

# Oberlin ends year with loss to St. Francis

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Turnover, penalties and the St. Francis Indians combined to stop the Oberlin Red Devil's first state playoff bid since 2005 last Tuesday.

While the first half ended with St. Francis ahead by only two touchdowns, it was the disastrous second half, with numerous interceptions, that allowed the home team win by a disproportionate 52-8 in the first-round, or bi-district game.

Oberlin had not been to playoffs for several years. This year, however, the Class 2A District Red Devils had only three teams instead of the usual four. Since two teams out of each district get to go to the first round, both Oakley, which won the district, and Oberlin, which came in second, were eligible. The third team was Hoxie, which Oberlin beat on Oct. 17.

For bi-district play, the Decatur Community High team went to St. Francis to play the Indians for the first time this season. In fact, this was the first season in memory that the two teams were not scheduled to meet.

St. Francis kicked off, but it was three and out for the Red Devils and they had to punt.

The Indians got the ball and took it 45 yards into the end zone in four plays. The two-point conversion made the score 8-0.

On Oberlin's second possession, the Red Devils were able to get a first

and 10, but four plays only gained them 24 yards and again they had to punt.

Despite a fumble, which they recovered, the Indians again marched down to the goal line and scored, this time in nine plays. The two-point conversion was good again.

Both teams tried again with no success and the first quarter ended with the home team up 16-0.

In the second quarter, the Indians again took four plays to take the football into the end zone. The conversion was good and the Indians were up 24-0.

When it was Oberlin's turn, a 15-yard penalty on third down made it tough on the Red Devils, but a Logan Fortin pass to Lucas Juenemann and a good run got the first down. Fortin passed to Wiley Farr for the Devils' second first down of the drive. Then the Indians intercepted a pass.

Shortly after that the Indians fumbled and Oberlin recovered on the St. Francis 28-yard line.

Oberlin got the first down when Fortin threw to Lucas Juenemann, who fought his way down to the 14. A penalty caused the play to become first and 24 on the 36. Again Fortin went to Juenemann, and this time it was first and goal on the three.

St. Francis held the Red Devils on the next three plays. However, Oberlin went for it on fourth down and Fortin was able to take the ball in for Oberlin's first, and as it turned out, only goal. The two-point con-



**GETTING SOME GOOD BLOCKING** from his teammates, Logan Fortin had the football last Tuesday night

version from Fortin to Toby Peters was successful and the score was 24-8.

Oberlin had a bad kick and had to rekick the ball, which then bounced off a St. Francis player and back into Red Devil hands. However, St. Francis soon intercepted an Oberlin pass. They were however, unable to move the ball.

Finally, with only about a minute and a half to go in the half, Oberlin had the ball on the St. Francis 17. The Red Devils took the ball to

second and goal with the ball on the one, then into the end zone. However, a penalty on Oberlin called the play back to the 11 with 23 seconds left. St. Francis intercepted a pass and the first half ended 24-8.

Nothing seemed to go right for Oberlin in the second half, as the Indians scored their first touchdown only 12 seconds into the third quarter.

While Oberlin had a few good drives, the Red Devils couldn't put a consistent drive together and

and was trying to make some yardage against the St. Francis Indians.

— Herald photo by Lezlie McCormick

either had their passes intercepted or made mistakes and lost yards to penalties, of which they had more than 100 yards.

The loss of the touchdown at the end of the first half was hard on the players, Coach J.D. Johnson said.

"We played good the first half and kept things close," he said. "We threw the ball well and we ran good. The effort was there, especially in the first half.

"We've got to cut turnover at least in half."

The loss ended Oberlin's season. St. Francis went on to play La Crosse on Saturday, losing 38-30 to the Leopards.

Coach Johnson, recapping the game, noted that Logan Fortin rushed for a touchdown and threw a two-point conversion to Peters. He threw for 294 total yards, the coach said. Sam Stapp caught passes for 81 yards, and Jacob Fortin, Juenemann and Peters each had more than 50 yards.

# 7th, 8th graders take wins

The Oberlin junior high boys started off their basketball season with a pair of lopsided victories over St. Francis on Thursday.

The Decatur Community Junior High seventh-grade Red Devils beat the young St. Francis Indians 36-13.

"What a good way to start the season," said Coach Tim Breth. "It was very evident that fifth- and sixth-grade basketball developed many basic skills for our players."

Helping win the game were Kennedy Fortin, 10 points, 12 rebounds and three steals; Konner Fortin, eight points, nine rebounds and five steals; Kyle Breth, eight points and four steals; Kolton Paul, four points and three rebounds; Dayton Dreher, two points and six steals; and Jude Walinder and Grant Gilliam, two points each.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	10	4	12	10	36
St. Francis	2	4	7	0	13

The eighth-grade team made it two for two with a 44-18 victory over the Indians.

"We came out a little nervous and rushed our offense," Coach Breth said. "Once we settled down, our play and shot selection was much better. I'm excited about the season and what we can become."

Helping with the win were Kade Brown, 15 points and three steals; Zach May, 11 points, nine rebounds and six blocks; Tyler Bruggeman, six points and seven rebounds; Ryan May, six points and three blocks; Channing Fortin, three points, four



**WAITING FOR THE BALL** to come in from the sidelines, seventh-grader Kyle Breth held off the boys from St. Patrick's of McCook during a game Monday night.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

rebounds and two steals; and Matt Glading, three points and three rebounds.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	8	9	14	13	44
St. Francis	2	4	8	4	18

This week, the junior high Red Devils were to take on St. Patrick's of McCook on Monday and

Oakley on Tuesday at home, then the Quinter Bulldogs at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Quinter. The eighth grade will play Saturday in Goodland for a referees' clinic. Coach Breth said the game or games will not count and are just for fun and to help the referees.

Next week, the boys will play at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in

Hoxie. There will be no game the following week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.



Jordan Dreher A. Pauls Elisha Jones J. Fredrickson

# Volleyball girls receive honors

Four Decatur Community High School volleyball players received all-league honors at the end of the season.

Adrienne Pauls, Jordan Dreher and Elisha Jones were selected for the All-League team by Northwest Kansas League coaches. Jessica Fredrickson received honorable mention.

Pauls, a junior, played middle hitter. She led the team in kills with 377 and 155 blocks.

Dreher, a sophomore, played setter and outside hitter. She led the Lady Red Devils with 403 assists and was second in hits with 214 and second in digs with 227. She also led the team with 56 ace serves.

She was also named to the Kansas Volleyball Association state all-tournament team.

Jones, a senior, played libero and led the team with 348 digs and 1,335 serve-receive passing points. She was second in serving aces with 39.

Fredrickson, a sophomore, played

setter. She was second in assists with 333.

The Lady Red Devils volleyball team ended the year with a 30-10 record. They won Oberlin Invitational, Northwest Kansas League and substate championships.

Coach Sherri Ruf said that her girls had a successful year because of great team effort and support from the community and students.

Other players named to the All-League team were Kendra Spesser, Darra Stithem and Bailey Ochs, Hoxie; Jordan Krzycki and Taylor Young, Colby; Leah Sharp, Atwood; Ashley Archer, Goodland; Haley Harvey, Quinter; and Jami Pevler., St. Francis.

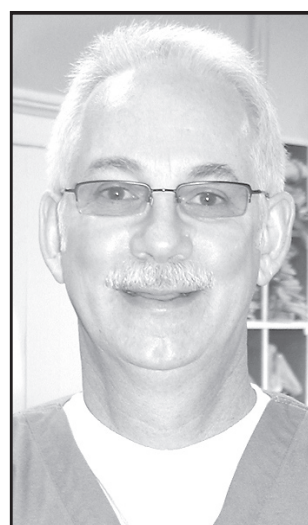
Other players receiving honorable mention were Hillary Chvatal, Atwood; Jacee Coberly, Quinter; Elizabeth Gienger, St. Francis; Erika Gonzales, Goodland; Hannah Hubert, Oakley; Kiri Kendrick, Colby; and Brittany Schamberger, Hoxie.

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