

Seniors go to Washington

By RENA UNGER

A trip to the nation's capital for a group of Oberlin senior student council members over spring break proved to be the adventure of a lifetime.

Leah Marietta, Chase Juene-mann, Brett Keck, Allie Moore, Kelsey Dorshorst, Keely Witt, Brent Smith, and sponsors Duane and Pat Dorshorst left on Tuesday, March 16, and stayed in Topeka with Mary Getto, Suzanne Ahlberg's sister. Waking up bright and early, the group drove to Kansas City, hopped a plane at 9:30 a.m. and arrived in Baltimore, Md., mid-afternoon.

Their hosts for the week, Col. John and Heidi Lesinski (a Decatur Community High School alum), met the Oberlin gang at the airport, then unloaded travelers and luggage at their home in Great Falls, Va. After a hearty supper made by master chef John, the kids got a night out on the town viewing the many historical monuments on The Mall such as the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial (The Wall), and the Korean War Memorial. Everyone came back to the house for a little pool, foosball, and some good laughs before hitting the sack for the night.

On their first full day of touring, the crew saw the Bureau of Engraving, then got the honor of meeting our senator, Pat Roberts, and Representative Jerry Moran. They were treated to a tour of the elaborate capital building, the Library of Congress, and the Supreme Court. For a little diversity, the Lesinski's took everyone out for a Moroccan dinner, where they learned different traditions and ate a seven-course meal.

On Friday, they went on a tour of the Pentagon, and saw Arlington National Cemetery. "I really enjoyed the tour of the Pentagon. I learned a lot, and we saw where the 9/11 memorial was. Plus it helped that our tour guide was exceptionally good-looking," said Allie Moore.

After eating lunch at the Hard Rock Cafe, they visited the Smithsonian museums. "The Smithsonian museums were very intriguing. My favorite was the Museum of American History," said Leah Marietta.

Next was the Holocaust Memorial Museum which gave everyone a different perspective on the annihilation of the Jews during World

War II. During the evening, they ate dinner in the Reagan Building, then viewed the political satire, "Capitol Steps."

The Oberlin crew was able to be outdoors a bit more Saturday, when they saw Great Falls National Park and the home of George Washington, Mount Vernon. That same day, they also visited Embassy Row and saw the Vice President's home.

Colonel Delbert Townsend, an alumni of Decatur Community High School, who also lives in the D.C. area, treated everyone to a generous meal at Gadsby's Tavern after they toured Gadsby's Museum. A performer dressed as Benjamin Franklin entertained them while they dined with some mandolin playing and old fashion humor.

The appetizing smell of warm waffles woke everyone up Sunday morning, as Col. Lesinski was at it again in the kitchen. That started the day off just right, then they hit up the New Air Museum at Dulles Airport followed by a visit to Manassas Battle Field. They got in a little shopping at the Dulles Town Mall, then headed back to the Lesinski's for the night.

Kelsey Dorshorst said, "While we were downtown, we happened to be in the right place at the right time, and we saw President Bush's limo being escorted by tons of security vehicles down the street we were on. Talk about a rare occurrence!"

Monday was a short day, as they had to board the plane for home at noon. However, they managed to squeeze in one last trip to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, then they hit up Fort McHenry before heading to the airport. After a crazy, hectic week, the crew returned home to Oberlin around 10:30 p.m. Monday night to get back into the relaxed ways of small-town life.

Despite a little chilly weather, everything went really well on the trip and the entire gang had a blast. In fact, they even came home a little more knowledgeable about our nation's government. It was well worth their spring break, and they had some great stories to tell when they arrived home.

"I would encourage everyone that's involved in student council to try to go on the trip. Seeing the huge monuments of our past presidents and memorials from past wars gave me a different sense of pride and appreciation for our country. It was a great opportunity," said Chase Juene-mann

Music sweeps up State Large Group

By SARAH RUF

The Decatur Community High School concert band and concert choir made a clean sweep at State Large Group contest held Thursday, April 15, at Colby. Both groups earned straight I's from all three judges.


The band consists of 43 members

and is directed by Deanne Spanier.

The choir, directed by Susan Nelson, has 94 members, the second-largest group at state.

The only choir larger was Goodland's, which is directed by Randy Berls, a Decatur Community High School alumni.

Voice of Decatur Community High School



Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Senior Profiles

Chase McKittrick

By M.J. DEMPEWOLF

Chase McKittrick is the son of Rory McKittrick and Jodi and Ward Votapka.

Chase has been involved in Halloween Clean-up and participated in

golf, football and basketball during his high school career. He is a two-year letter winner in basketball.

His hobbies include watching basketball games, and playing pool and cards.

Chase's plans for the future are attending Fort Hays University and

majoring in either computer science or education.

Kerrie Olson

By KERRIE OLSON

Throughout high school, Kerrie Olson has been in volleyball, basketball, and track all four years. Some clubs that she has been involved in are D Club, weight club, Kayettes, National Honor Society, and science club.

Honors that she has received are

Homecoming queen candidate, 2003 Thomas County Rodeo Queen, Halloween Clean-Up Captain, prom server, Girls State representative and Northwest Kansas League All-League honorable mention for volleyball.

In her free time she enjoys barrel racing and working with horses.

Kerrie is the daughter of Randy and Sharon Olson.

She plans to attend Fort Hays State University and major in elementary education.

School Menus

April 26-30
OBERLIN

Monday — Lunch: fettucini alfredo, dinner roll. **Tuesday** — Lunch: sub sandwich. **Wednesday** — Lunch: pizza. **Thursday** — Lunch: BBQ chicken legs, roll. **Friday** — Lunch: beefy nachos. Breakfast menus unavailable. Milk served with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.

PRAIRIE HEIGHTS

Breakfast is served daily: toast,

cereal, juice. Lunches: **Monday** — Frito pies, corn, pineapple, cookies. **Tuesday** — chicken nuggets, Trinitators, green beans, rolls, pears. **Wednesday** — hamburgers, Doritos, baked beans, tropical fruit. **Thursday** — chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, rolls, peaches. **Friday** — fiesta pizza, breadsticks, applesauce, brownies. Milk served with all meals. Salad bar served with all lunches.

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The public is invited to the DCHS Athletic Banquet on Monday, April 26 at 7 p.m. at the High School auditorium.

The guest speaker is Tinker Keck, a native of Northwest Kansas who set the NCAA record for punts, returns for touchdowns (2 in one game, 4 in one season).

For more information on Tinker, go to his web site, tinkerkeck.com

DCHS ALUMNI BANQUET RESERVATION COUPON

The DCHS Alumni Banquet will be held at The Gateway in Oberlin, Saturday, May 29, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. **Doors open at 6:00**. Mail reservations and remittance to: Alumni Assn., P.O. Box 201, Oberlin, KS 67749. **Deadline for reservations is May 19, 2004. Price per plate is \$12.50** - This includes dinner and 50 cents for the Smick Memorial Loan Fund.

Alumni's Name	Class
Spouse or Guest Name	Class

Space allows for alumni and spouse/guest. BE SURE to give class year and maiden name.

If spouse is also an alumni, please indicate the class year the spouse would like to be seated with:

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