



**THE MEN IN BLACK** (above) performed "Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond" with accompanist Jennifer Tally. (Only part of the group is shown in this picture.) Ben Glading (below) gave his tuba solo performance in the high school gym.

## Music students compete at regional contest here

The annual Regional Music Festival brought musicians and singers from many northwest Kansas schools to Oberlin on Saturday.

The halls of Decatur Community High were jammed as students and teachers rushed from one room to the next with music, instruments and costumes.

In the senior high gymnasium and library and a classroom, instrumental groups and solo performers played everything from violins to tuba. In the auditorium, larger groups performed on the stage.

And in the vocal and band rooms and another classroom, singers showed off their skills for the judges.

The town was full of buses, parents and hundreds of performers. In



all, 24 schools took part. At the high school, dozens of

teachers, administrators, aides and volunteers helped keep the chaos organized as performers and their teachers rushed from one end of the school to the other for their events.

Oberlin vocal teacher Susan Nelson said that there were more than 400 entries in the competition.

Oberlin students earned 37 I ratings, she said, eleven IIs and three IIIs.

Performers with a I qualified to attend the state Music Festival at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina on Saturday, April 28.

Mrs. Nelson said she especially appreciated all the volunteer help. "Without all of those who helped," she said, "we couldn't have done it."



**SINGING HER SOLO**, Samantha Anderson (above) performed at the Regional Music Festival on Saturday. Zach May (above Samantha) also sang two songs for the judges. Caleb Koerperich (right) performed on his saxophone.



– Herald photos and story by **Cynthia Haynes**