

Red Devils fall to Ellis

Post season hopes end with district contest

The Oberlin Red Devils' dreams of a post season died Friday night in Ellis as the football team fell 14-7 to the Railroaders in their second district loss.

The Decatur Community High football team had to win the game to have a shot at the playoffs, as it had already lost one district contest – to Oakley – and in district play, it's two strikes and you're out.

The Red Devils lost a couple of scoring opportunities when Ellis intercepted passes, one of them into the end zone.

Ellis also had its problems, as it tried three quarterbacks before finding one that suited them.

Oberlin started off the game by kicking to Ellis, but the Railroaders were not able to move the ball. This was the story of the first quarter, as the teams traded the ball back and forth. Ellis tried to help the Red Devils with fouls each time Oberlin had the ball, drawing face mask, block-in-the-back and holding calls.

Oberlin fumbled the ball twice.

The first time Kyle Breth fell on it, but the second time Ellis got it.

The quarter ended with no score but Ellis took only five seconds of the second quarter to cross the goal line. The two-point conversion was unsuccessful but at 11:55 in the second quarter, the score was 6-0.

Both teams went three and out, then Ellis started a drive on the Oberlin 40-yard line and ended up scoring again with about five minutes left in the half. This time, the two-point conversion was good and the Railroaders led 14-0.

Oberlin got the ball at the start of the second half and the Red Devils were well on their way down the field when Ellis intercepted a pass on the Oberlin 49. The Devils not only held the Railroaders, but pushed them back. They got the ball back but were unable to score.

The third quarter ended with neither team making much headway.

Then with less than six minutes left to play, Oberlin moved the ball to the Ellis 23 and a long pass into



QUARTERBACK DAYTON DREHER carried the ball behind blockers during a game on Friday against the Ellis Railroaders. The Oberlin Red Devils lost 14-7.

– Herald photo by Sarah Fredrickson

the end zone – which would have put Oberlin on the board – went to a Railroader.

The Railroaders immediately fumbled the ball and Kennedy Fortin took it on the Ellis 21. Oberlin got the ball to within inches of the goal and quarterback Dayton Dreher ran it in. Dreher also kicked the point after to put the Red Devils on the board, but behind 14-7 with 3:06 left in the game.

Oberlin executed a perfect on-side kick and had the ball again. The Red Devils were back in Ellis territory with 52 seconds left to play when Ellis intercepted another pass. Ellis let the clock run out and won the game.

Dreher had three pass completions for 56 yards. Chris Anderson caught two for 38 yards and Konnor Fortin one for 18.

Top rushers were Anderson, 53

yards on 17 carries; Bryson Wesley, 53 on 10; Dreher, 27 on 13; Kennedy Fortin, 30 on eight; and Ryan May, 11 on one.

Anderson recovered an Ellis fumble and Anderson, Matt Glading and Konnor Fortin all sacked a quarterback.

Top tacklers were Kennedy Fortin, seven tackles and one assist; Anderson, six and two; Rex Diederich, three and four; May and Breth,

three and two; Channing Fortin, two and three; Konnor Fortin, two and two; Adam Zillinger, one and three; Glading, one and two; Dreher, two assists; and Tyler Bruggeman, one assist.

This week, Oberlin will play its last game of the season as the Wichita County Indians come to call at 7 p.m. Friday.

Last week, St. Francis beat the Leoti team 52-32.

Girls win one, lose one

Lady Devils end season

The Decatur Community High volleyball team won its first game at the substate tournament in Oberlin on Saturday, but ended the season with a two-set loss to Hill City.

The Lady Ringnecks then won the Class 2A substate with a victory over Smith Center in the finals.

In the opening matches, Hill City defeated Rock Hill, 25-8, 25-9; Oberlin downed Oakley, 26-24, 25-19; Smith Center beat Plainville, 27-17, 25-7; and Ellis overcame Leoti, 25-12, 25-14.

In the semifinals, Hill City downed the Lady Red Devils 25-16, 25-19 and Smith Center beat Ellis, 22-25, 25-22, 25-17.

"I'm proud of this group of girls," Coach Sherri Ruf said. "They played with heart all season. They ended the season with a good record of 26-10.

"We had a tough substate with some of the best teams in the state of Kansas."

Top players for Oberlin against Oakley were:

- Miki Dorshorst, three digs, 16 assists, seven kills and a block.
- Cassidy Shields, a dig and 14 assists.
- Keatra Fisher, an ace, three digs and nine kills.
- Jamie Soderlund, three aces, seven kills and three blocks.
- Hannah May, an ace, three digs, five kills and five blocks.
- Taylor Macfee, two kills and a block.
- Molly Jansonius, a dig, an assist



and a kill.
• Grace Randel, an ace and a dig.

Top players against Hill City:
• Dorshorst, 17 assists, six kills

and two blocks.
• Shields, two aces and 18 assists.

• Soderlund, two digs, four kills and three blocks.



FIGHTING FOR THE BALL, Jamie Soderlund (No. 16, above), with backup from Molly Jansonius (No. 4), were playing Hill City in the substate volleyball tournament on Saturday. Earlier in the day, Keatra Fisher (No. 15, left) served the ball. – Herald photos by Abby Hissong

• May, a kill and three blocks.

• Macfee and Fisher, a dig and a kill each.

• Jansonius, two kills.

Junior high wins two games

The Decatur Community Junior High volleyball girls B-team won two matches and lost two at the Northwest Kansas League meet in Sharon Springs last Tuesday.

Oberlin lost to Dighton, 25-15, 27-25 in the first game.

Lily Marine and Celianna Shobe were both 100 percent in serving.

"We came out quiet and still in our first game against Dighton," said Coach Krickit Ketterl. "A couple of missed serves kept us from taking them into a third set."

Oberlin beat Greeley County in two sets, 25-17, 25-16.

Shobe, Marine and Ravyn Van-Vleet each served 100 percent.

"Against Greeley County, we fought hard and came out on top, then we had a three game break," said Coach Ketterl. "This hurt our momentum and we came out fired

up but lost it quickly and just shut down against Rawlins County."

The young Buffaloes beat Oberlin 25-18, 25-13.

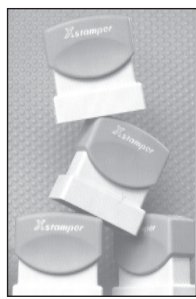
Perfect servers were Marine, Genna Randel and Aspen Galentine.

"Then we rallied back to defeat Wallace County in our last game," Coach Ketterl said.

Oberlin beat Wallace County in two, 25-15, 30-28.

Shobe and Marine both served perfectly.

"We went two and two on the day, and I was very proud of the way the girls played and worked together," Coach Ketterl said. "It is a very good group of girls to work with and I was able to pull anyone from the bench and they did a great job. Good job, ladies; keep working hard."



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