# **Student teaches English**

#### Area graduate shares skills with classes **By KIM WESSEL**

Since the first of the year, Decatur Community High School has had the privilege of having a student teacher from Fort Hays State University.

Robynn (Ochsner) Wessel is student teaching under Leigh Davis in the English department.

Mrs. Wessel was born on August 9, 1981, a birthday she shares with her grandmother and her uncle. She grew up in Bath, S.D., which is seven miles outside of Aberdeen, S.D., where she went to school.

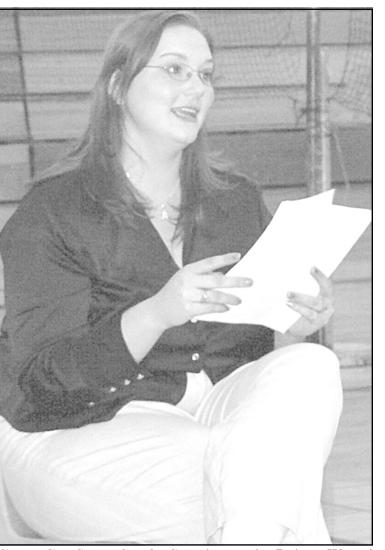
When Mrs. Wessel turned 16, she moved to Selden. She then went to Golden Plains High School where she graduated in 1999 at the age of

After high school, she went to Colby Community and Dodge City Community colleges where she received her Associate's Degree. She then went to Fort Hays State University, where she is currently attending, to get her Bachelor's degree in English and secondary education.

Mrs. Wessel said her favorite thing about teaching is "the students; however, they can make or break your day." She said the bad thing about student teaching is, "The legislative hoops you have to jump

through every step of the way." Her favorite class is seventh hour nior English because everyone is excited. It is the last hour of the y, and it can be a lot of fun.

When asked if there was anything e felt unprepared for when start-; her student teaching, she said, here are so many little things ev-/day that surprise me, or when I lect on a lesson, I will say to my-



GIVING INSTRUCTIONS, student teacher Robynn Wessel led her freshman class in a fun project in the gym.

- Dictator photo by Kim Wessel

guess to be specific, I was not prepared to be nervous in front of the horses and read Harry Potter books. class. I have lots of previous experience, but I was not accountable if they didn't learn."

Other than student teaching, which takes most of her time, Mrs. short term is to find a job and long Wessel works at the Southwind Bar term is to teach English, speech, and in Selden a couple of times a month. She lives in Selden with her husband, Christopher Wessel, whom f, 'why didn't I think of that?' I she married on June 5, 2004.

In her free time she loves to ride Mrs. Wessel's hobbies include reading, riding horses, fishing, and swimming.

"For my future plans in my career, coach forensics and plays," said Mrs. Wessel. In my life, I want to move to a farm house and have two to three kids.'

#### Band gets tips at contest

**By MARCI METCALF** The Decatur Community High School band went to the Colby high school on Monday, March 12, for a pre-state contest large group workshop.

Once the band arrived, they warmed up in the band room. Then they went to the gym and performed the two contest pieces they have been practicing, "Crossgate" and "Allied Honor," a march.

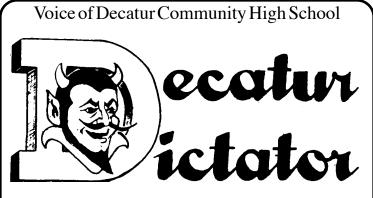
Critiquing their performance was Dr. Neal Schnoor, who is the band director at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, as well as a percussion specialist. He said the

band was very prepared. Dr. Schnoor had a lot of good pointers that made it a beneficial trip.

#### School Menus

April 2-6 **OBERLIN SCHOOLS** 

Monday: Breakfast: bagel pizza. Lunch: sliced ham, macaroni and cheese dinner roll. Tuesday: Breakfast: hot pockets. Lunch: beef and noodles, mashed potatoes, dinner roll. Wednesday: Breakfast: pancakes, ham patty. Lunch: hamburger, French fries. Thursday: Breakfast: French toast sticks. Lunch: chicken strips, scalloped potatoes, dinner roll. Friday: Breakfast: cherry or apple turnovers. Lunch: cheese pizza, peas. Juice and fruit served with breakfast. Milk served with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

#### **Top geographer** headed for state bee

**By HEATHER WILLIAMS** All junior high students participated in a geography bee on Jan. 5. After the final round, only one student was left. Jacob Helm was the winner that day.

After winning the local geography bee, Jacob Helm took a written test. He was recently notified that his Helm. Marlene Moxter is his geogtest score qualified him for the state raphy teacher. competition.

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Jacob will travel to Abilene for competition on March 30. One hundred contestants from across the state will be competing in Abilene for the chance to represent the state of Kansas at the national competition

Jacob is the son of Mike and Deb Good luck, Jacob!

High energy coordinators needed to recruit host families for high school exchange students. Need to have good people skills and love working with teenagers. Part time position, great for stay-at-home parents.

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