

# Teacher moves to Spanish

Uno, dos, tres, welcome to a great year with Carol Brown, the new Spanish teacher.

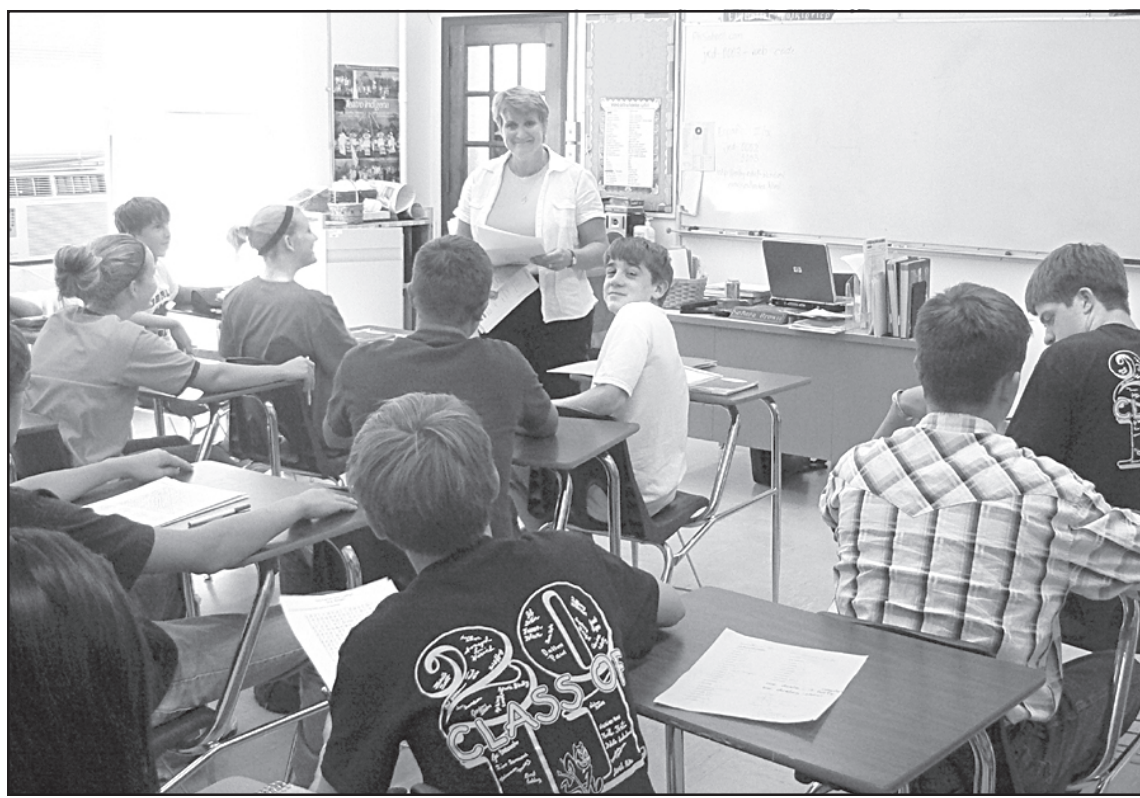
Mrs. Brown is not new to the school district. She is a graduate of Decatur Community High School and taught kindergarten for 11 years. Before she taught kindergarten, she taught Spanish in Atwood.

Is it a big transition from kindergarten to high school?

"Yes," she said, "but it is fun to watch kids grow up, especially since I taught many of them in kindergarten."

When asked if her passion for always been teaching, she said, "Yes, I've wanted to be a teacher since I was in the fifth grade."

Mrs. Brown said she was influenced to teach because she enjoys



**CAROL BROWN BEGAN** her first year as the high school Spanish teacher this fall at Decatur Community High after teaching kindergarten here in Oberlin for the past 11 years.

— Decatur Dictator photo

kids and has had great experiences with former teachers. She has taught for 19 years – from Houston, Texas, to Garden City.

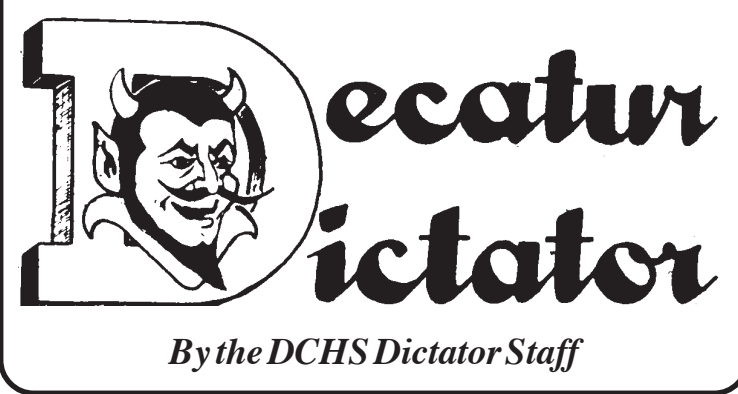
When asked what her plans for the

year are, Mrs. Brown said, "Just to teach the kids as much as I can about the Spanish language and culture."

She enjoys golfing, spending time with her family, and watching her

sons' activities.

Mrs. Brown and her husband, Kevin, have two sons, Kade, a seventh grader, and Kelly, a fourth grader.



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

## Advisory groups promote teamwork

**BY FARRA MCCHESENEY**

Every Friday, starting Sept. 28, the students of Decatur Community High School will meet with their advisory group. Each group is headed by an advisor, a teacher from within the school, and contains at least one member from each grade, 7 through 12.

Some days the students will discuss certain issues or do an activity, sometimes they will be studying together, sometimes they may be needed to tutor a fellow team member, and sometimes they will just be able to talk and interact with each other.

The purpose of these groups is to give every student at Decatur Community High the opportunity to make new friends, serve as tutors, be role models, and to create an environment that feels safe. These groups should also help with communication as each teacher will know what is going on in other classrooms.

In addition, advisory groups will hopefully reduce bullying and let all students know that there is at least one more adult in their lives who cares about their well-being. The idea is to ensure that no student falls

through the cracks.

The advisory groups have purposely been put together in a random way. No one is in a group with his or her best friend. Having a variety of grade levels will also help the students learn how to be good role models and mentors. These groups will stay the same until the seniors graduate. The seniors in a group will then be replaced each year with seventh graders.

Eventually the students will talk about career opportunities within the group and explore different career possibilities. The advisor of each group along with Debbie Arp, guidance counselor, and Charles Haag, principal, will help the students choose the right classes as they progress through high school, as well as help with college and scholarship applications.

The advisor of each group will also keep tabs on the students' grades, attendance, involvement with school activities, and anything else that might help them be successful in school. They will be doing these things because they want the students to succeed in every aspect of life.

## New Students

### Seth Batson

**BY DANYEL JEFFREY**

New senior Seth Batson has a lot to say about Decatur Community High School.

"The school's all right and the people are cool," he said. "The main difference between here and Norton is that here, it's more laid back."

Seth grew up in Norton with his mom, Sharon, and three brothers, Sam, Jeff, and Jack. His dad died when he was little.

"My family is always there for me," he said. "I miss them a lot."

Seth does not plan on participating in any extracurricular activities.

"I want to concentrate more on school," he said. "Plus, I don't have an athletic build."

Seth said his favorite class is American History, with Mrs. Tina Williams.

"I like learning about what's happened in the past," he said.

Some of Seth's hobbies include listening to music, playing his guitar and the piano, and skateboarding.

"Music just calms me down,"



Seth Batson

Seth said, "and skateboarding is just something fun to do."

His favorite bands are Greenday and Blink 182.

"They're just good," he said.

Seth said he learned to play by listening to other people.

"I caught it by ear," said Seth. "I never had lessons, it just came to me."

Seth also said his favorite skateboarder is Rodney Mullen.

"He created most of the tricks you see in skateboarding today," he said.

His favorite trick is a handstand.

"My favorite quote," said Seth, is "Don't say the sky's the limit when there's footprints on the moon."

"I miss my hick town," said Whitney. "Kansas is so different than what I'm used to."

Whitney lives with Deb Lo-hoefener.

"Deb is a good person," said Whitney. "She didn't have to take me into her home, but she knew me from when I was little and was willing to give me a chance to prove that I could be a better person than what everyone else thought I was."

Whitney's hobbies include softball, writing, and reading.

She dreams of playing softball at Fort Hays State University when she graduates from high school.

She plans to participate in forensics and Spanish Club, and is also a member of the high school girls singing group, Chanté.

"Chanté is pretty cool," said Whitney. "It's a lot of hard work and I have to get up early every Thursday to make practice, but it's worth it. Plus, Mrs. Nelson is a pretty awesome teacher."

Whitney thinks Oberlin is a good place to be, but it can get pretty boring at times.

"The thing that is different about Oberlin than other schools I've been to is that the teachers here are always happy to help and are understanding toward their students," she said.

### Jeffrey Isbell

**BY CHERISH MANNING**

Can you imagine moving to Kansas from a completely different country?

Jeffrey Charles Isbell has done just that. He moved to Oberlin from Taiwan.

Jeffrey is the son of Dan and Jessica Isbell. He is currently living with his aunt, Jeanne Isbell, and her three children. Jeffrey's family thought it would be a good experience for him to move to Oberlin and attend school for at least one year.

Jeffrey is 18 and in the eleventh grade.

He is on the cross country team and competed in his first cross-country meet in McCook last week.

"It was pretty good," said Jeffrey. "For my first race, I think I did ok. I can only improve."

Jeffrey's favorite class is American history. His hobbies and interests include basketball, badminton, jogging, exercising, surfing on-line, and chatting on MSN.

When asked what he thinks of our school he said, "I think it is a really nice school with understanding teachers and friendly students."

"The school here is more active," Jeffrey said, "and everything is fast-moving."

"The best thing is, school gets off at 3:30 p.m. and not 6 p.m. like back in Taiwan."



Jeffrey Isbell

### Whitney Wright

**BY DANYEL JEFFREY**

Whitney Wright is a new junior at Decatur Community High School. She is 16 and moved to Oberlin from Larned.

Whitney was born in Jacksonville, Ark. Her mother is Bobbie Brewer, and she has a brother, Spencer.



W. Wright

## School Menus

**September 24-28 OBERLIN SCHOOLS**  
**Monday:** Breakfast: french toast sticks. Lunch: hamburger, chips. **Thursday:** Breakfast: breakfast burrito. Lunch: chicken strips, scalloped potatoes. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: pancake, ham patty. Lunch: taco boat, refried beans. **Wednesday:** Breakfast: French toast sticks. Lunch: hamburger, chips. **Thursday:** Breakfast: breakfast burrito. Lunch: vegetable soup, cinnamon roll. **Friday:** Breakfast: scrambled eggs, muffin. Lunch: Polish dog, sauerkraut. Juice and fruit served

with breakfast. Milk served with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.



**Rawlins County Health Center**

**RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

707 Grant Atwood, KS 67730 (785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

September 2007

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							1
	2	3 Cardiac Rehab	4 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	5 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	6 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	7 Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Reeves Podiatry	8
	9	10 Cardiac Rehab	11 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	12 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Frankum Surgery	13	14 MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	15
	16	17 Cardiac Rehab	18 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	19 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Curtis Cardiology	20 Dr. Saba	21 MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	22
	23	24 Cardiac Rehab	25 McDonald Clinic - p.m. Dr. Miller Cardiology	26 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	27	28 MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	29
	30	Oct. 1 Cardiac Rehab Dr. Rubowitz Oncology	In House Services Available Daily CT Scan ** Bone Mineral Density ** EKG Electrocardiograms		TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785)626-3211 Cheryl Banister, RN Specialty Clinic Director		



### Advantages of a Living Trust

- Your loved ones will inherit your estate immediately upon your death, without the expense and delay of probate. Otherwise your estate may go through probate.
- Your estate will not become public record, so details concerning your assets and your estate plan will remain completely private. A Will going through probate is public record. If you use a Will for your estate plan, your financial affairs will not remain private.
- In the event you become incapacitated, your designated trustee will manage your assets as you specify. Otherwise, a conservator may be appointed by the court to manage your assets according to rules stated in Kansas statutes.
- With a Trust you can protect your children's inheritance from creditors, divorce, estate taxes and other risks.
- Many other advantages will be discussed at the seminar.

**Featured Speaker: Dan Diederich** is both an Attorney and a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Diederich operates a law practice focused on family estate planning, and has prepared living trusts for residents throughout the state of Kansas. Mr. Diederich is a frequent public speaker on the subject of family estate planning and thousands of people have attended his seminars and learned how to protect their estates from probate costs, estate taxes, creditors claims, divorce claims and estate claims by spouses of their children.

Attorney at Law **Daniel K. Diederich**  
2035 E. Iron, Suite 104 / Salina, KS 67401

For Reservations, call 1-877-826-9250 Today!

Attendees will be presented with an opportunity for a free one-hour personal consultation.

Each location has limited seating, so please call our toll-free reservation line to reserve your place.

## Living Trust Seminar

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Protect your children's inheritance.  
Keep your estate from ending up with someone else's family.

Registration 6:30 p.m. • Seminar 7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Oberlin, KS**  
Monday, September 24  
Gateway Civic Center  
#1 Morgan Drive

**Salina, KS**  
Tuesday, September 25  
Candlewood Suites  
2650 Planet Ave.

**Hays, KS**  
Wednesday, September 26  
DSNWK, Eagle Business Plaza  
2703 Hall Street, Suite 10

**Beloit, KS**  
Thursday, September 27  
Municipal Building, Trail Room  
119 N. Hersey Ave.

Refreshments served at all locations.  
**FREE:** There is no charge for this seminar and no obligation.