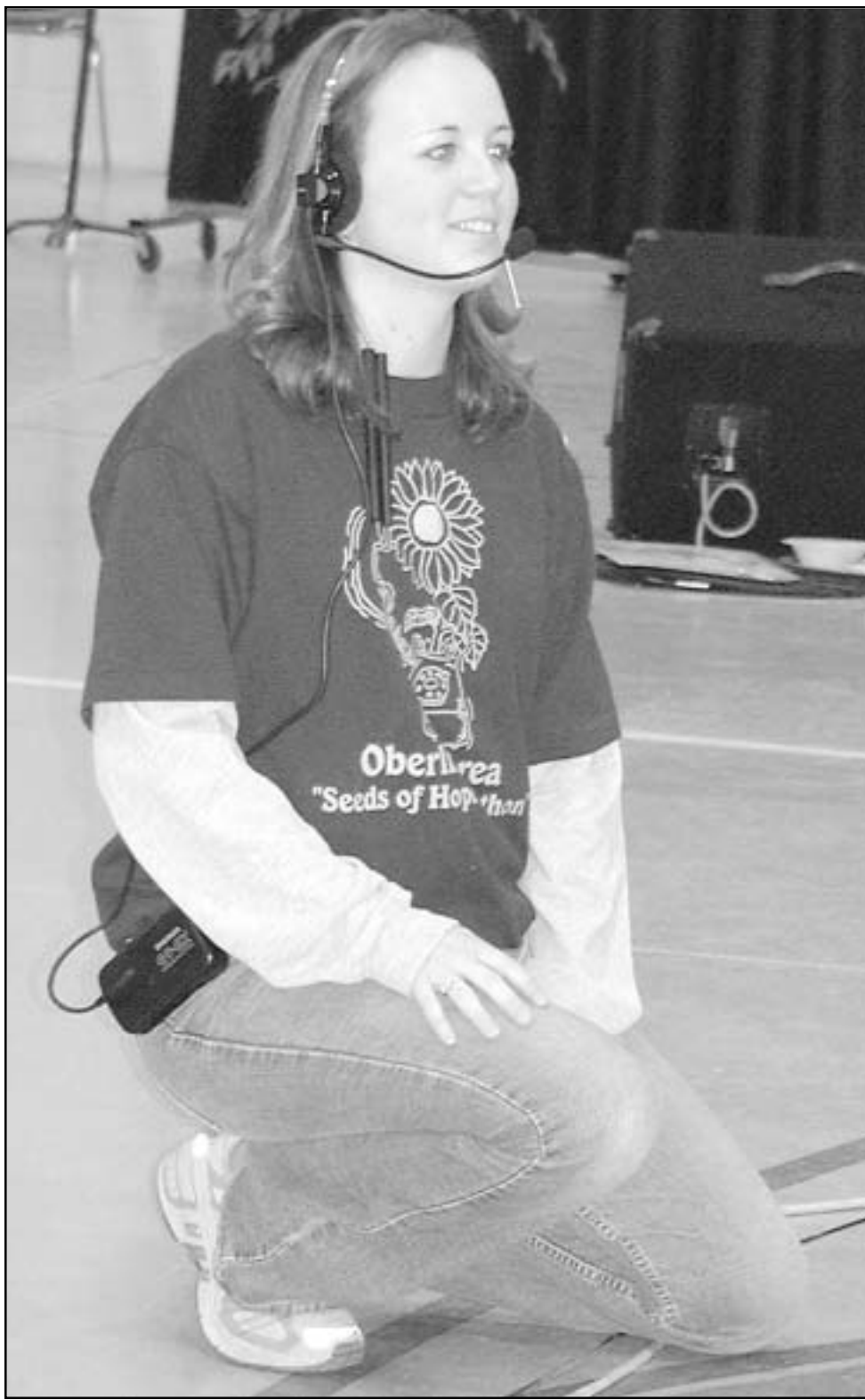


**WITH HIS HEADPHONES ON**, Oberlin Councilman Stan McEvoy (right) worked the sound system part of the time for the Seeds of Hope Telethon on Saturday. Mr. McEvoy was also an emcee for the annual event. A banner for the telethon (above) hung over the phone booth where people called in to place bids.



**ON ONE KNEE**, Kristi Smith (above) watched the action while timing how long each activity at the telethon went on. Ms. Smith worked with Anita Hirsch all day long out of the camera's view. Lisa Stacey (below) worked a camera in the late evening.



## Telethon thrives on diapers, food

### Entertainment was silly, serious

**I**t was late and the deadline was near as the shoe box with the red Valentine paper was unwrapped.

Inside were 10 adult-size diapers that someone had wrapped up and sent to the Seeds of Hope Telethon. Emcees asked for donations for 10 adults to wear something in the box throughout the day. At the end of the evening, Marvin Matchett, Stan McEvoy, Peggy Pratt, Steve and Anita Hirsch, Carolyn Plotts, Rob McFee, Michael and Tracey French and Dr. Gary Fredrickson all were wearing the diapers.

Some of the group wore them on their heads, while a few actually wore them where diapers are supposed to be.

Although the telethon started off a little slow, the pace had picked up by afternoon.

Kids walked around the track upstairs in The Gateway for the last Walkathon while their parents watched from downstairs. The concession stand served barbecue, hot dogs and homemade apple pie.

Mrs. Hirsch, who serves on the telethon committee, said there

were more people at The Gateway this year than there ever has been in the past.

She said she thought the auction and the setup had worked well. A live auction from 6 to 7 p.m. was less complicated than past years, said Mrs. Hirsch, and there were many at The Gateway to bid on the items.

At 5 p.m., seven contestants brought in chili for the annual cook off. Judges tasted a spoonful of each crock, taking sips of water in between. The winner this year was Dave Bose.

Mrs. Hirsch said by the end of the evening, the group had raised \$10,377. At midnight when everything had been tallied, the group had raised \$13,600. Normally, she said, there are donations after the event, too, but some money will to be taken out for expenses.

Mrs. Hirsch said the telethon last year brought in a little more money, but she didn't know the figure off hand.

Overall, said Mrs. Hirsch, the event went well. With it being the last year for the Walkathon, the group will be coming up with a fun

activity to take its place. She said she would like to see something different each hour for the kids to do since several are there all day.

The only snag seemed to be that the television feed wasn't working great. A cable problem made the picture bounce up and down, but she said she heard the sound was great.

Mrs. Hirsch expressed thanks to all the volunteers, even to those who didn't end up with a job.

Next year the telethon will be held the first Saturday in February, she said.

Decatur County organizations that will receive money from the telethon are: Decatur County Stand Against Violence, Awana, Kansans for Life, Frogs summer camp, Tripple Creek Riders, Decatur County Relay for Life, Decatur Area Theater Association, Oberlin Lions Club, Norcatour Pre-School, American Family Radio, Oberlin Girl Scouts, Norcatour City Library, Salvation Army, Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, Jennings Community Hall and Jennings City Library.



**IN THE EVENING**, Amy Carman (right) and Mike Elwood and Bob Castle performed. Mrs. Carman was invited back after the telethon was completed to do a few songs while the committee cleaned up The Gateway.