



DCHS SINGERS (from left) Cassandra Canto, Alexis Hissong and Miki Dorshorst practiced a new piece of music during the annual singers retreat, where they ate, worked and played together. — Photo by Susan Nelson

DCHS Singers learn at annual retreat

By CASSIDY SHIELDS
What comes to mind when you hear the words bowling, scavenger hunt, bonfire, rehearsals, and loads of fun and laughter? Well, for the 2011-'12 DCHS Singers, it's their annual retreat.
"It was an exhilarating experience," said Zach May. "It helped us all grow closer."
The retreat kicked off with a potluck supper for the singers and their families, with entertainment provided by Nolan Henningson and Cassidy Shields.
After everyone was full, all the families had left, and everything had been cleaned up, the singers headed off to start their first rehearsal as a

group. Some of their new music includes "Firework," "Seize the Day," "The Boys of Fall," and "Stuck Like Glue."
"I had an awesome time," said Caleb Koerperich. "It makes me really look forward to the Singers' year."
Next, the group headed off to Zach May's pasture for a bonfire and bonding. After stuffing themselves with s'mores, they started a game of Quaker questions, where everyone learned new things about each other.
After that, they headed back to the school to get some much needed sleep.
The next morning everyone was

up bright and early for a breakfast of donuts, eggs, bacon, cinnamon rolls, fruit and juice. Then, it was off to practice again.
After a couple hours of hard practice, they were rewarded with bowling and pizza for lunch. Channing won the highest score in bowling.
Then, their advisor Susan Nelson said they would go on a scavenger hunt. There was a catch though — everyone was given a partner whom they were tied to with a string. They had to go around town collecting items tied together with their partner.
"It was the funnest time I've had in a long time," said Baron Green.
The time had finally come for ev-

eryone to go home, so they cleaned everything up and loaded all their things into their cars. Another retreat had come and gone, with lots of fun memories.
"The singers retreat was a great way for us all to get to know each other and get closer, said Nolan Henningson. "It was a really fun experience."
This year's DCHS Singers are Cassandra Canto, Alexis Hissong, Miki Dorshorst, Hannah May, Amanda Marshall, Matthew Helm, Samantha Anderson, Elizabeth Nedland, Cassidy Shields, Serena Stacy, Baron Green, Caleb Koerperich, Nolan Henningson, Channing Fortin, Matt Glading, Ben Glading,

Voice of Decatur Community High School

Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Weight room awards given

By BRIANNA KLIMA
Hardworking athletes have been recognized for their dedication to the weight room over the summer.
In order to receive this award, they had to lift weights 22 out of the 29 days possible. If they could do this, they would earn a shirt.
Athletic Director Joe Dreher said he feels it is important to recognize the students who work hard over their summer vacation:
"Weight lifting plays a big part of any athletic team and contributes to success," said Mr. Dreher

Receiving the award were seniors Conner McHugh, Garrett Berry, and Brent Juenemann; juniors Channing Fortin, Tyler Bruggeman, Zach May, and Matt Glading; sophomores: Kyle Breth, Grant Gilliam, Justin Gee, Dayton Dreher, Chris Anderson, Adam Zillinger, Konner Fortin, and Kennedy Fortin; freshmen Kelden Breth, Gabe Anderson, Troy Juenemann, Logan Berry, and Grace Randel; junior high students Andrew Wade, Myles Sheaffer, Quinton Cook and Kade Grafel.

Student Council chief asks for help, ideas

By SERENA STACY
The most common thing I hear when it comes to being Student Council President is "They didn't even do anything last year."
I want to make a change this year, but I can't do it alone.
First off, I would like to welcome everyone back to school. Summer is over and now it's time to make the 2011-'12 school year the best one yet!

Getting a microwave in the cafeteria, Bring Your Parents to School Day and possibly starting a Big Brothers Big Sisters club are some ideas I have. But I want to hear what the student body wants.
Let's work together and make a positive change for our school. If we work together, we can accomplish a lot. Bring your ideas to me anytime and I will do my best to put your ideas into action.

Student honored for national test score

Nolan Henningson has been recognized for his test scores by the National Merit Scholarship Corp. as a "Commended Student."
This is for his test results on the PSAT, which he took last fall.
With a test score of over 202, No-

lan is among the top 3 percent of the 1.5 million entrants nationwide.
The PSAT measures skills in reading, math, and writing.
Nolan, the son of Jeni and Robbie Henningson, is a senior this year.

School Menus

Sept. 19-23 OBERLIN SCHOOLS
Monday: No school, teacher training day. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: Omelet, muffin. Lunch: Burrito, Mexican rice. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: Pancake wrap. Lunch: Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes.
Thursday: Breakfast: Breakfast burrito. Lunch: Spaghetti and meat sauce, green beans. **Friday:** Breakfast: Fruit turnovers, cheese stick. Lunch: Biscuit and gravy, sausage patty, tri-taters.
Fruit served with all breakfasts; choice bar served with all lunches.

New Students

Samir Armendariz
By EMILY BADER
This summer Samir Armendariz moved to Oberlin. He is a junior and moved from Hays, where he attended Hays High School.
"The hallways are crowded," said Samir after his first week of school.
In his free time, he says he likes flirting with girls and playing basketball. His favorite classes are tutor class and English.

wanted something new."
Emily said that she is adapting very well and making new friends fast.
On the weekends she likes to hang out with friends and have a lot of fun.
Emily is an artist and enjoys scrap booking.
Emily is still getting used to Decatur Community High.
When asked how she likes it, she replied, "I don't know, I like it I guess, it's different. The biggest difference between Natoma and Oberlin is the number of classmates and there are more hallways at DCHS."

grade transfer student from Selden. She is the daughter of Ron and Sheri Jacobs, and she has one sister, KeLynn.

Some of KeAnne's favorite sports are volleyball, basketball, track and cheerleading. Some of her hobbies are 4-H, working on the farm

with animals, playing her trumpet, playing guitar and watching dirt bike races.
KeAnne says the biggest change from her old school is having more teachers.
"I only had three before," she said.

KeAnne Jacobs
By TAYLOR MACFEE
KeAnne Jacobs is an eighth-

Emily R. Bader
By MIRANDA SHELTON
Emily R. Bader is originally from Oberlin, but she moved to Hays, then to Natoma, and now she is back here in Oberlin.
When asked what brought her back, she said, "I don't know, I

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