

# Coming Full Circle

*Former superintendent, college professor retires as freshman world geography teacher*

By Hunter Poindexter

After teaching for nearly 50 years, world geography teacher **Dr. Bob Browning** retired at the end of the school year. Through the course of his career, Browning worked as an elementary teacher, high school teacher, college professor, principal and superintendent.

"Teaching has been more like a calling to me rather than a profession," Browning said. "There haven't been many days when I have not enjoyed it."

An English major in college, Browning started his career in education working as a classroom teacher. After his initial teaching stint, he began working in administration.

"I only originally taught in the classroom for three years before I became an elementary principal in Lufkin," Browning said. "From there, I was the Midland High School principal and then an assistant superintendent in Tyler."

Prior to working in Carthage, Browning retired from working in education twice; the first time as a college professor, and the second time as a superintendent.

"My first retirement was from Stephen

E. Austin as a professor, then I went back to work as a superintendent for 11 more years," Browning said. "Then I retired again, and a year later I came to work at Carthage only for six weeks as a long-term substitute. That six weeks turned into six weeks, plus two years."

After working as a substitute teacher in Carthage for six weeks, Browning was asked to be a full-time world geography teacher at the high school.

"I've enjoyed coming back at 70 years of age to teach high school kids," Browning said. "I think that CHS is an exceptionally fine place to work. I'm most impressed by my peers; they're sweet, hard-working and incredibly dedicated to their jobs."

Browning said that he returned from his retirements in the past due to his boredom from being at home all day. He is still unsure whether this will be his final retirement.

"I'm still perplexed in terms of if I'll be able to completely retire," Browning said. "I'm going to give it a few months and see how everything turns out."