

# Girls sweep pool, claim fourth

## Lady Red Devils make it to semifinals in state tournament

The Decatur Community High Lady Red Devils brought home the fourth-place trophy from the Class 2A state tournament on Saturday.

With a 39-3 record, if the Lady Red Devils had been playing baseball, they would have a .925 average. As it is, they finished the year with only three losses, two of those at state.

It was the third time in the last four years that the Oberlin girls made it to the state tournament, but the first time they have made it out of pool play to the final rounds.

The Oberlin girls, who were seeded No. 1 in the tournament and ranked No. 1 in Class 2A most of the season, downed Sacred Heart of Salina, Valley Heights of Blue Rapids and Spearville in pool play on Friday to advance to the final rounds on Saturday.

On Saturday, however, the girls lost only their second and third games as they fell to Lebo in the semifinals and to Valley Heights in the consolation match.

Oberlin started out Friday playing Sacred Heart of Salina, the No. 8 seed. The Lady Red Devils easily downed the Lady Knights 25-21, 25-13.

Sacred Heart led 1-0 in the opening set. After that it was all Oberlin.

"We take it one match at a time and play the team across the court from us, not their record," Coach Sherri Ruf said. "When you get to state, every team you play here is going to be good."

Playing were:

### Girls make top team

Two Oberlin volleyball players were named to the 2009 Kansas Volleyball Association State All-Tournament team.

Jordan Dreher and Adrienne Pauls, who played in all of the Decatur Community High's games at the state meet over the weekend, were honored for their work.

The girls earlier had been named to the Northwest Kansas League all-league team.

This is Pauls' third year on the

all-league team and Dreher's second.

Brandi Diederich was also named to the all-league team, as was Jessica Fredrickson. Fredrickson was on the honorable mention list last year.

This year, Oberlin's Kiah Blau received honorable mention.

The Decatur Community High volleyball girls won the league championship for the second year in a row last month.

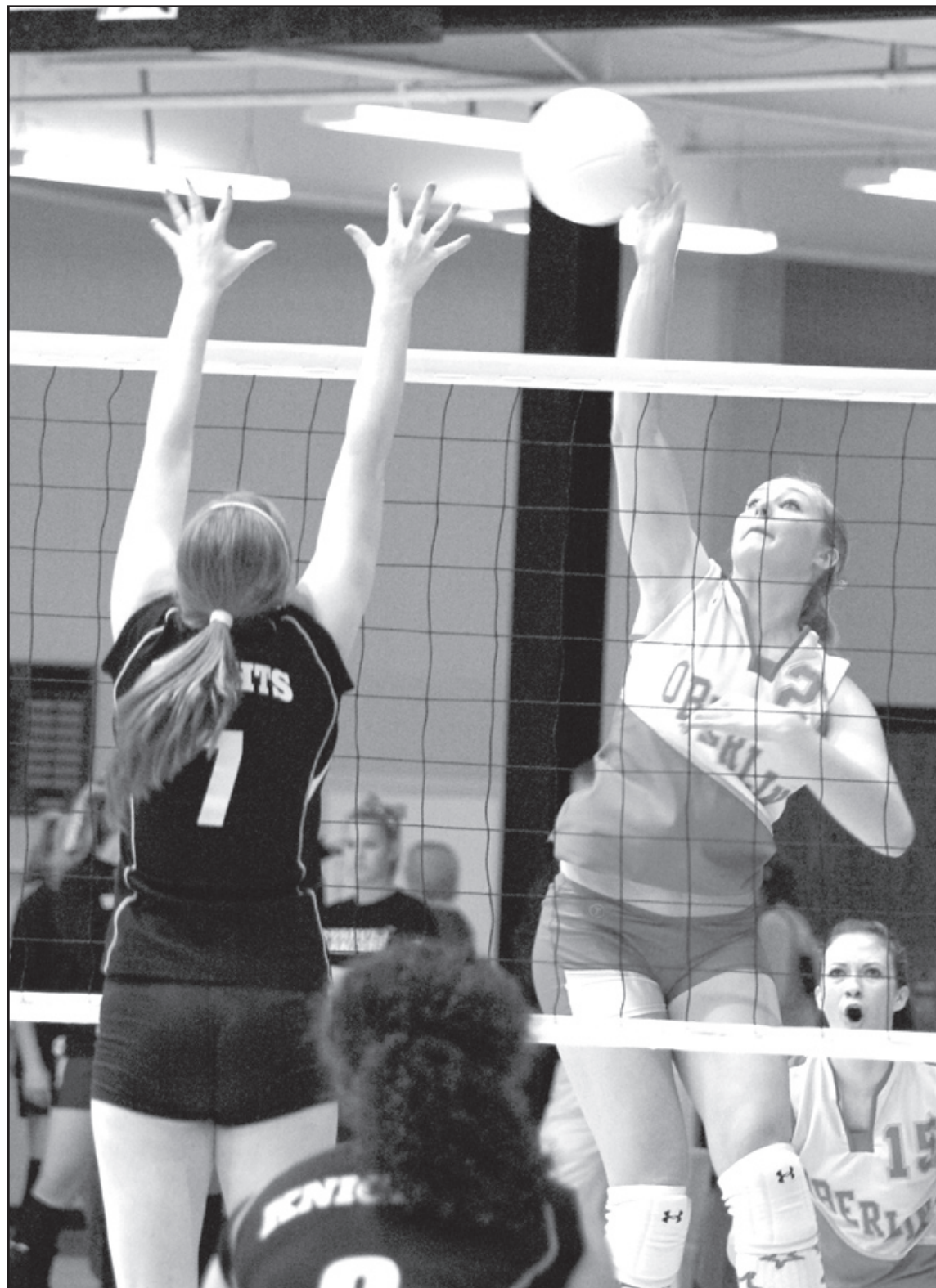
- Jordan Dreher, an ace serve, five digs, six assists, seven kills and a block.
- Adrienne Pauls, a dig, five kills and four blocks.
- Jessica Fredrickson, an ace, two digs and eight assists.
- Rachelle Scott, a dig, four kills and a block.
- Jori Diederich, two aces, seven digs and an assist.
- Brandi Diederich, two digs and an assist.
- Ashley Horton, an ace and four digs.
- Ashli Samson, an ace and three digs.
- Kiah Blau, a dig.
- Carissa Wentz, a block.

Valley Heights was tougher, and it took all the Lady Red Devils had to down the Mustangs. Oberlin won the first set 25-20 but fell 26-24 in the second. Oberlin was able

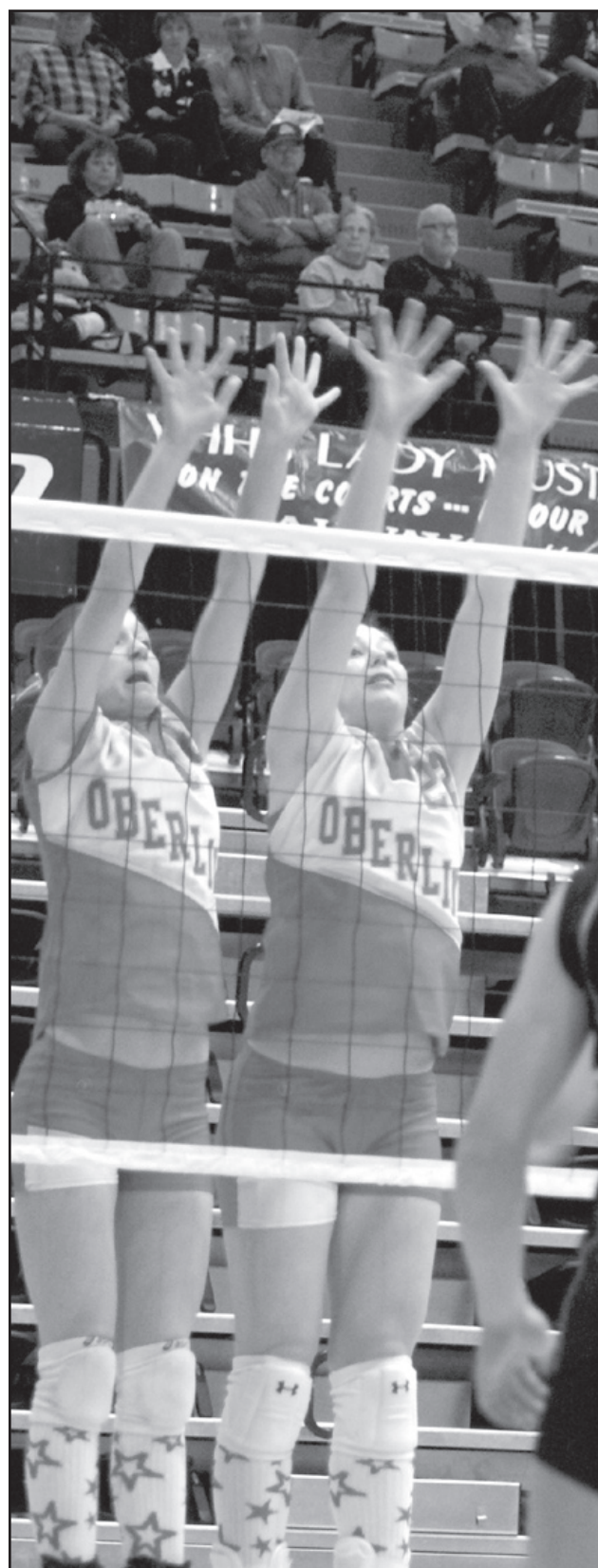
to come back to win the final one, 25-22.

Playing were:

- Dreher, two aces, eight digs, 15 assists, seven kills and four blocks.
  - Pauls, two digs, eight kills and 14 blocks.
  - B. Diederich, an ace, 14 digs, a kill and three blocks.
  - Scott, five digs, an assist, seven kills and two blocks.
  - J. Diederich, an ace, 20 digs and an assist.
  - Fredrickson, three digs and 12 assists.
  - Blau, two digs and seven kills.
  - Horton, an ace and 11 digs.
  - Wentz, a dig, an assist and five blocks.
  - Samson, seven digs.
  - Mary Olson, a kill.
- Oberlin was guaranteed a place (See GIRLS on Page 7A)



**SENDING THE BALL OVER THE NET**, Adrienne Pauls helped the Oberlin Lady Red Devils beat the Sacred Heart Knights in the first game of pool play at the state Class 2A volleyball tournament in Hays on Friday.



**OBERLIN VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS** (left) jumped in unison during their first match on Friday against the Sacred Heart Knights. A large crowd of fans (above) followed the girls to Hays to watch them win three in a row in pool play.

**Herald photos by Sarah Fredrickson**