milk served with all meals.

Seniors

Trista Ploussard

By NATASHA WEISHAPL

Trista Ploussard is the daughter of Sandy and Terry Rush and the late Kevan Ploussard. She is employed as a certified nurse aide at the Cedar Living Center.

Trista is in track, Science Club and the Catholic Youth Organization.

She was a member of the volleyball team and is vice president of Spanish Club and on the Kayette Board.

Trista enjoys being with her fam-

ily and friends. She also likes to scrapbook. She has not decided on where she wants to go to college or what she wants to major in.

Scott Harman

By SARAH OLSON

Rodeos, wrestling, and horses are some of senior Scott Harman's pastimes.

Scott is also involved in FFA, football, "D" Club, weight club and high school rodeo.

Roping and riding are Scott Harman's favorite activities. Scott also enjoys rodeo, breaking colts,

raising cattle and any kind of ranch work that can be done on horseback.

Scott's achievements include two letters in wrestling and one in football.

Scott is the son of Ron and Renee Harman. He plans to attend Curtis Technical College in Curtis, Neb., where he will go into beef and equine reproduction and farm and ranch management.



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