

Sports

Eighth graders overcome Colby for league title

The Decatur Community Junior High eighth-grade boys basketball team won its first Northwest Kansas League title in 10 years.

The eighth-grade championship game was played on Monday, Dec. 22 in Oberlin after it had been delayed by bad weather. The game had been scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 18, in Oakley.

The Oberlin eighth-graders beat the Colby boys 39-22 for the title.

Colby took a 4-2 first-quarter lead, but Oberlin came back to outscore the young Eagles 12-7 in the second period and take a 14-11 lead into the break.

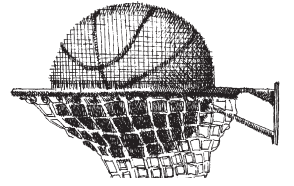
After the half, the young Red Devils came out and outscored Colby 12-2 in the third quarter and 13-9 in the fourth, shoving the score in Oberlin's favor up to 39-22 by the buzzer.

"It's Oberlin's first junior-high boys basketball championship

since 1998," said Coach Tim Breth. "This was a repeat of last year's seventh-grade championship game, which we lost, just by 1 point. I am so proud of each of the players and want to thank my assistant coach, Jason Ketterl, for all of his help. We started tight and didn't shoot the ball very well, but our defense was consistent until we got things going on offense."

Scoring for the Red Devils were Zach May, 17 points; Kade Brown and Channing Fortin, 8 each; Tyler Bruggeman, 4; and Ryan May, 2.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	2	12	12	13	39
Colby	4	7	2	9	22



GUARDING THE NET, Lady Red Devils Brandi Diederich (left) and Ashley Horton (No. 15) kept the Lady Indians of St. Francis from scoring during a road game on Dec. 19. The Oberlin girls won 37-34. — Herald staff photo by Betty Winston

Oberlin girls down St. Francis

By ELISHA JONES
e.jones@nwkansas.com

The Friday night before Christmas break, the Decatur Community High Lady Red Devils beat the Lady Indians 37-34 in St. Francis.

Although the Oberlin girls won the game, they left the gym feeling as though they'd lost, or at least hadn't played as well as they needed to win.

Members of the team said that they know that when they come back after the break, they'll have to work hard to reach their full potential.

Oberlin led the first quarter 12-7, but fell short in the second 10-9 to hold a slim 21-17 lead at the half.

The ladies came out of the locker room at half and led the third quarter 12-10, but let the Indians out score them 7-4 in the fourth.

Still, Oberlin had enough for a 37-34 victory.

"We didn't really play well against the Lady Indians," Coach Terry Ream said, "but we survived for a win, which we needed to get in order to gain momentum heading in to the new year."

"Again we had problems with turnovers, and we are going to have to get better in this area in order to be successful against teams we will meet later. If we do that, we will be fine and very competitive."

Playing for Oberlin were Jordan

Dreher, 11 points, nine rebounds, two assists and two steals; Adrienne Pauls, 10 points, 12 rebounds, three assists and a steal; Mary Olson, 9 points, four rebounds; Elisha Jones, 5 points, a rebound and a steal; Cindy Murray, 2 points, eight rebounds; Erin Jones, four rebounds; Ashley Horton, three assists, three steals; and Annamarie Larue and Jessica Fredrickson, one rebound each.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	12	9	12	4	37
St. Francis	7	10	10	7	34

The junior varsity girls also found a win against St. Francis, 38-34. Oberlin outscored St. Francis 10-3 in the first quarter and 16-5 in the

fourth. The Lady Indians outdid Oberlin 11-8 in the second and 15-4 in the third quarter, but it wasn't enough.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	10	8	4	16	38
St. Francis	3	11	15	5	34

Scoring for Oberlin were Kiah Blau, 12 points; Samantha Anderson, 7; Erin Jones and Brandi Diederich, 6 each; Megan Wentz, 3; and Fredrickson and Serena Stacey, 2 each.

Oberlin's next games will be after the break. The girls will play at 6:30 p.m. and the boys at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Norton then at the same times on Friday, Jan. 9, at home against Atwood.

Lady Red Devils lose tough battle

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, the Decatur Community High basketball girls fell to the Hill City Ringnecks 69-63 at home.

Oberlin fought a tough battle, but Hill City made a lot of three-pointers that the Lady Red Devils found hard to defend. Oberlin stayed in the game until the end, but lost in the last few minutes.

After the first quarter, Oberlin was ahead by one, 17-16. However, in the second quarter, Hill City turned around and made a lot of three-point baskets, outscoring the Lady Red Devils 23-9 to take a 39-26 lead.

In the third quarter, Oberlin came back and scored 8 more than Hill City, 19-11 to close within five at 50-45 in the Ringnecks' favor.

The fourth quarter determined the game, and Hill City outscored Oberlin 19-18 making the final score 69-63.

"With the exception of the second quarter, we played probably our best game so far," coach Terry Ream said. "Hill City has some very good shooters and we had problems

covering the outside shots in the first half.

"We got down by 17 at one time, but fought back and had opportunities near the end to win, but we just couldn't get over the hump. I was pleased with our effort, determination and the character to not give up and to play well."

Playing for the Lady Red Devils were Jordan Dreher, 19 points, four rebounds, seven assists and a steal; Mary Olson, 15 points, nine rebounds; Elisha Jones, 11 points, six rebounds and two assists; Adrienne Pauls, 8 points, seven rebounds; Cindy Murray, 4 points, two rebounds and a steal; Brandi Diederich, 4 points and a steal; Ashley Horton, 2 points, six rebounds, two assists and three steals; and Jessica Fredrickson, one rebound.

erich, 4 points and a steal; Ashley Horton, 2 points, six rebounds, two assists and three steals; and Jessica Fredrickson, one rebound.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	17	9	19	18	63
Hill City	16	23	11	19	69

The junior varsity girls lost 47-32 to Hill City.

Oberlin trailed by just 2 after the first quarter, but let the game slip away. In the second quarter, Hill City outscored Oberlin 6-1, and in the third, 15-9.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady Red Devils only let Hill City score

2 more points, 12-10, but still lost the game 47-32.

Scoring for Oberlin were Erin Jones, 12 points; Tiffany Anderson, 7; Ashley Horton and Serena Stacey, 3 each; Diederich, Brianna Klima and Kiah Blau, 2 each; and Samantha Anderson, 1.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	12	1	9	10	32
Hill City	14	6	15	12	47

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