

Five receive top honors at state tourney

By GATLIN REICHERT

The Norton Invitational Speech Tournament took place Feb. 13 with nine schools participating. Oberlin had 15 participants with five of them placing.

Miki Dorshorst placed second in serious solo acting and qualified for the state tournament, which will be held later in the spring. Miki and her duet partner Cassidy Shields placed fifth overall in duet acting.

Amanda Marshall placed third in prose interpretation and sixth in informative speaking, Samantha Meitl placed fifth in Informative Speaking.

As a team, Oberlin came in fourth, only three points behind third place. Coach Leigh Davis said, "We need to work harder. Finals were cut throat in this tournament."

Student gets high marks on state exam

By ASHLI SAMSON

Hunter Nedland will go down in the history books as the first student in Decatur Community High School history to score exemplary on all five state assessments while in high school. Exemplary is the top category on the state assessments.

The five assessments are in reading, math, social studies, science and writing. Hunter is the son of Dan Nedland and Rhonda May and plans to attend Kansas State University next fall.



School Menus

March 1 - 5
OBERLIN SCHOOLS

Monday: Late start. No breakfast. Lunch: Tater tot/green bean casserole. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: Western omelet, toast. Lunch: Chicken wrap, rice. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: French toast sticks. Lunch: Beef and noodles, mashed potatoes. **Thursday:** Breakfast: Waffle, ham pattie. Lunch: Little smokies, au gratins. **Friday:** Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, muffin. Lunch: Cheese pizza, peas.

Fruit served with all breakfasts; choice bar served with all lunches. Milk served with all meals.

Voice of Decatur Community High School



By the DCHS Dictator Staff



TYLER SHIELDS stood to be recognized during the National Honor Society Induction Banquet.

— Photo by Dictator Staff

Six students inducted into Honor Society

By JESSICA FREDRICKSON

Six sophomores were inducted into National Honor Society at a banquet held Monday, Feb. 15 at the Gateway. The six new members are Nolan Henningson, Tyler Shields, Amanda Marshall, Dalton Jones, Shay McChesney and Matthew Wittman.

The banquet began with NHS President Kira Meitl welcoming all of the parents of the NHS members and DCHS teachers and school board members, followed by a meal prepared by the Gateway staff.

After eating, Kira, Vice President Mary Olson, and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Horton introduced each inductee by telling the audience a little bit about each, including what their hobbies are, who their favorite sports teams are, what their favorite foods are, and something interesting about them.

Everybody then moved into the theater at the gateway for the entertainment provided by the DCHS Singers. The singers sang a variety of music and had a range of choreography.

The speaker for the banquet was Justin Barrett who is the son of Jim and Diane Barrett and the brother

of Haley and Megan Barrett. Justin graduated from DCHS and attended Washburn University. He spoke to the audience about his job now as an attorney in Colby and what educational path he had to take to get there.

He told the high school students that when he was their age, he couldn't wait to get out of Oberlin and northwest Kansas. He spent a year in Boston, passed the bar exam, had children, and decided he couldn't wait to get back to northwest Kansas.

Mr. Barrett also spoke a little bit about his family and his two kids and about the four pillars of National Honor Society: scholarship, leadership, character, and discipline and how he applies each of them to his life.

To end the ceremony, Kira, Mary and Ashley lit the four candles, each one representing a pillar of NHS and had each of the six inductees walk across the stage to receive their award. The six new informed NHS students then raised their right hand and took the NHS pledge.

To be eligible for NHS, student must have an accumulative 3.4 grade point average and display all four pillars of the honor society.



JAXEN ALSTROM talks to his band buddy, Shawn Cressler, during a basketball game.

— Photo by Dictator Staff

Band students buddy up for game

By KYLE HUNTLEY

If you were at the basketball game a few weeks ago, you might have noticed a larger than usual pep band. The high school students were joined by their band buddies from the grade school for the evening.

"Band Buddies" is a great way to combine the grade school band students with the high school band students to keep the younger students encouraged so hopefully they will continue with band throughout their high school years. All of the high school students participate with the Band Buddy activity. Every beginning fifth grade band member is assigned a high school band student to be his/her "buddy."

Throughout the year, the buddies write to each other, such as words of encouragement, or just to talk about their favorite things.

Some of the high school students help with the after-school band

program at the grade school. Some high school students also give private lessons to the beginning band students.

At the basketball game, the elementary students were able to meet

with their band buddy before the game and then sit and play with the high school band during the game.

The elementary and high school band director is Sarah Bricker.

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