

Oberlin falls to Blue Jays in home game

The Decatur Community High Red Devils fell 47-21 to the Norton Blue Jays at home on Friday in the second football contest this year.

Last week the Oberlin boys lost to Osborne in the home opener. After Friday's game the Red Devils are 0-2 with seven regular season games to play.

Three Oberlin players were injured during the game and taken by ambulance to the hospital but none had serious injuries and all should be back in action this week or the next, Coach J.D. Johnson said.

Nolan Peters took a hit to the ribs, Wiley Farr had a possible knee injury and Lucas Juenemann suffered a bruised shoulder.

Oberlin started the game off in good fashion as on the first possession senior Logan Fortin threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to his cousin senior Jacob Logan to put the first six points up on the board. The Red Devils increased their lead to 14-0.

Terrell Lane took a 20-yard run into the end zone to score for Norton but the Blue Jay's missed their extra-point try the Red Devils were on top 7-6 with 9:27 left in the first quarter.

On Norton's second possession, quarterback Connor Pfannenstiel passed 27 yards to wide receiver Ashton Draper for the Blue Jays' second touchdown. Lane got the

two-point conversion and Norton was ahead 14-7 with 6:41 left in the first quarter.

The Jays were able to block an Oberlin punt and Zane Perez scored on a one-yard run. Norton's, J.D. Gall kicked the extra point to make it 21-7 with 2:17 left in the quarter.

Oberlin had the ball but then Draper intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown. The Blue Jays again were able to score the point after and lead 28-7 with 1:46 left in the quarter.

The momentum switched to Oberlin in the second quarter. The Red Devils scored on a one-yard run by Sam Stapp. L. Fortin kicked the point after and Oberlin had cut its deficit to 28-14 with 4:17 left.

A 93-yard kickoff return by Perez for an apparent touchdown was nullified by a penalty and Oberlin went to the air to score again.

This time L. Fortin connected with receiver Toby Peters on a 22-yard touchdown play. Fortin kicked the extra point and Oberlin trailed by just 28-21 at halftime.

That was Oberlin's last scoring for the night.

Norton's Spencer Shirk threw two touchdown passes in the third quarter. The Blue Jays added one more from a kick after touchdown to lead 41-21 at the end of three.

Norton's final touchdown came in the fourth quarter. The Blue Jays weren't able to score the points after



TAKING DOWN THE NORTON BALL CARRIER, sophomore Dalton Dolan (left above) and senior Everett Urban helped the Oberlin defense during Friday night's game

against the Blue Jays. On offense, Lucas Juenemann (No. 40) moved the ball during one of his three carries.

— Herald photos by Dick Boyd

and the game ended with the visitors on top 47-21.

Passing leader for Oberlin was L. Fortin, who connected with 20 out of 43 for 347 and two touchdowns.

Receivers were J. Fortin, five for 52 yards and a touchdown; T. Peters, eight for 228 yards and a touchdown; Juenemann, three for 25 yards, Farr, one for 21 yards; and Keithen Fortin, one for 19 yards.

Rushing leaders were Stapp, three attempts for 19 yards and a touchdown, and Kaden Macfee, two tries for 31 yards.

After two homes games, the Red Devils will be on the road with a 7 p.m. game Friday in Plainville. On Friday, Sept. 28, the boys in red will be home again to take on the Atwood Buffaloes at 7 p.m. at Smick Field.



THE OBERLIN HERALD — Sports

Runners come in second

The Oberlin boys came in second and the girls fourth in the Quinter Invitational Cross County Meet on Thursday, the second week in a row the boys team had taken second in a meet.

Five Decatur Community High runners took medals in the meet, placing in with the first 15 finishers.

Senior Andrew Richards, continuing his speedy ways, was the first Oberlin runner to cross the finish line. He took fourth in 18 minutes, 23 seconds, improving his time after placing second last week in Norton in 18:41.

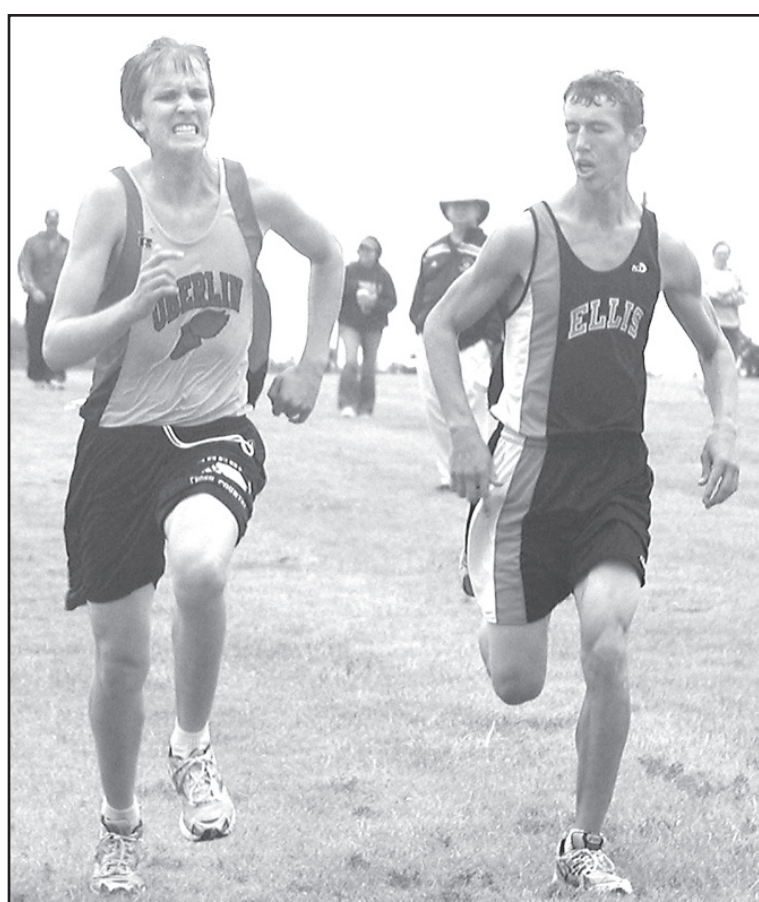
Freshman Dalton Richards came in eighth for the boys in 19:07. He took 24th last week in 21:44.

Freshman Tyler Shields came in 15th this week in 19:38. Last week, he ran the Norton course in 20:01 for 12th.

Senior Tamara Ketterl finished eighth for the girls in 19:53 on a shorter course. She was the only Oberlin girl to medal last week, coming in 15th in 19:59.

Sophomore Tiffany Anderson got her first medal with a 13th-place finish in 20:25. Last week, she ran 17th in 20:45.

- Also running:
- Dalton Paul, 31st, 21:28.
 - Nolan Wasson, 32nd, 21:29.
 - Jacob Helm, 34th, 21:44.
 - Chris Larson, 35th, 21:54.
 - Annamarie Larue, 19th, 21:45.
 - Bret Ashley, 23rd, 22:52.
 - Rachelle Scott, 26th, 23:27.
 - Farra McChesney, 30th, 26:04.
- Junior varsity runners:
- Tim Larson, fifth, 20:59.
 - Ray Zodrow, 14th, 23:19.



WORKING HARD TO PASS, Nolan Wasson came in 32nd in 21 minutes and 29 seconds at the Quinter Invitational on Thursday. The Oberlin boys came in second in the cross country meet.

— Herald photo by Patti Richards

- Gatlin Reichert, 19th, 25:23.
 - Matt Wittman, 20th, 25:27.
 - Hunter Nedland, 22nd, 26:10.
- Holcomb won the boys division with 15 points, followed by Oberlin, 43; Victoria, 60; Wheatland, 63; Quinter, 81; Oakley 103; and the Colby C-team, 126.

"(The) Holcomb boys are the No. 1-ranked team (in Class 3A) in the state," Coach Dick Ahlberg said. "This was a really good competition for us. Our boys were solid up front, but we have to work hard to close down our gap between our top

runners and our counters. "Andrew Richards was real competitive today. Tim Larson had a very good junior varsity race. Our girls are growing as a team, learning the ropes. Tiffany Anderson and Annamarie Larue looked better today, more comfortable with this race distance. Now it is time for our girls to compete a little stronger."

The Oberlin runners will be in McCook at 1 p.m. Friday for what Coach Ahlberg calls western Nebraska's best cross country meet.

The McCook meet was scheduled for Thursday, but both the time and date have been changed due to a scheduling conflict at the McCook golf course.

Junior high boys down Oakley

The Decatur Community Junior High combined seventh- and eighth-grade football team downed its counterpart in Oakley 12-6 on Thursday in Oakley.

This is the second victory of the season for the young Red Devils with no losses.

"The team had another excellent defensive game this week," Coach

Caleb Howland said. "Every time that Oakley got close to their goal line, our players stepped up and stopped them. Oakley's only score came as a 49-yard pass play on the last play of the game.

"On offense, we again struggled to maintain ball control, and had too many penalties and mental mistakes that stopped our drives.

Our players continue to work hard during practice and will continue to improve throughout the year. These young people are extremely hard working and have set high goals for their season."

The boys were to play St. Francis on Monday but the game was cancelled, so they will play in Benkleman, Neb., at 4 p.m. Thursday.

Girls win five out of six

The Oberlin Lady Red Devils took five out of six matches and came in second at the Gove County Classic Volleyball tournament which was held in both Grainfield and Grinnell on Saturday.

The Decatur Community High girls downed Wallace County in three sets 25-17, 19-25, 25-18.

"The girls played very aggressive in this match," Coach Sherri Ruf said. "They played good defense and worked as a team throughout the whole match."

- Top players were:
- Server — Elisha Jones, 17 for 19 with three aces.
 - Passer — Jones, 26 of 33 with 14 perfect.
 - Setter — Jordan Dreher, 43 of 43 with 16 perfect.
 - Hitter — Dreher, 20 of 23 with six kills.
 - Blocker — Adrienne Pauls, nine points stopped.
- Oberlin downed Deerfield in two easy sets 25-3, 25-9.

"The girls received many free balls in this match," Coach Ruf said. "We had a lot of good serves also."

- Top players were:
- Server — Cherish Manning, 12 of 12 with an ace.
 - Passer — Jones, three of three with one perfect.
 - Setter — Dreher, 15 of 15 with eight perfect.
 - Hitter — Pauls, eight of nine with four kills.
 - Blocker — Heather Ploussard, one point blocked.

It took three sets to down Hoxie but Oberlin did it 25-19, 15-25, 26-24.

"This was a hard fought match by the girls," Coach Ruf said. "They stayed aggressive and when they got behind, they stayed focused and upbeat. We played good defense and transitioned well."

- Top players were:
- Server — Jessica Fredrickson, nine for nine with three aces.
 - Passer — Jones, 27 of 32 with 13 perfect.
 - Setter — Dreher, 42 of 42 with 15 perfect.
 - Hitter — Pauls, 23 of 26 with eight kills.
 - Blockers — Pauls and Ashley Horton, three points stopped each.

Oberlin beat WaKeeney in three sets 19-25, 25-12, 25-16.

"The first game of this match, we played flat," Coach Ruf said. "We didn't move to the ball and stay aggressive. The next two games of the match, we started moving and getting to the ball. The girls stayed aggressive and played the next well."

"This was the last match for pool play. Oberlin finished 4-0 in pool

- play."
- Top players were:
- Server — Dreher, 20 of 20 with two aces.
 - Passer — Jones, 26 of 31 with 15 perfect.
 - Setter — Fredrickson, 35 of 35 with 10 perfect.
 - Hitters, Pauls, 28 of 31 with 17 kills, and Dreher, 25 of 28 with nine kills.
 - Blocker — Pauls, five points stopped.

The Oberlin versus Wheatland/Grinnell match was the first round in bracket play and the Lady Red Devils won 25-20, 25-20.

"The girls played very well in this match," Coach Ruf said. "We closed our blocks and were able to get the tips up for a kill. I was very proud of the girls."

"Wheatland/Grinnell had us down 15-20 and we went on a 10-point run. The girls just never gave up. They played with a lot of heart and it paid off with excellent play and a win to go to the championship match against Weskan."

- Top players were:
- Server — Brandi Diederich.
 - Passer — Jones, 13 of 14 with eight perfect.
 - Setters — Dreher, 20 of 20 with

10 perfect, and Fredrickson, 25 of 26 with 11 perfect.

- Hitter — Pauls, 23 of 27 with 13 kills.
- Blocker — Pauls, three points blocked.

However, Weskan was too much for the Lady Red Devils, who fell in two sets 25-14, 25-19.

"The girls played hard all day to get to the championship match," Coach Ruf said. "We didn't stay on our toes this match and didn't shut down the net. We had too many blocking errors."

- Top players were:
- Server — Dreher, 10 for 10 with one ace.
 - Passer — Jones, 18 for 21 with 10 perfect.
 - Setter — Dreher, 25 of 25 with six perfect.
 - Hitter — Pauls, 18 of 19 with three kills.
 - Blockers, Pauls and Carissa Wentz, two points stopped each.

The Oberlin varsity is now 9-4 and the girls were to play at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at home against Oakley and Hill City.

On Saturday at 11 a.m., the girls will be in McCook Tournament. The C-team will be in a tournament at 8 a.m. Saturday in Phillipsburg.

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