



ANNAMARIE LARUE AND MAKENZIE NELSON doing their duet at the Evening of Forensics.
— Photo by Dictator Staff

Speech team brings home first

By ASHLI SAMSON

Not only did the Oberlin Speech Team bring home the championship team trophy, but it also crowned six champions at the Quinter Invitational Speech Tournament held on April 19.

Placing first were Ashley Horton in prose, Annamarie Larue in informative, Alyssa Rippe in oration, Joe Hirsch and Ashley Horton in duet acting, Ethan Merrill in humorous solo acting, and Jordan McHugh in extemporaneous speaking.

Jay Wessel in prose, Makenzie Nelson in informative, and Nolan Henningson in humorous solo acting all placed second.

Finishing in third place were Emma Merrill in poetry, Jacob Helm in oration, Joe Hirsch and Alyssa Rippe in improvised duet acting, and Jacinta Carter in humorous solo acting.

Fourth-place finishers were Heather Ploussard in prose, Ethan Merrill in poetry, Jay Wessel in serious solo acting, and Jacob Helm in extemporaneous speaking.

Also breaking into finals were Amanda Marshall, fifth in poetry; Annamarie Larue and Makenzie Nelson, fifth in duet acting; and Jacinta Carter and Jordan McHugh, sixth in improvised duet acting.

"The team was just awesome," said Coach Leigh Davis. "Ten schools participated, and we won by a landslide — more than 200 points between first and second place."

Voice of Decatur Community High School

Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Senior Feature

Jay Wessel
By STEPHANIE BRUGGEMAN

Senior Jay Wessel was born August 30, 1990 to Bill and Carol Wessel. Jay is the youngest of seven children. Jay lives with his family on a farm near Dresden. After graduation Jay is going to spend his summer hanging out with friends and making money. Jay will be attending Colby Community College next fall studying criminology/forensic science.

Jay has been very active here at Decatur Community High School. He has been apart of STUCO, FFA, drama club, NHS, TACT, Spanish club, chemistry/physics club, singers, all school play, forensics, cross country, basketball, track and field, and golf.

Some of Jay's hobbies include hanging out with friends, listening to music, being outside, and watching television. "Gone with the Wind," "Refer Madness," and "Iron Man" are a few of his favorite movies. His favorite colors are yellow, black, and red.

A short term goal of his is to do well at state speech, graduate, and have fun. His long term goal is to get a job, start a family, and live a happy life. Ten years from now he hopes to have a good job. What Jay will miss most about high school are his friends, good times, and Mrs. Scott's cheesecake. Jay's advice to underclassmen is "Don't sweat the small stuff, don't procrastinate, and don't forget to smile and have fun because high school goes by faster than you think."

Thirty to compete at State Speech

By CINDY MURRAY

Thirty Oberlin students have earned the privilege of competing at the state level on May 2.

To qualify for the State Championship Tournaments, speech students must place either first or second at an invitational tournament or league tournament.

To qualify for State Festival, they must place third or fourth at a tournament or earn a I at Regional Festival.

Competing at State Festival will be Miranda Shelton and Tim Larson in prose, Jacob Helm in extemporaneous speaking and original oration, Chris Larson in serious solo acting, Haley Barrett in humorous solo acting, Jacob Larue in original oration, and Daniel Jordan, Jaxen Alstrom, Samantha Anderson, and Jasmine Pearson in poetry.

The duet acting team of Megan Huntley and Megan Wentz and the improvised duet acting teams of Kiah Blau and Miranda Shelton

and Hunter Nedland and Rhiannon Davies will also compete at State Festival.

Qualifying for the State Championship Tournament are Alyssa Rippe in oration, Emma Merrill in poetry, Annamarie Larue and Makenzie Nelson in informative speaking, Ashley Horton, Heather Ploussard, and Jay Wessel in prose; and Jacinta Carter, Ethan Merrill, and Nolan Henningson in humorous solo acting.

Competing in improvised duet acting will be the teams of Joe Hirsch and Farra McChesney and Jacinta Carter and Jordan McHugh.

The duets who have also qualified for state champs are Makenzie Nelson and Annamarie Larue, Ashley Horton and Joe Hirsch, Nolan Henningson and Amanda Marshall, and Amanda Edmiston and Ethan Merrill.

The teams are coached by Leigh Davis and Robynn Wessel.

Student Council talent show May 8

By FARRA MCCHESENEY

Have you seen "America's Got Talent"? Well, if you have then you know what we mean when we say "DCHS Has Talent!"

Decatur Community High School Student Council is holding a talent show on Friday, May 8. "DCHS Has Talent" will be in the DCHS Auditorium at 7 p.m. The show is open to the public at \$1.00 per person admission. Performers are free.

The talent show is for all DCHS students, grades seven through twelve. Student Council will be

awarding class points to each individual who enters and performs. The top three performances will also get points for their class to add toward the total of the Olympic competition that has been going on all year.

So students, pick up your forms in the office and return them to Mrs. Breth by Monday, May 4th. Mark your calendars for the first ever "DCHS Has Talent," and come enjoy an evening of fun, laughter, and talent.

Time to order a copy of the 2009 yearbook

By CINDY MURRAY

The 2009 yearbook staff is working hard on this year's book, and it promises to be quite unique. You won't want to miss out on your chance to own this fantastic yearbook. Orders are getting ready to be sent in, so if you would like a

yearbook, contact Brenda Breth at 785-475-2231 or bbreth@usd294.org.

If you would like a yearbook but don't have the money to purchase one, please let Mrs. Breth know. Several generous citizens have donated money to make sure that everyone who wants a yearbook can have one.

12 speech students receive top ratings

By ASHLI SAMSON

Twelve Oberlin speech students earned the right to compete at the State Festival by receiving a I at the Regional Festival held in Oberlin on April 19.

Earning I's in prose were Tim Larson and Amanda Edmiston; in poetry, Jaxen Alstrom, Samantha Anderson, Jasmine Pearson and Daniel Jordan; in oration, Jacob Larue; Haley Barrett in humorous solo acting; and Chris Larson in

serious solo acting.

Two improvised duet acting teams also earned I's: Kiah Blau and Miranda Shelton, and Rhiannon Davies and Hunter Nedland. Megan Wentz and Megan Huntley also received a I in duet acting.

Receiving II's were Chris Larson in extemporaneous speaking, Jasmine Pearson in serious solo acting, and Samantha Anderson and Serena Stacy in duet acting.

Senior class chooses ushers

By DES SHIELDS

The Senior Class of 2009 have chosen Wade Juenemann and Jessica Fredrickson as their graduation marching ushers.

The door ushers for this year will be Adrienne Pauls, Ashley Horton, Kortnie Fisher, Brandi Diederich, and Kira Meitl.

Graduation is May 17.

FFA members compete in Hays

By JACOB FORTIN

Two Oberlin livestock judging teams competed last week in Hays.

The Junior Division took sixth place overall. This team is comprised of Bret Ashley, Megan Wentz, and Jaci Pearce.

The senior team took 11th in its division. The senior team consists of Jon Samson, Chance Marble, Dalton Dolan, Josh Ritter, and Kortnie Fisher.

"We did all right," said advisor Jason Ketterl, "but we are a pretty young group of kids."

School Menus

May 4 - 8 OBERLIN SCHOOLS
Monday: Breakfast: waffle, sausage. Lunch: burrito, rice. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: bagel pizza. Lunch: ham, macaroni and cheese. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: pancake sausage on a stick. Lunch: beef sandwich, potatoes. **Thursday:** Breakfast: ham, toast. Lunch: chicken strips, fries. **Friday:** Breakfast: french toast. Lunch: OES Fun Day - Hamburger/sack lunch. Jr./Sr. H.S. - corn dog

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