

# Three juniors will be going to Wichita for state music honors

Nearly one hundred of the best high school musicians from across the state have been chosen for the state Kansas Music Educator's Association honor band. Two Decatur Community High School juniors are among those — Alyssa Rippe and Chris Larson.

The two auditioned in Salina on Saturday, Jan. 5, and will spend Feb. 28-March 1 in Wichita, practicing and performing.

Over one hundred flutists auditioned for the state band, but only ten were accepted. Alyssa was chosen as the second chair.

Twenty-four clarinetists, including Chris, were chosen out of 115.

To be eligible for state auditions, Alyssa and Chris were first chosen for the Kansas Music Educator's Association district honor band in



Alyssa Rippe



Chris Larson



Jordan Tally

a prepared solo, as well as sight reading.

This is the first time the state honor band was divided into two divisions: 1-4A schools and

November. Only district band members could audition for state band.

Alyssa and Chris were the only band members from Oberlin who chose to try for the state band.

Their state audition consisted of performing a two-octave major scale determined the day of the live auditions by the state band chair, a full-range chromatic scale, and

5-6A schools.

An award-winning composer and conductor, David R. Holsinger, is the instrumental clinician for the state Kansas Music Educator's Association event.

He is a faculty member of Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn., and teaches composition, orchestration, and conducting.

In addition to Oberlin's state honor band members, junior Jordan Tally was chosen for the state Kansas Music Educator's Association honor choir, also in November.

He, too, will spend Feb. 28-March 1 in Wichita at the state Kansas Music Educator's Association event, along with more than two hundred vocalists from across the state.

The state vocal clinician is Janet Galvan, a professor of music at Ithaca College.

She conducts the women's chorale, the Ithaca College chorus, and is artistic director for the Ithaca children's choir.

Music directors at Decatur Community High School are Sarah Bricker, instrumental, and Susan Nelson, vocal.



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

# Kade Brown wins local bee

By CHERISH MANNING The local geography bee was held right after winter break to see who would qualify for the next phase — a chance to compete at the state level.

Seventh- and eighth-grade students took a written test to first qualify for the local geography bee. The top eleven scorers were the finalists, which qualified the students for the oral questions.

Finalists included Kade Brown, Garrett Berry, Miki Dorshorst, Channing Farr, Matt Glading, Matt Helm, Ryan May, Zach May,

Elizabeth Nedland, Tyler Shields, and Jordin Wasson.

Seventh-grader Kade Brown won this competition and will now take a written examination to qualify for the state competition.

Kade will know his results sometime in March, and the state competition will be held in April.

If he makes it to the national bee, Kade will be eligible to win a \$25,000 college scholarship. The national competition will be held in Washington, D.C., on May 20-21.

Kade is the son of Carol and Kevin Brown of Oberlin.



Kade Brown

# Yearbook staff expands recycling

By WHITNEY WRIGHT

For four years now, the yearbook staff has been collecting used cell phones, and ink and printer cartridges, for recycling. The staff earns money for each item they send in.

Now the yearbook staff has

learned they can earn additional money by collecting used video games, DVD movies, and digital cameras.

The video games and movies need to include the original packaging.

So rather than hanging onto or

throwing out that scratched DVD or video game, consider donating it to the yearbook staff. Remember, it needs to include the original case.

And that old digital camera that no longer works? Don't just throw it away, donate it.

Of course, the yearbook staff is still collecting old cell phones, ink cartridges, and printer cartridges.

You can drop off your donations at the high school office or contact Brenda Breth at the high school, and we can come pick up your items

# Financial Aid night set for January 24

By LEANNA SHEAFFER

A college education can cost thousands and thousands of dollars. To find out about applying for financial aid for college, you won't want to miss Financial Aid Night.

According to guidance counselor Debbie Arp, everyone is welcome. Mrs. Arp emphasized, "Parents

of juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend."

The event will be held at the Decatur Community High School auditorium on Jan. 24, at 6 p.m.

The speaker will be Paula Halvorson, director of financial aid at Colby Community College.

# School Menus

January 21-25 OBERLIN SCHOOLS

**Monday:** Breakfast: waffle, ham patty. Lunch: hamburger, French fries. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: French toast sticks. Lunch: sliced ham, scalloped potatoes. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: biscuits and gravy. Lunch: pizza, carrots. **Thursday:** Breakfast: apple or cherry turnover. Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans. **Friday:** Breakfast: western omelet. Lunch: chicken strips, rice pilaf. Juice and fruit served with breakfast. Milk served

with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.



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