

Bound for state



GOING FOR A SPIKE, both Adrienne Pauls (No. 22) and her opponent from Plainville were out to get the point while Rachele Scott (No. 17) prepared to back up Pauls' play.

Girls win substate tourney

The Decatur Community High girls will be the No. 1 seed at the Class 2A state volleyball tournament this weekend after sweeping their substate tournament on Saturday in Plainville.

It took Oberlin just two sets each to down Plainville, WaKeeney and Hill City for a trip to state.

"The girls played awesome at the substate tournament," Coach Sherri Ruf said. "Our defense was exceptional and our hitters were pounding the ball away. They consistently played aggressive volleyball with intensity throughout each match."

"It's great to see your team this time of the year play some of their best volleyball ever! What a great way to lead up to play in the state tournament as No. 1 seed."

With nine teams in the substate, the two bottom teams, St. Francis, 13-15, and Plainville, 13-18, played each other to see who would play No. 1 Oberlin, 33-1 and ranked No. 1 in the state.

Plainville beat St. Francis and faced Oberlin in the first game.

Oberlin handled Plainville easily, downing the No. 8 seed, 25-13, 25-14.

Playing for Oberlin were:

- Jordon Dreher, two service aces, four digs, five assists, four kills and four blocks.
- Brandi Diederich, an ace, two digs, an assist, a kill and two blocks.
- Jessica Fredrickson, two aces, four digs and seven assists.

• Jori Diederich, two aces, three digs and two assists.

• Adrienne Pauls, three digs, 13 kills and a block.

• Rachele Scott, a dig and three kills.

• Carissa Wentz, a dig and two blocks.

• Ashley Horton, a dig and a kill.

• Ashli Samson, five digs.

• Kiah Blau, two kills.

Meanwhile, No. 4 seeded WaKeeney, 16-14, beat No. 5 Ellis, 12-13. That made WaKeeney the second team to face the tough Lady Red Devils. Oberlin took out the girls from Trego County in two sets, 25-19, 25-17.

Playing were:

• Dreher, an ace, six digs, nine assists, 11 kills and two blocks.

• Scott, four digs, an assist, three kills and three blocks.

• Pauls, two digs, six kills and two blocks.

• Blau, a dig, six kills and a block.

• Fredrickson, six digs and 15 assists.

• Samson, two aces and six digs.

• Horton, an ace and three digs.

• J Diederich, eight digs.

• B. Diederich, six digs.

• Wentz, four blocks.

In the bottom bracket, No. 2 seeded Hill City, 29-6, beat No. 7

Atwood, 11-15, and No. 3 Oakley, 18-12, overcame No. 6 Stockton, 13-15. Hill City went on to beat

Oakley to earn the right to meet Oberlin in the finals.

Oberlin overcame Hill City easily in the first set, downing the Lady Ringnecks 25-12. However, Hill City was harder to beat in the second set, giving Oberlin its best game of the day before the Lady Red Devils downed them 25-22.

Playing were:

• Dreher, 14 digs, six assists, seven kills and three blocks.

• B. Diederich, 11 digs, two assists, a kill and a block.

• Scott, two digs, an assist, two kills and four blocks.

• Blau, two digs, three kills and a block.

• Pauls a dig, six kills and seven blocks.

• J. Diederich, 15 digs.

• Samson, 14 digs.

• Fredrickson, nine assists.

• Horton, four digs.

• Wentz, a dig.

Oberlin's record is now 36-1.

Other state qualifying teams are Lebo, 35-4; Uniontown, 33-5; Valley Heights, 32-9; Spearville, 31-7; Moundridge, 31-9; Oskaloosa, 30-10; and Sacred Heart of Salina, 25-12.

The Lady Red Devils will play No. 8 seeded Sacred Heart at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the Coliseum at Fort Hays State. At 5:50, they will play Valley Heights and at 7:30 p.m., Spearville in pool play.

The semifinals will start at 2 p.m. Saturday, with the final match 15 minutes after the last semifinal round.

final set.

"The girls did a good job serving and using the ball," Coach Witt said. "We missed some key serves, and we didn't work together as a team like they usually do."

The "B" team lost to Goodland in three sets, losing the first 25-19 but coming back to win the second 25-19 before falling 15-11 in the

second 25-21.



HUDDLING WITH HIS TEAM, Coach J.D. Johnson talked strategy during the Oberlin-Oakley game on Friday — Herald photos by Sarah Fredrickson

Oberlin falls to Oakley

The Decatur Community High Red Devils became the latest victims of the Oakley Plainsmen's perfect season Friday.

Oakley downed the Red Devils 46-6 in Oberlin on Friday.

After off-and-on rain for two days, the field was slick, it was cold and the players had trouble slipping on the turf and hanging onto the ball.

Oakley's ground game was hard on the Red Devils, but Oberlin was able to make little headway on the wet turf.

Oakley scored in every quarter, including three touchdowns in the second. Oberlin's lone score came in the third quarter.

The Red Devils started on the receiving end of the kickoff, but could not make the needed 10 yards and had to punt.

Oakley took over and marched to the goal scoring as 6:47 remained in the first quarter and making a successful two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead.

Oakley's next score came early in the second quarter on a 10-yard touchdown run. Again the conversion was good.

About halfway through the quarter, the Plainsmen were back in the end zone. The conversion was good and the visitors were up 24-0.

With 4:37 remaining in the seemingly endless second, the Plainsmen

scored again. The conversion was good and when the half ended, Oakley was ahead 32-0.

The home crowd did have a great 44-yard pass from Nolan Peters to brother Toby Peters to cheer in the second quarter.

Oakley got first possession in the second half, but ended up turning it over to Oberlin, which also couldn't score. With the ball back and 7:35 remaining in the quarter, the Plainsmen struck again and added the conversion for a 40-0 lead.

The frustrated Red Devils were plagued with incomplete passes and a face mask penalty. However, early in the fourth quarter, the Red Devils broke through as Josh Ritter recovered an Oberlin fumble and took it 12 yards for a touchdown.

While the conversion attempt was unsuccessful, the home team was on the board.

Oakley made one final touchdown in the closing seconds, intercepting an Oberlin pass for a 38-yard romp into the end zone. At the buzzer, the score stood 46-6.

Oberlin had 102 yards in the air with 23 attempts and 10 completions.

Wiley Farr was one for three in the air for five yards and Nolan Peters was nine for 20 for 97 yards.

Receivers were Toby Peters, five for 56 yards; Keithen Fortin, three for 31 yards; Dakota Soderlund, one

for eight; and Farr, one for seven.

On the ground, Oakley gained 204 yards on 51 carries while Oberlin made 16 yards on 12 carries.

Rushing for Oberlin were Farr, four carries for eight yards; Fortin, three for four yards; Nolan Peters, four for five yards; and Soderlund, one carry for minus one yard.

While Coach J.D. Johnson said that he didn't have the tackling statistics yet, several tacklers were mentioned by the announcers. They included K. Fortin, Soderlund, Farr, T. Peters, N. Peters, Ritter, Daniel Jordan, Dalton Dolan, Zach May, Channing Fortin, Kaden McFee and Justin Williams.

The loss brings the Red Devils' record down to 5-3 with victories over Atwood, Plainville, Hoxie, and WaKeeney and losses to Norton, Goodland and Oakley.

This week Oberlin will play at home against Ellis at 7 p.m. Friday to play the Railers in a nondistrict game.

Ellis has a 6-2 record. The Railers beat Atwood, 35-8; lost to Oakley 14-0; beat Osborne, 41-6; beat Hoxie 50-14; lost to Scott City, 16-10; beat Norton, 22-14; beat Plainville 42-8; and beat WaKeeney, 50-12.

Oberlin is 1-1 in district play and will go to the state playoffs, which will start Tuesday, Coach Johnson said, but matchups had not been set as of Monday.

Team just misses state bid

Decatur Community High will send two runners to the state cross country meet in Wamego on Saturday and just missed sending the entire team.

The Red Devils came in fourth in the Class 2A regional meet on Saturday at Hill City, but only the first three teams won a trip to state.

Sophomore Tyler Shields came in seventh in 19 minutes, nine seconds, and sophomore Dalton Jones came in 12th in 19:37. Shields got a medal and both got a trip to state.

Two other runners were close.

"Tiffany Anderson had a gutsy race today," Coach Dick Ahlberg said. "She was just 10 seconds short of qualifying as an individual for the state meet."

"Nolan Wasson continued his fine efforts ... following just 19 seconds short of a state qualifying spot."

Bennington was first at the regional meet with 36 points Sacred Heart of Salina was second with 52 and Hill City third with 88.

Oberlin came in fourth with 93m followed by Plainville, 115; WaKeeney, 130; Osborne, 185; and Ell Saline of Brookville, 188.

"We knew it would be close,"

Coach Ahlberg said. "Our team really competed for the third qualifying state spot, but we came up just short. I was very proud of our runners' effort today."

The top three teams and top 10 runners or top five runners not on a qualifying team get a trip to state.

Oberlin did not have enough girls to compete for a spot.

Also running for Oberlin were:

- Wasson, 17th, 19:58.

• Nolan Henningson, 33rd, 19:58.

• Jacob Helm, 39th, 21:38.

• Kade Brown, 49th, 22:38.

• Matthew Helm, 51st, 22:46.

Running for the girls were:

• Anderson, 18th, 18:33.

• Kaylee May, 32nd, 20.

The Class 4-3-2-1A State Meet will start at 10 a.m. Saturday in Wamego.

Correction

Although Oberlin did not have enough girls for a team at the Northwest Kansas League cross country meet in Hoxie on Oct. 17, it did have three runners in that race.

Tiffany Anderson came in sixth in 18 minutes, 20 seconds to win a medal.

Kaylee May came in 13th in 19:54 and Kira Meitl, 18th, in 23:57.

May and Meitl were accidentally left out of the story about the meet in last week's paper and Anderson was listed as coming in fifth rather than sixth.

The omission of May and Meitl was a reporting error and the mistake on Anderson was caused by incorrect information supplied to the newspaper.

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The Oberlin Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 475-2206 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Eighth grade wins one, loses one

The Decatur Community Junior High eighth-grade "A" volleyball team downed Colby in three sets on Oct. 15, but lost to Goodland in two the week before.

The young Lady Red Devils defeated Colby 25-18 then fell 25-12 and came back for the final victory of 15-12 before the home crowd on Thursday.

"The girls did a good job serving at 78 percent," said Coach Gina Witt. "We were plagued by illnesses, but the girls stepped up and did a great job in positions that they don't play very often. I am very proud of how well they played together and encouraged each other."

Three weeks ago, the "A" team fell to the Lady Mustangs 25-12, 25-12 in Goodland.

"We were plagued with some ill-

nesses through the week, and I think it took a toll on the girls," Coach Witt said. "We missed some key serves, and we didn't work together as a team like they usually do."

The "B" team lost to Goodland in three sets, losing the first 25-19 but coming back to win the second 25-19 before falling 15-11 in the

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