

Oberlin into playoffs

Red Devils take 14-6 victory from Hill City

The Decatur Community High Red Devil football team bought themselves a ticket to the state playoffs when they beat the Hill City Ringnecks 14-6 Friday night in Oberlin.

With the district setup, two out of four teams get to go on to the playoffs. Oberlin has whipped two of the three other teams in the district — Stockton (21-7) and Hill City (14-6).

On Thursday, the Red Devils will travel to Hoxie to take on the tough Indians for their last district contest.

The Indians have also beaten both Hill City and Stockton, so they will also be in the bidistrict playoffs.

On Friday, the Red Devils had the fans on the edge of their seats as the



OBERLIN AND HILL CITY PLAYERS mixed it up on Friday night, but Denton Bailey (No. 3) was free of the blockers and tacklers. The Red Devils beat the Ringnecks 14-6 to win a chance to play in the bi district games when the playoffs start next Tuesday. —Photo by Jeannie Martin

visiting Ringnecks scored a touchdown in the first quarter on a two-yard run. The points after were no good, but when no one scored in the second quarter, the Hill City boys had the lead 6-0 at the half.

In the third quarter, the Oberlin boys gave the crowd something to cheer about and hope returned as freshman Jebb Tally made a two-yard run across the goal line to put the Red Devils on the scoreboard. The extra point was no good and the score was tied 6-6 at the end of three.

Oberlin put the game away in the fourth quarter when junior Jason Thomas made a one-yard jump into the end zone to add six to the Oberlin side of the ledger. Junior Jesse Juenemann caught a Denton Bailey pass for two and the Red Devils led 14-6.

"It was a sloppy game," Coach Trevor Williams said. "In the first half, we made a lot of mistakes. The guys came out and played with more intensity in the second half, but we still made mistakes. Hill City also

made mistakes.

"Offensive errors and penalties really hurt us.

"The defense did a better job as the game went on. Hill City throws a lot, and the defense began to put more of a press on the quarterback."

Top rushers for Oberlin were Tally with 38 yards on 19 carries; Caleb Peters, 25 yards on six carries; and Jason Thomas, 14 yards on seven carries.

Bailey completed three of seven passes for 80 yards with one inter-

ception.

Andy Anderson grabbed one pass for 30 yards, Juenemann got one for 30 and Thomas hauled in one for 20.

The Red Devils will be in Hoxie for a 7 p.m. kickoff Thursday in the last regularly scheduled game. The last game is played a day early so that the teams will have plenty of time to rest and recuperate before the first bidistrict contest next Tuesday.

Hoxie is 6-2 while Oberlin is 4-4 so far.

While both teams will be playing in the bidistrict, the winner will be playing at home while the loser will probably be headed for Smith Center to play the Redmen, with the games starting at 7 p.m. either way.

Smith Center plays Plainville on Thursday and Osborne will meet Ellis in their last district contest. While that district isn't decided yet, Coach Williams said he expects that Smith Center will come out on top with either Osborne or Ellis second.

Juniors end year with loses

The Decatur Community High football team lost to the Goodland Mustangs on Oct. 7 and to the Colby Eagles on Oct. 14.

The young Red Devils went to Goodland for their game against the Mustangs and came home with a 10-0 loss.

"Defensively, the team did a good job of team tackling, holding Goodland to only two first downs," Coach Caleb Howland said. "Offensively, we could not catch a break and we were unable to capitalize on the scoring opportunities we did have."

Oberlin had 132 yards on 33 carries rushing. Rushers were Lucas Juenemann, 123 yards on 18 carries; Sam Stapp, 13 yards on eight carries; Logan Fortin, eight yards on four; Clay Anderson, minus five yards on two; and Jacob Fortin, minus seven on one.

L. Fortin was two for eight through the air for seven yards and three interceptions, and Juenemann tried one pass, which was intercepted.

Toby Peters grabbed one Fortin pass for six yards and Juenemann grabbed another for a yard.

Oberlin had five first downs, six turnovers and lost 55 yards on six penalties.

The Mustangs also won the fifth-quarter play 6-0.

"The young men on our fifth-quarter team continue to play well as a team," Coach Howland said. "Wiley Farr and Clay Anderson had some good runs around the outside. There has been steady improvement from the offensive line with blocking assignments, and defensively, the team continues to improve every outing."

On Thursday, the junior high boys were in Colby, but the young Eagles downed the Red Devils 42-8.

"Colby has a very good eighth-grade team," Coach Howland said. "Our defense was unable to stop their offense in the first half, as Colby scored 36 points."

"The second half started with Colby returning the kickoff for another touchdown. I was impressed with our team's positive attitude as they continued to work hard the second half to finally score on the last play of the game."

"Sam Stapp scored the touchdown and Toby Peters caught the pass from Logan Fortin for the two-point conversion."

"The team finished the season with a record of two wins and five losses."

The Oberlin boys also came out on the losing end of the fifth-quarter play, falling 12-0 to Colby.

"Our fifth-quarter team played a lot better than the score indicates," Coach Howland said. "They had a lot of hard hits and good offensive plays. They were playing against eighth graders, since Colby's seventh graders had already played a game and fifth quarter earlier that day."

"The fifth quarter team ended the season with one win and five losses."



COMING TO THE FINISH, the only Oberlin runner to get a medal at the regional cross country meet was Rebecca Helm, who came in 10th in Phillipsburg. —Herald photo by Mirla Coleman

Oberlin runners head for state meet

The Decatur Community High boys cross country team and one Oberlin girl will be running at the state meet in Wamego on Saturday.

The boys came in third with 79 points behind Sacred Heart of Salina, 37; and Trego Community High of WaKeeney, 63.

The top three teams and top 10 individual runners at the Class 2A Regional meet at Phillipsburg were eligible to advance to state competition.

Bennington came in fourth, 94; Hill City, fifth, 108; and Hoxie, sixth, 111, for the boys teams.

The Oberlin girls just missed a trip to state, as they ran fourth, but Rebecca Helm, who has earned a medal in most of her meets this year, won an individual berth to the state meet by coming in 10th.

"The boys had their best team race of the season," Coach Dick Ahlberg said. "We really packed it up."

Heading for state are Andy Leitner, who came in 16th in 21 minutes, 1 second; Kellen Doeden, 20th, 21:24; Teryn Grafel, 21st, 21:31; Aaron Helm, 22nd, 21:35; Zeke Ruzicka, 33rd, 22:40; Brent Stalman, 49th, 25:02; and Scott Miller, 52nd, 26:44.

Becky Helm was the only Oberlin runner to take a medal. Behind her

were Whitney Beinke, 14th, 14:43; Lora Marietta, 23rd, 15:26; Molly Coleman, 24th, 15:26; and Tawni Davis, 48th, 18:20.

Amy Grace of St. Francis came in 33rd in 16:17. She is the only member of the St. Francis team and had run with the Oberlin girls all season until the league and regional meets.

Sacred Heart of Salina came in first for the girls with 31 points, followed by Bennington, 65; Osborne, 69; Oberlin, 89; WaKeeney, 124; Hill City, 129; and Stockton, 160.

Coach Ahlberg said that the last time Oberlin had an entire team at state was in 2001, when the boys went. That year, the Oberlin team was competing in Class 3A. The Oberlin boys won the league title and came in 12th at state.

While the girls have not had full teams a lot in the past, last year the Oberlin women came in fourth at the regional competition also.

"We had great support this week and today from families, friends and fans," Coach Ahlberg said. "Both teams and I would like to say thanks."

The state competition will start at 9 a.m. for the girls and 10 a.m. for the boys on Saturday at the Wamego Country Club.

Volleyball girls split last pair

The Decatur Community High girls were able to beat Wichita County but fell to Hoxie in substitute play at St. Francis on Saturday.

"The girls improved a lot throughout the season," Coach Pat Dorshorst said. "We ended with a season record of 16-13 with a team that started the season with (only) one player who had a lot of varsity court experience."

"Our season did not end the way that we wanted it to, but we need to learn from this experience so our goals will be reached next year."

Oberlin overcame Wichita County 25-12, 25-22.

"We played well against Wichita County the first game," Coach Dorshorst said. "The entire team was in sync. We started out aggressive and dominated the entire game."

"The second game, we started out a little sluggish and Wichita County got the momentum. We were down 18-12 in the second game, but never gave up."

Hoxie downed the Lady Red Devils 25-19, 27-25.

"Against Hoxie, we started out slow," Coach Dorshorst said. "Hoxie was fired up to beat us after taking a loss from us last week."

"Both teams looked a little nervous about the match, but Hoxie took early control. After giving Hoxie a five-point lead, we finally started playing, but could not quite overtake the Indians."

"The second game was a typical Oberlin versus Hoxie game. The lead bounced between the two teams throughout the entire game. Both teams were playing well and neither wanted to let their season end."

"Our girls should be proud of their play throughout the season. I am proud of their sportsmanship, work ethic, competitiveness and teamwork. We are disappointed but we have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming years."

Top players against Wichita County were:

- Server — Lauren Fortin, nine of nine with one ace.
- Passer — Kaitlyn Stapp, 16 of 18 with four digs.
- Setter — Stapp, 22 of 22 with nine assists.
- Hitter — Tricia Dorshorst, eight of nine with five kills.
- Blocker — Dorshorst, five points stopped.

Top players against Hoxie were:

- Server — Heather Williams, 11 of 11 with one ace.
- Passers — Christa Hardy, nine of 10 with three digs, and Dorshorst, 11 of 13 with six digs.
- Setter — Stapp, 10 of 10 with two assists.
- Hitter — Lydia Kamopp, nine of 10 with five kills.
- Blocks — Trina Shields, seven points stopped.

Senior Profile

Molly Coleman

Name: Molly Coleman
Parents: Micheal and Mirla Coleman
Age: 17

Activities: Student council president, Kayette board, D-club, Science club, cross country, wrestling statistician, track music, National Honor Society and DCHS Singers.

Plans after high school: I plan on going to college, but I am undecided on a profession. I have considered nursing or education.

Do you plan on returning to this area, to do what? I plan on returning to Oberlin to visit family and to possibly retire.

10 years from now I see myself: Settled in a community with a good career. I would also like to help with swimming lessons or coaching a swim team.

Favorite book, music, movie and game: Country, music, "Ocean's Eleven" and "Ser-



endipity," movie and 10 point pitch game.

How do you want the community/school to remember you? I want to be remembered as a friendly and cheerful person. Someone who works hard to achieve her goals.

Best advice ever received or what advice would you give someone younger than you: My dad always told me "can't never did anything," and "you're not going to learn any younger!"

Favorite Quote: "If you think you are beaten, you are; If you think you dare not, you don't. If you'd like to win but think you can't it's almost a cinch you won't. If you think you'll lose, you're lost. For out in the world we find success begins with a fellow's will. It's all in the state of mind. Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man; But sooner or later the man who wins is the one who thinks he can," favorite affirmation of my grandmother Norma Moore.



Prairie Petals

Toll Free Number 1-866-901-3241

KFNE

Your DCHS Sports Authority

VARSITY FOOTBALL



Listen to the live action of
Oberlin Red Devils vs. Hoxie Indians
on Thursday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.
Head Coach - Trevor Williams

