

Shopping at home



LOOKING OVER CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS at Stanley Hardware, Judy Groneweg (left) of R&M Service Center and Dana Marintzer of Home Planning Center took part in the Oberlin Business Alliance's annual Business-to-

Business tour on Sunday. About two dozen people looked over 12 downtown Oberlin shops to see what they have to offer before ending up with soup and snacks.
— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

K-State's loss baffles 'experts' in football picks

No one entering the weekly Pigskin Pick-em contest expected Kansas State to fall to Missouri on Saturday, but in the battle of the cats, it was the Tigers 38 and the Wildcats 12.

Kelly Brown of Oberlin and Cheri Kastens of Herndon both picked all the rest of the games correctly. Mr. Brown was able to come closer to the actual score of the tie-breaker, where Oklahoma creamed Texas A&M 65-10, and takes the \$15 scrip first place prize.

Ms. Kastens wins \$10 in scrip as the second-place finisher.

Five people named five out of seven winners, but Jim Hollowell of Oberlin was the closest on the tie breaker, so he takes the \$5 third-place prize.

Others scoring five out of seven were Dale Blake, Danbury, Neb., and Gary Anderson, Linda Hollowell and Owen Wilson of Oberlin.

Correct on four out of seven were Mabel Zimmerman, Travis Raile

and Valisha Raile, all of Oberlin.

Money won in the contest can be spent only at the sponsors: Ward Drug Store, the LandMark Inn, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Stellar Auto Sales, Farm Bureau Financial Services, D&M Sinclair and *The Oberlin Herald*.

Each week for the next couple of weeks, the official Pigskin Pick-em entry blank with the football games for that week will be in the paper. Official entry blanks are available at sponsoring businesses. Only entries from the paper or from the sponsors are accepted for the contest. No copies may be entered.

Other scores of this week's games were:

- Texas over Baylor, 47-14.
- Georgia over Auburn, 31-24.
- Nebraska over Kansas, 31-17.
- Oklahoma State over Texas Tech, 24-17.
- Iowa State over Colorado, 17-10.

School board decides not to join lawsuit

The Oberlin School Board decided last Monday not to join other Kansas school districts in suing state lawmakers for not living up to an agreement which ended a state Supreme Court case on school funding.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst told board members about the approaching lawsuit at their October meeting, but the board made no decision then.

It would cost the district \$2 per student to join Schools for Fair Funding, a total of about \$774. If a lawsuit is filed, however, that would go up to \$5 per student, or \$1,935.

The group won a lawsuit against the state in 2005, forcing the Legislature to increase school spending

incrementally each year. The district was supposed to get \$4,492 and ended up actually getting \$4,218, which probably will still be cut. So far, nearly \$100 million of that gain has been lost to budget cuts this year, however, with another round of cuts are expected as state tax revenue lags behind projections.

Mr. Dorshorst said he agreed the Legislature isn't funding Kansas schools at the level it promised, but is suing the state the way to get something done?

The Legislature has been sued four times, said Mr. Dorshorst, and each time the amount of spending per pupil increased.

Regardless of whether the district joins in the lawsuit or not, he said,

if the amount per pupil goes up, the Oberlin schools will receive the increase.

The district, said member Dan Wasson, is already involved with the largest organization in the state, the Kansas Association of School Boards. He said they should work through it instead of joining another organization.

What does it teach the district's students, asked member Doug Brown, if the district sues the state? He said he couldn't vote for the move, adding that he doesn't feel right about the lawsuit.

A decision on whether the lawsuit goes forward, said Member Dan Nedland, was supposed to be made in Wichita that night. Mr. Dorshorst

said he thinks the group already has enough members to go forward.

During the first legal battle, the Fair Funding group represented only a few members, mostly medium-sized districts that claimed the state treated them unfairly. This time, the group wants all Kansas school districts to join, since all were promised more money.

The lawsuit would be a bad example for the kids, said Mr. Nedland.

Mr. Dorshorst said he thought Member Dan Grafel said it best at the last meeting when he said that he doesn't like "legislation from the bench."

Member Abby Hissong said she agreed not to join in the lawsuit.

Although no vote was needed, the board members came to a consensus not to join Schools for Fair Funding or the lawsuit.

Church members plan pancake benefit

St. John's Lutheran Church members and volunteers are planning a pancake-and-sausage feed to raise money for the youth recreation part of the new community center on Main Street.

The dinner will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday in the fellowship hall, the basement of the church, at 510 N. Wilson.

Ralph Unger told fellow county commissioners last Tuesday that members would be able to get \$1,000 from the Smoky Hills Chapter of Thrivent Financial if they could raise \$2,000 or more in the feed. The dinner will be served for a donation and is sponsored by Thrivent Financial members of St. John's and Faith Lutheran churches.

If anyone can't go to the meal,

he said, donations may be left with Shirley Shields or Mr. Unger.

Students will be doing the musical "South Pacific" at 7:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium right after the supper.

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County approves swapping cars

The Decatur County commissioners approved swapping the sheriff's 2004 Dodge Durango with the emergency management department's 2005 Durango, which is no longer used.

The commissioners have talked about vehicles stored in the old county shop at the last few meetings. The county bought a 2001 Jeep to replace a 2001 Ford truck for the sheriff's department at the Tuesday, Oct. 27, meeting.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said he talked with Noxious Weed Control Director Gaylen Huntley about selling the

county's old blue van and a Ford Taurus formerly used by employees to take trips.

There was some discussion about whether the sheriff's old Durango would work for the meal site instead of the Ford Expedition they are using now. Mr. Stallman said they like the Expedition because it has leather seats, so it's easier to clean off spills.


It seems people would rather drive the county's minivan for trips, said Commissioner Ralph Unger, than the Taurus.

If the county sold the blue van and Taurus, said Mr. Stallman, that


would leave the sheriff's dually pick-up, the appraisers car and the two trip vehicles in the old shop.

The commissioners approved swapping the Durangos and advertising in the Country Advocate and other publications for sealed bids for the vehicles, with the right to accept or reject all offers.

Sheriff Ken Badsky said he could send information to the Kansas Sheriff's Association about the 2001 Ford to see if any other departments want to bid on it.



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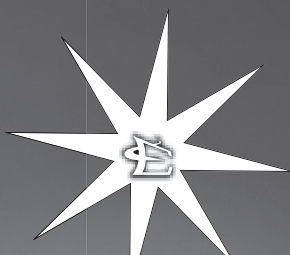

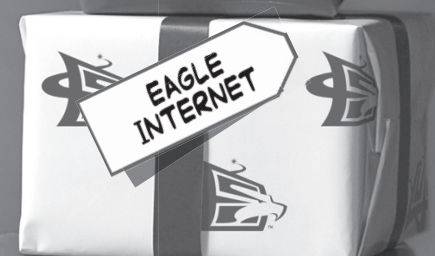

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