

Basketball
season
begins

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central high register

A close
look at
today's
family
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No. 6

CHS recruits sophs

Choosing a high school is like choosing a flavor of ice cream; the decision is difficult because they all look so good.

Central is involved in many activities aimed at encouraging ninth grade students to select Central. Students will have received letters, attended workshops, and talked to counselors about Central before the February decision date.

The Omaha Public School district is involved in presenting and explaining the eight public high schools to students through a slide/tape presentation which gives a three-minute description of each high school.

Recruitment workshops are being held at Central to give ninth graders a chance to enhance their writing skills. The emphasis is to be on writing, said Mr. Dan Daly, head of the English department. The workshops are supposed to be educational in purpose and are not to stress the propaganda aspect of recruitment, Mr. Daly said.

Mr. John Jorgensen, special assistant in student personnel services for OPS, sees four basic steps in the decision-making process. First, ninth graders receive a letter explaining their school options. The students then view the slide/tape presentation of all of the high schools. The workshops follow, and then students are invited to an open house, or Sophomore Night.

In addition to these methods, Mr. Daly said two letters are sent to the students who attend the workshops at Central. The first letter reminds students of their visit to Central and asks students to call Central if they have any further questions. The second letter, sent right before the decision is to be made, is an "out and out recruitment letter," according to Mr. Daly.

Students aren't the only ones encouraged to consider Central. Mrs. Becky Means, president of PTSA, said that neighborhood coffees given by parents are held in various areas in order to better acquaint parents with Central's program. Central counselors visit junior high schools to answer questions about Central. The Future Central Committee has prepared a fact sheet about Central that is distributed at the coffees and is given to real estate companies to give to people that are moving. Free tickets to Central performances are also available to ninth graders and their parents who are interested in Central.

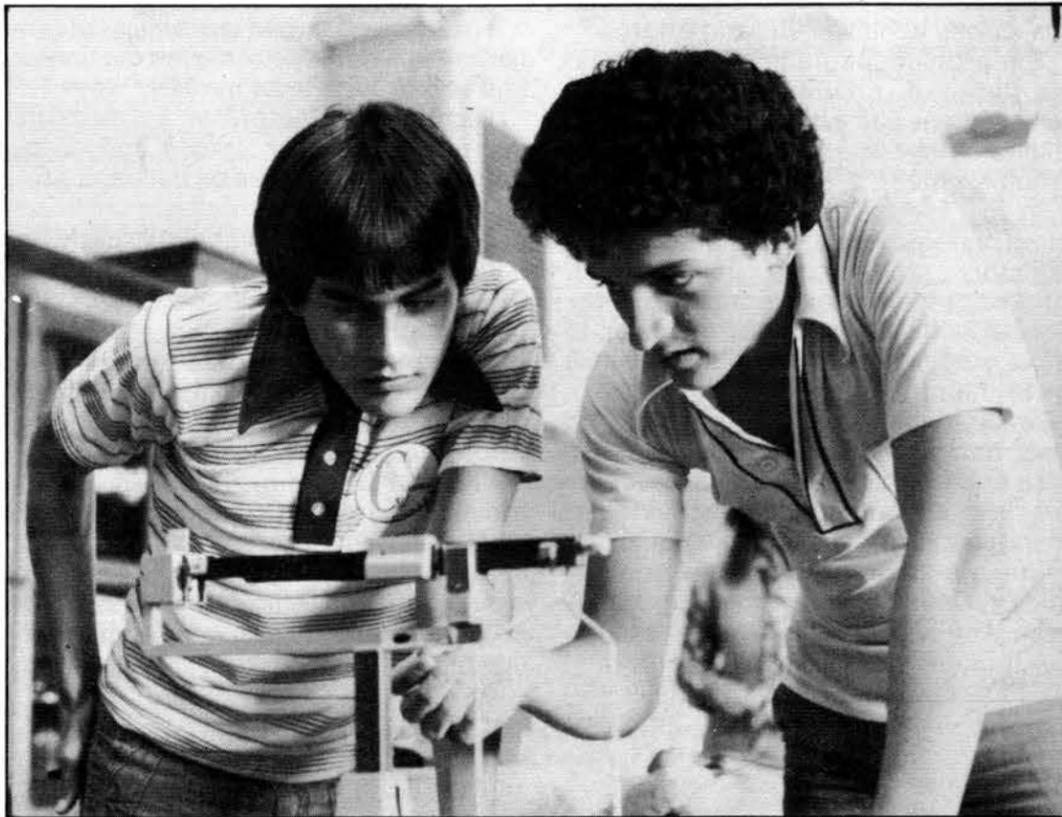


photo by Howard K. Marcus

Jeff Jezewski and Ted Fotopoulos, ninth graders at Norris Junior High, improve their writing skills by observing and recording a science experiment at a writing workshop.

Gym delayed by moisture problems

Central students may still have to wait a long time for the completion of their new gym, according to Mr. Nick Stolzer, head of building construction for the Omaha Public Schools. The reason: a wet concrete floor.

Mr. Stolzer said that the concrete floor that was poured during the summer somehow has absorbed a large amount of moisture. According to Mr. Stolzer, the synthetic gym floor (a new type of gym floor now replacing many wood floors) cannot be laid down and bleachers constructed until moisture in the concrete floor is removed.

The only reason Mr. Stolzer has for the presence of so much water in the concrete floor is the rainy weather during construction. There were many spring rains during the construction of the new gym. Also the floor was laid before the gym ceiling was completed, allowing water from rains to stand on the cement floor.

Mr. Edward McRoy, the product manager for Swanson Gentleman Hart, Inc., the manufacturer of the synthetic floors, has never seen a concrete gym floor take so long to dry out as Central's has. "It usually takes at the latest 60 days for a concrete floor to dry. I have never seen a case like this anywhere in the country," Mr. McRoy said he has absolutely no idea what was causing the moisture to stay in the concrete floor. We also said the synthetic gym floor would not be laid until the moisture was removed, "otherwise the synthetic floor might not hold and would come up."

The moisture content in the gym floor is tested by the use of a plastic sheet and a heat lamp. The plastic sheet is first taped to the floor. Then a heat lamp is placed over the plastic for several hours. If moisture is present underneath the plastic sheet, the concrete floor is still too wet. So far, all the tests have shown that moisture is still in the floor.

Mr. Bill Meysenberg, a representative of Lueder

Construction Company, the general contractor for the new gym, also knew of no reason why the concrete floor was not dry. Mr. Meysenberg dismissed first the idea that the locker room showers located beneath the gym floor could be the cause of moisture in the gym floor. Vapor barriers have been placed between the locker room ceiling and the gym floor. "Even if this was the case, the moisture would be in one area, not scattered throughout the gym floor," said Mr. Meysenberg.

Even if the concrete floor does dry out soon, according to Mr. Stolzer, Central students are still in for a long wait. It will take three weeks to lay down the synthetic gym floor and two weeks to construct the bleachers.

Central principal Dr. G. E. Moller says he is "totally discouraged" by the long wait. "The original date for the completion of the gym was the beginning of the school year. Now we just have to wait."

Handicapped students adjust to life at Central

by Jay Cihlar

Attending a public high school creates unique problems for handicapped students. Nancy Karstens and Jeffrey Butler are solving these problems.

Nancy, a junior at Central, is visually impaired. Jeff, a senior, has mechanical arms. "That makes me sound like the six million dollar man," said Jeff. Both were born handicapped. As handicapped students, Jeff and Nancy face several impediments at Central.

Student relationships

A major problem area is their relationship with the other students and teachers. The non-handicapped often misunderstand or discriminate against the handicapped, Nancy and

Jeff said.

"Just because we look different doesn't mean that we aren't human beings. We've still got feelings, we've still got brains. We just have to try harder sometimes, and we do," said Jeff.

Few differences

Another misconception, said Nancy, is the "mannerisms that people place with blind people — like wearing sunglasses and hanging their heads."

Some people underestimate the ability of blind people by overemphasizing the difference between the visually impaired and themselves, Nancy said.

"I'm not really different; I can do most of what anyone else can," she said. "I don't really consider myself handicapped — I've never really had a 'handi-

cap'. I mean, I can get around, and I'm rather bright, if I do say so myself. I don't want to be shown as the helpless blind girl; I can cope."

"I can't do everything, and sometimes this handicapped business really does get in my way. But I do the same things (as non-handicapped students), only a little bit differently; and sometimes my problems are maybe a little different," said Jeff.

Just plain person

"There are some people that have inhibitions toward me. Naturally there are going to be, but it doesn't really show," Nancy said.

"There's only one word that I don't like, and that's 'crippled'. 'Handicapped person,' yes;

'crippled person,' no; and what's wrong with just plain person?" Jeff said.

The second major difficulty for handicapped students at Central concerns physical adaptation to the school. The design and location of Central's building, along with its class assignments can create some problems, Nancy and Jeff said.

"It's just the bigness of the building, to begin with. The stairs aren't that much of a problem," Nancy said.

Transportation

"Coming to Central isn't very hard; I've always come in a car-pool with my friends. But going home is a little more difficult," she said.

Jeff rides to and from Central

in a van provided by the Omaha Public Schools.

Nancy and Jeff cannot write themes or take tests and notes in class in the same way that non-handicapped students can.

"When I have to take a test it takes me a little long to finish it," Jeff said.

Research papers

Nancy's English teacher Mrs. Marlene Bernstein said, "The research paper may be the one problem for Nancy."

Nancy and Jeff, with cooperation from other Central students and faculty, have developed, and are developing, solutions to the problems created by being handicapped and attending a public high school.

By having handicapped stu-

continued on p. 6

Grade inflation deserves attention

Grade inflation at the elementary school level has been in the news of late. It is important that grade inflation at such an early level be examined carefully. This is necessary because the effects of grade inflation do not materialize until the junior and senior high level.

editorial

The Omaha Public Schools utilize two different methods for assessing grades at the elementary level. These two methods assess achievement and effort.

The problem of grade inflation lies in the lack of differentiation between achievement and effort that is made by teachers.

Achievement is measured numerically in five levels whereas effort is measured on three levels: commendable, satisfactory, and needs improvement. Inflated grades result from teachers assigning achievement grades similar to effort grades even if the achievement is lower than the effort.

Teacher justification, particularly in the primary grades of first, second, and third comes from the fact that teachers are "very concerned with each child as an individual and they don't want to discourage a student (with a low grade)," said Dr. Craig Fullerton, assistant superintendent of instructional services.

Although this defense is somewhat

justifiable, it only serves to hurt a young student. This is most evident for underachieving students.

The effects of grade inflation are seldom realized at the elementary level. Mr. Lawrence Heck, principal of Harrison Elementary School, said that students "don't realize the effects" of grade inflation until they get older when "grade inflation doesn't fool anyone."

It is the fact that students do not realize the effects of grade inflation until junior and senior high school that is alarming.

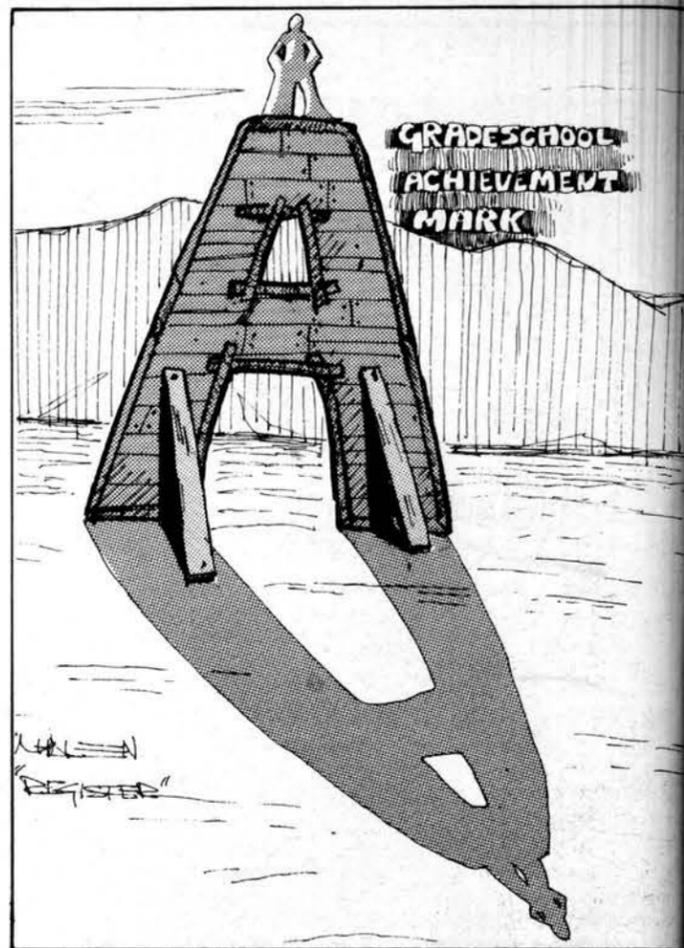
The after effects of general grade inflation are demonstrated at the junior and senior high level in many ways.

Teachers are surprised by students complaining of low grades and dropping national averages on SAT and ACT tests.

The problem of elementary grade inflation demands immediate attention. The root of the grade inflation lies in the grading of effort.

A simple solution to end elementary grade inflation would be to eliminate the effort section of the grading analyses. Effort grading is intangible.

The best way to give what Dr. Fullerton calls, "a reward commensurate with what a student deserves" would be on a strict numerical grading scale. This would avoid the difficult task of separating achievement from effort and succeed in giving fair and accurate grades.



Opinions in brief

Extra newspapers

Three thousand copies of this issue are being delivered to prospective Central High students.

The process of selecting a high school is not an easy task. Individual considerations must be reviewed for each prospective high school.

We hope this paper will help ninth graders have an inside look at Central. This inside look should better acquaint prospective students with Central.

Newspapers on sale

Extra copies of the *Register* are now on sale for ten cents a copy in room 317. This is being done for students without SA tickets and students wishing extra copies.

The financial aspect of the operation of the newspaper precludes the free delivery of the *Register* to all students.

However, the newspaper is published for students, and we do our best to make the newspaper available to a maximum amount of students.

Letters

Cafeteria activities remain problem

To the editor:

Recent episodes of overly rambunctious behavior in the lunchrooms have shed light upon the necessity for improved supervision by faculty during the lunch periods. Students fight with food and make a general mess each period. This rowdy behavior is exhibited most significantly by fifth period lunch students. This is obviously a tribute to the inadequate supervision by faculty members.

The school administration has idealistically assumed that students are mature enough to behave in a civilized manner without the necessity of faculty observation. While the behavior of stu-

dents per se is abhorrent and is deserving of fulmination, the lack of action by the administration is perhaps more execrable because it implies condonation of unacceptable behavior.

While I do not advocate installation of an overbearing "police-state" in the cafeteria, I do believe that more supervision is necessary. The means to accomplish this aim is through more equal distribution of teachers between lunchrooms for all lunch periods. In the meantime, I should hope that students would exercise more regard for the rights of their fellows during the lunch periods, and exhibit a degree of maturity.

Tim Martin

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Central High cafeteria

This week, I review Omaha's closest and cheapest restaurant for Central students. This elegant eating establishment is located high atop the Central building. You guessed it — it's the Central High cafeteria.

There are several disadvantages to the nearness of the place. The waiting-in-line time is unbelievable. A partial solution, to avoid the wait, is to wait at your seat until the line gets shorter.

Even this doesn't solve all of the problem, for while you wait at your seat, your precious 27-minute lunch period is fast running out.

on
the
go



Howard K. Marcus

One veteran cafeteria goer was overheard to say, as he came running back to his seat, "I've only got 5½ minutes to snarf down all this food!"

Some kids have found a permanent solution to the problem. They either skip lunch entirely or get a sundae. In actual tasting of the food, I've found it to be boring, but tasty.

Favorite foods

Veteran cafeteria goers have a lot to say about the cafeteria. Everyone has his or her favorite food. Lasagna and pizza seem to come in first, followed by burritos, bar-be-qued beef sandwiches, and chicken-fried steak.

The cooking operation is quite clean. You can never get sick from the food, so if you keel over in the hall after lunch, at least food poisoning won't be the cause of death.

Seriously, though, the food is better than in some restaurants I've found. The menu is fairly predictable; that is, you know what the food will taste like because you've probably had it before.

Lasagna and pizza seem to come in first, followed by burritos, bar-be-qued beef sandwiches, and chicken-fried steak.

Several things seem to hit almost everyone's all-time hate list. For example, take the patty melt. Please.

Another much-hated item is the mashed potatoes, which were originally delivered to the cafeteria by mistake.

It seems that during WWII, a squad of airplanes on a practice mission used huge bags of powdered potatoes for bombs, and mistook Central for their target. Kids have been eating the potatoes ever since.

Food fights

The french fries, though of good quality, are perfectly suited for use in the cafeteria ritual known as the food fight.

The french fry is easy to hold, and to throw. It flies through the air with the greatest of ease.

Sometimes the food is hard to identify. One girl said, "What is that green stuff?" when she pointed at the sloppy joe. Maybe each food could have a name tag, explaining just what it is.

"Food's food," said the kid sitting across from me at the table. Maybe he's right. But from now on, I'll bring my lunch.

Student lot needs work?

All the chuckholes are not in Omaha's streets. "It (Central student parking lot) needs regrading to help level out the ditches because it cannot be resurfaced," said Teri Mancuso, student assembly president.

Who must maintain the student parking lot? Last year, the Omaha Public School district took over the parking lot maintenance due to an Environmental Protection Agency conflict. The EPA claimed the parking lot released too much pollution into the air. The Omaha School District leases the lot from Joslyn.

"We pay one dollar per year and renew it every five years for five years," said Ms. Delores Turnquist, department of business services for OPS. She added, the lease hold interest is for lots one, two and the east 50 feet of lot three. Therefore, there are 101 parking places available.

"The School Board doesn't charge any students for parking," said Mr. Myrton Hall, department of business services for OPS.

The parking lot is a money-raising project for student assembly.

The student assembly charged three dollars for a parking permit this year. According to Mrs. Vickie Anderson, student assembly sponsor, the approximate amount raised was 270 dollars.

The money raised goes to the student council treasury, where it is usually spent on the prom. She added, "This year any group can petition for money, and it must go for the betterment of the school."

The student assembly is responsible for the daily upkeep of the parking lot, according to Mr. Hall. Daily upkeep includes picking up debris and providing security for the parking lot.

However, the School Board is in charge of maintenance, which includes grading and snow removal. According to Mr. Bob Woods, operations office of OPS, the school district owns and operates its own machinery for snow removal and grading. Mr. Hall mentioned scouts, jeeps, and tractors as examples.

How does one go about improving the conditions of the parking lot? Before any improvement can be made, a requisition must be sent by the principal to the operations office. This year no requisitions have been sent. Last summer, the student assembly wanted to regrade the parking lot, but it would have cost 250 dollars.

"This year I have received no complaints about the parking lot," said Dr. G. E. Moller, central principal. "If the student assembly will tell me, I will make a requisition," added Dr. Moller.

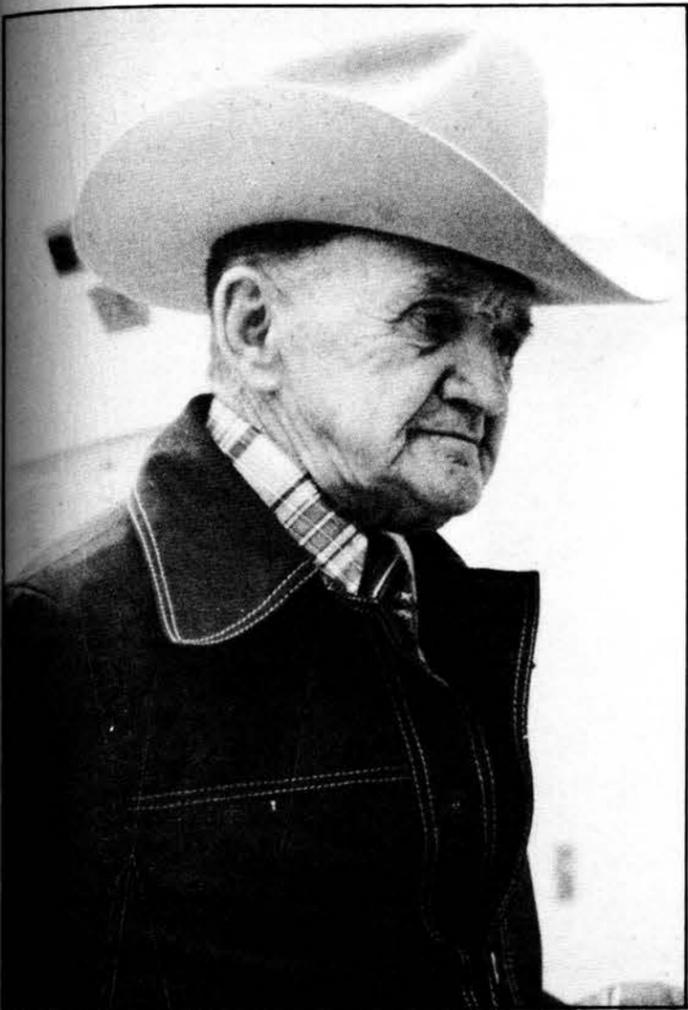


photo by Stuart Wheat

Mr. Parish, age 87, reflects on his youth.

Grad returns to CHS

In 1909, George Parish graduated from Omaha High School. Almost seventy years later, Mr. Parish returned to his alma mater. "When I first came here, there was only one side of the building. Now there are four," Mr. Parish said.

Mr. Parish is now living with his family in San Antonio, Texas. "We came back to Omaha to attend a hall of fame meeting at the University of Nebraska at Omaha," said Mr. Laverne Parish, son of the Central graduate.

"At Omaha University" (now UNO), "I was a four year letter winner and in my senior year, I scored the only touchdown against a team that hadn't been scored against all year," said the 87-year-old Mr. Parish. "I couldn't play sports while I was here at Central. I had a job delivering the *Herald News*. That took up most of my time," he commented.

Mr. Parish did participate in an early form of ROTC, called D Company. "I was a second lieutenant," he added.

There were four of the companies, A, B, C, and D, which practiced on the south and east sides of the school.

Mr. Parish was a fairly good student at Central as indicated by his grades. "I took German here at Central, took it at the university, married a German girl, and I can't speak or remember a word of German."

Mr. Parish also remembers two faculty members at Central at the time he attended. "There was a biology teacher named Senter and the principal's name was Gauff."

Mr. Parish was a member of UNO's first graduating class in 1913. It was a class of eleven people. A lot of things have happened to me since then."

McDole leaves

Central music teacher Mr. Dale McDole recently resigned his position as the director of instrumental music at Central. A permanent substitute, Mr. Joel Edwards, has been named temporarily the director of bands.

Contacted at home, Mr. McDole refused to reveal any of his reasons for leaving Central, except to say that he did not leave because of any happenings between him and his students, and that his reasons for leaving were personal.

Mr. McDole, who this year began his first year of teaching at Central, submitted his resignation to the office of personnel of the Omaha Public Schools during teacher's convention.

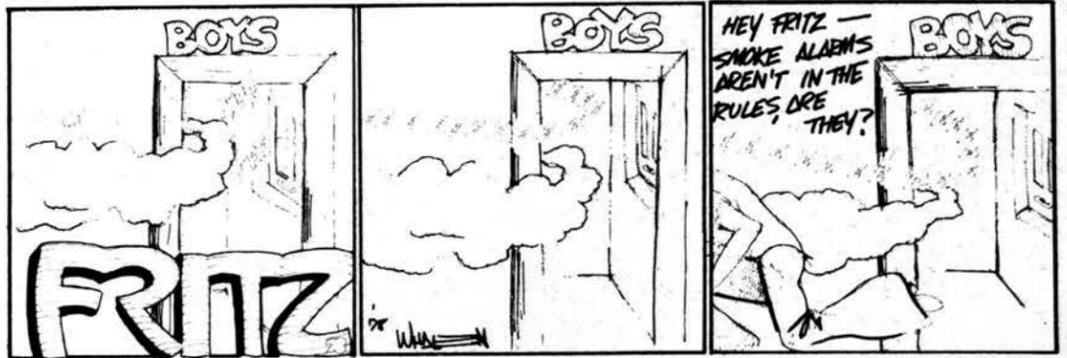
According to Mr. Richard Jorgensen, coordinator of music for OPS, every attempt is being made to find a qualified director for Central. Mr. Jorgensen also said that the personnel department was trying quickly to find a replacement but would "take the time to make a good decision."

Central principal Dr. G. E. Moller said Mr. McDole's resignation came as a "complete surprise." Dr. Moller said that he knew of no reason why Mr. McDole left and that he gave no indication of his leaving Central. Dr. Moller was notified by the OPS personnel office after Mr. McDole's resignation was accepted.

Until a new director has been selected, Mr. Joel Edwards has been selected by the personnel department to direct the bands at Central.

Director of personnel for OPS, Dr. Ron Anderson, refused any comment about Mr. McDole's resignation aside from stating that his resignation was for personal reasons.

Mr. Edwards is a graduate of Northwest High and attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha on a scholarship. Since his graduation in 1977, Mr. Edwards has taught music in the parochial school system.



The Northerners
 "We're making things happen in natural gas"

One-parent families— a common lifestyle

Many Central students are from single parent families. Having only one parent in the home creates a unique situation for both the parent and the child.

Recent studies show that a significant number of families are headed by single parents. According to *Newsweek*, May 15, 1978, 5.3 million American families with children under 18 years of age have only one parent in the home.

A great number of these single parent families are the result of divorce or the death of a spouse.

"It places a lot more stress on the one parent. That parent has to take on the role of both mother and father," said Central senior Mary Margrave.

"It's harder on my mother," said Central senior Beth Nelle. "She tries to make it up to me."

Mr. James Heater, a psychologist for the Ralston Public Schools, felt that there is more pressure on the single parent than on the child. "The role of a child in a single parent family is not an easy one either; however, the single parent must deal with problems that normally two people would share," he said.

Because only one parent is around, more home responsibility usually falls on the children. The children may have to pick up the extra work that would otherwise be shared by the other parent.

Along with responsibility comes independence. "I think I'm more independent," Central senior Cindy Green said.

Due to divorce or the death of a parent, many children are forced to adjust from living with both parents to living with just one. This adjustment can be very difficult for both parent and child.

Some, however, are able to more easily adapt to the new situation. Beth Nelle said adjusting was not especially hard for her.

One problem facing many of the single parent families is the financial burden that is placed on them. One Central student said she had to get a job to pay for her personal needs. She said she is expected to pay for her own clothes, spending money, and college expenses.

Central guidance counselor Mrs. Geri Zerse, a single parent herself, said, "One problem that may face the child from a single parent family is the working factor. Most single parents are forced to work outside their home to support their family; there's just no other alternative."

The absence of a parent is often deeply felt by a child. "Sometimes there are things you want to go to your father for," said Cindy Green. "And he's not there."

Mrs. Melita Nelson, a single parent with four children, pointed out that, "It's hard to make the children understand that the one parent can't replace the other parent entirely."

Some children develop a closer relationship to a single parent. Beth Nelle said that she feels closer to her mother.

In recent years single parent families have become more accepted as a normal home situation, and adoption agencies are now placing children in homes with only one parent.

Mrs. Zerse said that students from a single parent family aren't any different from students from a two parent family. Although they are faced with a difficult situation at home, they are just the same as other students.

In the classroom, children from single parent families do not stand out from others. "My children seem to blend in pretty well with their classmates," said Mrs. Neslon. "Having only one parent doesn't affect their schoolwork."



Photographers:

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Ralph
Tim P
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Home life changing

The average family in today's society has changed from the family of a generation ago.

The traditional family has changed unequivocally in the last twenty-five years.

"Today's faster pace of life has changed the family. Our society moves much faster than it did a generation ago, and lifestyles have changed considerably," said Mr. Kevin Moran, Central counselor.

Technological advances in transportation and communication have altered the pace of life. For example, the automobile has made our society more mobile. On the average, today's family has access to two or three cars, whereas a generation ago, each family usually had access to only one car.

Using the auto, most people can come and go whenever they please, and in this way the family gets separated from each other and from the home.

Modernization has greatly changed the contemporary housewife. Appliances and machines have taken over most all household chores, leaving today's woman with much more time on her hands.

Consequently, housewives have more time for activities and organizations, and many add to the family income by getting part-time jobs. This extra spare time has had the overall effect of moving the housewife away from the home.

Television has much influence on today's family. "Television is to blame for many of our family and social problems," said a Central parent. "Television does not encourage the use of one's imagination, and in some ways it even hinders communications between family members."

Parents sometimes use the television as a "baby sitter" for their children, and families often spend entire evenings together just watching television. Anything that is broadcast can thus influence family members.

Besides an increasing technology, there are other aspects of the contemporary society that are creating changes within the family.

Ethics and morals have changed concerning women and other minorities, and this reflects back into the home.

"Women's rights, the feminist movement, and changing views of women's roles have had a great impact on the family," said Mr. Joseph Kelly of the Catholic Social Services.

"Americans are raising their children in life styles that differ from the traditional family — in communes, in unmarried voluntary families, and in single parent families," according to the 1975 World Book *Year Book*.

The divorce rate among American families has gone up. Due to reasons that are unclear, but quite probably are associated with today's fast-paced society, more and more families are being upset by divorce. The obvious differences are more single-parent families and an increase in the importance of the woman in society.

Other factors have also contributed to instability in the family. People move from place to place much more than they did a quarter of a century ago. This could result in a feeling of disorientation by the children in the family.

The American family has definitely changed from that of a generation ago. The question is: for better or for worse? According to Mrs. Zerse, Central counselor, "There are still many unanswered questions. We don't know if the change is for the better or the worse."



Chris Kalkowski

Ralph Lloyd

Tim Peters

Enid Steinbart

Ruling gives aid to students

A new federal law should make it easier for students in middle-income families to receive financial aid to cover college costs, according to a recent *World-Herald* article.

New ruling

The new government ruling provides for an additional 1.5 million students to receive Basic Educational Opportunity Grants. The grants, which can supply a student with up to \$1,800 a year, are awarded on the basis of need.

In the past, students of middle-income families had a difficult time obtaining financial aid because their family's income was too high to qualify for aid.

Eligibility

Eligible to apply for the grants are those students who have been accepted for at least half-time enrollment at approved colleges, community/junior colleges, vocational schools, technical institutes, hospital schools of nursing, and other post high school institutions.

To apply for the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG), the student must obtain a Family Financial Statement (FFS), or a BEOG application. To be sure which of these forms to use to apply for a grant, the student should contact the financial aid officer at the school of your choice. Applications may be submitted any time after Jan. 1.

Eligible students will receive notification within six weeks after having submitted their application. The notification received can then be sent to one or more approved institutions. Each will calculate the amount of the award that the student will receive. The amount of the award will be based on factors such as the student's eligibility and the cost of the school's tuition.

Other forms of financial aid are also available to the student in need. Some of the larger programs are:

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG). The SEOG is for students of exceptional financial need who would not be able to further their education without it.

The SEOG may be received for up to four years, but in some cases (courses requiring extra study) the time limit may be extended to five years. In addition to the government aid given by the SEOG, the school must at least match the amount of aid given by the SEOG.

If a SEOG is awarded, it can be not less than \$200, but no more than \$1,500 a year.

Loans

National Direct Student Loans (NDSL). Though these are loans which must be repaid, cancellations on payment are available to those students who go into certain fields of teaching or specified military duty.

Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSLP). Under this program, students are able to borrow money directly from commercial lenders. These loans are either insured by the government or are guaranteed by a state or private nonprofit guaranteed agency.

These loans must be repaid, except under extreme circumstances.

Handicapped students adapting getting around no problem

Continued from p. 1

dents attend Central, the non-handicapped people learn to overcome their misconceptions and prejudice, Nancy and Jeff said.

Central principal Dr. G. E. Moller agreed.

"I hope that by sitting in the same classroom with a handicapped student, the other students learn that the handicapped are people. It is a lesson for the non-handicapped," said Dr. Moller.

"When a kid gets to know me, they don't think of me as a handicapped person anymore, more of as a friend," Jeff said.

Jeff mentioned an example of prejudice, and how he handled it, that happened before he came to Central.

Jeff and Nancy have learned how to get around the school building. Jeff usually uses an elevator. Nancy uses a cane help her walk through the hall and stairs.

In the summer before her sophomore year, Nancy came to Central and "got to know" the building.

"I just went through it and kept practicing it and practicing it. I know most of it pretty well now," Nancy said.

Jeff writes his tests and themes in class and has his "own special system" for doing his homework. "I just get it done in my study hall."

Jeff's American history teacher Mr. Jack Blanke said, "Jeff has any problems (in class) everyone sort of looks at

"Getting around Central is no problem . . ."

"As far as being black and handicapped goes, there is just one incident that I can think of. Once this one kid called me a nigger and hit me in the chest. Well I just picked up my hand and hit him right back and told him 'Don't you ever do that again.' I think that is the only time I've ever hit anyone," Jeff said.

Both Nancy and Jeff have physically adapted themselves to Central. They know how to get around the building and how to function in the classroom, they said.

Nancy has learned how to take a public transit bus home from Central.

"Actually, it was rather strange. I did it on my own. I used to take the number two bus home, but one of my friends suggested that I take a number four because it goes closer to my house. She told me that the bus stop was four blocks down from Central. One day I just walked down there and caught the bus — miraculously enough. So I've been taking it ever since."

him."

Nancy's reading assignments are either recorded tape or are brailled for her by persons of the Visually Impaired Division of the Special Education Department.

"Nancy uses a brailler to take notes in class and writes her answers on a typewriter she has set up in class. When her teachers aren't brailled, an aide reads questions to her," said Mr. Bernstein.

Besides Nancy's honors English class, she also attends drama class and A Cappella choir. She was in Central's musical production, "Sweet Charity." "I played the receptionist, and I was in the 'Rhythm of Life' chorus," she said.

"I tried out for the part of everyone else. I really worked hard at it," Nancy said.

Both Nancy and Jeff were concerned about having an article about themselves printed in the school newspaper.

Jeff said, "I hope some kids read the story pretty serious. Like I said, being handicapped is no picnic."

of central importance

Debate

This year's debate topic, said Ms. Ellen Galvin, debate teacher, is "Energy Independence of the United States."

The debate team has gone to two tournaments this year. The first was Nov. 11 and 12, in Worthington, Minnesota. Ms. Galvin said they did well but didn't place because the varsity members are juniors and they are mainly competing against seniors.

The debate team's second tournament was in Millard, Nov. 18 and 19. The team of Mike Lustgarten and Robin Frazier was the only team with a 4-2 record that didn't break for finals.

The debate team will go to a third tournament Dec. 1 and 2 at Atlanta, Iowa.

Anthropology — Archeology

Artifacts found on the recent Anthropology and Archeology Society dig are now being classified, said club faculty adviser Mr. Creighton Steiner.

Two bus loads of students went to Genoa, Nebraska, on Oct. 27 to find the artifacts.

Members of the Society agree that this was a successful dig. Among the items found were arrowheads, scrapers, drills, and pottery fragments made by Pawnee Indians in the last century and earlier. Some of the better finds were borrowed by the Genoa newspaper to be photographed.

A Cappella

A Cappella Choir and the CHS Singers will be giving a concert at the Sharon Seventh-Day Adventist Church at 3036 Bedford on Saturday, December 9. The concert starts at 5:00, and the public is invited.

JROTC

On Nov. 18, many Central High JROTC cadets competed for two different awards.

The first award, called Run For Your Life, required that the students run one mile around the Norris Junior High School track. The cadets had to wear heavy boots and were allowed up to 8½ minutes to complete the run.

The second award, called the Physical Fitness ribbon, required the students to run the same distance. However, tennis shoes could be worn instead of boots. The cadets that earned the Physical Fitness ribbon were Barnett, Collins, Crinklaw, Crinklaw, Curry Hall, Rihaneck, Sepeda, Slegl, Staben, Williams, and Zielinski.

Those who earned the Run For Your Life award were Cadets Barnett, Collins, Crinklaw, Crinklaw, Curry, Hall, Rihaneck, Sepeda, Staben, Williams, and Zielinski.

Stairs rebuilt

Mr. Al LaGreca, assistant principal and chairman of the landscape committee, was the first one to discover that the new steps outside on the east side of the east side of the building were crooked.

The steps didn't meet specifications. The contractors had to meet their contract and redo the top step.

The step not only looked bad, said Mr. LaGreca but would have caused problems with water collection.

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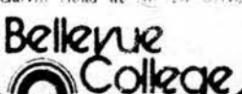
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Talented Central runner Labenz enjoys long distance competition

"When I was in sixth grade, I ran distance races just to see what would happen," Jim Labenz said.

34 minutes. "The last time I ran, I finished 80th in 3 hours and 6 minutes," he added.

Jim, a junior, has been running distance races ever since he was in grade school.

During the spring and summer, Jim ran nearly ten miles per day, seven days a week to prepare for the marathon. "I started my preparations in February when the track season came along. After track, I continued to run so I'd be ready for the marathon. After the marathon, I decided to keep in shape so I'd be ready for cross country. I'll stay in shape for track. I guess it's kind of a cycle," Jim said.

"It all started when I was a little kid," Jim said. "My older brother, John, was a sophomore here at Central and I was only in sixth grade. I ran with him just to see what would happen. Whenever I started to feel pain, I'd quit."

Jim was the only harrier to qualify for state for the Central Eagles. He qualified for state by running a record 13 minutes 6 seconds on the Elmwood Park cross country course. "That's the toughest course in the city," he added.

Jim consistently ran a fairly long course while in the seventh and eighth grades. "I usually ran about five or six miles every day," he added.

Jim has led the Central harriers during the 1978 season by winning three dual meets and by placing no lower than seventh in every invitational. Jim also finished eighth in state competition.

The Labenz family had a great deal to do with Jim's interest in running. "It was my brother who really influenced my running a lot. I just kind of picked up after him."

"I believe I have done well because normally I know the top people I have to run against in advance. I just keep my eye on them and set my pace with theirs."

Jim's running reached a snag when he entered Lewis and Clark Junior High.

John Labenz, Jim's older brother, is another reason Jim has done so well. "I mainly went after his records," Jim said. "He finished second at districts, and at state, his best was fourteenth. Now that I've beaten his best, I'll just have to go for my own best."

"My enjoyment of running is the only reason I didn't quit back in seventh and eighth grades. The farthest race in competition was the 440 yard dash. I didn't think I was fast enough to run that race. I just continued to practice on my own and run in marathons when they came up," he said.

Approximately 900 runners compete in the annual Omaha Marathon. Jim has run the course three times in his life and has finished no lower than 109th with a time of 4 hours and

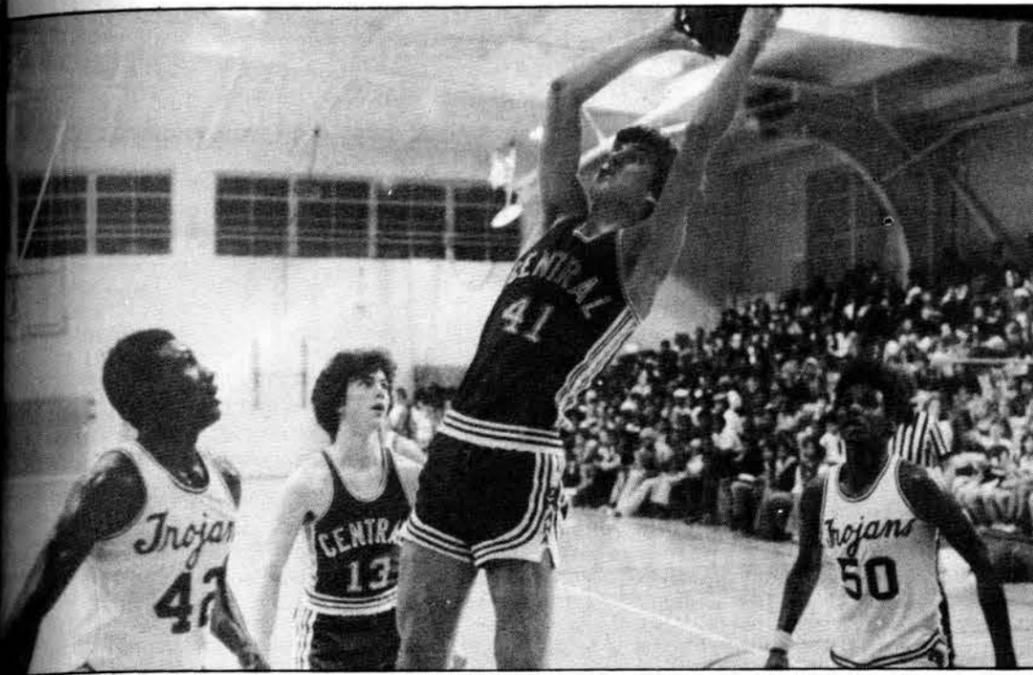


photo by Bob Wolf

Hansen grabs rebound in action against Tech while teammate Dave Herman and Tech players Malcolm Harris and Craig Willis look on.

Varsity b-ball off to good season

The Central boys' varsity basketball team started the season off right last Thursday night as they rolled over Bryan High School 75-43.

"It's a long story," said Coach Jim Martin in reference to why his team lost the game. "We had no shooting in the second half."

ond with eight points. He had 13 rebounds for the night.

"It was typical first game," said Central Coach Jim Martin, "and we're very happy we won."

"Tech was so intimidating that the guards were forced to take the shots, and they (the shots) didn't drop," said Coach Martin.

"They got the fast break on us and the run and gun," said Grady Hansen.

"We have a good team," said Coach Martin, "and we are potentially as good as last year, when we took second in state. We have excellent shooting ability. We have a lot of size and experience going for us, and we have two strong guards in Daryl Davis and Dave Felici."

One of the reasons that Central lost is that the Eagles gave up 22 points on turnovers in the second half and 31 points all together on turnovers. Central had 31 turnovers for the game.

"We need to work on the run for our next game," said Coach Martin. "It's going to be a tough ball game. We're going to have to be ready for that one."

The leading scorer for this game was Grady Hansen with 19 points. He also had 10 rebounds. Dwayne Dale was sec-

Central's next game is going to be played in Lincoln next Friday against Lincoln East. To give some idea of what to expect in this game, Coach Martin said "In Lincoln East's last game, they were ahead of Grand Island 40 to 8 at the half."

Central completely dominated the game over Bryan, except for the first few minutes when Bryan took a six-point lead. After that it was Central all the way.

"We should have scored a hundred," said Dwayne Dale, the leading scorer for the game. He had fifteen points. "We had the jitters, the first game butterflies. But I was pleased for the first game."

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Grady Hansen was second in scoring for the Eagles with fourteen points. "It was not one of our best games," said Grady. "But we controlled the boards, and they were pretty haphazard. If we settle down, we will do pretty well this season."

"It takes experience to win," said Coach Martin, "and we will have to learn to play control ball and make the game go faster or slower when necessary."

The second game of the season did not go so well for the team, as they lost to the number one rated Tech High Trojans 75-56. Central was rated number four by the Metro coaches going into the game.

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Space problems

An average student doesn't have much of an idea of the magnitude of the problems arising from lack of space in Central's present facilities. Due to the number of winter sports, coaches are faced with the same problems they have faced for years.

With three boys' basketball teams (varsity, j.v., and reserve), two girls' basketball (varsity and j.v.), wrestling, and girls' gymnastics all wanting prime practice time in Central's gym, it's a big problem. According to Mr. Doug Morrow, assistant principal in charge of student activities, "It's a matter of placing the teams on an equalized basis in Central's gym and satellite facilities."

Central's satellite gymnasiums are at George W. Norris Junior High, Martin Luther King Junior High, and Conestoga Elementary School.

Practice schedule

Here is an example for one week of how the teams use the gym and other practice sites. The boys' varsity and j.v. basketball teams practiced at Central from 2:45-5:00, girls' basketball went to Conestoga from 4:00-6:30, girls' gymnastics was at Central from 5:10-7:30, wrestling was held down in an area near the old boiler room, reserve basketball went to King, and boys' swimming was held at Norris.

In addition to the hassle, there's also a transportation problem in transferring to a satellite says Mr. Jim Martin, head boys' basketball coach. "The sophomores have to learn to be aggressive enough to ask for the sophomores and it becomes frustrating when there aren't enough kids to start practice on time."

Transportation of participants isn't the only problem along those lines. Movement of equipment is also a dilemma. "We don't have enough to store here (at Central), and when we have to move it to Norris, the problem grows larger," said Mr. Martin.

Sharing the gym does have some merit, or so feel the coaches of the boys' and girls' gymnastics team, Mr. John Kocourek, and girls' volleyball coach, Mr. Stan Standifer.

The volleyball and gymnastics were the two teams this fall that had to share Central's gym. Between coaches' and team members' cooperation, Mr. Standifer said, "It worked beautifully. The men and ladies worked together with the limited space just great."

The joint practice created a bit of "comradery between teams," Mr. Kocourek commented. "We had a few volleyballers coming to our gymnastics meets, and vice versa. Then, also, the teams may have been a little better because they were performing for one another during practice."

Both coaches emphasized an important plus was that neither of the teams was so selfish as to say "our team is better and more important," so they worked together for the benefit of both teams and especially the students.

Upon completion of the new gym, Mr. Morrow said there will still be a scheduling problem if all teams want "prime time" (right after school) practice, but it would be one more practice area. "Theoretically, we will be able to house all teams' practices (except swimming) utilizing both 'prime' and late practice times," Mr. Morrow said.

Wrestlers successful at North

The North High 32nd Annual Wrestling Invitational came to an end Saturday night with the Central wrestlers finishing second in a field of 17 teams.

Central is one of six teams including Abraham Lincoln, North, South, Technical, and Thomas Jefferson, that have competed every year in the invitational's history.

Central's 101.5 team points was second only to Westside's 139, with Lewis Central finishing third with 96.5 points. Central's second place finish was a true team effort, according to Coach Ken Boettcher. Boettcher also felt that the team looked tough in all weight classes.

The team effort was led by senior Mark Rigatuso, who captured the 185 pound weight division championship. Rigatuso turned in two falls in three matches including a fall in 1:54 against Tom Wharton of Prep in the championship round.

Rigatuso, a district champion and eventual second place finisher at state last year, looks forward to a promising season for the team as well as himself.

Junior Kevin Kimsey took second place in the 145 pound weight division. Kevin won his first three matches handily, losing by a decision to Westside's Bill Stock, the number one seed, in the championship round.

Kimsey, who was the 119 pound champion last year at North, felt the team's second place finish showed a good team effort and a sign for things to come.

Capturing third place in the 155 pound weight division, senior Leonard Hawkins turned in three falls in four matches. Leonard lost a tough match in the semi-finals to eventual champion Matt Prusha of Westside, 8-7. Hawkins turned in a fall in 4:42 in his final match for third place over North's Scott Bostwick, the number one seed.

Seniors Mike Cross and Terry Gargano and Sophomore Johnny Curtis all finished fourth in their respective weight classes.

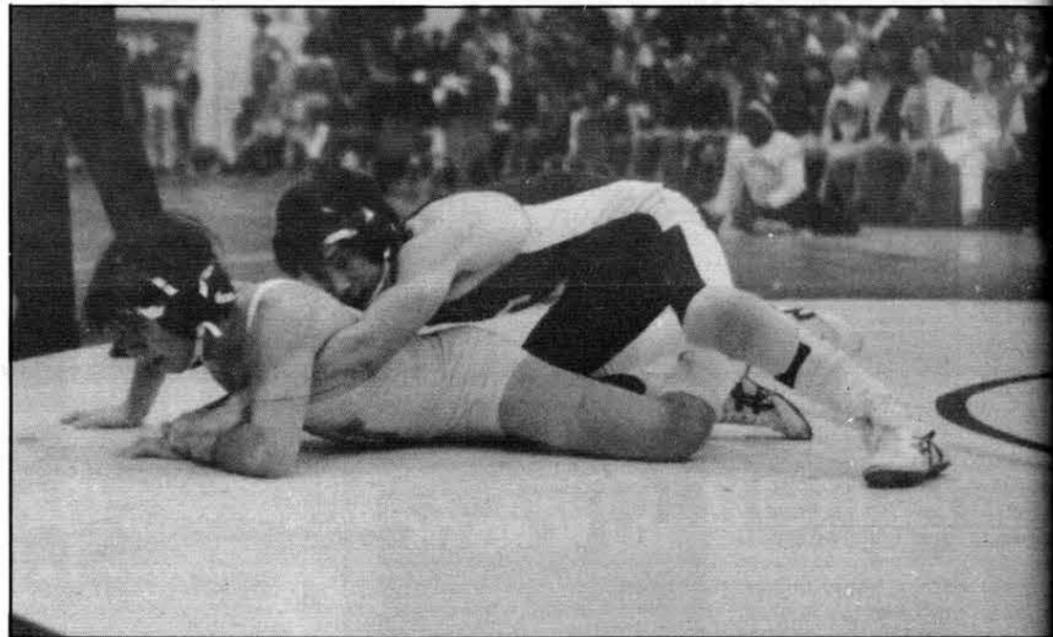
Cross, wrestling in the unlimited weight division, wrestled well despite a knee injury. Mike, also a district champ and high finisher at state last year, looks forward to another productive year for the team.

Gargano who was the number one seed in the 119 pound weight division, ran into some bad luck. Terry faced Terry Martinez of T.J. in the semi-finals. Leading 4-2 in the third period, Gargano was penalized three points for violations, giving the win to Martinez 5-4. Terry, another state champion last year, looks forward to the rest of the season as he believes there is much to come for this year's team.

Sophomore Johnny Curtis in his high school wrestling debut showed great skill and poise in his fourth place finish. Johnny said he felt the tournament was going to be tough, and it was. Johnny lost a close match in the semi-finals to Pat Pisasale of Northwest, 3-0.

Other wrestlers competing in the invitational were Kirk Brunson, Jody Mees at 112, Gary Grier at 126, Jesse Wilson at 132, Dan Meehan at 138, and Brent Emsick at 167.

Coach Ken Boettcher felt the team looked good and believed it would improve as the season progressed. He felt the team has much to look forward to and only hoped that people would get out and support them.



Gargano in action against Martinez

photo by Bob W...

eagle feathers

Varsity football

Mr. Gary Bailey, varsity football coach, feels the past season was somewhat disappointing. "But at the same time, we never played a game, with the exception of North, that we were completely out of," he said.

"A total of eleven points separated us from a 6-3 season," said Mr. Bailey. "This is an exact reversal of last year. Last year, we could win the close ones. This year, we couldn't."

Mr. Bailey also felt the division the Eagles competed in was tougher than usual. "Prep, Northwest, and Gross were all in our division. All three of these teams made it to the playoffs while Papillion, a fourth team in our division, won the metro championship," he added.

Mr. Bailey also thought the team spirit didn't let down as the season progressed. "I thought ninety percent of the team felt we could win every game. I've seen teams that thought exactly opposite. This wasn't one of those teams. That was evident in the last game. We played our best football in our last game against Benson."

J. V. football

The junior varsity football team finished the year with the first winning season in "many, many years," according to Mr. James Kimsey, j.v. coach. This season, with a 5-3 record, was the first time a j.v. football team had won a game in three years.

The last game was a 14-0 victory over Millard. Dwaine Dale "really came through in a tough situation for us on defense," Mr. Kimsey said.

Mr. Kimsey mentioned several other players having outstanding seasons. Pat Agire, Paul Orduna, Rick Poole, and Grant Gier were a few highlights on a fine football rig, he said.

Rigatuso honored

Mark Rigatuso, a six foot one, 215-pound offensive guard for Central's varsity football team was the only Eagle to be named to the All-State football squad of the *Omaha World-Herald*.

So far, Mark has received several letters from universities about his football future.

"I'm not sure about where I want to go next year, though."

Besides being chosen to the All-State team, Mark, a senior, was also chosen to the first team of the *World-Herald All-Metro* while David Felici, offensive end for the Eagles, was an honorable mention selection.

Reserve basketball

Central's reserve basketball team opened its season with an impressive 73-63 win over North. The reserve squad was led by Curby Moss who pumped in 16 points while grabbing 16 rebounds. Michale Jackson followed with 14 points.

The reserves got off to a slow start in the first half, as North came out with an aggressive full court press. But the sophomores showed good poise the remainder of the game in breaking North's press at will. The team also showed good depth as the entire bench played.

Members of the team are Don Andrews, Derick Armstrong, Steve Cannon, Mark Conway, Michael Jackson,

Willie McCardy, Curby Moss, Chris Peters, Enice Price, Frank Pruitt, Marlin Smith, Mark Teamer, and Don Tielor.

Boys' swimming

The boys' swimming team dropped their first two dual meets of the season, losing 67 to 16 to both Bellevue East and Millard. The only bright spot for the Eagle swimmers came in the diving events as sophomores Flip Crummer and Steve Coldwell took first and second respectively.

At the Westside Invitational, Central's junior varsity squad finished fifth in a field of six teams. Again it was in the diving events that the Eagles did well. Flip Crummer captured the event, with Steve Coldwell finishing fourth.

Team members include seniors Bob Schuerman and Alan Jensen, Juniors Dennis Belieu, Charley Hingley, Jeff Holte, Karl Kohrt, and Tim Longergan, sophomores Steve Coldwell, Henry Cordes, Flip Crummer, and Sam Talpalutsky and freshman Don Roads who attends Norris Junior High.

Reserves 7-1, close to perfect

Central's reserve football team finished an outstanding season with a 7-1 record. The sophomores took a big win from Prep 34-16. In their last game the sophomores were edged by undefeated Millard 13-6.

The Millard game was a classic clash of two undefeated teams. Millard looked very impressive with its 70-man team and the discipline it showed in its play. Central likewise looked impressive with its hard-nosed defense and flashy offense.

The sophomores found themselves down 6-0 at the half but came right back in the third quarter to tie it, 6 all. Millard taking advantage of a Central fumble, drove 40 yards to make it 13-6. Central's offense then took over with eight minutes remaining in the game. Driving the length of the field, Central found itself fourth and goal at the Millard three-yard line. On fourth down, quarterback Tom Green found to his left and, unable to find an open receiver, made a dash for the end zone. The Millard defense was able to push Green back inches before the goal line and save the win.

Central's student enrollment declines

High school enrollment in the Omaha Public School district is expected to drop 22 percent over the next five years.

This and other information was released on Dec. 13 in a report prepared by Dr. Irving Young, coordinator of research for the district.

"The nation is evidencing an extremely low birth rate," said the report. This, the report said, is the reason that the enrollment will fall.

"This decline will not result in any loss of programs," said Superintendent of OPS Dr. Owen A. Knutzen. "but it will mean that there will be fewer sections of the same thing."

A lower birth rate is not the only reason for the expected drop in enrollment. According to the report, 4-2 percent of the babies born in Douglas County later attended kindergarten classes in OPS. This figure was

only 59.5 percent last year.

The report indicated that this could be due to the court ordered integration plan which went into effect three years ago. The district is now in a court battle to end this forced busing.

How does this directly affect Central High School? According to Dr. G. E. Moller, Central principal, enrollment

Enrollment is down 30 percent in the last ten years.

ment has gone down approximately 30 percent in the last ten years. "But I don't see this as any problem," said Dr. Moller.

Six or seven years ago we had about 2000 students here," he said, "and now we have 1410."

This corresponds roughly with school district figures for the same period for the district at large.

"We have lost only one class during this period.

That is the Afro-American history class, but we're not sure that the loss has been caused by declining enrollment or lack of interest."

"We have lost eight teachers per year for the last two years," he said, "but the student/teacher ratio has remained fairly constant."

In response to a statement about a possible secondary school shutdown because of declining enrollment, Dr. Moller said, "This is a rumor that has been going around for at least the past ten years. Perhaps it has become more widespread now, I'm not sure. But I don't think that it is likely that our school would be the one to close. But speaking rationally and realistically, it could be any of the older high school buildings, including ours."

Dr. Knutzen said that it would be hard to say one way or the other.

central high register

Final Exam Schedule
Tuesday, January 23 . . . Exams I and VIII periods
Wednesday, January 24 . . . Exams II, III, and X periods
Thursday, January 25 . . . Exams IV, V & VI, VI & VII, and IX periods

Vol. 93

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, DECEMBER 21, 1978

No. 7

Science students complete research projects

Long hard work and patience pay off.

Central seniors Iris Engelson, Leora Mirvish, and Karen Ray found this true as they completed and submitted their Westinghouse science projects last week.

Westinghouse projects give students an opportunity to perform original scientific research, experimentation and report their results in a paper to be judged in national competition. The Westinghouse National Science Talent Search," said Gary Thompson, science department head.

Tests for memory

Three students, compared to last year's four, submitted papers to the competition from Central.

Iris Engelson's paper was entitled "Handedness and Short Term Memory of Visually and Auditorily Presented Nonsense Information." The purpose of her project was to determine if handedness (being left or right handed) had an effect on an individual's ability to remember nonsense information, such as numbers and shapes, presented visually or auditorily. In all, 68 Central students were tested, 34 left-handed and half right-handed. All other factors were considered.

'Null results'

"I came up with null results," said Iris. "Apparently handedness is not a factor in an individual's ability to remember nonsense information." The fact that Iris did not find that handedness was a factor does not hurt her chances in the competition.

Leora Mirvish used the bacterial inhabitant of the human intestine, *Escherichia coli*, to test the toxicity of the pungent chemical capsaicin, a chemical that is found in peppers. Her results were significant. She found that hot peppers, which have a greater concentration of capsaicin, kill bacteria better than green peppers that have a lesser concentration of the chemical. The title of her report was "The Effect of Various Concentrations of Cayenne Pepper Extract on the Growth of *Escherichia coli*." She also found that when the concentration of pepper extract was just barely tastable to humans, it was not toxic to the bacteria.

Heat pipes

Karen Ray's project involved the use of heat pipes. A heat pipe is a device that transfers heat. The title of her paper was "The Optimum Volume of Methyl Alcohol for a Lowcost Heat Pipe." Karen tested the pipe for which volume of methyl alcohol a heat pipe works most efficiently.

Much time

The amount of work, time, and patience it takes to complete a project like this is staggering.

"It took forever," said Leora. "It took five tries and changes in procedure to complete the experiment."

"The fact that I finished it is amazing," said Karen. "For a long time, about two weeks, all I did was come home and work on my project until 10:00 p.m. It took two months of actual work, somewhere between 50 and 75



photo by Matt Metz

Senior Karen Ray experiments with heat pipes for her Westinghouse science project.

hours."

"It took an incredible amount of time," said Iris, "most of it spent thinking about procedure."

Financial rewards

The rewards one can receive for doing such a project can be very lucrative. Forty national finalists share 87,500 dollars worth of scholarship money. In the past, Central has had a total of four national winners, and about 24 Central students have been selected to the national honors group.

"We have three quality projects this year," said Mr.

Thompson, "but I'm not promising anybody anything. The competition is so great."

Personal rewards, however, have already been found by this year's three contestants.

"I learned how to design an experiment," said Iris. "This was my first project that involved major research."

'Good experience'

"You can get a lot of mileage out of it for college applications," said Leora. "It's a good experience for anybody interested in science."

Karen summed it up by say-

ing, "When you finish it, you really feel like you've accomplished something."

Faculty advisers

Science teachers Dr. Robert Wolff, Mr. Gary Thompson, and Mr. John Williams served as advisers to the students. Math teachers Miss Virginia Pratt and Mr. Stephen Halula helped in the statistical area of the projects. Members of the English department were involved in proofreading the projects.

The winners will be announced around the end of January.

Moller visits classrooms to appraise

Central's principal, Dr. G. E. Moller, is back in the classrooms at Central.

Dr. Moller is not there to brush up on biology, meditate on sociology, or review trigonometry. He is back in the classroom to appraise teachers as required by the Omaha Public Schools.

The classroom visits are designed to improve instructional quality and are just one facet of the Omaha Public Schools' appraisal policy for teachers, said Dr. Moller.

The policy requires that all non-tenure teachers, those teachers who have been with the Omaha Public Schools four years or less, are appraised. Also, teachers with tenure are to be appraised once every three years.

"Theoretically, the policy is not there to snoop or criticize but to help improve the classroom situation," said Dr. Moller.

When visiting a classroom, he looks for positive things. "If certain difficulties or questionable

practices exist, I try to make suggestions that might be helpful," Dr. Moller said.

Besides Dr. Moller, the classroom observations are made by associate principals, department heads, and other supervisors from outside of Central. The classroom observation time must total 90 minutes. The time may be broken up and span over several months.

The appraisal reports on the teachers are sent to the Omaha Public School personnel office and put on file.

inside

Minimum-wage goes up

The effects aren't as good as they seem . . . page two

How does CHS resemble a camel?

They both have two bumps page three

Minimum-wage poor economics

On January 1, the federal minimum-wage increases to \$2.90 an hour. The majority of working students at Central earn minimum-wage and are directly affected by the increase. The adverse effects of a minimum-wage increase cause us not to support this legislation.

The economic consequences of an increase in the minimum-wage would be disastrous and would negate the effect of the pay hike on minimum-wage earners and the labor force as a whole.

editorial

The widespread economic consequences include higher inflation and unemployment which would help contribute to a predicted recession.

A *Wall Street Journal* article, describing the effects of the minimum-wage hike, appearing in late summer, stated, "Most economists, though, do contend that higher wages lead to higher prices, unless workers' productivity rises proportionately. And they feel sure that minimum-wage increases add to unemployment."

A minimum-wage increase only serves to hurt minimum-wage earners.

The minimum-wage increase is almost a 9½ percent increase. Businesses, especially ones which employ a majority of minimum-wage earners, must absorb this 9½ percent increase in payroll.

To combat the increase they must either cut workers and/or hours and raise prices.

The pay hike for many minimum-wage earners is completely eliminated due to a shortened work week. The major effect of a minimum-wage hike is

trimmed hours and not layoffs, although layoffs do occur.

All of these economic consequences cause us to question the motivation for instituting such a harmful piece of legislation.

Labor suggests that minimum and low wage earners need money to fight inflation. The inflationary stimulus from minimum-wage hikes alone almost negates the effect of a pay hike, not counting shorter work weeks and layoffs.

It appears the Congress of the United States was not farsighted enough to see the economic backlashes resulting from a minimum-wage hike.

It is indeed sad to think that the Congress also succumbed to intense labor lobbying from the AFL-CIO and other such organized labor power houses.

An attempt was made over the summer to get President Jimmy Carter to use his influence and have the minimum-wage increase postponed.

Mr. William Miller, Federal Reserve Board Chairman and Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of Treasury, both asked President Carter to ask Congress for a postponement citing the inflationary stimulus.

President Carter has recently asked for voluntary wage and price increases to remain under 7 percent.

We find it hypocritical that the President call on wage controls when the federal government is instituting a wage hike affecting 5.2 million workers at almost 9½ percent.

The fight against inflation must begin somewhere. We feel that holding the minimum-wage is an excellent place to start.



Looking for something to do after the game? If you're not invited to anyone's party and it's too early to go home, how about some food?

Godfather's

Although Godfather's Pizza has been almost overlooked as a pizza spot, it still has many things to offer. One of these is pizza. Godfather's has some of the best New York style pizza in Omaha. Godfather's recently raised their prices so I can't quote them to you right now. The crust is more breadlike than your basic thin and crispy Pizza Hut style. The breads are very popular. It's an all-you-can-eat fix it yourself salad bar. The atmosphere is do it yourself. Your friends provide it.

The place is usually jammed to capacity, so be prepared for a long wait to get your pizza.

on the go



Howard K. Marcus

Perkins Cake and Steak

If you're tired of trying Perkins, Cake and Steak at three locations. The service here is some of the worst I have ever seen. But the food is fairly good. Go here mainly for the atmosphere, which is provided by the characters who walk in.

Perkins offers a wide variety of breakfast foods, including gourmet pancakes, waffles and omelets. Unusual items are the roll-ups, which are pancakes with fruit stuffing. Also offered are steaks and whole dinners. Prices run to the high side of moderate for high school students. For example, a cheeseburger and onion rings will set you back \$2.75 plus tax. French toast (five slices) is \$2.35 and buckwheat pancakes are \$1.75. You can pick out your dessert from the spinning display case you see when you walk in. Don't get dizzy when you watch it go around! In case you want to take your little sister who is under ten and hungry, here are a few ideas: fish and chips, in a portion just right for kids — \$1.55, "Little Shaver Special" (hamburger and fries in a basket) \$1.50, or the "Little Cowpoke" (three pancakes, one egg and bacon), \$1.60.

Perkins is open all night.

Happy Joe's

Last on the list of after the games hangouts is Happy Joe's Pizza and Ice Cream Parlor, with two locations.

Happy Joe's offers a very good product. It sells 19 different kinds of pizza. Prices run from \$2.40 for a small cheese pizza to \$7.70 for a "Taco Joe" pizza (taco flavored pizza on a pizza crust, with hot sauce).

Perhaps the most interesting, are the nine ice cream flavors. Many concoctions, including sundaes and huge sodas, are served to you by mini-skirted waitresses. These aren't just your regular kind of sundaes and sodas. These are different. The sundaes have names like "Monkey's Favorite" (banana split), "River Crest" (three kinds of ice cream), and the "Old-fashioned Barnburner" (eighteen scoops of ice cream). For the less adventurous, there is the "Silly Willy" (vanilla or chocolate ice cream with chocolate or marshmallow topping).

Part of the fun of going to Happy Joe's is the noise. Horns and sirens blow for special birthdays and occasions. Little children and waitresses parade around with horns, balloons, and party hats.

Happy Joe's is a fun place to go for a change of pace after the game!

Letters

Tree represents holidays

To the editor:

As elected members of the Central student assembly we represent the student body and feel we are an organization that tries to promote the school spirit. The evergreen tree placed in the courtyard was done to create a holiday atmosphere before the winter break. We were not trying to offend anyone by these actions, and as the majority of the students at Central are in favor of the tree, we feel the tree is justified.

Teri Mancuso
Student assembly president

Tree denotes school religion

To the editor:

I am writing in regard to the "decorated tree" in the courtyard. It seems to me that this is not merely a decorated tree, but in reality a Christmas tree. This is in blatant disregard of the laws of division of church and state-supported schools, guaranteed in the Bill of Rights.

According to a representative of student council, which bought and decorated the tree, it is not representative of any religion, but is there to promote "holiday cheer." The tree was bought with funds raised by the sale of parking permits, bake sales, and raffle tickets. All of these activities involve the entire student body, whereas the

Christmas celebration does not.

This is not the time and place for the student council to promote holiday cheer. Central High School is a secular institution and I believe it should remain so. Although it is too late this year, I hope that next year's student council will be more sensitive to the feelings of the entire student body.

Hillel Bromberg

Government for sophomores

To the editor:

At this time sophomores are required to have one semester of world studies, but they cannot transfer American Government second semester because American Government is a "junior" class and any sophomore who wishes to take it must have a "good" reason. Apparently wanting to have an accelerated program does not constitute a good reason.

name withheld

'Sweet Charity' cast thanked

To the editor:

Mr. McMeen and I would like to thank the cast, orchestra, and crews of "Sweet Charity" for four outstanding performances plus our gifts of flowers and tickets to the Firehouse Dinner Theatre.

Thank you,
Pegi Stommes

THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL REGISTER seeks to accurately and fairly inform its readers as to items of interest and importance. Students publish the Register semi-monthly (except for vacation and exam periods) at Central High School, 124 North 20th St., Omaha, Ne. 68102. Mail subscriptions are \$2.00 per year. The Register pays second class postage at Omaha, Nebraska.

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Vacation plans vary

Central students will be keeping busy in a variety of ways over winter break.

For many, the time off means that they can sleep late. Once they do get up, students are free to do anything they please, without having to worry about schoolwork. "I'll just be sleeping late and enjoying the quiet of the morning," said senior Patrick Whalen.

Time off from school does not mean all free time. Many students will be working over the two week break. Marsha Cooper, senior, said that she would spend the time "sleeping late and working."

Not everyone will have such an uneventful routine, however. Several students and a few teachers mentioned that they will be enjoying the time with their families. Many said that out-of-town relatives will come in to spend the holiday week together. Several also mentioned that they will be doing things which they haven't had time for until now because of school. "I'm starved for literature. I want to spend the time reading and sled riding," said junior Cathy Grow. Sled riding was enticing to many of those interviewed.

Travel

Many Centralites will not be spending winter break in Omaha. "I'm going to Texas to see my grandfather," said junior Beth Grotheer. "I'll be swimming in the Gulf one week and sledding the

next." Junior Chuck Mann said that he will be spending his vacation in Atlanta, "to see my girlfriend and my cousins, whom I haven't seen in two and a half years. I can't wait."

Teachers

Travel also figures in the plans of many Central teachers. Ms. Cindy Clinch will be going to Virginia to visit with her parents, and Mrs. Marlene Bernstein will be going to Colorado with her family to ski. Other teachers will either have relatives coming in for the week or will spend the time at home with their own families.

Teachers, though, have a special problem. Many term papers will be turned in just before winter break, and students expect them back soon afterwards. Amidst all the traveling and celebrating, when will this work get done? Ms. Clinch has a unique solution. She intends to grade the papers on the plane to and from Virginia. Mr. John Kocourek has a different approach. "I would rather be out tobogganing or sitting in front of the fire, but I accept that as part of my job," he said. "I'm thankful that I have the time to grade them."

So it appears that both students and teachers will be getting away from the school routine over the break. The question remains if, after the fun and excitement of a two week vacation, either will be able to settle down and finish the semester.

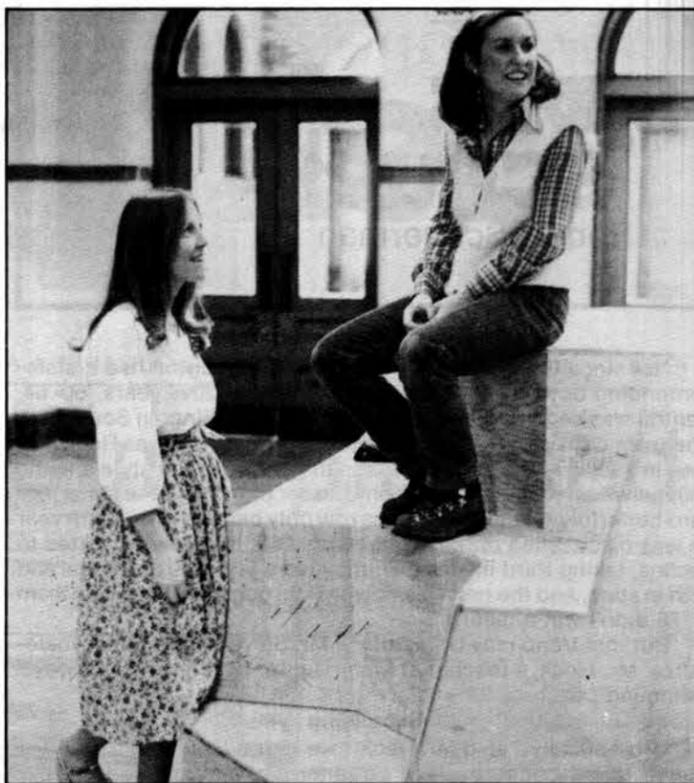


Photo by Stuart Wheat

Is this Central's only student lounge? Seniors Kit Barrett and Hope Taylor relax at the bump.

Lounge not reality

For many years, the Central student councils have been working on creating a student lounge, but to no avail. In the past, crowded conditions have prevented such a lounge. Now that the school population is down considerably, the possibility of a lounge is again being discussed.

"The space problem still exists, even though the student population has decreased," said Central principal Dr. G. E. Moller. "The addition of resource centers (the English and science centers) with the expansion of special education has used up any extra room there was."

Central senior Gary Bryant, who is co-vice president and has been a member of student council for three years, feels that a lounge is a good idea but not probable.

"Last year we (the council) had everything organized and ironed out for the lounge, but we were turned down — too many snags," Gary said.

What kind of snags? Dr. Moller pointed out several things that he experienced in a

student lounge situation some years ago.

"When I was a principal at a school much smaller than Central, we made an attempt at a student lounge. We were constantly plagued with problems; vandalism, tardiness, and continual hall traffic during classes became commonplace. If such problems couldn't be solved in a small school, I don't see how they could be solved in a school the size of Central."

Another key problem concerning a student lounge would be determining who would be allowed to use the facility. One student felt that a student lounge could be achieved if it was done "with an honor system in mind." Another said to limit the lounge to seniors. Both ideas would limit the use of the lounge to certain students.

"As long as there's a chance that we might have a student lounge, the council will keep working on it," said senior Teri Mancuso, president of student council. She feels that with hard work and organization, the student lounge may someday "become a reality."

Student Assembly

extends season's greetings

- | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|
| Jackie | Wanda | Dave |
| Julie | Tracey | Ann |
| Miles | Vicki | Lori |
| Olivette | Gary | Lynette |
| Mark | Nate | Rickie |
| Tammy | Jesse | Chris K. |
| Jerry | Paul | Michael |
| Sophia | Karen | Teri |
| | Chris | |



HOW TO BUILD AN \$8100 EDUCATION FUND IN JUST THREE YEARS:

I'm SGT Ed Hoxworth. I'm responsible for Army recruiting at Central.

Getting that \$8100 is easier than you think under the Veterans' Educational Assistance Program.

If you join the Army and save between \$50 and \$75 a month from your pay, your contribution will be matched \$2 for \$1 by the Army.

In three years, that could add up to as much as \$8100 available for college or vocational-technical school after you leave the Army.

Even if you change your mind about your future education, you get back every dollar you put in.

There's no better way to build a nest egg for your future — while serving your country.

If you want to learn more about educational assistance in the Army, ask your counselor for an appointment with me. Or give me a call at 221-4721.

I'm located at the downtown Omaha recruiting office, 1504 Farnam Street.

JOIN THE PEOPLE WHO'VE JOINED THE ARMY



sports schues

Robert Schuerman



Boys' swimming

Not since the first half of the 1960's has Central had a state-contending boys' swim team. For four consecutive years, '60-'64, Central was second in the state competition to Lincoln Southeast. The team consistently put out state champions, such as Roll Wellman in 1960. He set new records in the 100-yard freestyle and the 200 individual medley. (I.M.) Ken Glasser didn't take the state 100-yard butterfly title four years in a row only because the fourth year he was disqualified on false starts. In 1965, the tankers started to decline, taking third in state; '66 they were just Metro champs and 13th in state, and the rest was downhill through last year. The team of '78 didn't win a meet.

But that trend may be history, if Mr. Steve Heck's hopes materialize. Mr. Heck, a teacher at Marris Junior High, is the new boys' swimming coach.

Rebuilding

"Realistically," said Mr. Heck, "we've got limited facilities and limited talent because we're an inner-city school. Many of our swimmers have academic and other interests (that take precedence over swimming). Let's face it, we're handicapped with time, money, and interest. What I hope to do is create a renewed interest and rebuild the program."

That rebuilding has already begun to pay off. The first meet this season was a disappointment, as Central suffered two 67-16 losses at Bellevue East and Millard.

Different story

But the second week was a different story. Central's swimmers knew somehow this was a meet they could win, and energy was higher than it had been in two years. The medley relay surprised both Gross and Papillion by taking first. The Eagles' "B" relay took third against both teams.

Through the fourth event, Central was keeping the pace. Don Rhodes, a freshman from Norris Junior High swimming the 200 I.M. for Central, placed first against Gross and second against Papio. In the first four events, Central racked up two first place finishes, and three second, third, and fourth places each.

Then the diving. For the third meet in a row, Flip Crummer placed first. Steve Coldwell, the other Central diver, placed third overall. This woke up both teams — Central was actually threatening. Central was a point down against Gross and only five behind a relative swimming power, Papillion.

In the second half of the meet, Central came so close, yet so far. Eagle swimmers were barely touched out for important points in three events. The real heartbreaker was the backstroke. Flip Crummer led the first 85 yards but was beaten by a second wind at the last second by a Papio swimmer. Henry Cordes also lost a third place by a hair's breadth in that event.

Another close event was the freestyle. Karl Kohrt and Dennis Belieu placed first and second against Gross, and missed those places by the blink-of-an-eye against the Monarchs.

Those touchouts added up for Papillion, and they stretched their lead to a 17 point win, 50-33. But for the first time since 1975 when Central beat A.L., the swimmers beat somebody. One point over Gross, 42-41.

Success

Celebration? No, not much. A few of the Eagles pushed each other in, but they know there's a long road ahead. (But the locker room was the loudest it had been for a few years!)

Coach Heck had been really pleased with the way things went. Every member of the team had progressed from the previous week. "Success breeds success," said the coach, "and we've now got a groundwork on which to build."

Hopefully, Central can better its facilities and take better advantage of what facilities it has. This season Mr. Heck hopes to win three or four meets and qualify as many individuals as possible for state. "Expansion" is the word, he said.

eagle feathers

Coach Bailey resigns

Gary Bailey, football coach for Central for the last six years, has resigned from his coaching. During his years of coaching, he set a personal record of 18-34-1, with his best season coming in 1977 with a 5-3-1 mark and a world rating by the *World-Herald*.

According to Mr. Doug Morrow, Central's athletic director, no one is in mind for the position as yet. "As of now, the applications are just being taken in and we still have to look them over and screen the applicants."

Mr. Bailey will remain as a gym teacher at Central.

J.V. basketball

"We can't give up on ourselves," Mr. Paul Pennington, junior varsity basketball coach said. "It used to be that we could win without really getting up for a game, but now teams get up for Central, and we have to work much harder to win."

The junior varsity basketball team lost its last two games to the Benson Bunnies and the Roncalli Crimson Pride.

The Eagles closed a 10 point half-time deficit to a 35-38 score with 4:15 left in the final quarter of the Benson game, but the Bunnies used a stall and took advantage of several costly Central fouls to defeat the Eagles, 49-40.

Wrestlers defeat Prep, South

Central's wrestlers continued in their winning ways as they won two of their first three dual meets. The team also placed first at the Bellevue West Wrestling Tournament. The wrestlers started the season off by placing second at the North High Invitational.

Duals

In their first dual meet of the season, the Central wrestlers dropped a 29-18 decision to Papillion. The team, as a whole, performed well, but Papillion was just too strong in some of the weight divisions.

Central bounced right back in its second appearance as the wrestlers defeated Prep 26-23. Going into the final match Prep led 23-20, and Central needed a win to tie or a pin to win. Heavyweight Mike Cross came through with a pin giving Central the victory.

In their third dual of the season, the Central wrestlers faced South. This dual had special meaning as Central had not defeated South in a dual meet since 1956. The wrestlers put on a show as both the varsity and junior varsity were victorious. In varsity action, Central won 11 of 13 matches in the 54-6 victory. Central received pins from Grant Gier at 126, Kevin Kimsey at 145, and Leonard Hawkins at 155.

Tournaments

At the Bellevue West Wrestling Tournament, the Central wrestlers placed first in a field of eight teams. The teams included Bellevue East, Bellevue West, Gross, Lincoln Southeast, Papillion, Prep, Ralston and Central.

Central scored 118 points to Papillion's 108 for the victory. There were seven Central

wrestlers in finals competition. Central finished with two individual champions, four second place finishers, and a third place finisher.

The individual champions for Central were sophomore Jody Mease in the 112 pound weight division and senior Mark Rigaturo in the 185 pound weight division. Second place finishers included Terry Gargano in 119 pound competition, Kevin Kimsey at 138, Leonard Hawkins at 155, and Mike Cross in the unlimited weight division. Johnny Curtis placed third in the 98 pound weight division.

The Central wrestling team is now 2-1 in dual competition. They have placed first and second, respectively in the two tournaments they've been in. The wrestlers have proven they are winners and will continue in their ways.



Central wrestlers pictured with trophies won this year. photo by Bob Wolf

Basketball 'promise' faltering

What started as a promising season has faltered a bit with the Eagle varsity basketball record standing at two and three.

The trip to Lincoln proved to be a double kill for Lincoln East as they beat both the CHS junior varsity and varsity teams.

"We lost the game because we gave them a lot of free throws," said Central varsity coach Jim Martin. "They had better rebounding than we did. They would grab their rebound after they missed the second shot and make a cheap basket," he said.

The driving force for East was their two senior lettermen Paul

Baker and Derek Sailors. The two together scored fifty points. "They were big, physical players," Coach Martin said. "We would have to fight 'em both off with a club."

Grady Hansen led the Eagles in scoring with 19. "The refs could have called a lot more fouls on them," he said.

The next game on the Eagle schedule was against Benson. In this game, Central came out ahead 80 - 56. "It's all in the score at the end," said Coach Martin.

"We blew 'em down," said Jay Murrell. He was the leading scorer for Central for this game with 15 points.

The latest Central basketball game ended in a disappointing loss to Roncalli. With 5:45 left in the game, the score was tied at 59. Grady Hansen sank two foul shots to make the score 61-59.

The lead went back and forth, until it was Central leading 69-68 with 31 seconds to go. Roncalli made a free throw to tie the score. With no time left on the clock, Roncalli had the opportunity to shoot two more foul shots. The first one missed, but the second one went in to make the final score Roncalli 70, Central 69.

Spanish Club
season's greetings

¿habla Español?

easy on energy!

the next generation will thank you for it.

Northern

Natural Gas, Liquid Fuels, Petrochemicals, Exploration, Coal