

# Students bleed for child

By MIRANDA SHELTON  
Student Council, FFA, and National Honor Society sponsored the 6th Annual DCHS Blood Drive last week.

This blood drive honored Mikala Hodgens, granddaughter of DCHS special education teacher Rhonda Barth. Mikala was diagnosed with ALL or acute lymphocytic leukemia last year. She has had several blood transfusions in her fight with the blood cancer.

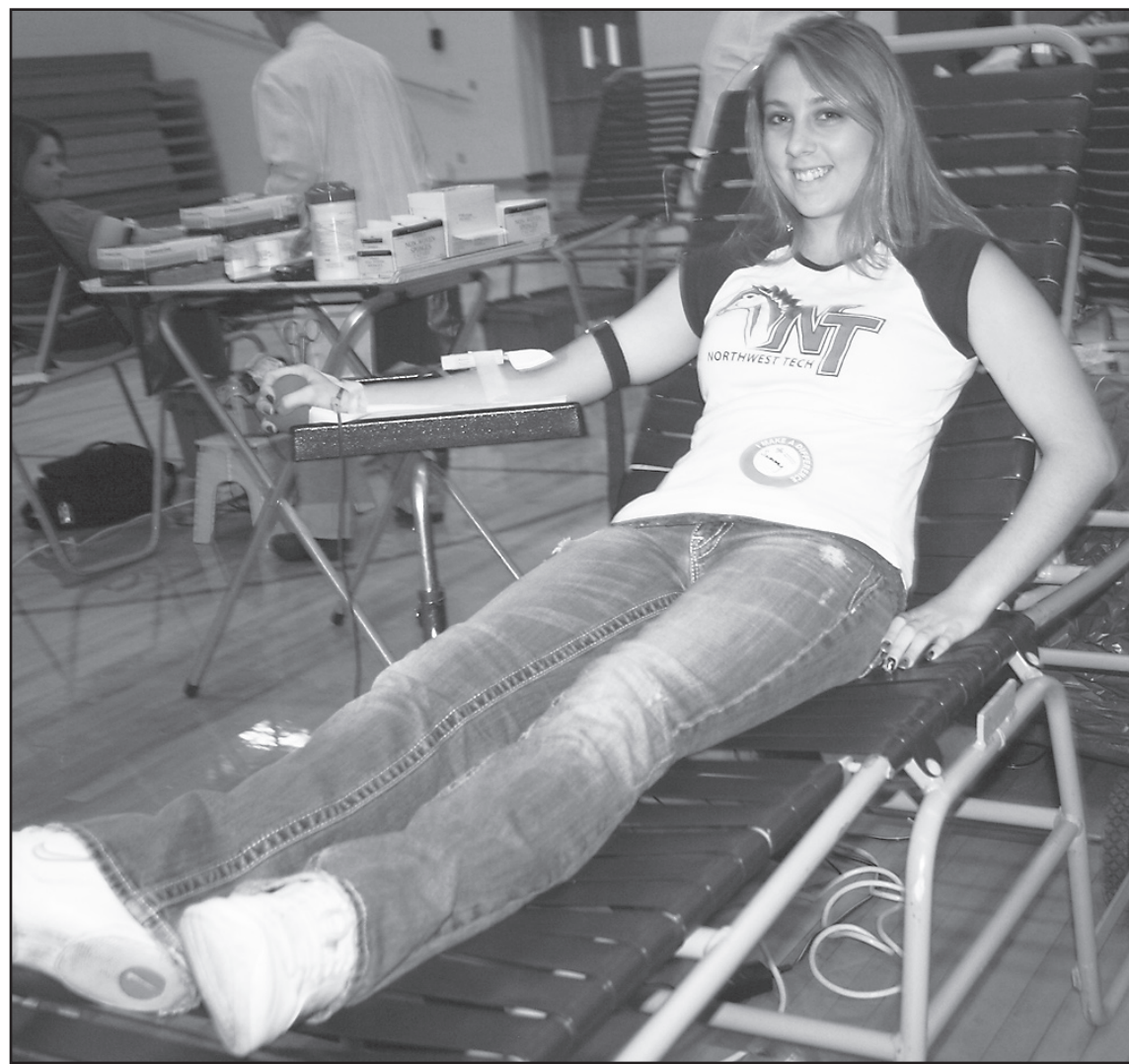
Our goal for this year was 87 units of blood. Although we didn't meet our goal, more students donated blood than in previous years. "The purpose of holding blood drives at schools is to encourage young people to donate blood. Hopefully, if they donate blood once, they will do it again," said Brenda Breth, who helped organize the blood drive. "Most of our students who donate say they will do it again, so in that respect our blood drives are always successful. This year's was no different."

The American Red Cross collected 68 units of blood this year.

"It feels good to give blood," said Channing Forting. "It is rewarding to save a life."

Amanda Marshall said, "It feels good to save a life. I'm so glad the school is supporting the blood drive."

Nora Urban, who is a good friend



**JUNIOR SAMMY MEITL** gave blood during the sixth annual Decatur Community High School Blood Drive. The Red Cross collected 68 pints during the drive, which was held in honor of Mikala Hodgens, the granddaughter of Mick and Rhonda Barth. — Dictator photo

of Mikala's mother, contacted the Red Cross who used Mikala's name and picture on all of the flyers and publicity for the blood drive.

The Kansas Red Cross chapter is based out of Wichita. The workers are on the road every other week

from Monday to Friday. Depending on how large the blood drive is, they will send out more volunteers to help with the blood-taking process.

The Red Cross chapter travels all over Kansas, the southern part

of Nebraska, and the northern part of Oklahoma.

"The student and community support was awesome," said Mrs. Barth. "On behalf of my family, I'd like to thank everyone who helped at the drive and who gave blood."

# Penny war helps little girl with cancer

By CASSIDY SHIELDS  
Over the past two weeks, Oberlin students and staff have been competing in a penny war. The goal was to see who could bring the most pennies. If they brought any other type of change or bill, it counted against their total.

The penny war was organized by the Student Council to raise money for Mikala Hodgens, who is Rhonda Barth's granddaughter. She is a 9-year-old fighting leukemia. All the pennies go to the Leukemia Foundation, but everything else goes to her and her family to help

with her ongoing expenses.

The freshman won the Penny War, followed by the junior high and seniors.

Oberlin elementary students also helped to raise money, contributing nearly \$500. Kathy Tacha's second

graders raised the most money at the grade school.

Together, the students raised over \$2,600. Four hundred dollars is going to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Foundation and the other \$2,200 to Mikala.

# Oberlin plays host for scholar contest

By NOLAN HENNINGSON  
Oberlin hosted a high school scholar bowl competition on Nov. 7 in which the Decatur Community High team placed third.

Competing for Oberlin were Nolan Henningson, Tyler Shields, Miki Dorshorst, Matt Glading, Matthew Helm, Zach May and Elizabeth Nedland.

Serena Stacy stepped in as the team coach while Coach Marlene Moxter worked on scoring.

The team started out really strong with five consecutive wins. In round 1, Oberlin beat Hoxie 60-30. They

went on to defeat Northern Valley 70-20, Rawlins County 30-20, Colby 50-10 and Oakley 60-20.

Next, they faced their first loss against a very tough Goodland team, 55-60. They then lost again, this time to Norton, 50-80.

Norton won the meet with a 7-1 record. Oberlin and Goodland both had 6-2 records. However, the tie-breaker went to Goodland because of their defeat over Oberlin.

The scholar bowl team would like to thank everyone who helped out with the meet. It was a great meet and we appreciate all the support.

# Scholars attend bowl

By TAYLOR MACFEE  
The first scholar bowl tournament of the season was held Nov. 1 in Atwood. Oberlin took a varsity and a junior varsity team.

The varsity team won the tournament, and the JV team took third.

Our varsity team consisted of Tyler Shields, Matthew Helm, Zach May, Elizabeth Nedland, and Miki Dorshorst

The junior varsity team included Ganon Henningson, Kaine Fredrickson, Austin Hendrickson, Hannah May, Sierra Lohofener, Jalyn Shaw, and Garrett Scott.

Other teams competing were Norton, Goodland, Atwood, Hoxie, Colby, Oakley, and Brewster. The varsity placed first, ahead of Norton and Goodland.

In the junior varsity division, Oberlin placed behind Norton and Colby.

"It was a wonderful way to start the season," said Marlene Moxter, scholar bowl coach.

"You can't beat that feeling of your sweaty hand on the buzzer and the adrenaline rush you get when you know the answer," said Zach.

# New Students

By MEGAN HUNTLEY and CASSIDY SHIELDS

## Parker and Jerod Smith

Parker is the son of Jerry and Debbie Smith. His brother Jerod is also attending Decatur Community High School. They moved here on Oct. 24 from Moody, Texas.

Parker says they moved here mainly because it's less expensive.

Parker said he enjoys listening to screamo and metal music. He also enjoys hunting.

He said that the teachers are better here and there are more activities available to participate in. He also said that the people in Oberlin are very nice.

Jerod Smith is a junior and is 17 years old.

He likes our school and thinks it's better than his old one. So far his favorite class is homeroom.

Jerod's favorite color is green. He has five dogs, and he likes rock music and playing his guitar in his free time.

# Students judge cattle

By TAYLOR MACFEE

FFA members Sammy Meitl, Jeff Shaw, Brittany Urban and Cody Wurm competed in a dairy-judging contest in Hays recently.

The team placed fifth and are now qualified for the state meet. Brittany placed ninth as an individual.

Sammy said, "I'm proud of our team for taking fifth and qualifying

for state. I can't wait to see how we do. It was an utter shock to be qualified for state."

Dairy Judging is a great experience that a lot of people have fun with. Cody said, "It was a pretty good day."

Sponsor Jason Ketterl said, "We have a really good group of kids who judged very well."

# School Menus

**Nov. 21-Nov. 25 OBERLIN SCHOOLS**  
Monday: Breakfast: Sausage patie, mini loaf. Lunch: Beefy nachos, roundabouts.  
Tuesday: pizza. Lunch: Chicken

fried steak, corn.  
**Wednesday-Friday:** No school. Thanksgiving break.  
Fruit served with breakfasts, choice bar with lunches, milk with all meals.

# Give Kansas Kids a Home



Hundreds of Kansas kids need a home. Become a foster or adoptive parent!  
Learn how you can Get Involved. Call 800.593.1950 ext 8118 for details. Online webinars | info meetings  
**Youthville**  
www.youthville.org

**Rawlins Clinic in Atwood**  
Rodney Dill, MD  
Charles Zerr, MD  
Dana Jewell, PA-C  
Deaun Carpenter, ARNP  
Michael Porsch, PA  
Monday-Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - Noon  
707 Grand Street  
Atwood, KS 67730  
(785) 626-3241

Voice of Decatur Community High School

**Decatur Dictator**  
By the DCHS Dictator Staff

# 'The Music Man' set to play Oberlin

By SERENA STACY  
Oberlin students are really excited about the upcoming production of "The Music Man."

The students have been working hard on putting this production together. It's been hard without Leigh Davis, but Dana Juenemann's great.

As the production date gets closer, the more nervous and excited the cast gets.

Cassidy Shields said, "I think it's going all right, but it's a really

good thing we have another week to practice to make this production the best it can be."

We would love to see everyone there AT 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 18-19 in the DCHS auditorium. Tickets are on sale from any cast member. The prices are \$4 for students and senior citizens and \$6 for adults.

It's going to be a great production. We can't wait to show you what we can do.

See photos and story on Page 1B.

# KAYS leaders learn about power of one

By KIAH BLAU

A man was walking down the beach and saw this crazy man dancing on the beach, so he walked up to him and asked what he was doing. The man asked, "I'm trying to save all these star fish. You see there was a huge storm last night and all these starfish washed up on the beach."

The other man asked, "Why are you doing that? You can't help them all; there are a million starfish on this beach and there is only one of you."

The dancing man picked up a starfish and threw it in the sea and said, "But I made a difference to that one."

Cheryl Gleason, who is the KAYS director at Kansas State High School Activities Association, used this story at the KAYS regional conference held last week because it helps explain the motto for this year, which is the power of one.

The regional conference was held in Logan on Nov. 4. Representing Oberlin were president Tracy Hoppal, vice president, Garrett Berry, and board members Kiah Blau, Serena Stacy, Nolan Henningson, Samantha Anderson, Miki Dorshorst, Matt Glading, and Kay sponsor, Linda Glaze.

The conference was to share ideas and meet other KAYS.

# Oberlin students chosen for honor choir

By EVAN WALKER

Eleven Oberlin students have been chosen for Kansas Music Educators Association district choir.

On Nov. 5, several students traveled to Hays High School to audition for the educators honor choir.

To audition, students had to sing sections from different songs to display their abilities. There was a Russian song and two English songs, one of which had a faster

tempo than the other. Three judges evaluated each contestant.

The students selected include sopranos Miki Dorshorst, Morgan Jansonius and Amanda Marshall; altos Molly Jansonius, Haley Schiessler, Cassidy Shields and Serena Stacy; tenor Ben Glading; baritone Zach May; and bass Nolan Henningson and Caleb Koerperich.

The regional leader in advanced *surgical care* is right here, close to home.

Excellent surgical care has never been more accessible. Community Hospital has two general surgeons on staff, offering endoscopy, laparoscopic and intra-abdominal, breast surgery, and limited head and neck procedures.

Five visiting orthopedic surgeons provide comprehensive care for illness or injuries to hands, hips, or other parts of musculoskeletal system, including joint replacements. And most surgeries are performed in McCook for your convenience.

Our 26,000 square foot, state-of-the-art surgery wing will be finished in 2012, and will feature the latest technology for the highest level of patient comfort, safety and security.

**COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**  
Advanced care. Always there.  
1301 East H St. • McCook, NE  
308.344.2650 • www.chmccook.org  
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.


**WINTER SHOP SPECIAL**  
**Booking Program**  
• Tractors • Combines  
• Balers • FWD • Skid Steers  
**10% Parts 15% Labor Discount**  
**15% Off Bulk Oil 30&55 gal. Cash & Carry**  
**Lawn Mower Hibernation Program - We will pickup your mower, (within 25 miles) service, store it and return it to you in the Spring just in time to start mowing. Walk Behind -\$65.00 Riders-\$75.00**  
**All Winter Programs are plus parts. Give Dave Morgan a Call 345-4580...he'll be more than happy to book your equipment or mower needs! Anything booked by November 30th will get FREE TRUCKING!!**  
**Klein's MOTOR ELECTRIC CO.**  
605 West B McCook, NE  
**345-4580**