

Girls win fourth league championship

The Decatur Community High volleyball team won its fourth straight Northwest Kansas League title Saturday in Oberlin, sweeping away four opponents.

The tournament, which had been scheduled in Oakley, was moved to Oberlin. The victories brought the girls' record to 24-7.

Oberlin beat St. Francis in the first round of pool play 25-8, 25-22. In the Lady Red Devil's second round, the girls beat Quinter 18-25, 25-19, 25-22. Then in the semifinal round of bracket play, Oberlin overcame Oakley, 25-19, 25-6.

In the championship round, the Lady Red Devils took three sets to beat Hoxie, 14-25, 25-18, 25-20. "The girls had a good day of volleyball," said Coach Sherri Ruf. "They stayed aggressive and transitioned well. It was good to see when the girls struggled on the court they stayed together as a team and came out with a win."

Top players against St. Francis were:

- Kiah Blau, two aces, a dig, 14 kills and three blocks.
- Miki Dorshorst, six aces, two digs, nine assists and two kills.
- Jamie Soderlund, five aces, four digs, two kills and a block.
- Darbi Rouse, an ace and three digs.

- Keatra Fisher, a dig, an assist, a kill and a block.
- Taylor Macfee, an ace, a dig and a kill.
- Cassidy Shields, four assists.
- Hannah May, a kill.

Top players against Quinter:

- Blau, an ace, eight digs, 19 kills and five blocks.
- Dorshorst, two aces, three digs, 18 assists and five kills.
- Shields, four digs and 14 assists.

Top players against Oakley:

- Dorshorst, four digs, 18 assists and six kills.
- Blau, an ace, five digs, eight kills and three blocks.
- Shields, an ace and 15 assists.
- Fisher, six kills and two blocks.
- Soderlund, two digs and five kills.
- Rouse, an ace and two digs.
- Macfee, an ace and a kill.

- Dorshorst, two digs, 13 assists and six kills.
- Shields, an ace, three digs and 12 assists.
- Macfee, an ace, three digs, two kills and a block.
- Soderlund, three digs, three kills and seven blocks.
- Fisher, a dig, seven kills and four blocks.
- Rouse, an ace and seven digs.
- May, a kill and five blocks.

Hoxie came in second in the tournament with victories over Oakley, Rawlins and Quinter and a loss to Oberlin in the finals.

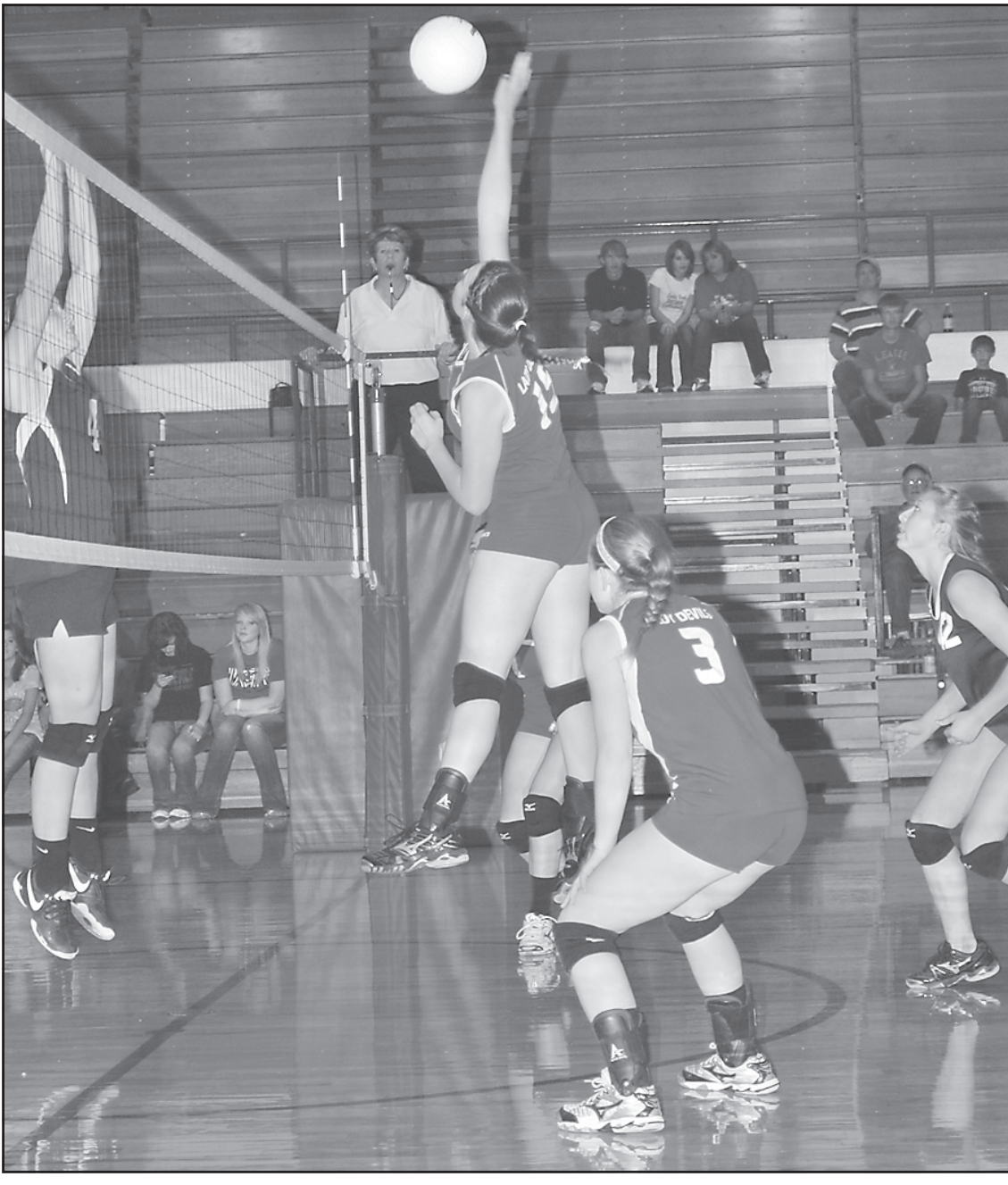
Quinter placed third with victories over St. Francis and Oakley and losses to Hoxie and Oberlin.

Oakley took fourth with victories over Rawlins County and losses to Hoxie, Oberlin and Quinter.

Rawlins County was fifth with a win over St. Francis and losses to Oakley and Hoxie.

St. Francis placed sixth with losses to Oberlin, Quinter and Rawlins County.

The Decatur Community High girls will play in the state substute tournament in Ellis on Saturday, hoping to win a third straight trip to the state tournament, which starts Friday, Oct. 28. Play will start at 1 p.m., with pairing set later this week.



SENDING THE BALL BACK over the net, Keatra Fisher (No. 15) helped Oberlin beat Oakley during the Northwest Kansas League Volleyball Tournament on Saturday. Miki Dorshorst (No. 3) and Darbi Rouse stood ready to help

— Herald photo by Susan May

- and two blocks.
- Dorshorst, three digs, eight assists and three kills.
 - Shields, an ace, three digs and nine assists.

- Soderlund, four digs, two kills and a block.
- May, two kills and a block.
- Fisher, three kills.
- Rouse, two digs.

The Oberlin junior varsity ended its season with an 11-8 record after beating Quinter 25-20, 25-21, but losing to Colby, 25-20, 25-12.

Lady Red Devils take pair

The Decatur Community High varsity volleyball team took its record to 20-7 last Tuesday with a victory at Quinter over Quinter and a loss to Class 4A Colby.

Oberlin downed the Quinter Lady Bulldogs 25-20, 25-21.

"The Quinter girls are good at moving to the ball, and they block well," said Oberlin Coach Sherri Ruf. "Our hitters were able to stay aggressive and find ways around the block."

Top players against Quinter

were:

- Miki Dorshorst, an ace, two digs, 10 assists and five kills.
- Kiah Blau, 10 digs, nine kills and a block.
- Jamie Soderlund, three digs, an assist, a kill and two blocks.
- Darbi Rouse, 13 digs.
- Cassidy Shields, a dig and eight assists.
- Keatra Fisher, a dig, three kills and a block.
- Taylor Macfee, an ace, a kill and two blocks.

• Hannah May, a kill and two blocks.

The Colby Eagles beat the Lady Red Devils in two sets, 25-21, 25-19.

"Colby is a good team," Coach Ruf said. "They hit and block well."

"Our girls made too many mental mistakes to win this match. We would get the momentum on our side of the court, then we would miss a serve or hit the ball into the net."

Top players against Colby:

- Blau, an ace, four digs, nine kills

Cross county boys take sixth at Invitational

The Decatur Community High boys cross country team came in sixth and the girls eighth at the Lakeside Invitational in Downs on Thursday.

Oberlin's Tyler Shields finished third and Winter Polivka came in 16th to win medals.

"This was a big meet with a quality field," Coach Dick Ahlberg said. "I think both our teams can learn from a meet like this."

Pike Valley won the 16-team boys division with 81 points, followed by Republic Valley 93; Sacred Heart of Salina 99, Norton 106, Southeast of Saline 136, Oberlin 152, Beloit 174, Lincoln 202, Minneapolis 204, Phillipsburg 244, Northern Valley 251, Ellsworth 319, Stockton 345, Osborne 356, Southern Cloud 410 and Sylvan-Lucas 444.

Sacred Heart took the girls division with 59 points, followed by Norton 60, Southeast of Saline 78, Lincoln 104, Minneapolis 153, Pike Valley 155, Republic County 157, Oberlin 170 and Ellsworth 209.

Scoring for the Oberlin boys were:

- Shields, 17:18, third.
- Dalton Jones, 19:32, 28th.
- Nolan Henningson, 19:42, 34th.
- Matt Helm, 19:48, 36th.
- Caleb Koerperich, 21:39, 74th.
- Ganon Henningson, 22:05, 80th.

Running for the girls were:

- Polivka, 17:30, 16th.
- Caitie Shields, 18:18, 26th.
- Brittany Urban, 20:09, 51st.
- Kayla Jones, 21:17, 56th.
- Emma Borton, 22:44, 66th.

At 3 p.m. Saturday, the Oberlin runners will compete in the Class 2A regional meet in Hill City.

The top three teams and top 10 individuals, or at least five runners from nonqualifying teams, will go to the the state meet Saturday, Oct. 29, in Wamego.

"Our boys have a good chance to qualify for state," Coach Ahlberg said. "Our girls have an outside shot."

Red Devils lose to Oakley Plainsmen

The Oakley Plainsmen were too much for the Decatur Community High Red Devils on Friday night, as the visitors downed the home team 45-13.

The loss took Oberlin's record to 2-1 in district play and 3-4 overall.

While Oakley won by a wide margin, most of the game's scoring was done in the last quarter, with only 14 points in the first half, seven in the third quarter and 37 in the fourth.

Oakley won the toss but deferred to Oberlin, which seems to start most of its games with the ball.

Neither team could do anything, however, until Oakley took the ball across the goal line with 4:35 left in the first quarter.

The two-point conversion failed.

Oberlin drove down to the Oakley 15-yard line, but turned the ball over on downs.

Oakley had the ball at the start of the second quarter but the clock on the scoreboard started to act up and no one on the field was sure exactly when Oakley took its second touchdown into the end zone.

This time, the two-point conversion worked and Oakley led 14-0.

The teams traded the ball back and forth for the rest of the quarter,

and the half ended with the Plainsmen up 14-0.

Things looked like they might be going Oberlin's way in the third quarter, as Oakley fumbled the catch on the kickoff at the beginning of the second half and the Devils' Matt Glading recovered at the 15.

The boys ended up having to punt on fourth and 25.

It only took Oakley a few plays to take the ball from its own 20 to the end zone.

The point-afterkick was good and the Plainsmen were up 21-0.

Oakley, which used some tricky plays and had a lot of penalties, tried an inside kick, but Oberlin's Ryan May fell on the ball on the Red Devils' 43.

Two plays later Oakley intercepted a pass.

The Oberlin defense held, however, and Oakley had to punt.

With three to four minutes left in the quarter, the Red Devils started a long march from their own 15 to within a yard of the goal line.

It took the entire time, plus a few seconds of the fourth quarter, for Oberlin to score.

Finally, Brent Juenemann took a quarterback keeper across the line and Dayton Dreher kicked the extra

point to put Oberlin on the board.

Oakley made a touchdown on its next drive but the kick after was blocked.

Oberlin returned the favor, as the Red Devils took four plays to go from their own 35 to the end zone.

On the fourth play, Zach May threw the ball 29 yards to Dreher, who went in for a touchdown.

A two-point conversion try was no good and the score stood at 27-13.

By then, however, the Oberlin defense was getting tired and was no longer able to hold the Plainsmen.

The visitors scored three more touchdowns, including an Oberlin kickoff, which was run from the Oakley 6 to the end zone.

Oakley continued to try trick plays, including another inside kick, but this one was caught by Conner McHugh. Oberlin's Kennedy Fortin had to be helped off the field with a leg injury.

The game ended with the Plainsmen ahead, 45-13.

Passers for Oberlin against the Plainsmen were Z. May, one for two for 28 yards, and Juenemann, seven for 10 for 49 yards.

Top receivers were Z. May, four for 32 yards; Dreher, two for 33; and

McHugh, two for 12.

Top rushers were Z. May, 26 carries for 117 yards; Kennedy Fortin, seven for 29; Konner Fortin one for four; Chris Anderson, one for one; and Juenemann, 10 for one.

Top defensive players were Juenemann, six tackles; Konner Fortin, three tackles and five assists; Kennedy Fortin, three tackles and two assists; Dreher, three tackles and an assist; Z. May two tackles and two assists;

Rex Diederich, two tackles; Channing Fortin, a tackle and four assists; Tyler Bruggeman and Cody Wurm, a tackle and three assists each; McHugh, one tackle and one assist; and Glading, an assist.

The Red Devils will meet the Ellis Railroaders in Oberlin at 7 p.m. Friday for the fourth district game.

Ellis is 3-0 in district play with victories over Rawlins County, Leoti and St. Francis and 3-4 overall with losses to Norton, Plainville, Smith Center and Phillipsburg.

Oberlin's last football game of the regular season will be on Friday, Oct. 28, in Leoti against the Wichita County Indians.

Junior high football squad beats Oakley

The Decatur Community Junior High football team did what their older brothers could not last week: They beat Oakley.

In Oberlin on Thursday, the young Red Devils downed the junior high Plainsmen, 47-6.

Oberlin scored in the first quarter when Noah Nelson hit Bryson Wesley on a quick pass and Wesley went 49 yards into the end zone.

The two-point conversion try failed but Oberlin was up 6-0.

Oberlin scored again in the second quarter when Jeff Juenemann

punched a touchdown in from the 2. Wesley ran the two point conversion.

At half time, the score was 14-0 in favor of the Red Devils.

The offensive line took control in the second half, said Coach Joe Dreher, as the young Red Devils scored five more times.

Juenemann scampered 75 yards for a touchdown, then Nelson ran in the conversion.

Wesley scored four times on runs of 21, 36 and 17 yards and a 60-yard pass play from Nelson.

Oberlin was able to make the two-point conversion on the pass play, and Nelson also kicked an extra point in the scoring barrage.

Oakley was able to score once in the fourth quarter.

"The defense had a good day, with two fumble recoveries and an interception," Coach Dreher said.

"It was an exciting season with a good bunch of kids."

The junior high team finished the year 5-2.

The losses were to the eighth-grade teams for Goodland and

Colby.

"A big thanks to the team for all their hard work and dedication," said Coach Dreher. "Also, thanks to Coach Mark Bricker and all the parents and fans throughout the season."

The boys will have a little time off before the junior high boys basketball season starts.

The boys will play their first basketball game Thursday, Nov. 3, at home against St. Francis.

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Congratulations

Congratulations to the NWKL Champion Lady Red Devil Volleyball team and Coach Ruf and Coach Dreher.



We wish you all the best of luck at substate. **"Rollin' Through the Smoke" to State!**
Evan and Sheryl Unger

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