

# Student enjoys trip to Mexico

If you've seen Rena Unger lately you may be wondering about her sudden tan. Rena and her family experienced a special Thanksgiving—a trip to Mexico. What follows is Rena's account of the trip.

## TRIP TO THE SUNNY SOUTH

By RENA UNGER

Warm weather, sunny beaches, seafaring, and señoritas awaited us as the gang and I loaded the plane for Cancun. After a scenic three-hour flight, we successfully landed at the airport just thirty miles from our final destination, the resort "La Posada Del Capitan Lafitte". My aunt Marty and uncle Mark, and their two kids, Jessa and Gentry; my sister, Katelyn, and my parents, Kevin and Jeanie, were all in tow for the fun-filled vacation.

After obtaining that worthy stamp in our passports, and waiting through lines for baggage claims and customs, we finally snagged a cab and loaded our monstrous suitcases. I tell you what, those Mexican highways are scary business, but somehow our driver managed to get us there safely.

We all settled into our rooms for the night and awoke to a gorgeous sunset, the sound of waves crashing along the shore only twenty feet from our bungalow, and smells of

breakfast calling to our senses. Talk about a nice view to wake up to!

Throughout the week, we had the opportunity to snorkel in caves as well as in the middle of the ocean. The underwater experience was very intriguing, to see the amazingly wide variety of plants and animals living down below.

I would have to say one of the most fun adventures I had while in Mexico was parasailing. It seemed like I could see for miles and miles while hanging in the air high above the rest of the world. We also visited the ancient Mayan ruins at Chichen-Itza and Tulum. The history of their culture and the intricate details put into designing their buildings was really interesting, plus climbing the massive pyramids was quite an experience as well.

Even though we did escape on many planned adventures, we also found time to chill back at the resort—to read a book, boogie board in the waves, and take a few naps in the hammock. The Mexican people are very laid back, and we learned to adapt to their ways of siestas and a little "R & R" while on vacation.

The trip proved to be lots of fun and I was a little reluctant to leave the balmy paradise to return home. I'm glad I got the opportunity to visit Mexico; it was well worth it.

## Journalism jive



SENIORS DARRELL SPENCER and Lindsey Euhus enjoyed the journalism dance, which raised money for the yearbook. — Dictator photo

# Musicians, singers chosen for honor

## By KRISTA FOWLER

Students who auditioned and were accepted for Honor Choir in November were Riley Cochran, Karli Fredrickson, Kellen Doeden, Aaron Helm, Jenny Hirsch, Tricia Dorshorst, Gabe Moore, Destry Jackson, David Morris, Anthony Marshall, Kurt Olson, Andrea Marshall, Brent Smith, Jeremy Tally, Kaydee Leitner, and Anne Wasson.

They went to Fort Hays to practice with other area participants with the help of a Kansas University clinician. After practicing several hours, they presented a concert for their parents and the public.

## By REBEKAH HASTY

Congratulations to the band members selected to participate in District Honor Band sponsored by the Kansas Music Educators' Association.

Oberlin students that were chosen were seniors Kelsey Dorshorst, Amber Reynolds, Allie Moore, Bayley Bryan and Leah Marietta, and sophomores Danica May and Lora Marietta.

These students made audition tapes and were selected to represent our school in the District Honor Band which practiced and performed on Saturday, Dec. 6.

# Drama Club sponsors Christmas tree contest

## By KYM RICHARDS

"Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree. . ."

It's Christmas time again, and everyone is decorating Christmas trees at home and at school.

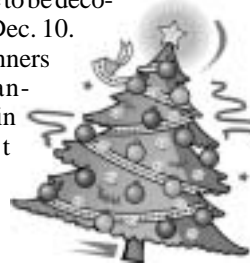
The Decatur Community High School Drama Club is sponsoring the second Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Contest. The contest is for all clubs and organizations in the school who choose to participate. This year's theme is "Christmas Carols."

Prizes include \$15 and a donut party for first place, second place

is rewarded with \$10 and pencils, and third place winners will receive pencils.

Rules are trees are to be non-flammable, they must not block entrances, the club can't spend more than \$10 on its tree, and the trees were to be decorated by Dec. 10.

The winners will be announced in next week's paper.



Voice of Decatur Community High School

# Decatur Dictator

By the DCCHS Dictator Staff

# Three pointers, pins earn yearbook cash

## By JAMIE ELWOOD

As you know, the winter sports season is under way, and the journalism class has come up with another fun way to help raise money for the 2003-'04 yearbook. For the basketball teams we have developed the 3-Point Club, and for the wrestlers, the Pin Club.

We will be asking for pledges of any amount of money for every 3-point shot made by an Oberlin player in a varsity ball game, or any pin scored by a Decatur Community High School wrestler in a dual or tournament. You can pledge for just the girls' team, the boys' team, the wrestlers, or all three.

The basketball girls scored about

37 three-pointers last year. The basketball boys made sixty-one, and the wrestlers were able to get about seventy pins last season.

Club members will be eligible for T-shirts and other prizes given away at home ball games and matches.

Staff members will be signing members up and taking pledges at the first home basketball game on Friday, Dec. 19. At the end of the season, we will organize a potluck dinner to collect pledges.

"[Girls basketball coach] Paul Nepodal gave us the idea, and we thought it sounded like a lot of fun," said yearbook adviser Brenda Breth.

"People can pledge as little or as much as they want."

# Scholars compete in Atwood

## By JAMIE ELWOOD

The scholar bowl team of Dane Anderson, Bayley Brian, Destry Jackson, Allie Moore, Gabe Moore, and Kelly Olson competed at the Atwood Invitational Scholar Bowl.

Oberlin defeated Oakley, Goodland, Cheylin, Quinter, and Hill City. They lost to Colby, Norton, Atwood, and Golden Plains, giving them a 5-4 record for the day.

Colby took first place overall with 785 points, followed by Atwood.

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