



Seniors Bart Lovgren and Sherri Grosse were crowned the 1986 Prom King and Queen at Central's Prom, "A Night at Mardi Gras," on Saturday May 3, in Central's courtyard. Photo by Phil Berman.

Ninth Purple Feather Day honors over 250 students

Jennifer Katleman

"I'm not aware of any other program quite like ours," Central principal Dr. G.E. Moller said Thursday, May 1, Purple Feather Day. "It's unique in certain respects, especially to be recognized for nothing but a minimum grade point average." Dr. Moller said that Purple Feather Day honored 262 Centralites for having a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher at the close of the first semester. "National Honor Society doesn't recognize everyone so it's important to recognize all of you for scholarship," he told a crowd of students on the east porch.

Omaha Mayor Mike Boyle told the students that "as a parent of Central high school students I know what kind of school it is." He said that many Central graduates go on to work in Omaha city government.

"There are always jobs for graduates, so keep studying and go to college and come home to Omaha because we'll be ready for you," Mayor Boyle said.

Among the guests from the Omaha Public Schools was superintendent Dr. Norbert Schuerman. He said the students honored "represent learning and achievement and that's what schools are all about."

"There are always jobs for graduates, so keep studying and go to college and come home to Omaha because we'll be ready for you."

Guest speakers for Purple Feather Day included ophthalmologist Dr. Raymond Crossman, Upstairs Dinner Theater producer Ms. Debbie Denenberg, First Tier bank officer Mr. John Orduna, and Central English teacher Mr. Ed Waples.

Dr. Moller said the ceremony has four guest speakers because he wants to interest students as much as possible. "It's not difficult at all to find successful professional people that are Central graduates," he said.

Mr. Orduna, a 1965 Central graduate, told students "the world is very concerned with quality, yet despite concern the quantity of quality is becoming a scarcity throughout our society. The ratio of quality to quantity is not one to one."

Mr. Waples, a 1964 Central graduate, reminded students that their "GPA's are impressive, not so much as an indication of the knowledge you have stockpiled, but as a sign of your respect for exactness, disposi-

tion to evaluate according to standards, and your commitment to the integrity, perfection, and fulfillment of your task."

Dr. Moller said that the planning for Purple Feather Day began in February. "At that time we don't even give teachers the date; we wait until about a week before," he said. The day of the ceremony third period teachers hand out the invitations to students.

When Purple Feather Day was started nine years ago, students were notified differently. "We had appointed students go to classes tapping students on their shoulders. They would whisper to the student, 'You have been elected to the Central High Honor Society,' as an invitation for them to go join the ceremony," Dr. Moller said.

This method, he said, was stopped two years ago because too much time was taken to notify the students, and teachers resented the commotion in the halls.

Early starting time causes rescheduling

Don Benning

Over two months ago Omaha Public Schools administration announced that senior high classes would begin at 7:45 a.m. and be dismissed at 2:40 p.m.

"The new time change should not cause many problems," said Mr. Jim Wilson, Central assistant principal.

Mr. Wilson said that lunch periods will begin at 11 a.m. This time may seem early, he said, but students arriving earlier will be hungry earlier.

Mr. Wilson said the new starting time will not cause an increase in tardies. "Initially, there will be an increase in tardies. However, once students get used to the new time, I don't foresee a problem," he said.

In addition to changes in the lunch periods, the shortened day policy will be affected. In the fall juniors and seniors will only be allowed a one period shortened day.

"Students should not need to be released any earlier because they are already being released an hour early," Mr. Wilson explained.

Mrs. Wanda Utecht, Central business department head, feels the new time change will have a somewhat positive effect. "I have talked with students and they are eager for the time change. For marketing students it will mean they may get out two, maybe three periods earlier than the rest of the students for lab," she said.

Full class schedules

However, Mrs. Utecht added that the zero-hour personal typing class might be eliminated next fall. She explained that she would still like to offer the class "because many students have a full class schedule and are not able to take the class during the day." The business department is currently deciding on the 6:50 a.m. typing class, she said.

Mr. Clyde Lincoln, cheerleading sponsor, said the time change will not allow cheerleaders time to practice before school. "If we did meet before school at 7 a.m. in the winter, it is too much to ask for," Mr. Lincoln said.

The cheerleaders will be placed in a special first hour study hall to provide practice time. The only problem with this plan, Mr. Lincoln said, is that cheerleaders will have to alter their schedules to be placed in a first hour study hall.

"There is no problem with the new time change. I don't mind it, but I think it puts a lot of stress on extra-curricular activities," Mr. Lincoln said.

In order to have a band next fall, band sponsor Mr. Warren Ferrel said that they must continue early morning practices. He said band practices would begin at 7:15 a.m. next fall instead of 7:30 a.m.

"Fifteen minutes will not be a hardship," Mr. Ferrel said. "If we did not start at 7:15 a.m. next year, we would lose an hour of practice every day. This would jeopardize our program."

Zero-hour chemistry

To supplement lost practice time, Mr. Ferrel has looked into a band camp at Peru College which would be funded by the Omaha school board. He added that professionals such as drum and flag specialists will be hired to better prepare band members in a short time.

The only zero-hour class to be eliminated will be chemistry. The elimination of chemistry is not entirely a result of the time change. "Early morning chemistry did not seem to work," said science department head Mr. Jerry Doctor.

"Absences and tardies were greater than in comparison to those taking chemistry during the day. Also, the grades were lower," he said.

If the department wishes to continue zero hour chemistry, it would have to begin classes at 6:50 a.m. "It was hard to find students and teachers willing to start that early," Mr. Doctor said.

With the elimination of the zero-hour chemistry class and the increased number of students taking chemistry, Mr. Doctor said a new plan has been devised.

The plan calls for two chemistry classes to meet in rooms 349 and 347 next fall during sixth and seventh periods. The classes will alternate lab days.

Mr. Wilson said that there have not been very many complaints from students or teachers. He said he thinks things will eventually work out. "Junior highs have been starting at 7:45 a.m. for years and the problems have been few," said Mr. Wilson.

Viewpoints

What is the biggest problem that Central faces and how would you go about changing it?

Tracey Newby, senior



"I feel that some teachers show a lack of concern. Some notice if a person is having problems and care, but others take it that the student is being lazy. Teachers should be more aware."

Bruce Lovgren, sophomore



"I think it is vandalism to the building such as spray-painting on the building or graffiti on the desks. The school is here to help students, they shouldn't destroy it."

Sarah Fitzsimmons, sophomore



"I think we need air conditioning. They should also keep the vending machines on during lunch. It is hard to study when you are so hot."

Mike Buckner, junior



"I think the biggest problem is kids smoking in the bathroom. I would have teachers who have classes by the bathrooms go in and check every passing period."

Monique Harrison, junior



"Skipping is a big problem. Most people don't get caught. They need more people to watch the doors so people don't skip."

Cori Darvish, junior



"The early starting time. I live in West Omaha and don't want to get up that early."

photos by Mary Turco

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The Central High Register seeks to inform its readers accurately and fairly as to items of interest and importance. Letters to the editor are welcomed. Unsigned letters will not be printed. Students publish the Register semi-monthly at Central High School. Subscriptions are \$3 per year. POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Register c/o Central High School, 124 N. 20th St., Omaha, NE 68102. The Register pays second-class postage at Omaha, NE USPS 097-520.

European history

Important class belongs in curriculum

editorial

Central enjoys bragging about the thoroughness of its education, but this education is lacking in one important area, European history.

Most of the students around Omaha and around the country receive a full year of European history. This course includes ancient history and some cultural information, but focuses on European history.

Little support

Why is European history important? Americans are closely tied to Europe. The events that affected Europe were and still are significant to America. Understanding Europe's history helps students understand European literature and even American history.

"People should understand the world they live in. Everything one country does affects other countries," said Mr. Mike Young, head of the social studies department at Burke.

According to Mr. Jack Blanke, head of the social studies department at Central, European history was once an elective course, but the demand for it declined and it was discontinued.

"I would like to offer European history if there was enough support. It diversifies the department more," Mr. Blanke said.

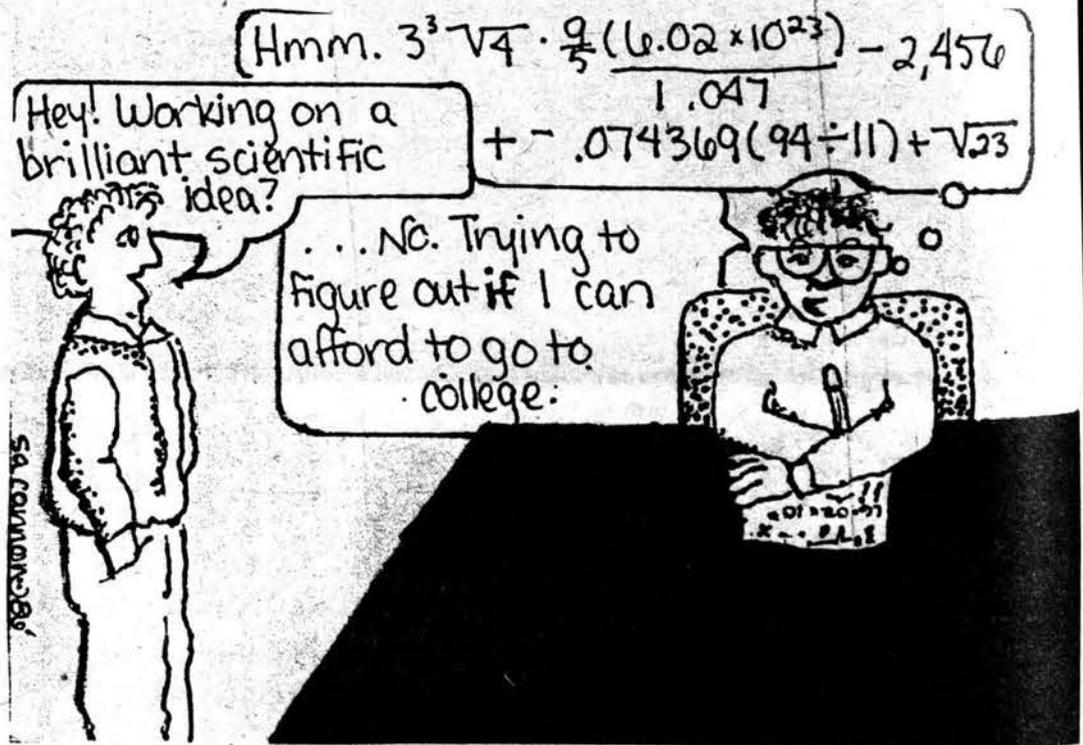
Central should discontinue the one-semester world history course that it currently offers and replace it with a one-year, elective, European history or world civilization course. Students who are bound for col-

lege may not enjoy the thought of another course, but they need to realize that once they get to college, many of their peers have had European history.

"Bragging rights"

Although the shortage of books would create a problem for one year, American government should become a required sophomore class. Ideally, European history would be a senior class, corresponding with European literature in English. American history would correspond with the junior American literature classes.

Students leave Central with education in writing and other subjects but may be completely ignorant in European history. Central is to retain its "bragging rights," it is time to establish a course.



Scholarships, financial aid

Defense buildup hurts seniors

editorial

"Work hard, do a good job, and you will be rewarded." This phrase is a strong part of the American Dream. But for many high school students this dream has not and will not come true.

After spending 12 years in school, students believe that if they get good grades and work hard, when it is time for college, they will receive the scholarships and financial aid they need. Each year this becomes less likely to happen.

According to Dr. Stan Maliszewski, head of Central's counseling department, financial aid began with the space program in the late 1950's. The government provided students with aid, hoping that someday these students would benefit America through their scientific ability.

Ability, not income, should be the only basis for whether or not a person attends college.

Between 1957 and 1978, financial aid increased 1000 percent. When President Reagan became president, he cut this money in favor of the tremendous military and space buildup. With programs such as the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) sucking up money, little was left for scholarships and financial aid.

A strong defense is definitely important. But what type of values can America claim to have if it chooses to pour its resources into a realistically impossible satellite defense

system, at the expense of higher education. Education is one of the best defenses America can have.

It is not as if a few people can't go to the college of their choice because it is too expensive; many don't have the money to go at all.

If financial difficulties make a qualified student work harder to get to college, then that is okay. But all too often financial difficulties keep students out of college. Ability, not income, should be the only basis for whether or not a person attends college.

Teachers make difference



That's the Way It Is

by
Todd Peppers

Central is a public school which means the student who attends Central, providing for her or she lives in the right school district, does not have to pay tuition. Wrong. To this great school, and the faculty and staff it houses, every one of the graduating class of 1986 owes a great debt, a debt I intend to pay right now.

A school is nothing but concrete and steel until you add the faculty, and the teachers and staff at Central are outstanding. I would like to mention a few people who honestly made a big difference in my life.

Many know Mr. Robert McMeen as the local music director, but he is also the heart and soul of A Cappella choir. It is this man that makes the choir so much fun. If weren't for him, I'd take a basket-weaving class during eighth hour instead. He is professional, demanding, caring, and does the best Reverend Jim (from "Taxi") imitation we ever seen.

Social studies department head Mr. Jack Blanke yells a lot, claims to know Hulk Hogan, "draws the worst map of the East Coast that I have ever seen, and probably knows more about World War II than DR did. If you answer a hard question correctly, you get a star on the board; if you get ahead of the "storyteller" (Mr. Blanke) he crosses your name out; and if you're too loud in class he threatens to out yell you.

He lives only for Friday nights and Dallas," complains everyday about the dustless chalk" the school buys, and hates the game show "Jeopardy." He will be a tough act to follow.

English teacher Mrs. Marlene Bernstein, like most teenage girls at Central, is in love with Mel Gibson. I'm convinced she sleeps with his picture under her pillow. I know she has Mel's calendar hanging in her classroom. She is there for her "kids" when they need someone to talk to, she is the on-

ly person who could force me into reading Moby Dick, and she longs for the Porsche of her dreams.

Mrs. Bernstein always graded my themes when she was depressed because they made her laugh. They weren't funny, I just found new and original ways to make Stylebook errors. I'm really going to miss you "Mrs. B."

It will take you a while to figure out what Mr. Daly is saying, but after that his class is fun. The man has the largest vocabulary in the world; he makes William Buckley sound like a hick.

Mr. Daly is the kind of teacher who you'll go to for help on homework and then spend the next half hour talking about cars. He tells the worst jokes, is the sharpest dresser, and reads the meanest Polonius of any teacher at Central. I hope he keeps teaching at Central until my kids come here. Besides, he's the only one that can keep Mr. Waples under control.

Journalism teacher Mr. T.M. Gaherty is the kind of man who almost never raises his voice. The only time he ever yelled is when a hapless student said Richard Nixon was framed by the media. The only thing the Register and O-Book fear is the infamous "Gaherty smirk," a sure sign that the story you turned in was either erased or contained 54 spelling errors. He is the rubber cement that holds the newspaper together, and if I ever win the Pulitzer prize I'm sending it to Mr. Gaherty; he deserves it. Just don't play him in ping-pong.

I know principal Dr. G.E. Moller is not technically a teacher, but one cannot mention Central without this man. My favorite memory of Dr. Moller is when I was touring the school as a freshman. Since Dr. Moller knew I was interested in acting he decided to show me the renovated auditorium. However, when we arrived, the stage was dark.

He told me just to walk out into the darkness where the stage was while he found the lights. I kept walking forward, he kept looking for the lights, and when Dr. Moller finally switched them on I was four inches away from falling into the orchestra pit.

Enough. It is time for me to move on, to abdicate my crown as "senior" to another person. Remember, even when you're a senior and counting the days to graduation, what a great school this is. Goodbye, and, as they say in the journalism circles, I'll see you in the funny papers.

Hints assist in developing valuable 'God-given gift'



Afterthought

by
Vina Kay

Procrastination. You know it. I know it. Almost all of us are guilty of it. Our teachers have warned us and our parents have threatened us, but their impact is always short-lived.

Why do we do it, they continually question us. What good is it, they demand. Haven't we learned yet, they wonder. But they don't realize that many of us have little or no control over our procrastinating habits. The unconscious is a strange and mysterious part of our minds which we shouldn't pretend to understand.

I must admit that my procrastination has resulted in an addiction to caffeine, occasional light-headedness, and some very close calls. But who cares? Mine is a habit I must work to rid myself of while I'm still young and easily molded, my mother constantly warns me. I'll never get anywhere in the future if I continue my behavior, she so kindly informs me. But what Mom doesn't realize is that she's been warning me for over ten years. That means my future ten years ago is my present now, right? Well, I'm still here, aren't I? I may even graduate on May 31. How is that so bad?

Undeniable value

What many of us must learn while we're still "moldable" is that procrastination is not a hindrance. It is a God-given gift that many of us are blessed with and few of us are able to hold on to. I have been one of the few and fortunate who have come to know the undeniable value of our gift. It has become a part of my life which I intend to treasure forever.

The reasons for such a devotion to procrastination should become clear. Have you ever known anyone who does

everything on time? Have you ever liked him? See what I mean? He's the kind of person who starts his research paper the minute it's assigned. He begins studying for finals two weeks after school starts. My heart goes out to anyone like that. Where's his sense of adventure and the excitement of testing himself to his limit?

I know procrastination doesn't come easily for everyone. But like any other achievement it requires practice. Don't start your research paper until at least a week before it's due. Don't study for your test until the morning before. It sounds tough, I know. But that's just the point. You have to challenge yourself over and over again until it comes naturally. For this reason, I, being in the advanced stages of my procrastination, will give you a few pointers to help you in achieving your goal.

You know the "Iliad"? The 1000 plus page epic poem by Homer, your friend and mine? Don't read it in study hall. Sleep. Do not read it on the bus. Sleep. And for God's sake, don't read it during dinner. Eat. You'll need all the energy you can get for the all-nighter ahead of you.

Strong-willed

Now that it's nearing 10 p.m., call a friend, preferably one going through the same training you are. Invite her over and read the "Iliad" together. No, don't just read it. Have fun with it. Act it out. Make coffee, eat chocolate-chip cookies, or order a pizza. I don't care what you do, but don't give up. To be a truly experienced procrastinator is to be strong-willed and determined. You may not even get a chance to sleep, but you will not give up.

You're going to be tired, dizzy, and look horrible the next morning. It comes with the package. But the sense of accomplishment you will have achieved will be enough to motivate you to do it all over again.

It's a temptation, I know, to listen to your parents and do what's expected of you. But do you really believe you'll develop into a truly complete individual with that kind of an attitude? It's up to you to take the initiative and work to your fullest procrastinating potential. If anyone gives you a hard time, ignore him. Just trust me. I'm almost always right.

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In Brief

Register had three winners in the Nebraska High School Press Association State Journalism Championship. Senior Gillian Coolidge won first place in advertising; senior Vina Kay won second place in column writing; and junior Val Spellman won third place in photography. Ten finalists were selected in each area and on May 3 the finalists went to Lincoln to do impromptu work in their areas.

Spanish National Honor Society inducted 13 members on May 14. This is the society's second year. Besides Central, there is only one other chapter in Omaha, at South High School.

Band and Orchestra Honors Night will be Friday, May 23 at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn at 42nd and Grover. The banquet will honor the lettered members and the participants of the district music contest.

German Club officers for the 1986-87 school year include junior Joel Johnson, president; junior Joe Montequin, vice-president; junior Eric Lee, treasurer; junior Todd Schmidt, secretary; and sophomores Lance Grush and Amy Meyer, sergeants-at-arms.

French National Honor Society held its first induction on May 12. Twenty-three Centralites were inducted, and the French students who were eligible were given academic letters. Parents who were involved in the French club were also recognized.

National Honor Society officers for next year are juniors Mike Buckner, president; Mark Ebadi, vice president; Michelle Rempel, secretary; Tracy Edgerton, treasurer; and Gene Huey, sergeant-at-arms.

Drama club officers for next year are juniors Kristi Plahn, president; Lisa Arnett, vice president; Julie Kliwer, secretary; Julie Ashley, treasurer; and Stephanie Cannon, historian.

Senior Jennifer Mattes won the World-Herald's May Opportunity for Young Writers contest. Her story about jogging appeared in the May 6 issue of the World-Herald.

Register had three winners in the Nebraska Press Women's High School Communication Contest. The winners included seniors Jennifer Katleman, second place for news writing; Phil Berman, third place for photography; and Todd Peppers, third place for feature writing. The contest drew 47 news, six photography, and 80 feature entries from 21 schools in Nebraska.



photo by Phil Berman

Showing how seriously she regards Latin, Ms. Rita Ryan gleams at her students during a lecture. Recently, she was honored for her outstanding efforts in the promotion of Latin throughout the state.

Convention honors Ryan for outstanding achievements in vice-presidential duties

Matt Pospisil

Ms. Rita Ryan, Central Latin teacher, was awarded a monetary gift at the Classical Association of the Middle West and South Convention.

"This is an organization comprising 33 states and three Canadian provinces; its purpose is to promote the study of Latin and the classics," explained Ms. Ryan. She explained that the members are primarily secondary and university teachers.

Ms. Ryan is the Nebraska state vice-president. As a state vice-president, her duties are to promote membership in Latin. "Each state and province has a vice-president who is responsible to the regional leader. Each year, one outstanding vice-president is chosen and given an award at the annual convention," said Ms. Ryan.

"Hard work"

She explained that her membership in the organization was due mainly to Dr. Katherine Thomas of Creighton University. When Dr. Thomas became chairman of the Committee for the Promotion of Latin, Dr. Thomas asked Ms. Ryan to become the new state vice-president, taking her place. "Dr. Thomas really encouraged me a lot," said Ms. Ryan.

At the convention, the chairman for the promotion of Latin gave a speech in praise of Ms. Ryan, this year's outstanding vice-president. Ms. Ryan said the Committee for the Promotion of Latin chooses the vice-president.

"I thought Ms. Ryan deserved the award after all the hard work she had put in at the state level," explained senior John Argyrakos, president of Central's Latin club.

Promoting Latin

As an example of her attempts to promote Latin, Ms. Ryan went to the committee with a request for funds for an Omaha project. "The committee is giving me \$480 to use to place a billboard for a month with the winning poster from the Nebraska state convention," said Miss Ryan.

"Hopefully, this will help to make Latin better known," explained John.

"I only wish we could think of more ways to promote Latin because the funds are available," said Ms. Ryan.

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Seniors to receive scholarship awards

Brent Adamson: Pennsylvania State University Freshman Excellence Award, University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, **Christina DeLegate**: Nebraska College of Business Skills Competition Scholarship, Metro Community College Academic Transfer Scholarship.
 Mike Baker: Dana College Honor Scholar, **Michelle Bang**: Kearney State College President's Scholarship, **Brenda Barber**: Northwest Missouri State University Regents Scholarship, **Anita Barnes**: Omaha World Herald Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln Four-Year Regents Scholarship, Amoco Foundation National Merit Scholarship.
 Brad Barth: Central Park Congregational Church Scholarship, **Don Benning**: University of Northern Colorado National Cultural Diversity Award, University of Northern Colorado National Award, **Bert Biggs**: Kearney State College President's Scholarship, Northeast Missouri State University President's Rotary Scholarship.
Jessica Bresette: University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, **Jeff Burk**: University of Nebraska at Omaha Geology Scholarship, **Tracy Burnes**: College of Saint Mary's Tuition Assistance Program.
Bill Carmichael: Creighton University M. Reinert/Nora Condon Academic Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln Four-Year Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha World Herald Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha National Merit Scholarship, **Tim Combs**: Carl M. Reinert/Nora Condon Academic Scholarship.
John Dineen: Dr. Edwin Parrish Memorial Vocational Education Scholarship, **Travis Feezell**: Creighton University Carl M. Reinert/Nora Condon Academic Scholarship, Creighton University Presidential Scholarship, Rotary Scholarship.
Berry Flynn: Suburban Rotary Scholarship, **Letitia Ford**: Elsie Fisher Memorial Scholarship, **Jeannie Galus**: Hotz Scholarship, Data Processing Management Scholarship, **Shelli Graves**: Nebraska Wesleyan University Achievement Scholarship, **Karen Grush**: Omaha Teachers' Scholarship, Omaha School Administrators Association Teacher Scholarship.
Princess Hampton: Dr. Edwin H. Parrish Memorial Scholarship, **Monica Hart**: Kiewit Foundation Memorial Scholarship, **Kathy Hellbusch**: Nebraska College of Business-Business Skills Competition Scholarship, **Peter Holmes**: Northwest Missouri State University Regents Scholarship, **Sarah Holmes**: University of Nebraska at Lincoln Niles H. Barnard Excellence in French Award.
April Honnies: University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha Scholarship, **Fyl Hoppes**: Northwest Missouri State University President's Combined Ability Scholarship, **Jennifer Katleman**: Omaha World Herald Key Staffer Journalism Award.
Lina Kay: University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, Nebraska Methodist Hospital Auxiliary Nineteen Scholarship, **Sean Kershaw**: Omaha World Herald Scholarship, Omaha World Herald Newspaper Carrier Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln Four-Year Regents Scholarship.
Tim Kilgore: Elsie Fisher Memorial Scholarship, New Era Ushers Auxiliary Scholarship, **Susan Kraft**: Peter Kiewit Foundation Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, University of Northern Colorado National Award.
Kelli Kubik: Union Pacific Employee Independent Scholarship, **Cheryl Laursen**: Metropolitan Technical Community College Scholarship, **Mitch Lewis**: Baylor

University Presidential Scholarship, **Doug Linqvist**: Northwest Missouri State University Regents Scholarship, **Kathy Marsehner**: Metropolitan Technical Community College Scholarship.
Lisa Martincik: University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, **Thomas Maycock**: Northwestern University Merit Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, **Sean McCann**: Creighton University Carl M. Reinert/Nora Condon Academic Scholarship.
Bill Moreland: Iowa State University Admission with Recognition and Scholastic Award, **Doug Mousel**: Northwest Missouri State University Regents Scholarship, **Laura Murray**: Omaha World Herald Newspaper Carriers Scholarship, **Tracey Newby**: McMillan Junior High Scholarship.
Wendy Novicoff: University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, **Kris Ortmeler**: Kearney State College's Dean Scholarship, **Jill Parker**: Kearney State College President's Scholarship, **Todd Peppers**: Trinity University President's Scholarship, Grinnell College Trustee Honor Scholarship, College of William and Mary Scholarship, **Becky Pistello**: Metropolitan Technical Community College Scholarship, **Barb Poore**: Harry G. Stroh Memorial Scholarship.
Matt Pospisil: University of Nebraska at Lincoln Geology Scholarship, New Mexico Tech Competitive Scholarship, **Gordon Prioreschi**: University of Nebraska at Lincoln Four-Year Regents Scholarship, **Mobius Memorial Math Scholarship**, University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Chicago Merit Scholarship, Data Processing Management Scholarship, **Becky Reynolds**: Hotz Scholarship.
Tonya Robards: Morton Junior High School Annual Scholarship, Northeast Missouri State University Scholarship, Kansas State University Scholarship, Elks National Foundation Allocated Award, University of Nebraska at Lincoln Four-Year Regents Scholarship, Washington University Scholarship.
Dan Rock: Scott Sterenberg Memorial Scholarship, Omaha Legal Secretaries Association Scholarship, Soroptimist International Youth Citizenship Award, **Keri Saar**: College of St. Mary CSM Honor Scholarship, Wayne State College Presidential Scholarship, **Theresa Scholar**: Hastings College Academic Scholarship Award.
Dan Sitzman: University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, **John Skoog**: University of Nebraska at Lincoln Geology Scholarship, **Tim Smith**: Charley Hepfinger Memorial Scholarship, **Jill Stommes**: Bertha Neale Memorial Scholarship, Southern Methodist University Scholar, Southern Methodist University Scholarship, University of Nebraska David Scholarship.
Chris Swanson: St. Olaf College Scholarship, **Michelle Tibke**: Savannah College of Art and Design Frances Larkin McCommon Scholarship, **Stephanie True**: Northwest Missouri State University Regents Scholarship, **Mary Turco**: Creighton University Carl Reinert/Nora Condon Academic Scholarship.
Randy Underwood: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Scholarship, Four-Year Army ROTC Conditional Winner Scholarship, NSPE-Boston University Scholarship, **Pat Volkir**: Iowa State University Admission with Recognition and Scholastic Award, **Sonna Voss**: University of Nebraska David Scholarship.
John Weill: Nebraska Wesleyan University Achievement Scholarship, **Denise Wenke**: University of Nebraska at Lincoln David Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska at Lincoln National Merit Scholarship, Excellence in French Award.
Michele Wolford: Kearney State College Dean's Scholarship, Bertha Buckner Memorial Scholarship, **Debra Ziskovsky**: Kearney State College Board of Trustees' Scholarship.



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Interracial dating: teens encounter prejudices, approval of friends, family

Margi Shugrue

Couples are seen up and down the halls at Central. There is dating between grades, between social groups, and between races.

Because of the diverse ethnic backgrounds Central provides a comfortable and acceptable place to interracially date, according to Cindy, (not her real name), a junior. "I avoid people who have prejudices against it because it doesn't bother me," explained Cindy, who is currently dating someone of another race.

Her mother finds the situation unacceptable. "I was hurt when she told me," Cindy said. Feeling that her mother places too much emphasis on skin color and not personality, she continues to see her boyfriend, a Central senior without her mother knowing.

Close-minded people

Her boyfriend's family consents to the relationship. He feels interracial dating might be more difficult and ill-fitting in private schools or schools dominated by mainly one cultural background because people are more closed-minded.

One junior, Jenny (not her real name) had a good friend pick her up for prom and was then dropped off at her real date's house, a member of a different race.

Jenny tried to reason with her parents. "They liked him as a friend," she said, but their prejudices prevented them from letting Jenny date him. She plans to continue seeing him until either her parents discover the deception or the relationship deteriorates.

"I was taught to get to know the individual," said another junior, Mary (not her real name).

Dating interracially for the first time, Mary's parents give full support of her own decisions. "Maybe it would be different if we got married," she said but it helps to not hide her relationship.

"Strong opinions"

"The wide variety of people at Central make them far more accepting of differences," said Central counselor Mrs. Judy Mahaffey. "However, even though students are certainly more liberal than years before, some still have strong opinions against such matters."

She said it is not always prejudices that make friends and parents unwilling to praise the relationship, but rather they are concerned that if the couple were to become married and have children they would face difficulties and set views in society.

"When there's pressure from the relatives or friends, it becomes harder for a couple to determine their real feelings," Mrs. Mahaffey said. "The couple needs to decide for themselves if they really like each other or if they are seeing each other out of spite."

"Looks of disapproval"

Sophomore Tracy Felici agrees with others who interracially date that older people have trouble accepting seeing a couple together with different skin colors.

She said even teachers have questioned her judgment. "I feel at ease dating interracially, but when people give me looks of disapproval, it makes me uncomfortable," Tracy said.

No matter who teenagers decide to date, Mrs. Mahaffey feels, "everyone should be accepted for themselves."

Racial tension reflected in fights, bomb threats daily

Vina Kay

On October 1, 1969, extra teachers were stationed at the entrances to Central, according to an October 2, 1969 "World-Herald" article. It was a precautionary measure taken after a fight involving 25 students the day before.

The fight, as did many recent incidents at Central, stemmed from a racial issue. But the precautions taken that day by Dr. G.E. Moller, principal, proved futile. At about 8 a.m. that morning another fight broke out involving approximately 100 boys and girls.

There were reports that knives were used in the melee that resulted in one boy being sent to a hospital. Eight stitches were required to close a stab wound in his left arm. The reason, again, was racial strife.

This incident, although among the larger ones, was just one of the many at Central, according to Dr. Moller. "The racial problem was kept very active here from about 1967 to 1971," he said.

The problem at Central, which was shared by high schools across the country, resulted from nationwide influences. As college campuses became active in protesting the Vietnam conflict and involved in the civil rights movement, high school students felt they had to somehow get involved, according to Dr. Moller.

"They thought they had to meet certain expectations. These initial influences snowballed into objection towards a lot of different things." The period became a time of questioning the "honesty of government and authority of all kinds," he said.

The rebelling resulted in daily confrontations and bomb threats. Students fought in the halls and outside the building, usually before or after school. "I never had a problem in any of my classes or study halls," said Mrs. Gretchen Schutte, German teacher. "The separation between blacks and whites was always very obvious."

"I'll never forget a particular incident on the west porch," said Mr. John Keenan, English teacher. "One group of students was standing inside and the other outside. A television cameraman was standing in the middle, turning from one side to the other. He was actually inciting students to exclaim obscenities at each other."

Mr. Keenan also recalled a boy who got stabbed in the back during a large fight. "He didn't even realize it until he sat down in class." The student ended up transferring to Burke but came back six months later because he "felt he was getting a better education

"Certainly prejudices exist well as in the entire country," he said.

at Central," he said.

Despite the unrest transferring to other schools the same problem," said Dr. Moller. "Central is representative of that if 1700 kids of all kinds levels can come and get all we can ask for as we solve the problem."

"It was really draining we were drained for no good feeling like we hadn't achieved, said Dr. Moller, they agreed that we did need democratic methods."

The period of disruption reputation, according to teachers prevented it from and worked to keep the group, using the slogan "I think we've come and prejudice over the nation-wide," said Dr. Moller.

The problem now is said Mrs. Udoxie Barbee. "isn't racial; it happens between other."

"Certainly prejudices exist entire country," said Dr. Moller. "Central is representative of that if 1700 kids of all kinds levels can come and get all we can ask for as we solve the problem."

"When there's pressure from the relatives or friends, it becomes harder for a couple to determine their real feelings."

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Affirmative action: not a matter of color

Kurt Hubler

While many companies claim to be an equal opportunity employer, the federal government has put extra safeguards on the companies it does business with to insure that claim.

"Affirmative action is a program in which minorities can overcome racial discrimination," said Mr. Daryl Lowe, Economic and Employment Director for the Nebraska Urban League.

"It is aimed primarily at any business with 15 or more employees that are contracted by the federal government," Mr. Lowe said. "The program is designed not only to protect against discrimination by color but also to handle cases of discrimination by age, sex, handicap, and religious beliefs."

"It all goes back to the days of Lyndon Johnson in 1967," said Mr. A.B. "Buddy" Hogan, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). "He (President Johnson) had a long history of supporting southern civil rights and tried to beat racism from his level of power as president by issuing an executive order that required federal contractors to describe how minorities and women would be hired."

Certified tests

Mr. Hogan also explained the misconceptions and truths that lie behind affirmative action.

"What is most misunderstood is that it is set with goals and quotas," he said.

"The Department of Labor will publish statistics and try to determine what the general availability and percentage should be of minorities," Mr. Hogan said. "As for goals, if a company can not find a minority to fill a position, nothing will happen."

Five years later, the same rules that applied with affirmative action on the federal level became mandatory for the states as well as with its public employees such as the Omaha Police Department. Mr. Hogan explained the hiring procedures.

"There is a list of eligibles who have passed a certified test," Mr. Hogan said. "The department will take the number of men needed from those with the highest scores. Many times the difference between test scores can be only two points."

"From there, those selected will have their background checked and attend a personal interview," Mr. Hogan said. "Race is not a consideration in any of these areas."

Black Guardians

While the tests showed that every individual who passed could be a certified officer, blacks entering the department in the 1960's were still restricted to working in the predominantly black areas of the city and

could only investigate crimes done by blacks against blacks according to Lieutenant Anderson Cousin, member of the police force.

It was not long until a group of black police officers got together and formed the Black Guardians, an association that dealt with the discriminating issues within the police department.

Resolve issue

"We united to form a group of our own, which had nothing to do with our local police union to represent blacks, women, and other minorities," said Lieutenant Cousin, who has been a member of the Black Guardians for the past 18 years. "We are not looking for any special treatment and do not exclude others from joining the organization."

"Anytime we find something that is unfair, we will go through the chain of command until the issue is resolved. We are all mature and do everything the legal way," Lieutenant Cousin said.

"Now blacks work all over the city covering all types of crimes, and we now have a black uniformed sergeant," he said.

Lieutenant Cousin added that complaints against the force's policy are mainly directed at the City of Omaha personnel section and not against the department itself.

With the beginning of the 1985-86 school year, a superintendent's task force was formed to survey and increase the representation of minority workers within the Omaha Public Schools.

"The purpose is to review positive actions and procedures to insure equal employment," said Dr. Ron Anderson, Assistant Superintendent of the Staff and Personnel Department for the school district. "It is a better way to explore all avenues to get the best in education by looking at current board policy and recruitment."

Dr. G.E. Moller, Central principal and member of the task force, explained what role he plays in the hiring of new staff members at Central.

"Veto power"

"I do have the privilege of looking at the person's credentials and determining whether or not they have the proper qualifications," Dr. Moller said. "It is something like a veto power."

Dr. Moller also said that the committee, which meets every month, will not resort to the use of quotas to hire minority staff members.

"You cannot set up quotas and percentages for a certain amount of minority teachers if they are not there," he said. "It would be too silly if it could not be done."

Terrorist attacks

Students question travel to Europe

Kurt Hubler

With the recent terrorist attacks and anti-American demonstrations in Europe, it seems that many U.S. citizens will not travel across the Atlantic for their summer vacation.

"Elkhorn and Westside have canceled their trips to Spain, and had Central been going, I would have canceled also," said Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Spanish teacher. "It is just not good to be a summer tourist this year. It is too risky."

But Central juniors Karyn Brower and Kristi Deffenbacher are determined to look beyond the threats of further attacks against Americans and look forward to spending a month in France.

Both will be traveling under the North American Cultural Exchange League (NACEL) tour company which will allow them to live with a French family for a month.

Charter flight

"The only way I will drop out of the program is if NACEL calls it off," Karyn said. "NACEL is the judge in determining whether or not to cancel the program if it is too dangerous."

"I was a little worried at first," said Kristi. "After I talked with NACEL and saw how tight the security would be, I realized there would be little risk."

Mrs. Daryl Bayer, French teacher, will be a chaperone on

the tour and described the many added security procedures.

"We will have a charter flight from New York to Paris that no one but chaperones and students will be on," she said. "The flight will not be affiliated with an American airline, and there will be added security at airports and train stations for students."

"The students will be staying with individual families that are away from American areas and will not be clumped together," Kristi added. "Coordinators of NACEL in Paris are watching situations that take place in France that may have any effect on the group."

Primary concern

The decision of where to stay is decided by the student, and both Karyn and Kristi are planning to live in Paris which is France's largest city and primary target for terrorists. But, neither of them showed much concern.

"Most of the places that have been bombed were areas where American servicemen are," Karyn said. "I do not plan to be in those areas, I just want to blend into the culture and do a little sightseeing."

"All the parents have voiced concern," Mrs. Bayer said. "But they are still backing the students."

"I do not see the attacks escalating in the future," Kristi said. "My parents are always monitoring the situations

overseas."

Keeping well-informed of international issues is what Ms. Jolane Luetchens, Nebraska and Kansas, coordinator for NACEL in Lincoln, suggests for safer travel.

"Political situation"

"We encourage everyone to pay attention to the political situation and just wait and see," Ms. Luetchens said. "The main thing is to use wisdom."

While a single chaperone will be provided for every 30 students, the responsibility of their well-being falls directly on NACEL.

Should a student wish to cancel his or her tour, they will have to do so one month before it begins, Kristi said.

For Adele Suttle, junior, the risk was just too great to visit a former exchange student who lives in Paris. Adele cancelled her travel plans to Europe this summer.

"She lived near an area where a terrorist attack took place three months ago," Adele said. "I would also be seeing Paris alone for two weeks because the schools in France do not get out until the middle of June."

"I still want to go to Paris and probably will when things calm down," she said. "It is just that no matter what, I believe I always look like an American."

Teenagers find nanny jobs

Gerry Huey

When people think of nannies, they probably have pictures of Julie Andrews in "Mary Poppins" and "Sound of Music."

Seniors Stephanie Vatsndal, Tracy Glass, and junior Amy Leach, will not be acting in any movies this summer, but they will be doing the same job as Julie Andrews did in the movies. All three are planning to be nannies this summer.

Stephanie decided to become a nanny because she does not feel that she is prepared to attend college full-time. "It's a good experience for people not ready for college," she said.

She explained the real reason she wants to be a nanny because of her love for children. "I love kids and I love to babysit."

Stephanie said she has already accepted a nanny job in Philadelphia for the summer. "I'm very excited to get away," she said.

Stephanie was contacted by Dr. Stan Maliszewski, Central guidance counselor, who received a letter from a woman in need of a nanny in Philadelphia.

She said that the woman had sent letters to several schools in the Midwest. Stephanie said that many people believe that Midwesterners are friendlier and have a stronger family structure.

When Stephanie arrives she will be in charge of two young children because both parents work during the day. She said she will be expected to clean and cook for the children.

Stephanie has no long-term written contract to stay with the family and can leave at any time. "I would not leave until the family finds another nanny though," she said. She plans to go to college after a year of being a nanny.

Tracy is working with "Nanny In Need", a Connecticut-based agency, to find a job as a nanny. Currently, Tracy does not have a family to care for, but she hopes for one with at least two children from the ages of infancy to five years old.

Tracy also felt that she was not ready for college. "I think that if I wait a year I would get more out of college," she said.

Amy said that she was very lucky to secure a nanny job this summer. "It was really lucky how I got it," she said.

Amy explained that she got the job while on vacation with her neighbor in Guadeloupe, Mexico. There Amy met a lady who needed a nanny for the summer. She accepted the job because she did not want to go through the hassle of paper work in a nanny agency.

She also added that one of her jobs as a nanny is to "go to the country club with the mother." Other plans include going on a family vacation in July.



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H.R.	8:25-8:36
I	8:40-9:14
II	9:18-9:53
III	9:57-10:57 Exam
IV	11:01-11:36
V-VII	11:40-1:05
VIII	1:09-2:09 Exam
IX	2:13-2:44
X	2:48-3:20
TUESDAY, JUNE 3	
H.R.	8:25-8:36
I	8:40-9:40 Exam
II	9:44-10:06
III	10:10-10:32
IV	10:36-11:36 Exam
V-VII	11:40-1:05
VIII	1:09-1:40
IX	1:44-2:44 Exam
X	2:48-3:20
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4	
H.R.	8:25-8:36
I	8:40-9:19
II	9:23-10:53 Exam
III	NO III PERIOD
IV	10:57-11:36
V-VII	11:40-1:12 Exam
VIII	NO VIII PERIOD
IX	1:16-1:46
X	1:50-3:20 Exam

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Central alumni anticipate summer reunions

Todd Peppers

As the hot summer months approach, most Central students dream of vacation and freedom. So it might seem strange that several groups of former students are trying to return to Central this summer.

They are returning for their class reunions—a chance to see old friends, catch up on memories, and even take a tour of Central High School.

"I started the drive for a reunion in 1986 out of a desire to get old friends together, friends who might not meet otherwise," said Ms. Cindy Hadsell, chairperson for the class of 1966 reunion.

"A reunion is a kind of like coming home. I helped on my ten-year reunion and it was just like a family experience," Ms. Hadsell said.

"We started organizing the reunion in October. We planned on having the get-together then because it usually takes a good ten months," she said.

"The first step is to contact alumni in the Omaha area and have a meeting. At the meeting I asked people to be on various committees," Ms. Hadsell explained.

She said that the committees included a treasury committee, a search commit-

"I think friendships surviving past high school depends on goals. If your group has the same goals, you'll still be close."

tee, and a directory committee. Once the committees were assigned Ms. Hadsell worked with them in carrying out their duties.

"We started with the student directory from our ten-year reunion," explained Ms. Hadsell. "What was so different from our ten-year reunion is now we had the directory on a computer, which really helped us track down people. Surprisingly, a lot of the people were still in Omaha, so in October we had our first mailing."

In the first mailing former students were given the date of the reunion and asked to send biographical information about their post-high school lives. One former Central student who received such a letter, although not for that particular reunion, was Mrs. Margo Kramer. Mrs. Kramer, a 1976 graduate and now a teacher at Millard

North, received the letter last October.

"Bob Hekl, our senior class president, sent us a questionnaire last fall," Mrs. Kramer said. "He used student's addresses from their senior year, so Bob took a chance. Over 300 out of 550 sent back the questionnaire."

Because Mr. Hekl lives in California, he asked alumni like Mrs. Kramer to help coordinate the reunion. "Bob asked in the letter if you wanted to help with the reunion and I wrote back 'you bet I do,'" Mrs. Kramer said.

Mrs. Carol Greenburg, class of 1946, is also helping with a reunion this fall. Like Mrs. Kramer, Mrs. Greenburg joined in after the reunion planning had started. "Some of my friends started the actual planning for the reunion and talked me into joining," she said.

The next step in planning a reunion is a follow-up to the alumni response in the first mailing. "Once the letters came back, and we had some idea of the reunion size, we moved on to all the details," said Ms. Hadsell.

"We had to decide on location, cost, and program. After the details were figured out, we had a second mailing. In that mail-

ing we asked for a commitment and a check. The expense is now running about \$30 dollars a person," she said.

Long before the second mailing Mrs. Hadsell decided to have an Omaha area class reunion. The reunion served as a pre-reunion in which about 70 local alumni showed up. Soon after this small reunion the major work for the real reunion began, she said.

"We meet about once a month for two to five hours," said Ms. Hadsell. "On my own I spend about five hours. I tried to invite a cross-section of students to work on the reunion, just not a clique."

Many former students think reunions might be depressing since their classmates are older, but Ms. Hadsell disagrees. "No one is really fat and balding; we discovered that everyone looks great and it's such fun. Friends who had strong friendships still do and you get to meet their spouses," Ms. Hadsell said.

"It is natural after all the years, that some friendships will change for the familiarity disperses," Mrs. Kramer explained. "I think friendships surviving past high school depend on goals. If your group had the same goals, you'll still be close."

Emergency procedures

School administrators question effectiveness of disaster drills

My Frame

Every first Saturday of the month the Civil Defense tests the siren system in the Omaha area. What would happen if during a normal school day the sirens went off?

At least once a year the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) has a drill to prepare for just such an emergency. This year's disaster drill was held on April 9, and according to Mrs. Udouxie Barbee, Central assistant principal, the drill exposed some of the problems of the system.

"The main problem was that some people didn't know where to go, and as a result we had overcrowded areas," Mrs. Barbee said.

However, Mrs. Barbee added that the drills were an effective way of training students for an emergency situation. "The most important thing is people knowing where to go," she emphasized.

"Free of panic"
Some students expressed doubts about the effectiveness of the drills. Sophomore Tracy Glesne thought that in an actual emergency students would panic. "If something would happen, no one would do what they were supposed to. People would just go where they wanted," she said.

Central principal Dr. G.E. Moller disagrees. "I think we'd be completely free of panic because we'd have plenty of warning," he said.

The present drill system,

which was developed by Omaha Civil Defense, covers situations ranging from tornadoes to a nuclear attack.

Mr. Bob O'Brien, Civil Defense Director of Omaha and Douglas County, said the system was developed "to respond to disaster, prevention of disaster, both man-made and natural."

Mr. O'Brien said the Civil Defense plan was first devised during World War II and is continually changing to meet the community's needs.

"Firm believer"

He said the Civil Defense disaster plans are preventative measures designed to save the most lives. "I'm a firm believer in prevention because it's the only alternative," Mr. O'Brien explained.

He believes that if there were a nuclear attack on the United States residents in the Omaha area would have to evacuate. He believes that evacuation is the only alternative.

"We don't plan to be here after a nuclear war. You either make it out or you don't," Mr. O'Brien said.

The Strategic Air Command in Bellevue could not comment about specific procedures for a nuclear emergency. Captain Jeff Melke said that President Reagan would decide whether or not to inform the public about an impending nuclear attack.

Captain Melke said he could not discuss how much time the public would have to react to an

emergency. "I can't discuss contingencies, but it would all be dependent on where the attack came from," he said.

Pattern of response

"I think when you work with people in a repeated type procedure they learn to respond automatically," said Dr. Rene Hlavac, Omaha Public Schools (OPS) Assistant Superintendent in charge of student personnel services.

He explained that OPS has a radio system to connect all the district schools in case of an emergency. Dr. Hlavac said the system, which was developed in the late 1960's, is tested every Monday to insure a correct pattern of response.

Dr. Hlavac said that the main problem of the system is not the student reaction. "One of the problems we found was that the school facilities themselves were not conducive for a disaster drill," he said.

Dr. Hlavac explained that the school system tries to keep students as well informed of procedures as possible and that they try not to catch students off guard. Dr. Hlavac added that the drill system is constantly changing as problems are discovered.

When asked if he thought the drills effectively trained students for an emergency situation, Dr. Hlavac said, "Disaster drills are probably taken lightly, but I believe in an actual emergency situation students would probably respond correctly."

Taking the pledge KMTV asks teenagers to 'celebrate straight'

Mike Meehan

The time of year has arrived for graduation. To help insure that all goes well for all the graduating seniors, KMTV, Channel 3, has issued "The Class of '86 Challenge."

According to Mr. John Sullivan, KMTV program director, this is the second year for the Challenge that asks seniors to sign a pledge card stating that they will not use drugs or alcohol but instead will "celebrate straight."

"The challenge is based on the honor system. The student reads over the pledge, and then he and a parent or guardian must sign the card and return it to the student's counselor," said Mr. Sullivan.

In exchange for the pledge card, the student will receive a coupon card good for a free meal at Wendy's. In addition, KMTV will send a news crew to cover the Nebraska graduations of the high schools that have the greatest number of participants in the Challenge.

"We did pretty well last year. Out of 5,800 seniors, we had 20 percent actually take the pledge," Mr. Sullivan said. "There is always that small percent that may never sign, but there is a larger percent that may be convinced."

"Once the kids start reading the pledge, they'll start thinking about it, and we want to show them that the schools, the community, the parents, and the

"We did pretty well last year. Out of 5,800 seniors we had 20 percent actually take the pledge."

media are all behind them," Mr. Sullivan added.

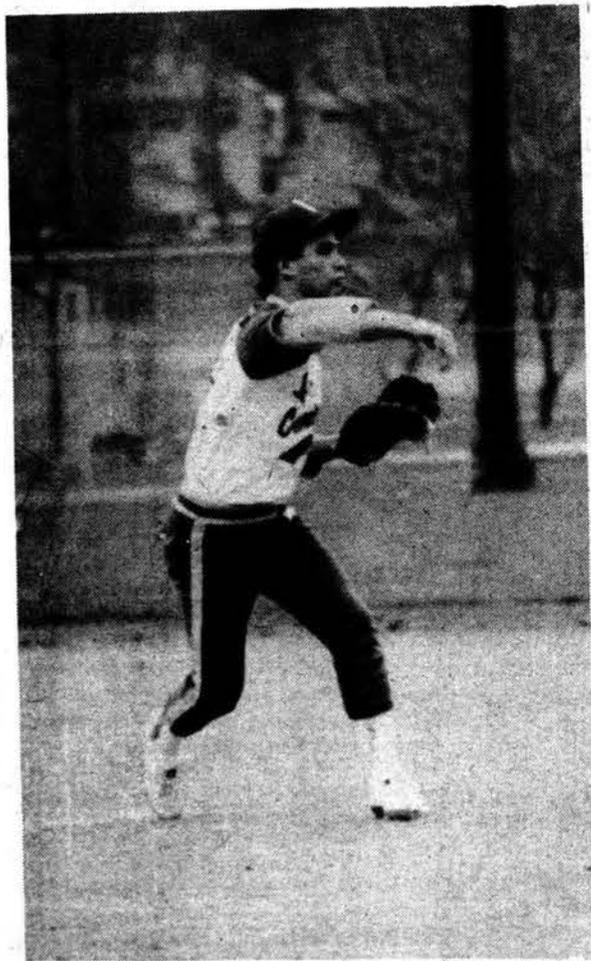
One of the first Central seniors to take the pledge was senior Mike Beasley. Mike explained that Mr. Sullivan wrote a letter to assistant principal Mr. Richard Jones explaining that he was looking for high school athletes to film a commercial promoting the Class Challenge. KMTV is currently airing the commercial.

Mike said that he would encourage his friends to sign the pledge. "There will be more than half of the students participating because if they see someone taking the pledge then they might try it too," Mike said.

Mike thought that the challenge was a good way to cut down on the accidents that usually come along with graduation. "Drugs aren't everything. Once people realize this, then these programs will work," he said.

"It takes a lot of courage to proclaim publicly that you are not going to use drugs or alcohol," Mr. Sullivan said.

Spring sports pictorial



Clockwise from top left: Junior George Anderson soars through the air with the greatest of ease. The boy's team will attend this week's state track meet. Senior Matt Bushey tries to defend the ball from two opponents. After a state appearance in 1985, the boys moved up

to Class A, but failed to qualify this year. Junior Stacy White passes the baton to her teammate. The girls' track team placed second at the Metro meet. Senior Jill Stommes uses her backhand to send the ball to her opponent. The girls' tennis team just completed their season last

week. Sophomore Joe Salerno gets rid of the ball quickly to barely beat the runner at first. Both junior varsity and varsity baseball teams completed their seasons last week. Photos by Tim Combs, Lisa Jensen, Phil Ber-

Active sports year yields bests, worsts



Extra Point

Travis Feezell

The 1985-86 school year has been a great one for Central athletics. Eagle stars have definitely made an impression on the Metro scene.

I think it's been a year of bests and worsts for the athletes at Central. Many of them have experienced the ultimate thrill of winning and the horrendous pain of losing. But they will never forget these moments whether they are good or bad. The high school memories will live on forever. I hate being so melodramatic at times. Anyway, here's my list of the best and worst athletic happenings at Central:

Most Underrated Team: Everybody always thinks of football or basketball at Central. What about girls' gymnastics? Have you ever heard of them? They won the Metro title and finished second at the State meet by one-tenth of a point. Many of the team members plan to pursue their gymnastics careers.

Most Happiness: A little biased viewpoint never hurt anyone. I have never been more emotionally excited in my life than when the boys' tennis team won the State Championship. No one ever expected us to win. Good luck next year guys.

Biggest Ripoff: The football team had a 7-2 record last fall. At the end of the season, many people thought of Central as one of the top few teams in the state, one of the only squads that could have a chance at upsetting Creighton Prep. Because of a fluke loss to Bryan and a playoff point system which doesn't work, the team had to watch the playoffs from afar. I have a little advice for next year's team ... revenge is so sweet.

Best Play: No doubt here. The score was tied with only six seconds left. Millard North threw up a shot that bounced around and fell in. Our point guard brought the ball up the court and passed to Leodis Flowers. He put up a long 20-footer as the buzzer sounded. The ball touched air as it swished through the hoop. The Eagles won the district title and made an appearance in the state tournament for the first time in almost ten years.

Biggest Surprise: The talent has always been there, but nothing has ever quite clicked. It was no surprise that they had

a good year, but it was surprising to see them make the state tournament. Something like a last second shot or a stupid foul kept them out of Lincoln. Yes, this award definitely goes to the boys' basketball team.

Most Underrated Athlete: He's so underrated, most probably haven't ever heard of him. His name is Tony Mancuso. I've played baseball with him for the last four years, and I have yet to see a better hitter. I played basketball with him my sophomore and senior years and there is no doubt in my mind that he could have played on and contributed to this year's team. Tony, you've got some real talent. Don't let it go to waste after high school.

Most Hidden Sport: It's questionable whether to call the powerlifting team the most hidden sport. People know they exist but forget about their six straight state championships. See, a powerlifting meet is not your basic rah-rah, cheerleader type of activity. Anyway, hats off to the strongest high school kids in Nebraska.

Star to Watch: Gee Beav, if you can guess the answer to this one, you're as smart as Ward. If anybody, including Ward and the Beav, follows Central sports, then this category is all too simple. Leodis Flowers seems to be the most talented football player in Nebraska. If things go well next season, he could easily be recruited by hundreds of colleges across the nation. After college...who knows? I see nothing but stars for this athlete.

Best Interview: Out of all the people I've interviewed this year, Coach William Reed is by far the best. He gives you his opinions in a clear and concise manner, and he is very straightforward. He always had time for my interviews and went out of his way to see that I received the correct information. This man is nothing but class. Thanks, Coach!

Best Athlete: I had a hard time figuring this one out, but I feel I picked the right person. Mike Beasley is my choice for best athlete because of many things. He won a state championship in tennis and was an all-stater in basketball. I think he could have been a great wide receiver with his great size and speed. He could have been an excellent track star. This guy has so much natural ability. Besides that, he's a great guy. He will definitely succeed in later life.

Worst Athlete: No competition here because there are no bad athletes at Central. Central athletes are all winners whether they can play a sport or not. Almost all of them give 100 percent (cliche, but true) when competing. To Eagle athletes, I say thanks. My sports life at Central has been excellent because of you.



photo by Shanda Brewer

Central soccer player sophomore David Bushey models his black Pumas. Athletes often find their biggest sports expense is shoes.

Soccer inexpensive

Athletic equipment costs high

Dan Rock

Athletes spend not only time, energy, and sweat in participating in athletic events but also money.

But an increasing trend throughout the Omaha school system is to spend less money on athletic equipment.

"I can remember when they used to give us practice shorts and even shoes to give to the kids," said Mr. Jim Martin, head basketball coach.

"Money is real tight right now; we just can't give the athletes every thing they need now a days," said Mr. Richard Jones, Central athletic director.

In 1975 Tech High School did provide everything an athlete needed. However, since then the athlete has been forced to buy supplementary equipment.

"The reason I did not go out for volleyball or track is because sports are not only expensive when buying equipment, but also because if you're in a sport, you can't work," explained senior Debby Ziskovsky.

Senior Chuck Koziol spent \$250 on his basketball equipment this year. "A person doesn't notice the money they pay at the time because they spend a little here and a little there," said Chuck.

Chuck's major expense was shoes. "I paid \$100 for my shoes, but that's because I have such large feet and have to order my shoes special. Most people do spend from \$40 and up though," he said.

"The reason I did not go out for volleyball or track is because sports are not only expensive when buying equipment, but also because if you're in a sport you can't work."

Junior Bryan Johnson spent \$200 for his Central gymnastic equipment. "It's too much fun to give up just because of the money," said Bryan. Bryan said not all the gymnasts spend as much money as he does and they don't have to.

Junior Michael Page spent \$120 this year for his football equipment. He also said his biggest expense came with the buying of shoes. "I bought a pair of grass shoes and (artificial) turf shoes because of the two different surfaces the team plays on," he said.

The school provides all necessary pads and uniform, but Michael said that the player has to provide undergarments, a mouthpiece, shoes, and arm pads if the athlete needs them.

"Coach Reed explained at the beginning about footwear. He said that you could wear your tennis shoes for the turf to save money and for grass shoes he would sell us the spikes to save us money," said football player Mike Whetstone, senior.

Senior Mark Driscoll wrestled this year for the Eagles. He spent \$35 for shoes and knee pads. The wrestling team, explained Mark, gets around the high prices of sporting equipment

several ways. "Coach Kubik brought in a salesman to sell us shoes at a 20 percent discount. We also sell candy to support ourselves," Mark said.

One of the things the team does with the money from the candy sales is give a tee-shirt to a wrestler every time he runs 100 miles. "Wrestling is pretty cheap. In fact you even save money by not eating to lose weight," Mark added.

Another inexpensive sport is soccer. "Soccer is the least expensive sport; all you really have to pay for is the team fee of \$25," said junior Joe Fogarty. However, most players do spend about \$30 more on shoes and shin guards, he said.

All Central athletes must have family insurance or buy insurance through the school, Mr. Jones explained. "Normal school insurance costs \$4; however, since football is more dangerous, the cost is \$25," he said.

Mr. Jones added that every student who participates in an athletic event must also purchase a student activity card. "We look at the student activity card as an investment because we get that money back," Mr. Reed said.



photo by Tim Combs

Mr. Doctor races in Solo II. Mr. Doctor used to race as an amateur road racer.

Racing memories still vivid for former amateur driver

Thatcher Davis

Mr. Jerry Doctor, science department head at Central, has been involved with sports cars and auto racing since the late 1960's. Currently, Mr. Doctor is the treasurer and on the board of directors for the Nebraska region of the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA).

Although he has not participated in an official amateur road race since the early 1970's, Mr. Doctor still races in other SCCA events. These events include Solo II races and rallies.

A Solo II is a race around rubber cones on a flat asphalt surface. The drivers are judged on the time it takes them to manipulate their way through the course.

The rally, on the other hand, involves a three to four hour drive, usually on country roads, Mr. Doctor explained. Each car must have two occupants, a driver and a navigator.

To prevent cars from having an unfair advantage in the Solo II competition, each automobile is categorized according to its potential. As a result, cars only compete against others in their category.

"I can't imagine anyone could pull up in a car we would not have a category for," said Mr. Doctor.

Each team is given a specific course and an exact speed guide to follow. There are six undisclosed check points along the route. Each driver is judged on how nearly to the correct time he passes these points. A penalty is issued for every one-hundredth of a minute the car is early or late.

Only factory stock cars can be used in Solo II and rallies. The only additions that can, and have

"The safety considerations are massive. They are constantly upgrading the requirements on safety equipment."

to be made, are the addition of a roll bar, a fire extinguisher, and competition seat belts, Mr. Doctor said.

In the early 1970's, when Mr. Doctor was racing in amateur races, he competed with a Formula V. A Formula V is an 800 pound, open wheel, single seat automobile with a Volkswagen "Bug" engine, explained Mr. Doctor.

"You haven't got a lot of power, but you still get significant speeds out of it," commented Mr. Doctor, who predicted that the car could reach speeds of 100 miles per hour.

While racing the Formula V, Mr. Doctor participated only in road races. A road race is held on a twisting track, two to four miles long, not on the traditional oval track. "I turned both ways, not just left," Mr. Doctor said.

Mr. Doctor explained that in order to race, an individual must obtain a racing license. A driver must attend two driving schools in order to receive a "novice license." After the driver participates in two races he receives a regional license.

From this point, the type of license issued depends on the number of races participated in. The driver works up to a national amateur license and then to a professional license if the racer so desires.

Since amateur racers do not win prize money as do professionals, financing becomes difficult for the amateur. Mr. Doctor said that companies pay to

place their product label on a race car, or they "sponsor" a racer. However, only the top racers usually receive this privilege, he said.

The amateur racer that is not continually winning may have trouble paying for his venture. This is why many drivers usually group together and "share" a car. Mr. Doctor added that he "shared" a car when he was racing.

Mr. Doctor explained that the expenses of amateur racing caused him to pull out. "There's a lot of money in racing. I know, because I put it there," he joked.

Mr. Doctor said that the public usually sees racing as dangerous. He said that the only time racing receives any attention is if there is a tragic accident, and then the attention is only negative.

"The safety considerations in the SCCA are massive," said Mr. Doctor; "they are constantly upgrading the requirements on safety equipment. I'm a lot safer on the track than I am on the freeway."

No matter how many safety regulations are imposed on the sport, racing will always have a dangerous aspect. "If it's going to remain 'racing' there always will be an element of risk," Mr. Doctor said.

Despite high costs and danger, Mr. Doctor is grateful that he had a chance to participate in amateur racing. "It's one of those things that I would always be disappointed if I hadn't done it and now I am glad that I have done it," he said.

Negative attention

Jerseys seen on field not in halls next fall

Dan Rock

Next fall Mr. William Reed, Central head football coach, will drop some traditional rituals that have gone along with his successful program.

No longer will students see football players in the Central's halls wearing jerseys on game days, nor will any football players be introduced at morning pep rallies.

The reasoning behind Coach Reed's actions is a feeling that high school athletes are not receiving the recognition and support they deserve. "Being an athlete is no longer a good thing, athletes are not looked up to, and they are even looked down upon," said Mr. Reed. "It is better for an athlete at Central to not be known as an athlete right now."

"Teachers need to be behind the athletes. Old time teachers used to go to every event, but it seems as though the younger teachers today feel at 3:20 p.m. they are done with their job," said Mr. Jim Martin, head basketball coach.

"Knowledgeable teams"

"Students really enjoy it when a teacher shows up for a play or a game that they're in. It shows them they are behind the students all the way in life not just school," said Coach McMenamin.

"We have done everything we could do with our teams to get support. We have had great teams, entertaining teams, knowledgeable teams, and just plain good kids out on the field," Coach Reed said.

Even with the successes of Central's teams, Mr. Reed said that only 15 faculty members out of the 126 showed up to the final district boy's basketball game. The game gave the Eagles a berth in the state basketball tournament for the first time in ten years.

The athletic department does not feel the teachers should receive the entire blame for the lack of support. "We are the only school in the metro that does not have all-school, during-school pep rallies," said Coach McMenamin.

Westside holds two annual all-school during-school pep rallies and a pep rally for any team that goes to the state level competition as does Benson and Northwest. Burke officials said they hold four all-school pep rallies during school each year and a rally for any team that attends state.

Pep rally attendance

"The pep rallies we have in the morning now involve ten percent of the student body and about four percent of faculty. We are no longer going to participate in anything that is not totally Central supported," Coach Reed said.

"I can understand the administration's view that only ten percent of the students are involved with athletics so they can not justify getting everyone out of class to have a pep rally," Mr. Martin said.

"Every student that wanted to leave class was allowed to, twice both for the musical and spring play this year. Those productions involved less students than the amount of people a pep rally would involve," said Coach McMenamin.

"Central is the best academic high school in Nebraska. Coaches know it, students know it, and the teachers and administrators know it," Mr. Reed said. "Other schools are so far beneath us we can not even see them, but because of their commitment and respect for athletics and other extra-curricular activities they become very close to being as strong a school as we are."

The coaches and athletes said academics is first and always will be first. However, they said, to be a good student a student should be involved in some sort of extra-curricular activity.

In February of 1983, the American College Testing Service studied four factors predicting student success in life. The four factors were high school grades, college grades, ACT results, and participation in extra-curricular activities. Three of the four factors were found to have no bearing on an athlete's future success.

Few disciplinary problems

The only factor which could be used to predict success in later life was participation in extra-curricular activities. The study showed student athletes have a higher grade point average, better attendance record, and fewer disciplinary problems than those who do not participate in athletic and extra-curricular activities. For that reason alone, the study said, money and time spent on those activities is a wise investment.

"The 'Omaha World-Herald' writes five articles about Central to one story about the rest of the Omaha schools. We are more respected outside these walls than we are from within," Coach Reed said.

"People tend to generalize the athlete," Coach Martin said. The coaches said they want to reverse the student's attitude that athletes do not care about school and teacher's feelings that the athletes are expecting a break in their classrooms so they can play sports.

Coaches McMenamin and Reed agreed they would instantly trade in 20 "World-Herald" articles or 20 trophies for a few students to congratulate an athlete or a couple teachers to show up to a game.