



WITH A CHICKEN LEG in his hand and a mouth full of food, Jacob Koerperich (above) gave a kind of half smile at the Picnic in the Park. Miki Dorshorst and Adrienne Pauls (below) munched away.

Annual picnic brings out adults and kids

Around 160 people gathered at City Park last Tuesday to eat fried chicken and just about every kind of side dish and dessert imaginable.

There were baked beans, green salad, fruit, pasta salad, potato salad and cole slaw. On the dessert side, there were cookies, cakes, jello mixtures and more.

Chamber of Commerce Manager Glenva Nichols said she thinks Decatur County has some of the best cooks in the country. Their work was shown and eaten during the back-to-school Picnic in the Park sponsored by the Chamber, the Oberlin Business Alliance, Oberlin School District and KFN radio.

This is the fourth year for the annual event. Mrs. Nichols said the first picnic was held when the school district hired Superintendent Kelly Glodt and High School Principal Charlie Haag. She said people wanted to get to know them.

The tradition has carried on and

grown in attendance since then.

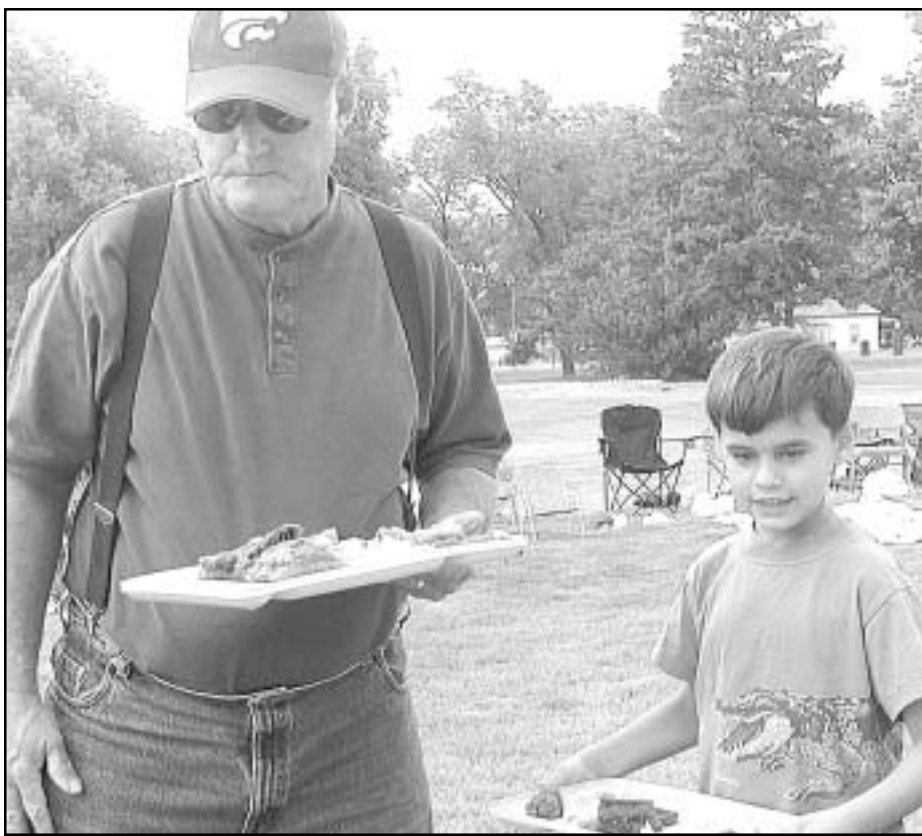
The town just needs an event, she said, where everyone can get reacquainted with their neighbors and meet the new staff at the schools.

After everyone has had a chance to eat the coaching staff told what they expect from the upcoming seasons.

Mrs. Nichols said she likes to get people from all over the county to come, not just from Oberlin.

The picnic has grown every year, she said, and she hopes that it continues to grow.

The Chamber gave away a free year membership, won by Johanna Mason, and the alliance gave away dinner for two at the LandMark Inn, won by Ella Betts.



IN THE FOODLINE Ken Shobe (left) and Evan Shobe make their selections. Harold Nichols (above) handed out tickets for the prizes.