

## Sports

## Oberlin eighth-grade boys take league championship

The Oberlin eighth-grade boys basketball team took the Northwest Kansas League championship on Thursday in Hoxie by defeating Oakley.

In the first round last Monday, the boys downed Quinter, 38-29. Then on Thursday, the young Red Devils beat St. Francis 43-35 to advance to the finals.

The championship game was hard fought but the Decatur Community Junior High team beat Oakley 42-39 in overtime.

Scoring against Quinter in the first round were Noah Nelson, 22 points, three rebounds, nine steals and two blocks; Keagen Blau, 6 points and six rebounds; Bryson Wesley, 4 points and two rebounds; Kade Grafel, 2 points and five rebounds; and Kelly Brown and Konnor Witt, 2 points and four rebounds each.

In the second round against St. Francis, Oberlin outscored the young Indians in every quarter, 11-7, 11-9, 11-10 and 10-9 for the victory.

"We've lost twice to St. Francis

this season," said Coach Tim Breth. "I preached to my team it was hard to beat a team three times in one season. They must have been paying attention, because we came out and played well. For the first time this year, we hit most of our free throws, which was a key to our win."

Scoring were Nelson, 17 points, five rebounds and five steals; Blau, 16 points and seven rebounds; Brown 5 points and five rebounds; Wesley, 2 points and nine rebounds; Witt, 2 points; and Andrew Wade, 1 point.

In the championship game, the lead bounced back and forth, and both halves ended in a tie.

In the first quarter, Oberlin outscored Oakley 11-10 and in the second, Oakley turned the score around and put up 11 to Oberlin's 10 for a 21-all tie at the half.

In the third quarter, Oberlin out shot the young Plainsmen 10-4 to lead 31-25. In the fourth, however, Oakley roared back to outscore the young Red Devils 12-6 to force a tie at 37.

In overtime, Oberlin was able to score 5 points to Oakley's 2 for the win.

"It was 'deja vu all over again,' as Yogi Berra would have said," Coach Breth said. "This is what it felt like. Last year, this team played Oakley and won in overtime for the championship, and so it happened again this year.

"I can't believe our play. It was tremendous. Just a few days prior, we were struggling. The players wanted it and performed like champs."

Scoring were Nelson, 16 points, six rebounds and three steals; Blau, 9 points and five rebounds; Wade, 6 points, five rebounds and two steals; Wesley, 6 points and five rebounds; and Brown, 5 points and four steals.

"I want to thank everyone, who supported us this season," said Coach Breth, adding that the eighth grade finished the season with an 8-3 record.

## Red Devils wrestlers beat Hoxie, Rawlins County boys

The Decatur Community High Red Devil wrestlers beat both Rawlins County and Hoxie in a triangular meet in Atwood on Thursday.

Oberlin downed Rawlins County 60-12 and Hoxie 39-24.

Oberlin won just three matches against Atwood, but the Buffaloes had to forfeit eight because they had no wrestlers at those weights.

Hoxie was a different story. The Indians are one of the best Class 2A teams in the state, according to the state Wrestling Coaches Association. Oberlin won six matches and lost five. Hoxie had four open weights and Oberlin had one.

"Really everybody wrestled well," said assistant Coach Shane Bird. "The guys kind of came together as a team. They got wins going and fed off of each other as a team."

Wrestling for Oberlin were:

- 106 pounds, Troy Juenemann pinned Tristen Storer, Hoxie, and won 18-1 over Hunter Leibrandt, Atwood.

- 113, Matt Helm was pinned by McRae Michelbrink, Atwood.

- 120, Gabe Anderson, was pinned by Mat Heim, Hoxie, and by John Solko, Atwood.

- 126, Dayton Dreher pinned Brit-

ton Sealock, Hoxie, and won 5-0 over Rhett Mizer, Atwood.

- 132, Brent Juenemann won 7-2 over Drew Jones, Hoxie.

- 145, Kade Brown lost 12-5 to Calvin Ochs, Hoxie.

- 152, Matt Glading won 3-1 over P.J. Carter, Hoxie.

- 160, Grant Gilliam was pinned by Dalton Snyder, Hoxie, and won 8-0 over Cody Wright, Atwood.

- 170, Rex Diederich was pinned by Steven Yergey, Hoxie.

- 195, Jeff Shaw lost 8-1 to Brandon Salmans, Hoxie.

- 285, Cody Wurm, won 5-0 over Leamon Colson, Hoxie.

## Wrestlers win Nebraska tourney

The Decatur Community High varsity wrestlers went to Cambridge, Neb., for a tournament Saturday and brought home the first-place trophy, besting 16 other teams.

Oberlin took first with 350 points, followed by teams from Nebraska schools Loomis/Bertrand 229, Filmore Central 227, Elwood 215, Cambridge 195, Franklin 194, Overton 180, Eustis/Farnam 175,

Elm Creek 141, Ansley/Arcadia 127, Superior 127, Wilcox/Hildreth 124, Harvard 109, Hitchcock County 101, Alma 99, Axtell 95 and Hasting junior varsity 79.

Placing for Oberlin were:

- 120 pounds, Gabe Anderson, third.

- 126, Dayton Dreher, first.
- 138, Chris Anderson, fourth.
- 145, Kade Brown, first.
- 152, Matt Glading, third.

- 160, Grant Gilliam, fifth.
- 170, Rex Diederich, second.
- 195, Jeff Shaw, fourth.
- 220, Channing Fortin, first.

"The Oberlin wrestling team won two duals on Thursday and placed first at the Cambridge tournament on Saturday," said Coach Joe Dreher. "We had a pretty good week and got a lot of mat time."

## Basketball boys fall to St. Francis

The Decatur Community High boys basketball squad suffered its second loss of the year on Friday as the St. Francis Indians beat the Red Devils 57-46 in Oberlin.

The Red Devils are 3-2 as they head into the Christmas break. They were supposed to play the Hill City Ringnecks on Monday, making up a game cancelled last week, but the game was called off due.

Oberlin started out behind as the Indians outscored the Devils 9-6 in the first quarter and 18-12 in the second to take a 27-18 lead at the half.

In the third quarter, St. Francis again outscored Oberlin, this time 14-8.

In the fourth quarter, Oberlin tried for a comeback, outscoring St.

Francis 20-16.

Scoring for Oberlin were Dalton Jones 16, Zach May 12, Tyler Shields and Shane McEvoy 6 each, Tyler Bruggeman 4 and Kennedy Fortin 2. Shields hit a three-point shot.

May was the top rebounder with eight, followed by McEvoy, five; Bruggeman, four; Shields and

Jones, three each; and Fortin, one.

May had three blocks and Fortin one. May also led the team in steals with four, followed by Jones, three; Fortin, two; and Shields, Garrett Berry and Bruggeman, one each.

Jones had four assists, followed by May with a pair and Berry and Fortin, one each.



**JAMIE SODERLUND PREPARED** to put the game away for the Lady Red Devils as she took a shot with three seconds left to go Thursday against St. Francis.

— Herald photo by Susan May

## Girls down St. Francis in front of home crowd

The Decatur Community High girls downed the Lady Indians of St. Francis 56-54 in front of a home crowd Friday.

The teams were well matched and the score was never more than a few points apart.

In the first quarter, Miki Dorshorst's six baskets and Darbi Rouse's 2 pointer weren't quite enough to put the girls ahead, as St. Francis outscored the Lady Red Devils 15-14.

In the second, the Oberlin scoring was more spread out with six shooters hitting the basket, including threes from Jamie Soderlund and Demi Murray. Oberlin's shooting gave the Lady Red Devils 20 points to St. Francis's 17. The Indians hit five two-point shots and seven out of 17 from the free throw line but fell behind 34-32 at the half.

In the third period, the Lady Indians made up some of the difference by outscoring Oberlin 10-9. Oberlin still lead, 43-42.

In the final quarter, the Lady Red Devils were again able to edge the Indians, this time 13-12. That included a three-point shot by Soderlund.

Oberlin made half its shots at the free throw-line, three out of six. St. Francis had a lot more chances but was only able to hit 11 of 24.

Scoring were Dorshorst 14, Soderlund 12, Rouse 11, Alexis Hissong 8, Hannah May 6 and Murray 5.

The junior varsity fell 41-38 to the visiting Indians despite a good second half.

Oberlin came out strong in the first quarter, outscoring St. Francis 10-3.

In the second, St. Francis scored 13 points with four field goals and five free throws to Oberlin's 9. At the half, the Lady Red Devils led 19-16.

In the third, Oberlin outscored St. Francis 12-9 to take a 31-25 lead.

In the last period, however, the Indians went on the warpath, scoring 16 points to Oberlin's 7 for the 41-38 victory.

Scoring for Oberlin were Megan Huntley 16, Murray 5, Whitney Witt and Molly Jansonius 4 each, Ashley Witt and Morgan Jansonius 3 each, Grace Randel 2 and Shawn Baker 1.

The Lady Red Devils are done for 2011. The girls' next game will be at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, in Atwood against the Rawlins County Lady Buffaloes.

A game scheduled for last Tuesday, then rescheduled for Monday at Hill City, has been put off again because of weather.

## Seventh graders take second place

The Oberlin seventh-grade basketball team ended its season by taking second place in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament.

The seventh graders had a bye in the first round, and in the second, on Thursday in Hoxie, they held on to beat Oakley 25-23.

Then later in the day, the Decatur Community Junior High seventh graders fell 40-29 to St. Francis to place second in the tournament.

In the second round, Oakley came out strong, outscoring Oberlin 8-4 in the first quarter. In the second, the young Plainsmen outscored the Red Devils 6-5 for a 14-9 lead at the half.

In the third period, Oberlin came back strong, outscoring Oakley 10-4 for a narrow 19-18 lead. In the fourth, the Red Devils edged Oakley 6-5 for a two-point victory.

"The team avenged an earlier midseason loss to Oakley," said Coach Tim Breth. "To start the

game, we were nervous and tight, we couldn't hit the broad side of a barn. In the second half, we played much better, and everyone contributed to the victory."

Scoring were Quinton Cook, 5 points and seven rebounds; Mason Ahlberg, 5 points; Tabor Erickson, 4 points, five rebounds and four steals; Dayton Kempt, 4 points and three rebounds; Gatlin Hissong, 3 points; and Max Diederich and Jeff Juenemann, 2 points each.

In the championship game, St. Francis took an 18-8 lead in the first quarter. Oberlin came back and outscored the Indians 8-2 in the second, but still trailed 20-16 at the half.

In the third, it was St. Francis' turn again, and the Indians outscored Oberlin 11-3. In the fourth period, Oberlin edged the Indians 10-9 but could not overcome St. Francis big lead.

"St. Francis came out and shot the ball really well," Coach Breth

said. "We got down early, but battled back. We were only behind by four at the half.

"The semifinal game must have taken a lot out of us, because by the third quarter, we were flat. The four-point spread quickly jumped back up to about 10 points, and we couldn't recover."

Scoring were Ahlberg, 12 points and six rebounds; Cook, 5 points and five rebounds; Erickson, 5 points and four rebounds; Hissong, 3 points and three steals; Kempt, 2 points and three rebounds; and Cade Wurm, 2 points.

The seventh graders ended the season with a 7-3 record.

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