

# Sainty downs Devils Turnovers hurt Oberlin



**OBERLIN SENIOR** quarterback Breck Simonsson (3) dropped back to pass (52), Riley Cochran (58), Brock Euhus (55), Chet Ely (24) and Andy Gilliam against St. Francis on Friday. Blocking for Simonsson were Colt Diederich (88). The Indians defeated the Red Devils 46-0. — Herald photo by Jonna Inman

By **JIM MERRIOTT**  
The St. Francis Indians came to Smick Field on Friday night determined to even the score after last year's 21-18 loss to the Decatur Community High Red Devils, and left after a 46-0 scalping.

After three weeks of sweating and hard work the Red Devils, who out-sized the Tribe, came out flat and played the majority of the evening on their heels.

Key turnovers allowed Sainty to control field position, giving the Indians opportunities to score from the short end of the field.

St. Francis controlled the clock and the game with a strong blocking scheme that allowed the Indians to open wide running lanes for their backfield.

St. Francis senior tailback Joel McAfee had a field day along with his senior backfield teammates, quarterback Ted Crabtree and running back Jordan Gienger, and junior fullback David Guthmiller. The Indians gained 103 yards on the ground in the first quarter.

The Red Devils won the opening coin toss and elected to defer until the second half.

St. Francis took the opening kick-

off and marched the length of the field, taking a huge chunk of time off the first-quarter clock. Then Sainty's offense stalled as Oberlin's defense held at the Oberlin nine.

Oberlin took over there, but lost the ball on a fumble on their first play from scrimmage.

The Indians scored three plays later on a two-yard plunge by J. McAfee with 4:06 left in the first quarter.

The Indians elected to go for a two-point conversion. Crabtree ran off tackle, scoring the two-point conversion and making the score St. Francis 8-0.

On Oberlin's second series, the Devils went three and out with St. Francis taking over at the Indian 45.

Eight plays later, Guthmiller scored on a 6-yard run with 11:25 left in the second quarter. The two-point con-

version failed, but St. Francis led 14-0.

Oberlin opened up its passing game during the second series, but could not produce a first down.

One bright spot occurred when senior punter Garrit Peters faked a kick on fourth and six, scampering for Oberlin's first first down of the evening. Peters had the option to either punt or run this designed play.

Three plays later, Oberlin senior quarterback Breck Simonsson was intercepted at the Sainty 42 by Sainty senior Nathan Ketzner.

The Indians scored 10 plays later on a two-yard run by Guthmiller.

The Indians added the two-point conversion on a pass from Crabtree to senior tight end Adam Peter, making the score 22-0.

Oberlin's offense continued to have trouble adjusting to the Indi-

ans' defensive scheme. The Red Devils were stopped on the following series after three running plays. Oberlin punted on fourth down to McAfee, who returned the punt for a 37-yard touchdown at 2:46. The Indians made a two-point conversion on a two-yard run by Crabtree, and led 30-0.

Oberlin went four and out on the next series.

St. Francis scored again when McAfee ran for a five-yard touchdown, ending the first half. Guthmiller ran for the two-point conversion and St. Francis took a 38-0 lead into the locker room.

The Indians finished in the middle of the third quarter with another touchdown and two-point conversion, making the score 46-0. That score put the Indians over the 40-point Kansas State High School

Activities Association mercy rule, causing the play clock to run until time ran out or Oberlin scored.

"I felt we were ready for the game," said Peters. "Everyone was pumped up in the locker room before the game."

"After I fumbled on the first play, everything started to unwind. It seemed that we never could get a feel for the game. All I can do, along with my teammates, is go out next week and work harder in preparation for Hoxie. I know they will be tough and I know we are better than what we showed tonight."

**Scoring**  
St. Francis 14 24 8 0 46  
Oberlin 0 0 0 0 0  
Oberlin statistics:  
• Passing: Simonsson 1-5-1-7.  
• Rushing: Jace Robinson 6-67 yards; Seth Ritter 3-8; Kyle Glodt, 1-3; G. Peters, 7-30.  
• Receiving: Ritter, 1-7.

• Tackles: Terry Urban, 12.  
• Punts: G. Peters, 3/110, 36.7 avg.  
• Kick returns: Glodt, 3/32, 10.7 avg.; Andy Gilliam, 1/1.

"We got out played, out coached, and you have to give a lot of credit to St. Francis, they came in and made the plays they needed to win and we didn't," said Coach Trevor Williams. "I have been doing this for a long time, and I have lost before."

"If you can't understand how to deal with losing, you are never going to win. We all find out what we are made of when things don't go so good. This very well may be a blessing. We have got to work harder in practice and come together as a team and learn to stay focused. We are going to be alright."

The Red Devils travel to Hoxie on Friday night to take on another tribe. Game time is 7 p.m.



**EIGHTH-GRADE QUARTERBACK** Chad Williams (1, with ball) took a snap from center Josh Ritter (55) Thursday in a junior-high game against the St. Francis Indians. Blocking for Williams were Jonathon Samson (50) and Dalton Dolan (75). Williams threw a touchdown in the 12-7 loss. — Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

## Junior high loses first game

By **JIM MERRIOTT**  
The Decatur Community Junior High Red Devils lost 12-7 in their home opener Thursday against the St. Francis Indians, playing one game and a fifth quarter.

Eighth-grade quarterback Chad Williams rushed six times for 32 yards. Dakota Soderlund went 8 for 27 and Keithen Fortin, 8 for 24.

Williams also passed five times for 54 yards and threw for a touchdown.

Soderlund was the top receiver with three catches for 32 yards; Saeger Grafel, one for 15 yards; and Nolan Peters caught one for 7, scoring a touchdown reception.

Soderlund was one-for-one kicking extra points.

The Red Devils gave up one turn-

over and had one five-yard penalty. Jacob Larue led all returners with two for 18 yards; Brent Juenemann was one for 10; Dalton Paul, one for none; and Fortin, one for four.

"We have 18 boys out for football with five returning starters," said Coach Caleb Howland. "I have been extremely pleased with the way that they have been working in practice this year."

"The first game of the year is always difficult to know what to expect, especially with a small number of players, but I thought our team gave a lot of effort. There are definitely certain areas that need to be worked on in practice, and hopefully, we can become more consistent on offense."

"We need to have some strong

drives next week. Our fifth-quarter team did an excellent job, with Brent Juenemann and Josh Ritter both running for 60-yard touchdowns on our two offensive plays."

The fifth-quarter defense played tough, he said, recovering three fumbles by Greg Shaw, Paul and Juenemann. Juenemann also intercepted a pass tipped by Ritter.

The fifth quarter team won 12-0. Players include Williams, Grafel, Juenemann, Peters, K. Fortin, Soderlund, Jeb Fortin, Jonathon Samson, Paul, Ritter, Shane McEvoy, Larue, Conner McHugh, Shaw, Dalton Dolan, Matthew Wittman, Tyler Shields and Garrett Berry.

The Red Devils travel to Oakley on Thursday for a game at 5:30 p.m.

## Junior varsity falls to Indians

By **JIM MERRIOTT**  
The Oberlin junior varsity football squad traveled to St. Francis on Monday, losing to the Indians 26-16 in the team's first game of the season.

The Red Devils had strong performances from sophomores Jacob and Logan Fortin, cousins who alternated at times between split end and quarterback.

Jacob ran to the outside for healthy gains, while Logan made several nice passing plays.

Sophomore Sam Stapp, running at the fullback position, showed positive signs for the inside running game as he bulled his way through the middle of the line in the second half.

Sophomore Lucas Juenemann showed flashes of what is to come with his outside running game.

Sainty scored on the first series, controlling the ball for six minutes until freshman Trent Raile scored on a nine-yard run. Freshman Drew Zwegardt ran for the two-point

conversion, making the score 8-0 at 4 minutes left in the first quarter.

Oberlin countered on its first series when Juenemann scampered 20 yards for a touchdown with 1:34 left in the quarter. J. Fortin ran in the two-point conversion, tying the game at 8.

Sainty took the lead again four plays later when Raile outran the Red Devil defense on a 65-yard touchdown with 23 seconds left in the quarter. The Red Devils broke up the two-point pass play, and Sainty led 14-8.

Oberlin's second possession ended after a 10-play drive with Juenemann punting.

The Indians scored seven plays later on a 47-yard touchdown pass from Trent Kinen to Raile at 4:08 in the second quarter. The two-point running conversion failed, but Sainty led 20-8.

J. Fortin made a nice return on the ensuing kickoff for 36 yards.

On that series, L. Fortin came in at quarterback and threw a pass that

bounced off a defender's shoulder pads. It spun straight in the air, landing in the hands of Oberlin freshman wide receiver Toby Peters for a 55-yard gain. The play led to the Red Devils' final score when Juenemann ran five yards for a touchdown with just a second left in the half.

"We have a ways to go on defense, but we played a lot better the second half," said J. Fortin. "On offense, I thought our offensive line did pretty good. We just have to get better each play and each game."

J. Fortin passed to L. Fortin for the two-point conversion, making the score 20-16 at the end of the first half.

St. Francis ended the scoring with 3 minutes left in the third quarter when Raile scored on a 4-yard touchdown run. The two-point pass conversion failed, and St. Francis led 26-16.

The remainder of the game, both defenses stiffened. Oberlin made a last-ditch passing effort, but failed to make a comeback.

"Our offensive line did a pretty good job tonight with pass protection," said Coach Keith Grafel. "Things are going to be fine."

"We need to work on defense, learning to plug the holes when our opponents run the double dive inside. We need a good week of practice in preparation for the Hoxie Indians next Monday."

That game begins at 5:30 p.m. at Smick Field in Oberlin.

## Utica man wins race

Utica native Jon Johnson won the first Labor Day weekend Outlaw Classic race at the Oberlin Speedway on Sunday in the final United Rebel Sprint Series 305 race of the season.

Seventeen drivers competed in this year's race.

Results: Johnson, first; Smokey Fairbank, Ransom, second; Justin Schwien, Russell, third; Tim Perkins, Parker, Colo., fourth; Nick King, Dodge City, fifth.

Local driver and promoter Rick Salem came out of retirement to finish ninth.

Goodland racer Travis Decker returned to action for the first time since a collision Aug. 19 at the Goodland race track.

## Rain good for crops, lawns but not for hunters

One thing for sure, people in Decatur County as a general rule say something about the weather every day.

In most cases, the National Weather Service office in Goodland forecasts the weather from satellite imagery and observations.

The majority of the time, their prediction hits the nail on the head, but meteorologists never know for sure what Mother Nature has up her sleeve.

That was the case with last Thursday night's gully washer in Oberlin, which left 1.98 inches of rain by Friday morning.

This is just what Decatur County residents wanted, moisture, especially the farmers who have needed rain for months.

Dove hunters on the other hand, who had set aside a vacation day for Friday's opening day, were not so



### The Jayhawker

By **Jim Merriott**

jtmerriott@nwkans.com

happy, as the rain brought with it a cold front.

As dove hunting goes, the warmer the weather, the better chances hunters have of hitting those swerving, darting little speedsters.

In the case of last week's opening day, where true hunters braved the cool, damp start-up to reign over the northwest Kansas dove, Mother Nature decided to separate success from failure.

All Kansas dove hunters know

they walk a thin tightrope each season, wondering if the weather-sensitive dove population will hang around or head south to Texas when the first cold snap hits.

The summer practice rounds of hitting blue rock, the expense of licenses, decoys, shotgun shells and the efforts of scouting can go up in smoke with one quick front.

Some of the hunters dodged the cold-front bullet, taking their limit for the day by outfoxing the doves,

hiding and decoying them in the shadows of cottonwoods.

Others barely broke the seal on their new box of shells, as the dove held tight in the cool, wet cover.

Nevertheless, the challenge of man versus nature continues for another season.

Some hunters plucked birds and others will wait it out in hope the weather will heat up again soon enough to get a couple of weeks of hunting in before the doves move south.

Veteran hunters realize they are lucky to capture a few good weeks before these birds migrate.

You have to chuckle at the federally mandated season, which extends until the end of October.

Savvy hunters grab what they can during what is, in reality, one of the shortest seasons to hunt.

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**Oberlin Jaycees Day / Night Golf Tournament - 4-Person Scramble**  
Saturday, September 9 • Oberlin Golf Course  
Registration: 4 p.m.  
Tee Off: 5 p.m.  
9 holes day/9 night  
Barbeque after first 9 then tee off at dark for final 9  
Entry fee \$45 per person  
Includes: Green fees, Barbeque, Beverages and 2 Glow Balls  
**Prizes** following night golf  
Carts available on request  
Extra glow balls will be available  
For information contact any Jaycees member  
All proceeds go to community projects