

By SARAH RUF
Fifty-three students from Decatur Community Junior and Senior High School and 11 students from Oberlin Elementary were recognized for having attained the Standard of Excellence on the 2003 state assessments. The junior and senior high students were honored on January 13 at an all-school awards assembly. The grade school students will be honored later this spring. All of these students earned the exemplary status on the assessments and received a certificate of recognition from the State Board of Education. On the state assessments, students scores fall into five categories: unsatisfactory, basic, proficient, advanced, and exemplary.

"Patrons, parents, and the students of our community can be very proud of the achievement of our students on the state assessments," said Mr. Haag.

Last spring, the seventh- and tenth-graders were tested in mathematics and science, and the eighth- and eleventh-graders were tested in reading and social studies. The fourth-graders were tested in math and science, the fifth-graders in reading, and the sixth-graders in social studies.

"[The students who scored exemplary] can take pride in meeting such a high standard of academic performance," said state Board of Education Chair Janet Waugh. "Their accomplishment also reflects well of the efforts of teachers and their school."

"I can only echo those same sentiments as we look at the results of our student test results last spring and the great job our teachers do to provide the students with a quality education," said principal Charles Haag. "I applaud the efforts our students gave to do well on the tests."

According to the July 2003 report titled "Kansas Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Guidance," which is based on President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, "all schools must show adequate yearly progress, which is based on the premise and promise that by 2014, every child will score at a minimum proficiency on the state reading and mathematics assessments."

The No Child Left Behind Act also requires that every student be tested. By testing all children, parents and teachers will know the academic achievement of every child, every group of students and all stu-

dents. This enables parents and teachers to work together to ensure that no child will be left behind and to ensure school-wide and individual progress."

This year's senior class as a whole met the Standard of Excellence last year in reading and social studies. This year's junior class met the Standard of Excellence in math and was awarded the Certificate of Merit from the state for outstanding accomplishments in closing the achievement gap in tenth-grade math.

To recognize these classes for their accomplishments, the juniors were treated last year to a pizza party, while the seniors this year were given the chance to eat off campus one day. In addition, the individuals who received the Standard of Excellence were awarded a half-day absence certificate. They can miss a half day of school and will not be considered absent.

"I appreciate the half-day off we were awarded for our hard work," said junior Jamie Elwood, who received recognition in math.

Those scoring exemplary in math were juniors Andy Anderson, Megan Barrett, Molly Coleman, Jamie Elwood, Anthony Marshall, Kelly Olson, Zane Pauls, Gannon Reichert, Adam Steinmetz and Tyler Witt.

The eighth-graders who scored exemplary on last year's math assessments were Jessica Bremer, Heather Glodt, Rebecca Helm, Lacey Ream, Spencer Young, and Cameron Weishapl.

The seniors who scored in the top category in reading were Dane Anderson, Matt Coleman, Kelsey Dorshorst, Rebekah Hasty, Serina Heikes, Brett Keck, Leah Marietta, Allie Moore, Amber Reynolds, Sarah Ruf, Rena Unger, Matt Wilson and Keely Witt.

The freshmen who scored exemplary in reading were Aaron Helm, Emmie Pauls, Jessica Soderlund, Terry Urban and Katrina Wentz.

On the science assessments, these juniors and eighth-graders scored

exemplary last year: juniors Andy Anderson, Kelly Olson and Zane Pauls, and eighth-graders Jessica Bremer, Rebecca Helm and Gage Reichert.

Many students also scored exemplary in social studies: seniors Dane Anderson, Matt Coleman, Kelsey Dorshorst, Rebekah Hasty, Brett Keck, Andrea Marshall, Matt Mondero, Shane Montgomery, Allie Moore, Ryan Nichols, Adam Overmiller, Amanda Schultz, Isaac Shaw, Brent Smith and Aaron Stef; freshmen Lauren Fortin, Karli Fredrickson, Andy Gilliam, Aaron Helm, Jennifer Hirsch, Emmie Pauls, Jace Robinson and Breck Simonsson; and seventh-graders Nathan Simonsson and Taylor Young.

At Oberlin Elementary School, the fourth-grade class as a whole (this year's fifth-graders) also reached the Standard in Excellence in math.

"Our students know that we expect the best from them at all times and that we set high standards for them to try to reach," said elementary Principal Duane Dorshorst. "When we have our celebration (closer to testing time) we will celebrate the fact that individual students as well as classes have risen to the challenge of attaining the standard of excellence."

Individuals who scored exemplary in math last year at the grade school were fifth-graders Sara Kyte, Timothy Larson, Jacob Larue, Joshua Schwab, Troy Warta and Carissa Wentz.

Sixth-graders Sara Copeland, Jessica Fredrickson and Ashley Horton scored exemplary in reading.

In science, fifth-graders Tiffany Anderson, Keithen Fortin and Carissa Wentz scored exemplary.

"We are proud of the fact that our students are achieving at high levels and we look forward to challenging future classes to continue to improve our test scores," said Mr. Dorshorst.

Bayley Bryan
By KERRIE OLSON
Bayley Bryan, one of many seniors involved in multiple activities, is the daughter of Floyd L. and Dale-Marie Bryan.

Some activities she has been involved in throughout high school are the yearly all-school play, Kayettes, DCHS Singers, Chanté, Drama Club, the annual musical, Spanish Club, TACT, student council, scholar bowl, speech, National Honor Society, Science Club and the yearly variety show. She has also played volleyball for four years.

Honors Bayley has acquired include making the honor roll, being chosen as a Girls' State participant, and being selected for district honor band and district honor choir.

In her spare time, Bayley says that she "likes snipe hunting, singing in the shower, reading books under thirty pages long, and cooking anything with lots of calories and artery-clogging cholesterol."

Her plans for the future are to major in history at K-State. She is also thinking about archaeology and anthropology.

Dane Anderson
By KYM RICHARDS
Dane Anderson is the son of Kary and Jackie Anderson. Dane is involved in drama club, TACT, science club, speech, scholar bowl, Spanish club and National Honor Society.

Dane is the Spanish club president and a Student Council representative for National Honor Society. He also participates in golf.

Dane is a state speech finalist receiving third in poetry and second in serious solo acting. He is a two-time, double League speech champion in extemporaneous speaking and serious solo acting. Dane was also a member of last year's scholar bowl state championship team.

Dane's hobbies include politics and drama. He plans to go to Washburn University and study law.

Voice of Decatur Community High School



Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Lock-in kicks off speech team season

By REBEKAH HASTY
The speech team kicked off the new season with its annual lock-in Jan. 9. The four-hour lock-in started at 9 p.m. and lasted until 1 a.m.

During that time, they went over season rules, trained new members, selected new materials for the season, played games, and did team building activities. In one team builder, the students were divided into groups and had to act like a household item so the others could guess what they were. The groups acted out a television, a blender, and silverware.

This year's 37-member team is coached by Leigh Davis who will be assisted by Elaine Marcuson.

Returning participants include seniors Brent Smith (who placed fifth at state in humorous solo acting), Andrea Marshall, Kelsey Dorshorst, Rebekah Hasty, Bayley Bryan, Dane Anderson (who placed second at state in serious solo acting and third in poetry), Allie Moore and Matt Coleman; juniors Anthony

Marshall (who placed sixth last year at state in humorous solo acting), David Morris and Kelly Olson; and sophomores Jeremy Tally, Danica May, Lora Marietta, Karyn Jordan, Chris Jordan, Gabe Moore, Destry Jackson, Kellen Doeden, Sarah Marcuson and Sunni Fredrickson.

Last year the Oberlin speech team won the Northwest Kansas League championship, and placed third at state.

New members include seniors Adam Overmiller and Scooter Matchett; sophomores Hana Withington, Tawni Davis and Amber Barratt; and freshmen Jenny Hirsch, Tricia Dorshorst, Nolan May, Kurt Olson, Kyle Glodt, Cameron Nedland, Katrina Wentz, Kenneth Tally, Karli Fredrickson, Andy Gilliam and Marci Metcalf.

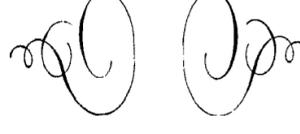
The speech team's first meet is Jan. 31 at Hill City. "Although the lock-in was short, we accomplished a lot," said Miss Davis.

"We plan to start the new season with a victory."

School Menus

February 2-6 OBERLIN
Unavailable.

PRAIRIE HEIGHTS
Breakfast is served daily: toast, cereal, juice. Lunches: **Monday** — super nachos, refried beans, peaches, cookies. **Tuesday** — ham and cheese pockets, Tater Tots, green beans, applesauce. **Wednesday** — roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, roll, pineapple. **Thursday** — beef nuggets, Trinitators, broccoli and cheese, roll, fruit cocktail. **Friday** — cavatini, corn, garlic bread, pears, peanut butter bars. Milk served with all meals. Salad bar served with all lunches.



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Sheriff's Sale Dale Kempt

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Published in The Oberlin Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2004)3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DECATUR COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL COURT DEPARTMENT

ABN AMRO MORTGAGE GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, v. DALE KEMPT, et al., Defendants.

Case No. 03-C-12 Title to Real Estate Involved

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of Decatur County, Kansas, in the case above numbered, wherein the parties above named were respectfully plaintiff and defendants, and to me, the undersigned Sheriff of Decatur County, Kansas, directed, I will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand at the Courthouse in Oberlin, Kansas, in said County and State on February 19th, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. of said day, the following described real estate situated in the County of Decatur, State of Kansas, to-wit:

Lot Twenty-two (22) and the South half of Lot Twenty-one (S/2 L 21), in Block Four (4), in the Original Town, now City of Oberlin, Decatur County, Kansas. ("Property")

Said real property is levied upon as the property of defendant Dale Kempt and all other alleged owners and will be sold without appraisal to satisfy said Order of Sale.

Ken Badsky
Decatur County Sheriff

Robert D. Kroeker KS #08972 Beverly M. Patterson KS #20570 MARTIN, LEIGH LAWS & FRITZLEN, P.C. 1044 Main Street, Suite 400 Kansas City, MO 64105 Telephone: (816) 221-1430 Facsimile: (816) 221-1044

Real estate foreclosures

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Published in The Oberlin Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2004)3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DECATUR COUNTY, KANSAS

Board of County Commissioners of Decatur County, Kansas, Plaintiffs, v. Rodney Eugene Doherty, et al., Defendants.

Case No. 04-CV-01

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO:

Tract # 2, 3 & 4: Paul M. Kraemer
Tract # 6 & 7: M. Lee Kremer
Tract # 10: Jane K. Bennington

Tract # 11: Mary Lou Wiles

if the above defendants are living, and if dead, then their unknown spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns; and

The unknown executors, guardians and trustees of such of the above named defendants who are minors or are in anywise under legal disability; and

The unknown executors, administrators, trustees, creditors, successors of such defendants as are or were partners or in partnership; and

The unknown executors, administrators, trustees, creditors, successors, receivers and assigns of any of the above named defendants who are or were existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; and

The unknown spouses of the defendants, and all other persons concerned, Defendants.

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Decatur County, Kansas, by the Board of County Commissioners of Decatur County, Kansas, praying for judicial foreclosure and sale of real property upon which there is unpaid delinquent real estate taxes, and you are hereby required to plead the said petition on or before March 10, 2004, in said Court in Oberlin, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition. The following are descriptions of all properties which shall be subject to foreclosure and sale and the names of such of you as are the owner, or a party having some interest therein:

Tract #2: #1-02697 Part of the Northeast Quarter of 25-4-27, commencing at a point on the West line of Pennsylvania Avenue 70 feet West and 300 feet South of the Northwest corner of Jennings City Original Block 10 for a point of beginning, thence West 495 feet, North 50 feet, East 495 feet and South 50 feet to the point of beginning, all in Decatur County, Kansas

Tract #3: #1-02714 Lot Thirteen, Block Two, Original Town of Jennings, Decatur County, Kansas

Tract #4: #1-02832 Lots One through Four, Block Thirteen, Original town of Jennings, Decatur County, Kansas

Tract # 6: #1-02208 Lots Nine through Twelve, Block Five, original town of Kanona, Decatur County, Kansas

Tract # 7: #1-02210 Lots Five through Seven, Block Five, original town of Kanona, Decatur County, Kansas

Tract # 10: #2-0210 A 1/12 mineral interest in and to the SE/4 of 15-3-28, Decatur County, Kansas. (forever mineral interest)

Tract # 11: #2-0219 A 1/12 mineral interest in and to the SE/4 of 15-3-28, Decatur County, Kansas. (forever mineral interest)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECATUR COUNTY, KANSAS

APPROVED:
Steven W. Hirsch
Decatur County Attorney

Conservation meeting

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Published in The Oberlin Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 28, 2004)2t

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DECATUR COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of the Decatur County Conservation District, notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended, on the 2nd day of February, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. an annual meeting of the Decatur County Conservation District will be held at the Gateway Civic Center, 1 Morgan Drive, Oberlin, Kansas.

The meeting agenda shall include the following business items:

- The supervisors of the Decatur County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting.
- They shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors, there present, of one supervisor to serve for a term of three years from date of said meeting.

The term of Ronald Bryan is expiring. All in the County of Decatur in the State of Kansas.

By Lawrence Jennings
Chairperson

By Diana Solko
District Manager

Estate of L. Ploussard

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Published in The Oberlin Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2004)3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DECATUR COUNTY, KANSAS (Magistrate - Probate) (Proceedings Pursuant to K. S. A. Chapter 59)

In the Matter of the Estate of LUYERNE PLOUSSARD, Deceased. Case No. 2004-PR-01

NOTICE OF HEARING

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in said Court by Allen Lee Ploussard, praying for a determination of descent in the estate of Luyerne Ploussard, deceased, of the following described real estate in Decatur County, Kansas, to-wit:

The North Sixteen Feet of Lot Twenty-four in Block Five in the Original Town, now City of Oberlin, in Decatur County, Kansas and Lot Six and the South Half of Lot Five in Block Six, Sappa Addition to the City of Oberlin, Decatur County, Kansas.

owned by the said Luyerne Ploussard at the time of her death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 19th day of February 2004 at 10:00 a.m. of said day in said court in the City of Oberlin, in Decatur County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Allen Lee Ploussard, Petitioner

LUND LAW FIRM, CHARTERED
118 West Hall, Box 267
Oberlin, Kansas 67749
785/475-2312
Attorney for Petitioner