



By the DCHS Dictator Staff

Student council encourages class competition

By FARRA MCCHESENEY
This year's Student Council is encouraging competition between the classes in order to build school spirit.

Coinciding with the Olympic games and the Olympic rings, Stuco assigned each class a color at the beginning of the year: the seniors are blue; the juniors, red; sophomores, yellow; and freshmen, green.

On certain Fridays, the council awards points to the class who has the highest percentage of students wearing their class color. Other Fridays, they award points to the class who is wearing the most red.

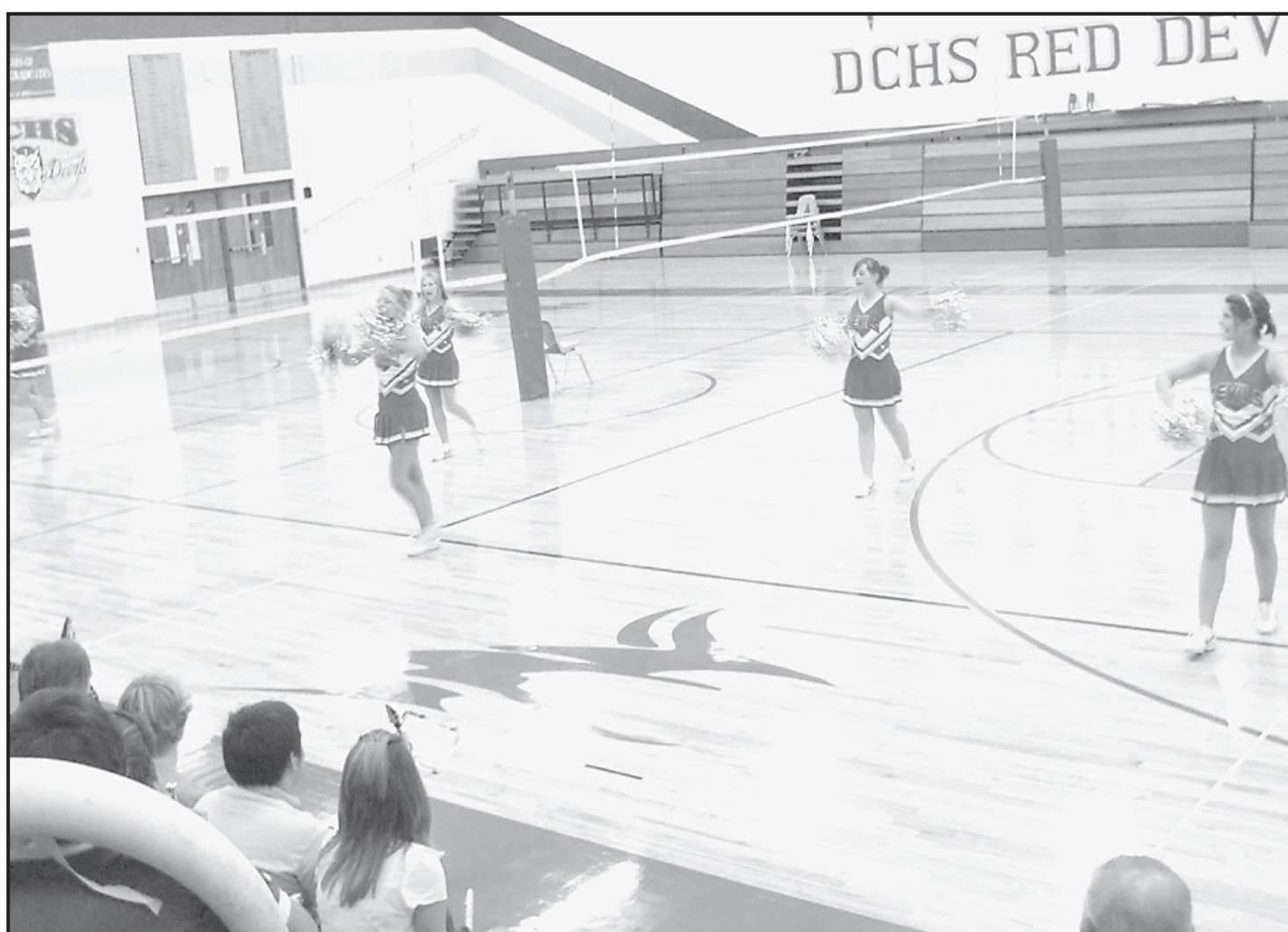
So far, the seniors have won points for having the highest percentage of

students wearing a class color, and the sophomores won the next week by wearing the most red.

At the first pep assembly, the seniors also won points by displaying the most school spirit, while the freshmen won points for having the highest percentage wearing a class color.

Currently, the seniors are leading the competition with 45 points, followed by the sophomores and freshmen with 15.

The competition will heat up during Homecoming Week as points will be awarded for best float, best window decorations, and most school spirit.



THE CHEERLEADERS try to get the student body pepped up at the first pep assembly of the year.

Cheerleaders add spirit

By STEPHANIE BRUGGEMAN

Spirit. It's what the cheerleaders bring to Decatur Community High School.

The DCHS cheerleaders, along with their sponsors Amanda An-

derson and Cheryl Soderlund, recently attended a camp in Oakley that helped them gain more spirit and taught them numerous ways to spread the spirit throughout the school. The girls who went to the camp were juniors Kira Meitl and

Erin Jones, and freshmen Darian Bose, Megan Wentz, Serena Stacy, and Brooklyn O'Hare.

According to Kira, the girls danced, learned cheers for numerous sports, learned new stunts, and most of all, learned how to spread

spirit throughout the school.

The girls were at Oakley High School on Aug. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. "The camp was a lot of fun," said Erin. "I especially liked learning the dances."

School welcomes two new teachers

By STEPHANIE BRUGGEMAN

One of our new teachers at Decatur Community High School is Mrs. Rachel Johnson.

She and her husband moved to Oberlin with their two daughters from Fowler. Madelaine, her oldest daughter, is a second grader at Oberlin Elementary School, and Gabrielle is a pre-schooler.

The Johnsons moved to Oberlin so they could both teach at the same school. She was formerly teaching in Dodge City while her husband was teaching in Minneola.



Mrs. Johnson

At DCHS she is teaching World History, American History, and Junior High Creative Thinking.

Mrs. Johnson's interests are spending time with her family, reading, bike riding, and walking. She also enjoys shopping as one of her hobbies.

By FARRA MCCHESENEY

The 2008-2009 school year is looking to be full of changes. One change at Decatur Community High School are the new teachers, including Jacob Johnson.

Mr. Johnson is not only our new American

history teacher, but he is also the high school football coach, high school boys' basketball assistant coach, and a Jr. High track coach.

Mr. Johnson moved to Oberlin from Fowler, Kansas where he taught at Minneola for seven years. His goals while here at DCHS are to establish and build a good football program, become a positive member of our community, and to get to know DCHS. He is also planning on working on his masters.

Mr. Johnson attended Dodge City Community College for two years, where he played football. He then attended Kansas State University for two years and finished his degree at Newman University. He has a Bachelors of Science degree, and he is a certified Drivers' Ed Instructor.

Mr. Johnson has brought along

with him three family members. He is married to Rachel Johnson, and they have two daughters, Madelaine, who is 7, and Gabi, who is 3. His wife is also a history teacher at DCHS.

Since Mr. Johnson has been at DCHS, he said the best part is fun and well-behaved students and friendly faculty. In his free time he likes playing with his daughters, fishing, and golfing.

Some of his other hobbies include football and watching history videos.



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What started as a simple pacemaker procedure ended in triple bypass surgery three weeks later for Great Bend resident Dr. Andrew Hefner when further testing revealed several coronary occlusions. "I decided to come here because, you know, there's three considerations when you're going to have something done in this regard," he said.

"The first one, of course, is you want the best doctor you can find, and I did some checking and I found out that these doctors that are on the staff at this DeBakey Heart Institute are second to none."

"The next consideration is the hospital staff, and the other part of the staff and what kind of patient care they have, and again, in my opinion, this facility is second to none."

"Then the other consideration is the location and the accessibility, and for me – and particularly my family – the traffic is not an issue and the safety factor is not an issue. I felt very comfortable with my children and grandchildren coming back and forth to a smaller town," he said.

"My wife felt comfortable leaving me by myself because she felt her care was such that she didn't have to worry about me and – coming from her – that's a real compliment."

Hefner said he and his wife had always had a pact that if one of them

was hospitalized, the other spouse wouldn't leave that individual alone.

"The greatest compliment my wife could pay any facility would be to say 'I feel comfortable leaving you here by yourself'."

"I can't say enough nice things about this DeBakey Heart Institute," he said. "They're the best at what they do."



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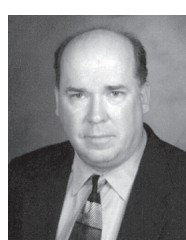
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