

SPORTS

DemocratandChronicle.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2006

MY TURN AT BAT

Leo Rhodes of Henrietta explains why he is passionate about officiating local high school wrestling matches and football games, and is willing to endure all that comes with being a referee:



Rhodes

1. I enjoy the competition between the student-athletes. It builds character. I've seen what wrestling did for my son, Shamir.

2. It keeps me involved with the sports that I enjoy, football and wrestling.

3. It's always interesting to know what coaches and parents say during a competition.

4. It's one way to exercise.

5. You are a part of a special group that's willing to put the time in. Officials are like a fraternity.

6. I see it as a way of getting more parents involved. We're always looking for more officials in wrestling and football.

7. I enjoy the recognition.