

Sports

Runners ready to begin season

The Decatur Community High cross country team will be starting practice next month. The Oberlin boys took the Northwest Kansas League championship last year. With five returning runners as a nucleus, Coach Dick Ahlberg said he expects a good season. The team will be lead by returning lettermen and All-Northwest Kansas runners Dalton Jones and Tyler Shields, he said.

Checkout and practice starts at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 17, Coach Ahlberg said. On Thursday, Aug. 27, the team will take part, along with the football team, in the annual Soap Scrimmage and Run. The first meet will be Thursday, Sept. 3, at the Norton Invitational. The team is also scheduled to run in Quinter, McCook, Hill City, Phillipsburg and Goodland.

The 42nd Annual Oberlin Invitational will be on Tuesday, Sept. 29. This is Coach Ahlberg's 33rd season working with the running Red Devils. He is a graduate of Fort Hays State University. He asked his runners and any prospects to be sure to log their summer hours before the start of practice so he'll know what kind of shape they're in.

Sprint cars hold second race in Oberlin

By MICHAEL WILSON
The United Rebel Sprint Series made its second appearance of the season at the 3/8-mile high-banked Decatur County Speedway on Saturday with 20 teams. The action was tight, as the Rebels fought their way around the tricky racing surface. Brian Herbert held off a late charge from Quinter's C.J. Johnson to pick up his second win this season. Troy Edwards led the field to the green and jumped out to the early lead with outside pole-sitter Craig Jecha, former Oberlin driver Cody Salem, Jeff Radcliffe and Brian Herbert rounding out the top five after lap one. Herbert quickly made his way past Radcliffe to the third spot with Johnson falling into fifth behind Salem on lap two. Herbert took the runner-up position

on lap three and started pressuring Edwards for the top spot. He made a pass for the lead on lap four, with Johnson making his way to the runner-up spot. Back in the pack, Ray Seemann and Darren Bowman were tearing through the field to make their way to Edwards, making the pass for the third and fourth positions on lap five. The top four remained the same as they battled their way around the oval, everyone searching to find the best line to gain ground. Johnson was using the high line as he rimmed the cushion and slowly gained ground each lap on Herbert. The man on a mission was the familiar green and white 86 of Jon Johnson, who had to make a quick dart back to the pits before the green fell. J. Johnson started at the tail of

the field after his misfortune and steadily made his way through traffic and to the eighth spot by lap 10. He turned up the heat on Willie Wynn as the pair locked horns for five laps before Johnson took the sixth spot. Behind them, Jeff Radcliffe was solidly in the eighth spot and gained ground on the pair. Radcliffe used what was left of his cushion when he missed his mark in turn three and spun to bring to an end a great run and bring out the caution. On the restart, Herbert held his ground, using the low-line as C.J. Johnson tried to use the high-line to his advantage to catch Edwards. The pair had the crowd on their feet as they sliced and diced their way around the track. Meanwhile, Wynn and J. Johnson were again locked in battle as Wynn retook the sixth spot away and the pair caught up with Salem. The trio used every inch of the track to try to any advantage they could to advance their position. Lap 20 saw J. Johnson retake sixth from Wynn and set his sights on Salem. The field was bunched up again as Edwards spun off of turn two to bring out the final caution of the evening. On the restart, C.J. Johnson used the high-side coming off of turn four to take the lead for the first time. J. Johnson used the same move to make his way into the top five, pass-

ing Salem for fifth. Herbert was not to be denied, as he fought his way back to the lead on lap 21. The battle for third heated up between Seemann and Bowman, who fought his way ahead on lap 22. Herbert held on to take the win, followed by C.J. Johnson, Bowman, Seemann and J. Johnson. Salem finished sixth. The Keizer Aluminum Wheels "Hard Charger Award" went to Ken Lutters, who came from his 20 starting spot to an eighth-place finish. Complete results:
A-Main: 1-Brian Herbert (97), 2-C.J. Johnson (45X), 3-Darren Bowman (9B), 4-Ray Seemann (72), 5-Jon Johnson (86), 6-Cody Salem (22), 7-Willie Wynn (36W), 8-Ken Lutters (79), 9-Smokey Fairbank (2), 10-Craig Jecha (17X), 11-Lance Davis (9D), 12-Bill Hays (2H), 13-Jeff Radcliffe (21R), 14-Troy Edwards (12T), 15-Randy Bantam (5R), 16-Michael Williams (77W), 17-Shawn Radcliffe (3R), 18-Travis Decker (84T), 19-Chad Salem (17), 20-Cody Keiswetter (38).
Heat No. 1: Darren Bowman, 2-C.J. Johnson, 3-Jeff Radcliffe, 4-Lance Davis, 5-Willie Wynn, 6-Randy Bantam, 7-Chad Salem.
Heat No. 2: 1-Craig Jecha, 2-Brian Herbert, 3-Troy Edwards, 4-Travis Decker, 5-Shawn Radcliffe, 6-Michael Williams, 7-Ken Lutters.
Heat No. 3: 1-Cody Salem, 2-Ray Seemann, 3-Jon Johnson, 4-Smokey Fairbank, 5-Bill Hays, 6-Cody Keiswetter.

Youth Football Meeting

For 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders

Parent meeting
Thursday, 6 p.m.
High School
Cafeteria



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Decatur County Conservation District
(785) 475-3131
To nominate a Decatur area producer, contact either office by August 28th.
Awards sponsored by the Kansas Bankers Association

Tourney to end ball season

In the last regular-season games before the co-ed softball tournament, Creative Dimensions won by a forfeit and the Fortins took two. When Good Sam did not field a team on Sunday, Dimensions took an easy win. Meanwhile, the Fortins downed the Little Leowski Urban Achievers 15-8 and 22-14. The tournament, put off by rain

and harvest from July 14, will be played on Sunday. Games will start as early as 3 p.m., said recreation director Joe Dreher, depending on how many teams show up. He said he has asked players from other towns to participate, but as of Monday didn't know how many teams he would have. The number of teams also will determine the starting time, he said.

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July 24-August 2, Dodge City
Western Heritage Comes to Life
10-day Festival
(620) 227-3117, dodgecitydays.com

Summer Sidewalk Sale
July 25, Council Grove
Sidewalk sale on the Prairie Plaza Shopping District in Historic Downtown Council Grove. Join us for specials and bargains.
(620) 767-5413, councilgrove.com

Roundup Rodeo
July 28-August 2, Dodge City
The Greatest Show on Dirt!
PRCA Sanctioned Rodeo
(620) 225-2244 or (866) 327-6366
dodgecityroundup.org

Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo
July 29-August 1, Abilene
Enjoy rodeo competition, fair, fish fries, parade, dances, Miss Rodeo America, Miss Rodeo K-State and the tradition of the West.
(785) 263-4570, wildbillhickokrodeo.com

Kansas' Biggest Rodeo
July 30-August 1, Phillipsburg
Cowboys ride buckin' broncs & bulls, rope and wrestle steers and race the clock. Parade, vendors, dances.
(785) 543-2448, kansasbiggestrodeo.com

Classic Car Show
August 1, Dodge City
Automobiles from all over the Country. Games & Prizes All Day!
(620) 227-3119, dodgecitydays.com

2009 Preferred Health Systems Wichita Open
August 3-9, Wichita
20th Annual PGA Golf Tournament
Crestview Country Club
(316) 219-9046, PHSWichitaOpen.com

Civil War on the Western Frontier
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