



WORKING ON THE BASICS, Zach May (above) was heels over head while Oberlin junior high football coach Caleb Howland (far right) explained a play to Brent Juenemann during football camp last week.



Junior high boys work on basics at football camp

By **JIM MERRIOTT**
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 Last week, 18 boys attended the annual Decatur Community Junior High School football camp. Coaches Caleb Howland and Tim Breth ran the seventh and eighth

graders through agility drills, then taught the fundamentals, preparing the young Devils for their first practice sessions on Monday, Aug. 13. "Hopefully, we will get a few more athletes to come out for football once school starts," said Coach

Breth. "Over the past few years we have been down in numbers. "A few years back it was possible to field a seventh-grade team and an eighth-grade team. Today, with numbers dwindling, other towns like Oberlin have to combine the

seventh and eighth grades just to field a team. "Larger towns such as Colby and Goodland are fortunate to have upward of 50 kids on a team." The young Red Devil team learned defensive fundamentals.

They learned the difference between an even-numbered line and an odd-numbered line. Most likely Oberlin will use either a 4-4 or a 5-3 defense the majority of the time, the coaches said. "I would venture to say that we

will use a zone-type defense in the defensive secondary 90 percent of the time," said Coach Howland. "We have a good mixture of young athletes, some big, some of them smaller and some with lightning speed."

Teen hits in tourney in Florida

Oberlin's Kade Brown finished 104th out of 114 at the annual Optimist International Junior Golf Championship held in West Palm Beach, Fla., at the Professional Golf Association National Resort and Spa on July 19-24.

The Optimist, which is sponsored by the Footjoy golf shoe company, is one of the largest junior golf events in the country and is nationally ranked by Golfboard, a tournament service, and Golfweek magazine.

Brown participated in the boys, age 12-13 division, and shot 84-86-88 for 256.

The tournament had over 800 golfers from 39 countries in the six boys and girls age divisions.

It was played on the home of the Honda Men's Professional Golf Association Classic.

He was accompanied by his parents, Kevin and Carol Brown.

Brown said the tournament began with an opening flag ceremony and banquet.

More than 2,000 spectators witnessed Akarinth Addison from Thailand win the 12-13 year division, shooting a three-round seven under par 209 for the par 216 course.

Addison shot 67-69-73-209. "I didn't get as much roll on the Florida course as I do out here," Brown said. "The course is much longer in Florida."

"The 13-year-old boys were much bigger than me. It kind of hurt my chances because they were bigger and stronger and could out drive



PRACTICING FOR THE BIG TOURNAMENT, Kade Brown took some swings before the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship in Florida last month.

me, but I enjoyed the experience anyway."

Brown's foursome came from Puerto Rico, Thailand and Columbia for the two-day event.

"Each day we got up around 5:30 a.m., then went to breakfast at 6:30 a.m.," he said. "After breakfast, we were shuttled to the driving range at 7:45a.m. After we hit on the driving range, we practiced on the putting green until the 8:30 tee time."

"It was a great experience, I learned a lot. I now have an idea of what I need to work on, especially

shooting on courses that have water and sand traps."

Each golfer received a tournament shirt, towel and umbrella.

"I believe the high school weight training program that I participated in this summer helped me some," Brown said.

"I want to thank my parents for giving me the opportunity to participate down there. I want to become a professional in the future and without their help I wouldn't have that opportunity."

Volleyball girls to get going

The Decatur Community High School volleyball team will meet at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12, in the high school gym to get organized, then jump right into practices the next day.

The Lady Red Devils will begin team practice starting Monday, Aug. 13, with times to be announced.

Tuesday, Aug. 21, directly following a team scrimmage, there will be a parent's meeting starting around 5:30 p.m. to introduce new volleyball coach Sherri Ruf, who will be taking over the reins from long-time coach Pat Dorshorst.

Dorshorst was named Northwest Kansas League Coach of the Year after leading the Lady Red Devils to a perfect 31-0 record in league play last season.

Ruf has been assistant coach under Dorshorst for the past seven years. Prior to taking that job, she coached the junior high teams for three seasons.

"Coach Dorshorst has built a very

Friday, Aug. 24	Grinnell/Wheatland/Hoxie	Grainfield	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 28	Oakley/Phillipsburg/Leoti	Oberlin	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 4	Colby/St. Francis	St. Francis	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 8	Jr. Varsity Tournament	Quinter	9 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 8	Varsity Tournament	Grinnell/Wheatland	9 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 11	Oakley/Hill City	Oakley	4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 15	McCook Invitational	McCook	11 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 22	C-team Invitational	Oberlin	9 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 25	St. Francis/Cheylin	Bird City	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 29	Oberlin Invitational	Oberlin	9 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 2	Atwood/Goodland/Brewster	at Oberlin	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 9	Colby/Quinter	Colby	4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 13	League Tournament	St. Francis	10 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 20	Sub-State Tournament	TBA	
Friday-Saturday, Oct. 26-27	— State Tournament TBA		

Girls lead in academics

The Decatur Community High School 2006 volleyball team has been awarded the American Volleyball Coaches Association award for academic excellence.

The Lady Red Devils team, 2006 Northwest Kansas League champion, was one of the four in Kansas with an accumulative grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.

Only 308 high schools qualified for the honor across the country.

The team was coached by Patricia Dorshorst, who teaches high school mathematics.

reputable volleyball program," said Ruf. "I plan to continue the tradition and I am looking forward to this season."

"We have a very competitive schedule and will be rebuilding with a young team. We lost six starting seniors from last year's team."

"This season, the Kansas State High School Activities Association has changed to a point system, which will allow the team to add another regular-season tournament. We will compete in the Grinnell/Wheatland tournament for the first

time." She said the point system for setting schedules assigns values to dual meets, triangulars and tournaments. A team can have 36 points, she said, and that will allow the Lady Red Devils to add one tournament, which counts as five points, this year.

"I know the girls are excited," Coach Ruf said, "and I have been told that several of them have been working out over the summer in the weight room and also have attended camps."

Camp to decorate for holiday

Prairie Dog State Park, just west of Norton, and the Norton Travel and Tourism Committee will be sponsoring the fourth annual Prairie Dog Christmas on Saturday.

Campers who decorate their campsites in a Christmas theme should register at the state park office by 1 p.m. Saturday to be eligible for prizes. Campsites will be judged

between 9 and 10 p.m., with prizes awarded afterward.

Campers not interested in decorating are still welcome to join the fun. The public is invited, but a vehicle permit is required.

Daily permits are \$4.20 and annual permits are \$24.35.

For information call (785) 877-2953.

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