Section B



AT CITY PARK last Wednesday, Wesley Geihsler (left) (below) sang several songs and played her guitar while people and Jacob Gee (above) looked at the goodies they could eat ate in the park. for dinner during the Back-to-School Picnic. Anita Hirsch

• Crowd gathers in park for annual picnic and to meet new teachers

The weather was perfect, the food plentiful and church-potluck good, the speeches short, and one lucky teacher took home \$1,000.

In fact, the only problem for many people at the annual Oberlin Backto-School picnic was which of the 26 desserts to pick.

The picnic and informal meet-theteachers-and-coaches get-together is put on each year by the school district, the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce and the Oberlin Business Alliance.

For most of its history, the main course has been fried chicken and baked beans supplied by Raye's Grocery. This year, organizers asked the store to supply barbecued beef and baked beans for a change of pace.

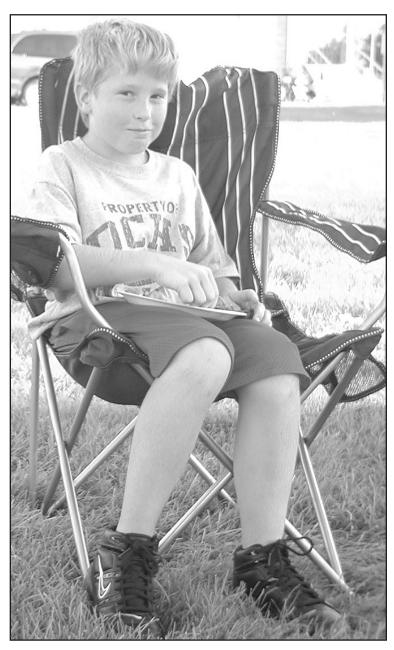
Between 225 and 250 people went through the buffet line, getting a sandwich and beans, then choosing side dishes from the more than 60 salads and hot dishes before getting to the overloaded dessert table. Culligan Water Conditioning Co. provided gallons of water and cups, ice and tea were available.

After filling their plates, people took their supper at picnic tables provided by the city, on lawn chairs or on the grass, and listened as Anita

Hirsch sang and played the guitar. After dinner Calista Isbel helped Oberlin Herald publisher Cynthia Haynes and advertising manager David Bergling draw a winner from a big barrel of names of people who signed up at participating merchants for the newspaper's annual \$1,000 Shopping Spree promotion.

The first entry pulled belonged to Spanish teacher Carol Brown, who skipped up front to collect \$1,000 in scrip to spend with participating merchants over the next week

After the drawing, Decatur Community High Principal Charles Haug introduced the new teachers. Jeni Henningson will teach first grade after working as an aide for several years. Belinda Jones will teach eighth-grade English and be the at-risk tutor while her husband



WITH HIS PLATE in his lap, Kelden Breth sat in a lawn chair at City Park while he ate his dinner during the picnic last Wednesday.

and be the boys basketball and track Johnson, football and track; Mr. coach. Rachel and J.D. Johnson will both teach history and social studies and Mr. Johnson will also be the head football coach and assistant boys basketball coach.

Activities Director Joe Dreher serving dishes and chairs, cleaned introduced the high school coaches, up the area, said goodbye to neigh-Dick Ahlberg, cross country and bors and friends and headed home.

Jeff will teach physical education golf; Sherri Ruf, volleyball; Mr. Jones, boys basketball; Terry Ream, girls basketball; and himself, wrestling, then each gave a short update on their upcoming season.

Then everyone picked up their



Story and photos by Cynthia Haynes

1B KD 34.indd 1 8/18/08 3:39:25 PM