



WAITING FOR THE REBOUND (above), Oberlin seventh graders Saeger Grafel (No. 31), Connor McHugh (partly hidden in middle) and Shane McEvoy (front right) were ready

along with their St. Francis opponents on Thursday. Brent Juenemann (below) prepared to return the ball to action during the seventh-grade game. — Herald photo by Karen Krien



Junior high boys win two in Sainty

The Decatur Community Junior High boys seventh- and eighth-grade basketball teams beat St. Francis Thursday in the season's first games.

The seventh grade beat the Indians, 22-13, and the eighth graders won, 35-24.

In the seventh-grade game, Saeger Grafel led the Red Devils with 8 points, six rebounds, and two blocked shots.

He was followed by Shane McEvoy with six points and nine rebounds; Brent Juenemann, four points, six rebounds and three steals; Conner McHugh, two points and two steals; and Matt Wittman, two points.

Scoring	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Oberlin	8	0	6	8	22
Sainty	2	1	4	6	13

"What a great way to start the season," said Coach Jason Ketterl. "We had a solid performance for our first game, and I hope they will continue to improve."

In eighth-grade action, Dakota Soderlund had a double-double, scoring 16 points and 14 rebounds plus six steals to lead the Red Devils.

He was followed by Jacob LaRue, seven points and eight rebounds; Chad Williams, five points and six rebounds; Jeb Fortin, three points, three rebounds and three steals; Josh Ritter, two points and three steals; and Keithen Fortin, two points and two steals.

"We didn't shoot the ball very well," said Coach Tim Breth. "It's always nice to start the season with a win. Our play was a little sloppy, but that isn't unusual for the first game. Our boys have a lot of talent and will continue to improve."

The junior high was to play Oakley at home Tuesday.

Thursday, the Red Devils will go to Quinter to face the Bullpups starting at 4:30 p.m. Friday, the B team travels to Colby for a tournament starting at 4 p.m.

Swimmers take medals at Grand Island

The McCook YMCA Swim Team, with many Oberlin swimmers, had its first meet Oct. 21 in Grand Island.

About 100 swimmers from Kearney, Hastings, Grand Island and the McCook-Oberlin area competed.

Three Oberlin swimmers won all four of their events — Nicky McDonald, boys eight and under; Jamie Soderlund, girls age 9-10; and Jakobi Blau, girls 8 and under.

Kiah Blau won three out of four events in the girls 11-12 bracket. Swimming were:

- McDonald, first, 50-meter freestyle, 50.75 seconds; 25-meter butterfly, 28.68; 100-meter freestyle, 1:59.58; and 100-meter individual medley, 2:20.06.
- Soderlund, first, 50-meter butterfly, 48.25; 50-meter backstroke, 46.62; 50-meter freestyle, 36.78; and 100-meter individual medley, 1:37.9.
- J. Blau, first, 25-meter butterfly, 24.35; 25-meter breaststroke, 31.48; 25-meter freestyle, 21.44; and 100-meter individual medley, 2:10.11.

- K. Blau, first, 50-meter butterfly, 40.67; 50-meter breaststroke, 46.19; and 50-meter freestyle, 35.98; and second, 50-meter backstroke, 47.69;.
- Alex Graff, boys eight and under, first, 25-meter backstroke, 27.7; second, 25-meter breaststroke, 38.26, and 25-meter freestyle, 25.74; and third, 25-meter butterfly, 35.62;.
- Sam Backer, boys 9-10, first, 50-meter butterfly, 1:21.36, and fourth, 50-meter freestyle, 51.04.
- Emilee Fish, girls 9-10, first, 100-meter freestyle, 1:22.26; third, 100-meter breaststroke, 2:07.38; and fifth, 50-meter freestyle, 10:58.
- Keegan Williams, boys 11-12, second, 50-meter backstroke, 59.34, and 50-meter breaststroke, 55.22, and third, 50-meter freestyle, 56.67.
- Albany McDonald, girls eight and under, second, 50-meter freestyle, 59.7, and third, 25-meter butterfly, 35.94, and 25-meter breaststroke, 34.63.
- Kariah Castle, girls 9-10, second, 50-meter butterfly, 57.93; third, 50-meter breaststroke, 56.71; fourth, 50-meter freestyle, 46.41; and ninth, 50-meter backstroke, 1:05.05;.
- Kelsey May, girls 9-10, third, 50-meter butterfly, 59.82; 50-meter freestyle, 46.22; and 100-meter individual medley, 2:07.74.
- Keagen Blau, boys 9-10, third, 50-meter butterfly, 1:12.4; fourth, 50-meter backstroke, 1:01.35; fifth,

100-meter freestyle, 2:06; and seventh, 50-meter freestyle, 54.87.

- Kaylee May, girls 11-12, fourth, 50-meter butterfly, 53.87; 50-meter breaststroke, 55.28; and 50-meter freestyle, 40.89.
- Ashley Noltensmeier, girls 13-14, fourth, 50-meter freestyle, 37.15, and sixth, 100-meter freestyle, 1:29.78.
- Ky. Blau, girls eight and under, fourth, 25-meter backstroke, 31.54, and 25-meter breaststroke, 59.34; seventh, 25-meter butterfly, 59.37; and eighth, 25-meter freestyle, 41.49.
- Jessica Premer, girls 9-10, fourth, 100-meter freestyle, 2:07.26; sixth, 50-meter backstroke, 1:00.28; and 10th, 50-meter freestyle, 57.62.
- Morgan Rodgers, girls eight and under, sixth, 25-meter butterfly, 52.36; 25-meter backstroke, 35.41; and 25-meter freestyle, 33.43.
- Taylor Geisler, girls 9-10, sixth, 50-meter breaststroke, 1:01.9, and 50-meter freestyle, 48.83, and seventh, 50-meter backstroke, 1:00.67.
- Andrew Graff, boys eight and under, sixth, 25-meter freestyle, 52.35.
- Anna Graff, girls 9-10, ninth, 50-meter breaststroke, 1:38.13; 10th, 50-meter backstroke, 1:10.01; and 11th, 50-meter freestyle, 1:09.06.
- The girls, 10 and under, relay team of Premer, Castle, Soderlund and Geisler, first, 200-meter medley, 3:34.37, and 200-meter freestyle, 3:18.5.
- The boys, 12 and under, relay team of Backer, Williams, McDonald and Blau, first, 200-meter medley, 4:26.1, and 200-meter freestyle, 4:02.22.
- The girls, 14 and under, relay team of Kiah Blau, Kaylee May, Noltensmeier, and Kelsey May), first, 200-meter freestyle, 2:43.69, and second, 200-meter medley, 3:13.09.
- The girls 10 and under, relay team of McDonald, Ky Blau, J. Blau, and Graff), third, 200-meter medley, 4:34.53, and fourth, 200-meter freestyle, 4:50.43.

"I was very impressed with this group of Oberlin swimmers," said Coach Tracy Flaska. "This meet was a great way to get the season started. The kids seemed to have a good time and did quite well in their respective events."

The swim team competes Saturday in Hastings.

— Herald photo by Karen Krien

Get up and get out with your children

Getting kids headed in the right direction can be a challenge. It is easier to rent a video on Saturday and tell your kids to be quiet than to organize an outing to teach them to hunt or fish.

Outdoor sports take a backseat to the leisure life today.

Parents should look at outdoor activities to generate fresh ideas in children's minds. How do we get children headed in the right direction?

Here are some tips that you can use to get a positive outdoor experience.

- Become an outdoorsman yourself. Children learn by imitation. If you have good values, they will have a role model. Whether you appreciate the outdoors or not, your child just might, so learn to hike, fish or camp. You may surprise yourself. It might be fun.

Take your children to outdoor shows. Show some interest, and theirs will follow. Show them safety in the outdoors. Learn how to tie fishing knots, tie flies, make a walking stick. If they see you doing fun things, they will want to try them.

Make the outdoors fun, not a miserable time. Make memories.



The Jayhawker

By Jim Merriott

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There is nothing more enjoyable than listening to stories about Grandpa while roasting marshmallows over an open campfire.

- Read about the outdoors to your children. Nothing compares with the warmth of snuggling up in a parent's lap to hear a great story. My sons loved it when they were little, especially those that had been adapted for young readers.

I have never forgotten my Dad reading outdoor magazines to me as a boy, nor the exciting stories he told about fishing and hunting when he was growing up in Missouri.

- Lead, but don't push. Don't shove your children into outdoor activities too soon. They will learn over time. Teach them the basics. They can learn, at a young age, how to survive in the outdoors if properly

trained.

One of the basics I gave my children before we headed into the outdoors was a whistle. Sometimes it drove me nuts, but I realized it could save their lives if we were separated.

I have always been grateful to my Dad for taking interest in Scouting. In my travels today, I reflect from time to time on those experiences growing up around the Lake of the Ozarks. Seeing nature firsthand is the key. Scouting can do wonders to improve the relationship between you and your children. Get involved.

On hunting and fishing trips without my family, I make it a point to bring back a little souvenir, like a pretty stone.

- Look for outdoor opportunities. When children have questions about

the outdoors, look for the answers from books, seminars, and professional outdoor experts.

When my youngest boy asked me "Why do fish swim instead of walk?" we ventured to the library. I remember taking my boys on their first overnight camp out. I have never seen so much excitement. Children are fascinated with nature, all the little bugs, sticks, birds and the sounds in the woods.

Another simple thing to do on trips is to carry along a good nature identification book. They are good references and fairly inexpensive. Keep kids interested in books.

- Set high ethical standards. Explain why we have rules to follow in the wild, why there are bag limits, and why we catch and release fish. Stimulate their minds with positive sportsman ideals so they will be teachers of the future. It will make a difference.

Remember: "Take your kid hunting, instead of hunting your kid."

Jim Merriott has been a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and professional guide for over 20 years. He is also a Master Hunter Education Instructor in Colorado and Kansas.

State changes start of seasons for upland birds

With Saturday ushering in the upland game season and pheasant hunters plucking gamecocks over the weekend, hunters need to know that this year, pheasant, quail and prairie chickens have different season openings.

Pheasant season started on Saturday and will run through Jan. 31. Quail season, in most of the state,

opens Saturday and runs until Jan. 31.

Prairie chicken season will open Saturday, Nov. 18, and run through Jan. 31 in the northwest and eastern units. In the southwest unit, the season will run until Dec. 31.

The southwest unit is bordered by K-96 on the north and U.S. 281 on the east.

The daily bag limit on pheasants is four roosters, and the daily bag limit on quail is eight birds of either sex.

The daily bag limit on prairie chicken in northwest and eastern units is one. Daily bag limit in the southwest unit is four per day.

Possession limit on all three species is four times the daily bag limit. A Kansas hunting license is re-

quired of all residents 16-64. Non-residents must purchase a \$72.15 non-resident hunting license, except those under 16 may purchase a youth non-resident license for \$37.15. Anyone born on or after July 1957 must have completed a certified hunter education course, except those 15 and younger hunting under adult supervision.

FREE

Pesticide disposal is available to Decatur County through a program offered by KDHE for a short time in November.

Residents and farmer/ranchers can bring in any current, obsolete or unwanted pesticides to the Decatur County Landfill up to November 13th before we have to transport them to the collection site.

Please help save our local tax dollars by participating in this event during this special time. Disposal costs any other time of the year are on us.

More information can be obtained by contacting the County Engineer's office at 785-475-8111.

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