

Oberlin runners win berth at state

The Decatur Community High boys cross country team ran its way to a berth in the state meet over the weekend.

The Oberlin runners went to Hill City on Saturday for the Class 2A Regional meet. The boys took second, giving them a chance to go to state. The girls came in fifth with two runners just missing out on trips to the state meet.

Tyler Shields came in second for the boys and would have gotten to go whether the team went or not.

The top three teams and 10 individuals, or five individuals on nonqualifying teams, in the regional meet qualify for state.

"Our boys took care of business, running solid and consistent

as they have all year," said Coach Dick Ahlberg. "Nolan and Ganon Henningson had a very good day. We are glad to be returning to state, and should use our experience to be more competitive."

Belleville won the boys division with 55 points, followed by Oberlin 68, Hill City 69, Lincoln 104, Plainville 114, Leoti 117 and Bennington 135.

"This was a tough girls regional, and our girls were very competitive for a young team," Coach Ahlberg said. "Caitie Shields and Winter Polivka just missed qualifying for the state meet. Brittany Urban and Kayla Jones had better performances."

Oakley won the girls meet with 61

points, followed by Bennington 69, Hill City 70, Lincoln 78, Oberlin 97, Belleville 114 and Ellsworth 163.

Running for the Oberlin boys were:

- Shields, 17:16, second.
- N. Henningson, 19:04, 11th.
- Dalton Jones, 19:22, 14th;
- Matt Helm 19:54, 21st.
- G. Henningson, 20:30, 28th.
- Caleb Koerperich, 21:12, 34th.

Running for the girls were:

- Shields, 17:23, 11th.
- Polivka, 17:28, 12th.
- Urban, 18:32, 22nd.
- Jones, 19:13, 30th.
- Emma Borton, 21:14, 44th.

The state meet will start at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Wamego Country Club on west U.S. 24.



BENDING ALMOST IN HALF, Miki Dorshorst (No. 3) sent the ball back over the net in the Lady Red Devils' substate match against Oakley on Saturday. Ready to help were (from left) Keatra Fisher, Kiah Blau and Hanna May.

— Herald photo by Abby Hissong

Red Devils fall to Ellis

The Decatur Community High football team lost 41-0 to the Ellis Railroaders on Friday, knocking the team out of contention for the district playoffs.

Two teams from the district will go to the playoffs. Oakley had already beaten Oberlin the week before, and the game against Ellis was a must win for the Red Devils if they wanted to continue on into post season play.

However, the Railroaders turned out to be a lot tougher than Oberlin realized, and they handed the Red Devils their first shutout of the season.

Ellis won the coin toss and elected to receive in the second half.

Oberlin's Konner Fortin took the kickoff but Oberlin was only able to get about 10 yards into Railers territory before being forced to punt.

Ellis took the ball and quickly moved downfield for a touchdown with 5:11 left in the first quarter. The kick after was good, and Ellis led 7-0.

Each team had the ball again in the first quarter, but neither scored.

At the beginning of the second period, Oberlin had the ball but had to punt. Ellis took over, but a holding call and a personal foul pushed the Railers back. Then Zach May intercepted an Ellis pass and Oberlin took over less than 20 yards from the goal line.

However, the Red Devils couldn't go anywhere and Ellis intercepted a Brent Juenemann pass. This time, the Railers hung on to make their second touchdown with 7:02 left in the half. The kick was no good but the score was 13-0.

Oberlin went four and out on its next drive, but Ellis went all the way and scored again with 3:46 left in the half. The kick was good and the score was 20-0.

Again Oberlin was unable to move the ball. Ellis scored a fourth touchdown with 1:22 left. The kick was good again and the score 27-0.

With just a few seconds left to go before halftime, Ellis again intercepted the ball and made a last-ditch effort to pass for a fifth touchdown. The play was broken up by Garrett

Berry and the first half ended.

In the third quarter, Ellis had a touchdown called back due to a penalty and had to punt, but Oberlin could not go anywhere.

The teams traded the ball back and forth until late in the quarter, when Ellis again lost a touchdown due to a penalty. This time, however, the Railers took the ball in. The kick was good and the score was 34-0 with 2:08 left in the third.

Ellis got one more chance on an Oberlin fumble to score in the quarter and made good on it with 24 seconds left. The kick was good and the score was 41-0.

Neither team scored in the fourth quarter, and Coach J.D. Johnson took out his starters and allowed the younger boys to play.

This week, Oberlin will play its last game of the season in Leoti against Wichita County. The game will start at 7 p.m. on Thursday, a day earlier than usual because of the first round of bi-district playoffs next week.

Junior high A-team takes third

The Decatur Community Junior High volleyball A-team took third in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament in Atwood on Thursday.

The young Lady Red Devils lost to Hoxie but beat both Oakley and Rawlins County for third-place.

In round one, Oberlin lost to Hoxie 25-11, 25-13.

"The girls started very sluggish and communication and confidence plagued them," Coach Gina Witt said. "We did serve well, making 22 of 25 for 88 percent."

Kassidie Jensen went four for four; Kaitlynn Fisher and Jakobi Blau, three for three; and Shylo Shields, one for one, for 100 percent serves.

In the second round, the Lady Red Devils downed Oakley 25-8, 25-23.

"The girls came out fired up and ready to play," Coach Witt said. "They did a great job of setting up the ball and staying positive. We served well again this game, making 43 of 49 for 88 percent."

Three girls served 100 percent: Ara Marine went 20 for 20; Baily Fassler, eight for eight; and Shields, two for two.

In the game for third place, Oberlin downed Rawlins County 25-21, 25-19.

"The girls came out and played amazing volleyball," said Coach Witt. "They worked hard for every point they got. They were down a few in the second set and battled back to win. The girls did a fabulous job of setting up and using the ball. They did an excellent job of serving the ball, making 48 of 50 serves for

96 percent with 16 aces.

Serving 100 percent were Marine, 15 for 15; Fisher, seven for seven; Jensen, three for three; and Alexandra Waterman, one for one.

"I am so proud of how hard the girls have worked this season," Coach Witt said. "They have struggled with confidence and communication all season, but gave everything they had at the tournament."

This finishes off the junior high volleyball season. While the junior high boys play basketball, the girls will learn the fundamentals of cheerleading in November and December. Then in January, the girls will start playing basketball while the boys start wrestling.

Girls lose substate contest

The Decatur Community High volleyball team's season ended in Ellis on Saturday as the girls lost a close match 25-22, 14-25, 25-22 to Oakley in the first round of the substate tournament.

"Oakley probably played their best match of their season," said Coach Sherri Ruf. "They hustled to every ball and played well at the net."

"We needed to stay more aggressive at the net. We got into the tipping game, and Oakley was able

to get to those tips.

"I'm so proud of the girls. They played with a lot of heart and showed great character and integrity. They are a great group of girls and they had an awesome season."

The Lady Red Devils ended the season 25-8.

Top players for Oberlin were:

- Kiah Blau, eight digs, 15 kills and nine blocks.
- Miki Dorshorst, nine digs, 19 assists, four kills and two blocks.
- Jamie Soderlund, two aces, four

digs, four kills and four blocks.

• Hannah May, three digs, two kills and a block.

• Darbi Rouse, three aces and eight digs.

• Taylor Macfee, two digs, two kills and three blocks.

• Cassidy Shields, two digs and five assists.

• Keatra Fisher, three digs, two kills and a block.

• Morgan Jansonius, an assist.

Four named top in league

Four Decatur Community High School girls have been chosen by Northwest Kansas League volleyball coaches for the 2011 all-league team.

The coaches named two Oberlin girls to the first team, one to the second team and one for honorable mention. Oberlin won the league title this year, for the fourth time in as many years.

Senior Kiah Blau and junior Miki Dorshorst won places on the first team. Junior Keatra Fisher was named to the all-league second team, while junior Cassidy Shields received honorable mention.

Others players named to the first team were Lexi Woolf, Quinter; Hillary Chvatal, Rawlins County; Kristina Faber, Hoxie; and Carrie Pilkington, Oakley.

Filling out the second team were Kaitlin Figgins, St. Francis; Shelby Heim and Natasha Allmer, Hoxie; Kylie Werth, Quinter; and Brooke Hemmert, Oakley.

Also receiving honorable mention were Abbey Wolters, Rawlins County; Kayla Zer, Quinter; Daniel Stithem, Hoxie; Kyndal Maurath, Oakley; and Lexi Hilt, St. Francis.

Junior high B-team takes fourth

The Decatur Community Junior High B-team volleyball girls took fourth in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament in Quinter last week, beating Quinter but losing to Hoxie and St. Francis.

In the first match, Oberlin lost to Hoxie 25-9, 25-6.

"We came out not talking or moving and missed several serves," said Coach Cricket Ketterl.

Taylor Corbett served 100 percent for Oberlin in that match and in the two that followed.

The Oberlin girls beat Quinter 25-23, 25-22, in their second match.

"We came out fired up, talked and moved our feet," Coach Ketterl said. "We played really well."

In the match for third place, St. Francis won 25-8, 25-11.

"We had a long break before our final game, and it brought the momentum down," Coach Ketterl said.

"We stopped talking and moving."

Kelsey May also served 100 percent in the final match.

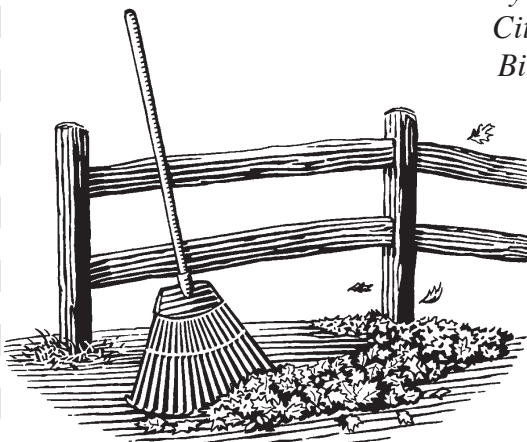
"It was a great season and the girls have improved by leaps and bounds," Coach Ketterl said. "I am so proud of them and of their hard work."

Please clip out this ad and save for handy reference.

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The burning of vegetation, limbs and other organic material will be permitted (no rubber tires):
 Friday, Oct. 21
 through
 Wednesday, Nov. 30
 provided adequate safety measures are taken, and being mindful of wind conditions.

By Order of
 City Mayor
 Bill Riedel



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