



**CATCHING AN 11-YARD PASS**, Ace Manning (above) helped quarterback Jacob Fortin complete one of his three successful throws during the game against the Oakley Plainsmen on Friday. Fortin (No. 9 at right) called a play to his troops during the game. Sam Stapp (below) helped block. — Herald staff photos by Jim Merriott



# Oakley rolls over Red Devils

**By JIM MERRIOTT**  
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Oberlin dropped its third straight football game on Friday night as the Oakley Plainsmen beat the Red Devils 46-6.

The Decatur Community High football team's record fell to 0-3 and Oakley's went up to 3-0.

The Red Devils showed signs of improvement on defense even though they gave up 38 points in the first half. For the first time this year, the defense kept their opponents under 400 yards of offense.

Oberlin allowed the Plainsmen 310 offensive yards.

The Plainsmen scored all their points in the first half, which caused the play clock to go to continuous running.

Oberlin scored at 11:35 in the third quarter on a 3-yard run by quarterback Jacob Fortin. The two-point conversion failed.

The Red Devils finished with 119 yards on offense.

Fortin led the Red Devils rushing eight times for 29 yards and a touchdown. He was three of 10 on passing for 40 yards and one interception.

Pass receivers were Sam Stapp, one for 20 yards; Toby Peters, one for nine yards; and Ace Manning, one for 11 yards.

Other carriers were Lucas Juenemann, 14 times for 28 yards; Royal Fisher, four times for 15 yards; Stapp, four times for 5 yards; Peters rushed three times for 7 yards; and Logan Fortin, once for minus 3 yards.

Tackle leaders were Manning and Peters, five each; Everett Urban and Fisher, four tackles and one assist each; Colt Diedrich, two tackles and two assists; David Urban, two tackles and an assist; L. Fortin, two tackles; Juenemann, one tackle and an

assist; and Sean Ybarra, one tackle.

"Oakley is a real good football team," said Oberlin Coach Trevor Williams. "The Plainsmen controlled the line of scrimmage and we struggled there. They are very physical on offense and defense."

"There were times offensively that I thought we did some good things. We still are not very consistent at it. Defensively, we still are having a hard time getting to our spots and making tackles."

"Oakley ran a lot of different formations at us tonight. The plays are pretty much the same, but the blocking schemes are different. Their backs are good at reading what the linemen are doing. Oakley has some good football players."

Oakley's Aaron Racette rushed for 135 yards and two touchdowns. He was followed by Kelly Younkin, 78 yards and a touchdown; Derek Glassman, 59 yards and a touch-

down; Brandon Maurath, 23 yards and a touchdown; and Kraig Siruta, 12 yards and a touchdown.

Siruta passed only one time and it was incomplete.

Jared Sperber intercepted a Fortin pass and returned it 44 yards for a touchdown.

Coach Williams said that his team has some work to do.

"Fisher did a good job running out of the fullback position when he got out there," Williams said. "He ran hard for the time that he was in there. Mainly, our fullback is a lead blocker in our offense."

"We have to correct the defensive line penetration on offense. We are not quick hitting, even our counter or misdirection plays are having a tough time."

Friday, the Red Devils take on the Quinter Bulldogs at 7 p.m. in the annual Oberlin Homecoming game.

## Schedules

• Thursday, junior high football	at Hoxie	5:30 p.m.
• Thursday, cross country	at Hill City	5 p.m.
• Friday, varsity football vs Quinter	Homecoming	7 p.m.
• Saturday, junior high volleyball tournament	at Hoxie	9 a.m.
• Saturday, "C" team invitational tournament	here	9 a.m.
• Monday, junior varsity football	at Quinter	5:30 p.m.
• Tuesday, volleyball vs St. Francis and Cheylin	at Bird City	4 p.m.
• Tuesday, cross country, Oberlin Invitational	here	5 p.m.

## Seventh-grade girls lose three of four

**BY JIM MERRIOTT**  
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The Decatur Community Junior High seventh-grade volleyball girls played host to the Oakley Wildcats on Sept. 6 but lost three of four games.

The "A" team lost straight sets to the Lady Wildcats 25-19 and 25-14.

The young Lady Red Devils hustled but had trouble with their serving game, serving only 53 percent, which killed their chances of winning rally scores.

"It is very difficult to win without making serves," said Coach Gina Witt. "We gave Oakley 14 points in the 'A' game and 12 points in the 'B' game by missing our serves."

The "B" team split with Oakley winning the first set, 25-20, then losing, 25-21.

"I felt that the girls played well," Coach Witt said. "They set the ball up and were able to hit quite a few times which most seventh-grade teams are not able to do, especially in the early part of the season."

"I saw a lot of improvement over the last week, in which is what I am looking for in the seventh grade."

"We will have to continue to work hard on our serves and get ready for Quinter Thursday," said Coach Lindsay Fortin.

The eighth-grade "A" team lost straight sets to Quinter 25-18 and 25-20. The "B" team won 25-21.

"The girls played hard, but we got caught out of position on coverage," said Witt. "The girls did a good job serving this week with 81 percent. Overall the girls played pretty good ball."

Oberlin traveled to Quinter on Thursday to take on the Lady Bulldogs. The eighth-grade "A" team lost the match, winning the first set 25-23, then dropping the next two 25-18 and 25-13.

The eighth-grade "B" squad played only one game, taking it 25-

18.

"The girls started out very strong and confident during the first match," said Coach Witt. "They also did a great job of using the ball during the first match."

"The girls needed to settle down a little in the second and third sets, but overall they did a nice job."

"We had another good week of serving with an 88 percent, making 66 of 75 serves. We were a lot more aggressive hitting the ball."

"We will be working toward keeping the momentum of the game to our benefit," she said.

On the seventh-grade side, the "A" team won straight sets over the young Lady Bulldogs 25-16 and 25-13. The "B" lost straight sets 25-17 and 25-20.

"We played well against Quinter on Thursday," said Coach Fortin. "We had a team serving percentage of 83 percent. The girls played together as a team and stayed positive throughout the matches."

"I was especially pleased with Keatra Fisher, Elizabeth Nedland and Taylor Macfee, who all served 100 percent for the night," Fortin said.

## Panthers beat Little Devils

The Oberlin little Devils third- and fourth-grade, and fifth- and sixth-grade football teams both lost to the Panther cubs in Phillipsburg on Saturday, Sept. 8.

Phillipsburg won the third- and fourth-grade game 41-12.

Oberlin's fifth and sixth graders lost 32-0.

The team is coached by Shane Bird and Adam Kadavy.

Oberlin was to be in Hays to play the Outlaws at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday.

## Junior high boys fall in close contest

The Decatur Community Junior High football squad lost a heart-breaker in Quinter, 20-14, on Thursday.

Oberlin trailed the eight-man team 20-0 before making adjustments and scoring two quick touchdowns and recovering two on-side kick attempts.

However, the young Red Devils couldn't punch the ball in for the tying score before time ran out.

"Defensively, we struggled at

making tackles once in position," said Coach Caleb Howland. "Offensively, we did a better job firing out on our blocks, but need to continue to work on maintaining blocks and running the ball with more intensity."

The Red Devils will play Hoxie at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Hoxie.

Coach Howland said he was delighted with the support of the parents, families and fans who traveled to see the game in Quinter.

## Oberlin graduate fights to become top tackler

**BY JIM MERRIOTT**  
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Jason Thomas, a former Oberlin Red Devil and 2005 Decatur Community High School graduate, is fighting to be the tackling leader for the Conquistadors at Dodge City Community College this year.

Thomas, a sophomore, is a starting linebacker and as of a week ago was in second place on the Conquistador defense with 14 unassisted and nine assisted tackles and a fumble recovery for a total of 23 tackles.

He's just behind All-American junior college candidate DeAuntra Rideau, who had 31 tackles in two

games including 20 tackles against Butler County, to pass Thomas as leader.

Thomas worked for the city during the summer and coached pony league baseball.

"It is a lot faster game at this level," said Thomas. "Each week is an opportunity to improve. I have one goal, to play at the level that will help our team win ball games."

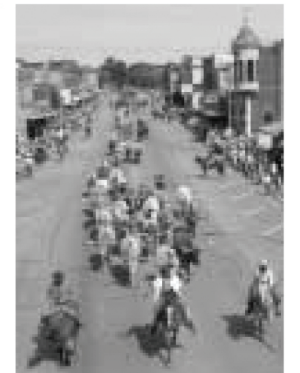
"Jason does a fine job for us," said Dodge City Coach Marcus Garstecki. "We knew when we recruited him that he was a hitter and that is what it takes to play the game at this level."

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