

inside:

G. E. MOLLER, Central principal, is considering plans for a student lounge on the one side of the first floor. See page 3.

MERLYNA BAILEY, wife of football coach Gary Bailey, discusses being a "football wife." See Jim Zipursky's column, page 6.

central high

register

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No. 6

Committee claims road disrupts grounds

Al LaGreca and David James, members of the Landscape Committee, are seeking an alternative to the proposed fire access road, a road which threatens to disrupt the planting scheme of the Landscape Committee.

The proposed road, 15 feet wide, about 330 feet long, extends across Central's east (one side) lawn, providing fire truck access to the northeast corner of the building, near the site of the new gym.

The steps must be made steeper, allowing the road to pass over a level surface near the top of the new stairs. Much of the east side lawn must be regraded.

The road will be unnoticeable since grass will grow through holes in the concrete blocks the road is made of.

"The road disrupts the symmetry and beauty of the landscape project," said Mr. James, a biology teacher

and Landscape Committee member in charge of buying the trees.

According to the estimates of Mr. LaGreca, assistant principal and chairman of the Landscape Committee, the road will displace 4,000 dollars worth of trees and bushes, including two blue spruce trees, three burning bushes, four pink spine crab trees, 26 mugho pines, and one white spring snow crab tree.

"The trees were purchased with donations from students, faculty, alumni, and businesses, not with taxpayer's money," Mr. LaGreca said. "The Landscape Committee has held off soliciting further donations until the whole situation is resolved," he added.

"Removing the trees disrupts the effectiveness of the entire site," said Mr. James.

As a result, Mr. James and Mr. LaGreca will propose an alternative route to Nick Stolzer, director of

buildings and grounds for Omaha Public Schools.

"If we can convince Mr. Stolzer to change the plans, we will submit new plans to the school board and the fire department. We want to go through proper channels," said Mr. LaGreca.

"An access road has to be built, but I feel a better conclusion can be reached," said Mr. James.

The alternative plans, only in rough form, include two access roads, one curving around the new gym from Davenport St., one moving from the corner of Dodge and 20th St. to the southeast corner of the building.

Mr. James will also propose that the road from Dodge St. be a sidewalk. "If a sidewalk could be combined with the access road, we would be killing two birds with one stone," he said.

"I think my proposal would cost less and would not disrupt the landscape as much," said Mr. James. "We need more study of the plans and its effect on the school. I don't believe it's a closed matter."

But Mr. Stolzer of OPS and Willard Johnson of the Omaha Fire Division maintain that the present road is the "most adaptable to the site."

"We don't want to ruin the aesthetics of the building," said Chief Johnson, head of fire prevention for the OFD. "There was a lot of discussion about the access road. Four or five plans were considered. We tried to remove as few trees as possible. We did not want to destroy anything."

Mr. Stolzer said OPS will replace the lost trees and pay for the replanting. But he added, "If the tree is

see fire damage on page 3

large, there is no way to replace it."

Chief Johnson, after seeing Mr. James' proposal in rough form, said the slope is too steep for a fire truck to negotiate. Mr. Stolzer agreed.

On the construction site of the new gym trucks are moving up a make-shift dirt road, a road similar to Mr. James' proposal. "You're talking about a fire truck going up a steep hill, and you can't pull 40 tons up a steep hill," said Mr. Stolzer, explaining his objection to the alternate road near the new gym.

The access road must rise with a slope of no more than ten percent, said Chief Johnson. He said the access road rises at a slope of eight percent.

The school board has already approved the plans for the access road. Mr. Stolzer said bids for the construction of the road will be released within a few weeks, allowing the board to approve the bids by the February meeting. Mr. Stolzer estimates the road will cost 60,000 dollars to build.

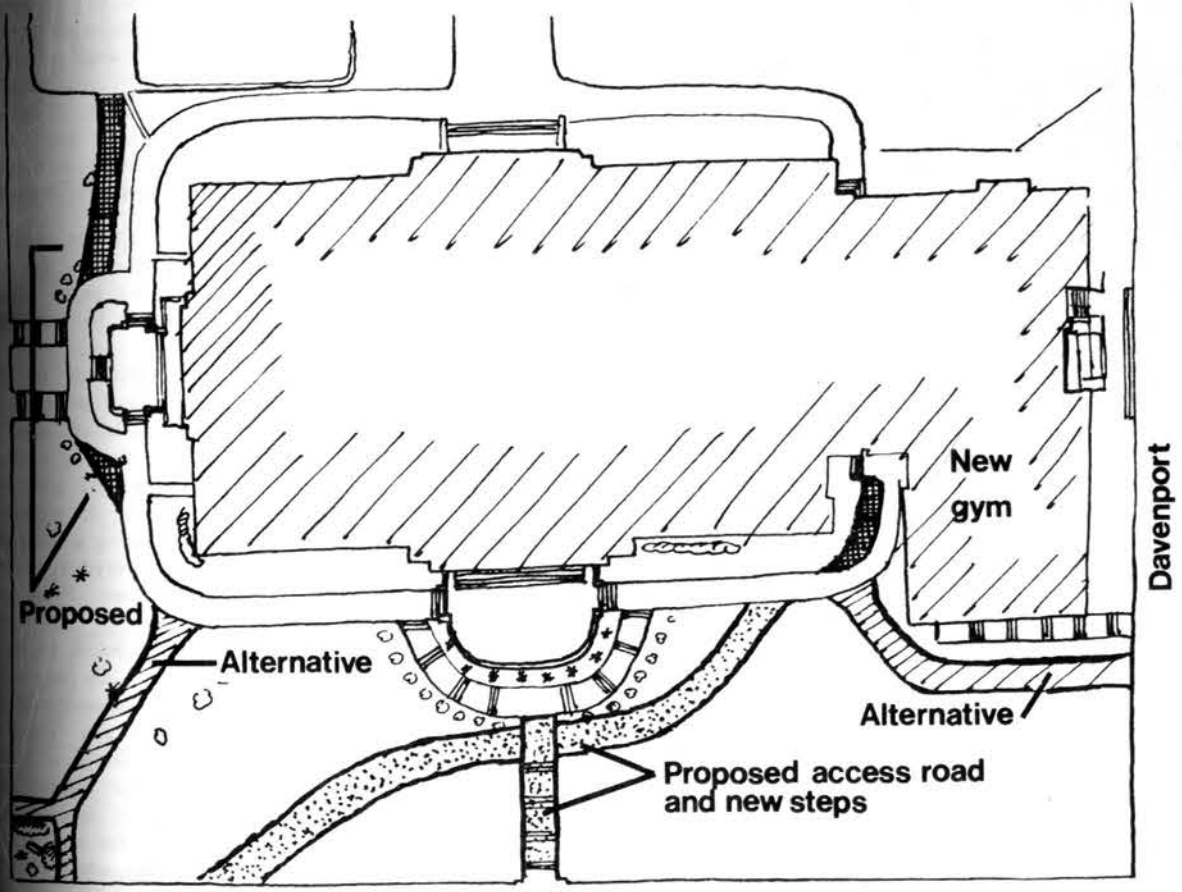


Illustration by Patrick Whalen

The above illustration was adapted from layout plans by Kirkam, Michael, and Associates, the designers of the road.

America's young face today's complex world with caution

by Chuck Reed

Youths of America, take a bow. The average teenage American would have questioned the above order because today's young have a high and cautious character.

According to the Life Magazine Fall 1977 Special Report, being cautious is a common characteristic among teenagers today. Entitled "The New Youth," the Special Report finds that today's young Americans differ greatly from the youth of past generations. "You can't just say, 'You do this!' to a teenager nowadays," said Central Principal G. E. Moller. "They deserve an explanation—and I agree."

Life Magazine researchers noticed this trend of business. Can this suspicious attitude be a sign of better education and awareness of society?

"You do this!"

Today's high school youngsters, for some reason, don't seem as concerned about a 'good education,' commented Dr. Moller. "Too many slough off their studies. They don't seem to accept hard courses as they did as past youths."

Many sociologists feel that the educational standards of youths have been growing more and more relaxed every year, a feeling supported by the steady nationwide decline of college entrance exam test scores. The headache for the older generation to explain.

Virginia Lee Pratt, head of Central's math department and longtime Central instructor, observes that parents are partially to blame for any changes in to-

day's teenagers. A change in society itself is pointed out as another possible cause for the "new youth."

"The morals of the country are different today," explained Miss Pratt. "Naturally, the younger generation is going to be changed to go along with society."

"Both parents and teachers have had a hand in making the changes," said Dr. Moller.

Does the teenager consider himself something less than perfect?

No.

Life researchers emphasize that the American youth is a strong-willed, head-strong creature. "Whatever else they may be, today's young are very tough on themselves," the introduction of "The New Youth" states.

Central sophomore Carol Giles feels that teenagers are an enthusiastic bunch, but "they ignore society too much."

Other comments on today's teenagers from Central students show the variety that, according to Life Magazine, is common in all previous generations. Such as:

"Teenagers think they're something above everything else in today's society. They don't care for other people."

"All kids want to do these days is drink beer and smoke cigarettes. They must not like themselves because they're trying to act like adults."

"Kids want to help each other and everyone else,

too. They care."

One student interviewed in "The New Youth" compared today's young with the turbulent generation of the early sixties. The comparison showed obvious envy for the bonds that held that seemingly disjointed group together, a bond that no longer exists according to the students interviewed.

"We share no common music, we have no collective itch, so we no longer scratch each other's back," said the student.

The influence of society upon today's younger generation is quite extensive. The pressures put on the teenager come from every possible niche in society. Society molds the young.

Extensive influence

"We'll conform," wrote one student in "The New Youth." "The 70's student has no time to deal with the ills of society," wrote another. "He is in constant pursuit of a well-paying job."

But, in general, today's young Americans seem to have advanced out of the strict, rule endowed role that has been their place for years. Now youths are being subjected to a confusing, complex world that appeals to the adventure in some but proves heartless and unforgiving to many of the weak-willed young.

Perhaps Miss Pratt's statement explains today's intricate youths best.

"Youth reflects society."

Who's responsible?

Sales sell junk to gullible consumers

"I think I will buy the new car that Robert Redford advertises," said Mom one day.

"But why do you want a new car? We just bought one yesterday!" said Dad.

Mom dreamily says, "Since Robert Redford advertises the car, it really must be sensational. He also owns that very same car which would make me feel so much closer to him. Everything he does is so fantastic. I am sure the car will be as great as him."

editorial

The word "SALE" acts like a magnet, attracting the gullible eye of many people. Junk food sales cause empty billfolds since these sales yield only double chins, tight pants, and a supposedly broken bathroom scale.

Mom discovers a sale on candy bars so she buys enough to last for ten years. For the next ten years all Mom does is dream about, hear the crackle of, and see candy bars everywhere she looks. Even when Mom looked at people they appeared to be walking candy bars. Mom almost ate her best friend Sue. That day, Sue looked like an Almond Joy.

After Mom polished off the candy, she was now ready for another phase, the diet dilemma. Mom went to the store and bought every magazine about dieting. She weighed 250 pounds. One diet said she could eat whatever she wanted and still lose up to ten pounds a day providing she took the magic pill. Every diet had a clever sales approach, but they all guaranteed the impossible: easy weight loss.

As Mom was reading one of her magazines, she saw an ad that guaranteed losing 50 pounds a week and up to ten inches a day by wrapping a paper thin piece of leather around her entire body every day for ten hours. Mom wrapped herself and went shopping. She was arrested for escaping from the mummy museum. That year Mom won the "Greatest Mummy" award.

Propaganda profits

One type of propaganda is selling something in large quantities so the consumer thinks he is getting a lot for his money. The quantity of something can be very deceiving. So, the next time you are tempted to buy 1,000 rolls of toilet paper, think about the quality instead of the quantity!



Santa isn't only thing coming to town

by
Chuck Reed

Move over, STAR WARS.

The film of adventure and fantasy that has dominated people's pocketbooks for more than six months bowed out yesterday at Omaha's Indian Hills Theatre. The top of all time, STAR WARS is now on screen exclusively at the Q Cinema 4 Theatres, 120th and Q Streets.

But don't fear film fans. Successor to STAR WARS is a fantasy closer to home, a tale of science non-fiction more than fiction.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND opens today at the Indian Hills Theatre for a run that may equal or outlast the marathon of STAR WARS.

Why?

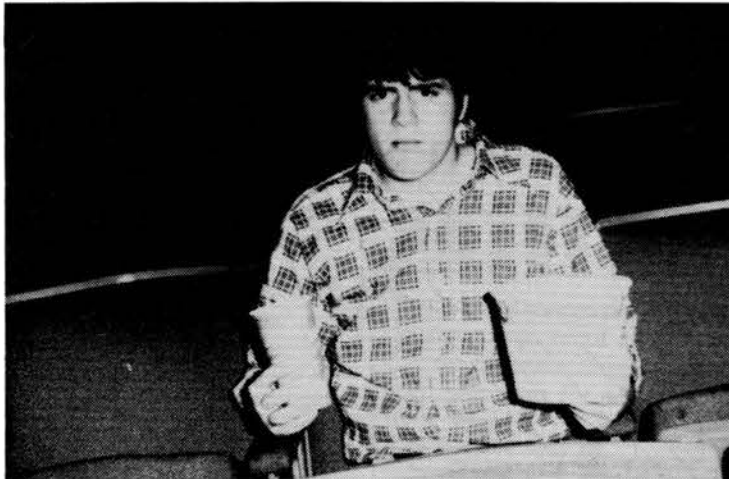


photo by Tony Smith

Chuck Reed: "I'm mad! Mickey Mouse wasn't suppose to do that."

location gave the public a nice, pre-release glimpse of the movie. Not so with Spielberg's latest.

The mysterious air of anticipation for CLOSE ENCOUNTERS means big bucks for mother company Columbia Pictures when box offices start the expected avalanche of profits.

The complex title is really quite understandable, once it's explained. Therefore, CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND deals with actual meetings between we inferior human beings and residents of our galactic neighborhood, face to face (unless of course they happen to really be little green men.) A 'first kind' encounter is simply a UFO sighting. A 'second kind' would be evidence of alien activity, things such as downed telephone lines on a calm night or burned-out patches in healthy fields.

"Spin-off"

Unlike cheap-shot, "spin-off" flicks that have annoyed our attention since STAR WARS, Spielberg's CLOSE ENCOUNTERS is a separate, honest effort. The film intends to alert the curious member of today's society about the possibility of an unannounced visit from another world. As I have only seen cuts from CLOSE ENCOUNTERS and read about the movie, I cannot confirm whether the intended message is brought across well. However, national screen critics say there's no doubt about the film's success on the screen.

Because of its background (the controversial UFOs), I recommend CLOSE ENCOUNTERS. See it before Christmas. Maybe that jolly, old, fat man and his reindeer aren't quite what they're believed to be.

for saturday night

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS is the story of a UFO that makes its presence known in a small Indiana community, causing a plague of terror among the townfolk. Richard Dreyfuss, who starred as Hooper in 1975's JAWS, stars in CLOSE ENCOUNTERS.

The film is the creation of Steven Spielberg, the man who holds the title of youngest major film director in the United States. Spielberg brought us the relentless horror from inner space (the ocean), known as JAWS. Now, he has assembled another edge-of-your-seat thriller dealing with a horror from outer space.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS has been a closely guarded project since day one. The success of this shrouding proved surprisingly effective considering the number of well-known technical personalities used in production. The making of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS is a complete reversal of Spielberg's methods in filming JAWS. Recklessness and a tourist trap as a shooting

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letters

"Words" worthless

The premise of this letter is to bring out publically the worthless need of "word of the day." Whoever claims credit for the program lacked foresight to understand that memorizing does not bring about necessary learning. As any foreign language student or teacher will gladly say, the only way to learn new words is to use the words extensively. The same holds true for learning words in English. Although memorizing a set of words before an examination bolsters the examination grade, memorizing does not bring about any use whatsoever of the new words.

Also, another fault with the "word of the day" program is the lack of acceptance on the part of Central English teachers. The teacher I had for English last year did not give us the words of the day; the teacher I have this year does. One junior honors English class has the words of the day; one does not. Some English teachers have a monthly exam over the words of the day; some have a

weekly exam. Others sand the words of the day for final examination only. So uniformity should be established!

My third criticism of "word of the day" program the grueling task of copying the words, one day at a time. To the teachers who give the word of the day, it seems a simple task, keeping a complete list, one word everyday, over set period of time. From personal experience, and from friends I have spoken to, it is not an easy task. An easy solution to this problem would be giving all students a "word of the day" list. Surely, with a \$10,000 grant the English department received, it could produce the list for all Central English students who need it. Instead of spending thousands of dollars on a slide projector to bring students into Central, why not worry about the students in Central!

Jim Fishkin

Imposters

If everyone at Central High School was completely honest and could be relied upon to be the truth, then there would be five to ten people stepping into the cafeteria line ahead of turn "claiming" to be cafeteria workers.

I can see the need for cafeteria workers to quickly get to work of serving student lunches. But in the fact, students need not prove their worker status and only do it, I am sure that there are many students stepping line ahead of turn.

I personally can vouch for the fact that it is very aggravating to wait my turn in line yet see some of these friends stepping into line ahead of me.

There must be some form of identification those workers use to rid the cafeteria line of these frauds.

Kathy McCallister

Fire guts science room

In the history of Central, disasters have been few and far between. Retirement of teachers isn't exactly a disaster, but a fact of life. Also, the occasional bathroom fires can't be called a disaster either. However, the gutting of a science room and adjacent store room wins the billing of disaster—especially when damages amount to \$80,000.

Last March 4, Central's misfortune struck. During the noon hour, the store room adjacent to science room 349 burst into flames when chemical shelves fell. After thirty-five minutes, Omaha firemen gained access

with smoke. I was afraid of an explosion because of the array of chemicals kept in that store room, so I left."

Before the fire, Mr. Williams and Julia Buresh had their offices in the store room. The two teachers were in the room fifteen minutes before the fire. The fire started because the chemicals on the shelf reacted. Mr. Williams adds, "It was very lucky—no teachers were there."

Because of no readily available access to the third floor, it took Omaha firefighters over thirty-five minutes to get to the flames. After discovering the impossibility of getting to

"I went back to the room but it was filled with smoke. I was afraid of an explosion because of the array of chemicals, so I left."

to the third floor and doused the remaining flames.

The incident started when Mr. John Williams, teaching a class in the now-restored room, heard a crash and breaking glass from the back of the room. Mr. Williams says, "I went back to look and I saw flames and smoke." The class's nickering soon died when Mr. Williams said, "This is serious, get go!" By then the fire alarm had sounded and the school had started its evacuation. Mr. Williams also said, "I went back into the room with a fire extinguisher but when I got back there the room was filled

the building on the east side, the firemen entered through the west side of the building. After gaining access through a window in science room 341, firemen ran hoses down the hallway to room 349. Once there, the firemen had no trouble controlling the blaze.

Materials to be replaced in room 349 include \$37,000 worth of hand-built furniture: three large tables, cabinets, and a glassed-in storage area. There is approximately \$10,000 worth of new chemicals and lab equipment. The remaining \$79,952 went to labor, structural, and architectural fees.

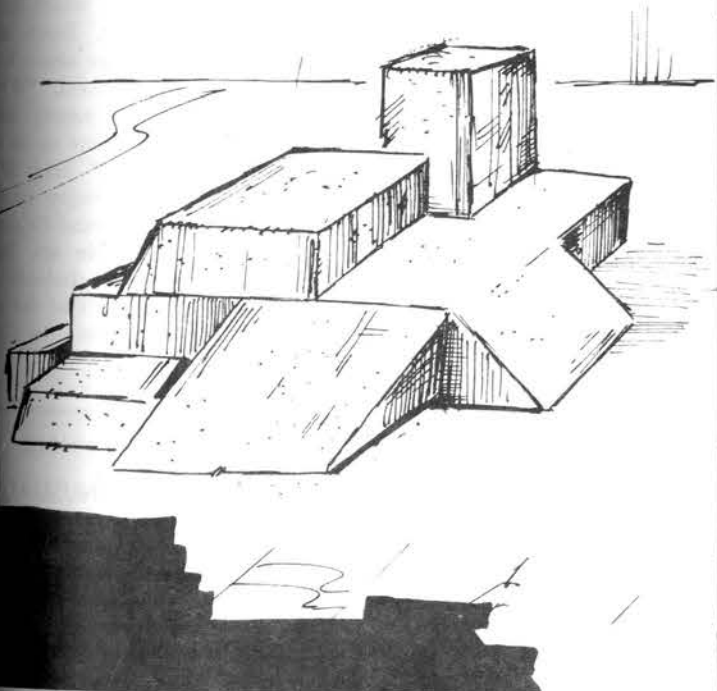


Illustration by Patrick Whalen

"Nonfurniture-furniture" to occupy proposed student lounge.

Lounge plans underway

A possible lounging center is now in the planning stages.

"It's not certain that we will have the lounging center yet. It depends on many factors, including money," explained Central Principal G. E. Moller.

Right now there isn't a place for students to relax and socialize except on the stairways," said Dr. Moller.

According to Dr. Moller, the proposed lounging center will be located in the middle of the east entryways. The structure will be approximately 9x10 feet.

The lounging center, made of wood and carpet, involves carrying terraces to study and relax on. The concept is called "nonfurniture-furniture."

Financing of the project may come from alumni, but the final

cost is uncertain, said Dr. Moller.

Dr. Moller explained that students would be able to use the center before and after school and during lunch periods. Shortened day students would be able to lounge before school but not after their shortened days, since rules require shortened day students to leave the building ten minutes after their day's end.

"I thought of the study area after seeing a picture of a creation in an educational journal," said Dr. Moller.

If the project continues as planned, Dr. Moller added, construction might begin during Christmas vacation.

"If the area is used by the students, then we might put something similar in the other entryways of the building," said Dr. Moller.

of central importance

Construction behind

Progress on Central's gym has fallen behind schedule.

"We are a little behind schedule," said Ralph Maguire, Lueder Construction Company's project manager. Mr. Maguire added that construction is four weeks behind schedule.

"The delay is due to wet soil, weather, and pending change orders," explained Mr. Maguire.

The completion date of the gym is scheduled for the middle of August. Mr. Maguire said the gym should be done by next September.

Mr. Maguire said that there have been no labor problems. Future labor problems are not foreseen until June when Labor contracts are renewed.

Lue gets recognition

Marcel Lue, Central senior, received recognition for winning the first Annual Urban League of Nebraska Guild's Botillion, a ball for black seniors.

The Botillion, similar to the black young ladies' Cotillion, was held Sunday, December 4, 5:00-10:00 p.m., at the Omaha Hilton in the Grand Ballroom.

Participants in the program included twelve other seniors from the area high schools including Lucius Brown and Larry Ailes, both from Central.

The format of the program involved the presentation of the botillioners with their escorts and with their mothers, in two separate dances.

The Botillion was choreographed by Fabian Hayden, a choreographer who has been involved in the planning of local events, such as beauty contests, talent and dance contests, and other activities including a past Central Road Show.

"I believe that next year's Botillion will be a more organized function and that there will be more participation in the Botillion," said Marcel.

"The Botillion is a very worthwhile experience and I would encourage the senior young men of 1979 to take part in the next year's event if given the opportunity," said Marcel.

For winning, Marcel received a trophy and a cash

prize, presented by Joyce Westbrook, 1977 Cotillion winner.

Central's JROTC department was represented with the female Color Guard presenting the colors.

The Botillion was climaxed with the taking of pictures and a disco dance.

Thanksgiving prowler

If you think you have the "climbing the walls" syndrome, don't worry. It's been going around.

On November 24 at about 4:30, Omaha Public Schools Housekeeping Demonstrator James Kaffenberger received a call informing him that Central's alarm had been triggered. The police received a call reporting a man climbing the west wall of the building.

"The suspect had apparently entered a second story window," said Mr. Kaffenberger. "When I arrived the police had surrounded Central. The suspect was found ten minutes after a five-man group of police entered."

Sporting rifle, bare feet, and shooting vest, the suspect was found in the rifle range, practicing. He apparently had broken the range door.

Missing activity tickets, taken from a second story room, were later recovered on the suspect's person.

He was not believed to be a Central graduate, so his knowledge of the location of the range remains a mystery.

New art club forms

Central Art Club has been rejuvenated after six years. The lack of student interest for so many years was overlooked by senior Cathy Curran, now acting president, and other students interested in art. Over one hundred art students showed interest in the club idea, but only about 25 students attended the first meeting.

Club organization directives, and future goals were discussed at the first meeting and it was decided that officer elections would be held in meeting to come for president, secretary, public relations officer, finance director, and program director.

Mike Sloan was elected secretary, Dedee Bennett

public relations director, Lindsey McKee finance director, and Sally Pollack program director.

Money making projects for the upcoming holiday season include making personalized Christmas cards to be available to Central students and faculty, T-shirt designs for other Central clubs, and a Christmas Art Show and sale.

The club's members meet every Thursday usually for an hour.

New Hebrew class

"This is the first time I've seen a Hebrew class where everyone wants to learn," states Arnold Weintraub, Hebrew class supervisor.

The Hebrew class, the first in the state of Nebraska in a public school, is taught by a paraprofessional and native of Israel, Nurite Gafney. The full credit class meets third hour Monday through Friday in Room 121.

The Hebrew class began with the enthusiasm of several students and G. E. Moller, principal. In the winter of 1976, Dr. Moller received a long list of student signatures and many reasons why he should include Hebrew in Central's curriculum.

Two main reasons seen by Dr. Weintraub and Sarah Ross, Central junior, were, first, to attract more students away from Westside and Burke High Schools and, second, to offer the opportunity to those who want to study Hebrew.

This semester there are seven students taking Hebrew. The language is taught at a general level for the beginner as well as the advanced pupil. Though structured more loosely than other courses, the course still stresses the basics of reading, vocabulary, writing, and grammar.

Christmas Prom

Gary Bryant and Tracy Rucker have been selected as Central's king and queen candidates for the 1977 Christmas Prom. The Prom will be on December 18 at Peony Park, from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Admission is six dollars. Door prizes will also be offered.

The Central High Student Council wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season!

Have a great vacation!

Birdena

Yvette

Kit

Kathy

Jerry

Jo Ann

Jean

Teri

Mrs. V. Anderson

Susie

Gary

Macia

Vivienne

Linda

Mike

Olivette

Robin

Audrey

Shelli

Doug

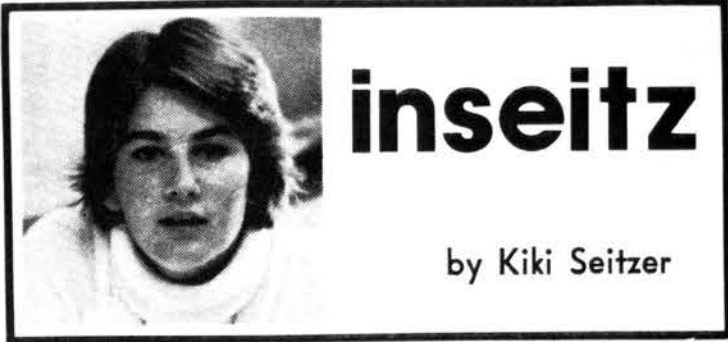
Lori

Ann

Cynthia

Mark

Tracy



inseitz

by Kiki Seitzer

Beer can collecting popular

"Beer can collecting is the fastest growing hobby in the United States. It started getting popular in 1972," said Central junior Jeff Olson. Centralites Chris Foster, Dean Frazee, and Jeff, with 600, 1200, 800 beer cans respectively in their collections, all began after seeing friends' collections.

"In beer can collecting, quality not quantity is important. The value of a can is based on either age or number distributed with color also playing an important part," said Chris. "Cone tops, the first beer cans made in 1930's, can be worth 40 to 60 dollars each if in good shape. I have two dozen cone tops," said Dean, who collects with his younger brother Jeff.

Valuable beer cans

Chris's most valuable can is a Red Fox cone top. "My rarest can is a Storz Triumph misprint, stamped upside down. I found it while riding a motorcycle with my cousin. This was one of my first cans. Most of the time when misprints are made, they are given to the employees to drink, and they throw them away," said Jeff.

"Displaying the multi-colored beer cans in our rec room made an attractive wall piece. Color could be why some people collect beer cans as in the Schmidt nature scene beer cans," said Dean. There are many different grades of beer cans: perfect-near mint; cans unopened from the factory; minor rust-spot rust; heavier rust-dents; and rust-where name is off and rusted through, not a display can.

Beer can stores

Vacations, beer can trade shows, liquor stores are good places to find new cans. On the West Coast, cans can be bought separately in stores, said Dean. Chris, Dean, and Jeff all agree that finding and cleaning an old can provides the greatest satisfaction.

"Big beer manufacturing companies are taking over the little companies, and now one company doesn't make just one can. Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Milwaukee are big beer manufacturing cities. Beer can collecting is very big in the East," said Jeff.

Some advice to beginners: "Get a beer can collector's book which gives what each can is worth, or you could get ripped off at auctions and sales if you don't know anything. Also you can join a club such as the Beer Can Collectors of America (BCCA) or the World Wide Beer Can Collectors of America," said Jeff.

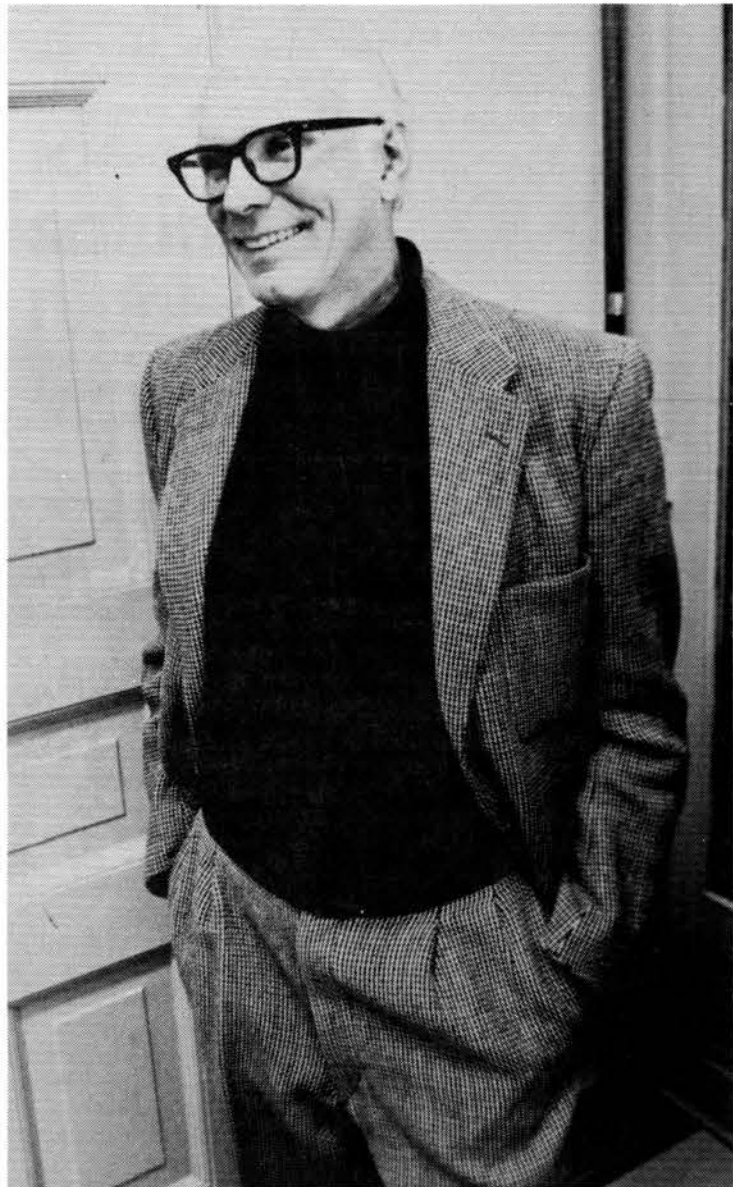


photo by Tony Smith

Former department head returns to old office

FLOYD'S GIRL



Students call teachers Mom, Dad

How would you like to go to high school with your mother or father?

If you see your mother or father walk past you in the halls, should you say "Hi Mom" or "Hi Mrs. —?" Julie Martin, Peggy Zerse, Reynold McMeen, and Terri Skinner face this problem every day.

Julie Martin, daughter of James Martin, math teacher and basketball coach, feels she understands her father better. "Many times when I have a problem I don't have to wait to go home. I can just go up to his room and talk to dad anytime," said Julie.

Situation worked well

Mr. Martin feels the situation has worked out well. "A great disadvantage is that I have a lot of Julie's friends in class, and if I say something negative it gets back to Julie," said Mr. Martin. Julie said, "Having dad at Central has its ups and downs."

Robert McMeen, Central

music department head, teaches his son in Junior Choir. "In class I expect Reynold to be like a normal sophomore boy," said Mr. McMeen. He feels the situation is harder on Reynold than it is for him. "It is good for a few laughs," said Reynold about being in his father's class. "During school I call dad, Mr. McMeen. The minute the 3:20 bell rings I call him Dad," said Reynold. Reynold feels he has had an easier time making friends. Overall Mr. McMeen and Reynold feel the main problem is transportation.

Not a problem

"It doesn't bother me having my mom at school except that I have to go strictly by the rules," said Terri Skinner, daughter of librarian Marilyn Skinner. Mrs. Skinner understands Terri's problem because she went through the same situation as a teenager. "It is not too bad most of the time. I don't really see Terri very often," said Mrs. Skinner.

Mrs. Skinner said she doesn't bail Terri out of trouble. "I doesn't give her any extra privileges. Often Terri reminds of things, and she can run errands for me which I feel is a great advantage," said Terri Skinner. "All the teachers know what I am doing, where I am and if I'm in trouble," laugh Terri.

Enjoys mother at Central

Peggy Zerse, daughter of counselor Geri Zerse, enjoys having her mother at Central. But she said, "Sometimes I give me a bad time which hurts my feelings." Mrs. Zerse has positive feelings about having Peggy at Central. "When Peggy needs help, money, or a note she can just come up to the office and get it," said Geri Zerse. They both enjoy seeing more red heads around Central.

Reynold and Julie are in voluntary transfer students at Central. Julie said, "Dad did persuade me to come to Central. I wanted to!"

Clark writes plays

W. Edward Clark, former Central English department head, spends his time as a professional playwright, one of his "longest continuous ambitions."

"I have been interested in the theatre since my early teens. I played in a musical comedy here at Central when I was a senior," said Mr. Clark. Mr. Clark graduated from Central in 1932. He taught at Central for 30 years, and the last eight years he headed Central's English department. Along with teaching English he taught French and German and coached the tennis and swimming teams.

Structure of play important

"Teaching gave me years of experience in analyzing the structure of a play. A play is a very special type of thing. It is not the activity on stage that is so important; it is the actions, and how they show the dynamics of the characters. If you teach Hamlet every year for thirty years, you see how great a play is in terms of its structure," said Mr. Clark.

"My only interest now is writing. I spend a great deal of time thinking about writing, and when I get something far enough thought out, I can spend five hours with no problem. In

the last four years I have written five plays. None of them have been produced yet," said Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark graduated from the University of Chicago where he studied playwriting under Thornton Wilder, an American writer who won three Pulitzer Prizes. He received a John Hay Whitney fellowship to Yale University in 1955, where he studied for one year in the school of drama on the third year graduate level. His instructor was Robert Penn Warren, American poet and novelist and a Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry.

"Except for being a professional playwright there is nothing else I would have wanted to do but teach. Playwriting is like writing a text, and teaching is like acting. You can tell how good or bad a teacher is by how well they act in class," said Mr. Clark.

Invented A.P. English

One of Mr. Clark's many contributions to teaching is the advanced placement course in English. Mr. Clark invented and wrote the first advanced placement course in English offered in Omaha. The course has changed very little since then.

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Skating success for Jones

Terese Jones, Central senior, put on her first pair of ice skates when she was 13 years old and hasn't taken them off since.

Terese enjoyed skating so much after her first try that she started taking lessons. In 1974 she started taking group lessons with about 80 other people.

Terese was still involved with group lessons in her second year. "I still felt that I hadn't progressed, but I did watch the older people and that helped me a little," Terese said. She performed a solo Jack-in-the-Box pantomime for her second performance in the "Shopping in Rhythm" ice show held at Benson.

In 1976, her third year of skating she started taking private lessons. This is the year she progressed the most.

"Teen of the Week"

In February she was involved in an all-city competition sponsored by her Blade and Edge Figure Skating Club. She won a first place trophy. In March she attended the "Heart of the Midland Ice Skating Invitational" in Kansas City. She won two first place trophies, one for a free-style performance and

one for a compulsory figure performance.

She was also selected "Teen of the Week" from the "Omaha World Herald" on August 20, 1976. On August 25, she received a personal letter from Owen Knutzen, superintendent of the Omaha Public Schools, congratulating her for her outstanding performance in "Happy Birthday U.S.A.," her "Teen of the Week" award.

Kansas City competition

In February of 1977 she won another first place trophy in the all-city competition. In March she won two more first place trophies in Kansas City. She was also Daisy Mae in Hitchcock's ice skating show "Skaters Gazette."

Her recent schedule has not permitted her to skate as much as she would like. "I'm at a standstill right now. I love skating so much and I wish I didn't have so much to do so I could be on the ice more," she said. "After my life settles down I plan on getting more involved in skating again," she added.

Right now her future plans are to try out for the Ice Capades. "If I make it I will probably do it for about a year and save for college. Then I will go to college."

Student Council's main objective to gain school spirit

Student Council, through its activities, is seeking to promote school spirit.

Meeting three times a week for 40 minutes, they have organized a blood donor day, a pep rally during homecoming week, a hat day, and halloween dress up day, both during "Insanity Is Fun Week." They also sponsored a dance, "which was a big success," said Jean Rivard, Student Council vice president.

One of their most recent projects is the student directory which will be finished and on sale after the first of the year. They are planning a prom, to be held at the Carter Lake ballroom on April 14. They are working on a proposal for a student lounge in room 325. Their plans also include a door decorating contest for the holidays and another dance.

"Student Council is doing a good job compared to other years," Jean commented, "but I hope we can circulate more interest in the group because not many sophomores ran for the positions this year."

Racquetball gains fame

People in the United States, forever looking for fun and cheap entertainment, have found racquetball.

Racquetball?

Cheap, fun and easy

Racquetball has just recently started its rise to the top in fun fame. The reasons are simple: it's cheap, fun, and easy to learn and play.

The materials for playing racquetball consist of a racquetball/handball court, a racquetball, a racquetball racket, and maybe a little agility and stamina on the side. The Westroads racket club has a junior membership fee of \$90 a year plus \$5 everytime the court is used. Other courts are available at the Omaha Racket Club, Dewey Park, and Creighton Prep.

You can pay from \$10 for a Leech racquet to \$50 for an Ektalon racquet. Whether the racquets are constructed of fiberglass, aluminum, or just wood, they are light and easy to master.

The court is about 30 to 40 feet in length and about 20 feet in width. It is divided in the middle by a serving line; most courts have two side walls, a

back wall, and a ceiling.

The game can be played in singles, doubles, or the three-person version called "cut-throat." Doubles is simply two teams of two. "Cut-throat" is three people scoring independently and rotating the serve. Four people on the court, as in doubles, tends to get overcrowded since one may get struck by wildly swinging rackets and fast stinging balls. "Cut throat," or singles, proves somewhat safer.

Simple basic rules

The basic rules are quickly and simply learned, almost identical to those of handball. The server must hit the front wall before any of the others and clear the serving line at the same time. The ball may hit the floor once before it is returned. Upon being returned, the ball must hit the front wall once before hitting the floor. Floor, wall; floor, wall, etc. The added walls provide interesting possibilities.

As for attire, it can be anything that is comfortable, preferably something light, cool, and non-restrictive.

Popular sport good exercise

"During the winter, I play platform tennis to help my tennis game. It quickens my reflexes at the net," said Chris Foster, Central sophomore. Platform tennis can be played outside except in extreme rain or snow.

A platform tennis court is one-fourth the size of a tennis court but marked similarly. The court is surrounded by 13 feet high walls. Wooden paddles, 17 inches in length, and sponge rubber balls are the equipment used.

"Platform tennis and tennis are similar except that in platform you only get one serve while in tennis you get two serves. The scoring and rules are the same. In platform tennis, a ball that first bounced in bounds in a rally could be played after hitting the wire wall before it bounced a second time," said Kiki Seitzer, Central senior.

"Doubles is played all the time because in doubles you have long rallies and a variety of shots used. Singles is almost nonexistent because the court is too small," said Chris.

"Age has no bearing on platform tennis since little running is involved. My dad's crazy spins are extremely effective in platform tennis," said Kiki.

"Power is not important while consistency is very important. A hard hit overhead will bounce off the wires farther making a setup for the other team. Overheads must be hit to the corners. The lob is used quite a lot," said Chris.

"No special clothing is needed. Warm and comfortable clothes (sweaters, jeans) and thick-soled tennis shoes since the metal floor ruins the shoes are all that are needed," said Kiki.

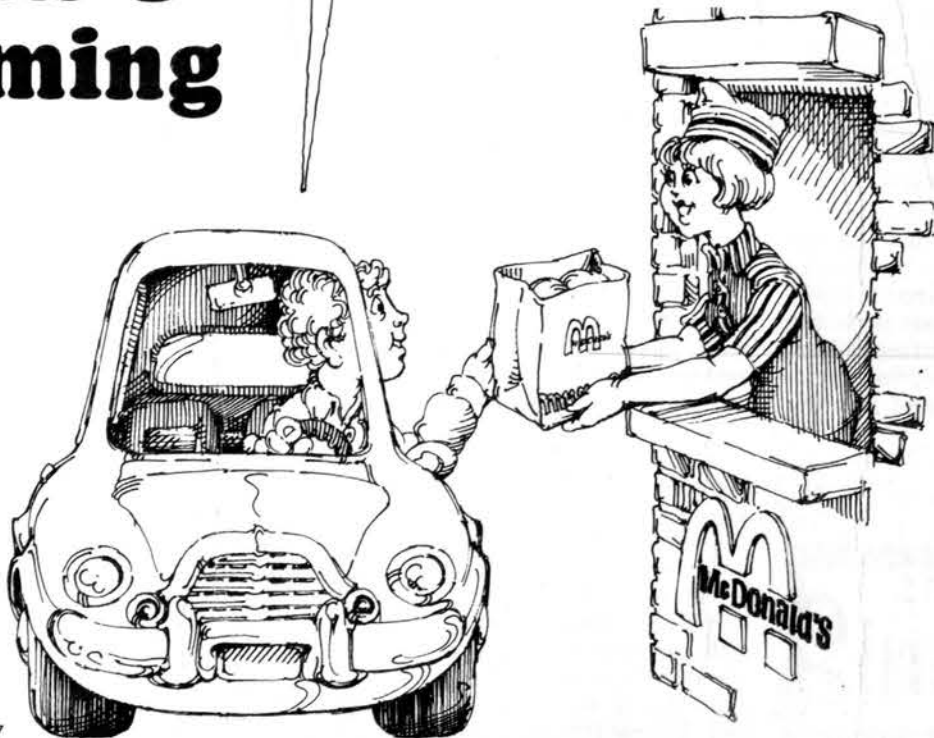
Platform tennis is popular in the northern states especially New York and the southern New England States, said Chris. There are six platform tennis courts in Omaha. The Brownell-Talbot court is the only aluminum court while the rest are all wooden.

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after the anthem

by Jim Zipursky

A football wife

"When football is your husband's life, you join him in it. It was a matter of either being involved with the football team, or being very lonely," said Merlyna Bailey. Mrs. Bailey is the wife of Gary Bailey, Central's head football coach.

Central's football team has become a family affair for the Baileys. "Mark, age 15, has been helping out at football games since he was five years old. Our youngest, Michael, is only five, but he has been helping for about three years," Mrs. Bailey commented. "I still remember when Gary brought Michael to his (Michael's) first practice session. There was Michael, running around Kellom Field with the team, his baby bottle in his hand."

Mrs. Bailey's love of football has evolved through the years. She is the only child of a Falls City family, and none of her relatives played football. "I was a high school cheerleader, but I didn't really understand the game until after I was married," she said. Mr. Bailey was coaching at Falls City High at the time of their meeting, and coached in Weeping Water before coming to Central.

Statistician to seamstress

Mrs. Bailey is more important to the team than most people realize. This season she took on the job as the team's statistician. "Bob Hekl took the statistics for two years, while Mark helped him. This year, Mark said he could handle the stats by himself. But, the coaches had come up with an incentive program for the players, and the totals for the incentive came from the statistics. So, I helped Mark out in the season opener. I decided then that if I was going to do it at all, I would do it by myself. So if there were any mistakes, they would be my own," she continued. In addition, Mrs. Bailey sews up any torn jerseys or pants. She said, "When we coached in the smaller towns, not only did I mend the team's uniforms, but I had to wash and dry them at home."

Enjoyment

Why would anyone want to devote so much time and energy? Mrs. Bailey has no trouble answering. "The kids are Gary's life; he works for the team 12 months a year. I am very close to the team; I know all of the players very well. I really enjoy the kids. Also, when you know the players so well, and your husband is so involved with the team, it is hard to watch the game from the stands."

"I know the players do not resent my presence. When I am around they are always overly polite, and I have never heard an unkind word about me. I can hardly think of one instance of foul language being used around me by the players. They like attention, and I like to give it to them," said Mrs. Bailey.

Five games a week

During the season, the Baileys usually see five football games a week. Thursday afternoon they try to make it either to the Central jayvee or sophomore game. It's off to scout a rival school's team on Thursday evening. Friday afternoon is reserved for junior high football, as son Mark competed for Horace Mann this year. Of course, Friday night is the big event. "Friday night is do or die around here," Mrs. Bailey said. "Saturday after a loss is a bad day." Saturday afternoon, the Baileys round out their week of football by taking in a local college game in which former Bailey team members are playing.

Every year, at the end of the season, Mrs. Bailey gives the football team a dinner. This year's dinner had to be postponed when the proposed date coincided with the dinner given to fall sport participants by the cheerleaders and Eaglettes. "We're still going to have the dinner, but I don't know the date yet," added Mrs. Bailey.

Involvement helps son

"The involvement with the team has really helped my relationship with Mark. He sees the way the players act around me, and this helps him. A lot of kids his age don't want to be seen with their parents, but he doesn't seem to mind," she said. "Finally, I think that all the other coaches' wives are as actively involved with the team as I am. I have held other jobs, but I found that they cut into my football time, and I couldn't be as involved with the team as I would like to be, and I really missed it."

While Mrs. Bailey started this project to help herself, any football player will testify that they are the ones getting the help.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

From

The Register Staff

Slam dunking pleases crowds; Martin feels dunk shot unnecessary

Former Marquette University coach Al McGuire calls it "devastating." Gene Shue, former Philadelphia Seventy-Sixer coach, calls it "a game breaker." Denny Crum, University of Louisville coach, calls it "a crowd pleaser." Jim Martin, Central's boys' varsity basketball coach says, "Most of the time, it has a negative effect." The "it" all of these men are talking about is one of the most controversial shots in basketball, the Slam-dunk.

New Rule

Until last season, the dunk was illegal on both the high school and college levels. The dunk was outlawed in 1967, which, coincidentally, was Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's sophomore year at U.C.L.A. The rule was obviously aimed at the 7'2" Jabbar, who had devastated opponents all year with his dunking ability.

Mikan to Erving

George Mikan and Wilt Chamberlain, basketball's first BIG men, are said to have invented the dunk. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is said to have revolutionized the dunk. Julius Erving (Dr. J.) is said to have brought the dunk to its present glory.



photo by Alan Potash

Michael Johnson shows his dunking technique.

Mr. Martin feels that most high school fans don't really understand the dunk. "Fans see a player dunk the ball, and they think, 'Wow, he is really good'. What they don't realize is that the player was probably out of position before the shot, or wasn't playing defense," he said.

No defense

"I don't think there is anyone of high school age who is talented enough to dunk one over another player, so the kid will have to be all alone to get his dunk. To be all alone, he will probably leave his defensive assignment to get down court in a hurry," commented the coach.

Another negative aspect of the dunk is the danger involved. While practicing for the Notre Dame game last year, the University of Nevada-Las Vegas eagles broke two backboards, 400 dollars each, and bent one rim. Central had one backboard broken in a pre-season practice. Also, while attempting a dunk, the player risks cutting head and hands.

"I really am glad to see the dunk back in basketball," Mr. Martin said, "but I also believe it has too many negative effects to merit working on it in practice. Then again, if I had a 6'10" kid on my team, I might feel differently."

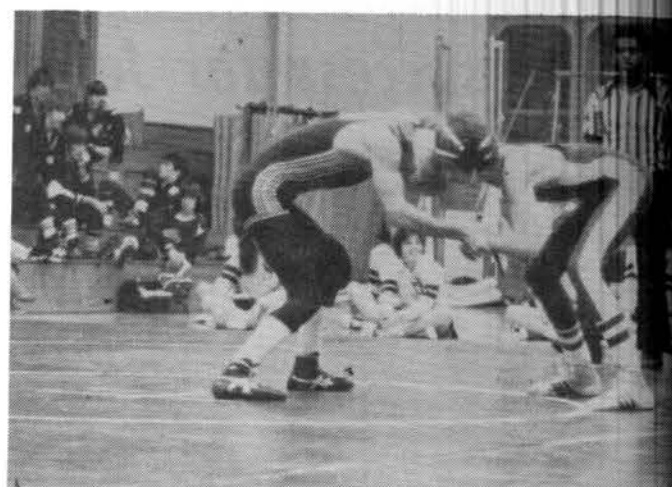


photo by Alan Potash

Eagle grappler at work against Papio.

Grapplers need support

Wrestling to the average spectator may be a boring experience. It's not a glamorous sport like basketball and grapplers are seldom seen in rent-a-car commercials. But even still, there is a lot more to wrestling than meets the eye.

Takes skill

"People don't know what it's (wrestling) all about. To like it you have to understand what's going on. It takes a lot more skill than people realize," said junior Eagle wrestler Mark Rigatuso.

Like his young pupil, Central coach Jim Kimsey agrees that wrestling is not as shallow as it appears.

"Wrestling is a science, like boxing, there is art involved. It's more than just a lot of muscling and strong-arming," commented Kimsey.

Oldest known sport

According to authorities the history of "the oldest sport known to man" dates as far back as 3000 B.C.

Without exception all ancient civilizations engaged in wrestling and today it's a universal sport that people take part in around the world. "It's spontaneous and natural," said Kimsey.

Despite being complex and mostly mental, not just anybody can be a wrestler. You have to be tough, mentally and physically. Each year wrestlers around the world sacrifice their time, many meals, and suffer much pain.

To be a good wrestler long hours of hard work are needed to sharpen the skills and prolong endurance.

Losing weight

One of the toughest phases of wrestling is cutting weight.

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Boy's Golf

Central's boys' golf team placed third in their district meet to qualify for the state tournament. The Eagles beat fourth place finisher Bellevue West by two strokes in a tight battle. Ambrose Jackson and Grady Hansen were the team leaders with scores of 82 and 83 respectively.

Central traveled to Hastings for the state meet, held at the Lochland Country Club. The golfers, fifth place after completing nine holes, faded on the back nine to finish in tenth place.

Hansen led the team with an 83, while Jackson shot an 86. Gary Kudym, 87, and Ron Kiger, 88, were the two members of the team that represented Central at the meet.

For the season, Hansen ended up with three tenth place medals, while Jackson ended up with one seventh medal. Coach Warren Marquiss is optimistic about the team's chances next year, as three lettermen return.

Girl's Golf

"Last year, we finished last among the Omaha Public

Schools competing in the state competition. This year we finished second, which is quite an improvement," said girls' golf coach Joann Dusatko.

Mrs. Dusatko's team finished seventh in the Metro tournament, and 17th in the state competition. Missy Slavik was the Eagles' top performer in State. Miss Slavik finished the tournament with a score of 109.

The coach added that, "I am really proud of my girls. They really stuck with it and performed well all season long. I was really very impressed with their performance in State."

Boy's Swimming

"The swim team this year has more depth than last year's team, plus we've added a good group of sophomores," commented Brian Watson, boys' swim team coach.

Two of the sophomores Mr. Watson expects to do well are Karl Khort and Dennis Belieu. According to Mr. Watson, Karl and Dennis qualify to do any of the four strokes well.

Lettermen this year include seniors Dave Foster, Mike Gaines, and Captain Jerry Beerman with juniors Bob Schuerman, Alan Jensen, and Bruce Boers.

Commenting on the team's prospects Captain Jerry Beerman said, "We have a lot of power, depth, and sophomore spirit. We should be able to do well this year."

Paul Duin, sophomore, is Central's only diver this year.

"Duin has a lot of potential, and he's improving everyday," said Beerman.

The team's first home meet was held December 9, against Gross and Papio.

"It would be encouraging to see more support at the meets. The added support could result in a more successful season," Beerman added.

Girl's Swimming

The girls' swim team finished with a 6-8 record in dual meets, the team's first losing season under coach Dirk McNeely.

The coach said, "I think that if we had had more girls out for the team, we might have had a better record. I

will put part of the blame on myself because I don't think that I motivated the girls as well as I should have.

"It should be noted that we lose one of the finest female swimmers this school has seen, Ann Rigatuso. She has three individual school records, and anchored the two record holding relay teams," Mr. McNeely said. Gayle Spencer, a member of the record holding 400 yard free-style relay team, also graduates this year. Kit Barrett also set a school record this year in the 100 yard butterfly.

Girl's Gymnastics

"We will definitely be competitive this year," said John Kocourek. Mr. Kocourek is the girls' gymnastics coach.

This year's team is led by sophomores Shelly Jansa, Debbie Meiches, Gah Huey, and Barb Houlton. Junior Suzy Mains and seniors Cindy Coldwell and Peggy Coonce return from last year's squad. Coldwell and Coonce are the team's co-captains.

Mr. Kocourek commented

that, "Meiches broke her ankle and won't be able to compete for awhile. We're still practicing, and I think we'll do alright."

Boy's Gymnastics

"Although our overall record was 6-8, we lost one meet by one tenth of a point, and two of the teams we lost to we beat later on in the year in the Metro meet," said John Kocourek, gymnastics coach.

Mr. Kocourek commented, "I was quite pleased with the team's performance in the district meet. Not only did we win eight medals, but we scored a season's high 126 points in that meet."

Dan Pankow won five medals in the district meet. He finished fourth in both the all-around competition and parallel bars, and fifth on the side horse, rings, and horizontal bar. Terry Gargano won two medals with a second place finish on the rings and a fourth place on the horizontal bar. Mike Greenberg received the Eagle's eighth medal with a fifth place showing in the all-around competition.

Varsity Eagles undefeated in first four games

With wins over Lincoln East and Bellevue East, Central has increased its record to four wins and no losses. The Eagles defeated the Spartans of Lincoln East, 73-56, and Bellevue, 72-62. The Lincoln East game wasn't as close as many believed it would be.

Johnson scores 33

Michael Johnson scored 33 points, 16 in the first half, against the Spartans. Dave Felici and Daryl Davis also scored in double figures with ten points apiece. Grady Hansen grabbed 13 rebounds, while Felici and Johnson led the defense.

Johnson was Central's leading

scorer in the victory over Bellevue with 21 points. Ten of the eleven varsity team members scored in this game. Although the Eagles only won by ten, the game was never really close.

The Eagles started the season with victories over Bryan and Tech. Tech was the pre-season favorite to capture the American Division title of the Metro Conference.

Bone sparks team

Brad Bone, Hansen, and Johnson combined for 46 points to lead Central's offensive attack. Bone proved to be the difference as he scored six points in the second quarter to put the Eagles in the lead for good. Dave

Channal led the Trojans with 22 points and two slam-dunks.

Athlete of the Week

Johnson, who was voted KMTV's Prep Athlete of the Week, is averaging 24.5 points per game. Felici is averaging 10.5 points a game while quarterbacking the team. As a team, Central is averaging 77 points a game, while giving up 60.

Central's next game is with Benson High on December 16, at Benson. The Bunnies defeated Central in the state tournament last season. The jayvee game is at 6:15, while the varsity play at 8:15. Show your support, come see the team in action against Benson.

Girls begin new basketball season

The 47-29 victory Central female cagers recorded over North may be their last easy game for a few weeks.

After losing to top-ranked Marian 44-29 last Thursday, the Eagles will meet second ranked Millard. Then following a bout with Bellevue West, and six days later, Central will go into the Metropolitan Girls' Holiday Tournament seeded fifth behind the pair above, number three Burke, and fourth-rated Northwest.

Central was last year's tournament runner-up to Burke who beat them in the finals 42-38.

Marian too tall

Marian used an effective floorplan to whip the smaller Central girls. The dominating height of the Crusaders was

quite a factor as they went ahead 11-1 early in the first quarter and were never threatened. Despite the opponents intimidating size, the Eagles were also plagued by their own poor passing and low percentage shooting until late in the fourth period. T. J. Thompson led all scorers with 12 points.

In the North contest it was a different story as Central totally dominated the taller Vikings. High scorers for that game were Valarie Walker 12, Jackie Harrington 14, and Carolyn Ewer 10, while Miss Thompson pulled down 15 rebounds.

Three year starters

Central returns 9 lettermen from last season's 15-7 team, including a couple of experi-

enced floor leaders at the guard spot where Miss Walker and Miss Harrington have been fixtures. Both girls have been three year starters for the varsity.

Last chance


After a 0-5 start last year, the girls came on to win a playoff spot in the state tournament. They made it to the semifinals by beating Marian 47-44, only to go down at the hands of Burke 49-37.

"Most of the girls are seniors and they know this is their last chance to take state, that is our goal," said Semrad. "This season there won't be a team in the Metro that goes undefeated, but we hope to finish at the top of the conference," he added.

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Andersen visits Central

Harold Andersen, president of the "World-Herald," visited the journalism class, Tuesday, November 29th. During his opening remarks, Mr. Andersen reminisced about his high school days, as a journalist on the North High Star, the student newspaper.

He then began the official conference by reading from a card on the subject of the "printed word." He heartily supported the statement proclaiming the "daily newspapers as the textbooks of democracy." He also quoted newscaster David Brinkley's comment on the disadvantage of television: "We cannot cover most of the news that appears daily in a newspaper."

Interest In Newswriting

His duty as president, Mr. Andersen said, is responsibility for the entire paper. He enlarged his answer by adding that he had the final decision on editorials and sometimes exercised his right to prevent their printing. Mr. Andersen also said he spent a great deal of time helping the news department, his initial interest in newswriting.

Mr. Andersen said the "World-Herald" influences its readers by the quality of news it produces. The goal of the "Herald," stressed Mr. Andersen, is "to give enough news to allow people to make decisions."

The "World-Herald" maintains a moderately-conservative to middle-of-the-road policy, said Mr. Andersen; Easterners often "tend to have a more liberal view toward pub-

lic affairs.

Mr. Andersen remarked because Omaha has only one newspaper it must work at activity and printed liberal as well as conservative viewpoints to advantage the "World-Herald" has as a single newspaper that it does not "have to be daily for headlines," said Andersen. "However it is a lot of work harder to produce a variety of views."

Balances Stories

Mr. Andersen insisted the newspaper "doesn't display stories if they are not accord with the newspaper policy. We try for an equal headline size and story space in contrasting viewpoints in attempt to balance pro and sides of a story."

Mr. Andersen, besides being President of the "World-Herald," the 45th largest newspaper in the nation, helped on a committee to set up the press guidelines. The guidelines include withholding information on an accused person when a trial is pending. Especially harmful in swaying a jury decision is printing a previously earned criminal record or statement of confession, Mr. Andersen. Each reporter has these press guidelines and is expected to follow them. However, said Mr. Andersen, "Sometimes there are discrepancies involved in fair trial and free press."

Omahans are interested in two main things said Mr. Andersen: Gory details on accidents and murders and Big game news.



photo by Howard Marcus

Bill McAndrews operates new audio board.

KDCO broadcasts over carrier wave

The new KDCO radio station at Central will be broadcasting over carrier wave in late December or early January.

This is the first real move into broadcasting for KDCO since the move of FM station KIOS to Tech High. KDCO had been broadcasting into the courtyard before the doors were locked for winter.

New equipment

Broadcasting over carrier current would enable Central students to pick up the broadcasts over their own radios at 540 on the AM radio dial. Broadcasts may be "aired" over the school intercom in the lunch rooms and halls, but no administrative decision has been made.

KDCO and Central television station KMTW have received an

estimated \$30,000 worth of audio/visual equipment on lease from local ABC affiliate KETV for one dollar. In 1983 Central will buy the equipment for another dollar. KETV is "storing" the equipment on lease to maintain a tax break until 1983 when the material will be worthless as a tax shelter. Radio and TV instructor Tom Marsicek says "I'm guessing it's all worth about \$30,000. I could be wrong."

KETV of the Pulitzer Broadcasting Company gave the equipment to Central because the station has gone to all-color broadcasting.

New materials include three black and white television cameras, six black and white TV monitors, an audio control board, five 16 mm projectors,

a 16 mm Eastman Film Island, a multiplexer, two small TV cameras for the multiplexer, a Tel-op opaque projector, a turntable, two weather boards, and various film racks.

Closed Circuit Broadcasts

The TV equipment would be used for closed circuit broadcasts such as "Central Highlights" and "Perspectives." The audio control board is being wired for carrier current operation for KDCO, Mr. Marsicek said. "As soon as the carrier current is installed, we go."

Interest in radio started last year as a 15 student class. Some classes have now grown to over 20 students.

With Radio being implemented as a class last year, Central can now offer its students a TV and Radio class.

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