

inside:

AT ONLY 16 years of age, junior Jackie Washington has already set several metro, state, and national records. She plans to compete in the Olympics. See page nine.

DURING THE SCHOOL years of 1967-68 and 1968-69, Central experienced some of the worst violence and racial tension in its over 100 year history. See page four.

central high

register

Vol. 92

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No. 13

High school diploma pays off in cash, experience, maturity

Does graduating from high school mean anything on today's job market? Does a diploma mean anything?

Three of Omaha's largest employment agencies and job placement services indicate that not only does a diploma pay, moneywise, but it also pays in the area of responsibility and maturity, thereby giving a greater field of available jobs to choose from.

Jim Keres of Dunhill of Greater Omaha, a placement service, stated that the main benefit in having a high school diploma is money.

Greater job security

"The primary difference between having a degree and not is money. Even in the unskilled labor market, a diploma can mean more money and greater job security," said Mr. Keres.

"Within the skilled labor area, my area, a diploma means three things: one, it is a plus, a logical plus; two, it shows that the student has exhibited certain skills that are necessary to get ahead; and three, it shows, just by graduating, that he or she, is of a certain caliber that is beneficial to society. So a diploma can only do a person good because it is a door-opener," Mr. Keres added.

Dorothy Pedersen of the Mid-America Placement Service indicated that many companies will not even look at a person's application if that person has not graduated from high school, whether or not the application is for skilled or unskilled work.

"These companies that won't look at the applications have to be sure that the person they are hiring is responsible and mature enough to handle the job they applied for," said Mrs. Peder-

son. "They don't want to have to worry about whether or not a person can cope; they figure that anyone who has graduated from high school is responsible and mature enough to handle the job," she said.

"Greater opportunities are present for the graduate, depending on the job, and the opportunities get even greater as more degrees are added, such as college degrees," Mrs. Pederson added.

Mary Honke of A Greater Career Clinic said, "Graduation means gaining awareness toward the world. Whether it's the business world or the factory world, it all boils down to experience, and a high school diploma means experience to an employer."

She added, "I feel that anyone that does not graduate is only fooling himself. He will be hurting himself in the end. Even if a person does not go to college, that does not mean that he cannot find good, secure work."

'Plenty of jobs'

"There are plenty of jobs just waiting to be filled, but the requirements stipulate that only high school grads may apply, and this in itself shows that finishing school and getting a diploma does make a difference," added Mrs. Honke.

Concerning the summer job market open to students, she said, "As the job market has been looked over, many Omaha job services speculate that the summer job market will be at a very high level, particularly, jobs open to students and high school grads.

"Therefore, now is the time to be looking for jobs, whether it is just part-time and over the summer, or whether it is to last for awhile longer for those not attending college."

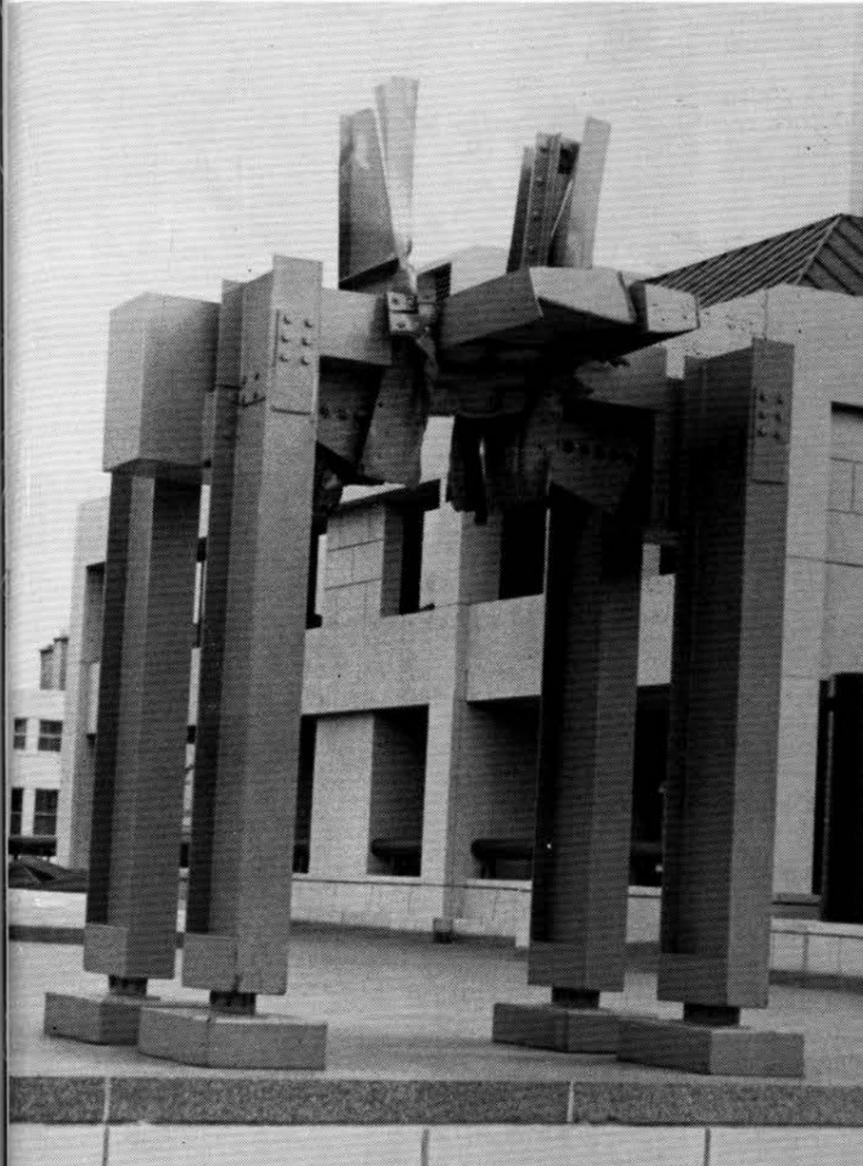


photo by Alan Potash

WHETHER one calls it "Grover," "The Gateway to the West," or "that blue monstrosity," the story remains the same. Mayor Al Veys and a few city council members decided they don't like it, and it's got to go.

See editorial on page 2.

Administration restricts Shortened Day Policy

Central administrators are tightening up the Shortened Day Policy.

Juniors and seniors will be allowed to miss two periods a day. Although juniors now follow such a rule, seniors are now allowed three hours. Among the reasons administrators give for tightening the policy: students take advantage of the system, administrators are frustrated with scheduling classes, and students neglect their educations.

Central has given students shortened days for years. But a formal policy was not developed until four or five years ago. G. E. Moller, Central principal, explains, "The school's administration and faculty felt that something had to be done. The situation was getting out of hand."

Formal policy

Before the rules were set down, a parent or employer could call an administrator and obtain a shortened day for a student. The 800 or 900 students on shortened days caused the difficulties.

Says Dr. Moller, "There were terrible problems of afternoon scheduling. We had evidence that a lot of students were taking advantage of the school and had no jobs whatsoever. Some students would not leave the building but would hang around the halls."

The formal policy requires that a parent come to school and sign a form before a student obtains a shortened day.

Over the years the policy has been amended. Last year the number of credits a shortened day student must earn was increased.

The policy has eased some problems. Scheduling has improved "to an extent," says Assistant Principal Richard Jones.

He adds, "We still have a tight morning and vacant rooms in the afternoon due to students' leaving early. We hope the new changes coming out will help scheduling even more."

Dr. Moller says he believes that students are leaving the building instead of remaining in or around Central. The policy requires that students be out of the building in ten minutes.

Counselor Geri Zerse says the new changes have focused students' attention on education once more. The two hours to be allowed students will make them remain in school for four classes and one study hall, she says. "When students hear that they have to take four classes, instead of signing up for another study hall, they register for another class," Mrs. Zerse said.

There are indications that shortened days are still causing problems. For example, there are students who obtain a shortened day but have no jobs. Some parents, it was found, sign the form knowing their child is not employed.

"It's too easy to get a shortened day. Parents will say the student is employed by them or self-employed.

Students talk their parents into signing the form dishonestly by saying they don't have anything to do at school anyway," says Gayle Spencer, Student Council president.

Mrs. Zerse emphasizes, "It is just a few who are not really employed. Way over half have jobs."

Parents must agree to inform their child's counselor if the student loses or quits his job. However, very few parents abide by the rule, says counselor Kevin Moran. "Under one percent come back and tell us. I've had only one come back in the last two years."

'Unsolvable problem'

Dr. Moller says that the situation will always be an "unsolvable problem."

Students' shortened days have affected athletics and activities. Physical education teacher Joanne Dusatko says, "Working students often have to choose between their job and their athletics. Coaches have to work around the problem so students can leave practice early. I can say that shortened days may have drawn away students who might have helped our overall records."

French Club President Diane Ledgerwood says, "From the standpoint of an officer and as a member, I can see that shortened days make it hard to attend meetings after school."

Irene Eden, head counselor, says that

it is hard to generalize the effects of shortened days on grades. But she adds, "There is a possibility that it hurts grades. Working reduces student time. In addition, long working hours can make a student weary so that he is less alert and has less desire to learn."

Dr. Moller believes the school should force students to take advantage of the opportunities available at Central. He reminds students that taxpayers are paying teachers' salaries and utility bills for the whole day. However, there are rooms not even in use in the afternoons because of the lack of students, he adds.

Shortened days are popular among students. Miss Eden remarks, "It is human nature to like having one's time unstructured."

Senior Diane Wintroub says that a shortened day "gives me more help in getting homework done and lets me participate in other activities I otherwise would have little time for with my job." Gayle Spencer says she can't tolerate a tenth hour study hall, where she cannot concentrate. The shortened day lets her study at home, she says.

"A lot of students forget that the school has no obligation to let them out early. It is a privilege that the administration and faculty believe the student body should have. We are working for the students' best interests," says Dr. Moller.

Mayor's sculpture decision incorrect

Whether one calls it "Grover," "The Gateway to the West," or "that blue monstrosity," the story remains the same. Mayor Al Veys and a few city council members decided they don't like it, and it has got to go.

The contemporary metal sculpture, created by local artist and teacher Sydney "Buzz" Buchanan, was placed in the concourse between the new city hall building and the courthouse at the city hall's opening ceremony last fall. Buchanan was among many artists asked to submit their works for the display. According to City Councilman Leo Kraft, "This was the largest and heaviest piece, so it was left to stay."

In the meantime, according to Councilman Kraft, several city council members said they disliked the sculpture—probably, he said, just because it was in the wrong setting.

editorial

Mayor Veys' secretary said the mayor does not wish to comment further on his decision because he has made his reasons clear. She said his reasons for moving the piece are that the mayor doesn't like the sculpture and that he feels that one sculpture should not be represented for an extended time. Veys said to the press that his childhood tinker-toy creations were as good as Buchanan's sculpture.

The five-member City-County Building Commission, composed of two city council members, two county commissioners, and one private citizen—local businessman J. D. Anderson—voted 3-2 to remove the sculpture from the concourse. Anderson, who spoke favorably of the sculpture at the opening ceremony and wrote Buchanan a letter to the same effect, cast the deciding vote.

Anderson, in a letter to Buchanan, said he wished to "express sincere appreciation for your most significant contribution." He also said he was "impressed by it" (the sculpture). Nevertheless, he cast the deciding negative vote.

Anderson said he took his position after receiving a letter from Veys asking for his support. "I took my position on the fact that Veys is the mayor—he will be for three years. If he and his cabinet decided they don't want it (the sculpture), then I don't want it," said Anderson. "It's as simple as that."

Although the Building Commission has

the right and the power to move the sculpture, that decision cannot be justified on the basis of the mayor's personal tastes. "Who the hell does he (Veys) think he is?" said Buchanan. "He doesn't like it so, bang, it has to leave."

Mayor Veys told the World-Herald, "Besides, it's too heavy," (referring to the sagging roof of the building's underground parking lot).

However, the sculpture is not even situated over the lot. Either the mayor was uninformed or he was trying to rationalize his unjustified display of personal tastes.

Councilman Jerry Hassett, who also played a major role in the sculpture's removal, said the sculpture was only put in the concourse temporarily. It should have been removed within 30 days, he said.

"I was on the committee for planning the city-county building," Hassett said. "If we would have wanted it to have art, we would have planned it to have art." Hassett said that a full-scale study of public opinion on art in public places is needed. In addition, Hassett said he was "sure that there is other art more appropriate than that (Buchanan's sculpture) to put in front of a \$30 million structure."

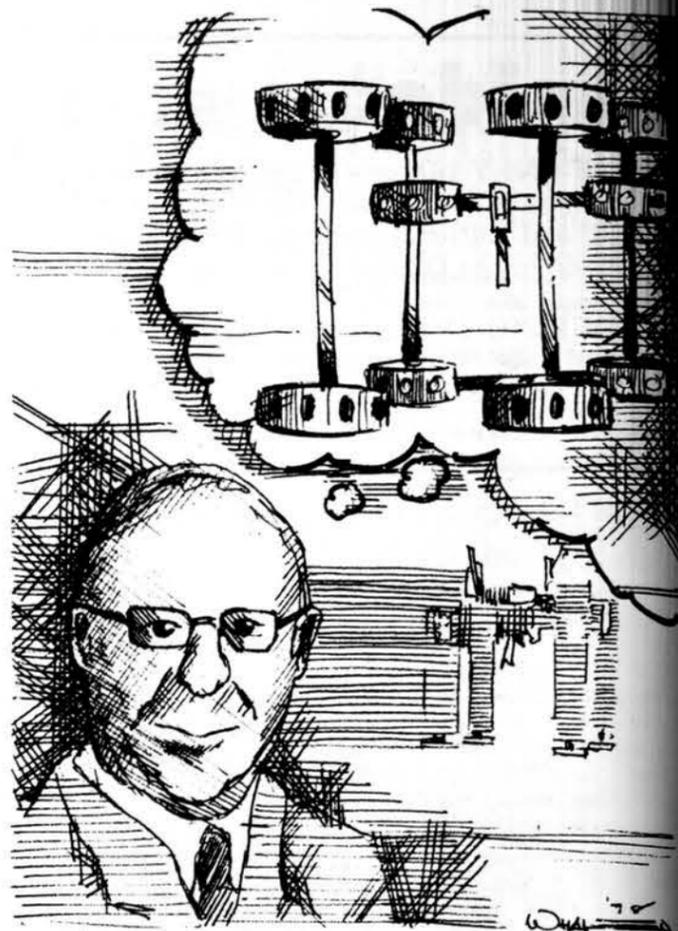
Buchanan is frustrated. "To go through the whole process is to let the mayor of a city be the cultural judge of what goes on in the city," he said.

The solution to this conflict and other potential conflicts over public art in Omaha is to take the decision-making power out of the hands of the politicians. To achieve this goal, an Omaha-Douglas County Arts Committee should be established.

The committee should be made up of local artists and art experts appointed by elected officials, namely the mayor and city council. By having the committee members serve extended terms, the control of public art in Omaha would be removed from the hands of local politicians.

In the meantime, Buzz Buchanan and Jim McLaughlin, artist and originator of a pro-sculpture petition, are fighting city hall in an effort to keep the sculpture in the concourse or move it to where it would be equally accessible to the public. (A six-member committee, including the artist, has been established to find a suitable setting for the piece).

"In thinking about art," said Buchanan, "if that piece stays there, it's not a personal victory. It's a victory for art. However, if Veys succeeds, it's a sad day for artists in Omaha."



Summertime Suggestions

by
Chuck Reed

What are you doing this summer?

Oh, I know your days will be spent frolicking and frying on Omaha's beautiful sand-laced beaches, and a few lucky souls will spend time lurking about the shopping centers of our illustrious city. For most, summer means seven nights a week available for existence outside the home rather than the accustomed two.

Several films will help brighten the days ahead.

for saturday night

F.I.S.T.

Sylvester Stallone holds his own in F.I.S.T., a spiffy new film that deals with the development of organized labor since 1937. Stallone, who gained stardome in ROCKY, portrays Johnny Kovak, a Rocky Balboa-type of semi-intelligent do-gooder who leads the labor movement of the Federation of Interstate Truckers (fictional). In the process, Kovak goes from blue collar dockworker to white collar desk-sitter—he happens to change to evil.

F.I.S.T. is nearly flawless, the only major exception being Kovak's transition from a young and motivated hero-type to his tie-and-suit character. The shift is too abrupt. The momentum

that the first hour generates disappears when Kovak goes gray. The audience may come out wondering if they've just seen a double feature.

Even with its disruptions, F.I.S.T. is a knockout. The story may take more than a handful of wits to comprehend, but the superb acting of Stallone and his supporting sidekicks is bound to make most F.I.S.T. patrons content.

F.M.

F.M., on the other hand, seems to sit a bit off the station, as the whole thing is static. A music consistent radio station in Los Angeles fights off commercials in a crowd-pleasing manner, supported by numerous songs that will please the ear of the younger generation. Mellow, rowdy, fabulously fitting—quite a crop of contemporary songs are used to tie the story together, a task that takes some pretty hefty knots.

Still, there's something that makes F.M. appealing. It certainly isn't plot since there isn't one. The fact is, F.M. is a movie that requires minimal intelligence—the solution: simplicity conquers all.

F.M. is, as too many movies are today, rated P.G., even with barnyard language and references to the anatomy. This is truly a "Now" story for the "Now" generation.

MORE

This summer will, as usual, bless us with intelligent movies and bother us with C-grade films seemingly made in abandoned warehouses. Serious movies that have been showing for weeks around the country include BLUE COLLAR and COMING HOME, the latter of which is yet another film dealing with the Vietnam War. Both should arrive in our city before 1979.

Have a lot of great Saturday nights this summer and, while I'm in the general area, have some top-notch weeknights on the side.

The Omaha Playhouse and the Firehouse Dinner Theater will be open all summer for those who appreciate the stage. The Orpheum, the Norton, and Council Bluff's Chanticleer Theater give us a few more cultural choices. If all of these establishments aren't satisfactory, spend a night or so at Peony Park or Putt-Putt.

letters

Infuriated

Student Council would like to thank the Register for the fine publicity this year. Student Council had one article printed about their activities this year. This year's Student Council has been one of the most active Councils in years, and yet the Register failed to give the Council any kind of recognition.

First of all, the Council sponsored Prom. There was not even one paragraph about Prom. Maybe Register does not feel Prom was important, but many of the students felt that it was an irresponsible act of the Register not to print anything about the Prom or other activities.

Yes, this year's Council is slightly perturbed at the Register's lack of reporting, but we hope that in future years the Student Council will be given justice to its many accomplishments.

Officers
Gayle Spencer
Jean Rivard

Equity

There is a severe and damaging problem in our schools today.

The time has come for a change. Central is by legal definition a "racially balanced" school. It would only be fair that Central demonstrate that fact by offering and making mandatory certain course requirements or additions that will interest all students, both black and white. These changes cannot come about if teachers are unwilling to accept such alterations or additions in their

respective departments.

Minority groups have contributed to the progression of America, and their story must be told before it sinks into the Sea of Oblivion. Schools have the task of seeing that history is preserved and minds broadened. Is it possible that our schools have failed in this endeavor?

Respectfully submitted,
Russell Daniel Pierce.

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Centralite to join choir

Bob Rumbolz's voice is taking him places.

Bob, a Central senior, was selected to participate in "America's Youth in Concert," a choir composed of students from all over the United States.

In the coming summer months, Bob and the choir will perform in many cities in the United States and Europe.

Bob was invited to try out for the choir after he sang with the Nebraska State Clinic Choir earlier this year. He accepted the invitation and mailed in \$15.00 for an official audition tape on which he recorded two songs.

About three weeks after he mailed in the tape, Bob received a letter stating he had been accepted. Bob is only the second vocalist from Central to be accepted in this choir.

Bob's initial reaction to the news was one of surprise. "I really didn't expect to win. It was a real shock," he said. Yet the news was no surprise to

Robert McMeen, Central's vocal music teacher. "Having heard the recording of Bob, I knew he stood a good chance to win. Bob is a very good group singer and as a soloist he is coming along well." Mr. McMeen summed up his student's achievement by saying, "It's quite an accomplishment, since it comes from such a legitimate organization."

One of the first stops for Bob and the "America's Youth in Concert" choir will be at New York's Carnegie Hall. From there the choir will perform in London, Paris, Geneva, Venice, Rome, and other European cities. Prior to these concerts, there will be many rehearsals and recording sessions.

Bob is in his second year in A Cappella and is a member of this year's CHS Singers. He is also first chair trumpet in band and stage band, and he was also a Baritone this year in the Nebraska State Clinic Choir.

Monaghan opposes proposal

Why did one Omaha Public School Board member vote against the Central practice field proposal?

Board member James Monaghan voted against the Central practice field proposal in an 11-1 vote.

According to Mr. Monaghan, two proposals were presented to the Board on April 10. The first proposal, Plan F, expands Central's field in the north-south direction. The second proposal, plan E, expands the field in the east-west direction, requiring land acquisition.

The Board voted eventually on plan E.

Mr. Monaghan offered an amendment to the final proposal. "My amendment was to look at both the east-west and north-south plans' cost estimates and time lines," he said.

"My concern was that plan E would take longer than plan F and it would never be ready for fall 1978," said Mr. Monaghan.

Mr. Monaghan added that the board was taking on a bigger project than necessary. The original intent was "practice field improvement, not a mall," he said.

"I think we (Omaha Public School Board members) are getting into too much. The plan includes cutting off streets, adding tennis courts, and acquiring more land," explained Mr. Monaghan.

Mr. Monaghan said that one of his biggest concerns is over safety. The present practice field is hard and unfit for use, he said. "I would like to see the present field lengthened and sodded with other improvements."

of central importance

Pegi Awards

The second annual Pegi Awards, named after Central drama teacher Pegi Stommes, will be held May 30. The awards, voted on by banquet guests, will honor top actors and actresses from Central drama productions.

Nominations for the Pegi Awards were taken from Drama Club members.

Merit Finalists

Three Central seniors have been named National Merit Finalists: Pat Gibson, Martha Murdock, and Dawn Stover. The finalists were chosen primarily on the basis of their scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), said G. E. Moller, Central's Principal.

Pat received a 1,000 dollar scholarship from the Hormel Foundation which is transferable to any college. Martha's scholarship was from the University of Missouri at Columbia. Dawn received a scholarship from Carleton College. The scholarship amount that Dawn and Martha will receive is based on need.

Research class

Wind funnels, steam engines, snow, and stars highlight the proposed projects for the recently accepted science research class.

The class will be held during a student's free period and is designed to provide a more organized setting for Westinghouse Science Talent Search projects.

"The students will contract with and work under a science teacher. He will develop a problem to be investigated and carry out extensive scientific research of that problem . . .," say the class guidelines.

Instead of receiving a grade for the class, the student will receive a "pass" if he completes a project and no grade if he does not. "The main goal is to get the fact that the student has done independent research on his transcript," said science department head Gary Thompson.

The participant will pick either Robert Wolff, John Williams, or Mr. Thompson (all science teachers) to work with. After he decides on a project, a contract will be

signed and a rough calendar will be set up.

Prerequisites for the class are either enrollment in an Advanced Placement science or permission from the science department. Thus far 14 people have expressed an interest in the class. Interested persons should contact Mr. Thompson in Room 346.

Typing contest

Typing teachers Rita Foster and Mark Kacere settled their dispute over which class of first year typists was faster.

Mr. Kacere's students typed 28 words per minute while Miss Foster's students typed 21 words per minute. These scores were decided after taking the average of the six typists from each team.

The winners from Mr. Kacere's class were Denise Denney, Julie Rivard, Joan Fleissner, Judy Fleissner, Nancy Barnes, and Margie Luczynski. The losing team consisted of Chris Felici, Denise Jimerson, Deborah Kruger, Patricia Lewis, Miles Moore, and Ramon Watson.

Officers elected

Monday, May 8, the Inter-American Club held elections for next fall's officers, before going to Trini's for the spring picnic.

The new officers are Laura Mayer, treasurer; Robin Petrowski, secretary; Carma Peterson, vice president; and Sally Feidman, president. The two offices for sgt. at arms were not filled, enabling new members joining in the fall to hold a club position.

Business Day

Six Central students took top places at the business contest held recently at Creighton University. Winning first place were juniors Joe Richter, Patricia Lloyd, and Sheryl Parkson.

Second place winners were senior Lisa Kading, junior Susan Pfaff, and sophomore Alan Karp. They competed with other Omaha area high schools.

The contest attempted to measure whether students could successfully run a business, said Caroline Orr, Central accounting and short-hand teacher.

Band officers

On May 10th, Central's band elected their new officers for the upcoming year.

New officers include Robert Schuerman, president; Chris Steiner, vice president; Linda Madej, secretary; Jon Swoboda, treasurer; and Daniel Renn, senior drum major. An assistant drum major has yet to be selected.

Law Day

On April 28th, 55 Central students attended "Law Day" at the Douglas County Court House, which was sponsored by the Omaha Bar Association.

Business Law students and instructor Eileen Conway participated in a mock trial, which was a civil suit involving two parties in a car accident. Brad Bone, Eric Rosenfield, and Dolly Rush were witnesses in the case. Lorinda Labore, Bill Fleissner, Alan Potash, Paul Danielson, Dan Meiches, Bill Lastovica, and Jon Freivald were members of the jury.

Mrs. Conway said, "It is an excellent experience for high schoolers to get the chance to participate in a trial"

This is the first year that the Omaha Bar Association has sponsored "Law Day."

Student Council

The 1978-79 Student Council juniors and seniors have been elected. Junior members of the Council are Tracy Bashus, Vicki Benning, Paul Duin, Chris Felici, Lori Gucicullo, Rickie Johnson, Julie Martin, Miles Moore, and Olivette Pinkard.

Senior representatives for next year are Gary Bryant, Nate Butler, Dave Felici, Lynette Heldt, Chris Kalkowski, Michael Lambert, Teri Mancuso, Mark Rigatuso, and Tammy Rubin.

Senior Banquet

The senior class officers will be sponsoring the senior class banquet this Sunday night at Club 89 at 6:00.

Over 145 people will be attending the banquet. Senior class testament winners will be announced by Ken Allen, senior class president of 1977. Live music will be provided by Movin' On.

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Racial riots leave imprint on Central's history

The school years of 1967-68 and 1968-69 are years that some Central students would like to forget.

During these years Central experienced some of the worst violence and racial tension in its over 100 year history.

In March 1968, Presidential candidate George Wallace came to Omaha on a campaign tour. Riots broke out at the Civic Auditorium and filtered down to the area high schools. Racial disputes led to violence throughout the city, and Omaha police were ordered to patrol the halls of some high schools.

On March 4, 1968, the star of Central's basketball team was arrested for allegedly carrying firebombs and a gun in a car in which he was riding, said Warren Marquiss, Central biology teacher.

Since the state basketball tournament was scheduled for a few days later, Mr. Marquiss, basketball coach at the time, said he was flooded with phone calls from across the nation. The allegations later proved to be false, however, and the student was allowed to play in the last two games of the tournament.

Absence high

On Wednesday, March 8, one-half of the student body at Central went home before the end of the school day. On Thursday, Central's attendance was about 40 percent of its normal 2,100 students.

The World-Herald also reported that a student was cut on the hand when he was attacked by a group of students. On March 8, only 30-40 percent of the students came to school.

The state basketball tournament, scheduled to be held in Omaha on March 7, 8, and 9, was moved to Lincoln because of the riots, said a World-Herald news story. The tournament has remained in Lincoln

ever since.

Mr. Marquiss said many incidents happened throughout the school during the Spring of '68. "When we had our so-called 'riots,' the white students were on one stairs and the blacks on the other."

He also said that many students marched and shouted in the halls, trying to get other students to join them.

In the Fall of '68, on one occasion black and white students segregated completely, according to English teacher John Keenan.

A group of black students inside the building at the west entrance and a group of white students outside were taunting each other, Mr. Keenan said.

A television camera was waiting for any outburst of violence. "Fortunately, some cool heads prevailed, and bloodshed was avoided," he said.

Student stabbed

Mr. Keenan also related another incident in which a student was stabbed with what was thought to be a very short knife blade, during the Fall of '68-69. The student did not know he had been stabbed until he went to class and felt blood running down his back, Mr. Keenan said.

Political unrest occurred on a smaller level, according to Mr. Keenan. "In the early '60's, there were basically racial problems. We didn't have any demonstrations against war, although we did have anti-war protestors. Once during class, one kid wanted to wave a Viet Cong flag. I told him I would break his hand if he did. After school he came in and argued about it until 5:00 o'clock. It came very close to throwing some fists," he said.

The mood at Central in the 1960's fit the mood of the nation, said James Bond, government teacher. Mr.

Marquiss agreed. "It was not a local phenomena. It happened nationwide," Mr. Marquiss said.

In the 60's, young people saw the social problems and honestly worked to solve them, said Mr. Bond. "Sometimes they lost sight of the best way to do it."

Economics teacher Brian Watson believes that the national media influenced the problems. The college campuses around the country first experienced the violence before it filtered down to the high school level, he said.

Effect on Central

What effect has the unrest had on Central? Central Principal G. E. Moller said, "If Central is affected today from those years, it's affected only in a number of changes: course changes, policy changes, etc."

Kids of the 1960's questioned more than kids of the '70's, according to Mr. Bond. Today, kids don't seem to question anything, said Mr. Watson. "They have a false sense of security. I think a person should always question the motives of another group or another person," he added. Students of the 1970's are easier to teach because they don't question as much, Mr. Watson said.

Mr. Keenan said the conversation among students today is mainly sports, booze, and cars. "I suppose you could call it a period of 'normalcy,'" he said.

In the '60's, students were more politically active, Mr. Keenan said. "Many kids in my classes didn't view the 'Holocaust.' It would have been unthinkable not to watch it 10-15 years ago."

The violence of the '60's has subsided because students have found better ways to solve problems, said Mr. Bond. "It seems that there just came a time at Central when kids said, 'Hey, wait a minute, this is not the way to solve the problems that exist,'" he said.

CAREER EXPLORATION

for High School Students

at Creighton University

Two Distinct One-Week Summer Programs for High School Students Who Will Be Seniors in the Fall of 1978.

Cost \$15.

Forms and eligibility requirements are available in the high school principal's or counselor's office. Contact the Coordinator of the Career Exploration Program (449-2703) for details.

HEALTH CAREERS

Two Separate Sessions: June 5-9 & June 12-16

BUSINESS CAREERS One Session: June 12-16



"I like to dance because it makes me feel so good, a totally different person. My spirits are lifted when I dance."
— Crystal Phillips

photo by Susan Nello

Senior finds satisfaction in dancing

Central senior Crystal Phillips is very serious about her dancing.

Involved in the Omaha Junior Theater dance group, Crystal dances modern, jazz, African, and ballet. Crystal chose this particular dance studio because "there's a lot of variety and the dancers are really dedicated."

"Most groups practice only two hours, but sometimes we rehearse six hours, often until midnight." Crystal says she "has to be in the mood for dancing. I go for hours and days just dancing."

Crystal has been dancing for six years. She first got started

when she was five years old. "I was always dancing around the house, so my Mom put me into a dance class." She soon lost interest, but at age ten she took up dancing again, "seriously, this time."

Crystal became interested in the Junior Theater group when Dorian Williams came to give a demonstration in Central's auditorium. The twenty member group recently gave a performance which included African dance, a spin-off from Saturday Night Fever, a tap dance, and a melo-dramatic love story.

"I like to dance," says Crystal, "because it makes me feel

good, a totally different person. My spirits are lifted when I dance."

Crystal's favorite kind of dance is Caribbean because "I have fun dancing with a partner. I can get into dancing with someone." She also likes jazz. "In jazz you can let yourself be free."

Crystal plans to attend the University of Nebraska at Omaha for at least two years. She then plans to study at Julliard School of Music and Dance in New York. Crystal will participate in the Ethnic Fair this summer, and will join the UNO dance group.

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English adds more black literature

More black literature may be added to next year's English curriculum.

About a month ago a group of students met with Central Principal G. E. Moller. During three meetings, the students proposed that certain novels by black writers be added to the English curriculum.

Wantu-Wazuri, Central's black choir, organized the meetings.

Dr. Moller said the meetings made him aware of the students' needs.

As a result of the meetings, the English department has ordered some of the books Wantu-Wasuri suggested.

"I think there are enough black books on hand so more can be included in the curriculum to help the English department by making all students better aware of various cultures

other than their own," said Dr. Moller.

Russell Pierce, one of the students meeting with Dr. Moller, believes that the present English curriculum needs more black novels.

"America is made up of many different minorities, and if different selections of books, such as black novels, were taught, English would be more meaningful to all students," Russell said.

Lillian Planteen, English coordinator for Omaha Public Schools, said, "English departments do not require any one book to be taught because the English program offers so many different books."

She said, "We offer a lot of variety in English selections, and we allow our teachers to be flexible in their teaching. We will not say teachers must

teach this or that."

She added, "My mind is not closed to working into other things and areas. We're always looking at what we're doing in hopes of making it better."

Dan Daly, English department head, said that black writers didn't start to write extensively until the 1920's. As a result, teachers have not been exposed until recently to black authors, he said.

"Teachers should be diversified enough to teach black novels. If one is going to be an English teacher, that teacher should be knowledgeable enough to teach different types of English literature," said Russell.

"Teachers are cautioned to the needs of all students. Teachers have academic freedom in their teaching," Mr. Daly said.

Students demonstrate abilities

"The National Honor Society is an organization that recognizes students who have demonstrated desirable traits of character, leadership, service to school and or community, and academic achievement and ability during high school years," said Central Principal G. E. Moller.

According to Dr. Moller, traditionally graduating seniors

are elected by the Central faculty. The names of the upper 1/3 of the graduating class are placed on a ballot. The teachers vote. A committee selection follows the faculty vote.

Dr. Moller said, "The selection committee is kept anonymous. This is to avoid undue pressure which may be exerted by parents or students." Dr. Moller added that any complaints should be directed to

him and not a committee.

There has not been a push to make The National Honor Society an active organization, said Dr. Moller.

Dr. Moller added that the National Honor Society members are registered with the National office. The members also receive recognition on their permanent files at Central. The membership "enhances future recommendations."

THREE REGISTER STAFFERS WON AWARDS

at the Nebraska Journalism Championships held April 29.

Charles Fishkin won first place in editorial writing. Kelvin Andersen won first place in newswriting.

Jim Zipursky won third place in column writing and sports writing.

News staff

In other related news, yearbook and newspaper adviser T. M. Gaherty announced positions for next year's Register and O-Book staffs.

Register staff members are Sarah Jane Ross, editor; Sally Feidman, executive editor; James Fishkin, editorial editor; Patrick Whalen, design editor; Robert Schuerman, sports editor; Luther Harris and Dan Meehan, both assistant sports editors.

Other staff members are Howard Marcus, Dan Renn, and Enid Steinbart, all associate editors.

Feature writers are James Cihlar, Robert Wolf, and Tim Peters. Reporters are Ralph Lloyd, Christie Kalkowski, and Sara Wilkie.

Jon Taute is the business manager. Karen Sloan is the circulation manager.

O-Book staffers are Janet Schwartz, editor; Lynne Williams, activities editor; Hope Taylor, faculty editor; Sally Pollack, senior editor; Ann Scott-Miller, underclass editor; Laurie Schwartz, girls' sports editor; Kit Barrett, boys' sports editor; Lisa Raemsch, clubs editor; and Stuart Wheat, photographer.

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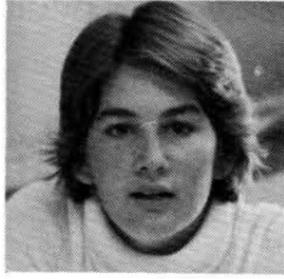
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inseitz

by Kiki Seitzer

Backstage meeting

"This is Tom Jones," said the Civic Auditorium announcer. Immediately, there was a mad rush to the stage to photograph the idol close-up. All I could think about was that I would get to meet him backstage.

The March of Dimes (MOD) received complimentary tickets for the Tom Jones concert. Since my family all worked on the MOD Superwalk (my dad is Chairman of the MOD Board), I received the tickets. Charity work does have many rewards.

Backstage passes were supposed to be included with the tickets, but no one at the Civic Auditorium had heard about the passes. The ticket man behind the little window referred me to Jones' promoter, a short, bearded man who seemed about ten years older than I.

Arrogant promoter

The promoter proceeded to call us girls and looked down on us (Dawn Stover was with me). He made us seem like we were insanely in love with Jones and had made up the whole backstage pass story. My dad had predicted trouble so he gave us the phone number of John Morin, Jones' public relations man.

I decided to call Morin before the concert because after the concert we would never be able to find him. Since it was only 7:15 p.m., and the concert started at 8:00 p.m., I headed for the nearest pay phone. Morin's number was busy at first.

During this waiting time, a man who appeared to be a part of Jones' limousine service picked up the phone next to me. I heard him ask if Tom was nervous, and the answer was that Tom was actually asleep.

After 20 minutes, I finally got to talk to Morin. He told me not to worry, and that he would get me and my friends backstage to see Tom.

"Tom's seats"

He described himself to me—overweight, curly-hair, rose-colored glasses, and wearing a Jones' Boys jacket. He told me to wait in the arena after the concert, and I would spot him walking around. Morin also told me that we had "Tom's seats" (whatever that meant).

I was on "Cloud 9" during the concert. Jones' singing and suggestive dancing kept me in an excited state of mind. Most of the people—about two-thirds—were females screaming at the sight of Jones' shaking.

After the concert, we did what Morin told us and stayed in the arena. After we found Morin, he told us that it would be around 20 minutes until we could meet Tom since he was showering and changing (I could see why).

Pushy guard

The security guards had different directions and proceeded to push us out of the arena. Of course they didn't believe my story about Morin, the public relations man who said we should wait here for him. I was almost out of the arena, probably never to return, when Morin's hand signaled me to come backstage.

Since the security guards didn't believe me, Morin had to personally escort me and my friends (Dawn, Robbi Kolnick, and Gary Kudym) backstage.

Jones cooperated

The only coherent sentence I could get myself to say to Tom Jones was that "I like your accent." You could tell that all the different things he does in his show are just part of his act, and that he is truly a very sincere, conservative person. Jones went through the ritual of signing autographs, giving kisses, etc., and the rendezvous was over in a matter of minutes.

Perseverance always pays off. When I finally got to meet and kiss Tom Jones, I knew that all the time and energy that I used up that night was worth it.

Teachers play in local Sour Mash

The average high school student might not idolize a band that plays country, swing, and some jazz music, but there's something sweet about the group Sour Mash.

Two of the band's members are Central English teachers Charles Lettes and Stephen Turbot. Both are long-time music lovers and have sought the release of their musical ambitions on the weekends via the seven member band.

"Sour Mash is pretty much a local group," said Mr. Turbot, the band's piano player. "We usually play over in Iowa, in Omaha, or in Lincoln." This past weekend was spent in Beatrice, Nebraska.

According to Mr. Lettes, the group was born in 1971. Mr. Lettes, a steel guitar player, joined through the band's drummer a short time after Sour Mash's start. Mr. Turbot filled a gap three years ago when Mr. Lettes joined another band for a summer.

"When Lettes came back, they decided to keep us both on," explained Mr. Turbot. "And . . . here we are."

Where's here?

"We just got done cutting our second album," answered Mr. Turbot.

Mr. Lettes added that the second album involved working through an agent, something that was not heard of when Sour Mash's first album, "Drinks and Goes Home," was locally released. Today, the agent means more bookings and more publicity than Sour Mash has been accustomed to.

"We did the first album without an agent," explained Mr. Turbot. "The reason we did it (the album) was just so we could say we had done an album. We also had our pictures put on the front of the jacket."

"Drinks and Goes Home" contains eleven tracks of which three are written by Sour Mash members and one is an original Sour Mash arrangement. The entire album is country-style music.

"We experiment with different types of music all the time," said Mr. Lettes about Sour Mash's musical menu. "This type (country, jazz, and swing) of music is just the kind we like to play."

Why doesn't Sour Mash play for Central sometime?

"Nobody ever asked us," said Mr. Turbot jokingly. "I don't really think we'd go over too big."

Sour Mash is not a full-time group because of different schedules its seven members keep. Four of the musicians hold down regular jobs in Lincoln while the group's drummer resides in Oakland, Nebraska. Mr. Turbot and Mr. Lettes find plenty of time to work on music together since they room together here in Omaha.

"The group usually shows up at the place we're supposed to play at on a Saturday afternoon," explained Mr. Lettes. "That's when we get in our real practices."

With more bookings than ever, the success of Sour Mash seems insured. Neither Turbot or Lettes are green—their personal talents help make Sour Mash make some sweet sounds.

Krolikowski pursues taxidermy hobby

Central senior Andy Krolikowski wasn't on the basketball team, but he can still stuff pretty well. His hobby is taxidermy, the technique for preserving animals.

"My Uncle does taxidermy as a hobby, and he got me interested in it," said Andy. Andy's working area is his or his Uncle's basement. Taxidermy seems to be a family hobby since along with his Uncle, four of his cousins are taxidermists. Andy has been doing taxidermy for the last five years.

"Taxidermy takes practice, and you also have to read up on the subject. Anybody can do it if they try hard enough. The first animal I did looked pretty bad, but after awhile I got better," said Andy.

Andy's favorite type of animal to preserve is a bird. "You can make a bird in any posi-

tion depending on the way the wires are inserted in the feet and wings," said Andy.

Certain tools and chemicals are needed for taxidermy. "Scalpels and wire are some of the materials needed. Some chemicals are needed for hygiene while salt keeps the animal from deteriorating," said Andy.

Andy said that the raw materials aren't the expensive part of preserving the animal, but the time involved is the costly part. "I don't take any money for my work because it's a hobby, but, for example, a fish would cost around 30 dollars to stuff," said Andy.

There are many steps involved in taxidermy. Andy said that the hardest part in preserving an animal is getting the skin away from the flesh of the animal.

"Next is getting the right

body shape. Through a mail order catalog, you can now order styrofoam models that are pre-shaped. Also, you can buy glass eyes," said Andy. After all the steps are completed, the animal is mounted on wood, said Andy.

"The taxidermy business is usually the busiest in winter. It follows the hunting seasons and also depends on which animal is involved. Summer is a busy time when dealing with fish," said Andy.

Andy hasn't been doing his favorite hobby lately because he's been so busy with other things. Andy's interests in animals also include hunting and working at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

Andy likes to collect his finished products. One saying often in front of some stuffed animals is, "Please don't feed the animals. They're already stuffed." This could be Andy's slogan too.

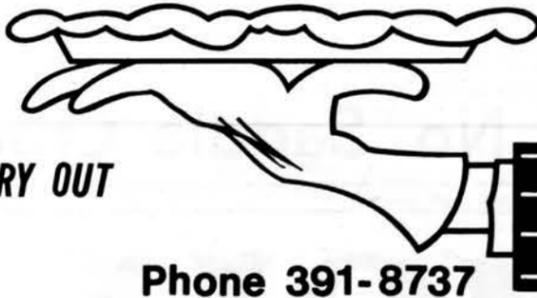
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Lincoln's statue part of Central's past



photo by Alan Potash



photo courtesy of Jerry Lucas

The beardless Lincoln who now stands before Lincoln school on Eleventh and Center wasn't always there.

The statue once stood in front of Omaha High School, now Central. The statue was moved when Dodge street was cut down in 1920.

The statue was unveiled 70 years ago, April 14, 1908. The Omaha Daily News, no longer in operation, tells of the statue's "unveiling on the 43rd anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's assassination."

"A great deal of controversy surrounded the statue at the time of the unveiling," said H. W. Becker, who writes a column on Omaha history for the Sun Newspaper. An argument arose over whether the statue should depict Lincoln bearded or clean shaven. The citizens who wanted Lincoln with a beard felt the clean shaven statue's proportions were not correct, said Mr. Becker.

Charles Carleton Coffin, a renowned civil war correspondent wrote: "It represents him faithfully: his face smoothly shaven, his hair disheveled, his countenance expressive of firmness of character, yet undescribably fascinating."

The sculptor used a picture of Lincoln which belonged to George B. Ayers, a Philadelphia

artist. The picture was taken in 1856, prior to his election to the presidency and before Lincoln grew a beard.

After seeing the picture Lincoln said, "Well, that looks right and expresses me better than any I have seen. If it pleases the people, I am satisfied."

The exercises preceding the unveiling began at the First Methodist church at 2:30 p.m. with an invocation by Rev. Frank Loveland. The Omaha High School glee club gave a musical presentation. Principal A. H. Waterhouse spoke about the history of the statue.

Attorney W. F. Gurley delivered an address on Abraham Lincoln. After Mr. Gurley's address, the group adjourned to the Omaha High School campus. Frederick McConnell, chairman of the class which raised the most money, presented the statue to the high school.

Now, 70 years later, on Lincoln's birthday (February 12) flowers mysteriously appear at the statue's base. No one knows who the flower phantom is.

The statue, now tinted green by years of oxidation, is a proud reminder of Central's heritage.

The 70 year old statue now stands in front of Lincoln Grade School on Eleventh and Center (above).

The statue was dedicated on April 14, 1908. Speaking at the ceremony (right) is J. F. Woolery, assistant principal and math teacher.



Teachers retire after 108 total years

While the Senior Class of 1978 is preparing to leave Central, so are three teachers.

Viggo Carlsen, vocal music teacher, has taught for 43 years, his last two at Central.

"The students today are brighter and more difficult to work with than when I started," said Mr. Carlsen. "They're more sophisticated, but I don't think that hurts them," he added.

Mr. Carlsen has no definite retirement plans. "I may travel for awhile, the first year at least." He said, "I've really enjoyed teaching at Central; the administration, the staff, and the student body make Central one of the finest in the area."

If you include her days as a student, Virgene McBride has been a familiar face around Central for 41 years.

"I've taught the finest, the

greatest and the dearest," Miss McBride said. A few of her more prominent former pupils include Saul Kripke, Senator Edward Zorinsky and, in more recent times, John C. Johnson and Sylvester Pierce.

In 1975, Miss McBride's senior class gave her a dog, which she named Muffin. She told the class her dog had recently died. "The class who gave me Muffin was a class that had respect, compassion, and understanding," Miss McBride said.

Miss McBride plans to forge ahead. "I'd like to continue to travel as I have all these years, and I may get involved in some volunteer work," she said.

"I live a day at a time," Miss McBride said. "Life has to change and one must learn to live with the change," she said.

Benson's loss was Central's gain when Lois McKean left teaching to raise her five chil-

dren. Mrs. McKean never did go back to Benson after her own children entered school.

"I was a permanent sub at Central for two years and then joined the teaching staff full time," said Mrs. McKean. Her stay at Central has lasted 24 years.

"When I started, the rooms were tiny; now my room is so nice and roomy," Mrs. McKean said. The rooms weren't the only physical changes Mrs. McKean has seen. Before long the new gym and practice field will enhance Central. "We really need the added facilities, but we still put out great teams without them," she said.

When Mrs. McKean retires she won't be the last teacher in her family. Four of her five children are teachers.

"I always enjoyed being a teacher, even grading papers," Mrs. McKean said.

Buried man talks to all

by Chuck Reed

Why would somebody want to interview a man who is buried alive? He isn't a Central grad.

Well, I've talked to Country Bill White.

Mr. White is 44 years old and is one of the greatest conversationalists you could ever strike up a chat with. Buried beneath a generous helping of sod and soil, Country Bill is out to break into the Guinness Book of World Records for being the "longest buried alive."

As of today, Country Bill has been under 110 days, just over the half-way point on his way to his hopeful record of 219 days. If all goes well, he should return to the surface on September 13 of this year.

The first few times I tried to get through to Country Bill, the line was busy. On attempt number five the phone rang—twelve times. This was a bit baffling since the man is performing his feat in a 6x3x3 foot plywood box. Was he in the shower?

I caught him one night just going to his ventilation duct for some fresh air, so the talk was brief. But the next night . . .

"Country Bill, hello!"

"Hi, this is Chuck Reed from Omaha, Nebraska. I called last night."

"You bet."

"What does a man do to pass time when he's buried alive?"

"Talk on the phone."

"Do a lot of people call you?"

"Nowadays I get 'round 600 calls a day."

"From where?"

"You name it." He sounded proud.

"Do you exercise much?"

"Yessir, I do isometrics as much as I can."

"What all do you have down there?"

"Well, I got two telephones, a television, and a closed circuit television camera." The camera is used to monitor him 24 hours a day. He has no heater or air conditioner.

"How do you breathe and eat?"

"Everything comes through a ventilation duct."

"What do you eat?"

"Anything I want."

"How do you manage that?"

"I order out." Country Bill liked that one.

"How about . . . um . . . sanitary conditions?"

"Everything's taken care of in a sanitary manner." He had answered that one before.

I was awed. I had just talked to, carried on a conversation with, and asked questions of, a man buried alive behind a radio station in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Certainly different.

Well, if you'd like to be different, Country Bill urges all curious admirers to give him a call at 1-617-997-6556.

He'll be home.

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after the anthem

by Jim Zipursky

Looking ahead

It is about this time of year that most people begin to review the events and happenings of the past year. We are constantly being told that these are the best years of our lives; even if we don't think so now. Instead of taking a look at what transpired in a good year for Central sports, I would like to tell you about a recent journey I made.

In the year 1993 we will all be about 33

I went back to CHS for the first time in 15 years today. I ran into Ann Rigatuso, the new girls' track coach. Both she and T. J. Thompson enjoyed standout careers at UNO. Miss Thompson is married now and the coach of the Midwest Striders track club here in Omaha.

While I was in San Francisco to cover the baseball Giants, I met with two other Central '78 alums, Dan Goodwin and Kirk Curry. I guess anyone who follows football knows about Goodwin's success. After leading the Big Eight in rushing his senior year at Iowa State, he was selected by the 49ers in the second round of the college draft. They switched him from a running back to a corner back. He has been All-NFC seven times and All-NFL three times.

North of the border

Six years ago Goodwin hired Curry to manage his health spa in Oakland. Curry has turned it into one of the finest establishments in the Bay Area. He told me that Glen Swait has achieved some success playing for the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League (I always knew Swait had the talent to make it in the pros). Remember Tony Felici? He is now the linebacker coach at Cal State-Fullerton.

Terese Jones was in town last night. She is skating alongside Linda Fratianne in the Ice Capades. Peggy Counce and Cindy Coldwell are both judging high school gymnastics meets. Both have children who are cleaning up in the 10 and under division at Omaha Gymnastic Association meets.

Grapplers Gain

On a trip to Dallas, I met up with Greg Brooks. After winning two AAU wrestling crowns, Brooks retired from wrestling and became the athletic director of the West-Southwest branch YMCA there. He told me that after Bob Johnson won his gold medal in the 1984 Olympics, he was hired as the head wrestling coach at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He has since moved from UMD to Georgia Tech, where he led the Ramblin' Wreck to a fifth place finish in the 1992 NCAA tournament.

I saw Michael Johnson in Atlanta last month. He never did make All-Pro in his eleven seasons with the Hawks, but he did help them to two NBA championships. His coach called him "the most underrated player in the league." Jeff Goodwin wrote to tell me that he finally retired from the Eastern Professional Basketball League. He said his legs just couldn't take the grind any more (I think the real reason was that he got cabin fever. He played his last three years with the Anchorage Northernlights).

One new coach, one old one

Brad Bone was just hired as the new varsity basketball coach at University High School in Chicago. He will teach chemistry in his spare time. Last year, Jackie Harrington resigned her post as assistant girls' basketball coach at Kearney State. She said she wanted to devote more time to her husband and children.

I just read in the Nashville paper that the Nashville Sounds gave Dave Akiens his unconditional release. Akiens has had a tough time since he was drafted into the Red's organization in 1979. He never made it past AAA ball. They say that if the National League had ever adopted the designated hitter rule, he would have made it.

Track stars

After leading UNO to the conference championship two years in a row, David Johnson and Oscar Pulliam each earned coaching jobs. Johnson is working for the Pacific Striders in Los Angeles, Pulliam for the Titans of the North in Seattle.

How could I ever forget Terry Johnson. I saw him last fall when I was covering the Michigan-Ohio State football game. After two years on the Iowa State varsity football team, Johnson decided to go out for the Cyclone basketball team. He made it, too. He graduated from Ames with six varsity letters (four in football). Johnson played for seven years with the Detroit Lions before a knee operation forced him to quit. He is currently employed by the city of Ann Arbor as its Parks and Recreation director.

Memories

Central athletes of 1978 certainly have shone these past 15 years. There were more than I could list here. To most, 1978 will be remembered as the year of the new athletic facilities for Central. To me, however, I will always think of '78 as the year of the athletes; those very special Friday night heroes of my youth.

Seven qualify for State

Central's boys track team put together a couple of top notch performances to beat some of the state's best competitors in the district A-1 championships in Fremont last week.

Seven qualify

The Eagles qualified seven individuals in six



photo by Alan Potash

Dan Goodwin does his thing in the triple jump.

events for the state meet at Burke Stadium this Friday and Saturday. David Johnson and the 800 meter relay team of Robert Barnett, Mark Patten, Danny Goodwin, and Marion Collins were the only Centralites to qualify by taking first place. Johnson clicked off one of the state's fastest times in the 110 meter hurdles with a 14.6, while the relay team fought off a strong wind to run a faster time than any other district qualifiers elsewhere. The other Eagles bound for state are Oscar Pulliam in the 120 yard high hurdles and the 180 yard low hurdles, Luther Harris in the triple jump, and Patten in the 100 yard dash. In the district meet, Patten ran the 100 meter dash in 10.7, which is the equivalent of a 9.8 100 yard dash. The meet in Fremont was run in meters, but the times will be converted to yards for the state meet lane assignments.

Central was the only Omaha school in a field which included Fremont, South Sioux City, Norfolk, Lincoln High, Lincoln East, Lincoln Northeast, and Lincoln Southeast.

"I felt relatively satisfied with the individuals who qualified for state," said Coach Dave James. "We were fortunate to qualify the ones that we did; it was a super tough district."

The other class A districts were much milder than Central's, but Mr. James said the imbalance was just one of those things that couldn't be helped.

Third in metro

Overall the season went quite well for the Eagles. Approximately 17 athletes lettered during the year. The team finished with a 5-3 dual

meet record and put on their strongest performance of the year with a third place finish in the Metro Championships.

Central didn't produce any champions in the meet, but some individuals fared quite well. Patten placed second in the 100 yard dash, Johnson finished second in the 120 high, Pulliam third and fourth in the 120 high and 180 low, Collins fifth in the 440 yard dash, and Pulliam, James Davis, Patten, and Goodwin placed second in the 880 yard relay.

"It was a successful season, but I would have liked to have been stronger in the distances and field events," said Mr. James.

Central's future

Central's track future will depend on whether or not a good number of sophomores come out next year and the years to follow. "Next season we'll lose a lot of strong seniors. I hope the underclassmen will come on and pick up the slack," stated Mr. James. The loss of some top seniors won't be the only problem James may have in the future.

"It's kind of hard to get kids here when you don't have the proper facilities. Not having a track here is a very strong detriment to our program," he said. "It's physically and mentally

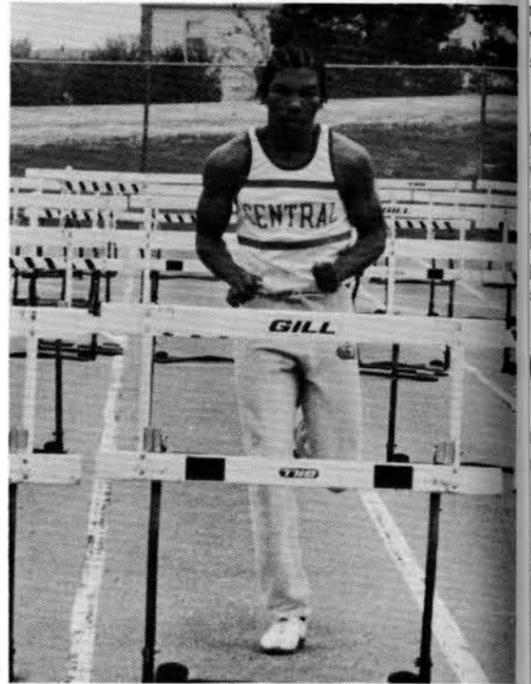


photo by Alan Potash

Senior David Johnson's hard work has paid off throughout the season. Johnson was the Dutch White Champion, District A-1 Champion, and Metro runner-up in the 120 yard high hurdles.

depressing to spend 40 minutes a day riding a bus to and from practice. A new track could bring more athletes to Central," he added.

1978 Central High varsity letter winners

1978 was a fine year for Central sports. It was also a fine year for Central athletes. The basketball and girls' track teams finished second in state. The football team had its first winning season since 1975.

The following is a list of all those athletes who earned at least one varsity letter this year. Two athletes earned three letters this year, Grady Hansen and Gah Huey. Hansen earned his in golf, basketball, and baseball. Huey earned hers in volleyball, gymnastics, and tennis.

Double-letter winners: Greg Brooks, Nate Butler, Cindy Coldwell, Marion Collins, Peggy Counce, Mike Collins, James Davis, Dave Felici, Gary Flaxbeard, Mark Flaxbeard.

Rose Foster, Terry Gargano, Dan Goodwin, Jackie Harrington, Tom Hedrick, Lynette Heldt, Paul Holland Nina Huey, Dave Johnson, Bob Johnson.

Bob Kain, Jim Labenz, Tim Loneragan Virgil Miller, Mark Patten, Steve Poole, Oscar Pulliam, Joe Richter, Ann Rigatuso, Mark Rigatuso.

Joe Scarpello, Gayle Spencer, Cathy Stimson, T. J. Thompson.

Single-letter winners: Kathy Adams, Dave Akiens, Jim Backer, Jay Ball, Robert Barnett, Kit Barrett, Leonard Bates, Phil Beachamp, Jerry Beerman, Brad Boers.

Dennis Belieu, Sharon Black, Tom Bockes, Kathy Bohi, Brad

Bone, Lynette Branch, Faith Bullard, Theresa Butler, Jeff Camp, Brian Canady.

Rick Cantu, Gayla Chambers, Lynne Cohen, Bill Curfman, Kirk Curry, Daryl Davis, Ron Dorsey, Bill Doughman, Paul



photo by Alan Potash

Kiki Seitzer, senior letterman

Duin, Andre Edmonds.

Tom Evans, Carolyn Ewer, Chris Felici, Tony Felici, Greg Forde, Chris Foster, Kevin Friesen, Diane Fullerton, Mike Gaeddert.

Mike Gaines, Joan Gillespie, Phil Godberson Jeff Goodwin, Monique Gray, Mike Greenberg, Vonnie Groh, Patti Gue, Dan Gutierrez, Byron Hall.

Denise Haller, Luther Harris, Scott Henninger, Dave Herman, Charley Higley, Pat Hill, Matt Holland, Jeff Holt, Barb Houlton, Ambrose Jackson.

Geri Jaksich, Shelley Jansa, Tony Jansa, Alan Jensen, Chris Johnson, Ed Johnson, Jeanenne Johnson, Michael Johnson, Terry Johnson, Theresa Jones.

Chris Kalkowski, Brandt Karstens, Ron Kiger, Dan Koch, Hal Koch, Karl Kohrt, Andy Krolikowski, Kevin Kroeger, Gary Kudym, Susy Mains.

Terri Mancuso, Ed McEachen, Karen McKee, Martha McKeone, Deb Meiches, Don Meyer, Ralph Negrete, Judie Nielsen, Jane Olsen, Jeff Olson.

Paul Orduna, Dan Pankow, Max Perry, Stan Perry, Norris Peterson, Sally Pollack, Ralph Pope, Beverly Pulliam, Lisa Raemsch, Sandra Raemsch.

Brian Reed, Vicky Riley, Alex Rossell, John Schroeder, John Schmidt, Robert Schuerman, Kiki Seitzer, Steve Skarnulis, Theresa Slavin, Missy Slavik.

Debbie Smith, Chris Steiner, Pam Strunc, Glen Swait, Tom Swinarski, Bill Tietjens, Jennie Tracy, Bob Vinci, Jackie Washington.

Perry Washington, Dave Wendt, Sara Wilke, Debra Williams, Fred Willis, Mark Wilson, and Denise Woelfel.

(Editor's note: No report was received from the wrestling team.)

Washington wins three gold medals in state meet

Since the introduction of female athletics in Nebraska high schools over the past decade, Central has produced more than its share of top female athletes. Occasionally, one star outshines all the others. This year the brightest star on the state track horizon is Central junior Jackie Washington.

Seldom cries

Miss Washington began her track career at the age of eleven. She ran with Bryant Center, now the Midwest Striders Track Club.

"A teacher at Central Park grade school was starting a track team, so I decided to go out. I wasn't really sure I could run, but I liked doing it," she said.

It didn't take very long before Jackie discovered she had track talent. In her first year of competition, she placed second in the Midwestern Junior Olympics. "I was disappointed after losing that race and I cried," she said.

Thinks positive

Since then, Miss Washington hasn't had many causes to shed tears at all. Winning has almost become a habit for her. "Whenever I run, I think about winning. I concentrate on it," said Jackie.

Since her younger days in track, Jackie has gone through a number of different teams and coaches. But no matter where she's been, the results have been winning. At only 16 years of age, Jackie already has set several metro, state, and national records.

Hurdling comes natural

She was introduced to running the hurdles about five years ago, when she participated for McMillan Junior High and the Omaha Skylarks, a former all-girls team.

Though she says that hurdling came naturally for her, she admits she has received pointers from some pretty good sources. Former Creighton Prep track star Randy Brooks worked out with Jackie a couple



photo by Alan Potash

Jackie Washington—future Olympian?

of times during the summer. While at Prep, Brooks set three all-time marks in the 100 yard dash, 120 yard high hurdles, and the 180 low hurdles.

"He taught me things like how to use a body lean, my trail leg, and my front leg. Then he'd watch me go over a few hurdles and tell me what I was doing wrong," said Jackie.

A female Brooks

Jackie's accomplishments and versatility make her

very much like a female Randy Brooks. When she runs she usually wins by a considerable margin and she can do just about any event. By comparison, Jackie is a better hurdler than sprinter, but she prefers sprinting.

"Jackie is such a good runner, she can do so many things," said her coach, Joanne Dusatko. "I've had quite a few good, talented girls; Jackie is right up there at the top," she added.

One of Miss Washington's better qualities is that she is a hard worker. "She's matured a lot since last year; she works much harder," stated Mrs. Dusatko. "When she's out there, I know she'll give it all she's got."

Olympic hopes

With high school beginning to wind down, Jackie has some ambitious plans for her future in the next couple of years.

"I want to go to college somewhere where the climate is warm all year round and try to make it to the Olympics; it doesn't really make any difference whether it's 1980 or 1984," she said.

Mrs. Dusatko thinks Jackie is capable of reaching the Olympic Games. "I think she could do it in 1980. Girls peak at an early age; Jackie should be ready by then," she said.

Miss Washington took another step closer to her goal this past weekend. The Eagle speedster came away from the state meet in North Platte with three gold and one bronze medals. She won the 80 yard low hurdles in record time, the 100 yard dash, and anchored the champion 880 yard relay team. The third place came in the 440 yard relay.

A lot of athletes have graduated from Central and gone on to greater things, but never has the purple and white had its own Olympian. Perhaps Jackie Washington will be the first.

Central finishes second in state

The girls' track team raced to a Metro Championship and a second place finish in State this season.

"I'm really proud of the girls. They have done a super job all season long," said head coach Joanne Dusatko. This was the second year in a row that Central finished second in state.

Individually, Jackie Washington won three gold medals in the state meet. A gold medal was awarded for the best performance in the meet regardless of class. Miss Washington won the 80 yard hurdles, the 100 yard dash, and anchored the 880 re-

Jackie Washington, T. J. Thompson, Debbie Williams, and Beverly Pulliam were members of the championship 440 yard relay team. Members of the 880 team were Miss Washington, Miss Thompson, Miss Pulliam, and Ann Rigatuso. The mile relay team was comprised of Miss Rigatuso, Sarah Wilkie, Pam Strunc, and Patti Gue.

Miss Washington also won two individual medals with first place finishes in the 80 yard hurdles and the 100 yard dash. Miss Thompson finished second in the hurdles, while Miss Gue placed second in the 880. Miss

"I am really pleased with the girls' performance this season. They did everything I asked them to do, plus more." —Coach Joanne Dusatko.

ay team. Sara Wilkie, Beverly Pulliam, and T. J. Thompson also won gold medals for the 880 relay.

Miss Thompson finished second in the Class A 100 yard dash. She tied for fourth place overall. Miss Washington set a new Class A record and tied the state record with her performance in the hurdles.

In Metro, Central won the championship with the help of Miss Washington's usual two individual medals, and victories in the 440 and 880 relays. Miss Thompson finished second in the hurdles; Miss Pulliam third in the 100. Miss Gue finished third in the 880, Miss Wilkie fourth in the 440.

Central also won its district meet. Final places were the same as in Metro except for Ann Rigatuso's victory in the 880, and Chris Steiner's fifth place finish in the high jump.

"I don't know if we would have been able to catch Scottsbluff if Ann wasn't sick, but she would have helped," Mrs. Dusatko said. She was speaking of Miss Rigatuso, who had qualified for the 880, mile, and mile relay. Miss Rigatuso was not able to compete because of a strep infection.

Mrs. Dusatko said, "I was really pleased with the girls' performances, especially in the relays." Central won the 440, 880, and mile relays in the Grand Island Invitational meet.

Pulliam finished third in both the 100 yard dash and the shot put. Miss Wilkie finished fourth in the 440, and Chris Steiner vaulted to a fifth place finish in the high jump.

"I think the team did just great this season. I can't say enough about them," the coach concluded.

The Register staff wishes to congratulate Central's fine athletes and teams of 1978.

HOWARD K. MARCUS PHOTOGRAPHY

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Jones wins skating honors

Terese Jones, Central senior, won top honors at a recent regional skating competition.

March 27-30 were the dates for the Heart of America Invitational which was held in Kansas City this year. The competition includes people of all ages from any state. Twenty Midwest skating clubs consisting of 250 people competed in this event.

Although Terese felt that she did not skate at the best of her ability, she still placed 1st

See picture, page 10.

in dance, 2nd in compulsory, and 3rd in free style. "I just didn't feel sturdy on my skates because I had not seriously practiced for about 3 months," said Terese.

Terese plans on attending UNO in the fall while continuing her skating, possibly as a teacher. Terese said, "I plan to go to school first and then go on to try out for the Ice Follies or Ice Capades."

When asked about her

thoughts on entering National competition, Terese explained that, "You have to start very young, like 3 or 4 years old to even think about entering National. You have to build yourself up by skating at the bottom. Southwesterns or Midwesterns are the areas where you start. First, you pass a test from Southwesterns or Midwestern, usually when you're about 12 years old, then you go on to Regionals, Nationals, Worlds, and finally the Olympics."

Terese did not start getting serious until she was almost 14 years old. "I really wish that I had started earlier. I only started skating when I was 12," said Terese.

With no previous dancing experience, Terese was able to put together her own dancing routine for the Invitational without help from a teacher.

"I thought I'd give it a try since it was my last fling in competition," she said. Terese gave it a try and walked out with the trophy for 1st place in dancing.

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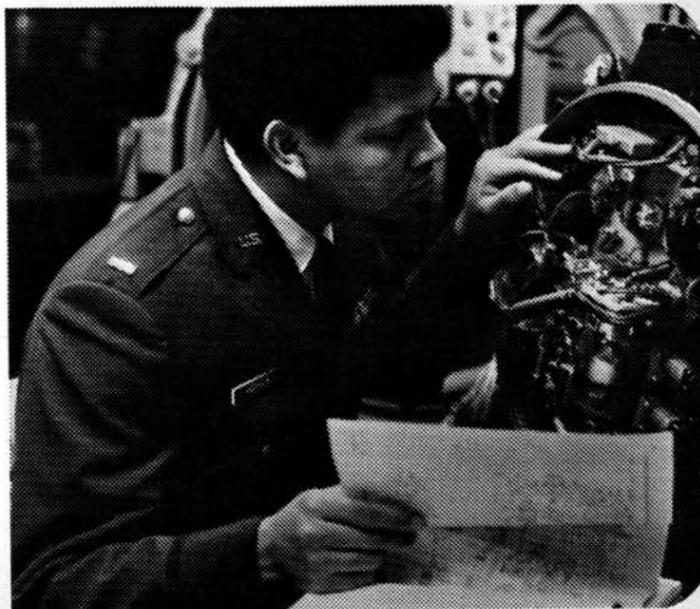
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short shots

Girls' Tennis

After placing fifth in the Metropolitan tennis championships last week, Central's girls' tennis squad will be competing in the state tourney finals today. Preliminary competition began yesterday.

Coach Ken Boettcher and his girls are winding down what has been a pretty good season. They finished with a 5-4 dual meet record. The Eagles could have easily been 7-2, as they lost two meets by only one point.

"The team has had pretty good balance. They're very competitive and they've showed improvement over the season," said Mr. Boettcher.

Though he feels the girls had a good showing at Metro, Mr. Boettcher says he feels they can do better at State. "How we'll do will depend on how tough of a draw we get," he said. "I'm just looking toward State with optimism."

Most of Central's hopes for a good showing at State will lie in Kiki Seitzer in the first singles bracket. Kiki has been the runner-up for the past two seasons in Metro. She also placed second in State last year. In Metro she was defeated by Marian's Patsy Lucas.

Miss Seitzer's chances of being the state champion in her division are even greater than before. Miss Lucas

won't be participating in the state meet because of a national tourney she will be in.

Along with Kiki in the state meet will be Rosie Foster in second singles, Kathy Bohi and Joan Gillespie in first doubles, and Nina and Gah Huey in second doubles.

The tourney will begin today at 3:30 at Dewey Park.

Varsity Baseball

The varsity baseball team finished the season with an 8-9 record. The team tied the modern record of eight wins in one season.

Grady Hansen and Mike Gaeddart led the team in hitting this year. Hansen hit .340, Gaeddart hit .342, and Phil Godberson hit for a .289 average. Mike Herman had the lowest earned-run average among the pitchers, while Hansen and Herman led the team with three wins.

Gaeddart hit the team's only home run of the season. Hansen led the team in doubles with eight. "Gaeddart has been the real offensive surprise for us this year," said head coach Paul Pennington.

Central won its first district game over Bryan, 5-1. Herman threw a three-hitter enroute to his third victory of the season. If the team wins its second district game over Ralston, they will go to State as well as breaking the record for wins in a season.

The highlight of the season came in the team's 7-6 victory over South. Central trailed the Packers 6-0 going into the last half of the seventh inning. The Eagles tied the score to send the game into extra innings, where they won the game. In the Bryan game, the score was tied going into the bottom of the seventh when Central scored the winning run.

"If we do win our game with Ralston, we will have established a new record in a rebuilding year," concluded the coach.

Sports Banquet

Sixteen athletes, both male and female, will be in contention for the "Athlete of the Year" awards in Central's annual athletic banquet.

A trophy will be presented to the winning boy and girl. Over 100 athletes will be honored with trophies for outstanding play in their respective sports and certificates for letter winners.

KMTV's sports director John Knicely will be the master of ceremonies. Activities will begin at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 24, in the Peony Park Ballroom.

Tickets are now on sale in the office of Assistant Principal Doug Morrow. Tickets cost \$3.00 for O-Club members and \$8.00 for non-members.



photo by Susan Nelle

Terese Jones ends skating career with a championship.

A moment in Central sports history

In 1972, the girls' track program was introduced to Central. Joanne Dusatko was appointed as head coach. Since then, Central has never finished below second in Metro. Since 1972, Central has never placed lower than third in State. The team has been led by such stars as Juanita Orduna, Toni Midder, JoAnn Olsen, and the new star, Jackie Washington. Not even the basketball team has as fine a record as Mrs. Dusatko's teams.

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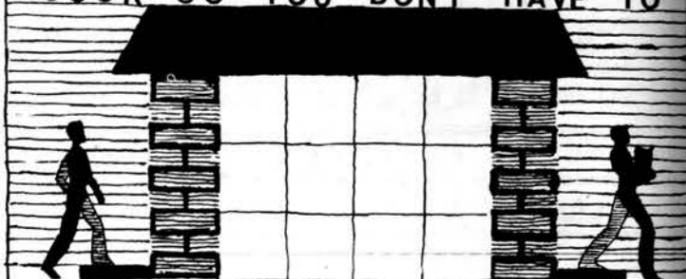
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