

# It's Red Devils football season!



DECATUR COMMUNITY HIGH'S Red Devils football team began practice this week for the impending season, which starts with a game at home against Cambridge, Neb., next week, on Friday, Aug. 31. The boys (above) have been working on blocking and tackling specifically, said Coach Joe Dreher.

## Players get ready for a new season

Oberlin's Red Devils are practicing twice a day for the upcoming football season and shaping up nicely.

Athletic Director Joe Dreher said that this year they have 35 students on the team, enough for three practice groups. Which, he says, is more than they've had for four or five years, at least.

"It's still early so there's a lot up in the air," Mr. Dreher said. "All positions are open right now."

The team will be playing their first game on Friday, Aug 31, at home versus Cambridge. Mr. Dreher said this biggest challenge facing the team this year is that they only have six seniors.

"We'll have to get a lot out of them," he said. "They're going to have to play hard, on both sides of the ball."

This early in the season, the boys are focusing on the fundamentals, he said, like blocking, tackling, and getting their running game established.

"It's always a refresher course," he said.

There are nine games in a regular season, more if the boys win the district games.



RED DEVILS PLAYERS Keegan Blau (above, right) worked on his running game during practice. The boys were put into two groups (bottom) so that one could study the other as they went through plays. and Dayton Dreher (above, left) stood back and watched as their teammates scrimmaged on Thursday. Matt Glading

— Story and photos by Stephanie DeCamp