



RUNNERS SURGED FORWARD during the Class 2A State Cross County Meet in Wamego on Saturday. Decatur Community High School runner Tyler Shields (No. 433), in the middle of the pack, finished second.

— Herald photo by Cassidy Shields

Oberlin runner takes second at state

Oberlin senior Tyler Shields took second at the Class 2A State Cross County meet in Wamego on Saturday and the rest of the Oberlin boys team ran well enough for the Red Devils to take ninth overall. "This was a very competitive state meet," said Coach Dick Ahlberg. "Our guys had a solid performance. Tyler ran an outstanding race. "Our guys had a good season and a good team. We were Northwest Kansas League champs and state

qualifiers." This year, Coach Ahlberg said, the Oberlin boys' average time at the state meet was 19 minutes and one second. Last year, the average time was 41 seconds longer at 19:42. At the regional meet this year, the team's average time was 19:13. "We ran better than last week and quite a bit better than last year," Coach Ahlberg noted. Shields was named to the all-state team for his work, finishing in 16:53

on Saturday. Also running at state: • Nolan Henningson, 19:04, 51st. • Dalton Jones, 19:23, 57th. • Matthew Helm, 19:39, 65th. • Ganon Henningson, 20:06, 73rd. • Caleb Koerperich, 20:52, 87th. Ellinwood finished first with 81 points, followed by Stanton County 112, Jefferson County 119, Maranatha Academy from Shawnee

121, Berean Academy from Elbing 124, Republic County 132, Sterling 146, Christian of Kansas City 170, Decatur Community High 182, Hill City 221, Washington County, 272 and Wabaunsee 277. "We will graduate three fine senior boys (Shields, N. Henningson and Jones)," Coach Ahlberg said, "so next year we will have to rebuild with some young runners. We will have varsity spots open, so need more runners.

"Our girls were improved this season and with five varsity-level runners returning, we have high expectations for the 2012 season. Our young girls will need to build a stronger base through summer running and find a friend to add to our squad size. "Thanks again to all our parents, staff and friends for their support this season. It was really fun."

Boys start season

The Decatur Community Junior High boys start their basketball season this week, playing on their own court at 4:30 p.m. Thursday against St. Francis.

On Monday, the young Red Devils will play St. Patrick's in McCook at 4 p.m. The next day, Tuesday, the boys will be back home again for a 4:30 p.m. contest against Quinter.

Coach Tim Breth heads up the junior high boys basketball squads again this year with help from Jason Ketterl.

"I am hoping to have a good team this year," Coach Breth said. "The eighth graders are defending league champions from last year.

"Most of these boys played in the summer league at Atwood. They went undefeated and won the regular season as well as the tourney in the month of June. This should give us a good foundation to build from.

"Our season is fast and furious. We have already started practices, and games and will be done by Christmas."

Playing on the seventh-grade team are Gatlin Hissong, Tabor Erickson, Max Diederich, Jeff Juenemann, Cade Wurm, Dante Robertson, Mason Ahlberg, Quinton Cook and Dayton Kempt.

While the boys are playing basketball, the junior high girls will be learning cheerleading. Then after Christmas, the boys will turn to wrestling and the girls will start their basketball season.

Red Devils down Wichita County

The Decatur Community High Red Devils struck early and often Thursday, whipping the Wichita County Indians in Leoti, 50-16, to end their season in style.

In their last game of the year, the Oberlin boys showed what they could do on both the offense and defense. The victory put the Red Devils' record at 5-4, 3-2 in district play.

Oberlin also won against St. Francis, Rawlins County and Syracuse and lost to Cambridge, Neb., Oakley, Ellis, Norton and La Crosse.

On Thursday, it only took the Red Devils two plays after getting the football to take it over the goal line for a 6-0 lead. Quarterback Zach Juenemann threw a pass to Ryan May, who took it 60 yards for Oberlin's first score. The point-after try didn't work.

Leoti went four and out and handed the ball back to Oberlin.

The Red Devils moved the ball well and had help from a late-hit call for an extra 15 yards. Then Juenemann handed it off to May, who passed it back, allowing the quarterback to make the 16-yard run to the goal line and score Oberlin's second 6 points.

Again, the point-after didn't work, but with 6:08 left in the first quarter, Oberlin was up 12-0.

On the kickoff, the Leoti receiver nearly made it all the way, taking the ball from his own 20 yard line to the Red Devils' 40. There, Tyler Bruggeman made the stop.

The Indians made it down to the Red Devils 17 before failing to convert on fourth down.

Oberlin took over on its own 17 with 43 seconds left in the quarter.

On the second play, Juenemann

ran a quarterback keeper to take the ball 83 yards to the end zone. The two-point conversion try was successful — at last — and Oberlin led 20-0 as the clock ran out.

It only took the Indians four plays at the beginning of the second quarter to hand the ball back to the Red Devils with 8:47 left in the half.

This time, Oberlin's May took the ball from the Red Devils' 26 to the goal line on the first play, using just three seconds off the clock. The points-after attempt was no good, but with 8:44 left in the first half, Oberlin led 26-0.

The Indians took the kickoff and patiently moved down the field, ending the drive with a touchdown with 5:04 left in the quarter. Their two-point conversion was successful and the home team was on the board with the score 26-8.

Dayton Dreher returned the kickoff to the Red Devils 44 to put Oberlin in good field position. With 2:06 left in the first half, Juenemann passed to Kennedy Fortin, who took the ball into the end zone. Again the point-after try was unsuccessful but Oberlin was up 32-8.

With about two minutes left in the first half, Leoti moved the ball to the Red Devils 6, where the drive stalled. The half ended with Oberlin ahead 32-8.

Leoti took the kickoff after half time but had to punt on fourth down.

Oberlin took over on its own 26 and took the ball up to the Oberlin 40.

At this point, quarterback Juenemann had equipment problems and retired to the sidelines for repairs. May took over and, with Channing Fortin blocking in front of him,

took a quarterback keeper almost 60 yards for a touchdown. The kick after was no good, but Oberlin was ahead 38-8 with 8:08 left in the third quarter.

On Leoti's second play after the kickoff, May intercepted a pass and ran the ball back to the end zone. A block in the back negated the touchdown but not the interception.

Oberlin started off again on the Leoti 36 but had to punt for the first time all night with 4:55 left in the quarter.

This time, Leoti fumbled on second down and the ball was recovered by Kennedy Fortin.

Starting on the Leoti 20, Oberlin took four downs to score. On fourth down with three yards to go, Juenemann gave the ball to May, who handed it off to Dreher. He ran the ball into the end zone for Oberlin's seventh touchdown. The kick was no good, but the score was 44-8 with 2:02 left in the quarter.

Leoti again threw the ball into May's hands with 28 seconds left in the third. As the fourth quarter started, Oberlin wasn't able to move the ball and had to punt.

As Leoti took over, Oberlin Coach J.D. Johnson started to substitute his younger players in for some of the starters.

Leoti got the ball back to the Red Devils 26 but again May grabbed off a pass. The Red Devils scored again to take the score to 50-8.

With less than a minute to go and the freshmen and sophomores in for Oberlin, Leoti was able to score one more time. The two-point conversion was again good for the Indians and the game ended with the score 50-16.

"We would have liked to have

made the playoffs but the boys matured and got better as a team all season long," Coach J.D. Johnson said. "As a coach, you want to see your team get better and improve. We hope to see improved play and an improved record next year.

The coach said that he has a good group of players coming back next year but will be losing seniors Juenemann, Garrett Berry, Conner McHugh and Shane McEvoy.

"Hopefully, our numbers will be up," the coach said noting that there were some good eighth graders on the junior high team this year.

Passing for Oberlin in the Leoti game were Juenemann, four of eight for 151 yards and May, two of three for 36 yards.

Receivers were May, 11 for 60 yards; Juenemann, two for 36; Chris Anderson, one for 41; Kennedy Fortin, one for 29; and Konner Fortin, one for 21.

Rushers were May, 10 carries for 180 yards; Juenemann, 11 for 102; Dreher, two for 14; Konner Fortin, two for 12; Channing Fortin, two for six; Anderson, two for five; Kennedy Fortin, four for three; and Gabe Anderson, one for two.

Tackles were made by B. Juenemann, nine tackles and two assists; Rex Diederich, five tackles and two assists; C. Fortin, four tackles and four assists; Kennedy Fortin, four tackles and two assists; Dreher and Anderson, two tackles and two assists each; Adam Zillinger, two tackles; Konner Fortin, a tackle and three assists; Ryan May, McHugh and Berry, a tackle and two assists each; Z. May, three assists; Tyler Bruggeman, two assists; and Kelden Breth, Matt Glading and Troy Juenemann, one assist each.

Girls end season 24-8

The Lady Red Devils of Decatur Community High wrapped up a 24-8 volleyball season at the substate tournament a little over a week ago.

The junior varsity squad ended its season 11-8 and won the Oberlin Invitational tournament.

The varsity girls won their own tournament for the fourth year in a row and were Northwest Kansas League champions for the fourth time also.

"The Lady Red Devils volleyball team had a very successful season," Coach Sherri Ruf said.

Senior Kiah Blau and junior Miki Dorshorst were named by coaches to the all-league first team. Junior Keatra Fisher was named to the second team and junior Cassidy Shields received honorable mention. The team, Coach Ruf and former

coach Pat Dorshorst, were featured on the cover and in an article in the November issue of *Sports Inc.*, a magazine put out as part of *The Hays Daily News*.

Team statistics for the season: • Kills, 716. • Assists, 597. • Aces, 185 with a 91 percent serving average. • Serve receptions, 1,154 good passes, 2,556 passing points and a 94 percent passing rate. • Digs, 837. • Solo blocks, 124. • Assisted blocks, 1,597.

"The team would like to thank everyone for their support this season," Coach Ruf said.



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2011 Decatur Community Junior High Boys Basketball

Thursday, Nov. 3:	St. Francis — Home	4:30 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 7:	McCook St. Patrick's — Away	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 8:	Quinter — Home	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 10:	Rawlins Co. — Away	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 17:	Oakley — Away	4:30 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 21:	Hoxie — Home	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 1:	Rawlins Co. — Home	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 8:	St. Francis — Away	4:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 12:	NWK League — TBA	TBA
Thursday, Dec. 15:	NWK League — Hoxie	2 p.m.

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