

# Teachers, students speak out on lid

Despite differences in age, sex, and political views, most Central teachers, and many students, agree on the result of the Lid Bill: none like it.

Mr. Dan Daly, head of the English department, was particularly upset because he feels that the passage of the bill shows a lack of community support for schools and education and said he regards it as a "personal insult." On the day of the voting, he stood outside the polls for ten hours talking to people and handing out leaflets.

Mr. Daly is worried about the fate of the English mini-magnet program and the writing lab. With funds cut back, he will not be able to buy any additional equipment or pay the needed paraprofessionals. If federal funds also don't come through,

Mr. Daly may ask for volunteer help and extra time from teachers. With this help, the writing lab will not have to close.

The Lid Bill will also affect Mr. Daly personally. "My son won't be able to go on the field trips and special classes he was looking forward to. The \$12.50 I will save on property tax just isn't worth it," he said.

Most of the facilities at Central have been touched in some way by the bill. According to Mrs. Mary Ann Novotny, librarian, the library is understaffed because it lost the services of one part-time adult assistant. Mrs. Novotny does not think the Central library will be otherwise affected too much because the money which has been cut from the budget for libraries will be divided among all the schools in OPS.

Mrs. Novotny said that a good point of the bill was that it "made people more aware of education."

## Dr. Moller

Because he has the entire school to worry about, one of the people most affected by the Lid Bill is Dr. G. E. Moller, principal. He said that the passage of the bill has hurt morale among the faculty and that they were "stunned" when they heard the result of the vote.

Dr. Moller feels that the bill was the result of great frustration over big government, taxes, and rising costs. The people who voted for the bill, he said, "are not anti-school, they just want to slow down these problems."

Dr. Moller also felt resentful that Central should be held responsible for excessive spend-

ing. He said that Central has been doing a good job with the facilities it has and that "we haven't been wasteful."

According to Dr. Moller, a possible result of the bill may be that students will have to raise a lot of money to make up for what is lost. This money would be used to buy equipment and send students to national competitions such as chess and debate.

Dr. Moller does not like this idea because it "takes time away from study." Raising money for special projects is all right, but in general, he said, "students are here to study, not raise money."

## Student's views

Students also have definite opinions on the Lid Bill. Junior Maurice Karpman feels the bill is necessary but has reserva-

tions about the extent of the cutbacks. He does not think that most of the eliminations will take place. Rather, individual schools will learn to conserve in order to save money.

Senior Betsy Krin also felt that some sort of limit on spending is needed but is not in favor of this measure because it may eliminate the theatre program, in which she is deeply involved. This feeling was also expressed by a sophomore who, although new to Central, felt that the musicals are what make Central special. "It will be a letdown not to have them," she said.

LB 2, otherwise known as the Lid Bill, will have a great effect on the schools in the OPS system, but behind the schools are hundreds of people who will be affected, both personally and professionally, even more deeply.

## Lid bill leaves mark on schools, community

The expression "lid those kids" has become reality in the Omaha Public School district. Driver's education is gone. Summer school will be limited to remedial courses next summer. Sophomore basketball and football, junior varsity wrestling and junior varsity baseball have all been sliced from the athletic budget. Music programs have been cut back. The lid has affected the whole community. The largest athletic conference in the state could possibly lose two-fifths of its members in the next three years, according to Dr. Duane Haith, coordinator of physical education and athletics for the Omaha Public Schools.

Why did the lid come about. The lid bill was put on the ballot by a petition drive that was signed by 10,000 people asking for a budget limitation. What was the reason for the lid on the school district? Central Principal G. E. Moller offers his opinion: "I personally feel the election was not a direct slap at teachers. The vote was a result of great frustration over big government taxes and things people are upset about that are uncontrollable." Lid proponents had cited wastefulness on the part of the school district. Dr. Moller thinks Central has done a good job. "We haven't been wasteful. There's no way not to make education expensive."

Students are not the only

ones affected. Teacher cutbacks will probably have to be made next year. Cutbacks were minimized this year by leaving vacancies unfilled. According to Dr. Moller, at least one Central teacher is looking for another job. The lid has left teachers in a difficult predicament. Only teachers with three years of experience or more will be protected if cutbacks are made on faculty size.

Repercussions continue to result from the lid. According to Dr. Moller, class sizes will continue to rise, while classes with six to ten people in them will have to be axed. The problems that have resulted thus far will be compounded next year when an additional seven million dollars is cut.

Lid opponents are now working on efforts to get the law changed that could cancel the lid by another public vote. The State Legislature is the only organization that can change that law. A vote taken now under current law would require 70,000 voters in favor of repealing the lid. Only 36,000 votes were needed to put the lid into effect.

Students, teachers, and school have all felt the crunch of the lid. If not repealed, the lid could put a huge dent in the quality education the Omaha Public Schools pride themselves in offering.

## central high

# register

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No. 1



photo by David Chappell

Senior Gerald Paul carries the ball in Central's 14-13 victory over South. See story on Page 4.

## Singing brings Rupe success

Something happened to this new addition to Central's student body when she was nine years old. One might say she was bit by a bug or contracted a disease. To other people it was a blessing. What is "it"? It's acting, and "it" bit Marsha Rupe. Since then Marsha's life has been one curtain call after another.

This talented sophomore also sings, does jazz, ballet and acrobatic dancing. Marsha has brought home more awards and newspaper clippings at the age of fifteen, then most people hope to achieve in their lifetime. Just to mention a few: 1979 Youth Country Hall of Fame Award —national competition, and 1979 Nebraska Miss Hemisphere Super Talent Teen Champion.

Prior to entering Central, Marsha was in the State Fair, Douglas County Fair, and Septemberfest doing a song and dance routine. She also competed in Show Wagon and placed first this year in the Omaha area. This is just a little look into a typical summer for Marsha.

Marsha's life is like a three-ring circus, school, plays, and talent competitions. Speaking of circuses, Marsha performed in Barnum & Bailey Circus. It was a contest through KOIL radio and Marsha won. The prize was to perform in the center ring. She did a dance and song routine to "The Grand Ole Flag."

Marsha has woven a fine thread over the city of Omaha. She has performed in various city functions and theaters.

Omaha Junior Theater and Omaha Community Playhouse are examples of where Marsha has performed. Marsha has also made some commercials.

One may say I wouldn't do all that without being paid. "Well, as an amateur, you don't get paid. If you accept money then at once you are considered a professional," explained Marsha. She is now a paid professional singer.

With all her on-stage acting, Marsha has been on television. She appeared on "Kid Scene" on the Peter Citron T.V. show. Education TV was another conquered field. Marsha was a prosecuting attorney in "The Clunky Baby."

All in all, Marsha is packed full of energy and has many outlets bringing a world of experience to Central.



Rupe . . . talented sophomore

# Lid hits hard

A long bitter struggle took place this summer between Omaha's taxpayers and the Omaha Public School Board. After the dust had cleared, the school board found themselves under a lid placing a zero percent increase on their budget. Little did the irate taxpayers know that the lid would affect more than they had bargained for. Now that LB 2 has passed, the Omaha school system is doomed to deteriorate unless immediate action is taken.

LB 2 is a law started by backers of a lid on property tax revenues for Omaha schools. The general feeling was that property taxes were too high. Since the Omaha public schools were taking the biggest cut from these taxes, they seemed like the likely targets for a cutback in spending. Unfortunately, what the pro-lidders thought should be cut and what the school board thought should be cut were two entirely different things.

## editorial

Edward Jaksha, chairman of the Committee to control School Taxes, said, "All we are trying to do is prevent a tax increase."

"Programs and services need not be cut. The Omaha School District now has enough money and would operate more efficiently if a ceiling were placed on property tax collections."

Strike one. Programs and services are being cut. Whether the board is operating more efficiently is debateable. Already, Central High has lost its radio and television programs due to an indirect effect of the lid. Other cuts include pre-school classes, driver's education programs, sophomore football and basketball, junior varsity baseball and wrestling and all seventh and eighth grade inter-school competition. Gifted and talented programs and outdoor education classes have also been cut back.

Jaksha also claims the ceiling should have no impact on students, teachers, and classes in the first year.

Strike two. That's zero for two, not a very good start. The program cuts indicate that the ceiling has had an impact. Teachers have been reassigned, students have been shuffled into unwanted classes because what they signed up for no longer exists. And this is only a month after the bill took effect. In three years, a projected ten schools and 768 teachers will no longer be in use. If that isn't impact, what is?

Jaksha further claims that the number of students in each class is subject to management. There should be no change in class size because of the lid.

Strike three, you're out! Classes at Central are on the increase because non-existent classes have left students stranded. Counselors busily switch schedules and cram these unclaimed pupils into already full classrooms. Other classes that have been put on low priority have discouraged students from enrolling in them. These are mainly classes which are offered as electives such as shop, most of the fine arts, homemaking, etc. These programs are forced to struggle by on what little money is left.

### The termination of these so-called unimportant classes takes away from the very heart of an education.

The sad thing about this whole situation is that the people who are affected the most are people who had nothing to do with the bill. They were totally innocent. It's the students who will do all the suffering.

The termination of these so-called unimportant classes takes away from the very heart of a well-rounded education. Elective courses are those which offer the student a chance to grow and discover his talents and interests. Without these courses, we just might as well be programming computers to all learn the same, think the same, and live the same way. Is fifty dollars a year too much to pay to allow students to become involved in a future they feel is worth investing in? Fifty dollars is about all LB 2 cut from taxes per year for a \$50,000 home. In this age of "looking out for #1", maybe it's about time we thought about others.

Of course, removal of this lid has been made nearly impossible. To rescind the bill, a majority of all registered voters must vote against it. And that is an event which has never occurred in a special election.

However, a state proposition could be made to change the current law on the lid's removal. A simple amendment could allow the law to be removed only by a majority of those who turn out to vote. Since we're speaking of state legislature, why not take a look at current property tax laws. No-one likes high taxes. Maybe it's time we thought about revamping a few old laws. Distributing the tax load fairly could please many people.

Whatever course is taken, it should be taken carefully, thoughtfully, yet quickly. Time and money are running out for the Omaha public schools. Let's not wait for the walls to come crumbling down before we realize the severity of the situation. Education may be becoming expensive, but it will always be worth it.



## Editorial Policy

The Central High School Register seeks to accurately and fairly inform its readers as to items of interest and importance.

The Register is published for and by the students, and all efforts are made to meet their needs. The Register will not publish any items considered libelous or obscene.

Unsigned editorials are opinions that reflect a consensus of the entire Register staff. Signed letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted to any member of the Register staff or placed in the editor's box in room 317.

Unsigned letters will not be accepted, but signatures will be withheld upon request. The Register maintains the right to edit letters without changing their meaning due to limits of space. Views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the Register staff.

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# Letters KDCO Cut

Because of lid action to control the budget of the Omaha Public Schools, innumerable programs of great importance have been cut. The most important to me was that of KDCO Radio.

The radio-television program has been cut because no teacher was found who would fill the vacancy left by the transfer of Mr. Tom Marsicek to Tech. There are many people who could fill the shoes of Marsicek, but won't because of lack of job security.

The loss of the station is hard not only for the 16 primary operators, and the 40-50 beginning radio students, but the entire school.

Finally, I would like to address myself to the 36,000 Omaha voters who voted on August 14, 1979 against a bright future for this community. Hopefully, you will see your mistakes and some enlightened citizen will bring legislation that will repeal this foolish act. Roger Olson

## Words To Grow By

by Cathy Grow

Everyone has heard about the energy crisis. Personally, I'm sick of hearing about it. I put it on my list of "The Nasties of the 1970's." Presented here:

- 1) The threat of Nuclear Holocaust
- 2) The spread of Worldwide Communism
- 3) Cancer
- 4) Inflation
- 5) Body odor, bad breath etc.
- 6) Wrinkles and age spots
- 7) The Energy Crisis

That is my original list. However, since I have become old enough to drive and date, unchaperoned, the energy crunch has taken on a new and dismal meaning.

Funny, but I can still remember the gas wars of my youth, the long drives to nowhere, on those tranquil Sunday afternoons with my family, and my father handing the man at the station a five dollar bill and telling him to "Fill 'er up." The man even brought back change then, in addition to wiping the windshield and checking the oil.

We now live in a world of carpools where all unnecessary driving is considered a vice much like cigarette smoking; a world where self-service gas stations dot the highways and suburbs. The only time five dollar bills will bring the gas gauge to the little red "F" is when the driver is topping his tank.

The days of my youth are gone. Chased away by the careless driver who squandered the precious fuel that made life bearable. The days of "American Graffiti" have also slipped away, leaving behind only a cloud of toxic fumes to leave a bitter taste in the mouths of today's young drivers. No more can youth express itself by riding "up and down the boulevards in our big cars, low to the ground." Buses with no air conditioning take potential gas hogs sweating from point "A" to point "B".

Double dating has (and will) become more popular as more parents become loathe to let Junior borrow the car. Automobiles as graduation and 16th birthday presents are being replaced by digital watches and electronic calculators.

The era of the carefree teenager is passing and I for one am saddened. The energy difficulty will put a damper on the football and basketball games as the cars are being kept safely in the garage with their locking gas caps intact. But as some traditions die, new ones are born to take their places. Comradery among the teens will increase as more zealous sports fans pack into the few cars allowed out after dark. Parking will become even more popular as the price of a movie ticket soars over the \$3.50 mark. Besides while the heat holds out, the car need not be run and no gas be wasted. Body heat will suffice in the winter, although this could prove even more dangerous then carbon-monoxide poisoning to the energy conscious who become careless in other vital areas. But then no new era is perfect.

# Homework, clubs, activities begin new year

### Drama Club

The installation of new officers highlighted the beginning of another year for Central High School's drama club year. Senior Carol Knoepfler is president and Lisa Wiley is vice-president. Other officers include Ann Gadzikowski as secretary, treasurer Sam Johnson, and historians Scott Barker Sherry Freads, and Juli Welk. Drama Club's current project is a candy sale to help sponsor a trip to Kansas City this spring.

### Chess Club

On Tuesday, September 18, the Chess Club held its first event of the year — a picnic at Hanscom Park. According to Mr. Kevin Throne, Chess Club sponsor, there were about fifteen students at the picnic. The chess team will play its first match on November 20 against Brownell-Talbot.

### Homecoming

October 5 marks this year's Homecoming game as the Central Eagles take on the Tech

Trojans at Bergquist Stadium at 7:30. The annual Homecoming dance is scheduled for October from 8:30 to 12:00 at the Ramada Inn Airport. This year's dance will feature a new light show and disc jockey from "Sound Images." All varieties of music are to be featured.

### Bionic

Bionic? What does this word mean to you? If the word Bionic means "believe it or not I care" to you, you could have won the contest sponsored by G. E. Moller, Central principal, during the first week of the 1979-80 school year.

Bruce Kutler, senior, captured the \$25 prize offered by translating the letters of Bionic into the magic moneymaking phrase. The crafty victor assured his success by stuffing the drawing box with his answers, which while increasing his chances of winning, decreased the chances of the

other students who were cunning enough to decipher the code word. Bruce's efforts paid off as his winning entry was drawn on the first draw of the last day of the contest.

However, the attempts of some of the losing participants tended to be a bit more interesting than those of the winner. Ranging from ideas involving the Six Million Dollar Man, to those with anti-Burke sentiments, to definitions straight out of the dictionary, the contest entries bordered on the bizarre. One of the wilder conceptions was of a plot using the word Bionic as a code for a plan to liquidate Dr. Moller.

The contest was originated by Dr. Moller, who hoped to use it to increase school spirit and start off the year with a little fun. Dr. Moller heard Bionic with its new definition at a meeting he attended last year and thought the point made was a good one. But Dr. Moller never expected Bionic to be changed into a phrase promoting the school food program as in one of the more inventive entries "breakfast is offered now in cafeteria".

### Senior Film

Student Council is now in the process of deciding whether or not to sponsor a Senior Film to be completed and shown next Spring.

The Council, with the help and guidance of Spanish teacher Vicki Anderson, is concerned

with the cost of the film, which has been projected to run between \$700 and \$800.

The film is to be a multiscreen slide show coordinated with music, and a kind of "history" of the graduating class of 1980.

### 'Hello, Dolly'

The musical "Hello, Dolly!" will be held at Central High School November 8 through November 11. Vocal music teacher Robert McMeen and drama teacher Pegi Stommes are directing the production. Wendy Larson is the show's choreographer.

According to Mrs. Stommes, all-school auditions were held last week and the cast has been announced. A cast list will be posted in the next issue.

### JCL Winner

Central High junior Liz Gibson took fifth place in a national essay contest while attending a Latin convention at Michigan State University. The convention was held July 28 through August 6.

According to Liz, about 1600 students attended the convention and participated in various events including bazaars, tests, and Olympic games. Although some 20 people from Nebraska went to the convention, Liz was the only student from Central to attend.

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**HAPPY 18th BIRTHDAY, MARGIE**  
Love, Mom and Dad

# Time out

by Grant Gier

When a spectator sees the football team running out on the field or the basketball team coming onto the court, or the volleyball team storming to the net, he or she doesn't always realize the time and work it takes to field a competitive team in the Metro Conference.

For a start, let's take a look at the football team's summer weightlifting program. Classes started the first week after school dismissed for vacation. Players enrolled in either the daily summer school program or for those who worked during the day a night class was offered. (Night classes were held three times a week.)

Seeing the sweat soaked T-shirt reddened face of a player after a weightlifting workout can only make a spectator appreciate more the efforts of the football team on any given Friday night. One must not let the fact that these football preparations classes are being held in the middle of America's famed baseball season slip his mind.

### Basketball Team Puts Forth Effort

The basketball team also put forth a great deal of effort this summer to improve their chances of winning this winter. The players of the upcoming varsity team and some J.V. players enrolled in a summer basketball league sponsored by Creighton Prep. Each player donated (I use the word loosely) \$10 to the entry fee. This wasn't even the beginning of their hardship. The team had to report to the Creighton Prep gym two nights a week for games. Some games didn't end until eleven o'clock p.m. Please keep in mind that many of the players had to report to jobs the next morning after a game. The basketball team finished the summer league with an impressive win in the finals of the league tournament.

### Summer Means Work For Volleyball Team

The girl's volleyball team also did their share of preseason training to prepare for their upcoming schedule. The team enrolled in a volleyball league this summer at the Sorenson Center and competed in games on Thursday evenings. Three times during each week this summer Coach Stan Standifer held conditioning practices. Many people enjoy a volleyball game in their backyards during vacation; but let's face it, compared to a serious workout — pick-up games are a picnic. A lot of credit can be given to these ladies for their continued determination in becoming a "powerhouse" in the Metro Conference.

The teams I have mentioned above are only a few of those involved in Metro competition and the rest of Central's teams put in just as much work in different ways. So please let's remember the next time an exceptional play is made on the field or on the court, it's not always luck. Most of the time it is made possible through the hard work and dedication displayed by the players. So, what do you say? The next time a Central team enters the field of play, clap a little louder and a little longer for their "fine efforts."

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# Eagles split games

Central High began their 1979 football season by splitting their first two games of the year losing to Burke 13-6 and defeating South 14-13.

On the Eagles first offensive possession of the year Pat Hill, senior quarterback, hit senior tightend Joe Mancuso for an apparent touchdown and 6-0 lead over Burke. However, the Eagles were penalized for having an ineligible man downfield, and the drive stalled.

### Fumbles Costly

In the second quarter Central forced the Bulldogs to punt but the Eagles lost the first of two fumbles on punt returns at their own 26. Three plays later Burke quarterback Todd Fischer scampered for a 21 yard touchdown and they led 7-0 after Fischer added the extra point.

At the half Burke led 7-0.

There was no scoring in the third period, but with 9:28 left in the game the Bulldogs recovered the second Central fumble on a return this time at the 15. Fischer made it 13-0 five plays later with a one yard run.

### Hill Scores

Central's only scoring drive covered 74 yards, including an option pass from senior Gerald Paul to Ricky Hampton for 28 yards. Passes from Hill to sophomore Daryle Duncan and Mancuso put the ball at the eight. A few plays later Hill scored from 1 yard out for the final 13-6 margin.

### Reed Enthusiastic

First-year coach William Reed wasn't disappointed about the loss. "We moved the ball well. The kids won't quit." He added, "We have a team that wants to win and has a desire to win."

That's exactly what the Eagles did in their second game against South, but just barely.

### Eagles Score First

In the second quarter the Eagles marched 45 yards for the game's first score.

The Eagles appeared stopped on fourth and ten on the South 33. However Pat Hill hit Duncan for thirteen yards and a first down. On fourth and seven from the Packer 17 Central finally got the breaks to go their way. South jumped offside two consecutive plays and Gerald Paul scored two plays later on a nine yard run. John Green, added the extra point.

On the first play from scrimmage in the second half South lost the ball at their eighteen. Five plays later Hill scored from two yards out. Green again added the extra point and Central led 14-0.

### Onside Fails

On the kickoff Central attempted an onside kick which failed to travel the required ten yards. The Packers took over at the Eagle 41.

South needed only a minute and a half to cover the 41 yards. Packer halfback Dennis Hopgood rushed for 35 of the 41 yards scoring on a third down 25 yard run. Richard Bravo added the point after.

South's Frank Dennell recovered an Eagle fumble at the Packer 49. Ten plays later quarterback Ron Prchal hit diving Mike Stoley with a nine-yard touchdown pass. Bravo's kick failed, and with 6:25 left in the game Central led 14-13.

Central recovered the onside kick and drove deep into South territory but failed to make a first down at the South 18. The Packers got the ball for a final scoring chance. The drive ended inside Eagle territory when senior Cary Phalen intercepted a Prchal pass. The Eagles then ran out the clock.

Central opens their home schedule tonight at 7:30 in Bergquist Stadium against winless Millard. Millard had to come from 22 points behind Bellevue East to earn a 22-22 tie last week to bring their record to 0-1-1.

## eagle scoreboard

### Football

Central 6 ..... Burke 13  
Central 14 ..... South 13

J.V.

Central 6 ..... South 30

### Volleyball

Central 13-16-15 ..... Tech 15-14-5  
Central 15-15 ..... North 5-5

J.V.

Central 15-15 ..... Tech 9-7  
Central 11-15-17 ..... North 15-8-15

### Boys' Tennis

Central 8 ..... Northwest 1  
Central 7 ..... Benson 2

### Girls' Golf

Central 196 ..... Northwest 197

### Cross Country

Central 44 ..... Millard 19  
Central 21 ..... South 42

### Girls' Swimming

Bryan Invit. .... Central's Finish 2nd

### Boys' Gymnastics

Art Harris Invit. .... Central's Finish 3rd

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