

Sports

Two runners place at state championship

Decatur Community High School cross country runners Andrew Richards and Tamara Ketterl ran Saturday at the Kansas 2A State Cross Country Championship in Wamego.

Richards received All-State honors and a medal finishing 13th in the boys division with a time of 18:21.9 on the five-kilometer course. Ketterl finished 38th in the girls division with a time of 18:05.74 on the four-kilometer course.

Sterling won the boys state championship with a team score of 58. Bennington won the girls division with a team score of 53.

"Andrew ran a good race," said Coach Dick Ahlberg. "He had a solid start, then moved up into the top fifteen at the midway point, but wasn't satisfied with that, he continued to compete. Tamara ran fine. She probably got out a little too

quick, but that just showed her competitive nature. Both these runners gained a lot of experience. State meets are really exciting."

In boys team results, Sterling, first, 58; Jackson Heights, 98; Meade, 123; Shawnee Maranatha, 128; Peabody, 135; Osborne, 149; Berean Academy, 169; Leoti-Wichita County, 194; Pretty Prairie, 203; Johnson-Stanton County, 215; Lyndon, 251; and Central Burden, 273.

Girls team results included Bennington, first, 53; Shawnee Maranatha, 58; Osborne, 64; Wabaunsee, 127; Jackson Heights, 135; Johnson-Stanton County, 152; Berean Academy, 184; Pittsburg-Colgan, 195; Langdon-Fairfield, 205; Central Burden, 288.

"I would like to say thanks again to all of our supporters this season," Ahlberg said.



OBERLIN RED DEVIL TOBY PETERS made a fine run after catching one of his three passes during the Norton game

Thursday. Peters caught three passes for 69 yards in the Red Devil 43-0 loss to the Blue Jays. —Herald photo by Dick Boyd

Red Devils lose to Norton Blue Jays

The Decatur Community High football team ended their season Thursday night in Norton with a 43-0 loss to the Blue Jays.

Oberlin final record was 2-7, Norton 7-2 will continue on advancing to the next round in the play-offs.

Norton rolled up 501 yards of total offense against the lack-luster Red Devil defense.

The Blue Jays were led by Todd Bolt and Terrell Lane with their lightning quickness.

With 7:44 in the first quarter on Norton's opening drive, the Blue Jays marched down the field using five plays covering 45 yards for their first touchdown when Bolt broke free to the outside for a 26-yard score. The Blue Jays kicked the extra point making the score 7-0.

Norton scored again in the first quarter with 00:20 after running 1:43 seconds off the clock on six plays covering 69 yards when quarterback Logan Kats scored on

a one-yard run.

Kats passed to Bolt for the two-point conversion making the score 15-0 ending scoring in the first quarter.

The Blue Jays tacked another score on the board in the second quarter with 4:37 left in the half when freshman Lane scored on a four-yard run. The extra-point was no good raising the score to 21-0. Norton's drive covered 62-yards on six plays using 1:51 seconds ending scoring in the first half.

Oberlin came out flat in the third quarter allowing the Blue Jays to score 22 points putting the game away.

Norton scored its first third-quarter touchdown and the extra-point kick was good making the score 28-0. A 52-yard drive on nine plays took 3:43 seconds off the clock.

With 3:58 left in the third-quarter, the Blue Jays added another score when Bolt scored his second touchdown of the night when he bolted for an 18-yard touchdown. Norton kicked the extra-point running the score to 35-0. The drive covered 73-yards using 2:47 seconds and nine plays.

The Blue Jays finished the games scoring with 2:59 in the third-quarter, when Bolt scored his third touchdown of the evening on a 26-yard pass interception making the score 41-0 causing a running clock. Kats ran in the two-point conversion on a mishandled extra-point kick ending scoring at 43-0. The score

covered 26-yards on one play using eight seconds.

Final stats: Norton ran the ball 48 times for 404 yards on the ground and threw for 97 yards.

The Blue Jays committed 11 penalties for 70 yards. Norton collected 17 first downs and only had to punt one time during the game.

Bolt carried the ball 14 times for 153 yards and scored twice on offense. Blue Jays freshman "Freight Train" Lane carried the ball 15 times for 121 yards and one touchdown.

Kats threw for 97 yards and one interception.

For the Red Devils, Jacob Fortin threw for 57 yards and three interceptions.

Lucas Juenemann threw one halfback pass for 35 yards. Back-up freshman quarterback Chad Williams threw three passes with no completions and one interception.

Toby Peters was the leading Oberlin receiver with three catches for 65-yards.

Juenemann was the leading ball carrier rushing for 14 yards on nine carries. The Red Devils finished the night with 138 yards of total offense, 46 yards on the ground on 22 carries and 92 yards through the air.

Royal Fisher ended his Red Devil football career as top tackler in the Norton game with 11. Dakota Soderlund finished with eight. T. Peters also showed signs of what is to come in the future finishing with

seven tackles and an interception, and Everett Urban stepped up his game finishing with five.

On offense, Juenemann carried the ball eight times for 14 yards; Fisher one carry for 10 yards; Sam Stapp, four carries, three yards; and J. Fortin eight carries for six yards.

Receiving wise for the Red Devils, T. Peters caught three passes for 69 yards; Ace Manning ended his career catching one for 14 yards; and Stapp caught one pass for six yards.

"It was difficult and disappointing to end our season with a loss Thursday in Norton," said Coach Trevor Williams. "Defensively we struggled stopping the outside, third phase of their option game. I did feel that defensively we were able to take away aspects, but Norton is a good football team and well balanced."

"Offensively, we had difficulties running the ball so we relied on the pass more and at times were able to do some good things. We were just not able to be consistent."

"I would like to thank everyone for their support for the young men on the football team," Williams said. "It is greatly appreciated and it is important to each and everyone of them."

The Blue Jays advance in the play-offs and were to face Ellsworth Tuesday night.

Seventh graders finish fourth place in league tourney

The Decatur Community Junior High seventh grade volleyball squad finished fourth at the league tournament held in Oakley.

The young Lady Red Devils finished the season with an overall record of 9-4 in match play after the tournament on Thursday, Oct. 18.

Oberlin jumped all-over first round opponent Grant Junior High of Goodland downing the Lady Mustangs in straight sets 25-21 and 26-24 to advance in the winners bracket.

In the second round, the young Lady Red Devils were caught off-guard losing their opportunity to take the tournament when they lost in straight sets to Colby 25-21 and 25-11 in the semi-finals.

The loss put Oberlin in the third place consolation game where they lost two hard fought games 25-19 and 25-19 against the young

Quinter Lady Bullpups ending their season.

"The tournament started off well with a good match against Goodland," said Coach Lindsay Fortin. "We then moved on to play Colby which was unlike any team we had played all year. Colby blocked and hit the ball with power which was something we were not used too."

The girls lost confidence causing us to struggle the rest of the day. We still had moments where we were great, but we were unable to put it altogether."

"I am very proud of how the girls did this season," Fortin said. "I feel they have a strong base upon which to build on next year, which was the goal Coach Witt and I started the season with. I hope they continue working hard and improving because they are great girls with a lot of potential."

Girls take eighth at league

The Decatur Community Junior High eighth grade volleyball team took sixth place at the Northwest Kansas League Championship in Quinter.

The young Lady Red Devils lost in the first round of the tournament on Thursday, Oct. 18 to Rawlins County in three sets, winning the first set 28-25, then dropping the next two 25-23 and 15-9.

"The girls played some of the best ball they have played all season," said Coach Gina Witt.

Oberlin defeated the Grant Junior High School Lady Mustangs of Goodland in two sets in the first round of the consolation bracket 25-20 and 26-24 to redeem themselves.

"The girls dominated the net and serving, but didn't play as well as they did against Atwood, but they came out on top against Goodland and I was proud of them," Witt said.

Oberlin lost in the final match of the consolation bracket to Colby in straight sets 25-19 and 25-18 to end the season.

"The girls were starting to wear down, and they were beating themselves.

"I had a fun year with all the girls, and I was happy to see how they have improved over the season. I look forward to seeing the 8th grade girls continue in their high school career," said Witt.

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