

Lions Club recognized

By ANDY LEITNER

The Lions Club was recognized during half-time of the last home basketball game for its help at all home activities. By volunteering to sell tickets and watch doors, the Lions Club saved the school nearly 400 man-hours and \$3,600 this year alone.

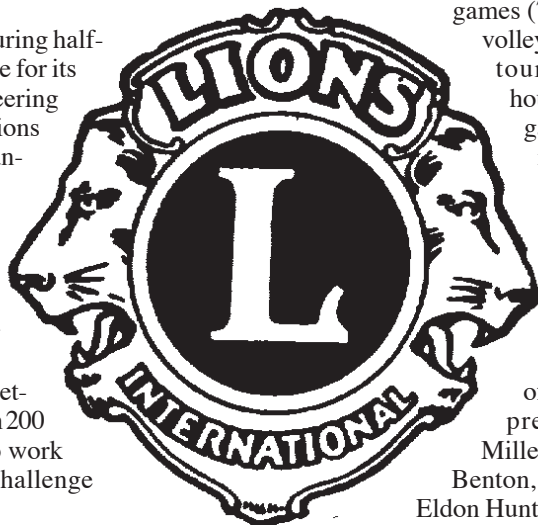
According to Activities Director Randy Olson, the Lions Club has been helping out at Red Devil activities for at least 31 years, which amounts to a savings of over \$100,000.

The Lions Club is an international network of 1.3 million men and women in 200 countries and geographic areas who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

According to their web site, Lions conduct vision and health screenings, build parks, support eye hospitals, award scholarships, assist youth, provide help in time of disaster, and much more.

In addition to helping at home games, the Lions also support Oberlin youth with the Halloween Clean-Up and provide scholarships for Oberlin seniors.

This year, the Lions Club helped with five football



games (70 man-hours); three volleyball matches and one tournament (90 man-hours); eight basketball games and one tournament (180 man-hours) and three wrestling matches and one tournament (60 man-hours).

Members of the Lions Club include officers Boyd Wilson, president; Connie Miller, secretary; and Jack Benton, treasurer, as well as Eldon Huntley, Gaylen Huntley, Marilyn Gamblin, Alvina Gamblin, Frank Black Jr., Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Duane Witt, Carol Witt, Gerald Sanden, Brad Marcuson, Karen Bailey, Chris Bailey, Janice Cundiff and Wayne Goltl.

Decatur Community High School would like to say thank you to these Lions Club members for all they do for our school.

Voice of Decatur Community High School

Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

School Menus

March 12-16 OBERLIN SCHOOLS
Monday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza. Lunch: potato bar, chicken nuggets. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: muffin, breakfast combo. Lunch: chicken legs, scalloped potatoes, dinnerroll. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: pancakes, ham patty. Lunch: burrito with cheese, green beans, pears,

sherbet. **Thursday:** Breakfast: breakfast bites. Lunch: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli, dinnerroll. **Friday:** Breakfast: cherry or apple turnover. Lunch: Lucky Lasagna, Clover Corn, Lucky Lime Jello, garlic bread. Juice and fruit served with breakfast. Milk served with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.

Survey helps schools

By BRENDA BRETH

At parent/teacher conferences last month, parents should have received a survey about their children's school. These surveys are needed for the school improvement process.

Teachers will look at the surveys to see what changes or improvements parents think they need to work on.

If you have a survey from either the elementary or the junior/senior high school, please return it to either school office by March 12.

If you didn't receive a survey, please stop by your child's school office or contact Brenda Breth at (785) 475-2231 or bbreth@us294.org.

Oberlin singer joins music educators' choir

By KAITLYN GILLESPIE

Over 250 of the best voices in Kansas joined together to sing for the state Kansas Music Educator's Association in Wichita on Feb. 24. One of those voices was Decatur Community High's very own Jenny Hirsch.

Jenny is the daughter of Anita and Steve Hirsch and a senior at Oberlin. Jenny was selected through district auditions, held in Hays last November. This was Jenny's second year to attend the state Kansas Music Educator's Association event. When asked what she thought of the experience, she said, "It was awesome! I wish I could have gotten in my sophomore year."

Jeffrey Redding, from South Orange High School in Orlando, Fla., conducted the group of 265 talented voices. "I loved him," said Jenny. "He was so funny, and he took time out of our rehearsals to let us tell him about ourselves."

This state event is not only a fun time, but a learning experience for everyone. Jenny said she learned to think about what the composer was thinking and directing, and realized

it is so much more than standing there and waving his or her hands up and down; it's an emotion.

At the end of the group's three-day practices, they gave a performance with the state Kansas Music Educator Association band. According to Jenny, "The performance went really well... Singing for 15 hours was the hardest. It's crazy difficult, and you have to learn how to pace yourself so you don't lose your voice for the concert!"

At the performance the group sang "Praise to the Lord," "Sitivit Animea Mea," "Rockin' Jerusalem," "Kaki Lambe," "Dicite in Gentibus," and "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes."

"You feel like a small fish in a big pond," Jenny said. "You are definitely humbled by the amazing voices all around you. The directors were awesome. There are people there that share your love and passion for music, and it obviously shows in the rehearsals and the concert. No one does anything halfway; they're all there to sing and sing well, which I know I will miss. I already do!"

Musician gets I ratings with two instruments

By MARCI METCALF

When you think of eighth notes, quarter notes, or treble clef, you might think of band. Band is hard enough when you play one instrument; imagine playing three.

Eighth grader Katie Glading plays the trombone, saxophone and piano.

Katie started playing the trombone in fifth grade. After hearing her mom play the saxophone, she decided she wanted to play it.

For music contest this year, Katie decided to challenge herself. She played two solos, "Isabella" on trombone and "Char treuse" on saxophone. She received I ratings on both at the junior high music festival.

But Katie's musical accomplishments don't end there. She also took piano and vocal solos to the festival. She earned a II+ on both solos. The eighth grade mixed vocal ensemble she is a member of also earned a II. That gave her a total of two I ratings and three II ratings.

But there is still more. Katie is also a member of a saxophone ensemble and a brass ensemble, and, of course, the junior high choir and band. All of those groups earned I ratings. That's a total of six Is and three IIs.

In fact, Katie was so busy at the festival that she was the first Oberlin student to perform that day, beginning at 8:07 a.m. with her vocal solo, and the last to perform with the brass ensemble at 4:17 that afternoon. She had seven performances between the two.

Katie said she likes playing the saxophone better than the trombone, and she practices both during and after school. She also likes reading and sports. Katie's favorite book is "Ink Heart" by C. Funke, and her favorite sport is volleyball.

"We have quite a few students who play two instruments, but Katie is pretty exceptional," said instrumental instructor Christie Morris.

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