All dressed up



Pair place second at league speech

By FARRA MCCHESNEY Speech Tournament held last week. As a team, Oberlin came in third, behind Quinter and Colby.

Alyssa competed in serious solo acting and Jacinta in humorous solo acting. Jacinta with her partner Chenny Langness also placed sixth in duet acting.

"I'm very pleased with how our students performed," said Coach Leigh Davis. "We have some talented speakers and actors." Placing third at the league meet

was Jessica Bremer in extemporaneous speaking.

speaking, Farra McChesney in humorous solo acting.

Speaker takes first at Smith Center meet

By KAITLYN GILLESPIE Ploussard.

Haley Barrett placed first in informative speaking at the Smith Center Laysha Medina, third in serious Invitational Speech Tournament on March 26. Eleven teams competed in the tournament; Oberlin placed fourth.

Jessica Bremer placed second in extemporaneous speaking. Both Haley and Jessica have qualified for the State Tournament to be held in May.

"We made some excellent progress," said Coach Leigh Davis. "Awesome performances by Haley and Jessica.

Five students qualified for State Hasty and Tim Larson in improvise Festival. Jessica Bremer with her duet acting. prose, and two sibling teams in improvised duet acting: Becky and strong showing," said Coach Da-Jacob Helm; and Jenny and Heather vis.

serious solo acting, Rory Wende-Juniors Alyssa Rippe and Jacinta lin in humorous solo acting, and Carter placed second with their so- Joe Hirsch and Ethan Merrill in los at the Northwest Kansas League improvised duet acting, all came in fourth.

> Finishing in fifth place were Emma Merrill in poetry, Makenzie Nelson in informative speaking, and Kassia Bryan and Chenny Langness in improvised duet acting.

> Ashley Horton came in seventh place in prose.

Other speech members competing at league were Ethan Merrill and Amber Mason in prose; Ashley Horton in poetry; Hunter Nedland in extemporaneous speaking; Amber Mason and Tim Larson in duet acting; Makenzie Nelson and Jay Wes-Annamarie Larue in informative sel in duet acting; and Joe Hirsch in

Also placing for Oberlin were

solo acting; Hunter Nedland, fourth

in extemporaneous speaking; and

Becky Helm, fourth in original

Jacob Helm in informative speak-

ing; Laysha Medina and Melissa

Hasty in prose; Jasmine Pearson in

poetry; Jordan McHugh and Farra

McChesney in serious solo acting;

Ethan Merrill in humorous solo act-

ing; Heather Ploussard and Alyssa

Rippe in duet acting; and Melissa

"The freshmen are making a

Competing for Oberlin were

for student council **BV KAITLYN GILLESPIE** Nathan Simonsson was chosen by the student body as the 2008-2009 Student Council President. Currently, Nathan serves the council as

> ticket. Annamarie Larue for the Federalist party.

> secretary. He ran on the Nationalist

All of the students in grades 8 through 11 were divided into two parties: the Nationalists and the Federalists. The Federalists used the phrase "get some" as their slogan. A vote for the Federalists will ensure that we "get some better school lunches and get some more school spirit," said Anna.

The Nationalists also would like to see better school lunches and more school spirit. Nathan also mentioned continuing painting the school with school colors and maybe adding softball and baseball to the sports offered.

Next year's vice president will be Jordan Tally, who happens to also be this year's vice president. Farra McChesney ran against Jordan.

Heather Ploussard who ran against also helped with the election.

Ashlev Horton. Heather is a current member of Student Council.

ecatur ictator

Voice of Decatur Community High School

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Leaders chosen

Jacob Helm was elected as Stuco treasurer. He too is a member of this year's Student Council. Jay Wessel ran against Jacob.

"All of the candidates did an Running against Nathan was excellent job. They each presented good ideas," said Student Council adviser Brenda Breth. "I wish all of them could have been elected."

Principal Haag said that the four candidates not chosen still should automatically be members of the council.

"They are all good kids and would do a great job in Student Council," said Mr. Haag.

Mrs. Breth agreed and will bring this up at the next Student Council meeting. "I think we should amend our council's constitution to include Mr. Haag's suggestion."

Andy Dempewolf, who worked the voting booths, said 105 students voted in the election. Students in grades 8 through 11 were eligible to vote. The voting took place during lunch.

Heather Glodt, this year's presi-Next year's secretary will be dent, and Gage Reichert, treasurer,

Prom Review.

BUL **Sales**

Thursday: Breakfast: cereal, muffin. Lunch: Breakfast: scone. Lunch: poor man's steak, spaghetti/meat sauce, green beans. Friday:

School Menus

mashed potatoes. Wednesday: Breakfast: Breakfast: pancake sausage on a stick. Lunch: waffle, sausage pattie. Lunch: ham and cheese burrito, beets. Fruit served with all breakfasts; sandwich, chips, (elementary sack lunch). choice bar served with all lunches. Milk served with all meals.



Gary J. Hoffman 308-375-4275 Lebanon, NE

* Hanoi offers beauty, trash

(Continued from Page 1B)

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Another priority is strengthening A heavily built railway line – economic ties, he said, noting that Russian design, judging by the Vietnam had just ordered Boeing heavy concrete structures - spears 787 Dreamliners. Still another is edinto the city from the south, but we ucation, and the embassy is working



oration.

see no trains.

Streets are lined with trees and, the closer you are to downtown, the narrower they become. Traffic is slow and painful, but moving.

Expensive European and American hotels rise amidst the old colonial structures, filled by diplomats and businessmen from all over the world looking for opportunity in a fast-growing economy.

"Vietnam is just starting out on the next leg of its economic development after ... more than 100 years of various wars," says U.S. Ambassador Michael W. Michalak, who assumed his post just two months before our arrival. "Out of 83 million people, 60 percent were born after the war.

"Vietnam is looking for models," he said, adding that one of the State Department's main priorities here munist? is pushing the Communist government on human rights.

"I think that Vietnam has made some progress on human rights," he said at a breakfast meeting with American publishers, "but they still have a long ways to go.'

to double the number of Vietnamese students at U.S. colleges.

"I would like to see at least half the cabinet U.S. educated," he said. With the ascendancy of Western

business and the dollar, he noted, Russian influence is nil today.

'You can actually hear the wistfulness in the voice of the Russian ambassador," he said: "We used to be invited to the Politburo meetings, and now....'

To build trade, he says, the government will have to improve in three areas: transparency, public corruption and building a reliable public process business can depend on.

"There's a lot of corruption in Vietnam," he said. "Some of it goes pretty high.'

Is the government still truly com-

"Well, that's a good question," he said. "I'm not sure. I answer that I think it's pure and simple nationalism now.

"It's an authoritarian government that's in power and wants to stay in power.



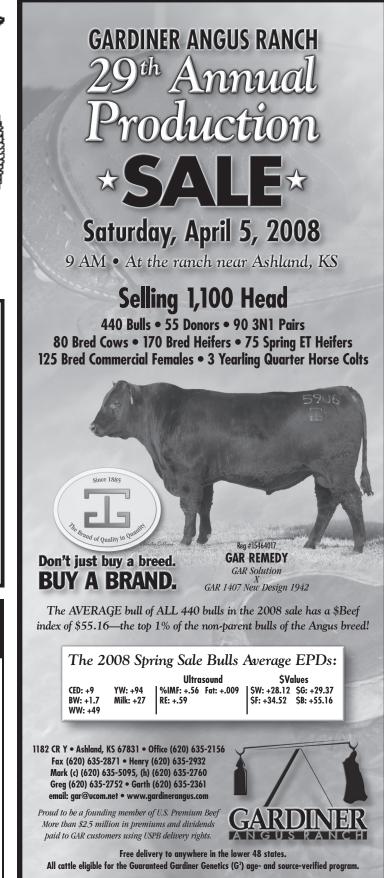
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Selling 54 Fall & 54 Spring Angus Bulls Calving East: Average BW EPD of the bulls selling is +.08

\$Values: Average \$Values on the Bulls: \$EN 10.56 \$Feedlot 12.44 \$Grid 28.42 \$Beef 41.57 The sale bulls have been DNA tested for Quality Grade, Tenderness & Feed Efficiency by the Bovigen Co. Carcass - The bulls selling rank in the top 3% of the breed for IMP EPDs with an average of +.52.

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