



RUNNING WITH HIS BLOCKERS, quarterback Dayton Dreher (above) helped the Red Devils whip the Cambridge Trojans on Friday. Konner Fortin (below, left) ran for a

touchdown. Zach May (below, right) celebrated Oberlin's third touchdown of the shutout.

— Herald photos by Susan May



Devils demolish Trojans

Oberlin shuts down Nebraska powerhouse

The Cambridge Trojans won the coin toss and got the ball to start the season's first football game on Friday, but that was all they would win.

It was the Decatur Community High Red Devils who crossed the goal line, not once but four times, to shut-out the top-rated Nebraska team and start the season with a 26-0 victory.

After winning the toss, the Trojans elected to receive and marched down the field to the Oberlin 27-yard line. Then Konner Fortin caused a fumble and the ball was recovered by Oberlin's Tyler Bruggeman.

On Oberlin's first play, tailback Zach May stunned the opposition when he ran the ball 71 yards into the end zone for Oberlin's first touchdown. The point-after attempt was unsuccessful but with 8:14 left in the first quarter, the score was 6-0 in favor of the Red Devils.

Bruggeman kicked off for Oberlin and the ball landed on the Cambridge 32. The Trojans went four and had to punt, but recovered the ball to continue their drive. Cambridge got as far as the Oberlin 5, but a holding penalty pushed them back to the 18.

With 23 seconds left in the first quarter, fourth down and 10 yards to go, Cambridge gave it one more try but the runner was tackled by May after a three-yard gain and the quarter ended with Oberlin up 6-0.

Oberlin took the ball but went nowhere. However, the Trojans fumbled and the ball was picked up by Oberlin on the Cambridge 29.

Oberlin took the ball, but the Red Devils' running game wasn't work-

ing. Then Dayton Dreher threw the ball to Fortin for the Devils' second touchdown with 8:57 left in the half.

The points-after attempt again was unsuccessful.

The Trojans took Bruggeman's kickoff on their 35 and started back down the field. After an unsuccessful throw on third and 11, however, they were forced to punt. The ball landed on the Red Devils' 25.

Oberlin threw and ran the ball to the Cambridge 2. Then, Chris Anderson took the ball and ran it into the end zone for Oberlin's third touchdown with 3:44 left in the first half. The points-after try again was unsuccessful.

The teams traded the ball but neither was able to score again in the quarter.

As the buzzer sounded for the end of the first half, Oberlin led 18-0.

The Trojans kicked off in the third quarter. With the help of some Trojan miscues, the Red Devils moved the ball down the field but were not able to score and Cambridge got the ball back.

In the meantime, two Cambridge players had to be helped off the field. Over the course of the game, several players on each side suffered heat cramps.

Two false starts later, Cambridge found itself at second and 20. The Trojans tried to run the ball but

kept running into Oberlin tackles. On fourth down, the Nebraska boys tried for a long pass, but it was intercepted by Grant Gilliam for Oberlin, who ran it back to the Oberlin 45.

The Red Devils ran the ball and gained enough so that with two minutes left to go, the Devils were again on a first-and-10 count. Oberlin threw the ball and it was caught by Fortin, but interference was called.

The teams took a water break with 1:08 left in the quarter.

After a flag, Oberlin was at first and 15. The ball was thrown to Gilliam on the Cambridge 25. Dreher took the ball for another first down, then it was thrown to Anderson on the 15. With just seconds left in the third quarter, Dreher took the ball into the end zone for Oberlin's fourth touchdown. May took the ball in to add two points and Oberlin led the Trojans 26-0.

Neither team was able to score in the fourth quarter, but Coach Joe Dreher had time to put in some of his younger players.

Top players for Oberlin were:

- Passing: Dreher, nine out of 15 for 111 yards.
- Rushing: Z. May, 151 yards on 13 runs; Dreher, 61 on nine; Anderson, 21 on nine; Noah Nelson, 13 on two; Kaine Fredrickson, seven on two; Bryson Wesley, nine on five;

Troy Juenemann, four on two; and Kelden Breth, two on one.

- Receiving: Fortin, 45 yards on four runs; Anderson, 38 on two; R. May, 23 on two; and Z. May, five on one.

- Sacks: Matt Glading, five, and Adrian Zillinger, one.

- Interceptions: Gilliam, one.

- Fumbles recovered: Bruggeman and Fortin, one each.

- Tackles: Rex Diederich, six with six assists; Zillinger, five and three assists; Bruggeman, four and five assists; Channing Fortin, four and four assists; Dreher and Z. May, four and three assists each; K. Fortin, three and five assists; Glading, three and four assists; Anderson, one and six assists; Gilliam, one and five assists; Cody Wurm, one and four assists; R. May, five assists; Breth and Kramer Winkles, two assists; and Juenemann, Gabe Anderson, Wesley, Baron Green and Regent Erickson, one assist each.

Oberlin won the game, avenging last year's 54-12 defeat.

The boys won't be able to rest on their laurels, because the Phillipsburg Panthers will be coming to town for a 7 p.m. kickoff on Friday. The Panthers downed Plainville 48-18 this week.

Then Oberlin will play perennial powerhouse Smith Center on Sept. 14 and Norton on Sept. 21. The Blue Jays downed the tough Red Men on Friday 34-13 in an upset, so Oberlin can look for three more good games in September before playing Northwest Kansas League rival St. Francis at the end of the month.

* Meeting to bring officials to town

(Continued from Page 1A)

community High graduate. According to *The Washington Post*, the new tax incentives that will be discussed, and are particularly good for businesses, include reducing income taxes by \$847 million in 2014, and eliminating income taxes for 191,000 small businesses.

"This is the largest tax cut that the state of Kansas has ever had," said Dr. Anderson, a retired veterinarian and former city councilman who has helped set up the meeting along with Connie Grafel, marketing director of the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. He also is the father of Steve Anderson.

Dr. Anderson said new state programs like the Rural Opportunity Zone law have done better than anyone thought. In Oberlin alone, at least nine new residents have used the law. Those who qualify for the program are exempt from state income taxes and receive \$3,000 a year to help pay back student loans. They must have recently graduated from an accredited university and move to work in a designated counties (of which Decatur is one). They must work there for at least a year.

It's ideas like that, he said, that will get the town growing again, that will bring new people, new ideas and new tax dollars into our area.

"We're bringing these heavy hitters to explain to the people in Decatur County, including Norcat and Jennings, too, what opportunities we'll have here," Dr. Anderson said. "This is for community education, and to explain what people need to learn."

"So many people say we've not got more population here, yet to one of them knows how to do any-

thing about it. The promising size of industry we could use here — small business — we have to recruit on our own, because it's very unlikely they would find us."

"When Bus and Coach International was going to come here, that was the biggest and whitest horse I ever saw," he said, remembering when the company was going to set up shop in Jennings, providing industry and jobs along the way.

The company pulled out quietly after the recession began, however, and people have been looking for something else like it ever since, said Economic Development board chairman Greg Lohofener.

"The biggest thing I remember about when BCI came here," he said, "is that I asked them why — why Jennings, Kan.? They came from California and landed in Jennings, and they said 'location.' With an airport in Oberlin, we can locate our plant here in the center of everything, and we can be at any other location in half a day."

"BCI is gone, but has any of the rest of that changed? If there's a BCI that found us, why couldn't more? There's still two major highways halfway between two Interstates. That hasn't changed just because they're not here. So if one company found us, how come, with a runway, we can't locate any other companies? They're out there."

Dr. Anderson says he sees the meeting next week as a possible turning point for Decatur County after years of population losses.

"It may be the last chance for us to work together as a county to save ourselves," he said. "We need to have a broader recruiting conversation."

THE OBERLIN HERALD — Sports

Junior High team loses to Smith Center

The Smith Center junior high team downed Oberlin's junior high boys 14-12 in the first football game of the year in Oberlin on Thursday.

The game was originally scheduled in Smith Center but moved to Oberlin's Smick Field due to a scheduling conflict.

Oberlin won the coin toss and chose to receive. The Red Devils scored on their opening drive with a long run from Kade Wurm to go up 6-0.

Smith Center came back and scored on their second drive and added points after the touchdown to make the score 8-6.

Neither team would score again until the third quarter. Then, Smith

Center struck again, missing the point after to make the score 14-6.

Oberlin quarterback Tabor Erickson scored on a three-yard run on the next drive, making it 14-12.

With most of three minutes left in the game, the Red Devils intercepted the ball and had a chance to win, but came up short when they fumbled it back to Smith Center a couple plays later.

"The Red Devils played extremely hard with only having 12 players," said Coach Jason Ketterl. He said that he and Coach Mark Bricker are happy with the team's effort.

Oberlin will play Plainville at home on Thursday with a 5:30 p.m. kickoff.

5TH ANNUAL UP IN SMOKE BBQ AND BLUES
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

Live music from 3-8 p.m. featuring Highway 385, Last Gasp, and Lucus Maddy

Children's activities start at 3:30 p.m. with paid admission.

BBQ dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Sign up for a trip to Las Vegas * Win a Traeger grill. *

Early Bird Special \$2 off admission if paid before 3:30 p.m.

✓ Sample and vote ✓ for people's choice at 3:30 p.m.

All proceeds go to Decatur County Fire Department

• Bring your lawn chairs •

Adults \$12 and kids \$6
Admission price before 3:30 Adults \$10 kids \$5

Youth football starts season

The Oberlin fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade youth tackle football team will start the season at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in Plainville.

The team will not play the next week, then will be home as Atwood comes to call at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 22, at Smick Field.

The rest of the scheduled games:

- Saturday, Sept. 29 at Hoxie.
- Saturday, Oct. 6, at LaCrosse.

- Saturday, Oct. 13, at home vs. WaKeeney.
- Saturday, Oct. 20, at home vs. Ellis.

The annual tournament will be Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 27-28, but the time and place is still to be decided.

The Oberlin club will have concessions available during home games.

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