

Girls stay close for three quarters

If the Oberlin-Hoxie girls basketball game had only had three quarters, the Lady Devils would have come close.

However, the Decatur Community High girls let a two-point deficit at the end of three get blown up into a 20-point loss after four. The Lady Indians won the game 65-45 as Oberlin was only able to score 4 points in the last quarter.

Hoxie took a slim 11-8 lead at the end of the first quarter and Oberlin was able to tie the game 18-18 at the half after outscoring the Indians 10-7 in the second quarter.

Both teams were hot in the third quarter, with Hoxie hitting 24 and Oberlin 23.

In the fourth quarter, however, Hoxie stayed hot while Oberlin couldn't get the ball to go in.

Hoxie's Jacie Hoyt scored 36 points for the Indians, including a field goal and 10 of 11 at the free throw line in the fourth quarter.

"We had a lot of positives in this game but, unfortunately, the ball quit going into our basket," Coach Terry Ream said. "Hoxie got hot and made their free throws in the fourth quarter."

"All the girls played hard. We used a lot of the bench early, and they did a great job keeping us in the game. We are getting better in our weak areas, and we will be ready

going into the last three games and on into sub-state and state action."

Scoring were Lauren Fortin, 12 including a three pointer; Kaitlyn Stapp, 11 including a three pointer; Tricia Dorshorst, 9; Jamie Elwood, 7; Sarah Murray, 4; and Lydia Karnopp, 2.

Stapp was the leading rebounder with eight, followed by Elwood and Fortin, five each; Murray, three; Dorshorst and Courtney Gillespie, two each; and Karnopp, one.

Fortin had seven steals while Elwood had four, Stapp three and Karnopp and Gillespie one each.

Stapp led with five assists followed by Elwood, four, and Fortin, Karnopp, Murray and Kim Wessel, one each.

Christa Hardy, Megan Barrett and Heather Williams also played.

Stapp was four for five and Fortin three for five at the free throw line. The girls hit 13 of 25 for 52 percent.

The girls were to play in Atwood on Tuesday and will have a makeup game starting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday against the Norton Blue Jays.

Next Tuesday will be senior night to honor all the players, cheerleaders, parents, and managers working in their last home game. The Phillipsburg Panthers will be in town for a 6:30 p.m. start.

Sub-state play will start on Monday, Feb. 28.

Young team loses one here, one away

The Decatur Community High girls freshman or C team lost to Northern Valley, 46-37, at Almena last Monday and to Atwood, 36-17, in Oberlin on Thursday.

Last Monday, the Oberlin girls slipped a little farther behind in each quarter as the Northern Valley Lady Huskies led 14-13 in the first, 28-25 after the second, 34-28 after the third and finally won 46-37.

Scoring for Oberlin were Leanna Sheaffer, 10; Heather Glodt, 9; Kenzie Fisher, 8; Katrina Wentz, 7; Rory Wendelin, 2; and Nikki Wessel, 1.

Jessica Dellere, Fabiola Ortiz, Ashley Huntley, Alyssa Montgomery and Kaitlyn Gillespie also

played.

On Thursday, the Lady Devils got off to a slow start, hitting only one field goal in the first quarter and missing everything in the second so at the half, Atwood led 18-2. Oberlin did a little better in the third quarter, but Atwood stayed well ahead, outscoring the Lady Devils 8-5 to take a 26-7 lead.

Finally, in the fourth quarter, Oberlin was able to put up 10 points, but so were the Lady Buffaloes. The game ended with the young Buffaloes winning 36-17.

Scoring were Sheaffer and Wendelin, 4 each; Dellere, Ortiz, Montgomery and Marci Metcalf, 2 each; and Fisher, 1.

Atwood pool group to hold 3-on-3 tourney

The sixth annual Atwood Swimming Pool and Park Project 3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament will be held Saturday, April 2, starting at 8 a.m.

Boys and girls in grades 1-8 are eligible. The cost is \$27 per team. Organizers say the tournament will have more than 100 teams, each guaranteed at least three games.

Divisions are:
Session 1: 5-6-grade boys and 5-6-grade girls

Session 2: 1-2-grade boys, 1-2-grade girls, 3-4-grade boys and 3-4-grade girls

Session 3: 7-8-grade boys and 7-8-grade girls

Teams should check atwoodpoolproject.tripod.com to view their game schedules.

Concessions and lunch will include walking tacos. There will be a \$1 admission fee for non-players and non-drivers. Entries must be postmarked by Thursday, March 24.



MAKING A LAYUP, Andy Anderson put in another two points for the Oberlin Red Devils. Backing up the play were (from left) Teryn Grafel, Andy Inman, Lance Fortin and Jesse Juenemann. —Herald photo by Jonna Inman

Devils fall in a close game with Hoxie

The Decatur Community High boys lost a close game Friday, falling 58-52 to the Hoxie Indians in an overtime game in Oberlin.

Coach Dick Ahlberg said the game was a competitive battle.

"This was a tough game to lose," he said. "We missed some key shots. We played hard and pretty well. I am proud of our team."

The game was a back-and-forth battle, as Hoxie took the lead in the first quarter 16-12 and lengthened it with an 11-8 second quarter to lead the Red Devils 27-20 at the half.

In the third quarter, it was Oberlin's turn, however. The Red Devils

outshot the Indians 16-8 to take a narrow 36-35 lead. The Indians fought back and were able to tie to game at the buzzer.

It was the overtime that hurt Oberlin, as the Indians combined to put 12 points on the board to the Red Devils' 6.

Both teams had 31 rebounds, and Oberlin had 14 turnovers to Hoxie's 13.

Andy Inman led the scoring for Oberlin with 20 points, followed by Lance Fortin, 18; Josh Fortin, 6; and Teryn Grafel and Jesse Juenemann, 4 each.

Andy Anderson led the rebound-

ing with eight, followed by L. Fortin, seven; Grafel, five; Juenemann and Inman, four each; and J. Fortin, three.

J. Fortin and L. Fortin each had three assists. Grafel and Anderson each had a pair and Juenemann and Inman had one each.

Juenemann and Anderson had two steals each while L. Fortin and Grafel each grabbed one.

The boys were to be in Atwood on Tuesday and on Thursday will play a makeup game with the Norton Blue Jays in Oberlin.

For the second time this year, games between Oberlin and Norton

have had to be canceled because of bad weather. The Red Devils weren't able to make it to Norton on Jan. 4 because of snow and had to play a makeup game. On Tuesday, the Norton teams were unable to get to Oberlin because of the icy weather.

Next Tuesday, the Red Devils will be home for the last time this year as they welcome the Phillipsburg Panthers. The boys games will start at about 8 p.m. for both Norton and Phillipsburg.

Next Tuesday will be senior night and all graduating basketball players, managers and cheerleaders and their parents will be honored.

C-Team loses two games, then wins two

The Decatur Community High freshman or C-team basketball squad lost to Goodland and Colby a couple of weeks ago, but turned around and beat Northern Valley and Atwood last week. — Herald photo by to the Cowboys in Goodland on Jan. 28.

"We played very hard, and it was a good game, even though we didn't win," Coach Keith Grafel said. "We got back in the game in the fourth quarter and cut Goodland's lead to 2 points late in the game. All our players played very hard, and did a nice job of keeping the game close. They got to the free-throw line way too many times, 23 to our seven."

Oberlin led at the end of the first quarter, 12-11, but then Goodland jumped out in the second and led the rest of the way, 37-26, at the half; and 51-44 after three.

Scoring were Cody Haas, 14; Ace

Manning and Jobey Black, 11 each including a three-pointer each; Nolan May and Seth Ritter, 8 each; and Andy Gilliam, 3.

On Feb. 4, the young Red Devils fell 56-26 to the Eagles in Colby.

"We really needed to do a better job of running our offense and blocking out better on the defensive boards," Coach Grafel said. "Our zone and man-to-man defense just wasn't very good today."

Goodland started out ahead and kept that way, leading Oberlin 13-6, 29-12, 36-18 and 56-26.

Scoring were Gilliam, 10; Mitchell Hitt, 8; Ritter, 4; and Cameron Weishapl and Manning, 2 each.

Gilliam sank all six of the Red Devils' free throws.

Last Monday, the Red Devils were in Almena, where they downed the Northern Valley Huskies 43-36.

"We played very well throughout the game," Coach Grafel said. "Our on-ball pressure was good, and we shot the ball pretty well. It was a nice win for us, as we had lost to Northern Valley earlier in the season by 15 points."

While the game was close, Oberlin led at the end of every quarter, 9-6, 20-18, 32-24 and 43-36.

Scoring were Ritter, 16; Manning, 10; Gilliam, 8; Bruce King, 4 including a three pointer; Haas, 3; and Hitt, 2.

On Thursday, the C-team edged the Atwood Buffaloes 37-36 at home to take the Oberlin freshman record to 4-8.

"We held on at the end to win," Coach Grafel said. "They hit two three-pointers in the last 30 seconds to make it real close. We were glad to come away with the win."

Oberlin jumped out to a 12-3 lead

in the first quarter and held on to a 21-11 lead at the half. In the third and fourth quarters, the Buffaloes started to hit the basket better, trimming the Red Devil lead to 29-22 at the end of three and to just one, 37-36 at the buzzer.

Scoring were Ritter, 12 including a pair of three pointers; Hitt and Gilliam, 8 each; Black 4; Manning, 3 in one shot; and Haas, 2.

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