

central high register

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No. 8

Program to train students about drug abuse problem

Central High is to be the pilot school of a program that would train students to counsel other students in such problems as drug abuse, crisis situations, runaways and venereal disease. Details of the program were given yesterday in a presentation by Boy Scouts Executive Mr. Dennis Whelan, and Mr. Gordon Helburg, director of Operation Bridge.

Mr. Whelan feels that for action to be effective in curbing drug abuse, it must be taken now, in the early stages of the problem. Emphasis is on youth involvement; as Mr. Whelan states, "It takes the youth to talk with or rap with the youth. He is the influence that needs to be used to change or at least slow down the cancer-like disease that is spreading across our country."

Mr. Anthony A. LaGreca, assistant principal, has indicated that Central's role in the program will primarily be as a "source of personnel." The counseling agency would have branches at several locations throughout Omaha, but would probably not maintain an office at Central. Instead, student counselors could give talks or pass

out information during classes or special programs at school.

The first stage of the program calls for the training of about 120 students, broken into groups of 40 each. Training would be conducted by doctors, medical and pharmacy students from Creighton University, members of the staff of NPI, current and former drug users, police representatives, and other personnel. Each student volunteer on this "youth culture committee" will receive 24 hours of classroom type instruction during nights and week-ends. "The training would include the study of current programs available in our area so the committee

Mr. Whelan's concern for such a program was based on the growth of drug usage throughout the United States, and especially Omaha. He has cited that over 30% of Omaha high school youth have experimented with drugs in one form or another. While this is less than half of the experimentation statistics for the east and west coasts (65%), Mr. Whelan explains that the problem is growing each month, and the best time to take action is now.

U.S. system found 'guilty'

Students in Mr. Bob Lowery's American Government classes took a new approach to the study of the Constitution and basic American principles. They put "the American democratic system on trial."

The trial was held during each class period and guest speakers presented different viewpoints of American society as testimony. The speakers were then cross-examined by student "lawyers" from the classes.

State Senator Ernest Chambers presented a Black viewpoint of the present system. He said that the American system was often a "handicap" to Black Americans. The students' reaction to Mr. Chambers' speech was "very positive," Mr. Lowery commented.

Mrs. Carol Valdrighi, an American History teacher, was

a guest speaker representing the views of the white bigoted class in reference to the American system. Mrs. Mary Harvey, Afro-American History, spoke on "the Black evolution from the past to the present" and Black progress and the American System.

Mrs. Carolyn Perotti, an American History teacher, represented the white liberal point of view. A young lawyer from Creighton University told the classes about the function of laws in government.

The student lawyers who questioned the speakers were Michael Sims, Chris Stenger, Jackie Graves, Michael Hancock, and Stanley Letta.

The views represented by the speakers were not intended to change the students beliefs, but

to "let them know that this is an American system in which we all live, and we must respect each other as human beings and not as colors," Mr. Lowery said.

Mr. Lowery said that he "tried to stimulate constructive, creative thinking." The trial was an opportunity for the students to examine "the world of reality and how it effects the American people, specifically the American Black." In our society "segregation, bigotry, racism, extremism is reality," he said.

After hearing the evidence presented during the trial, "Both classes found the American system guilty."

A.P. courses, rapport predominate at CHS

Students who attended Central last year should remember a series of student-parent-teacher evaluations concerning all aspects of Central. Other high schools in Omaha also conducted similar self-evaluation programs. This year the second half of the self-study program was conducted, and this time educators from other schools were furnished with reports of last year's evaluations of Central in order to give the evaluators an objective overview of the school. A summary of the overview now follows:

There are two primary areas of excellence to be found at Central. The first is the growing rapport that exists among teachers, administrators, and students. The second is the large number of excellent college preparatory courses offered. The fact that the Central staff shows great concern in maintaining levels of excel-

lence and takes great pride in its Advanced Placement program reflects a deep and long heritage of academic achievement.

However, since Central is geared for a college preparatory program, 30% to 40% of students who do not plan to proceed to college do not find the curriculum suited to their needs.

Thus, there seem to be two choices for Central to take. Either she may totally become a college preparatory school, employing a screening program whereby only students whom the present curriculum would benefit would be allowed admittance, or she may incorporate the technical aspects with the preparatory ones under a comprehensive program. The results of the latter decision would mean costly and radical renovations in the school's already antiquated facilities.

New black organization sponsors culture week



Photo by Musselman

Members of Wantu-Wazurarii (left to right) Ida Jones, Pat Frampton, Elayne Bates, Iretha Langford, and Dena Copeland.

Starting Friday, February 12, the organization Wantu-Wazurarii (Swahili for beautiful people) will devote five days to demonstrating the black man's role in the development of American society. The purpose of Black Culture Week, explained co-chairman Iretha Langford, "is to dispel some misconceptions about Afro-American history and to enlighten everyone on the black contribution to American culture and learning."

The theme of the week of cultural and social events is "To Be Young, Gifted, and Black." On the first day, February 12, African costumes, a library display, and poetry readings should be much in evidence, followed on Tuesday, February 16, by movies like "A Time for Burning" and "Of Black America". The films, shown in room 145, will be free and open to anyone in a study hall.

On Wednesday, guest speakers from the black community are scheduled, and on Thursday, the possible presentation of a play, "Uncle Tom's Revolution," written by Central alumnus Darryl Eure. The week of activities will be climaxed on Friday by a banquet at which State Senator Ernest Chambers will speak, followed by a dance. All events are open to everyone.

The executive committee of Wantu-Wazurarii consists of nine members: Iretha Langford and Pat Frampton—co-chairmen; Mike Rogers and Mike Robinson—secretaries; Frank Beck—Treasurer; Jame Scurlock—entertainment committee chairman; James Higgins—art committee chairman; Denise Cooks—speaker committee chairman; and Ida Jones—chairman of the banquet committee. Donna Davis is an alternate member of the executive committee.

Forum worms devour books

"Many high school students don't have a lot of time to read, though they would like to," believes English teacher Mrs. Ellen Trumbull, who maintains that some opportunity must be allowed students to read and discuss their favorite books. Mrs. Trumbull sponsors the Literary Forum, an extracurricular club dedicated to reading and informally discussing books its members have enjoyed.

The club, founded by seniors Kathy Etter and Margy Schnei-

der, has no dues or officers. Thus far this year the Literary Forum has read Kurt Vonnegut's *Cat's Cradle*, and Ken Kesey's *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, and plans to read Antoine de Saint-Exupery's *The Little Prince* and *The Begetting of the President*. *Cat's Cradle* was apparently the most popular novel, said Mrs. Trumbull. Last year the Forum read Hesse's *Steppenwolf*, *The Peter Principle*, and John Knowles' *A Separate Peace*.

Central thespians relate acting experience



(From left to right) Janet Lipsey, Mark Sanford, and Betsy Cohn tell about their theatrical performances.

Photo by Wallace

Some of Central's more talented students have been under the bright lights of the stage many times.

Seniors Dennis Brown, Betsy Cohn, Janet Lipsey, and Gary Younger, and Junior Mark Sanford, have been connected with a total of thirty-five productions, ranging from *In White America* to *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

All of these people have participated in other aspects of the theater besides acting.

Betsy has directed some plays performed by her youth group. Gary, Dennis, Mark, and Janet have all helped with the construction of props used for shows.

Plays must adapt to roles

Dennis' most notable role was of an Inca Indian in the play *Royal Hunt*. He had to do many things to fit the role. For one thing, he had to dye his hair black. The only costume he wore was a loincloth. So his "bare" body was covered with a

make-up called "Texas Dirt." For some of Gary's roles, he had to grow his hair long. He used to get in trouble with the administration because of this. In order to avoid bumping into administrators, he would walk down the basement stairs to get around the building.

Janet once portrayed Lucy in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Lucy is supposed to be a big-mouth obnoxious little girl. So after an hour or two of rehearsals, Janet found herself acting like this around her friends.

Some people start acting when they are very young. Mark was eight years old when he first appeared on the stage. He played the part of Winthrop Parooh in *The Music Man* at Central High. At the age of twelve he played the title role in the musical *Oliver* at the Jewish Community Center.

Once in a while an actor or actress will receive some special recognition besides a stirring round of applause. Last year, Betsy was named "Best Supporting Actress" by the Central High Players.

Existing library conditions and partial access hamper student research

There is an old saying—"You can't judge a book by its cover." But there is also a newer saying—"You can judge a library by what the students are doing in it." If the students are busy researching and working, then the library is a good one.

A school library is not merely a collection of hundreds or thousands of books on shelves. If a library is to be effective and useful, it must be, in addition to the collection of books, a type of research center and nerve core of the school where students are free to come anytime to work on reports, projects, and the numerous other class assignments or group projects that require such research facilities.

Whereas Central does have research facilities contained in the library, the accessibility to these needed materials is often very difficult.

Although individual students are never barred from the library, the actual conditions permitting students to research are poor. As long as the sole aim and administration of the library is other than that of establishing a

research nerve core, the hopes of such a center are completely shattered.

Two main activities in the library inhibit student progress.

During three class periods, study halls monopolize the library. If a student, for example, wanted to write a report using the library resources, he would not have the complete freedom to move and to research.

The responsibility of the library is then not to provide space for study halls, but to provide for only the use of the resources and unrestricted access to them to all interested students.

At other times during the day, the library may be occupied by several classes viewing films or participating in some type of organized group activity. In this case too, a student, although allowed in the library, does not have the complete freedom needed to accomplish his research in both library rooms.

Only a few students can enter the library during a study hall because of the space taken up by the study hall. The simple presence of

the study hall restricts any would-be researcher. Movement is confined, talking punishable, and any creative or interested urge stifled. The full use of the facilities is thereby denied. Partial use of the library is simply not fair to any researcher.

All students must have the opportunity to do their research during school hours and not be limited to just before or after school so as not to be hampered by regulated study halls and group activities. Partial use of the library is not good enough. Full access and use must be available at all times to any student.

The enormous expense of the library is simply not justified by the relatively negligible use made of it because of the existing conditions.

A new piece of furniture is often covered with plastic sheets and placed on display. But a library, like the new piece of furniture, is meant to be used. The amazing thing is that the Central library is a very old piece of furniture and is still not being used.

Debbie Simon

Letters To The Editor

Pep Club's absence hurts minor sports

Dear Editor,

Central is supposed to have one of the best Pep Clubs in the city. Maybe this is true, but they sure don't show it! The only time our Pep Club really shows any spirit is at basketball and football games. They never come unless they want to.

They seem to forget about gymnastics, swimming, and other minor sports. Even though these are minor sports, they are part of Central. It's really disheartening to compete in one of these minor sports and see no one from Central there.

During our Spirit Week, the gymnastics team competed against Benson. Not only did Benson outnumber our spectators, it was in our gym! For free! None of our Pep Club was even there at the end. Benson Pep Club members are required to go to athletic events. Maybe we should too.

Pete Jacobsen

Play success despite disturbing heckling

Dear Editor,

I would like to apologize to the cast of "Annie Get Your Gun" for the junior and senior classes. It was unfortunate that some members in the back of the auditorium had to try to spoil the show with their heckling and interrupting laughter. But the show was great! Thanks for a wonderful performance.

Jim Mahoney

'Totem' staffers make selections

Mr. Michael Gaherty, journalism, and Mr. Daniel Daly, English, have been appointed as members of Central's screening committee for Totem entries. Mr. Edward Clark, English department head, and Mrs. Anne Aust, English, are Central's representatives on the main selection committee. This year a student representative, Kathy Etter, will also serve on the main committee.

Totem is a collection of poetry, prose, foreign language translations, and art submitted by students from Omaha Public Schools. Each school sets up its own screening committee to judge work from that school and then send the accepted work to the main committee for final judgment and selection. Representatives from various public schools act as members of the main committee.

Commenting on the purpose of this publication, Mr. Gaherty said that Totem "provides a good outlet for student writing. It gives a student confidence to see his writing in print."

Mr. Gaherty went on to say that when judging an entry, Central's screening committee "looks for several things: style, originality, meaning—the thought behind it." He said that the arrangement of a poem in a different pattern on the page is fine "as long as it adds to the total effect of the work."

Students can submit entries for Totem through their English teachers. Final deadline for entries is February first.

Simon Says

As students summarized and reviewed movies they had seen during Christmas vacation, Jim Lehr was asked if he had seen "Scrooge." Obviously he hadn't for he could only answer, "What in the Dickens are you talking about?"

Paul Skog has finally settled the controversial question in his American History class of exactly who Senator Foote was. According to Paul, Mr. Foote wanted to stamp out western expansion so the American colonialists, confined to the east coast, could put their best foot forward there.

As one stunned student in biology class learned the evolution theory for the very first time, he could only mutter, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle."

Many Centralites were amazed to find that their rooms had finally been painted and repaired. One student entered his homeroom one morning to discover this had happened, ran out into the hall, and asked if anyone had seen room 240. Replied a nonchalant onlooker, "No, I'd rather see Room 222."

Survey team chews sticky local problem

Greetings! This week, Survey lovers, your Survey team will present a new and ever expanding item of interest for your conversation pleasure. Frankly, we're stuck on our own idea.

That's right, folks, our cheery chompers (or cheeky chewers, as the case may be) can, in a group effort, consume 15,872 pieces of gum in one day.

As the average chewing time for one piece of gum (preferably pink) is approximately 29 minutes 17 seconds, with the total time of 460,288 minutes of this mighty mouth muscle workout, we could inflate our bubble balloon, rise from Ascension Island, and circle it 7.24 times. (Being careful of cross winds and obeying all traffic signs).

Trying hard not to inflate our egos further, we've found another useful use for our gum chewers' product. By stretching the point a bit, we could take all our gum bubbles and form a pigeon-proof shield (as protection against low flying cross-eyed pigeons, of course) large enough to cover every brick of Central already marked for remembrance by our feathered friends. Of course, if we ever had a puncture, it could deflate our claim to another Astro Dome and become a very sticky subject for all involved.

In order to make enough money to buy mufflers for all those gum chewers who crack their gum, we could hire out study halls of bubble blowers to the U. S. Weather Bureau to blow up all needed weather balloons. Even at the minimum wage per hour, that's still a lot of hot air the Bureau's getting mighty cheap.

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Debate wins continue; speakers outstanding

Novice debaters, Rick Caniglia and Michael Gaines, continued their winning year as they won first place at a GOLD tournament, Friday, December 4, sponsored at Daniel Gross Jr. High School. Rick and Mike competed and won in the junior varsity division. They had

recently qualified for this division after winning the second place trophy at another GOLD tournament at Abraham Lincoln High School in the novice division.

Michael Rips and Bennet Rodick went undefeated in seven rounds to capture first place at the annual Kansas City tournament, December 11-12. Mrs. Linda Dunn, Central debate coach, said she was "extremely proud and happy about the debate win at the most important out-of-state tournament." Commenting on the debate win, Mike said he hopes it is "indicative of what Central will do at the important state and district tournaments to be held later in the year."

Mike also received honorable mention for placing fourth in the oratory finals at the same tournament.

Debate and speech contestants gathered Friday through Saturday, December 22-23, at Marian High School for one of the largest Omaha tournaments. Michael Rips, speaking on existentialism, won second place in oratory. Jim Kirshenbaum took third place in boys' extemporaneous speaking. Debbie Simon placed fourth in oral interpretation; she had the highest number of speaking points in her division.

The Rips-Rodick debate team finished the tournament with a 3-1 record. Mrs. Dunn said, "They performed excellently and proved to be one of the top teams there despite the fact that they did not win a trophy."

Thirty-four schools from Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri competed.



Photo by Wallace

Mike Rips in practice debate

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Coach Martin's Comments

Maturity factor in team's success

I believe Plato is supposed to have said, "A man can remain a bachelor and enjoy happiness, or he can marry and become a philosopher." Reworded his statement might come out this way: "A basketball coach with a winning record can be very happy; or if he is a losing coach, then he becomes a philosopher." At any rate, I'm going to philosophize about such things as maturity, mental discipline, desire, dedication, etc.

Anyone who saw the game Friday would probably agree that the game was closer than the 67-49 score indicated; however, when you consider the areas of poise, mental toughness, and the ability to control the tempo of the game, we were beaten worse than the score indicated. We made a close game of it up until the last few minutes simply because our players are a gifted group of athletes and can do pretty well playing as individuals. Surprisingly, our best team effort was probably on defense. Certainly our press was quite effective, and during the third quarter I thought we played our best man-to-man defense of the year. Our inability to execute our offense against their pressure defense and our failure to speed up the tempo when we had the fast break opportunities probably hurt us more than anything else.

Westside deserves all the credit in the world for their effort. They were extremely well prepared both mentally and physically. I think we were up for the game in the emotional sense that we were excited and nervous, but I believe there's a very important difference between being up for a ball game and being really mentally prepared. The difference might be exemplified by Westside's refusing to lose their



Photo by Wallace

Forrest leads Eagle break at WHS.

cool. We could force them into two quick turnovers in a row, even score a couple of baskets off them; and they would come right back attacking our press with the same deliberate sense of purpose. At the same time we were obviously frustrated throughout the game because of their defense and yet we knew they would pressure us and should have been prepared for this.

Now that we're aware of the effect of not being mentally tough, let's look at the causes of this problem. Certainly we can start out by laying some of the blame to being a young, inexperienced team, but so is Westside. They have one returning starter and several underclassmen in their lineup, just as we do. Rummel beat us much the same way and with about all underclass personnel.

Bluntly stated, our team is not as mature as I would like them to be. The mental toughness of a team is determined in large part by maturity, desire, and dedication of the individuals. When all players are unselfishly dedicated to playing to help the team, willing to pay the price of hard work in practice and in the classroom, and

still able to avoid the self satisfaction resulting from admiration of fellow students, then team maturity should not be a problem.

Those of you students who follow our basketball team will readily identify the players off the court. The question is, how much does this attention, admiration, and even adulation effect a young team like ours. I think our players have been told so many times how good they're going to be next year that they may be close to a 'wait until next year' attitude. The sad thing about this is that we're capable of beating anyone this year; I'd be very happy to challenge Westside again this week.

Feeling as I do, that Westside was better prepared than we were, I have to carefully assess the methods I'm using. My brother watched practice last week, and said that my team didn't work very hard. Perhaps he was right; anyway, I'll demand a great deal more hustle this week in practice. We'll be trying some other things too. Hopefully, by Friday we'll be ready to face the invasion of Thomas Jefferson — a team we've not beaten in three years.

Junior Varsity shares loop lead

This year's Junior Varsity basketball team was knocked out of the top spot in the JV circuit as they were defeated by Westside 54-51 last Friday. They now sport a 5-1 record in Metro and a 7-1 record overall.

The JV'er's are led by all newcomers to the Central High basketball program. Sophomores Larry Butler and Ronald Parker share ball handling duties as they did in junior high on last year's championship team at Horace Mann. Another sophomore, Chester Bullion from Monroe Junior High plays forward and suits up for the Varsity contests.

The other two starters are Kevin Kresl, a 6' 4" center, and Arnold Gunn, a transfer student from Portland, Oregon. Portland high schools were very generous to Omaha this winter in that Burke also prospered from an Oregon transplant, Larry Bybee, a fine guard.



Kresl Bullion

The JV has shown it can perform under pressure by hitting last second shots in the North, Bellevue, and South games. Gunn sunk a 25 footer with two seconds remaining to win the South game.

The other loss for the young Eagles came at the hands of Lincoln East. The JV got some satisfaction in whipping Lincoln High, a squad that had previously beaten Lincoln East.

Hilltopics

Greg Peck

O-Club honors Lincoln coach

I first had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Aldie Johnson, Lincoln High's basketball coach, last summer, while attending Boys' State. Johnson has been the chief organizer for several years of all the activities of the 425 boys attending the convention. It takes some organizing to keep tab on 425 teenagers for one week.

I introduced myself to Johnson one day at lunch and told him that I played for Central. The two of us then began to recollect the Central-Lincoln High game of the 69-70 season. At the end of our conversation, he wished me luck for the upcoming basketball season except for the night that our two teams would play.

Last January 16, our two teams again clashed. Central won the contest, but Johnson might not have been as unhappy as he was the year before. In pre-game ceremonies, Johnson was presented with a plaque by Central's O-Club for his unselfishness in organizing the Nebraska Coaches Association Clinic as well as other functions such as Boys' State.

The announcements of the starting line-ups were also conducted in a different manner. As a Lincoln player was introduced, an opposing Central player was introduced. The two met at half court, shook hands, and retreated to their respective free throw lines. This is the same procedure used in the Iowa State Basketball Tournament.

This gesture on behalf of Central, I believe, brought the friendship of these two schools, as well as the Omaha-Lincoln relationship much closer. It also was a well deserved honor for Mr. Aldie Johnson.

Another Jimmy the Greek?

Assistant Sport's Editor Mark Belmont wasn't too far off when he said the BIG RED was going to take the national title in our December 9 issue. In fact, not only did he predict correctly two upset victories in the Cotton and Rose Bowls, but also his victory margins were remarkably close in every bowl. Here is the rundown of his predictions.

Belmont's picks, Dec. 9	Actual score, Jan. 1
Sugar: Tennessee 38, Air Force 14	Tennessee 34, Air Force 13
Cotton: Notre Dame 24, Texas 21	Notre Dame 24, Texas 11
Rose: Stanford 28, Ohio State 20	Stanford 27, Ohio State 17
Orange: NEBRASKA 17, LSU 7	NEBRASKA 17, LSU 12

Mark predicted that the rest of the country was going to find out who the true number one team was — and they did!

Sophs win despite early morning ritual

Did you ever wake up at 5:30 A.M., eat a meager breakfast, wait for a bus in 10 degree weather, arrive at school at 6:30, and crawl into clammy basketball gear? Nineteen Central sophomores go through this routine every weekday for the privilege of playing on the Sophomore basketball team.

It has been the procedure at Central due to lack of facilities, for the Sophomore squad, also known as the Reserves, to hold its practice sessions in the morning before school.

This year's Sophomore team holds a three win, two loss record. The wins have been against Westside, North, and Bellevue while dropping decisions to South and Tech. All of their games thus far have been on the road.

Spencer Danner is the leading scorer in Coach Tim Schmad's lineup. Paul Tatum, Michael Carter, Rick Elliot, Nick Cannon, Mark Crew, and Van Jones are others that see a lot of action.

It's bad enough that these boys have to practice at an early morning hour, but their games are played on Saturday mornings at 10:00. Their home games are played in the Central gym.

Injury-plagued swimmers take fourth

Don't think that the members of the Central swim team don't take their swimming seriously. Two year letterman Jarret Knoll is so serious about the sport that he acquired a case of the ulcers worrying about it.

"Due to the injuries we've had, we lost two meets that we should have won," commented Knoll. He was referring to his ulcers, Bill Champenoy's ear infection, Lon Canaday's broken hand, and Gery Noerrlinger's torn knee ligaments.

The swimmers have dropped two very close meets, but won the Boys Town dual 74-20 for their only win of the season thus far. Last Saturday the tankers finished a surprising fourth place in the National Division Relays. The ailing Eagles came through with one second place, two third places, four fourth places, and two fifth places.

Anyone for pizza?

Central's Varsity basketball team recently won the Pizza Hut's "Favorite Team Contest" sponsored by KOIL radio. We feasted on 18 large pizzas and some 65 servings of pop. Our thanks are extended to Barb Tholt for entering our name.

Big, small Eagles reach semifinals

Central's three seeded wrestlers in the Metro Championships, Tim Fullerton, Curt Clotfelter, and Jerry Lloyd, were all defeated as the grapplers wound up a disappointing next to last finish. Fullerton, a 98 pounder, lost to John Stokke of Westside in the semifinals, and Lloyd was pinned by Mike Witt of Tee Jay also in the semis.



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PLOTS AND PANS

by Brian Davies

Love Story

For several years now the film-going public has been given the opportunity to become acquainted with "sexploitation" movies. The pendulum has now reversed its swing and a wave of old-fashioned love stories is flooding the theaters. The film version of Erich Segal's *Love Story* is an obvious attempt to exploit that sort of adolescent sentimentality exhibited to such a nauseous degree in the Zeffirelli *Romeo and Juliet* a few years back.

Love Story repeats all the time-worn cliches of this new cinematic genre, the Schoolgirl Syndrome in film-making: there is the obligatory "child-like romp through the snow," the pseudoclassical soundtrack a la Ferrante and Teicher, the strained attempts at "honest" dialogue, etc. etc. One suspects that Ali McGraw (who to this date has exercised no noticeable talent as an actress) was cast as the ill-fated heroine because one of her front teeth is crooked, thus endowing her with that so earnestly sought girl-next-door image. Ryan O'Neal fares a little better, perhaps be-

cause it's so easy for him to play the role of a wealthy, not-too-bright jock.

The only thing tearful about *Love Story* is its cinematic shabbiness. The film was obviously cranked out in a matter of weeks to cash in on the cresting popularity of Segal's "book," and it looks it. The editing appears to have been done with a meat cleaver and the direction exhibits all the technical finesse of a Grandma Moses.

Love Story isn't a terrifically bad film — *Beneath the Planet of the Apes* was just a little worse — but it's far from being a good one. And that's a shame, because the movie's failure hardly does its subject any justice. There is nothing more admirable than a film which manages to convey in a credible manner an irrational and complex thing like love or true sentiment or personal tragedy. But anyone who seriously believes that a crass and shabby attempt at emotional exploitation like *Love Story* captures such feelings and presents them honestly has, to put it bluntly, been taken.

Watson races cycles

by Mark Belmont

"When I was three years old, I often visited my grandparents in Minnesota. They lived in a small northeastern town which only had one policeman who rode the biggest "bicycle" I'd ever seen. I used to run-away from home, a mile or so, and look for the policeman. When I finally found him, I'd tell him that I was lost and needed a ride home. He always gave me a ride home even though I'd be "lost" several times a week."

Thus began three year old Brian Watson's love affair with motorcycles.

After pleading with his mother (while his father was out of town) little Brian finally received his first motorcycle which he now reflects, "looked more like a girl's bike with a motor on it".

From that first little bike, Mr. Watson now owns a Bultaco 250, a Kauasaki 500, and a Yamaha 125. The latter his wife drives.

The CHS economics teacher now races motorcycles as a "very expensive hobby." In his cycling career he has finished second in the 1969 Pony Express Cross-country relay race and twenty-fifth out of 480 entries in the National Enduro Cross-country Race.



Easy Rider? Maybe a Hell's Angel? No, it's CHS Econ teacher Mr. Watson.

In the 1970 Pony Express run, Mr. Watson, (#77 pictured above), was in the top five going into the next to last lap until his bike "threw a chain" . . . that was the end of that race!

Every summer Mr. Watson and his wife travel to races around the Midwest. This summer will mark their fourth trip to Sturgis, South Dakota, where 3,000 bike riders participate in various events. Many of the participants are doctors, lawyers, and teachers who like "a complete change of pace."

Mr. Watson continued, "Motorcycle racing presents a high risk with low prize money. The top cycle rider last year cleared only \$50,000." Mr. Watson also said that he knows personally some of the top riders in the country.

So, if you ever think that teachers lead dull lives, hop on the back of Mr. Watson's cycle and take off for a life of daredevil excitement and adventure.

Senior pair aid rescue



Alan Lincoln and Chris Larson tell about their lifesaving efforts.

During winter vacation Central's "Dynamic Duo" seniors Chris Larson and Alan Lincoln were credited for saving the lives of two people in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Alan and Chris were driving to Dallas when they stopped in Corpus Christi for a couple of days. During the noon hour on the 31st of December, Chris was sitting around the swimming pool of the Holiday Inn while Alan had taken the car to the filling station.

Looking up from his magazine, Chris overheard a conversation between two people.

"I heard this girl asking her boyfriend if he would like to go swimming with her, but he replied that he didn't know how. She said that that was all right because she would teach him. They started in the shallow end but somehow drifted into deep water and couldn't stand up. The boy panicked and grabbed the girl around her waist and began thrashing water all around the pool. At first I thought they were having fun, but when they both started going under and the girl began screaming for help, I sprang out of my chair, whipped off my shoes, and dived into the pool fully clothed. The boy was turning blue as I desperately tried to keep his head above water. As this was happening, Alan was leisurely walking out to the pool. When he saw the predicament, he jumped in and both of us towed the couple to the side."

A crowd had gathered and helped Chris and Alan lift the gasping couple over the side of the pool and onto the cement.

The girl was a little exhausted, but the boy was only semi-conscious so an ambulance was called. Afterward, standing in their dripping wet clothes, Alan and Chris relaxed and were both glad no one had drowned.

CHS juniors merit honors

Ron Ballard and Mark Gates, both juniors in ROTC, were cited and commended in letters by Dr. G. E. Moller and Mrs. Letha Wiczorek for their action at the scene of an automobile accident.

The accident, involving five cars, occurred at 30th and Ellis after the December 18 Rummel-Central game. Mrs. Wiczorek and her daughter, Mary Ann, were in the car at the time the mishap occurred.

Ron rushed to the scene of the accident and did all he could to help Mrs. Wiczorek before the ambulance arrived at the scene. He was assisted by Mark.

Mrs. Wiczorek later, in expressing her gratitude, said everyone at Central and the two boys' parents should be proud to know what fine boys the ROTC at school is producing and that they are both a credit to the uniform.

Kinstlinger attends conference, meets with Secretary Rogers

On Tuesday, December 23, 1970, senior Gary Kinstlinger received a call asking him to come to Washington, D.C. to represent the youth of the Midwest at an emergency conference sponsored by the American-Jewish Conference for Soviet Jewry. The conference concerned appeals to be made regarding the conviction of 11 Soviet alleged hijackers, 10 of whom are Jews. Gary, incidentally, was one of three students in the country selected to come to the conference.

At the conference Gary was selected to head a delegation whose purpose was to enlist more aid from the Danish embassy. Gary, as part of another delegation, then met with Secretary of State William Rogers, and next with the House Judiciary Committee where his group initiated a resolution con-

Spirit Spotlite

After an extended vacation and the worst snow Nebraska has seen in 25 years, spirit at Central was at an all-time high. The Eagle five flew to victories over Bryan and Lincoln High supported by a great pepclub.

The Metro Wrestling Tourney, held at UNO last weekend, Jan. 22-23, warranted congratulations for Jerry Lloyd, Tim Fullerton, and all the Eagle matmen. They all did a fine job.

Swimming relays were held at Westside. In spite of a valiant effort, the hopes and spirit of the Central tankmen were dampened a little.



Sali Borchman

Congratulations are in order for sophomore, Sali Borchman, the spirit girl of the week. Her favorite sports are football and basketball. Sali intends to tryout for cheerleading or Eaglettes as a junior.

True Central spirit was given special recognition by the Omaha World-Herald after the Central-Lincoln High game. Of particular note was the special presentation of a plaque in appreciation of past service by Lincoln Coach Mr. Alde Johnson by the Central High O-club.

Keep attending the games and meets to help support your teams.

demning Russia for her unjust sentencing of participants in a hijacking which never took place. At this same time, others met with President Nixon to gain more support.

That evening the death sentences of two Russian Jews were commuted, and indirect sources said that the conference in which Gary participated was one of the major factors leading to Russia's reversal of decision.

"This was a precedent-setting occurrence in which we, the citizens of the world, managed to move the 'big bear of Russia,'" Gary said. He also mentioned that future activities in this community concerning Soviet Jewry include a rally of protest to be held February 7 at Beth Israel Synagogue, 52nd and Charles, to which everyone is urged to attend.

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