

Inside:
 Capital Punishment,
 math whizzes,
 college crime, and
 roller-skaters.

Local gang activity Omaha is 'ripe for the picking'

Amy Buckingham

"We (Omaha) are ripe for the picking," said Omaha Police Sergeant Marvin McClarty. He believes that this is the mind set of current gang leaders from all over the nation, but "especially the west coast."

According to Sgt. McClarty two gangs from Los Angeles, the Bloods and the Crips, have sent some of their members to Omaha, Denver, Kansas City, and a number of other metropolitan areas in the Midwest "to organize drug trafficking."

"The market for drugs in California is so large and there are so many people involved in the selling of drugs that it is no longer a money-making venture," he said.

"So they come to a smaller metropolitan area where there is maybe a smaller market, but drugs are less accessible. This enables them to charge a higher price for their product, and they can turn their drug dealing into a money-making project again."

The leaders from these gangs go into low-income areas and "flash their money and three hundred dollar jogging suits to young kids who don't have money, to kids that need an identity, to kids that need protection, to kids that want power and status," said Sgt. McClarty.

But, according to Sgt. McClarty, these gangs do not stay just in the low-income housing areas. They take their

Continued on page 6

Class officers combat 'illness'

Ann Kay

"Senioritis," is a strange and rare condition that strikes even the most calm and tranquil seniors. "Senioritis" makes seniors "blow off" even the most important classes. One way to avoid this disease? Have fun!

Leading up to June 4, the date of Central High School seniors' commencement, are various activities that the Senior Class Officers have planned to cure this contagious illness.

As one of their first activities, the officers planned the softball tournament in February.

"The last softball tournament went really well," said Doug Howland, boys' sergeant-at-arms.

"We had better weather than we expected, a better turnout than we thought we'd have, and we raised some money," he said.

"The main thing is that everyone has a lot of fun."

Doug is currently organizing a spring softball tournament similar to the one in February. "The main thing is that everyone has a lot of fun," he explained.

Doug said that the major problem with having events is finding teacher sponsors.

The second event will be a potluck dinner, Jonas Batt, class president, is organizing this dinner which requires all seniors to bring a food item to attend.

Bruce Lovgren, vice president, is busy making plans for the upcoming volleyball tournament.

Will there be senior wills? Contrary to rumors, the officers have not made a definite decision on senior wills.

"They were started for a good purpose and turned into

"The softball tournament... gave us inspiration to do more activities."

something else. People are using wills the wrong way," said Doug.

"We're still deciding on what the seniors think," explained Jonas. "So far, we've

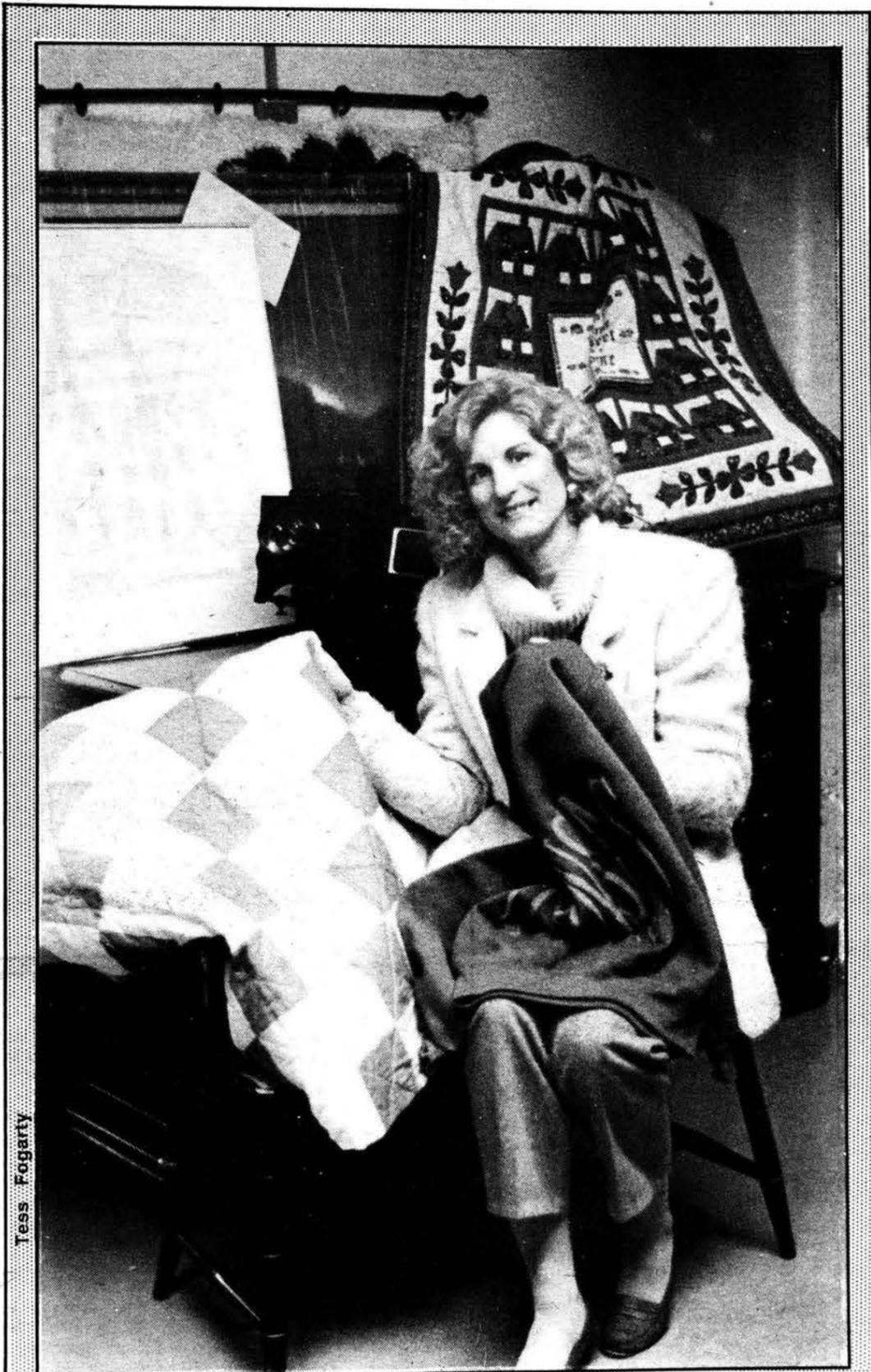
had mixed opinions." Doug commented that some teachers get upset with senior wills, but all in all, it remains up to the officers.

Robin Leavitt, girls' sergeant-at-arms, said, "We're trying to plan a lot of things. In the past, the classes didn't do much. The softball tournament was a big success, and it gave us inspiration to do more activities."

The officers are also already thinking about reunions.

"The easiest way for students to help [the officers] and to receive information about reunions is by keeping Central up-to-date as far as addresses," Jonas said.

What is it like to be an officer of 500 plus people? "It's fun, and it's a lot of work, time, and responsibility, not only this year, but for the next 50 or so years," said Robin.



Mrs. Annette Huff displays various items that will be sold at the Central High School Scholarship Auction. The auction will be held April 8 in the courtyard.

Seniors to receive financial aid

Auction raises money for endowment, scholarships

Emily Rasmuss

The Central High School Scholarship/Dinner Auction will take place April 8 at 6 P. M. The auction, held at Central, will raise money for senior scholarships. A group of teachers and administrators will select recipients based on character, service, leadership, and scholarship. Last year, sixteen seniors received 500 dollar scholarships.

Mrs. Annette Huff, the auction chairperson, said that 50 percent of the money raised will go into an endowment fund. Students will receive the other 50 percent in scholarships. Dr. G. E. Moller, Central principle, said "The endowment fund is a fund we invest. We only use the interest for scholarships."

The silent auction will start at 6 P. M., with the auctioning items donated by businesses and individuals and gift certificates to Omaha restaurants and stores. Dinner will also be served during the silent auction.

At 7:45 P. M., the oral auction will begin. Items donated for the oral auction include tickets to a UNL football game, colonial rug quilting, a sprinkler system and many other items.

This year's auction is the sixth scholarship auction at Central. About forty Central seniors have received 500 dollar scholarships from auction proceeds in the past. The Auction Committee of teachers, parents, and alumni has arranged this year's auction to aid Central seniors of the class of 1988.

Forum

Are you pro- or anti- capital punishment?



Charlie Tomlinson, senior: "I believe in capital punishment. If a person is convicted of murder without a doubt, or if it is his second capital offense, he should be killed. Then capital punishment is acceptable."



Lanesa Ballew, senior: "Yes, I believe in capital punishment because if someone is cruel enough to kill someone else, they deserve to die."



David Kowalski, junior: "I'm for it (capital punishment) only if they enforce it; too many people have gotten away with murder. Its purpose is to deter others from committing similar crimes, but it loses its effectiveness when it is not enforced."



Eldon Maggett, junior: "I'm against capital punishment. I don't think that someone should be punished in that manner because they're the ones that have to live with it anyway."



Robin McWilliams, sophomore: "I'm against capital punishment. They (the authorities) could be punishing someone who is completely innocent of the crime."



Larry Clemons, sophomore: "I'm against capital punishment because two wrongs (two deaths) don't make a right. Killing is not the answer for a murder."

Laura Grillo



Fair independent of school opening

In an attempt to promote tourism, the Nebraska State Legislature is currently considering a legislative bill which would require all public schools to start school later in the fall.

Due to the increase in the number of instructional hours which schools must fulfill, the school year would either have to be lengthened or vacation days cut in some manner. The bill, LB 841, would require all school calendars to begin after Labor Day starting with the 1990-91 school year and every year thereafter.

The intention of legislators is to increase attendance at the Nebraska State Fair before and including the Labor Day weekend, thus promoting tourism in Nebraska.

While their idea is a noble one, the legislators should realize that their proposal is not without its own problems, and they far outweigh its one good attribute.

Perhaps more people, given the chance to do so without having to miss school, would attend the State Fair.

But the increase in actual numbers would not be as significant as the State Legislature seems to suggest. Fair organizers are certainly not going to see a great influx in the number of people attending.

Another problem is that many students do not prefer to travel during the week or two before school starts.

Some have just returned from vacations abroad or in other states, and others simply want to relax before stepping back into a more rigorous, educational atmosphere.

And still other members of the population simply have no intention of traveling to the fair or anywhere else.

Perhaps the State Legislature should not place so much emphasis on forcing its own citizens to attend the fair but should concentrate more on attracting out-of-state visitors and businesses.

Each year, for example, the Iowa State Fair attracts many Nebraska residents. Not only does Iowa receive an economic boost, but the state has the chance to demonstrate its advantages over other states.

Nebraska, in the opinion of the Register staff, should be attempting the very same thing.

In addition, school-related legislation should be the responsibility of the local school boards, not that of the state.

Each school board has members who are close to their particular area and who know what their constituents want.

The state legislators, valuable and capable though they are, cannot possibly make one law that adequately covers the numerous school districts throughout Nebraska.

Such a state law specifying the opening date of

public schools tips the balance of power in favor of the state and discriminates against local authority.

Therefore, the state should leave such responsibilities in the competent hands of the local school boards.

And regardless of who proposes the idea, beginning school after Labor Day presents too many problems to make it feasible.

Students would be required to attend school far into the month of June, when the mercury level of the entire state is on the rise.

Considering that Nebraska's heat is already a problem in late May and early June, the number of days shortened due to high temperatures is sure to increase the longer school is in session.

A later session would also disrupt the beginning of Cornhusker Boys' and Girls' State and the Nebraska Scholars' Institute, events which are traditionally held the first few weeks of June.

A later closing date for the schools would push these activities far into June or July and result in more temperature and summer schedule problems.

To avoid a mass outbreak of heatstroke and to create a balance of power concerning educational legislation, the Register calls on the Nebraska State Legislature to leave the opening date of school in the state as it stands.

Wage increase long over-due

Since 1981, America's inflationary rate has risen 30 percent. And during that same time, the number of Americans living in poverty rose 10.6 percent to 32.4 million.

Yet in that same period, the minimum wage for employment has remained the same, holding steady at \$3.35 an hour.

With teenagers, and workers in general, scrambling to make ends meet, let alone money for college, the U.S. is in dire need of a minimum wage upgrade.

The United States Congress is currently considering a bill, sponsored

by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), to increase pay to \$5.05, a 50.7 percent or \$1.70 increase.

Its fate remains unclear as both Senators and Congressmen debate the issue as either a godsend or an infringement on employers.

Regardless of their arguments, the fact remains that the cost of living in the U.S. has and is steadily rising while minimum wages are not, and \$3.35 simply does not stretch as far as it once did.

Whether it is the high school senior saving for college or the 24-year-old secretary who must decide

which child to feed that day, such a proposal should receive top priority at our nation's capital for its significance is much too great to be tossed back and forth between committees.

Its passage ought to be swift; arguments that employers cannot afford the pay hikes are invalid for, according to the Commerce Department, 1988 prices are 30 percent higher than those in 1981. Thus, the increases are completely reasonable demands.

Whatever happened to trying to stay ahead of the game? Or at least remaining even par?

OPS priorities confused, bans all smoking by 1989

Billboards advertising tobacco products have recently changed their messages.

Past billboards have stated that the "United States Surgeon General [C. Everett Koop] has determined that cigarette smoking is hazardous to your health."

Now, the same billboards reads that "the Surgeon General has determined that cigarette smoking causes cancer," or that "the Surgeon General has found that cigarette smoking can cause complications in pregnancy."

The message of "no smoking" is much more straightforward today, and, for the sake of young Omahans, the Omaha Board of Education believes in the same goal.

The Board is attempting to clean up all of the metro area educational structures by 1989. Their proposal is intended to make the OPS buildings free of cigarette, cigar, and pipe smoke by that time.

Dr. Norbert Schuerman, superintendent of the Omaha Public Schools, is, himself, setting a good example with his fight to kick his own smoking habit.

In an age of nationwide, increased health awareness, his actions and the

proposed actions of the board are an excellent means of educating our youth as to the benefits of a smoke-free environment.

Yet however noble the proposal sounds, the Board appears to be setting an unattainable goal for themselves and for the schools.

Currently, OPS policy bans all tobacco of any kind on school property.

But passing a law does not insure that those under its jurisdiction will obey it, and certain students, Central ones in particular, do not obey the present laws.

Groups of deviant smokers congregate daily at opportune spots around Central and its grounds. Because these people are minors, they are subordinate to the employees of the school system.

Unfortunately, most faculty members either do not have the time or the desire to hunt down each and every student who spends his time filling the restrooms with an impenetrable haze.

Therein lies the problem with making OPS buildings smoke-free. How can the Board of Education hope to solve such a wide-spread problem when a smaller one still exists? The Board is trying to



run a marathon without first getting the mile under its belt.

During the past several years, Central's administration has tried, with minimal success, to curb smoking in the building and on the school grounds. For this reason the Register staff believes that the Board's proposal is unrealistic.

In the course of one year, those involved are not

going to experience an overwhelming change. The situation calls for small changes over a longer period of time.

Central recently divided its teachers' lounge into two separate rooms: one for staff members who smoke and one for those who do not.

This is a fine example of the small changes that officials can make if they have

patience and do not try to do too much too fast.

The Register staff recommends that the Board continue to make these small changes within the system and be willing to lose a battle or two in order to win the war.

Its long term effect may be a valuable lesson in the art of compromise for the young people of this area.

Capital punishment integral part of United States

An eye for and eye, a tooth for a tooth: an old biblical phrase with mammoth implications.

Just how far does such a saying go? Does it stop with a punch for a punch, or does it include a life for a life?

Capital punishment, like abortion, is an issue which can quickly divide a room; there can be no fence straddling with the death penalty.

And, in the opinion of the Register staff, capital punishment is a firmly entrenched and a much needed deterrent in the United States.

In 1976 with *Gregg vs. Georgia*, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a landmark decision that rivals only *Roé vs. Wade*, legalized the practice of capital punishment, but it said that guidelines must be followed, and it allowed the individual states to choose for themselves. The guideline, of course, being capital murder.

Nebraska and other states agreed with the Supreme Court, recognizing capital punishment's significance as one of both deterrence and retribution.

Capital Punishment, while definitely not the answer to every problem, is often the best solution in certain cases.

Case in point one: In 1958, serial-murderer Charles Starkweather killed eleven people during a killing spree that frightened and horrified Nebraska. He received the death penalty for his crimes.

Case in point two: In the 1970's, Isiah Jerry Jones, a convicted murderer in Iowa and suspected assassin in Michigan, crossed over to Nebraska and slew a mother and

her daughter at his apartment.

He dismembered their bodies and buried the remains off the interstate near Rulo, Nebraska. The Supreme Court overturned his death sentence due to a judicial error, and he is currently serving a life sentence in Lincoln.

Case in point three: In 1984, Omaha reeled from the discoveries of two Sarpy County youths whose dead bodies were covered with multiple stab wounds.

...In 1984, Omaha reeled from the discoveries of two Sarpy County youths whose dead bodies were covered with multiple stab wounds.

John Joubert was eventually apprehended and convicted of two counts of first degree murder, and his first date for execution is April 26, though it will most likely be temporarily postponed.

Capital punishment opponents are quick to cite its apparent shortcomings. Some feel that life sentences are more desirable, for the convicted are made to suffer longer. Others believe that the state is resorting to the killer's own brand of justice, and others quote from the *Bible*, "Thou shalt not kill."

However noble such sentiments are, they painfully

try to cover up the truth: that a human life was needlessly snuffed out like a candle, and no minor reprimand or slap on the wrist can change that fact.

Not only do life sentences offer the victim's survivors constant reminders of their losses and sufferings, they are a tremendous drain on the taxpayers, for harboring criminals is not cheap.

If murder is all that repeat offenders like Jones can understand and appreciate, then perhaps the state is left with no other alternative than to prevent further wickedness. Is it not, after all, what they deserve?

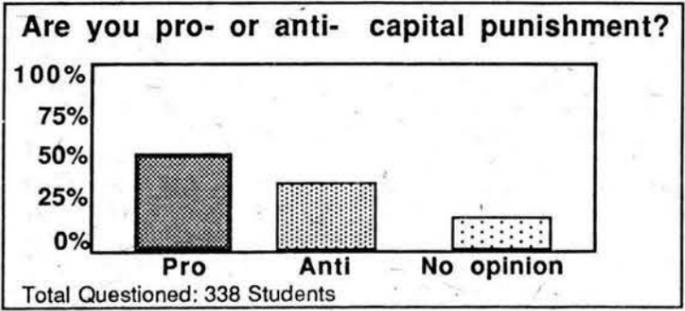
What better deterrent to murder than the death penalty?

And though the Bible expressly prohibits the taking of a human life, our nation is based upon the separation of church and state, thus the Supreme Court and God must be independent of each other.

In the U.S., 99 percent of all felonies do not involve murder, and, for those criminals, the government should be somewhat lenient with punishment and rehabilitation.

But for those guilty of murder, the most heinous of crimes, the big brother attitude is no longer applicable or appropriate; tolerance only breeds further violence.

Thus capital punishment may indeed be a most unfortunate and ugly aspect of reality, but its importance can never be downplayed or ignored, for it is and always must be a constant reminder to all potential murderers that such actions will never be tolerated.



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'Brainless horde' stomps the innocent

I'd like to get something off my chest that has been bothering me for quite some time now. I am starting to wonder just how good this whole *driving a car* thing really is.

I mean, have you ever stopped to think about all those little creeps that drive their cars around yours? Have you ever wondered what it would cost for you to fix one of these idiot's mistakes? Too much, I'm sure.

Cars themselves can be quite a pain and, it's true, they can be quite useful - but at a definite price.

It starts out when you buy your car. This is important, so never buy a Yugo and, for your own good, don't ever buy an MG. I had an MG once - a *possessed* MG.

The thing would break down about once every three or four weeks and would cost an average of \$400 to fix, sometimes more and sometimes less, but always too much, and would leave me without transportation for large blocks of time.

It did make my mechanic lots of money, though. My mechanic, whom I haven't seen for quite some time (since I sold my MG), was a weird little guy: a Turkish dude with a large, black Pit Bull Terrier and a chronic nose-sniffing problem.

I'm convinced to this day that he had some sort of thing with nose powders. Luckily for him, I showed up; because of me he was probably able to buy Peru on an installment plan.

Anyway, I recently had the opportunity to attend a defensive driving course. Well, actually I was forced to *endure* a defensive driving course.

The course was given by an ex-State Trooper/born-again insurance salesman named



Where the
buffalo
roam. . .

with Chris Vachandez

Rocky Molino. Rocky is a wonderful guy, and a treat to watch, but I still had kind of a hard time getting into the whole thing.

Throughout those eight treacherous hours I learned, or re-learned, rather, every aspect of defensive driving via a series of entertaining films and endless lectures.

It was then that a thought occurred to me: if there are defensive drivers, then - by definition - must there not also be *offensive* drivers? What I mean is; if there were only defensive drivers, how would anything ever get done? It probably wouldn't - and that's why I've taken it upon myself to be one of these offensive driver. Then again, there I was in that defensive driving class. . .

So after I left this place I was feeling rather penitent. And, as I drove, it became painfully obvious just exactly what kind of people I was dealing with.

These are the stupidest, most incompetent people on Earth - and they are all coming to get me in their three-ton Malibus. Good Lord, I thought as I accelerated around them to

avoid the inevitable clutter of ignorance that would, undoubtedly, suck me in if I got too close.

Occasionally one gets the urge to strap typewriter letters to one's feet and to kick the words "stupid idiot" into the forehead of the moron in front of you that waits through three sequences of stop light signals to finally make the decision to go for it - obviously a major life decision. "Stupid idiot" is, of course, a redundancy, but this sort of teaching is the only kind of thing that will properly affect their kind.

It's that feeling of being a shark in sheep-infested waters that keeps you from going *completely* insane. But be careful; strange things happen out there.

You never can tell when one of the "Brainless Horde" is going to shoot across the interstate, cut you off and send you airborne off of the bridge side-rail, causing unbelievable damage to your automobile and sending you on one of those nasty rolling, tumbling, "here-we-go-again" deals.

But for the most part this shouldn't happen. If you have enough luck to stifle this idiotic behavior, you should get along just fine. Taking this into consideration, it comes as no surprise that defensive driving is actually a pretty good idea. It shouldn't take one of those horrible eight-hour ordeals to impress this idea upon you.

I think the important thing is to just sit back, relax, and, as always, be courteous to one's fellow mind-numbed creatures. So - for the good of all - just hang out and, probably most important of all, steer clear of people driving anything with those ridiculous bumper stickers or window-hanging-glow-in-the-dark-hand-that-swings-back-and-forth deals.

That's one of *them*.

Musicians play for fun, money, experience

Rob Glasser

"It is a far, far better thing I do, than I have ever done; It is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known; It is a far, far better tune I play, than I have ever played." Okay, Dickens didn't write the last line, but it won't be held against him for one simple reason. Dickens didn't know what rock 'n roll was.

Why didn't he know? There were no bands. But there are bands now, a lot of bands. Many small groups of Central students are "jamming" with their instruments in a syncopated fashion earning the title of a "Band".

"I want to make it big...really big," said sophomore Heith Jensen. He went on to say that he didn't know if it would be with the present band he's in, The Synthetics, though he would love for it to happen to them.

The Synthetics, a band built on friendship and dedication, is a three-man group comprised of sophomores Aaron Kerr on bass guitar, David Pigman on drums, and Heith Jensen on lead guitar.

According to Aaron, the band plays rock from Led Zeppelin to the Cult. "We play popular classics and newer stuff," said Aaron.

Even though this band does not play many originals, Jensen said they make the music fresh because "We've developed our own style, which took a long time to do."

Drummer David Pigman said that he has hopes for a profitable and popular local career. "I want to keep playing with same people though realistically, the band will probably not hit it big. It would be great, but improbable," said Pigman.

The Synthetics take their music seriously enough to hire Rodd Toll, a music instructor, that pays special attention to teaching the band cover songs. He is also acting as an agent for them by booking shows for this coming summer.

Another group of Central students has allied themselves together into creative group that will help them evolve as musicians.

"I do it for fun, and money," said senior Drew Weiss. Drew is the percussion section of a four-man jazz-band he shares with seniors Rich Vogel (keyboards), Alfonso Guilroy (saxophone), and Brad O'Donale (a bass guitar player from Millard).

The band hasn't decided on a permanent name, but they have had some good performances for a relatively young band. "We started playing seriously as a group,

this past winter," said Vogel. "But we've all played together before that."

The band has not yet had a professional performance, but is booked for a paying "gig" in the next month. The band plays a variety of mainstream and contemporary jazz, which is fairly rare for a

group of such young musicians to play successfully.

"All the members are particularly good for high school musicians," Weiss said. "We all like the same music."

Many people would think why jazz? Why not rock? Rich said that "the best musicians seem to be jazz."



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Shawn Coleman

Senior Rich Vogel contemplates composing a new jazz number for his band. Other members of his band are Seniors Drew Weiss, Alphonso Guilroy and Millard's Brad O'Donnel.

Hey! Don't mess with my house

**Oompadity
mau
mau**

with Rob Glasser



"What are we doing to our fair sister?" is a question posed by the immortal Jim Morrison. What are we doing? We gas, gash, poke, prod, shred, stab, poison, bomb, steal, cover with asphalt, and fight over an object that was our mother when we had none.

No matter what religion you are, the land is always sacred, or, at least, it should be. So why do we destroy so much everyday?

Why do people insist on depleting resources, often times to invent machines that will do more damage? Who knows, must be for the cash and the instant gratification of wealth.

On Saturday mornings there used to be a public announcement that denounced litter by showing a native North American Indian (Chief Iron Eyes, I believe) on his horse, a tear in his eye as he looked at what had happened to his country.

If they were to make another similar commercial, it ought to show the same Indian vomiting near a chemical waste sight, infected with some wonderful, man-made toxin.

Maybe that would get some attention. That may sound a bit sensational, but what is happening everyday is preposterously tragic.

It may be so tragic that no one believes it. But everyone will believe it when they wake up and can't drink the water or breathe the air that was put here for everything to use.

Fluorocarbons are devouring the ozone at an alarming rate, and, paralleling that, man's constant ignorance (pestilence) is destroying the land and all its bounty. And people complain about locusts being a hell-sent plague; we are the epitome of needless consumption.

The man that does not live off the land, the man that makes land live for him is just as parasitic as any leech or tick. Even as I write, negotiations are being made for new chemical waste dumps around the world, and millions of trees are being

ripped from the soil to be milled.

This land is not indestructible, just the opposite, and our steady exploitation is going to catch up with us sooner or later.

You may have noticed the use of "we" in this little mass of semi-organized thoughts, "we killed this, and we killed that".

Well, that was intentional because almost everybody reading this is guilty of ecological treason (?). I don't know the exact technical term for those who destroy their own houses, but, in some way, nearly all of us have contributed to this serious problem.

We are all involved with ecological devastation either by outright destruction, littering, or just not caring. The latter in the list is by far the worst. Not caring is what allows things of this sort to happen in the first place.

Everyone has got to learn to care, to make some noise, to try and prevent such things as chemical/oil spills from happening (by keeping alert and getting real mad when things like that happen). Think of all the animals (and other living things) that are killed by "insignificant" accidents each year not to mention the damage done to the world that you must live in.

Super computer aids students

Math whizzes' project receives recognition

Emily Rasmuss

Many people have a life-long dream to have their work printed in a major publication. For Central High School seniors Stuart Oberman and Brian McQuiddy, that dream will soon become a reality.

Stuart and Brian, enrichment math students at Central this year, submitted a computer project to *Consortium*.

This math magazine is published bi-monthly and contains the reports and research of college and high school students. Stuart and Brian's project is on the magazine's list to be published in the fall of 1988.

use it as a research tool for their fractal growth project.

According to them, it was the faster and more accurate computer system that allowed them to simulate fractal growth.

"This couldn't be done on an Apple or IBM PC computer because it would take too long," Brian said.

Mr. Waterman said that in a fractal growth simulation, "you simply release particles and force them towards a center." This creates a cluster of particles.

In describing a model similar to Stuart and Brian's, a recent issue of *Scientific American* magazine said that "a great deal of excitement springs from the fact that the model seems to describe the real world: actual particles often do wander to sites where they stick."

Fractal growth computer models are a recent development, and Stuart and Brian have made some original additions to these models.

They made it possible to control the randomness of the particles' motion. In other words, they control how structured the cluster of particles is.

Through its additions, the system is "about 20 times faster than it was before."

Mr. John Waterman, head of the Central Math Department and enrichment math teacher, assigned the project about fractal growth, a natural, random growth process, to the two seniors. They used a computer to simulate this process.

The Central Math Department recently upgraded its computer system, and, through its additions, the system is "about 20 times faster than it was before," Brian said.

Beyond that, Stuart believes that the system may be the "most powerful in Omaha Public Schools that students have access to."

Since they were among the few students who knew how to use the system, Stuart and Brian were able to

fractal growth simulation

Depending on the amount of structure forced on the particles, highly symmetrical clusters or clusters resembling bacteria or plant life can be formed.

The two young mathematicians have "spent weeks perfecting a model which, to an extent, could represent random growth," said Stuart.



Karen Smith

Stuart Oberman (left) and Brian McQuiddy work on their fractal growth project on the math department's upgraded computer.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY: WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?



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But somewhere between then and now, things changed.

Today, individuals aren't locked into "for women only/for men only" roles anymore. People have a lot more flexibility than ever before.

That goes for sexual relationships, too. Today's couples are partners, sharing what used to be "her" burdens, what used to be "his" obligations. They know that enjoying freedom from stereotyping means accepting a wider range of responsibilities.

That's why men who really care are sharing responsibility for the prevention of unwanted pregnancy.

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Jonas Batt
Ann Kay

As senior year wears on and thoughts of "what to do next" pervade the minds of many soon-to-be-graduating students, college enters the picture.

Thoughts of independence, excitement, and "the real world" come to mind.

But now an increasing number of crimes on the nation's college campuses have heightened many students' awareness and made personal safety an equal concern when looking ahead.

Various media sources are responsible for the increasing concern.

The sources have recently addressed the rising number of heinous crimes.

These include rape, murder, and theft; some "of the most under-reported crimes" on America's college campuses, both big and small.

This information comes from Phil Donahue, who devoted an entire broadcast to the problem.

In the *Donahue* program 1986 statistics included six murders occurring in college situations, 250 rapes, 600 robberies, and 1600 aggravated assaults. These are all reported FBI figures, and authorities can only speculate on what is not reported.

According to Kathy Simon, independent college counselor, a college campus is like a city.

"Everything that happens in a city that size (a large or small city), will happen on a campus that size," Mrs. Simon said.

In addition, the percentages of crimes on an urban campus, considered higher by many students, are, in fact, often equal to those of isolated, rural schools, said Mrs. Simon.

"Whether [campus crime] is a large or small problem, it's there, and students have to deal with it."

Vina Kay, Central High School graduate, attends Carleton College in Minnesota.

"Whether [campus crime] is a large or small problem, it's there, and students have to deal with it," she said.

Professor Michael Clay Smith, Professor of Criminal Justice, University of Southern Mississippi, disagreed on the *Donahue* show.

"Stay away from major metropolitan areas, the crime rate is three times as high." He added, "If you draw your student body from a region [or] a state, that has a low crime rate, you'll have a lower crime rate."

Some schools are trying to promote self-defense to help students cope.

Carleton students dedicated a month to combat sexual harassment. Students Movement Against Sexual Harassment [SMASH] leads the fight at Carleton for student safety.

During January, the group offered informational lectures with various speakers on self-defense and pornography. — They also staged a mock date rape trial to reveal the intricacies of that particular problem.

Despite the attempts of different student groups to combat the crime problems, they continue.

According to Mr. Ken Cauble, police lieutenant at University of Nebraska at Lincoln, date rape is difficult to control.

"Sexual harassment is the least reported crime. We try to work with the counseling center to protect any specific area," he said.

This harassment may be in many cases physical, but at the same time an equal threat to college students is verbal harassment.

Vina explained that many students are not aware that verbal insults may be considered a crime.

Other statistics revealed on the *Donahue* show were that twenty-five percent of college women surveyed are

victims of rape or attempted rape. Twenty-five percent of this activity occurs on campus.

Fifty percent of college women surveyed say male students use manipulation or force to

"We shouldn't be surprised that universities are as covetous of their own reputation as people are."

persuade them to engage in sexual acts, often referred to as date rape.

Lawmakers believe the best route to student safety is through legislation.

Currently, the House Education Committee, a nationwide organization, is trying to get House Rule 1900 introduced into Congress. It proposes that all colleges release crime statistics to the public.

This would require statistics on rape, homicide, and major theft be published to prospective students.

"Colleges are trying to hide the number of murders, assaults, rapes, stabbings, and we want the parents to win and get the priorities straightened out so that the colleges care about our kids more than they do about their buildings and their dollars."

said Connie Cleary, a parent of a murdered student, on *Donahue*.

The bill was conceived due to the reluctance of many colleges to reveal information.

However, according to *Donahue*, "We shouldn't be surprised that universities are as covetous of their own reputation as people are, and we shouldn't be surprised that they don't want a whole bunch of press on this."

Howard Cleary, father of the murdered child, said, on *Donahue*, that the law "is a freedom of information on colleges and universities, that they must tell all prospective students and parents what the felony records are for the three previous years."

Mrs. Simon feels that release of crime information "in the public domain [is] fine," but private institutions should not have to do so.

She said that the effects would be more bad than good, and many people would be scared away by the negative publicity, when its original purpose was simply to inform them.

Despite the negative attention, senior Sarah McWhorter, who does not know where she will attend school next year, prefers "not to think about it."

She has not known anyone affected by college crime and doesn't believe she will be affected.

"I think when you're at college and meeting so many new people, you have to be careful," she said.

Joan Jorgensen, senior, plans to attend UNL next fall. She, also, has not given college crime much thought. "I haven't really considered it; however with all the statistics, it's pretty scary."

Joan feels that the best way to avoid assault of any kind is to walk in groups, be extra careful, be aware of what's going on.

"I didn't really think about having to lock my door, but I guess I have to."

Both students agree that keeping informed is important, and also being extremely aware of others and of surroundings.

Central incidents not gang related

Continued from page 1

"business" into the schools. However, according to Kenneth Butts, the Project Coordinator for Positive Peer Culture for Omaha Public Schools, there have been few incidents within the Omaha Public School system that have been proven to be gang related.

"Incidents have been limited to the schools or areas where there is a gang leader present," he said. "It is not, however, a question of safety of students."

Mr. Butts feels that the schools should be concerned because "in an urban setting many gangs can arise out of different cultures. And in those cultures are students that attend our area school. The school system is very aware of the problems that may arise if gang related incidents in this city increase."

There have been two incidents involving Central High School students that have been rumored to be related to gang initiation rites. One student, a senior, was

attacked from behind after a basketball game at Norris Junior High. The other student was attacked downtown while returning to school after running an errand.

According to Dr. G. E. Moller, Central High School Principal, neither of these incidents have been "proven to be gang related."

Central High School Assistant Principal Mrs. Bernice Littlejohn said, "The police have, in custody, people involved in the first incident and the names of those involved in the second incident. But none of these people have been linked with any gang or gang activity."

Shortly after these incidents, the Central administration called auditorium homerooms for all grades to "discuss the problem," she said. "Because they were unprovoked attacks on a single person, always a male, as a precautionary measure we (administrative staff) decided to get the students together

and tell them exactly what was going on."

Dr. Moller told students during these meetings not to walk alone downtown or after school functions and to stay in groups of people.

"We are not a law enforcement agency," said Dr. Moller; "we are an educational institution. Our students should not have to be afraid to come to school. We are working with the police to keep this problem to a minimum."

Mr. Butts said, "It (gang activity) is something that we should be cognizant of. The school and the community should work together to neutralize if not minimize the problem."

"I wish that young people would do some soul searching," said Sgt. McClarty, "so that they could have self-confidence and not let themselves get used by people that promise power and status through illegal and dangerous activities."



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Secretary a 'focal point' Hazuka 'indispensable' in counseling center



Jeff Howard

Mrs. Hazuka has no trouble keeping busy in the counseling center. In the spare time she does have she enjoys reading historical novels and walking.

Ann Kay

The Central High School counseling center without Mrs. Linda Hazuka would be like the world without ice cream. Mrs. Hazuka, the counselors' secretary, is considered the focal point to the counselors.

She coordinates scholarship activities, advertises functions, processes applications, coordinates college representatives' visits, prepares classroom career speaker programs, writes the *Senior Times* and the junior newsletter and heads the job fair. Sound like a lot for one person? It is.

"It's a lot of responsibility down here, a lot to remember," said Mrs. Hazuka. "I enjoy working here; my work is varied, and there is a lot of pressure with all the deadlines."

With the majority of the college applications completed and mailed out, Mrs. Hazuka is currently working with scholarship deadlines.

It was a memorable day when Mrs. Hazuka came to Central. No, she has not always been with the counselors.

She began as a secretary in the science and social studies department in February of 1979. But half a year later, she moved to the counseling center.

According to Mrs. Geraldine Zerse, guidance counselor, Mrs. Hazuka "has a handle on every scholarship we're offering. She does more than anybody could ever do in those hours."

"We call her our eighth counselor," she explained. "She goes way beyond what her job requires in order to help students."

All counselors are in agreement with Mrs. Zerse. Mrs. Faye Johnson, guidance counselor feels that she would be lost without Mrs. Hazuka. "She's my right arm; she's on top of everything."

"She's willing to put in extra time without compensation," Mrs. Johnson said. "I wish there were some way to repay her for all the effort."

"Many times, just saying thank you isn't enough. She's devoted, and does an amazing amount of work," Mrs. Johnson commented, adding, "She's indispensable."

In briefs

Juried art show

The Annual Metro Omaha-Council Bluffs High School Senior Juried Art Show judges chose art work from area high schools to be displayed March 2 through April 1.

43 out of 193 pieces were selected including seven by Central art students: Lea Brooks, Beth Christ, Nick Dober, Alex Haecker, Ron Hansen, Ron Week, Ben Welk and Richard Ventry.

The display is at the Bellevue College Art Gallery-Hitchcock Humanities Center.

SuperQuest qualifiers

The CHS computer team of Brian McQuiddy, John Miller, Stuart Oberman and Steve O'Hara was chosen out of 1475 teams to qualify for final competition in the SuperQuest contest. The winning team's school will receive the use of a supercomputer.

Student billboards

In recognition of National Youth Art Month, 45 students from the metropolitan area had their art made into billboards. The art of Central students Gretchen Gemar and Monteith McCollum was chosen for display.

DECA state competition

Central's DECA chapter participated in the state DECA competition in Lincoln March 17 through March 19.

Winners were Chris Johnson, first place, and Jennifer Hausman, second place. Third place winners included: Patrick Hairston, John Kozak, and Renee Ryan.

The Pepsi Cola Company-sponsored chapter project received first place. Student sponsors were Jocelyn Humphrey and Jason Lips. Todd Beam filled the position of District IV Vice President.

Journalism award

Senior Rob Glasser won a Quill and Scroll national award for his feature story about girl roofers. This award makes him eligible for a journalism scholarship. The story ran in the third issue of the Central High School Register.

Chemistry team

The AP Chemistry class placed sixth in the nation after taking three tests, and the first year Chemistry class placed fifth in the nation. The students will take two more tests before the end of the year.

ROTC promotion

Central High School's JROTC recently promoted senior Robert McCarter to brigade commander, and his rank is now colonel.

Science fair

Senior John Miller recently won first place overall in the Omaha Metro Science and Engineering Fair with his project on Fractal Geometry.

Religions diverse, doctrines vary

Justin Kerr

The religious landscape at Central is as diverse as the student body, whose beliefs stem from Catholicism, Judaism, Presbyterianism and various other faiths.

"I basically attended church just to humor my parents."

Some students follow their doctrine fervently while others are atheistic or agnostic. Some have chosen their belief on their own while others found themselves influenced by their parents.

Jody Sharpe, senior, stated that he "got tired" of the religion that his parents, Baptists, introduced him to. "I basically attended church just to humor my parents."

He added, however, that "every child should be introduced to religion, but they should then be given a choice." Also stating that he believes strongly in freedom of religion "as long as it doesn't infringe upon other people's rights," Jody concluded that he "didn't need crutches like religion."

Senior Cathy Easton's beliefs strongly contrast to those of Jody. She describes herself as a Missouri Synod Lutheran, whose doctrine is "very strict." No other members of the Lutheran faith may attend her church's services, she stated. This is the only Lutheran Synod to have this rule.

In order to become a member, said Cathy, she had to go through "four years of bible school, or Catechism." She also became involved with her church's youth group and attended several conventions, describing them as "spending the weekend listening to

different sermons" also "going to workshops" and participating in choir.

Cathy added that her parents brought her into her religion and that she "enjoys it. It gives one a sense of completeness and purpose. I believe in it very strongly."

Bob Fuglei, senior, stated that he "didn't believe in anything. I don't believe in God." He attributed his belief (or lack thereof) to the fact that "my Mom tried to ram religion down my throat."

"That's probably why I have such a bad attitude toward it." Said Bob, they used to attend church early in the morning and "it was a great effort for me. My Mom said I needed this," but Bob replied to his mother that he was entitled to his own religious opinions.

He added that now, "I don't go to church any more (except for Christmas)" and that he never will. "It's just a waste of time."

Taking a more mid-line stand, senior Karen Williams, a member of Dundee Presbyterian Church, "attends church occasionally," adding, however, that she takes part in services "more often than my parents. I like listening to the sermons."

"It's a personal relationship between [a person] and God," but "it only means as much as you put into it."

Karen stated that her religion helped establish her moral beliefs. "It's a personal relationship between [a person] and God," but "it only means as much as you put into it."

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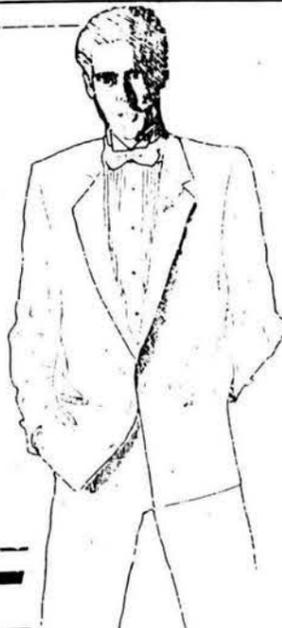
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Not much to *Off Limits*

Jonas Batt

Another Vietnam movie? Not another Vietnam movie. Fortunately for me, I soon discovered that *Off Limits*, starring Willem Defoe and Gregory Hines, is not just another Vietnam movie.

It's a Saigon movie. Probably the first in a long line of Saigon movies.

Off Limits is set in the city of Saigon during the Vietnam War. Defoe and Hines play agents Madriff and Perkins, two military men assigned to act as police for the resident Americans and to investigate crimes involving the enlisted men in the city.

As the plot unfolds, the partners are following leads on a case involving the violent deaths of several Vietnamese "ladies of the evening."

We soon find out that the major suspects are military officers.

Register Review

The problem with the movie (you do realize there is a problem) is that whoever wrote the screenplay was trying to make important decisions

between violent action thriller, romance, war message movie and suprising mystery.

In the writer's decision-making process he accidentally eliminated all of the choices.

What's left is . . . well, not much. The action doesn't get very exciting, the romance doesn't get very romantic, the violence doesn't get very violent, and the tension doesn't get very tense.

There are a few good, exciting scenes: some car chases, killings and the like.

At one point, one of the suspects, while being questioned in a helicopter, yells, "If I ever killed a whore, I'll jump."

You are forced to utter a couple of "whoa's" and to think hard for a few minutes when he dives out of the plane.

Willem Defoe and Gregory Hines both give good performances, but, unfortunately, they can't make the movie any better than poor.

Don't spend the money to see *Off Limits* now, it will be just as good on cable.

Robert Plant creates new noise



Led Zeppelin's famous Plant is turning over a new leaf. Robert Plant is creating new and exciting sounds on his current release. *Now and Zen*. Be prepared for the unusual.

Now and Zen also boasts a decent balance of fast and slow songs. I'm not talking the difference between Dead Kennedys and Barry Manilow.

A style all his own

It is a more subtle change, a realistic difference that always keeps ears intrigued. Plant's own mellowness seeps into his faster tunes, and his excitement into his slower ones. He has a style all his own.

If you're expecting something that sounds like Led Zeppelin, then you'd probably be happier with Kingdom Come's new album, not *Now and Zen*.

Change for the better

As a matter of fact, if you're looking for something on the lines of Plant's other solo albums, you're out of luck.

Plant's style is changing (for the better), and he can look forward to much success if he keeps improving from album to album the way he has. Some things get better with age. *Now and Zen* is no exception.

Rob Glasser

When Led Zeppelin broke up, I doubt Plant, Page or the other boys ever thought something like Robert Plant's new solo album, *Now and Zen*, would ever come out of the hot wax cutters and stay so hot.

Runaway bowling balls

They do now. Plant's new album has hit the streets and the charts like a runaway bowling ball screaming down a 90 degree grade.

The album is earning its popularity with a fresh, smooth style of rock. Some songs may be considered a bit on the 'pop' side of the coin, but Plant always adds a flair of creativity so they never fit into the cliché teeny-bopper type trash.

Zeppelin favorites

"A Tall, Cool One," one of the nine songs on the album, is a perfect example of Plant's talent with its incorporation of recognizable riffs from famous Zeppelin favorites.

Thriller fans D.O.A. is a must

Justin Kerr

Swang-swang-swang-kerchung-kerchung-kerchung. No, it's not the latest musical garbage heard on the radio, it's the sweet sound of an electric nail gun trying to make a sieve of Dennis Quaid and his hot chick in the new thriller, *D.O.A.*

Quaid plays a college professor thrown into a nightmare when his wife is bludgeoned to death and he fatally poisoned and accused of murder.

With twenty-four hours to clear his name and discover the murderer, Quaid literally attaches himself to one of his adoring students, his only link to the night when he was poisoned.

Register Review

synthesized, evil sounding music so loud during some scenes that the actors are unintelligible. Other than that, this movie really tripped my trigger.

The use of black and white film at the beginning and the end of *D.O.A.* is an effective device rarely seen in movies.

In this instance it calls to attention that the movie

Thrilling cliffhangers, clever dialogue, superb acting and intellectual pleasing images overflow in *D.O.A.*

Thrilling cliffhangers, clever dialogue, superb acting and intellectually pleasing images overflow in a mixture that is a pure delight. This is a movie that I would not mind paying the exorbitant cost of an evening flick to see.

The only disturbing thing in *D.O.A.* is the Miami Vice-like technique of playing

is a 1950's remake and enhances the feeling of blackness and despair flowing throughout the film. This is very much a "film noir."

Based on how much I would have been willing to pay to see a film (from two cents to ten dollars), my patented movie rating system gives *D.O.A.* a big \$8.50. If you are a fan of thrillers, then this flick is for you.



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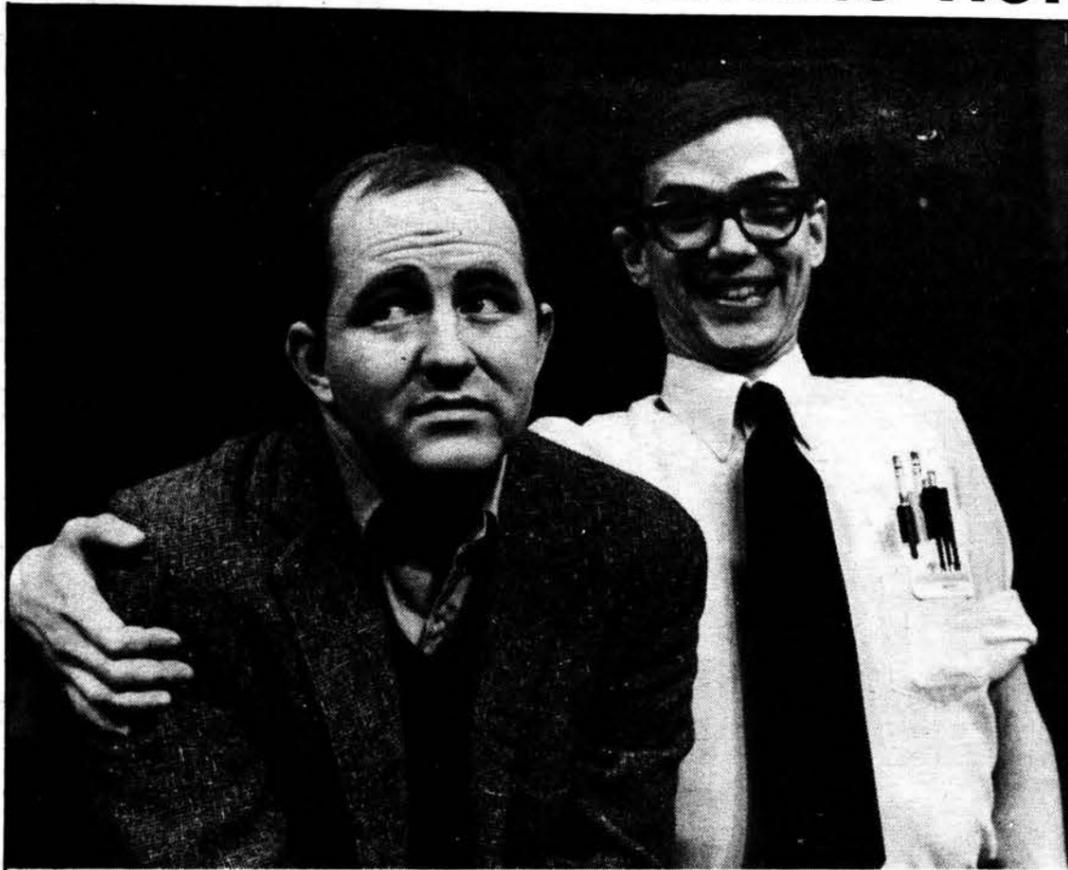
Rick Steadman: the ultimate nerd terror

Joel McCulloh

Flood water pants pulled up to the armpits, white shirts, thick-framed black glasses, and a special flair of wimpiness that can only be achieved by the scrawniest of men; a typical nerd, right?

Then there are typical nerd names like Eugene, Herb, Fred, Norman and Irving, just to name a few. But what about Rick Steadman. Sound nerdy? Not usually, but, oh my, watch out!

Rick Steadman is the ultimate nerd terror and he's taking over Omaha by way of the Firehouse Dinner Theatre in their latest production, *The Nerd*.



Willum Cubbert (Kirk McConnell) and his "buddy" Rick Steadman (Steve Gibbs) express their obvious affection for each other.

Rick seems to have an endless list of quirks, and eventually they get to be too much for Willum.

Axel devises a plan to try and rid Willum of this horrible fate. Together the three prepare for a special, Terre Haute, traditional dinner.

Do not be fooled; this dinner is nothing like the normal meal one may expect in a family. In fact, one may not even expect this in a mental ward.

The Nerd
will be
playing at
the
Firehouse
until May 1

The Nerd has to be one of the most humor-inducing plays to hit an Omaha stage. The script is witty, brilliant, and an absolute delight, as is the acting.

Steve Gibbs has the nerd style down perfectly, and the manner of Ryle Smith captures the stoic cynicism of Axel.

If you do decide to go to *The Nerd*, and I suggest that you do, pay the extra six dollars and get dinner included. It's served in the cozy little Harrigan's, and the atmosphere sets the mood for a great evening.

The Nerd
has to be
one of the
most
humor
inducing
plays to hit
an Omaha
stage.

The Nerd, written by Larry Shue, is an outrageously funny story of three friends whose lives are mixed up and turned around by the unexpected visitation of Rick Steadman, who is brilliantly played by Steve Gibbs.

Willum Cubbert (Kirk McConnell), Tansy McGinnis (Melanie Mays) and Axel Hammond (Ryle Smith) are the three fortunate individuals who must force themselves to tolerate this intolerable nerd. Rick just seems to always say the worst things at the worst times.

For example, after arriving at Willum's birthday gathering in a Godzilla suit, Rick proceeds to unknowingly insult Willum's boss and his wife. Not good.

To top things off, Rick comments on the whereabouts of eggs while the guests are enjoying deviled eggs.

"Just a little while ago these were all in some bird," Rick eyes his egg suspiciously, but stuffs it in his mouth despite the fact it was retrieved from fowl. But not the others attempting to take delight in the food. Silently the deviled eggs are returned to the serving plate.

Good bye to Harlequins

Mask of romance and mystery induced in *Masquerade*

Joel McCulloh

Masquerade: the word conjures up the Shakespearean age, women in flowing silks and lace, daintily clutching little, black masks

that make a feeble attempt to disguise one's identity.

Well, it's not. *Masquerade* is a new movie starring Rob Lowe and Meg Tilly.

Masquerade may sound like a ridiculous Harlequin romance, and in a few aspects it is, but in many other aspects, it is not.

The story revolves around Olivia Laurence [Meg

Tilly] a two-million-dollar girl who has everything and wants love.

She finds it in the sexy Tim Whalen [Rob Lowe], skipper of the boat *Obsession*, and together they vow to sail the seven seas.

Or so we think. Yes, another villain lurks in the shadows of this once quiet, sea-side town, and, yes, another plot ensnares the fair maiden.

Things begin to fall into place, and just when you think you know what is going to happen next, it doesn't.

Director Bob Swaim keeps everyone guessing until the final second of the movie. Only until the first name of the credits appears on the movie screen is the final surprise unveiled.

**Just when
you think
you know
what
happens
next, it
doesn't**

Not so fast. There has to be a bad guy in the picture somewhere. And there is: her step-father.

But there is more than meets the eye as we discover a plot to kill the fair Olivia by none other than her alleged boy friend and the mean stepfather.

Tables are turned and Tim saves the true and fair Olivia and decides he really loves her and doesn't want her money.

**Register
Review**

So, does it end happily ever after like a Harlequin? Not in the least. Are there hot, passionate love scenes, devious plots and affairs. Naturally.

Is it long, boring, and predictable? Nope! Should you go? I think I've answered that question already.

Need I say more?

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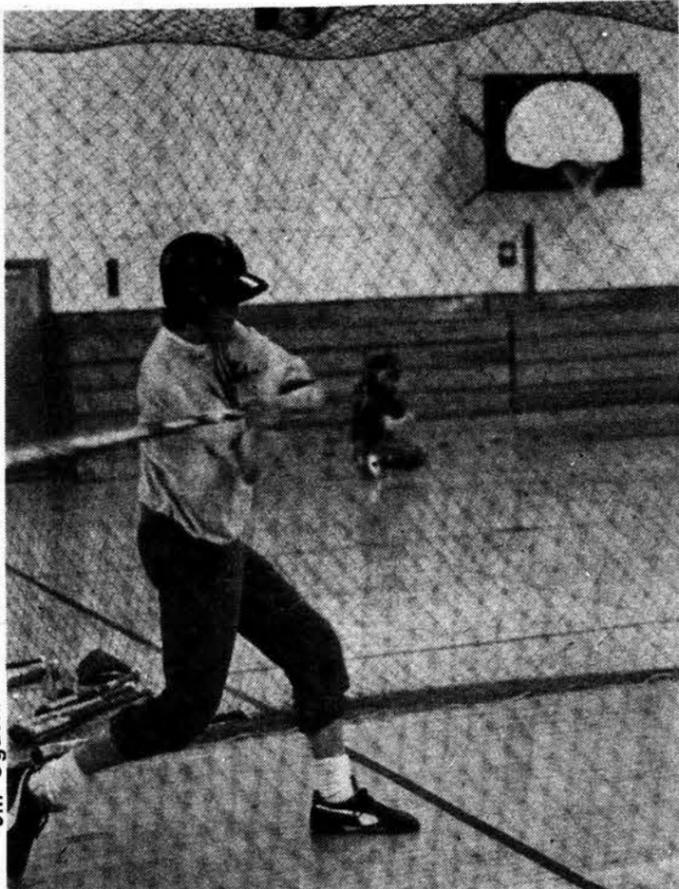
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If summer performance repeated

Baseball team 'should have winning season'



Jill Ogden

John Mancuso, junior, practices batting during an indoor practice in the old gymnasium. The baseball team hopes its winning summer season will carry over to this year's team.

Johnny Musselman

"As long as we play as a team and not nine individuals, we should have a winning season," said Sean Wilson, Central High School senior and varsity baseball player.

"I think the lack of fans does have an effect on our players."

This year's varsity baseball team, coming off an impressive 29 and 18 summer season, has a lot of potential to post a winning season. According to Coach Ken Dirks, "the team should play as well as they did in the summer, even though we graduated several starters."

The team began practice and tryouts late last February. Around seventy boys tried out for baseball and only thirty were selected for the varsity and junior varsity teams.

With intense five-day-a-week practices under way and several returning starters, the team is hoping for early success. "We hope to put at least three players on the post season honor team," said senior Randy Gilbert.

The loss of seven seniors has created competition for several starting positions on the team, mainly the pitching position. The Eagles' pitcher, one of the most important positions on the team, is still up in the air.

Junior Ryan Gaughan feels that "the lack of depth in the bullpen could prove to be a losing factor."

Coach Dirks also sees a problem in the team's pitching status. "The key to the whole season will be on the mound," said Coach Dirks. "Since the pitcher controls the tempo of the game, he is vital to the team's success."

The team has expressed disappointment regarding Central's fan support. Unlike football and basketball, baseball does not attract a large number of fans. According to Gaughan, "the lack of Central support has a negative effect on our mental

game."

Coach Dirks also expressed some dissatisfaction with the support (or, rather, lack of support) of fans. "It's unfortunate that we don't have a facility near school so it would be easier for students and teachers to watch games. I think the lack of fans does have an effect on our players."

"Experience should prove helpful, and young talent will hopefully rise to the occasion."

This year's team is hoping fans will come out to Lynch Field, their home field, and cheer for them en route to the winning season they are hoping for. According to Wilson, "varsity experience should prove helpful, and young talent will hopefully rise to the occasion."

JV posts 'impressive season'

Johnny Musselman

Although this year's Central High School junior varsity boys' basketball team was extremely young, it posted an impressive season record of 12-4.

Mr. Richard Behrens, coach, for the third year in a row, began as early as last summer getting the team ready for this season. Some team members played for Central in a summer league at UNO.

Then, in September, the Central gym was opened to prospective basketball players who were not playing football or running cross country.

According to Coach Behrens, the open gym allowed players to practice for the upcoming season and to give him and varsity coach, Mr. James Martin, "a chance to see the new sophomores play."

After watching the pre-season practices, Coach Behrens said, "I thought that we had a pretty good group of sophomores." He thought that this year's team, composed of four juniors and eight sophomores, had a lot of talent.

Trevor Flynn, sophomore, also felt he was on a winning team. "I thought we had a lot of talent," said Flynn.

Andy Huff, junior, even thought that "we might go

undefeated."

The team worked toward their desired perfect season by practicing every night after school. When asked if he centered his coaching around preparing his players for varsity basketball, Coach Behrens said, "we prepare to win games."

The team's 12 and 4 record should have been better, according to Coach Behrens. "Two of our four losses should have been wins," said Behrens.

As for next year, "the junior varsity's good players should move up to make a competitive varsity," said Coach Behrens. Since the team was so young, the junior varsity will return experienced players. The varsity should benefit from the junior varsity's success because the varsity will gain some good players.

Flynn thinks that the "varsity will be good if none of the players transfer schools." Huff believes that the youth of this year's team will give good backups for next year's varsity.

Coach Behrens thinks that the quality of the junior varsity next year will depend on the incoming sophomore class and the possibility of good players coming in for ninth grade.

"Creighton may have fewer blacks than some colleges and may be more expensive than some, but those things should not concern you."

LaVon Stennis
B.A., Creighton University, 1985
Senior, Creighton University
School of Law

"What *should* concern you is how *marketable* you'll be four years down the line.

"When I selected a private education at Creighton, I knew it would not be easy. And it wasn't. But my Jesuit education from Creighton has made it all worthwhile, because I know I have an edge.

"Every major success I've enjoyed in life I can trace to someone at Creighton. I've had a *very* strong support system — both black and white — at Creighton."



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NCAA tournament brings excitement unknown to NBA playoffs



Over
time

with Lance Grush

The NCAA College Basketball Tournament seems to be one of the most popular sporting events between the months of January and September every year.

The NBA playoffs seem to become less and less interesting as time goes on for one basic reason. Every year in the 1980's it has been Boston and the L.A. Lakers in the finals except for 1983 (when Philadelphia beat the Lakers) and 1986 (when Boston defeated Houston).

I know that I probably stepped on the toes of the die-

hard Laker and Celtic fans with that comment, but even you must admit the virtual domination of the NBA by Boston and Los Angeles makes it less exciting.

The regular season is usually half-way exciting in the NBA, but once the playoffs begin there is really no reason to watch them. I think that is the reason that the NCAA tournament is so much more exciting to watch.

Unknown teams

Every year some no-name (or relatively unheard of) team comes into the tournament, makes several upsets, and makes a name for itself. And for some odd reason many sports fans just naturally begin to cheer for the underdog (or "Cinderella" team) to go all the way.

Last year it was Providence, who absolutely put on a three-point shot clinic in last year's tournament. They advanced all the way to the Final Four before losing.

This year the

"Cinderella" roll has been filled by Rhode Island and Richmond. Rhode Island came into the East Regional as the eleventh seed, and played sixth seeded Missouri in their first round game.

Rhode Island shocked the country and upset Missouri, advancing to the second round where they had to face powerful third-seeded Syracuse.

The Rams jumped out to an early fifteen point lead against the Orangemen, and then withstood a rally in the final minutes to assure the upset. Rhode Island shot 55 percent from the field, including 7 for 10 from three-point range.

The Rams were only able to hold on because they got Syracuse's two best frontline players (Derrick Coleman and Rony Seikaly) into foul trouble.

In order to advance to the final eight Rhode Island will have to pull another huge upset and defeat second-seeded Duke.

Richmond, nicknamed

the Spiders, quickly became known for a tenacious defense in their game against Indiana. The Spiders were only seeded thirteenth, while the Hoosiers were fourth in the East Regional.

Concern of letdown

Richmond simply shut down Bobby Knight and the defending national champion Hoosiers.

After a team makes an upset of that caliber, you have to worry about a letdown in the next game. No such problem hindered the Spiders, as they equaled their defensive performance in the second round against Georgia Tech.

The Yellow Jackets were held to a season low 18 first-half points against Richmond as the Spiders took an eleven point lead into the locker room. Although Tech put on a huge rally it was not enough to overcome the Spiders, as they lost 55 to 59.

Richmond center Steve Kratzer's defensive job on Tech's leading scorer, Tom

Hammonds, was one of the reasons they were able to pull off the upset. Kratzer held Hammonds to eight points, eleven points below his season average.

The Yellow Jackets shot a miserable 33.3 percent from the field while the Spiders shot 42.9 percent.

Tough tasks ahead

Richmond does, however, have a tough task ahead of them since they will be playing top-ranked Temple in an East Regional semifinal game.

The unfortunate thing is that both "Cinderella" teams won't be able to make the final four even if they each win their semifinal games, because they would meet each other in the regional's final.

The NCAA tournament should always be one of the most entertaining events in the world of sports, since there will always be an underdog that a large number of fans nationwide will root for.

Central brother and sister roller-skate competitively

Johnny Musselman

When the sport of roller skating is mentioned, crowded beaches, scorching weather, and burning pavement often come to mind. To Central sophomore Jenny Conn and junior brother Jamie Conn, it takes on a new aspect.

Jenny and Jamie, influenced by their mother, began skating at an early age. "Our mom skated when she was young and she brought us to the rink when she practiced."

Around the age of four, Jenny and Jamie began to spend time at the roller rink while their mom skated. "We eventually got into skating just from being around it everyday," said Jenny.

The Conn's first step toward competitive skating was the involvement in figure skating. This skating, which consists of dance techniques much like ice figure skating, was not as attractive to Jamie.

"While Jenny was in figures, I was becoming involved in speed skating," said Jamie. Both Jenny and Jamie, although in different events, practiced about three hours everyday. Jenny's aunt and her mom coached and pushed her when she was young.

When Jamie was 14 and Jenny was 13, they both started to become highly competitive in speed skating. Jenny stopped figure skating, according to her mother, because "she made the national level in her ability, and she wanted to excel in a more competitive skating."

Jenny said that she "wanted to skate in the next level of skating, speed skating." Currently, both

Jenny and Jamie are competing in speed skating.

Not only does this "next level" of skating require three to four hours of practice a day, but it also demands hours of off-rink practice. Both Jenny and Jamie bike thirty miles a day during the summer; in addition Jenny often does aerobics for conditioning.

On Wednesdays and Fridays, Jenny and Jamie drive to Glenwood, Iowa, a half an hour away, to practice. Their Sundays are occupied with four hours of practice in Des Moines, Iowa, about eight hours of driving.

"The team as a whole has more national recognition."

Jenny and Jamie are sacrificing a great deal of time, about ten driving hours a week, to be on "the most competitive team in America," said Jamie. This team, *Des Moines Skate East West*, has several national championship skaters and many nationally acclaimed coaches.

According to Jamie, "the team has coaches with more influence and the team as a whole has more national recognition." Better and more influential coaches, to Jenny and Jamie, means more nationwide connections and many more chances for success.

Jenny said that the Des Moines team recruited her and her brother. Jenny and Jamie readily accepted Des Moines' offer because they didn't want to skate in Omaha and they felt more personalized



Chelsea O'Hara

Jenny Conn, sophomore, practices her roller-skating technique in a residential area. Jenny and brother Jamie skate competitively on the Des Moines Skate East West team in Des Moines, Iowa.

with Des Moines.

Mrs. Conn agreed with their decision to skate for the Des Moines team. "It is one of the top-rated teams in the U.S., and it combined the types of workouts and challenges that were perfect for Jenny and Jamie."

Jenny and Jamie compete about five times a year, excluding regionals and probable nationals. In her first regionals, two years ago, Jenny placed fourth, one spot from qualifying for nationals. Last year, she did qualify for nationals by placing both in her division and in the relays at regional.

Nationals, which were held last August in Lincoln, Nebraska, did not favor close-to-home Jenny. "I didn't do so hot," said Jenny. "I'm sure I'll do better this year though," she said.

Jenny and Jamie's skating determination and success has taken them all

over the country. "We have had tournaments in Oklahoma, Florida, Michigan, and California," said Jamie.

Due to her success in regionals, Jenny had an opportunity to travel more. She was awarded with a trip to the Olympic Skating Training Center in Colorado Springs.

"We want to compete in the Pan Am Games and hopefully the Olympics eventually."

Last October, Jenny spent a week at the training center and "learned a lot about competitive skating and developed some new techniques," said Jenny. Recently, Jamie's coach, a renowned national

teacher, recognized his speed skating talent. "My coach told me I had the talent to beat the national champ," said Jamie.

Both Jenny and Jamie are enthusiastic about their skating careers, but they felt that their skating takes up so much time. "We sacrifice a lot of time to be the best," said Jamie.

Jenny said that, "I can't even stay home when I'm sick or tired because I have to use my days to play tournaments."

Both Jenny and Jamie are excited about their futures. "We want to compete in the Pan Am Games and hopefully the Olympics eventually," said Jenny.

Mrs. Conn sees a bright future for both her children's skating career. "Jenny works very hard and Jamie has a lot of natural talent," said Mrs. Conn. "I will support their skating as long as they compete," she said.

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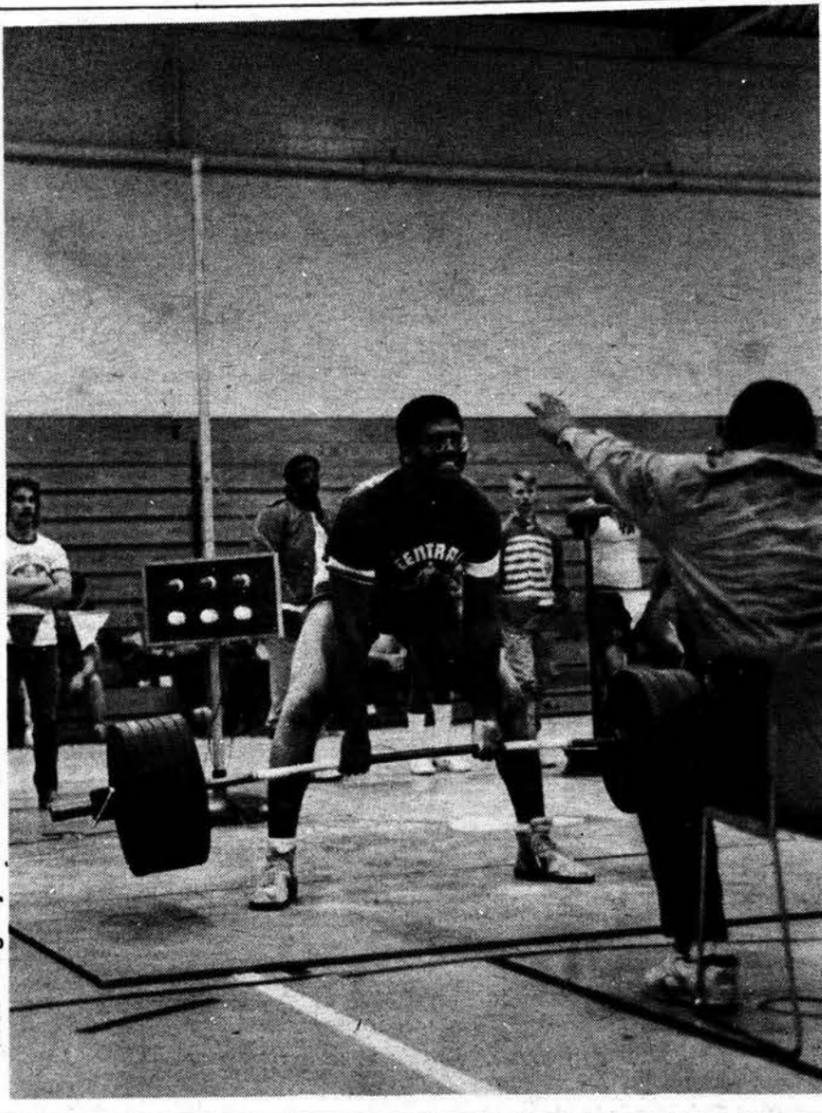
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String of titles ends, Eagles finish runner-up

Sports brief

Jody Sharpe, senior, breaks the state deadlifting record at the metro powerlifting meet. He later broke his own record again at the state meet by lifting 620 pounds.



Tess Fogarty

Another lifter missed his lift, depriving the team of the point needed to tie the state competition.

"Most people feel that we (Central's powerlifting team) is the team to beat each year."

When asked about Central's traditional role of having the state's best powerlifting team, he said, "Most people feel that we [Central's powerlifters] are the team to beat each year."

Jody Sharpe, senior, highlighted the team's efforts this year. Sharpe finished third this year in his 242 pound division in state competition after taking first place last year.

Sharpe also broke his own deadlifting record of 615 pounds by lifting 620 pounds.

Sharpe also broke his own dead-lifting record of 615 pounds, that he set at the metro tournament, by lifting 620 pounds.

The Eagle powerlifting team, which competes on a club basis, has two different meets during the course of the year, according to Coach McMnamin. The first is the Metro Powerlifting Meet and then the year ends up in the State Meet.

Central's boys track team finished second at the Burke Relays held last Saturday at Burke High School.

The team was led by Dan Stillmock, senior, who took first place in the shot put and the discus throw. Eric Gardner placed third in the long jump competition.

The Eagles also won first place in the 400 meter relay, the 800 meter relay, the 1600 meter medley relay, and the 1600 meter relay. Central won second in the 280 meter high hurdle relay, and the 400 meter low hurdle relay.

The Lady Eagles track team won first place at the Burke Relays held last Sunday at Burke High School.

April Morris, junior, won second place in the shot put and first in the discus throw. Rhonda Barber won third place in the long jump competition, and Amy Albertson, junior, placed third in the shot put.

Chris Vachandez

The Central High School Powerlifting Team, which for five years has commanded the state ranks with reigning powerlifting champions, settled for the first runner-up position in the 1988 state powerlifting competition.

In an effort which powerlifting coach Joe McMnamin called a "a great effort," the championship

slipped through the team's hands by one point. "They all lifted hard as a team," McMnamin added.

"We had some unfortunate things happen to us this year."

Northwest, which, according to Coach

McMnamin had its best team in a long time, beat out Central by a score of 36 to 35. Third place went to Burke who had 27 points.

"We had some unfortunate things happen to us this year," Coach McMnamin explained. One lifter, a 114 pound-class lifter who would have had an excellent chance to win his weight, missed his bus to weigh-ins at Northwest.

Soccer team goes kicking in the grass

Lance Grush

The Central High School girls' soccer team, only in its second sanctioned season, will be moved from class B into class A competition.

"All metro schools are in divisions this year [like all other sports]; last year we were in class B because our program was new," said head coach JoAnne Dusatko.

Coach Dusatko said the team lost a few players from last year's team, but "we also have a lot of key players back."

The change in metro divisions "is going to be really good for some schools and really bad for others."

Senior Kimm Reitz, an All-State goalie last year, is not sure how good the team will be. "I really don't know how we'll be this year," said Reitz. "We didn't lose very many [players from last year's team], but they

were all starters."

"We have a couple of fine freshmen from Lewis and Clark that definitely show a lot of promise," she added.

The change in the metro divisions "is going to be really good for some schools and really bad for others," said Reitz. "Now you'll get the schools that have never had soccer in the past playing the schools that have played soccer for years."

McIntyre feels that it will take a lot of improvement for the team to repeat their trip to state last year. "It will definitely be a lot more difficult," said McIntyre.

Coach Dusatko said she really doesn't know what to expect this year with the team competing against all metro schools. "It's hard to know how we will do," said Dusatko. "We just have to think positive at this point."

According to Reitz, the team seems to have a good combination of youth and experience on the team.

"We have a lot of young players who are really good," she said. "There are a few freshmen that have the ability to play varsity."

The team's captains are seniors; Kimm Reitz,

Shonda Rohn, Jennifer Andersen and Laura Grillo.

"We definitely have a lot of positive young ladies on the team," said Coach Dusatko. "Our main goal right now is to build a good soccer

program here at Central. But that is going to take some time."

Alissa McIntyre, sophomore, said "We're going to do okay, but we're up against a lot tougher people

this year."

The team is optimistic about this season, despite the addition of tougher class A opponents. "We have a great bunch of young ladies to work with," said Mrs. Dusatko.



Scott Drickey

Coaches Deb Hettwer and Joanne Dusatko talk to soccer team members. The team hopes to have a good season despite the stiff competition in the Class A division.