

# Eighth graders come in second

The Decatur Community Junior High eighth-grade boys finished second and the seventh graders, fifth, at the Colby Middle School track meet Thursday.

Colby's eighth grade won the meet with 148 points, followed by Oberlin, 56; Burlington, Colo., 50; Hoxie, 46; and Rawlins County, 23.

The Colby team was almost twice the size of the other schools' teams and in some races filled all eight lanes during heats.

For the third week in a row, Nolan Peters, Dalton Paul and Dalton Dolan led the Oberlin boys with first places.

•Peters won both the 1,600-meter run, with a season best of 5 minutes, 31 seconds, and the 3,200-meter run in 12:13.

•Paul, first, 800-meter run, 2:31. •Dolan, first, discus, 113 feet, 4 inches.

Other eighth-grade placers were: •Chad Williams, 400-meter dash, second, 1:01.

•Jeb Fortin, pole vault, fifth, 7-6. •Jacob Helm, 3,200-meter run,

fourth, 14:06. •Dakota Soderlund, shot put, third, 37-2. •Josh Ritter, 400-meter dash, fifth, 1:04.

•The 4x100-meter relay team of Ritter, Fortin, Larue and Williams, third, 53.9.

•The 4x200-meter relay team of Fortin, Paul, Larue and Williams, second, 1:58.

"It was a very good day for us overall," said Coach Keith Grafel. "I was a little disappointed by a few performances, but as a group, we did pretty well."

The seventh graders finished with three placings.

•Tyler Shields, 1,600-meter run, third, 5:58.

•Brent Juenemann, 100-meter dash, fifth, 14.24.

•The 4x200-meter relay team of Shields, Nolan Henningson, Juenemann and Conner McHugh, second, 2:06.

The young Red Devils will play host to the Oberlin Quadrangular on Thursday at Smick Field at 3 p.m.

# Junior high girls place second, third

The Decatur Community Junior High eighth-grade girls track team finished second and the seventh-grade third at the Colby Middle School track meet on Thursday.

Colby's eighth grade won the meet with 147 points, followed by Oberlin, 87; Burlington, Colo., 57; Hoxie, 36; and Rawlins County, 19.

Three Oberlin eighth-graders - Jordan Dreher, Rachelle Scott and Jori Diederich - each finished with a first and a second in their events.

Placing for the eighth graders were:

•Dreher, 100-meter dash, first, 13.6 seconds, and shot put, second, 34 feet, 5 inches.

•Scott, shot put, first, 35-8, and 100-meter hurdles, second, 17.9.

•Diederich, discus, first, 83-4, and 1,600-meter run, second, 6:53.

•Tiffany Anderson, 400-meter run, second, 1:07, and 800-meter run, second, 2:57.

•Sara Kyte, high jump, second, 4-4; triple jump, third, 28-8; and long jump, third, 13-1.

•Erin Jeffrey, 1,600-meter run, third, 7:01, and shot put, fifth, 28-11.

•The 4x100-meter relay team of

Scott, Kyte, Sydney Grafel and Dreher, first, 56.9.

•The 4x200-meter relay team of Scott, Anderson, Grafel and Dreher, second, 1:59.

Colby's seventh graders took first with 132 points, followed by Burlington, 48; Oberlin, 42; Hoxie, 33; and Rawlins County, 23.

The seventh-grade Lady Red Devils were led by Kiah Blau, who brought home four first-place finishes.

Blau won the 100-meter hurdles in 18.05; 100-meter dash, 13.5; 200-meter dash, 29; and shot put, 34-11.

Serena Stacy was the only other Oberlin seventh grade girl to medal. She took second in the discus, 64-5, and third in the shot put, 28-5.

"We still need to be ready to compete at our best every time," said Coach Keith Grafel. "We must get a little more mentally tough, and really get after it when we need to. I'm very proud of our effort. We will continue to get better every day."

The young Lady Red Devils will be hosts at the Oberlin Quadrangular on Thursday at Smick Field starting at 3 p.m.

## Tossin' it a mile



**THIRD-GRADER TEIGAN ELLEGOOD** tossed a baseball at the Oberlin Elementary School track meet Friday at Smick Field. Results of the meet have not been tabulated, but should be in next week's edition.

— Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

# Golfers finish fourth

## Oberlin boys win medals in tournament

The Decatur Community High School golf team finished fourth Saturday at the Rawlins County Invitational in Atwood.

Senior Jobey Black led the Oberlin team, shooting a 43 on the front nine and 42 on the back nine for 85.

Senior Corey Cook followed, shooting 40-46 for 86.

Black took seventh and Cook, ninth, in the tournament.

Senior Breck Simonsson shot 46-41 for 87; senior Andy Gilliam, 54-47 for 101; and junior Nathan Simonsson, 52-52 for 104.

Goodland won the tournament, barely edging Colby 330 to 329. Hoxie finished third with 349; Quinter, 412; Brewster, 463; and Rawlins County junior varsity, 519.

The Oberlin golfers were to play Thomas Moore Prep of Hays on Monday and head for Colby on Thursday for the Colby Invitational starting at 3 p.m.

The Red Devils will play host at the rescheduled Oberlin Invitational on Saturday starting at 9:30 a.m.

No decision has been made on a makeup for the tournament at Hoxie last Tuesday postponed due to bad weather.

# Oberlin 'right fit' for Dresden teen

By **JIM MERRIOTT**  
jimmerriott@nwkansas.com

When it comes to a winning attitude, look at Decatur Community High senior Kim Wessel.

Wessel, a Dresden resident, came to Oberlin from Hoxie High her sophomore year.

"I was looking for the right fit for me in high school," she said. "My father, older brother Jeff, and my two older sisters graduated from Hoxie. I could have attended there, but I felt Oberlin was a better fit for what I wanted during my high school experience."

Besides Kim, sister Nikki and brother Jay attend Decatur Community High School.

"My dad, brothers, and sisters got me started in sports at an early age," she said.

"We played a lot of basketball, because it was easy to get everybody involved."

"When I was younger, I enjoyed watching the older kids play basketball in high school. I wanted to be just like them. I started playing MAYB basketball in eighth grade, then began attending summer camps every summer."

"It was fun for me. "As I got older, I realized that with the help of my coaches and the hard work of my teammates, it was possible to set goals for league cham-

pionships."

Kim, whose favorite color is blue, likes roses, all types of music, hanging out with friends and going to the movies.

She plans to attend Colby Community College in the fall, majoring in physical therapy, and hopes to transfer to Wichita State University to finish her degree.

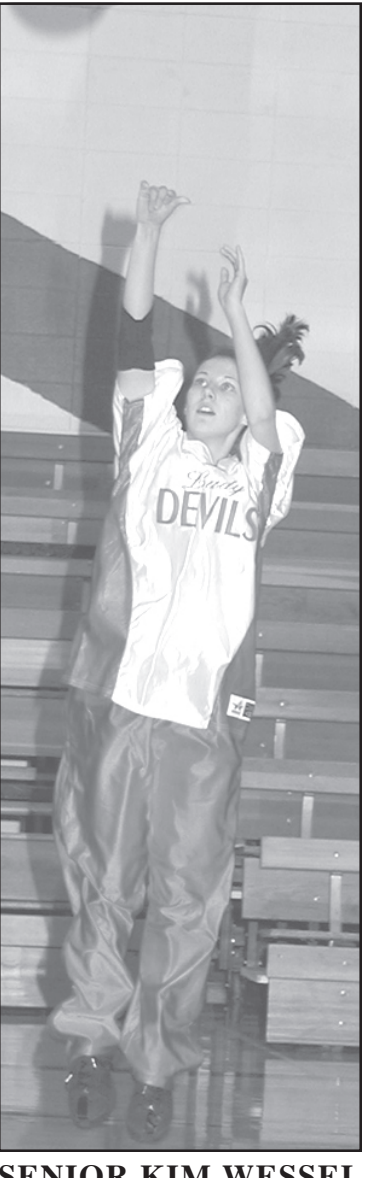
"I also like photography," she said. "It's just a hobby now, but I might be interested in working it in as a minor."

An elbow injury sidelined her during volleyball season, but she served as the team manager and athletic trainer during the championship run.

"I have been pretty banged up this past year with my elbow being dislocated and my knee being injured during basketball," she said. "I have been trying to strengthen my knee to help my pole vaulting during track season."

She said she enjoys steak and corn on the cob. Her favorite animals are horses and dogs and her favorite movie is "Coach Carter." Her favorite actor is Josh Harnett and favorite actress, Julia Roberts.

She is the daughter of Bill and Carol (Riedell) Wessel and has six brothers and sisters, Doug, 25; Jeff, 23; CeeAnn, 22; Amy, 21; Nikki, 17; and Jay, 16.



**SENIOR KIM WESSEL** was a key performer for the Lady Red Devils in basketball this year.

# Team takes 8th in Hays

Oberlin's high school golf team finished eighth at the Thomas Moore Prep Invitational tournament in Hays on Monday.

Senior Jobey Black led the Red Devils for the second time in a week, shooting a 46 on the front nine and a 38 on the back nine for an 84.

Senior Corey Cook was close, shooting a 41-45 for 86. Senior Andy Gilliam broke the century mark shooting a 52-46 for 98.

Nathan Simonsson shot 56-48 for 104 and Jordan Tally, 61-50 for 111.

Hays High won the tournament with 326, followed by Phillipsburg, 341; Goodland, 353; Thomas Moore, 355; Colby, 357; Trego Community, 360; Russell, 367; Oberlin, 372; Scott City, 382; Larned, 390; Norton, 391; Stockton, 409; and Ellis, 416.

"This was a good experience for our team being able to play on such a fine golf course," said Coach Dick Ahlberg. "Smoky Hill Country Club is a championship golf course."

Thursday, the Decatur Community High Red Devils travel to Colby with a tee time of 3 p.m. On Saturday, the Red Devils will play host at the Oberlin Invitational starting at 9:30 a.m.



## The Jayhawker

By *Jim Merriott*  
jimmerriott@nwkansas.com

# Wipers winning spot in most lakes

Despite all the furor about largemouth bass, walleye, and sauger, wipers are fast becoming one of the most popular game fish in Kansas.

Wilson Reservoir, originally a popular lake for strippers, helped change the philosophy of Kansas fishery biologists more than two decades ago.

The growing popularity of wipers is based on their readiness to feed on gizzard shad.

With the introduction of the hybrid wiper, a cross between a striped bass and a white bass, lakes such as Keith Sebelius Reservoir in Norton have improved the crappie fishing.

Prior to the wiper introduction, many lakes were stocked with striped bass, which grow to enormous sizes and gorge on schools of bait fish. These monsters eat up everything, causing lakes and reservoirs to become poor fisheries.

Stripers eat all the small crappie, causing an imbalance in the lake.

Wipers, on the other hand, do not grow as large as their cousin the striped bass and seldom eat the small crappie.

Because of the cross breeding, the wiper is sterile. This allows biologist to stock fisheries for put and take.

Wipers help balance the lake population and make fishing more fun and productive.

They are also excellent eating if one removes the dark red lateral bloodline which runs the length of the fish.

Central Kansas and Cheyenne Reservoir in south central Kansas will be the most productive fisheries this season.

I haven't fished Cheney Reservoir since 2005, but during my stay in south central Kansas, my wiper success was high.

Last summer, I fished Wilson once, so I didn't get a good reading on that lake. My success was in the small coxes at night. I believe the wipers chase the bait fish to shallow water for an easier attack.

Over the summer, I will report on my findings and let you know.

I have also talked to biologists who feel that this will be the banner year for walleye at Cedar Bluff Reservoir.

Until next time, good luck and keep tight lines.

# Outdoor day Saturday

The seventh annual Outdoor Kansas for Kids Day will start at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at Prairie Dog State Park near Norton.

The outing is sponsored by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and the Kansas Wildscape project, which hope that more than 10,000 youngsters will be introduced to the fun of hiking, canoeing, fishing, biking, hunting and bird watching.

In Norton youngsters can learn to fish, sponsored by the Longspur Chapter of Pheasants Forever; attend an archery clinic, sponsored by

the Norton Archery Club; and use a laser hunting and shooting simulator, provided by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Hunter Education division.

Each child will receive a free shirt and gift and be registered for other prizes.

Kids can also enter a drawing contest.

Anyone interested in helping can call the park office at (785) 877-2953.

## The Decatur County Landfill

**Will Offer One Free Dump per family during regular hours from April 30 through May 5. Weekdays are open from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturday, May 5th, from 8 am. - Noon. The free dump can be used for business or residence but not both.**



**Limited to five (5) passenger tires.**



Refrigerated appliances must have certificate of evacuation or will be charged a \$10 fee.

**For more information call: 785-475-8111.**

Remember the Free Compost available at the south end of the county shop east of town.

# Race season starts Saturday

The United Rebel Sprint Series 305 kicks off its racing season Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Oberlin Speedway.

Starting this second season, sprint series racers will appear at 14 tracks in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska on 23 days.

Racing in Oberlin on Saturday will include modified lights of Colorado (smaller race cars with 1,200 cc motorcycle engines), mini-trucks, classic modifieds and sprints.

For information, call Rick Salem at (785) 475-7010.

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