

# 'Coach' teaches many things

By ALI SAMSON

Most students just call him "Coach." He is Keith Grafel, the Oberlin Elementary physical education teacher and the Decatur Community High freshman physical education and health teacher. He also teaches drivers' education in the summer.

Mr. Grafel has a bachelor's degree in physical education. He attended Colby Community College, McPherson College, and Fort Hays State University. He taught at Garden City High School, Abe Hubert Junior High in Garden City, and St. George High School before coming to Oberlin. He has taught in Oberlin for 18 years.

He likes spending time with kids and providing the best education possible.

"The freshman are a good place to start," said Mr. Grafel, "and I really enjoy being with them."

He spends mornings at the high school and afternoons at the grade school.

"Going from the high school to the grade school is no big deal," said Mr. Grafel. "The only difference is the age and the advancement in the high school classes."

His goal for grade school physical education is to help the students learn important skills they can use throughout their whole lives.

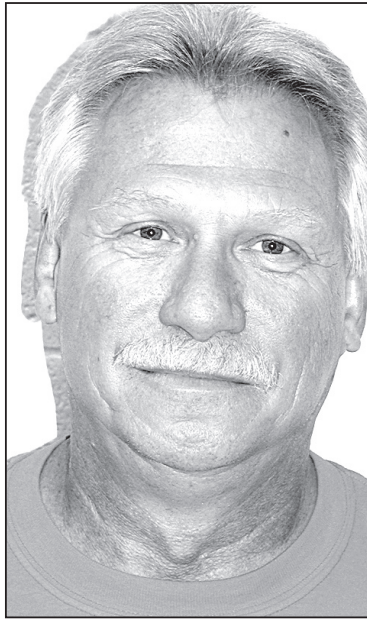
"I try to expose the kids to lots of different games and sports," Mr. Grafel said, "and to provide a fun learning experience."

Coach Grafel also coaches high school football and junior track, and has also coached basketball and baseball.

"Coach Grafel has forgotten more about basketball than I will ever know," said colleague Tim Breth, who coaches track with Mr. Grafel. "His knowledge of any sport is incredible."

Gym shoes, locker rooms, and hardwood courts, these are the things that Mr. Grafel loves most—with the exception of his family.

He is the son of Don and Joanne



Keith Grafel

Grafel, and has three brothers and one sister. Mr. Grafel grew up in Herndon, where he graduated from high school. He and his wife, Roma,

a paraeducator at the grade school, have five children: Rusty, Egan, Teryn, Sydney, and Saeger. Ask him about any of his kids, and he lights up.

Rusty is a graduate assistant at Fort Hays State University working with the men's basketball team.

Egan is a senior at Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, where he plays basketball. The Grafels try to get to as many of his games as possible.

Teryn is a sophomore at Cloud County Community College and runs track for the Thunderbirds.

His only daughter, Sydney, is a freshman in Oberlin; she played volleyball, is a winter cheerleader and will be out for track.

Saeger is an eighth grader and out for all sports.

Mr. Grafel likes the closeness they all share. He is proud their achievements in athletics and academics. While most people call him "Coach," he is most proud of being "Dad."

Voice of Decatur Community High School



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

## Seventh-grade scholars take first place in Colby

By ASHLEY HUNTLEY

The seventh-grade scholar bowl team is on a roll. On Monday, Oct. 5, the seventh graders came home with another first-place win.

The team took first place at Colby, winning seven of seven rounds.

Competing for Oberlin were Matthew Helm, Matt Glading, Sammy Meitl, Miki Dorshorst, Kade Brown, Sam Wrinkles and Channing Farr, who took turns competing in different rounds, to

make up one team.

According to Coach Marlene Moxter, the eighth graders won two of five in a tough pool. Competing for the eighth grade were Samantha Anderson, Amanda Marshall and Greg Shaw.



## Oberlin math students do well at Fort Hays contest

By CINDY MURRAY

Students representing Decatur Community High School at the Fort Hays State University Math Relays on Nov. 8 did well, according to math teacher Wendy Scott. Overall, Oberlin ranked sixth in the 2A/3A category.

Seniors who attended were Jessica Bremer, Rebecca Helm, Chenaniah Langness, and Gage Reichert.

The juniors were Jacinta Carter, Derek Chambers, Chris Larson, Alyssa Rippe, and Nathan Simonsen.

Sophomores were Ashley Horton, Mary Olson, and Adrienne Pauls.

"Our kids did an excellent job," said Mrs. Scott. "They performed well alongside some tough competition. More importantly, they had a good time. I'm proud of all of them."

The junior team of Derek Chambers, Alyssa Rippe and Nathan Simonsen placed third in trigonometry.

Chris Larson placed fifth out of 66 other juniors in trig. Chris also placed third out of 69 juniors in informal geometry and measurement.

The sophomore team of Ashley Horton, Mary Olson and Adrienne

Pauls placed sixth in this category.

Jacinta Carter, Chris Larson and Alyssa Rippe placed fourth in applications of algebra and arithmetic, and Jacinta, Derek, and Nathan also placed fifth in calculations with calculators.

Placing fifth in using number sense was the senior team of Jessica Bremer, Rebecca Helm and Gage Reichert.

Jacinta, Chris, and Nathan also placed seventh in algebraic manipulations.

All students enjoyed going because they had a great learning experience.

### School Menus

December 3-7  
OBERLIN SCHOOLS

Monday: No school. Tuesday: Breakfast: pancake and sausage on a stick. Lunch: burrito, potato rounds. Wednesday: Breakfast: breakfast pizza. Lunch: corn dog, baked beans. Thursday: Breakfast: breakfast combo, toast. Lunch: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes. Friday: Breakfast: waffle, ham patty. Lunch: fish sandwich, macaroni and cheese. Juice and fruit served with breakfast. Milk served with all meals. Choice bar served with all lunches.

### Yearbooks are here

Finally, the day is here. The 2007 yearbooks have arrived, and according to yearbook adviser Brenda Breth, "They are spectacular."

The yearbook staff chose a movie theme for the book and features a movie title on every page.

"It truly is as wonderful as I had imagined," said Mrs. Breth. "Each year we try to outdo the previous year, and we succeeded with the 2007 book."

If you would like a copy, contact Mrs. Breth at the high school. The cost is \$32.

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