

# Girls down Hoxie

By JIM MERRIOTT

The Decatur Community High girls basketball team had four players score in double figures Friday night on the way to their 10th victory and a 75-55 win over the Hoxie Lady Indians.

Lauren Fortin was Oberlin's top scorer with 18 points, eight assists, five rebounds and five steals.

Sarah Murray was right on her heels with 16 points, five rebounds, five steals and an assist; followed by Tricia Dorshorst, 14 points, three rebounds and two assists; Lacey Ream, 13 points, four assists, four steals and three rebounds; and Heather Williams, 8 points, two rebounds, two assists and a steal.

Off the bench, Emmie Pauls was the top rebounder with nine plus 2 points, three assists and a blocked shot; followed by Whitnee Ashley, 2 points and an assist; and Adrienne Pauls, 2 points.

"We finally had the complete game we have been looking for," said Coach Terry Ream. "We still have some improvements to work on, but this was a big step toward where we want to be."

Oberlin dominated in every offensive and defensive category except free-throw percentage.

The Lady Red Devils out rebounded the Indians 28 to 20; made eight fewer turnovers, 12 to the Indians' 20; hit 58 percent of their shots from the field, 22 out of 38 to Hoxie's 13 of 19 for 45 percent; hit 7 of 16 three-pointers for 44 percent to the Indians' 7 of 19 for 37 percent; shot 24 of 54 from the field for 54 percent to the Indians' 20 of 48 for 43 percent.

Hoxie shot eight of 11 free throws



LADY RED DEVIL SENIOR HEATHER WILLIAMS (24) applied a smothering defense that stymied Tiffany Goetz and the Hoxie Lady Indians on Friday in Oberlin. The Lady Red Devils scalped the Lady Indians, 75-55. — Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

for 73 percent to Oberlin's 10 of 15 for 67 percent.

Oberlin outscored the Indians in every quarter except the last, when the Indians edged the Lady Red Devils 18-17 as the majority of the starters gave way to the reserves.

Scorers for Hoxie were Corinna Hoyt, 12; Tiffany Goetz, 11; Ashley Kennedy, 9; Rebecca Farber and Brittany Schamberger, 6 each; Bailey Ochs, 5; Darra Stithem, 4;

and Richelle Shipley, 2.

"I thought we did an excellent job on our defensive assignments," Coach Ream said. "On offense, we were strong to the ball, patient, smart and very sharp with our cuts and passes. It was a lot of fun to watch. Now if we put everything together that we learned this week, put it to work and remember it all; the rest of the year should be very exciting."

In junior varsity action, the Lady

Red Devils downed Hoxie 45-34.

A. Pauls led Oberlin with 14 points; followed by Mary Olson, 11; Heather Glodt, 8; Heather Ploussard, 6; Ashley Horton, 5; and Brandi Diederich, 1.

Next Tuesday is the last home game. It is senior night honoring the players and their parents. Ceremonies will begin prior to the scheduled 6:30 p.m. start against the Phillipsburg Lady Panthers.

# Blue Jays come from behind to win

By JIM MERRIOTT

The Decatur Community High girls basketball team's 22-point lead in the second half melted down as fast as snow in August as the Norton Lady Blue Jays defeated the Lady Red Devils, 54-50, in Oberlin.

The disappointing loss prevented Oberlin from getting its 10th win.

Oberlin attempted to weather the storm of Norton's scoring, but turnovers and impatience on offense hindered the Lady Red Devils. Instead of slowing down the pace and using the clock to their advantage, Coach Terry Ream kept with his philosophy of pushing the ball down court. This time his team was playing into the hands of their oppo-

nents.

Sarah Murray led Oberlin with her first double-double of the season, pouring in 13 points, 13 rebounds and an assist. She was followed by Tricia Dorshorst and Lauren Fortin, 15 each; Emmie Pauls, 5; and Heather Williams, 2.

Dorshorst also had four rebounds. Fortin collected three rebounds, four assists and three steals. Pauls had 12 rebounds, a blocked shot and two steals and William had three rebounds.

Norton was led by Laura Lee Baird and Hayli Bozarth with 14 points each; Taylor Rossi, 10; Haley Jones, 8; and Megan Kats and Maggie Nielsen with 4 each.

Oberlin out shot Norton from the field hitting 21 of 39 from two-point range for 54 percent to Norton's 15 for 38 for 39 percent. However the Blue Jays out shot Oberlin in three-pointers hitting four of 16 for 25 percent to Oberlin's one for 11 for 9 percent.

Overall, Oberlin still out shot the Lady Blue Jays hitting 22 of 50 for 44 percent to 19 for 54 for 35 percent.

Oberlin also out rebounded Norton 39 to 18, but turned the ball over 23 times to their opponent's seven.

"We played one of our best halves of the year, the first two quarters, but unfortunately, we need to play both

halves in order to win," said Coach Terry Ream. "I have to give Norton credit, for being down 22 points, fighting their way back and stealing a win from us in our gym.

"I think we will see in the games we have left, that we learned a lot from this game. We have great competitive athletes, who are learning as they go and I think they will remember the lessons this game taught them."

In junior varsity action, Oberlin downed Norton, 37-31.

LeAnna Sheaffer was top scorer with 17, followed by Cindy Murray, 8; Nikki Wessel, 6; Adrienne Pauls, 4; and Heather Ploussard, 2.

For Norton, Shelby Jones led the blue junior varsity with 11 followed by Ashlie Stewart, 8; Courtney Cox and Amanda Ray, 4 each; Haley Jones, 3; and Lacy Heilig, 1.

In C team action the younger Lady Jays defeated Oberlin, 30-19.

Ploussard led the way for Oberlin with 6, followed by Mary Olson and Brandi Diederich, 4 each; A. Pauls and Ashley Horton, 2 each; and C. Murray, 1.

Norton was led by Alyssa Thomson and Hannah Waggoner with 8 each, followed by Kendra Engelbert, Keilig and Amanda Delimont, 4 each; and Steph Engelbert, 2.

# Junior high takes pair, drops two

The Decatur Community Junior High girls basketball teams kept busy with two games each last week.

The young Lady Devils took both games from St. Patrick's of McCook last Tuesday. The seventh grade won 29-16 and the eighth grade won 35-21. Both games were make-ups from contests that had been canceled earlier due to bad weather.

Thursday Oberlin lost both games to Oakley on the road.

The seventh grade fell 38-14 and the eighth grade, 51-33.

Against St. Patrick's, Kiah Blau

led the seventh grade with 19 points; followed by Megan Wentz, 4; and Serena Stacy, Megan Huntley and Darian Bose, 2 each.

On the eighth-grade side, Jordan Dreher was top scorer with 19, followed by Carissa Wentz, 10; and Rhiannon Davies, Rachelle Scott and Tiffany Anderson, 2 each.

"The girls came out ready to play," said Coach Melissa Dreher. "Offensively and defensively, we had a good game. Every girl got a lot of playing time."

Against Oakley, Blau was top scorer for the seventh grade with 5;

followed by Stacy, 4; Anderson, 3; and Huntley, 2.

The eighth grade was led by Dreher with 17, followed by Wentz and Scott, 6 each; and Jori Diederich, 2.

"The seventh-grade girls need to focus on less mistakes and play tougher defense," Dreher said. "The eighth-grade girls came out playing tough defense. Offensively, we took good shots, but they didn't fall. We have to focus on less mistakes."

# Cowboy just misses final cut

Norcat's Chance Harman missed the final cut at the National Western Stock Show saddle bronco riding competition by eight points on Jan. 13.

Harman competed against 132 riders and scored 64 points in the afternoon session and 77 in the evening.

Harman's next competition will be in Brookings, S.D., on Friday through Sunday, April 13-15.

Harman's older brother, Scott, will begin his 2007 competition in Manhattan on Monday through Wednesday, April 23-25.

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