

# Girls continue winning

The Decatur Community High volleyball team extended its winning streak last Tuesday by beating Goodland and Atwood.

The Lady Red Devils have won eight matches in a row now, taking their record to 19-6.

On Tuesday, the girls were in Goodland to take on the Cowgirls and the Rawlins County Buffaloes.

Oberlin downed Goodland, 25-21, 25-17 and Rawlins County, 25-19, 25-17.

"The girls played well," said Coach Sherri Ruf. "The blockers didn't have one net violation. It's good to see things that we have been working hard on come together in this part of the season."

Top players against Goodland were:

- Kiah Blau, seven digs, five kills and three blocks.
- Miki Dorshorst, an ace, a dig, seven assists and four kills.
- Cassidy Shields, two aces, nine digs and seven assists.
- Darbi Rouse, 14 digs.
- Keatra Fisher, an ace and five kills.
- Jamie Soderlund, three digs, three kills and a block.
- Taylor Macfee, five digs and a block.
- Hannah May, three digs, a kill and a block.

Top players against Atwood:

- Dorshorst, five aces, two digs, 12 assist and three kills.
- Blau, two aces, seven digs, 10 kills and two blocks.
- Fisher, two aces, a dig, eight kills and a block.
- Shields, two digs and nine assists.
- Soderlund, three digs, two kills and a block.
- Rouse, eight digs.
- May, a dig, a kill and a block.
- Macfee, two blocks.

The girls were to play Quinter and Colby in Quinter on Tuesday.

At 10 a.m. Saturday, Oberlin will be in Oakley to defend its Northwest Kansas League title. The Lady Red Devils have held the title since 2008.

## Volleyball girls ranked No. 4 in state poll

Even though the Decatur Community High Lady Red Devils won all their matches last week, the team fell from No. 3 to No. 4 in the state Class 2A rankings.

The Lady Red Devils started off in the preseason poll ranked No. 3 by the Kansas Volleyball Association, behind last year's state winner Oskaloosa and Kiowa County, a team Oberlin beat last year at state.

After a good first week, the Lady Red Devils moved up to No. 2. In the second week, Oberlin hit the top with a No. 1 ranking and a 9-3 record.

Then, following a tough third week, the Lady Red Devils went back to No. 3. In the fourth week, Oberlin remained at No. 3 with an 11-6 record.

The fifth-week rankings, however, pushed the Oberlin girls down a notch as other teams won more games.

Smith Center (25-4) stayed at No. 1 in Class 2A, followed by Mission Valley (25-3), Hill City (15-3) and Oberlin (15-6).

Other area teams ranked amongst the top five were Phillipsburg (23-5), No. 3 in Class 3A, and Wheatland/Grinnell (16-4), No. 5 in Class 1A-Division 2.



**GETTING OFF TO A STRONG START**, (above, in front), Dalton Jones and Matt Helm Northwest Kansas League Meet held a week ago Decatur Community High's Tyler Shields all finished well in the Oberlin Invitational and in Oberlin. — Herald photo by Susan May



**RUNNING FOR THE OBERLIN GIRLS**, Caitie Shields took eighth in the Phillipsburg Invitational on Thursday. — Photo by Paul Shields

## Boys take third place in Phillipsburg Invitational

The Decatur Community High boys ran to third place at the Phillipsburg Invitational Cross Country Meet on Thursday.

"This was a Mid-Continent League meet, and the field was kind of amped up," Coach Dick Ahlberg said.

Norton, a Mid-Continent member, took first with 34 points, followed by Hill City 70, Oberlin 72, Phillipsburg 81, Plainville 102, Stockton 153 and Osborne 175.

Tyler Shields took third place and Dalton Jones 12th for the boys. Oberlin did not have enough

runners to make up a girls team that day, however, Caitie Shields came in eighth to capture a medal for the girls.

Coach Ahlberg said that the team is getting better all the time, practicing hard and he expects the runners to peak at just the right time — late in the season.

Running for Oberlin were:

- Shields, 17:31, third.
- Jones, 20:01, 12th.
- Nolan Henningson, 20:20, 16th.
- Matt Helm, 20:50, 21st.
- Caleb Koerperich, 22:07,

- 30th.
- Ganon Henningson, 22:15, 34th.

Running for the girls:

- Shields, 18:20, eighth.
- Brittany Urban, 20:40, 22nd.
- Kayla Jones, 21:54, 31st.
- Emma Borton, 22:21, 33rd.
- Running junior varsity:
- Tim Helm, 28:16, 20th.
- Jude Walinder, 32:12, 22nd.

At 4 p.m. Thursday, the runners will attend the Downs-Lakeside meet.

"This is a large and competitive meet," Coach Ahlberg said.

## Oberlin runner places first

Oberlin senior Tyler Shields came in first for the cross country boys at the Ness City Invitational while freshmen Winter Polivka came in eighth and Caitie Shields, Tyler's sister, 11th to win medals for the girls.

The Decatur Community High girls came in second and the boys fourth in the meet, held Sept. 29.

The Ness City girls came in first with 31 points, followed by Oberlin with 42 and Scott City 47.

Tribune came in first for the boys with 48 points, followed by Scott City 68, Ness City 68, Oberlin 91,

Hill City 97 and Victoria 102.

"Tyler Shields had a really nice strategic race," said Coach Dick Ahlberg. "Caitie Shields had a good day. Our girls are improving."

"Our guys seemed a little flat overall coming off Tuesday's race (the Oberlin Invitational and Northwest Kansas League Meet)."

Running for the Oberlin boys were:

- Shields, 17:26, first.
- Dalton Jones, 19:44, 20th.
- Nolan Henningson, 20:06,

- 21st.
- Matthew Helm, 20:17, 22nd.
- Ganon Henningson, 22:28, 37th.
- Caleb Koerperich, 22:33, 38th.

Running for the girls were:

- Polivka, 18, eighth.
- Shields, 18:25, 11th.
- Brittany Urban, 19:22, 17th.
- Emma Borton, 20:14, 22nd.
- Kayla Jones, 20:17, 23rd.
- Running junior varsity were:
- Tim Helm, 27:05, 17th.
- Jude Walinder, 33:07, 19th.

## Junior high boys lose to Cambridge

The Decatur Community Junior High football team fell 34-8 to the Grant Junior High Mustangs eighth-grade team Thursday in Goodland, giving the young Red Devils a 4-2 record with one game to go.

The Oberlin boys' only score came on the opening drive when Quinton Cook rumbled 21 yards to the end zone.

Bryson Wesley ran in the two-point conversion and the Red Devils were ahead 8-0. The Mustangs soon took the lead, however, and at half time, the score was 20-8.

The young Red Devils put together some nice drives but couldn't find the end zone in the second half, Coach Joe Dreher said. Goodland scored twice more to make the

score 34-8.

"We looked a little flat as the game went on," Coach Dreher said. "With our last game of the season on Thursday, we need to focus on the basic fundamentals and get the job done."

The boys will play Oakley at 5:30 p.m. Thursday as they wrap up their season.

## Junior high A-team falls to Atwood

The Decatur Community Junior High A-team volleyball girls lost 25-20, 25-20 to Rawlins County in Oberlin on Sept. 29.

"The girls are working hard to set up the ball, but confidence and communication keep pulling us down," said Coach Gina Witt. "The girls struggled with serving, only making 28 of 41 for 68 percent.

Kassidie Jensen went six for six and Jenna Long three for three as the team's 100 percent servers this week.

The girls' last game of regular season match will be against Oakley starting at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the junior high gym.

Next week, the girls will play in the Northwest Kansas League

tournaments, the seventh graders heading for Quinter and the eighth graders for Atwood.

## Junior varsity girls win own invitational

Oberlin won the junior varsity portion of the annual Oberlin Invitational Volleyball Tournament, taking all its matches.

The invitational was on Oct. 1 at the Decatur Community Junior and Senior High gyms.

In junior varsity play, Oberlin beat St Francis 26-24, 25-6; Rawlins County 25-17, 25-19; Norton 25-20, 25-15; and Hoxie 25-17, 24-26, 15-8.

Hoxie came in second, losing to Oberlin and beating St. Francis, 25-20, 18-25, 15-13; Rawlins County, 25-15, 25-17; and Norton, 18-25, 25-23, 15-12.

St. Francis came in third after defeating Norton 25-14, 25-20 but losing to Oberlin; Hoxie; and Rawlins County, 22-25, 25-17, 15-13.

Rawlins County came in fourth, beating St. Francis and losing to Oberlin; Hoxie, and Norton, 18-25, 25-21 17-15.

Norton was fifth, beating St. Francis and losing to Oberlin, St. Francis and Hoxie.

"The junior varsity girls have really improved this season," Coach Sherri Ruf said. "They transition and communicate on the court well."

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