

central high

register

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graphic by Patrick Whalen

inside:

ROAD SHOW, Central's annual music and variety show, will begin in just over one week. Performances will be February 15-18. This year's theme is Reflections. See page 5.

TWO SENIORS, Dave Cuter and Dawn Stover, win honors in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search, a national contest which requires students to submit scientific projects. See page 3.

ILLITERATE STUDENTS do graduate from Omaha Public Schools. But OPS is working to reduce illiteracy. See page 4.

RANDY NEWMAN, in a personal interview, discusses his song "Short People." See page 5.

SHORT PEOPLE have a place in sports. See Jim Zipursky's column on page 6.

PAUL HOFFMANN, Central graduate, is now student body president at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. See Kiki Seitzer's column on page 4.

Equivalency testing becomes easier

Forget homework, grades, graduation requirements, study halls, or anything else associated with a traditional high school education?

Why?

The State Board of Education has simplified the requirements for taking the high school equivalency test.

A passing grade on a series of tests allows students to receive a General Educational Development (GED) diploma—a high school equivalency diploma.

Certain uses for the GED diploma are uncontested: for example, a dropout who wants to get a diploma or a student who needs to support a family, possibly because of the death of a father or mother. But here the agreement ends.

"A lot of students are looking for an excuse to get out of school. The GED is a gold mine for these students," said State Board of Education member Bernard Costello, an opponent of the new requirements.

But James Monahan, another State Board of Education member, believes that attending high school is not the only way to get a diploma. "It's a change in attitude," he said.

State approval

The State Department of Education grants approval to take the test, examining each case individually. The new procedures require an applicant to submit parental approval; a properly completed application, including reasons for taking the test; and a high school transcript.

The student must also have dropped out of school for 60 days. The State Department of Education does have the power to change the procedures in special cases.

By most standards the test is not easy. John Peace, principal of the Omaha Public Schools Adult High School, estimates that about one third of the graduating seniors would fail the test, which covers grammar and punctuation,

social studies, literature, and math—including elementary algebra and geometry.

"As time goes on there will be a flood of students taking the GED. I think we are in a lot of trouble. It's going to catch on like wild fire," said Mr. Costello.

Mr. Peace disagreed. "The law is a limited modification. It will not affect the schools greatly," he said. "I am sure some people will take the exam who in all probability should remain in school. It's a marginal number though." Mr. Peace administers the GED tests for OPS.

He added, "If a person can stay in school, he is making a general mistake if he takes the GED."

No major increase

Mr. Monahan also does not expect a major increase in the number of students taking the test.

"If half the class of Central High School was to take the test, then you have to question whether the schools are doing their job or whether the test is difficult enough," he said.

The new requirements simply make the application process smoother for those who need to take the test, he said.

Mr. Peace said, "The person has clearly quit school. When all else has failed, what do we do? Say, 'Get lost kid,' or give the kid some kind of opportunity to be a productive, tax paying citizen."

Mr. Costello's strongest objection to the new procedures is the requirement of parental permission. Under the old procedures, a principal or another local administrator had to grant a student permission to take the GED.

"The parent is in a terrible position. The average parent does not know a kid's ability scholastically," said Mr. Costello. "Parents could be blackmailed. Kids will say, 'If you don't let me take the test, I'll join the service or get married.' The parent might panic and let the child do what he wants."

Film seizure causes strife

A recent incident involving a Burke High School journalist is producing conflicting accounts, the student maintaining one story, the police chief maintaining another.

Bill Norton, the student involved, gives the following account.

Following a Burke-Benson basketball game where he had taken pictures, Bill stopped at a Burger King on 1125 West Dodge Road. About five or six students began causing trouble. The security guard then began pushing students out of the restaurant.

Bill photographed the disturbance. Meanwhile, the police arrived. While he was walking out to the parking lot, a police officer stopped him and demanded that he release his film or be arrested. Bill exposed the film and gave it to the Burger King manager.

Police Chief Richard Andersen ordered an internal investigation into the incident the following Wednesday (Jan. 18). Chief Andersen said the results of the investigation indicated that the police officer did nothing wrong, since the photographer "voluntarily" relinquished the film.

The Burger King manager refused to discuss the incident.

As part of the internal investigation, Bill told his story to a police investigator, who taped his account.

"The investigator told me that the officer was probably wrong and would be reprimanded," Bill said.

Chief Anderson, when asked about the details of the investigation said, "Internal investigations are not a matter of public record."

Two students, both witnesses, corroborate Bill's story. One is Paul Huels-

kamp. The other wishes to remain anonymous.

Bill and the two students expressed surprise at the result of the internal investigation, which the World Herald reported on February 1. All three said they were certain about the threat of arrest.

Larry Novicki, World Herald city editor, feels that the police officer overstepped his bounds. "Even if he (the officer) would have just demanded the film (of a W. H. reporter), we would have reported it in the paper and have done a follow-up."

If the reporter refused to relinquish the film and was arrested, "generally,

See editorial on page two

the film would have been retained and given back," said City Prosecutor Gary Buchino.

Mr. Novicki also doubted that a similar incident would happen to a World Herald reporter. "Any younger person is in a position where people in authority might be more harsh than with an older person," he said. "One policeman might have taken more drastic action than another."

World Herald reporter Bob Dorr said that the correct response would have been to not relinquish the film.

"The film has been relinquished. An error in judgment was made in relinquishing the film," he said. If an officer would have arrested a World Herald reporter for a similar case, the policeman would have gotten "nowhere" with an arrest, Mr. Dorr added.



photo by Alan Potash

Heidi Thaldorf (above) wins three gold keys in the annual Regional Scholastic Art Awards, sponsored by J. L. Brandeis. Others winning gold keys are Lindsey Mckee, Cheri Fish, Judy Bouma, Vicki Riley, and Jon Dirks. See story on page 3.

Film 'seizure' violates student's rights

The recent incident involving a Burke High School journalist infringes upon the rights of students and the freedom of the press.

editorial

According to three independent accounts, a photographer took pictures of a fracas at a Burger King following a basketball game. Police were called to the scene because of trouble, and an officer allegedly demanded the photographer to relinquish his camera film or be arrested. The photographer exposed the film and handed it to the Burger King manager.

The impropriety of the police threat should be uncontested.

According to **The Rights of Reporters**, an American Civil Liberties Union handbook, a journalist, whether professional or not, may photograph anything in a public place as long as it is not "highly embarrassing." The restaurant is "clearly a public place," said Bob Dorr, a World Herald reporter.

City Prosecutor Gary Buchino also knew of no law that would allow an officer to demand the film.

The recent incident involving a Burke High School journalist infringes upon the rights of students and the freedom of the press.

The police officer also took advantage of the student's inexperience in dealing with the law. An experienced reporter would not have relinquished the film, said Bob Dorr. But how can a person, reporter or not, know his or her rights without

experience and learning? All reporters, whether on the staff of a large daily newspaper or a biweekly student newspaper, have rights to protect them from unfair and unjust violations of civil liberties. Once violated, the First Amendment, the right of free expression, is in danger.

According to the World Herald news story, the police were called to the scene because of trouble. The police officer should have been more concerned with stopping the disturbance than with threatening bystanders.

Several questions about Police Chief Anderson's account of the incident vex us. Why would the student voluntarily release the film? How can two accounts of one incident be so different?

If we, as students, do not watch out for our own rights, how can we trust anyone else to?

We know what the student told the police investigator. But we are curious about the accounts of the officers and the Burger King manager. Unfortunately, we have no way to evaluate these accounts since Chief Anderson refuses to reveal details of the investigation. We know the chief's conclusion but not the evidence on which he based it.

It is simply too easy to dismiss the incident as a clash of statements.

The film seizure shows that young peoples' rights can be easily violated and abused. Such infringements demand attention. If we, as students, do not watch out for our own rights, how can we trust anyone else to?

Students aided in spreading pop cans

The Central faculty has made a monumental discovery this school year. A disgusting creature tests both students' morals and teachers' patience. This filthy monster, a prime object of the faculty's concern, is the pop can.

editorial

The pop can is a student's joy when full with its carbonated liquids, a custodian's nightmare when empty—or so the students are told. According to faculty sources, the pop can plague is at epidemic proportions, and the student is to blame.

The pop can is a curious creature. Its ill-effects endanger the safety of admiring students, yet faculty members are immune to the pop can's degrading presence. Office personnel have been seen removing pop cans from the area that the administration has dictated would be the only place pop cans would be allowed. We wonder if staff members have heard of setting examples.

We wonder if the staff members have heard of setting examples.

Oh yes, the pop can's habitat. The two, ultra-modern self-sufficient pop machines provide pop cans with ice-cold living con-

ditions. Located in their drab environment in the basement on two sides, the pop machines sit menacingly awaiting unrestrainable students. These students, once they get their pop cans open, are required to empty them in the same tiny, enclosed pit. The faculty requests students not to sit on stairways, yet dirty steps are the only provided seats. Certainly students are not expected to sit on the floor. No wonder the pop cans spread throughout the building—who would want to lounge on stairwells?

There is no student lounge, but a more comfortable atmosphere should be provided until a lounge is acquired.

The pop cans and their machines should stay because of the money they take in and the enjoyment they provide for students (and staff). Granted there is no student lounge, but a more comfortable atmosphere should be provided until a lounge is acquired. At the very least, trash cans should be placed in the auditorium area or sections of the basement adjacent to the pop machines. Then maybe the custodians wouldn't have to go through the toiling, back-breaking strain of picking up stray pop cans.

The pop machines are there for everybody. So are the rules concerning them. Let's see the staff as well as the students begin abiding by them. The pop can doesn't have to be such a nasty creature.

Neglecting whose rights?



'Market' means variety

by
Chuck Reed

Business at Eleventh and Howard Street is booming again.

The clatter of last generation's vehicles hauling edibles to and from Omaha's old produce district is an extinct sound. But Eleventh and Howard is alive today with the collection of quaint establishments known as the Old Market.

for saturday night

The old warehouse district was recycled by Omahans concerned about downtown Omaha's future. The shops are American, the products are worldwide in origin, and the layout and appearance resemble street-shops in Paris, France.

But it's the numerous, unique restaurants scattered throughout the Old Market that most influence the Paris-styled mood. Italian, French, Mexican, and good old American foods are available to the hungry Old Market visitors.

Trini's

Located in the new "alley-way" just west of Satan's, Trini's offers Mexican food in a pleasant atmosphere. As for the food...

Maybe if you love Mexican food Trini's is for you. But just make sure you have mucho pesos with you. The menu covers every possible Mexican dish at every possible American price.

The eats are so-so, maybe because of the rather expensive numbers next to the items. Trini's is all right, but Taco John's makes a better meal.

Satan's

Where the devil is Satan's? One of the original Old Market establishments, Satan's is

a rather plain - but taste-worthy - pizza eatery. The menu lists sixteen-inch pizza at \$6.00, with single slices (large) for under a dollar. Sandwiches and several orders are available.

Satan's is comparable to Omaha pizzareas in dining arrangements, but Satan's is the size to handle a good number of people. Even on weeknights Satan's is not pressed for business.

Worthwhile, if you happen to be nearby.

And Also...

The French Cafe is a well-known Omaha restaurant. French Cafe's prices are secret either. Without a real inheritance, the average diner might be smart to go somewhere to be formal.

Desserts are big with the press-O, the renovated rail car directly in front of the Spaghetti Works. Mr. Toad's Cream Parlor, located on southwest corner of Tenth and Howard Street, is a fine shop as well. A new candy store across the way features ta-

The Spaghetti Works

Perhaps the best of the Market's eating establishments, the Spaghetti Works, offers excellent service, excellent food, and an excellent atmosphere.

The majority of the spaghetti dinners cost \$3.25, salad and garlic bread included. Sauces include a wide variety of tastes—mushroom, spicy Italian, red and white clams, and so on to name a few.

The Spaghetti Works may take reservations, but the in-line is rarely long—if it is a line at all. Service is fast and friendly.

Placed in the setting of a hotel, the Spaghetti Works is many an Omaha eatery in a class of its own.

Do your appetite and bring a favor and check into the Market's Spaghetti Works.

So, whether you're in the market for good food or just items, the Old Market is the place to go.

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Cutler, Stover receive national science honors

How does Molindone Hydrochloride affect the heart rate of Daphnia? Or how does exercise affect the aura produced by a person's finger? Ask David Cutler and Dawn Stover, Central seniors and two of the 300 students winning honors in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

David and Dawn both entered in the national science project earlier this year but neither expected to receive an honor in the competition. "I really didn't expect to receive this because we completed our projects early in December and that seems like such a long time ago. I would have felt disappointed if I didn't win anything though," said David.

David experiments with Daphnia

David experimented with a microscopic animal, the Daphnia, attempting to measure the effect of a tranquilizer on the Daphnia's heart rate. Each Daphnia was put in a solution of Molindone Hydrochloride to adapt for five minutes. Using a microscope, David then recorded the heart rate for five minutes.

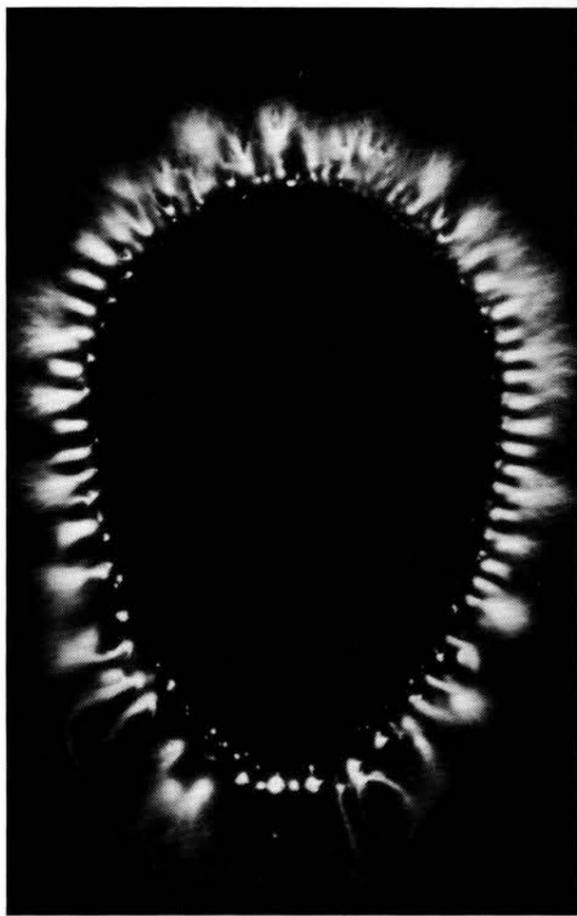
"My experiment was a modified one I found in a project book and Mr. Thompson (science department head) suggested that I use Daphnia instead of frogs, which were used in the book," David said.

"I know that my experiment wasn't the most important one, and I don't think it will lead mankind to anything, but it was fun and I enjoyed working on it with others that did experiments too," said David.

Dawn used kirlian photography

Dawn experimented with a relatively new form of photography, kirlian photography, the photographing of the measurable aura produced by a person's fingertips. Measuring the auras of a dozen students after light and moderate exercise and during rest, she found different effects. "In my research of it (kirlian photography) the answers I came up with are the opposite of what was reported in the books, and that is that the auras should increase after exercise, but mine decreased," said Dawn.

Nationally, two other students received an honor



Dawn Stover, Central senior, won honors in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search with her experiment measuring the effect of exercise on the aura produced by a person's fingertip. The above photo is a nexample of kirlian photography, used to photograph measurable auras.

for kirlian photography research this year. Dawn credits the original idea to Mr. Thompson but says that she did use a few of her own ideas too.

"I started out to use Biorhythms and their possible connection with auras, but I started to run out of time, and to obtain any decent information, it would have taken quite a while," Dawn said.

Further recognition possible

Many winners will receive further recognition in Science Talent Searches conducted in most states as a part of the national search.

On February 1, 40 members of the honors group were announced as the top winners of the 37th Science Talent Search. The winners will be invited to Washington, D.C., for the five-day Science Talent Institute, to be held March 2-6, where they will compete for \$67,500 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships and Awards.

Gary Thompson, Science department head, said that he was "pretty certain" Central would receive an honors standing in the contest. "It's hard to say whether or not the originality of the projects had anything to do with the outcome, because the people that make the decisions also consider the student's class rank and grade point average in determining who wins," he said.

Experiments required extra time

Mr. Thompson also stated that all the students who participated had to come in early in the morning and on weekends to finish much of the work. "One of the parts that took the longest, was the writing of the papers; on David's paper alone, I think we wrote it nearly 6 times before it was right," added Mr. Thompson.

This is the second year in a row that two seniors from Central have been honored in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search program. Last year's two, JoAnn Olson and Debbie Lemke, both received scholarships from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, possibly in response to their success.

of central importance

Artists receive keys

Six Central art students were awarded gold keys Saturday in the annual Regional Scholastic Art awards, sponsored by J. L. Brandeis.

Heidi Thaldorf won three gold keys for three watercolor paintings she entered in the contest. Judy Bouma won two awards for her two pencil drawings. Lindsey McKee, Cheri Fish, Vicki Riley, and Jon Dirks also won keys for their artwork.

The various entries will be displayed in the tenth floor auditorium at Brandeis downtown through February 16. The display will move to Brandeis in Lincoln February 19-25.

According to Mike Mathias, Central art teacher, Central attained the second highest number of gold keys in the state. Northwest High School was first with ten.

Change affects CHS

A complete overhaul of Joslyn Art Museum's grounds is the primary concern of the museum's future plans.

According to Frederick Schmid, director of Joslyn, drawing board plans call for a revision of Joslyn's northern property.

"The plans are still in the development stage," said Mr. Schmid. No final decisions will be reached until sometime in the spring."

Mr. Schmid explained that there are four goals for whatever set of plans are chosen. A sculpture garden, an improved bus "drop-off" location for visiting students, altered entrances for easier access for the handicapped, and improved parking facilities will be mandatory items for the future.

Being Central's neighbor,

Joslyn's future plans could very well have an affect on the school's search for new space. Central and Joslyn may have to compromise for land, according to Mr. Schmid.

"There is definitely a land problem," commented Mr. Schmid. "Depending on the final plans, there may or may not be a problem with space between Joslyn and Central. It all depends on the plans."

Team talks up wins

Central's speech and debate team was very successful on its last two outings.

At the Marian Bellarmine Speech and Debate Tournament, held January 20-21 at Marian High School, Central placed in four events.

In championship debate the team of Barry Epstein and Pat Gibson advanced through semi-finals to the final round, taking second place. In varsity debate the team of Jim Fishkin and Mike Lustgarten went undefeated in preliminary rounds and advanced to semi-finals, ending up with third place.

In extemporaneous speaking Pat placed third. In dramatic interpretation Greg Combs advanced to the final round.

On January 27-28, the speech and debate team attended the Creighton Prep Classic. Three to four hundred students attended from Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

In varsity debate Central closed out finals. The team of Jim Fishkin and Tim Martin, undefeated through preliminary rounds, advanced through quarter finals and semi-finals. Another Central team, Dan Brodkey and Mike Lustgarten, advanced

through quarter finals and semi-finals. Instead of debating the final round, Central took both first and second place trophies.

In championship debate the senior team of Barry Epstein and Pat Gibson was the only team from Nebraska to make quarter finals. They lost the quarter finals to a Des Moines Hoover High School team on a split decision.

In extemporaneous speaking Pat was the only speaker from Nebraska to reach finals.

The next tournament will be at Bryan High School February 10-11.

Excuses are phony

"Please excuse Billy at 12:30 today because he has to help at home."

According to the attendance office approximately 40 students sign out at school during the day. Velma Magness, Central office clerk, estimates that up to half of the excuses are phony.

"If a student signs out habitually, we begin to question," said Al LaGreca, assistant principal. "We check before we would refuse a note. After all, we're not running a prison."

The sign-out policy, said Mr. LaGreca, is a liberty; abuse will result in stricter enforcement.

"It's nothing horrible if a student misses a study hall," he continued. "When he misses classes we become more concerned." However, the 12-day absence policy applies in extreme cases.

"Absence from class is the student's loss," Mr. LaGreca stated. However, if the problem worsens, Central will be forced to diminish its privileges.

Gibson becomes finalist

Pat Gibson, Central senior, will travel to Williamsburg, Virginia, on February 24, to compete for a \$10,000 scholarship. As a finalist in the "Century Three Leaders" scholarship program, she has already obtained a \$1,000 scholarship.

Upon entering the contest, Pat wrote a position paper on the rising medical costs that face the United States. In the two-page paper, she explained the problem, proposed community action, and explained how she would personally solve the problem.

Contestants travel

After being selected from each high school, the contestants traveled to Lincoln for personal interviews to determine the two finalists from Nebraska. Pat and Michael Lux from Lincoln Northeast High School are

Nebraska's representatives.

A Central student has been included in the state finalists for "Century Three" each of the two years it has been in existence. Ken Allen represented Central last year.

Victory a surprise

"I really thought they would try to stay away from giving it to the same school every year," Pat said. "So I didn't think my chances of winning were very good—especially since I was Kenny's debate partner last year."

"It's really quite an honor to be in this," Pat said. "And I've gotten quite a few letters as a result of this scholarship. Things like this really help to make me a more attractive candidate since it's such a good reference on a college application."

Flu nauseates city

A Texas 77 and A Victoria 75 are not cars. They are influenzas recently found in the Omaha area.

According to John Wiley, Douglas County Health Department's epidemiologists, the predominate type, A Texas 77, causes fever, headaches, and a dry raspy cough.

According to Jackie Mock, of the Central Attendance Office, Central absences have not greatly increased over the last three months.

"Lately there have been more flu like symptoms, headaches, temperatures, and stomach aches, among students," said Geri Thomas, Central's nurse. Mrs. Thomas added that there has not been an increase of sick students at Central.

According to Mrs. Thomas, a small percentage of Central students have been affected by influenza.

Mr. Wiley commented that in the Omaha area the number of

reported flu cases has increased over last year.

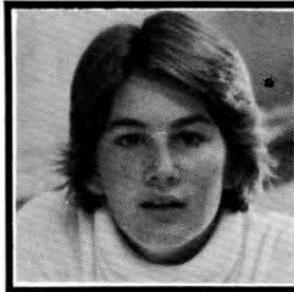
Mr. Wiley defines an epidemic as "above a normal occurrence of a disease."

No deaths have been reported this year in the Omaha area due to influenza. Clinically it is hard to determine influenza deaths because they are more commonly labeled as pneumonia deaths, said Mr. Wiley.

The latest influenza discovered, the Russian flu, has not reached Omaha, said Mr. Wiley. "The only isolations were reported in Cheyenne, Wyoming."

Mr. Wiley added that information from Russia indicates people under 25 are more likely to get the Russian flu."

"The Russian influenza is not a particularly dangerous disease. The flu types Omaha is experiencing, A Texas 77 and A Victoria 75, seem stronger than the Russian flu," said Mr. Wiley.



inseitz

by Kiki Seitzer

Hoffmann attains presidency

Some felt that with his intelligence, personality, speaking ability, and knowledge of government, he had a chance to become president someday. And he did. Paul Hoffman, Central graduate and a junior at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, is the President of the student body. Also, as a member of the Board of Regents, he has all the privileges of a Regent except he can't vote.

Arnold Weintraub, Central speech teacher, coached Paul in his senior year at Central, when Paul won State in both debate (with partner Ken Allen) and extemporaneous speaking. Paul was also Senior Speaker at graduation.

"Paul was a very persuasive speaker. He participated in many speech events—extemporaneous, impromptu, and oratory plus debate. He won in all four. It is unusual that someone does them all," said Dr. Weintraub.

Fond memories

Paul has many fond memories of Central. His speech experience helped him get the student body presidency. "Debate and speech at Central helped me with public speaking, and I use it extensively now. Debate and speech reduced the inhibitions that go along with my job," said Paul.

However, Paul didn't become interested in student government until two years ago, with the impeachment of the UNO student president. "I was just interested in debate and my classes at UNO then. I didn't even know we had a student government," said Paul.

John Malone asked Paul to help him impeach Steve Shovers. Paul accepted the job since it related to his future profession—law. Steve was impeached. John ran for president and won.

Accomplish goal

"John asked me to be his executive treasurer and this related to my major—banking and finance. Since then I've been totally engrossed with student government," said Paul. Paul accomplished his goal in debate at UNO—to go to the National Debate Tournament. After that tournament, he discontinued debate and concentrated on student government.

Paul feels that he isn't just a figure head. "My goal is to help all the students on campus in matters dealing with student government. I'm working now on campus parking, a city zoning ordinance dealing with the definition of family, the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER), building, and tuition differentiation," said Paul.

Student concern

For example, with the parking problem, Paul asked all the students for their concerns and then contacted UNO officials. "General reaction to student government and me is one of apathy. I hope to change that by learning students' feelings through talking to them, handing out surveys, etc. I have an open door policy, but I didn't take my door off," said Paul.

Paul works about 20 hours a week as president (equivalent of a part-time job) and makes 2000 dollars a year. Some student concern has been raised about his salary being too high, but the complaints have produced no action. Paul's dad is on the Board of Education, and sometimes they pool their ideas on a subject.

"The Board of Regents is considering setting admission criteria for entering freshmen. This reflects on the quality of high school students. I ask my dad about what Omaha Public Schools is doing about it," said Paul.

Paul's job as president is taking a lot of time, and he said he won't run again for president. "I have no future political plans except maybe serving on a local public body like the school board someday. Of course, I could be eating my words in a few years," said Paul.

Welcome Back and Happy Birthday

DIANE

LOVE:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| BILL T. | TRACIE G. | JOE P. |
| STEVE W. | JOHN E. | TERESA B. |
| DOLLY C. | PATTI M. | MOM |
| LURAYNE H. | JOY S. | DAD |



Illiterate students go unhindered

According to recent studies, many students emerge from the nation's high schools with less than adequate reading skills to perform in everyday society.

Although illiteracy has been lowered to nearly one per cent, 12-15 per cent of all students have severe enough reading problems to limit their studies, said Ron Meyer, superintendent of reading services for Omaha Public Schools.

Students ignored

Three to four per cent of all students receive no assistance from teachers. Reasons range from stigma attached to reading programs to teachers' failure to recognize problem readers. These students simply pass from grade to grade.

Arlene Newell, Central reading teacher, places the blame partly on the large elementary school classes. "In large classes," she said, "the student in the middle, who neither is a fast nor slow learner, receives little attention."

No Stereotype

Either from frequent moving, extended absence, or simply daydreaming, these students have missed crucial parts of their reading instruction, she said.

But Mrs. Newell stressed, "There is no stereotype of the troubled reader. The range of students and problems runs the gamut."

The poor readers are passed along from grade to grade, developing good listening skills to offset their problems, eventually graduating.

"The teacher is relatively powerless," Mrs. Newell continued. "We would be fighting the parent if we tried to stop a student from graduating."

Vocabulary important

Research has found that reading involves two processes, Mr. Meyer explained. The first involves learning the basics of reading.

The second process involves increasing the reader's profi-

ciency. This can only be accomplished by learning new words through reading experience where most readers fall behind.

However, Gary Thompson, head of the Central Science Department and special education biology teacher, feels that some students simply don't have the natural ability to become good readers.

Television hurts

Television also acts as a major obstacle to reading development. "By the time the average kid is 15," Mr. Meyer stated, "he's spent 15,000 hours watching television. If only 10 per cent of this time would have been spent reading, the child's reading level could be four or six levels higher."

Parents don't realize how much they can help their child in learning, Mrs. Newell said. She suggests that children be exposed to a great variety of reading materials to stimulate their intellectual growth.

Americans use phones for kicks

What is one of the fastest growing pastimes in the United States? No, not racquet ball. Telephone surprises such as hotlines, prank calls, and even obscene calls are providing thrills for many laughter-starved-Americans.

Hotlines

As for the hotlines, Dial-A-Joke is the latest sensation. In New York, you can actually dial a number and get a minute of free laughs. An example of a free joke is, "Fellow walks into a psychiatrist and says, 'Nobody talks to me.' The psychiatrist says, 'Next!' Another free joke is—a man goes to his doctor. The doctor gives him six months to live. He could not pay his bill—the doctor gave him another six months. You can

get these two jokes, plus five more, all for one call.

On other days you can call and get Phyllis Diller jokes. "Know what a zebra is?" Diller replies, "That's her bra size!"

In April of 1974, the New York telephone company recorded Dial-A-Joke as a publicity gag. Six million laughter-starved Americans participated. It started on April Fool's Day with Henny Youngman, Morey Amsterdam, Joey Adams, and Phyllis Diller. The results were amazing. The first day Dial-A-Joke received 250,000 calls for a total of 3,300,000 calls the first month. The phone company anticipated only 50,000 calls a day.

Prank calls

Prank calls can either be

hilarious or bothersome, depending on the mood you are in. A student said, "One day I was in a really bad mood. I answered the phone and the man on the other end said, 'What are you eating under there?' I answered, 'Under where?' The man said, 'You are eating your underwear! Ha, Ha!'" This lifted the student's spirits for the day.

One teacher reported that he had been called several times in the last month. He was asked many times, "Is your refrigerator running?" The teacher naturally said, "Yes." The other extension said, "Then you had better catch it before it gets away!"

Chumly's Root beer

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Swoboda's keyboard flows magically



photo by Alan Potash

Swoboda practices for Roadshow performance

All that can be seen is the blur of his fingers moving across the keyboard. Yes, the hand is quicker than the eye.

When watching Central junior Jon Swoboda play the piano, it is hard to believe that any one person could play so many notes at one time. He sits at the piano with the calmest expression on his face while his fingers race up and down the keyboard in a frantic but effortless manner.

Practice and dedication produce mastery

Practice and dedication help produce this mastery. His professional flair comes naturally

after many years of devotion. "Both my parents played the piano. This in turn aroused my curiosity. I started taking lessons when I was seven years old," said Jon.

Jon is not interested in any particular style or type of music. "It is hard to say what type of music I like. If I hear a recording that I like, then I will use some of the ideas from it." Jon does not like most popular and rock songs, but he does enjoy playing and listening to a few. "I think PDQ Bach is a wonderful idea. It is very funny, and I really enjoy it. It is even funnier if you have some knowledge of classical music."

A mental letdown after every performance

Jon's relaxed appearance is somewhat deceptive. "Before a performance, I usually get really nervous. Sometimes during the day of the performance, I run through the music. Once I start playing on stage, I think about how I am coming across to the audience. When you perform, you have to be aware of the audience. I make an attempt to appeal to the audience by trying to look relaxed. The most important thing is to make a good impression," said Jon.

Jon added, "After every performance there is a mental letdown. At that moment you don't want to do anything else. The let down is a common occurrence, but it usually rids itself. I perform mainly because it is fun and enjoyable."

Jon's solo in Road Show reminds a person of flowing water. His fingers roll across the piano as smoothly as water rolling down the side of a stream. When Jon is performing, he mostly thinks about the music. "Music needs a great degree of concentration. Sometimes I have occasional thoughts about what has happened or what I am going to do. But I mostly concentrate on what I am playing," said Jon.

Jon realizes he will never achieve perfection. "I am happy with what I am doing right now, but you can never be totally satisfied with what you are doing. There are frustrating times in music, but I never get to the point where I want to give it up. I just start working very hard to achieve something that seems impossible."

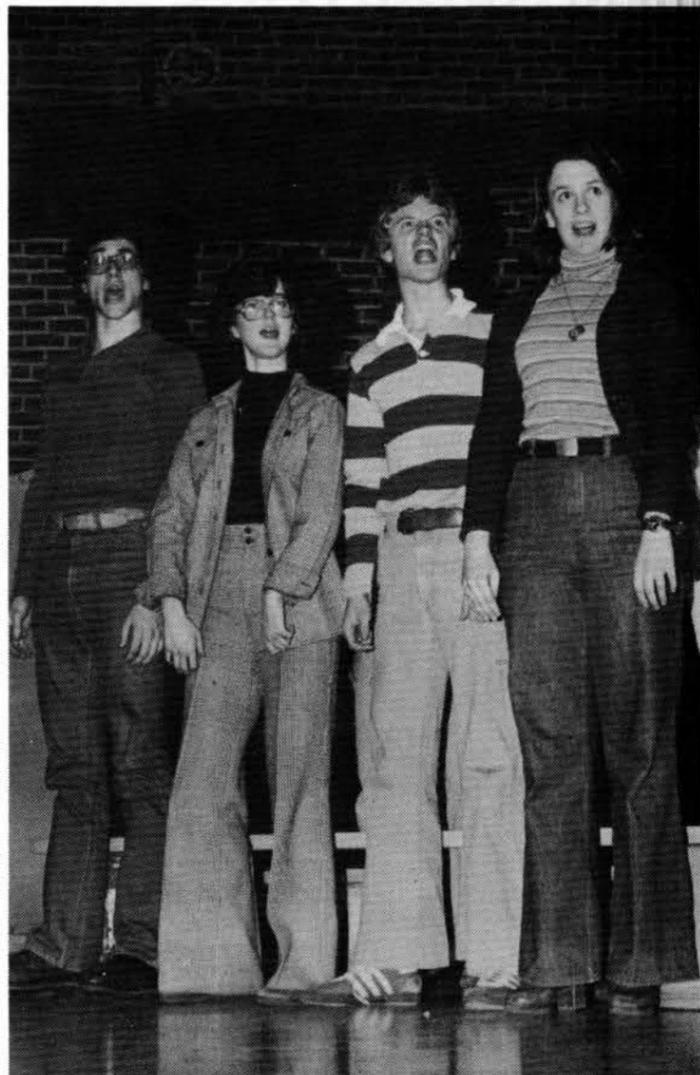


photo by Howard Marcus

Lloyd, Couch, Peters, and Herman prepare for Reflections, Roadshow '78.

The 1978 Roadshow, Reflections, will be performed February 15, 16, 17, and 18. The sophomore matinee will be held Thursday, February 15, eighth through tenth periods. The senior and junior matinee will be held second through fourth periods Friday, February 16. Public performances will be at 8 p.m. Saturday, February 17, and Sunday, February 18.

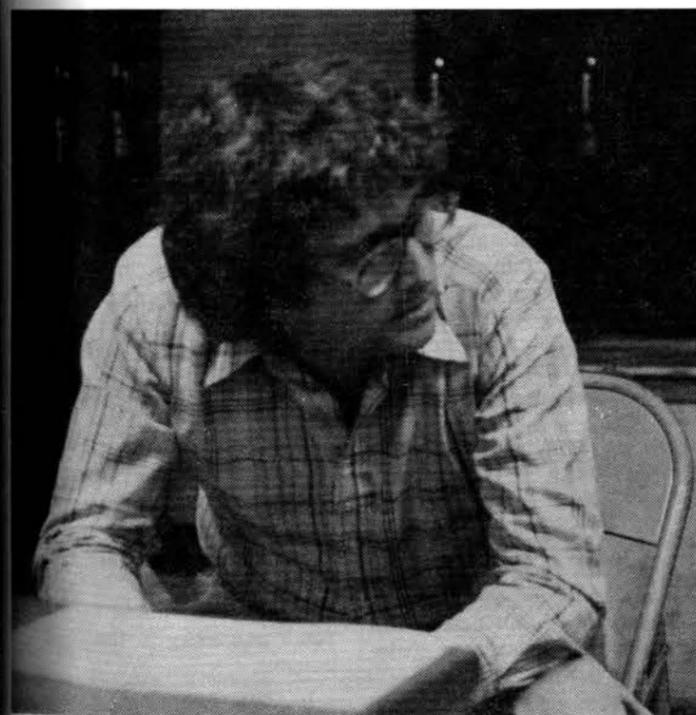


photo by Dave Cutler

Newman discusses his unexpected success.

Newman discusses 'Short People'

by Dave Cutler

Randy Newman, long-time singer and songwriter, has suddenly been propelled into the spotlight with his controversial tune, "Short People." "It seemed obvious to me that it ("Short People") was a joke," Newman said after a recent Omaha concert.

"Short People" has caused more uproar than

I've written over 100 songs, some I like, some I don't. 'Short People' isn't a bad song, but it's not my best," Newman said.

Randy Newman has included numerous other groups in his music. "Yellow Man," "Davy the Fat Boy," and "Rednecks" illustrate Newman's diverse satirical subjects.

One Randy Newman song, "Baltimore," which

Short people got no reason to live. / They got little hands and little eyes, and they walk around tellin' great big lies. / They got little noses and tiny little teeth. / They wear platform shoes on their nasty little feet. / Well, I don't want no short people . . . 'round here.

Newman expected. "I ran into a lot of really slow people that I didn't know were out there," he said. "People ask me if I'm talking about kids. They ask why I don't like short people. It's just a joke. A pretty good one. That's all."

Although some of Newman's company thought "Short People" would be successful, Newman was surprised by its acclaim. "It's not natural for me to be on AM radio. Just one or two more hits and . . ." he said in a thoughtful tone.

"I don't like being labeled with one song.

tells that "the city's dyin', and they don't know why," brought more criticism. "I heard," he said, "that the mayor wanted me to accept the key to the city. Then they were going to change the locks."

Newman feels that success may spoil him. "It's possible I could sell out. It (success) could mess me up. I've been listening to the top 40 lately, but I'm starting to get sick of hearing the BeeGees."

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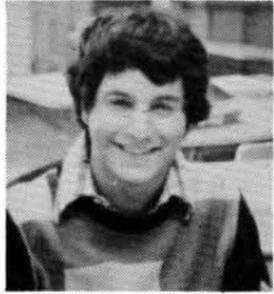
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after the anthem

by Jim Zipursky

Place in sports

Listen up short people, you do have a reason to live. When Randy Newman wrote his controversial song, he must have overlooked the sports world. Short people have always been accepted in sports. In some sports, tall people aren't even wanted.

Have you ever seen a six foot tall jockey? Steve Cauthen, the 17 year old racing sensation, was recently named Sportsman of the Year by *Sports Illustrated*. Cauthen, who stands tall among his fellow jockeys at five foot one, practically needs a ladder to get into the saddle.

Mini-skaters

Robbie Ftorek was voted the World Hockey Association's Most Valuable Player for the 1976-77 season. Ftorek, a center, was the fourth leading scorer in the league. He is also the smallest player in the league at five-six. Henri Richard and Lorne "Gump" Worsley were perennial All-Stars in the National Hockey League. Both men stand five-seven.

Many believe that if you are under six feet tall, you can't play professional basketball. Calvin Murphy has been a National Basketball Association All-Star, as well as leading his team in scoring for a number of years. Murphy, who is five-nine, said, "Everybody talks about my size, but I'm not really small. The average male in this country is exactly five-nine, so I'm the normal one. All those six-four guards are the ones with the size trouble."

Tiny rookies

Ernie DiGregorio was the NBA's Rookie of the Year in 1974. The only time Ernie D is taller than six feet is when he wears platform shoes on his not so nasty feet. Charlie Criss is the oldest and shortest rookie in the NBA this year at 27 and five-eight respectively. Criss is currently the third leading scorer for the Atlanta Hawks. Criss is also the Atlanta fans' favorite player.

Central's varsity football team compiled its best record in over a decade. Kirk Curry and Perry Washington comprised one half of the Eagles' starting backfield. Curry is five-four, while Washington is five-seven. Nate Butler, who started at quarterback and also plays for the Varsity basketball team, is five-nine. Daryl Davis, five-seven, who lettered in basketball as a sophomore last year, is one of Central's leading scorers this year.

Little women

Don't fret little ladies, you have a place in sports, too. Olga Korbut and Cathy Rigby were both world class gymnasts; neither has to slouch to get through a five foot doorway. Tracy Austin and Billie Jean King are two of womens' tennis brightest stars. Neither of these lovelies is over five-four. Francie Larriau Lutz, who is five-four, was a world record holder in the 800 meter run.

So, little people, although you may be short, you could have tall, tall talents.

Philosophy aids matmen

The philosophy taken on by the Central wrestling team may not be too popular among most coaches, but for the Eagles, the results have been favorable.

"Winning is not more important than giving every kid the opportunity to compete. They're all out there to play, not to sit the bench, whether it's football, basketball, or whatever," said coach Jim Kimsey.

First title in eleven years

Since coming to Central last year, Kimsey has enforced this "everybody participates" concept, and the team has done quite well. The Eagles are rated fifth in Class A, as well as numerous high finishes in major meets, including a Burke Invitational team championship. Central nipped Westside 124-122½ on three first places by Kevin Kimsey (119), Bob Johnson (155), and Mark Rigatuso (185). Three others who took second were Greg Brooks (138), Joe Scarpello (145), and heavy-weight Mike Cross. The Burke win was the Eagles' first tourney title in eleven seasons.

Philosophy inspires kids

Mr. Kimsey feels his philoso-

phy inspires kids. "In 14 years of coaching every team I've coached has had a better attitude when I left, than when I came. Not because I know more than other coaches, but because of my philosophy," said Mr. Kimsey.

Grapplers have many boosters

Other than his philosophy, Kimsey accredited coaches Ken Boettcher, John Haskell, and former Eagle head coach George Garret for the teams' success. "Mr. Boettcher has brought many beneficial ideas, and Mr. Haskell has helped the heavy-weights tremendously," he said. Kimsey added that Mr. Garret's receptiveness to new ideas also helped a lot. Garret left Central last season to become the head man at Central Missouri University. Kimsey also commended athletic director Doug Morrow for his contributions.

Happy Birthday Becki!

LOVE: BARB, HOLLY, PATTI, CHUCK,
DAVID, JON, and BOB.

Central tied for conference lead

Central moved into a four way tie for first place in the Metro Conference National Division race with a six point victory over perennial rival Creighton Prep. The Eagles defeated the Junior Jays, 53-47, in Central's lowest offensive output of the year.

Northwest, Millard, Prep, and Central all have six and one records in conference play. Central's only conference loss was to Millard. The Eagles' next two opponents are conference foes, South and Northwest.

The Packers have a two and five conference record and are eight and seven overall. They are led by seniors Jamie Covington, Tom Miller, Don Pesek, and Chris Tangeman and junior Bob Janousek. Pesek, averaging 14 points a game, is the team's leading scorer. Janousek is among the top 15 in Metro in scoring, field goal shooting, and free throw shooting. Covington played for Central's reserve team as a sophomore.

Tough Huskies

Northwest was the coaches' pick to win the Holiday tournament. The Huskies, who finished third in the tourney, are currently 12-4. They are led by seniors Craig Huston, Jeff Stallworth, Brian Hollingsworth, and Rod O'Dowd, and junior Leo Crawford. Crawford is fifth in Metro in rebounding, while Hollingsworth is eleventh.

Central plays South at Norris

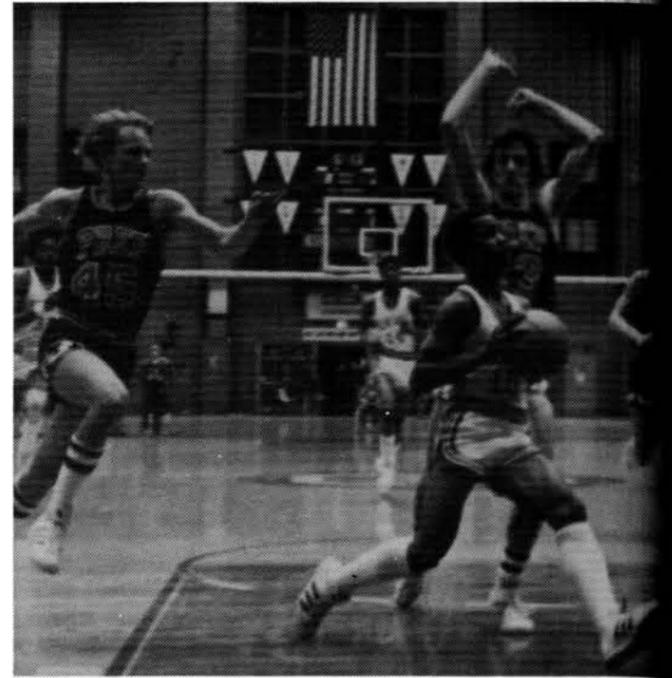


photo by Alan P.

Daryl Davis drives past two Prep defenders.

on February 10. This is the Eagles' last home game of the year. Central travels to Northwest the following week on the 17th. The Huskies beat Central at Northwest last year.

Prep game

Although they shot only 35 per cent from the field, the Eagles only trailed once in their shoot out with Prep. Central led by one, 39-38, after the third quarter. However, Michael Johnson and Dave Felici combined for 11 points in the final stanza as Central outscored the Jays, 14-9. Johnson finished

with 19, while Felici and Hansen scored 14 and 13 respectively.

Metro leaders

Individually, Johnson is Metro's leading scorer. Including the Prep game, Johnson averaging 21.8 points a game while Bellevue West's Dan Stovall is scoring at a 21.3 per game pace. Johnson is second in rebounding, twelfth in free throw percentage. Felici is second and Hansen is eleventh in free throw shooting. Hansen is ninth in rebounding.

short shots

Girls' gymnastics

"Although we haven't won a duel meet yet this year, we have broken every individual record," girls' gymnastic coach John Kocourek said. "Peggy Cooce has the new record in the vault and Susan Maines in the floor exercise. Barb Houlton holds the three other new records, balance beam, uneven bars, and all-around."

Injuries to two of the girls hasn't helped the team either. "Cindy Coldwell broke her ankle when she fell off the balance beam, and Debbie Meiches still isn't fully recovered from her leg injury," Mr. Kocourek said. Coldwell has been a varsity team member for three years.

"The team is doing well in one respect, as individuals, but doing poorly in another, as a team. All of the other teams are so good we have trouble beating them," concluded the coach.

JayVee basketball Boys'

Central's boys' J.V. basketball team has compiled a six and eight record thus far this season. With two games remaining, coach Paul Pennington hopes to finish with a winning record.

Following a loss to Prep, the team had a six and two record in Friday night games, and zero and six in Saturday play. Both remaining games are on Friday nights.

"We have been very incon-

sistent with a lead. We have had the lead at half-time in five of the games we have lost," Mr. Pennington said. "We seem to play much better when we are behind."

Jay Murrell and Mike Slaughter are leading the team in both scoring and rebounding. "Bill Harris is third in rebounding, but he has about one half the playing time that Slaughter and Murrell have," noted Mr. Pennington.

Girls'

The J.V. girls basketball team owns a dismal 2-8 record, but Coach Mrylian Gauff is pleased with the girls' fundamental progress. "They are improving on their skills, particularly on team work," said Miss Gauff. "They're beginning to show their ability."

In winning their opener against North, Central led 17-13 at the half and went on to win by the score of 32-23. The Eagles then went into an eight game losing streak and broke it just last week in a 38-36 overtime thriller against Ralston. Central outscored the opponent 4-2 in the extra period to earn the victory.

"The people who see us now, will see an improved, more polished J.V. team," concluded coach Gauff.

Reserve basketball

Coach Stan Standifer's reserve basketball squad start-

ed their season on a couple of losing notes. The Eagles were defeated 54-33 and 67-38, by North and Papillion.

Against Ralston, the sophomore cagers turned the tables and registered their own whitewash, a 63-31 victory. Guard Darryl Huggins scored a season high 22 points for Central. The Ralston win seemed to be all Central needed to get on a competitive track. Despite losing three out of their next four games, the reserves played well. In a 47-39 loss to South, the Eagles were charged with twenty-two fouls. The Packers hit 19 of 27 from the foul line, including 10 in the fourth quarter, which helped South pull away in the final minutes.

In the following weeks, the reserves lost a pair of heartbreakers to Bellevue East and Benson. Outscoring East 20-9 in a late comeback, Central fell short 43-41 when Bill Metoyer's desperation jump shot barely missed. Metoyer led all scorers with 16 points. Against Benson, Creighton Prep transfer, John Green's 19 points weren't quite enough. Again in a second-half comeback, Central lost 50-48.

Central's 54-52 victory over A.L. was a close game to the end. The winning margin came with seven seconds remaining; Huggins sank two clutch freethrows. He finished with 20 points, while Metoyer added 16.

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