

# Sports

## Hot Red Devils down Buffaloes, outshoot Oakley

The Oberlin boys shot down the Buffaloes and the Plainsmen last week, defeating Atwood on Tuesday and Oakley on Thursday in a pair of road games.

On Tuesday, the Decatur Community High boys came home from Atwood with a 72-50 victory.

The Devils started out hot, hitting 19 points to the Buffaloes' 8 in the first quarter and 21-15 in the second to lead 52-40 at the half. In the third quarter, the Buffaloes got going and outscored Oberlin 17-12 but were still down 52-40. The last quarter was all Oberlin, as the Devils hit 20 points to Atwood's 10 and coasted to victory.

Coach Dick Ahlberg said that shooting was a big key to the game, with Oberlin hitting 44 percent and Atwood only 35 percent. He was happy that 29 of the 72 points came from his substitutes.

"We had a big 29 points from off the bench," he said. "Aaron (Ploussard) had a big game."

Scoring for the Devils were Ryan Ruf, 17 points; Ploussard, 14; Skyler Tacchini, 9; Rollie Leitner and Rusty Grafel, 8 each; Tyson Nicholson, 5; Nathan Carr and Corey Fortin, 4 each; and Brandon Metcalf, 3.

Every regular Oberlin player scored and a couple of younger players got in the game.

Ruf was the rebound leader with 13 followed by Tacchini, six; Nicholson and Grafel, five each; Leitner, four; Fortin, three; and Ploussard, Egan Grafel, Kyle Inman and Carr, one each.

## Oberlin girls lose games to Atwood and Oakley

The Decatur Community High girls basketball team fell to Atwood on Tuesday and Oakley on Thursday in two road games.

Atwood overcame the Devils 75-54.

"Overall, it was our best game against Atwood," Coach Paul Nepodal said. "We started off well and played hard. We continue to beat ourselves most of the time, but that speaks to our inexperience once again."

Atwood started the game off strong and hit seven out of seven free throws in the first quarter to lead the Devils 25-12 right off the mark. In the second quarter, the Buffaloes continued to hit the basket both from the field and from the line. They made eight of 10 free throws and scoring 19 to Oberlin's 9 to lead 44-21 at the half. In the third and fourth quarters, Oberlin shot better, hitting 15 in the third quarter and 18 in the fourth. This was not enough to overcome the Buffaloes, who hit 21 points in the third quarter to lead 65-36, but were only able to come up with 10 points in the last quarter.

Oberlin hit 50 percent at the free throw line, sinking seven of 14 while Atwood hit 79 percent, sinking 22 of 28.

Scoring for Oberlin were Jennifer Thomas, 17; Dani Dorshorst, 12; Haley Vollertsen, 10; Abby Ream, 6; Kelsey Dorshorst, 4; Kortney Stapp, 3; and Dana Sattler, 2.

D. Dorshorst led in rebounds with eight followed by Stapp and Sattler with four each.

On Thursday, the Devils traveled to Oakley but lost 69-60 to the Plainswomen.

"This was our best overall effort of the year," Coach Nepodal said. "We gave ourselves a great chance to beat a very good team. This should give us confidence going into next year."

## Junior varsity wins game

The Decatur Community High boys' junior varsity basketball team downed the Oakley squad 57-30 on Thursday, raising their record to 3-11.

"We played pretty well," Coach Keith Grafel said. "We got started good and shot the ball very well throughout the game. It was a very good win for us and we're hoping our success will continue this week against Hoxie and Phillipsburg."

Oberlin outscored the Plainsmen in every quarter, starting out 17-8 in the first. Then in the second quarter it

On Thursday the Devils stuck their horns into the Oakley Plainsmen and brought home a 91-61 win.

Again the Oberlin boys started off with more than doubling their opponents score in the first quarter, this time it was 30-16, and stayed strong with a 22-16 scoring binge in the second quarter to lead 52-32 at the half.

This time the Devils never let up, overpowering the Plainsmen in the third quarter 23-14 to lead 75-46 and 16-15 in the fourth for big win.

"This was a good road Northwest Kansas League victory," Coach Ahlberg said. "Our shooting was 45 percent to Oakley's 36 percent."

With three players in double digits and just about everybody, including younger players, getting into the game, Oberlin had a good night.

Scoring for the Devils were Ruf, 30; R. Grafel, 27; Carr, 10; Tacchini, 9; Leitner, 7; Nicholson, 3; Fortin, 2; and Ploussard, 1.

R. Grafel led in rebounds with nine followed by R. Ruf, eight; Nicholson, six; Leitner, five; E. Grafel, two; and Erik Ahlberg, Fortin, and Carr, one each.

Carr had seven assists and Nicholson six while Nicholson, R. Grafel, Carr and Ruf each had a pair of steals.

The Devils were to play a makeup game at home against Hoxie on Monday and host Phillipsburg on Tuesday. After that, sub-state tournament play will be starting on Monday with the location to be announced after this week's games.

Oberlin jumped out ahead in the first quarter, outscoring the Plainswomen 16-12 and continued through the second quarter, 23-17, to lead 39-29 at the half.

The second half was all Oakley, however, as the Plainswomen outscored the Devils 16-9 in the third quarter to shorten Oberlin's lead to 48-45 and 24-12 in the final round to take the victory.

Scoring for Oberlin were Vollertsen, 21; Thomas, 11; Stapp, 10; Ream, 7; D. Dorshorst, 6; K. Dorshorst, 3; and Sattler, 2.

D. Dorshorst was the leading rebounder with 10 followed by Vollertsen, 8, and Ruf, 6.

In junior varsity play, the Lady Devils outlasted the Atwood girls 34-33.

Atwood led at the end of the first quarter 7-4 and at the half 18-14 but the Buffaloes couldn't pull far enough ahead at one time to stay out of the Devils' reach. At the end of three, Oberlin had pulled ahead, 25-23. In the last quarter, although Atwood outscored Oberlin 10-9, the Buffaloes handed Oberlin the win at the free throw line. In the fourth quarter, the Devils picked up 7 out of nine 9 points on charity shots.

Scoring were Kerrie Olson and Rena Unger, 6 each; Sattler and Sarah Ruf, 4 each; Stapp, Lindsay Fortin, Thomas, Ream, Vollertsen and K. Dorshorst, 2 each; and Leah Marietta and D. Dorshorst, 1 each.

The Oakley junior varsity won a two-quarter game 26-14. Scoring for Oberlin were Sattler, 6; Ruf, 5; Olson, 2; and Unger, 1.

The girls were to play Hoxie at home on Monday in a make-up game and Phillipsburg on Tuesday.

Substate play starts on Tuesday but the location was not announced until after the games this week.



**DRIVING FOR TWO** was Lori Vahling during the Jennings/Lenora Coyote/Wildcats varsity game with Brewster on Tuesday.

—Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

## Jennings/Lenora girls thrown for three losses

The Jennings/Lenora girls completed their regular basketball season last week with losses to Northern Valley, Brewster and Herndon.

In a game on Tuesday at Jennings, the Brewster Lady Bulldogs downed the Coyote/Wildcats 48-36.

"The girls played hard, but just couldn't get things to fall our way," Coach Cheri Brooks said. "We got into foul trouble and turned over the ball way too much."

"I wish there was a way we could take our aggressiveness from defense and transfer it to our offense. We are just too timid and think too much on offense."

"Brewster played aggressive and took it to us, especially inside."

Scoring for the Coyote/Wildcats were Ann Carter, 12; Lori Vahling, 10; Whitney Dubois, Sarah Meitl and Kristi Smith, 4 each; and Diane Becker and Katie Randolph, 1 each.

Becker was the rebound leader with nine followed by Meitl, seven; Carter, five; Vahling four; Nickie Rhodes, three; and Dubois and Smith, one each.

On Thursday, the girls were in Lenora for a make-up game against Northern Valley but lost 35-33 to the girls from Alma.

"I was very happy with the way the girls played tonight, especially after Brewster's game," Coach Brooks said. "They played with a lot more intensity, which created numerous turnovers. We also took care of the ball much better on offense. They adapted and did the thing they needed to do."

"Every player had shining moments tonight versus one or two players. It was an all-around good team effort. I know it wasn't a win, but the girls gave a talented Northern Valley team a run for their money. (Karlynn) Cox hurt us the most with her offensive put backs."

Scoring were Vahling, 11; Rhodes and Smith, 6 each; Dubois and Carter, 4 each; and Meitl, 2.

Meitl lead on rebounds with seven followed by Dubois, five; Vahling, four; Carter, three; Becker, two; and Rhodes, one.

On Friday, the girls traveled to Herndon for a league game against the Beavers and came home with a 51-34 loss.

"Our consistency hurt us again," Coach Brooks said. "The girls came out fired up and held Herndon to only 10 points in the first quarter. They were playing great defense and knocking down good shots on offense."

"However, we began to rotate incorrectly on defense and failed to box out, allowing Herndon to score 20 points in the second quarter. Once we got a couple of fouls and tough referee calls, we became tentative and

seemed to lose our determination."

"The girls fought hard to the end, but we just could not overcome that second quarter deficit."

"Now we must regroup ourselves and be ready for our post-season games."

Scoring were Rhodes, 10; Carter, 8; Vahling, 7; Becker, 5; and Meitl and Smith, 2 each.

Becker led on rebounds with seven followed by Dubois, six; Meitl, five; Rhodes, Carter and Vahling, three each and Peggy Foster, two.

In junior varsity play, Brewster beat Jennings/Lenora 21-5.

Scoring were Randolph and Tara Lahr, 2 each, and Foster, 1.

The Coyote/Wildcats were to go into post-season play with regionals on Monday and Tuesday.

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4th Round Out: Jeni Henningson, Robbie Henningson, Jim Barrett. Hat Trick: Jeni Henningson. Men's High: Robbie Henningson 291; Jim Barrett 175. Women's High: Jeni Henningson 191; Judy Cochran 50.

