

Winner picks 10 games

Only one person picked all 10 winners in the first week of *The Oberlin Herald's* Pigskin Pick-Em contest, but four people missed by one game each.

Rodney Solko, McCook, guessed correctly on all seven high school and three college games and even guessed that Colorado would down arch-rival Colorado State in the tie breaker.

For his prognostications, he wins \$15 in scrip.

Of the five guessing right on nine games, Vernon Ketterl, Herndon, got all but the Hoxie High victory over Colby for second place and \$10 in scrip. He also guessed that Colorado would beat Colorado State.

Third place went to Bill McCoy, Danbury, whose only miss was the Atwood-Goodland game. He won a coin toss for the \$5 third prize.

Others who guessed nine out of 10 were Ivis Hanson and Amanda Grafel Oberlin, and Mark Merriott, McCook.

Guessing right on eight out of 10 were Ryan McEvoy, Todd Ketterl, Travis Raile, Valisha Raile, Gary Anderson, Ron Solko, Diana Solko and Kimberly Solko, Oberlin, and Kari Ketterl, Herndon.

Coming out right on seven of 10 were Cheri Kastens, Herndon; Jeff Reinert, Atwood; and Jim Hollowell, Linda Hollowell, Kenny Gee and Colleen Gee, Oberlin.

Jacob Gee, Oberlin, guessed six out of 10 and Justin Gee, Oberlin, had five right.

Contest rules are on Page 5A of today's paper with an entry form. Forms also are available at the sponsoring businesses, Home Planning Center, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Wagner Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and Cadillac of McCook, Raye's Grocery, *The Oberlin Herald* and *The Country Advocate*; Prairie Petals, LandMark Inn and Ward Drug Store.

This week's game winners were:

- Goodland over Atwood, 27-8.
- Oakley over Ness City, 62-0.
- The University of Kansas over Central Michigan, 52-7.
- St. Francis over Oberlin, 51-7.
- Nebraska over Nevada, 52-10.
- Hoxie over Colby, 14-0.
- Phillipsburg over Plainville, 21-8.

- Auburn over Kansas State, 23-13.
- McCook over Scottsbluff, Neb., 44-0.
- Smith Center over Norton, 60-0.
- The University of Colorado over Colorado State, 31-29 in overtime.

Great Northwest Insurance opened in offices at 122 S. Penn in the Johnson Realty building in Oberlin on Monday with longtime Oberlin insurance agent Vince Carswell in charge.

Mr. Carswell had been agent for the past 24 years for Farm Bureau Insurance. Joining him in the new business are Ralph Shaw, agent, and Dianne Bremer, office manager, both with long Farm Bureau experience.

They will be selling policies for Farmers Insurance Group, Bremen Insurance and RCIS Crop Insurance, Mr. Carswell said, and can handle farm, home, auto and life insurance, annuities and crop insurance.

Mr. Shaw has been a licensed agent for over 21 years and Mrs. Bremer had worked as office manager for Farm Bureau for more than six years.



AT HER DESK in Decatur Community High School, Counselor Debbie Arp worked on some paperwork. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

New counselor sets goals

By **KIMBERLY DAVIS**
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Excited to work with the students, Debbie Arp has jumped into her job as the new counselor at Decatur Community High School with both feet.

Mrs. Arp, McCook, also teaches tutor classes three times a day for students with a high risk for academic problems.

As the counselor, said Mrs. Arp, she is in charge of standardized testing at all levels, scheduling, student schedule changes, enrollment, advising students on what classes they should take for where they want to go, working with the students on respect, responsibility and resourcefulness and, of course, on scholarships.

That just skims the surface, she said. As the counselor, said Mrs. Arp, she also will help students with online career information and financial aid and updates on the school web page.

She said she has several goals for this year, including strategies to let people in town know what's going on. She said she plans to put information on the school's web page and wants to get information to the newspaper, especially dates for scholarship applications and events.

Once a month, said Mrs. Arp, she wants to go to the classes, which all seniors take, to talk with them about upcoming dates. She also wants to write a newsletter to senior parents, and has one already out.

Basically, said Mrs. Arp, she wants the students and parents to know that she is there to help them and has an open door.

She said she and her husband Greg, who owns Taste of Texas Barbecue with his brother, have lived in McCook for seven years. She spent three years working at the McCook High School and two at the school in Oxford, Neb.

The couple has four children, Emily, 7, and Mark, 4, and two older ones who are Mrs. Arp's step-sons, Christopher, 21, and Colin, 18.

Mrs. Arp graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in psychology and later from the University of Colorado in Denver with a master's degree in psychology and education.

Mrs. Arp said she is excited to be at the school here and looks forward to working with the students, staff, parents and community to make this a successful year.

She said she is grateful to everyone who has made her feel so welcome thus far.

Young men caught at party

Sheriff's officers say they are compiling paperwork on five young men seen at an alleged drinking party north of town on Saturday, Aug. 25.

Deputy Jay Tate said he was driving on the Cemetery Road about six to 6 1/2 miles northeast of U.S. 36 around 11:30 p.m. when he noticed some vehicles at a vacant house. Since it was private property, he said, he called the landowner before he went in. The land belongs to Lynn and Roberta Johnson of Oberlin.

Deputy Tate said Mr. Johnson came out and the two men went in. Deputy Tate said he doesn't have any reason to believe that the youths

were on the property with the couple's permission.

Deputy Tate said he talked to five young men, including one under age 14. Those over that age were Lance Fortin, 20; Cody Haas, 18; Jacob Fortin, 16; and Jeb Fortin, 15.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch said he understands the case is under investigation and noted that as of Monday, he hadn't seen any paperwork.

Deputy Tate said he saw alcohol present at the party. He said he called the parents of the young men and either their parents picked them up or sent an adult the boys could ride home with.

Deputy Tate said a pickup truck at the scene didn't have a driver by the time he arrived. He ran the tags on the truck, which belonged to Steve and Marilyn Diederich of Oberlin, said Deputy Tate.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER/ PARA-PROFESSIONAL

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center is advertising for Sign Language Interpreter/Para-professional for the 2007-2008 school year. This employment opportunity is available with benefits.

Qualifications: Call for qualification requirements. To receive an application, contact Rose Langley at 785-672-3125 extension 200.

For position related questions contact: Kathy Kersenbrock Ostmeyer at ext. 111.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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Coach takes over director's spot

By **JIM MERRIOTT**
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Decatur Community High has a new athletic/activities director with the retirement of long-time activities chief Randy Olson, who has gone to a part-time teaching load.

Joe Dreher, wrestling coach since 1995 and a physical education teacher, has been elevated to the position. He will be in charge of all athletic and school events such as musicals, concerts, speech and band.

"So far, everything has been going well in the transition," said Dreher. "At times it seems like a blur, but I am settling in and each day gets a little smoother."

"I originally did my student teaching at Plainville High School where I grew up. I worked as an assistant wrestling coach there before coming to Oberlin."

After graduating from Fort Hays State University and the short stint at Plainville, Dreher said, he and his family settled down as he accepted the job here.

"What I like about Oberlin is the fact that it is a good place for kids to grow up, it has a great environment," he said. "Here at the high school, a student has as many opportunities as they would like to excel be it academics, the arts or athletics."

"We as a school take pride in developing young minds."

He said Olson has helped him a lot with the new job.

"It has worked out well during the

transition period, because the former athletic director has worked with me showing me the ropes," he said. "I am not sure if people in the community realize just what an athletic director's job description involves."

"I no longer teach three classes a day. I currently teach only one period and work the rest of the day doing everything from scheduling games, hiring officials, organizing buses, ticketing and locating volunteers to run the clock, taking tickets, running the sideline crews and more. It is a full-time job in itself."

Dreher handles all junior high and high school sporting events along with all student activities, which include the scholar bowl, FFA events, school play, musicals, recitals, and vocal concerts, forensics, art show, computer bowl, speech team activities, Halloween clean-up, soap run and food scrammages, and all awards activities. Rhonda Barth serves as the assistant director.

He said that the former athletic director has been showing him the ropes.

"Hopefully, things will settle down," he said. "I enjoy working here and plan on being here for some time. I see myself settled down and comfortable with my assignment over the next five years and with hopes of continuing on in the future."

"When I retire, I would like to leave this position in as good a shape as I found it."



Joe Dreher

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