

Central High Register

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Referenda cause varied responses

By Dan Fellman

Budget cuts could be in store for the Omaha Public Schools if two referendums are passed by voters this November. The two items, the 2% Solution and the proposed repeal of L.B. 1059, could mean a loss of 28 million dollars and a possible 2% limit on future budget increases, according to some sources.

"It (the passing of the two proposals) is really scary," said Dr. G.E. Moller, principal of Central High School. "It would be very difficult to maintain Central's tradition of excellence (without proper funding)," Moller added.

The first issue, the 2% Solution, was proposed by Ed Jaksha and his group, the Nebraska Taxpayers Association. Jaksha accused the "incompetent management" of the different branches of government in Nebraska of "runaway spending and taxes in government."

The goal of the proposition is to "restrain excessive increases in spending and taxes," Jaksha added. The 2% Solution states that budget increases would be limited to 2% annual increase, unless a larger increase is approved by voters. If the people vote down an increase, then the government agency which proposed the increase would have to live with no increase for that year.

Many people disagree with the 2% Solution. Douglas County Commissioner Howard Buffett called the 2% Solution "98% of the wrong solution." Buffett said, "It's a poor way to address the problem; the county could lose 16 million dollars."

Omaha Mayor P. J. Morgan agreed that the 2%

Solution would have negative effects on the city. "The 2% (Solution) could not even maintain the status quo; we would only go backwards," Morgan added. Economic development would be hurt because businesses would be afraid of the 2%, Morgan continued. Also, with inflation at 5-6%, Morgan said, the 2% (Solution) would not even work.

Dr. Moller stated that Central High will also be affected by the 2% Solution. Funding could be cut so that programs such as music and athletics could face major cutbacks and possible discontinuation. Craig Christiansen, president of the Omaha Education Association (OEA), stated that the problem may be so severe that the school year could end early.

The other issue on the ballot this November concerns the repeal of L.B. 1059. The bill, proposed by Senator Ron Withem of Ralston, restructures the state financing of public schools. "L. B. 1059 was proposed because Nebraska had one of the highest property tax rates in the country while at the same time spent very little money on education," Withem said. One of the side effects of the bill has been a raise in sales and income taxes, which prompted the formation of a citizens group, Nebraskans Against Higher Taxes, which has collected enough signatures to place the measure on the ballot this November.

Former State Senator George Fenger, a co-chairman of the group, stated that L. B. 1059 "is

Continued on page 4



Sean Chapman

Senior football players, Marlon Wright followed by Alex Harz, exit bus at Burke's stadium. They played Northwest and Papillion for their first two football games. See *Sidelines* on page 11.

Light poles unsafe at Norris; two games moved to Burke

By Rick Besancon

The first two home games for the Central football team will be played at Burke Stadium due to safety hazards at Bergquist Stadium. The light poles at Bergquist Stadium had to be taken down after a safety inspector found the poles to be unsafe. Metal fatigue was cited as the cause of the safety problems. The poles were taken down, and repairs are being made.

Dr. Douglas Bahle, Norris Junior High Principal, said that "hopefully the field will reopen at the end of September; there is a game scheduled on September 27." Mr. Richard Jones, athletic director, stated that Central should be able to play the scheduled game at Bergquist Stadium on October 1.

The three games that have been moved are scheduled with the first two on Thursday and the third on Friday. Mr. Jones stated that the Thursday night games put a strain on players, cheerleaders, and students. Referring to the Thursday switches, Mr. Jones stated, "I didn't like it at all; we really didn't have a choice."

Saturday night games are not a viable alternative due to lack of attendance, partially due to Nebraska Football games.

Mr. Jacobson said, "(the field) is in pretty good shape; (wear) won't be a problem."

Burke's field was the only "logical" choice for the location of Central's home games according to Mr. Jones. Bryan's field is being used by South and Gross, Benson and North are using Northwest's field, and Burke's field is taken up with games by Central, Roncalli, Creighton Prep, Benson, and Burke. Dr. Richard Cotton, Burke Athletic Director, said that the Burke officials "understand what the problem is. No one is crazy about (other teams) using the stadium, but they have to play somewhere." The Burke football coach, Mr. Larry Jacobsen, stated that

Burke's field is for Omaha Public Schools' use, so it makes no difference to them.

The condition of the field with five teams using it came into question, but Mr. Jacobsen said, "(the field) is in pretty good shape; (wear) won't be a problem." Dr. Cotton stated that there are more games than have previously been played there, but it shouldn't be a problem. The Burke junior varsity and freshman football teams are not allowed to play in Burke stadium, so they will not be a factor.

Mr. Jones does not think that any home field advantage will be lost; "(the advantage) really depends on the crowds," Mr. Jones stated. The first home game that Central played had an estimated attendance of 3500 fans, more than original expectations, dispelling thoughts of an attendance drop-off attributed to the switch. Due to the first game attendance, Mr. Jones feels that no home field advantage will be lost and attendance will not be hurt.

Inside



New writing lab benefits students and teachers. Page 4



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Schools to notify police

If it is illegal to use drugs outside the school, than it is just as illegal to use them inside the school. As a matter of fact, it is twice as illegal. Mayor P. J. Morgan has proclaimed schools as drug-free zones. Signs can be seen outside Omaha schools that warn adolescents of penalties which are twice as harsh if they are found with drugs on school property.

The Omaha School District adopted a policy in July that requires school administrators to contact police in all instances involving possession, use, sale or distribution of drugs or alcohol. This policy requires calling police on a first offense. This makes sense because all criminal violations should be reported to law enforcement officials.

Some school board members, however, argued that first time offenders should be exempted. These board members felt that the policy was too tough, and many students would simply drop out of school. These are good points.

The policy is tough and it must be in order for students and parents to understand that drugs and alcohol at school will not be tolerated. School administrators would be acting irresponsibly if they

did not report all offenders.

Family members of the drug or alcohol user will realize how important it is to get help when they see that the police are involved. Police notification will also deter other youths from using controlled substances because when police are involved the matter becomes all the more serious.

Increases in dropouts have not been seen in Ralston where such a policy exists. Students that are referred to police should also receive counseling. Counseling will help insure that students return to school.

An advantage to this policy of notifying the police is that every student offender will be treated equally regardless of who the student is. This consistency in law enforcement lets students know that drugs and alcohol will no longer be overlooked.

The United States wants to fight the drug problem. Nebraska wants to fight the drug problem. The city of Omaha wants to fight the drug problem. Schools want to fight the drug problem, correct? This is the reason that school administrators must contact the police when any student is caught with drugs or alcohol at school.

Half days not the answer

You are sitting at your desk on the 4th floor, a damp pen in your hand. Sweat rolls down your cheeks, your shirt is stuck to your skin. Some teacher is lecturing, but you understand not a word he is saying because all you can think about is going to swim in 35 minutes. Where are you? Burke High School? No, it has air conditioning. Westside High School? No, it has only two floors. Saudi Arabia? No, you are holding a pen not an M-16. Yes, you are at Central High School.

The Register staff applauds the efforts of the Omaha Public School superintendent. His attempt to relieve students from the heat by shortening school days was considerate. However, the shortening of the school day is not the answer.

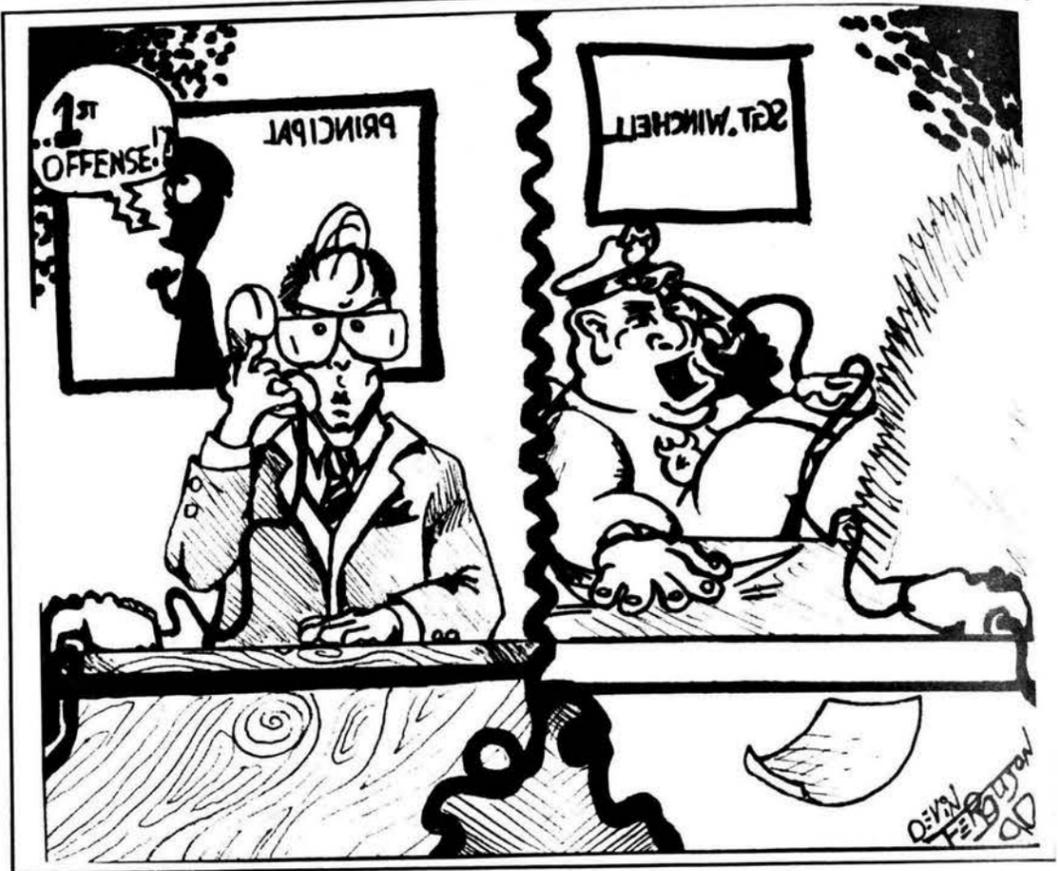
Comparing Central to a giant furnace would not be unreasonable. By 12:50, the half day release time, it is already in the 90's. It is very difficult for students to learn and for teachers to teach in such a setting.

Some solutions to the problem do exist. Air conditioning would be the best solution, but it is an unrealistic one. (Although, even Burke, an air

conditioned high school, dismisses its students early for the heat which does not even affect them.) Installing ceiling fans is a very reasonable solution. It would be considerably less expensive than air conditioning and would provide some relief for students and teachers. Starting school after Labor Day would be a fine alternative as well.

Modifications to the shortened day could help the situation. Twenty-five minute periods are ridiculous. Just after the teacher has taken roll it is time to go to the next period. Students would get more out of their classes if a few regular length ones were held instead of the entire ten. Why not have some 40 minute periods for two days and then for the next three days of the week have the remaining classes?

Hopefully, the superintendent, his assistants, and the Central Administrators will take into consideration for next year some alternatives or improvements concerning the half day. But the TAC (Teacher Administrative Center) building and the Central administrators' offices are awfully cold in the summer. They may forget.



Centralite Voices

Should school administrators notify the police of first time drug or alcohol offenders caught on school property?

Yes 101 (60.1%) No 67 (39.9%) Total 168

Yes, because it helps other kids to know who not to hang around with.

-Mauracey Clark
Junior

No, the first time the school should talk to the parents. The second time they should go to the police.

-Todd Reiser
Sophomore

Yes, if they got caught once and nothing is done they'll do it again.

-Connie Braesch
Junior

Yes, because the students shouldn't be here if they sell drugs.

-Nick Verzani
Freshman

No, because the school should be able to handle it. Suspension or expulsion should be given the first time around. Police should handle it the second time around.

-James Richardson
Senior

Yes, I think they should because it is against the law. Whether it is at school or not, it's against the law

-Mr. Pennington
Student support teacher
Math teacher

Photos/ Sean Chapman

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**In a
Manner
of
Speaking**

Shelly Barkes

Motivating or monotonous tactics?

Ah, the first day of school. What an experience, eh? After springing out of bed at 6:30 a.m. (which I am used to, of course, after my three-month vacation), I jump into a hot shower, grab a healthy breakfast consisting of a Fig Newton and a Diet Coke, and it's off to the wonderful world of high school.

First is that ever-popular hour and forty minutes of homeroom. What a waste of time. Don't get me wrong, I understand that new students need to get adjusted. But this is com-inducing. When I was a sophomore, I remember gazing out of the window during such homerooms, daydreaming of the summer gone by. So far, I haven't run into any life-threatening situations due to my lack of full attention to that ever-entertaining homeroom teacher.

The bell brings me back to the world of consciousness and I lethargically saunter down the hall toward my first class, tripping over doorsteps as I go. If this is supposed to signify newcomers to the school, I must look like a third-year freshman. I reach my destination after what

seems like twelve flights of stairs and take a seat. The room is abuzz with talk of class schedules and lunch periods. The bell rings, signifying the beginning of class, and I gaze toward the front of the room at the individual who is supposed to teach me all I need to know. Or will he (or she; whatever the case may be?).

If you think about it, teachers are powerful people. Oh, now I don't mean the ability to give grades or assign detentions. I mean that if we, the students of today, are the future of the country and the world, then teachers play a pretty important role in that future. That is why the pay and recognition of today's teachers are ludicrous. I know that Mr. Bush is trying to change educational standards of this country, but to whom is he listening? Not students and teachers, but advisors and government officials.

I look back and admire the teachers who have inspired and motivated me to work my hardest and succeed. Teachers have the power to make me feel intelligent and resourceful. They can also make me feel like an idiot. But that's all

in a day's learning, right?

What's really saddening is that some teachers are teaching for the wrong reasons. Some end their college educations and have nothing to do with the degrees earned there. Not a good incentive, I'd say. Others, in my opinion, just don't try to get the students interested in what they're saying. I look back at many of my classes and remember the teachers who spoke about the mysteries of the earth as if they were reading off items on their grocery lists. The formation of the earth was explained to me with glazed eyes and monotone voices. This, in turn, left me asleep and drooling, dangerously close to my Bunsen burner. Now I'm not asking teachers to provide students with forty minutes of entertainment every day, but maybe if they would show enthusiasm and interest in what they taught, they would see some in return.

But I don't want to end my first column on a bad note. So I would like to thank all those teachers who made me what I am today, and what I will be tomorrow.

Propaganda: the cause of sorrow, hatred, prejudice

Propaganda : noun. the spreading of ideas, information, or rumors for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person. (*Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary* 1989.)

**Another Point
of View
by Tina Ray**

Propaganda has always fascinated me. I believe that propoganda has the characteristics of a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Propaganda can be good as a way of inspiration. When used in a positive manner, it can incite patriotism, justice and peace to all who receive it. Propaganda can send forth emotions which set our hearts to what is right in the world.

On the dark side, propaganda can cause more problems than solutions. Propaganda has always been an effective tool of demagogues and swindlers,

who cared more for power than benevolence. When manipulated, propaganda can cause misunderstandings, sorrow, hatred, and prejudice.

The time that propaganda is at its peak is during war or a rising international conflict, with the Iraqi-American situation being no exception. It's easy to observe how these two countries spend time defacing each other's social and governmental policies. All you have to do is turn on the t.v. or turn a page of the evening paper. But when it comes to addressing their citizens and foreign neighbors, the U. S. and Iraq try hard to persuade them that what they are doing is the right.

What scares me is that I see more of the underside of propaganda—the side that benefits power rather than humanity. The question is "Where does it stop?"

In Iraq under the leadership of Saddam Hussein, there is a stronger sense of pre-war

propaganda. Hussein reasoned that the invasion of Kuwait was done in the name of Allah, or, in other words, Hussein had declared a "Holy War." In an area as religiously devout as in the Middle East, the Islamic faith is not to be taken lightly.

Last week I watched the news and saw Iraqi natives holding up posters of Hussein, hailing him as the next prophet. I saw millions of martyrs ready to sacrifice their lives for one man. Another broadcast portrayed Saddam Hussein with British "guests," informing them that they are safe within Iraqi occupied territory, to show the world that he's nothing short of a gentleman.

Iraqi reports stated that American soldiers were crack-smoking AIDS carriers that shipped 5000 Egyptian prostitutes into Saudi Arabia. These reports also stated that American soldiers were mistreating Saudi Arabian citizens. The reports go on and on.

We have to admit that America is getting

caught up in this propaganda, too. The good thing about American propaganda is that the majority are fully supporting the soldiers who are traveling across the globe to reach the Saudi Arabian border. The only problem concerning the soldiers is that it seems that they are defending more property than lives.

The U.S. government is sending military troops into the desert to protect Saudi Arabian oil lines from being taken by Iraq due to the trade sanctions. Our government is sending military supplies in abundance in case of war with Iraq. However, when it comes down to pressing Iraq into releasing American hostages, I think we aren't doing as much as we can. As for President George Bush, I wonder if his strong concern for affairs in the Persian Gulf is a cover-up for the intense problems occurring at home, such as a sagging economy and a booming deficit. Another problem is the American society's view of the Iraqi situation. It seems

that our opinion of Iraq is more of a "Let's cream those fanatics," attitude, rather than "Let's try to get all the hostages out of there." But remember that Iraq is more of a military threat than we think it is, and it not about to back out from a challenge. In case of a war, American troops would have to face a different environment, extreme heat and the chances of chemical warfare. Worst of all, America could face a tragic loss of human lives.

Let's all remember that life is the most precious resource we have. It is important to keep an open perspective in difficult situations like this. If we take the wrong kind of propaganda seriously, it can lead to more tension and the chances of peace would be non-existent.

It's not the question of who's boss but the protection of innocent lives and the establishment of peace. Of course it is your choice what to believe and what not to believe. But in this case it is a matter of life over death.

Letter to the editor

To the editor,

I recently took a biology test. One question struck me in particular. It said, "Biology is the study of.. a.)environment b.)life c.)the relationship between organisms and their environment." Naturally, I chose "b, life" because that is what biology is all about. Life.

This question seems, and is, such a contradiction to the general high school biology class act of dissection. If biology is the study of life, then why do we kill animals to cut them up?

If there's one thing today's society is lacking, it's morals. Therefore, is it really beneficial to teach our society's children to kill and mutilate animals? One thing a school is set up for is to

teach morals, ("Say No to Drugs," "Be Cool, Stay in School") all morals being taught through these slogans. Yet, through dissection, schools are doing exactly the opposite.

Although I'm not certain if the science department will be dissecting this year, (as they did last year), I'm urging ALL students to express their right NOT to dissect.

And to biology teachers: please, consider alternatives to mutilating animals: models, videos, wall charts, etc....

It is up to teachers and students to work together to end this inhumane and unnecessary display of cruelty.

Sincerely,

Christopher Becerra
Sophomore

P. S. Listen to the circulars for dates of Central's first animal rights group, Central League for Animal Rights. Find out more about your rights AND animals'.

Send your opinion to the Register. Bring letters to room 315. We welcome any letters concerning local or school-related issues.

Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Twelve terminals added to new computer lab

By Kelly Ramsey

Central's computer-based writing lab has undergone major expansion during the summer with the purchase of twelve new terminals.

The lab, now located in room 213, has recently gained twelve Macintosh Plus computers, bringing the total to thirty. The original eighteen terminals had previously occupied a back room of the library.

The system has also been expanded with the addition of a forty megabyte dedicated server, which sends information to the other computers. The server now allows terminals to save directly into the system instead of onto individual diskettes.

With the new setup, it is also no longer necessary to copy word-processing programs for the various terminals because packaged programs can now be bought to serve the entire system.

The writing lab in the past has mainly been used by English classes to write

one or more themes during the course of the year. Teachers from many departments make use of the facilities to print grades, lesson plans, and test papers.

With the recent

expansion, however, students from different departments have been using the lab in their class work. For instance, Mrs. Carol Valdrih's honors world history class recently typed a

mini-research report on the computers.

Mr. Daniel Daly, English department head, sees an expanding role for the lab in other portions of the curriculum in the near

future. "This year we'll find out quite a bit of what we can do," he said. "We will allow innovations to influence us . . . helping students to improve their writing."

According to Mr. Daly, the concept of a writing center for student use came about as early as 1976 when Central was designated as a writing mini-magnet school. The lab itself "grew from the idea of a remedial center, to help students with their writing skills," he said.

The original center consisted of Apple IIe computers. In 1988, however, the English department sought funds to purchase the more advanced Macintosh terminals. Anonymous donations bought twenty-four computers; of these, eighteen went to the writing lab.

This summer, room 213 was left unoccupied by Social Studies classes. With more space available, the English department has been able to expand the system to its current capacity of thirty terminals.



Chris Thiigen

Central students enjoy the air conditioning of the new writing lab, room 213, as well as working on the computers. The air conditioning was added to the room over the summer to prevent possible heat-related damage to the terminals.

Senior wins free summer trip to Austria

By Shelly Barkes

For most of us, winning a contest seems out of reach, but for Keith Dubes, senior, it was as easy as taking a quiz. The "Get to Know Europe Quiz-Contest," in which Keith participated, was sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) and by Agencies of the

"The ten highest scoring students won an all expense paid trip to Vienna, Austria. Keith was one of those ten."

Austrian dates, events, and historical figures. Weeks after the test, a representative of the AATG called to congratulate Keith on his being selected as a semi-finalist and asked him to answer one more question.

"The question was to name two countries that border Austria. I named two, and they told me that I now had a one in twenty-five chance of winning." Skill, along with a little luck, made Keith a winner.

"My parents and I were really excited," Keith said. The thirteen-day trip began on August fifth, after a departure ceremony at the JFK Airport in New York. "My parents had to pay for my plane ticket to New York, but they will be reimbursed," explained Keith.

Lodging was not a bother for the new visitors. After arriving in Vienna, the students were taken to their hotel, the famous Astoria, and from there the adventure began. "We visited a lot of museums, including the Museums of Art and Natural History." The students saw a variety of the other famous Vienna attractions including the Hundertwasser House, the Tower of Stephansdom, Roman ruins, and the catacombs where Keith saw "bones and coffins of dead priests." The students also visited a Vienna T.V. studio,

they were featured on a national television program, the Vienna City Hall, United Nations City, and the U.S. Embassy.

Transportation was not a problem in this journey either. Keith experienced a ride on the Danube canal on a ship and traveled through the streets of this amazing city in horse drawn carriages and Mercedes taxis. The students were entertained in a special car attached to the

"There is no drinking age in Austria, so they were served alcohol. Keith said, 'The beer was good, but stronger than I expected.'"

famous Vienna Ferris Wheel where Keith was served "a lot of champagne."

There was plenty of entertainment for Keith and his new companions. At the Austrian State Opera, a "Mozart Gala" was held where the students dressed up in costumes from the Mozart era, which Keith described as "O.K."

The students were then escorted to a special box to

hear Mozart's "Magic Flute." "I never thought I would like an opera," Keith said, "but it was pretty cool." Because the students were escorted through Vienna by Austrian students, Keith said that he frequented many discos and pubs. There is no drinking age in Austria, so they were served alcohol. Keith said,

"An author wrote a book about the journey, and each student received a copy."

"The beer was good but stronger than I expected."

The winners of the contest received much publicity. An author wrote a book about the journey, and each student received a copy. However, Keith no longer has his book. "I lost it," Keith lamented. Personalized videos of each student were also made. They are being edited now, and Keith said he should receive his "sometime in October." Keith will always remember the trip, even without these bits of memorabilia. "I learned so much," he said. "It was an opportunity of a lifetime."

Budget cuts

(Continued from p.1)

the single largest tax increase in the history of the state of Nebraska." The public has been given "erroneous information" by the opponents of the repeal, Fenger added. According to opponents of the repeal of the bill, the Omaha Public Schools will lose 28 million dollars. However, Fenger stated that the loss of 28 million dollars is another "misleading statement" by "prophets of doom."

According to Neal Krause, head of the accounting department for the Omaha Public Schools, a loss of that much money would be devastating to the school district. According to Krause, the average student will notice many changes if the bill is repealed. "First of all, supplies will not be as available as they are now; secondly many special programs may be discontinued, and finally, students will notice a reduction in building cleanliness."

According to the OEA, the major problem would occur if both the 2% Solution passes and L.B. 1059 is repealed. The combined effect of the bills could force the early closing of schools. "The question becomes not if, but when schools will close," Christensen added.

German, Austrian, and Vienna governments. The purpose of the contest was to initiate interest in European German-speaking countries in U.S. students. The ten highest scoring high school students won an all expense paid trip to Vienna, Austria.

Keith Dubes was one of these ten, the only one from Nebraska. He explained that the questions on the quiz were mostly historical, including important

THE CENTRAL SCENE

DECA to attend fall leadership conference

October 8, 1990, Distributive Education Club of America members will have the opportunity to meet with DECA chapters from all over the state at the Fall Leadership Conference in Kearney, Nebraska. Activities for the day will include a lecture by Keith Nord, known nationwide for his seminars, and various other workshops designed to develop leadership skills and to teach about DECA.

CHS seniors to attend free enterprise seminar

Libby Duckworth, senior, and Hai Nguyen, senior, will attend the Carol Joy Holling Camp on September 20 and 21. The camp will offer a free enterprise seminar including speakers and activities dealing with the business world.

Exchange students will attend CHS this year

Central will be welcoming four foreign exchange students this year. They are: Felix Wolff and Steffan Jaiser from Germany, Samuli Selin from Finland, and Veronica Araque from Mexico.

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ROTC members pick 1990-91 Battalion Staff

Congratulations to the 1990-1991 Central High School ROTC Battalion Staff Members: Dixie Allen, senior, Battalion Commander; William Germer, senior, Battalion Executive Officer; Marcey Clark, junior, Command Sergeant Major; Michelle Arnett, senior, Administrative Officer; Tamesha James, senior, Public Information Officer; Felicia Webster, senior, Operations/Training Officer; Darin Kiel, senior, and Jamie Holoubek, senior, Supply Officers; Matthew Miller, senior, Courtesy Patrol Commander; and Jennifer Heywood, junior, Color Guard.

Central juniors chosen for Kearney Youth Leadership Conference

Last August, Chris Thilgen, junior and Dan Bagley, junior attended a Youth Leadership Conference held at the Holiday Inn in Kearney, Nebraska. They were the only Central students out of the 98 students who attended. These 98 were picked out of 405 nominations.

Central teachers picked to be Buffett winners

Two Central teachers, Rita Ryan and John Keenan won the Alice Buffett Award for outstanding teachers last spring. They were each awarded a \$10,000 cash prize to be spent at their leisure. They were the only Central teachers picked out of the 15 winners.

CHS senior selected Outstanding Carrier

Scott Fullerton, senior, was selected as *The Omaha World-Herald* Outstanding Carrier for September. To receive this honor, a carrier must have had a paper route for at least two years and have operated the route in an above average manner. Scott feels that he does not deserve the award. Only one carrier is selected for this honor each month. Scott was also a 1990 Carrier Scholarship winner.

Seniors participate in Omaha Youth Council

Six Central seniors have been selected to be on Omaha's Council of Youth. They are: Lisa Frey, Aidan Soder, Heather Dunbar, Ladonna White, Jaime Holoubek, and Dorrell Morrow. The students, selected after submitting applications, have attended a leadership seminar and have had pictures taken by Lisle Ramsey displayed around Omaha.

Bloodmobile to visit Central on October 4

Student Council will be sponsoring a visit from the Bloodmobile on October 4 from 8:30-1:30. Teachers and students who are at least seventeen years of age with their parent's permission will have the opportunity to donate blood during a study hall or lunch. The Student Council has set a goal to receive forty or more donors and will give out free donuts and juice to all who participate.

New club officers

National Honor Society officers for 1990-91 will be the following seniors: president, Emily Fitzsimmons; vice president, Mike Stansberry; secretary, Meg Anderson; treasurer, Rob Likes; and sergeant-at-arms, Heather Dunbar.

Drama Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Sara Templeton, senior; vice president, Amy Vosburg, senior; secretary, Renee Johnson, sophomore; treasurer, Tom Rose, junior; historians, Kristen Steenberg, junior, Anya Lawler, senior, and Dan O'Dell, junior.

Thespians Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Blake Thomas, senior; vice president, Matt Hovde, junior; secretary, Shawn White, junior; treasurer, Jason McCallen, junior; and historians, Tina Ray, senior, and Dan O'Dell, junior.

Spanish Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Chris Thilgen, junior; vice president, Matt Hovde, junior; secretary, Kris Turco, junior; and treasurer, Rosetta

Scholar, junior.

Spanish National Honor Society officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Brad Gibson, senior; vice president, Hang Le, senior; secretary, Meg Anderson, senior, and treasurer, Aimee Naab, senior.

French Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Erika Gaylor, senior; vice president, Kate Lundholm, senior; secretary, Emily Rennard, senior; treasurer, Anya Lawler, senior; historian, Deborah Uhl, senior; and sergeant-at-arms, Becky Beerling, senior, and Molly Phillips, senior.

French National Honor Society officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Heather Dunbar, senior; secretary, Emily Fitzsimmons, senior; and treasurer, Jenny Forsman, senior.

German Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Walter Buckley, junior; vice president, Pete Thorson, junior; secretary, Dayna McCloney, junior; treasurer, Angel Henning, junior; and sergeant-at-arms, Diane Atkinson, senior, and Robert Ludwig, junior.

German National Honor Society officers for 1990-91 will be: president,

Lucia Choi, junior; vice president, Angel Henning, junior; secretary, Scott Fullerton, senior; and treasurer, Suzy Wolff, senior.

Junior Classical League officers for 1990-91 will be: senior consul, Wendy Ford, senior, and Brett Wolfe, senior; junior consul, Seraphim Carlson, senior, and Rachel Tomlinson, junior; secretary, Mike Kirchheval, senior; and treasurer, Bill Thoms, senior; historians, Lafonda Tanner, senior, and Nicole Trotter, senior; and photographers, Jon McDonald, sophomore, and Mike Buckley, sophomore.

Chemistry Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Tina Ray, senior; vice president, Sean Chapman, junior; secretary, Cindy Garner, junior; treasurer, Pete Thorson, junior; and sergeant-at-arms, Chris Thilgen, junior.

Young Democrats Club officers for 1990-91 will be: president, Tina Ray, senior; vice president, Julianne Hill, senior; secretary, Angela Natase, senior; and treasurer, Dan Fellman, senior.



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121 Staff members bring variety

Teachers' rewards compensate salaries

By Emily Rennard

"Sharing the enjoyment (of my job) with others is the greatest reward. You can not assign a financial value to it," said Mr. Daniel Daly, English teacher. Although teaching is one of the least-paid professions, many Central teachers agree with Mr. Daly.

Nebraska teachers last year were paid, on average, \$25,222, over \$6,000 less than the national average, ranking Nebraska thirty-eighth of the fifty states for teachers' salaries, despite a twenty-sixth ranking in average personal income.

LB89, a Nebraska Legislative Bill passed in 1989, boosted teacher's salaries slightly; the bill supplied an additional \$20 million to be divided among all teachers in the state, with a final net value of \$850 per teacher.

Salaries for teachers vary, depending on both the amount of schooling the teacher has had and the number of years the teacher has worked. A first year teacher with a Bachelors Degree will earn \$20,228, for the 1990-1991 school year; with the same degree, a teacher who has worked for at least 20 years will make \$34,718.25. Teachers with Masters Degrees can earn up to \$41,331.25, and those with Doctorates can earn up to \$43,276.25,

considerably more than a starting teacher, but still much less than other jobs available with that degree.

So, why then, if teachers are paid so poorly,

"Salaries for teachers vary, depending on both the amount of schooling the teacher has had and the number of years the teacher has worked."

do they continue to teach? According to Mrs. Carol Valdrighi, history teacher, it is the only fulfilling career for her. "The greatest compensation for the salary is the positive feedback from students that what we are doing is important," she said. Mrs. Kelly Gatewood, science teacher, agrees. "It is a rewarding experience, students putting their trust in me with my advice and my listening," said Mrs. Gatewood.

"The work itself is a reward," said Mr. Daly. "There are not very many things you can do that give back so much to you. It is an endlessly delightful job."

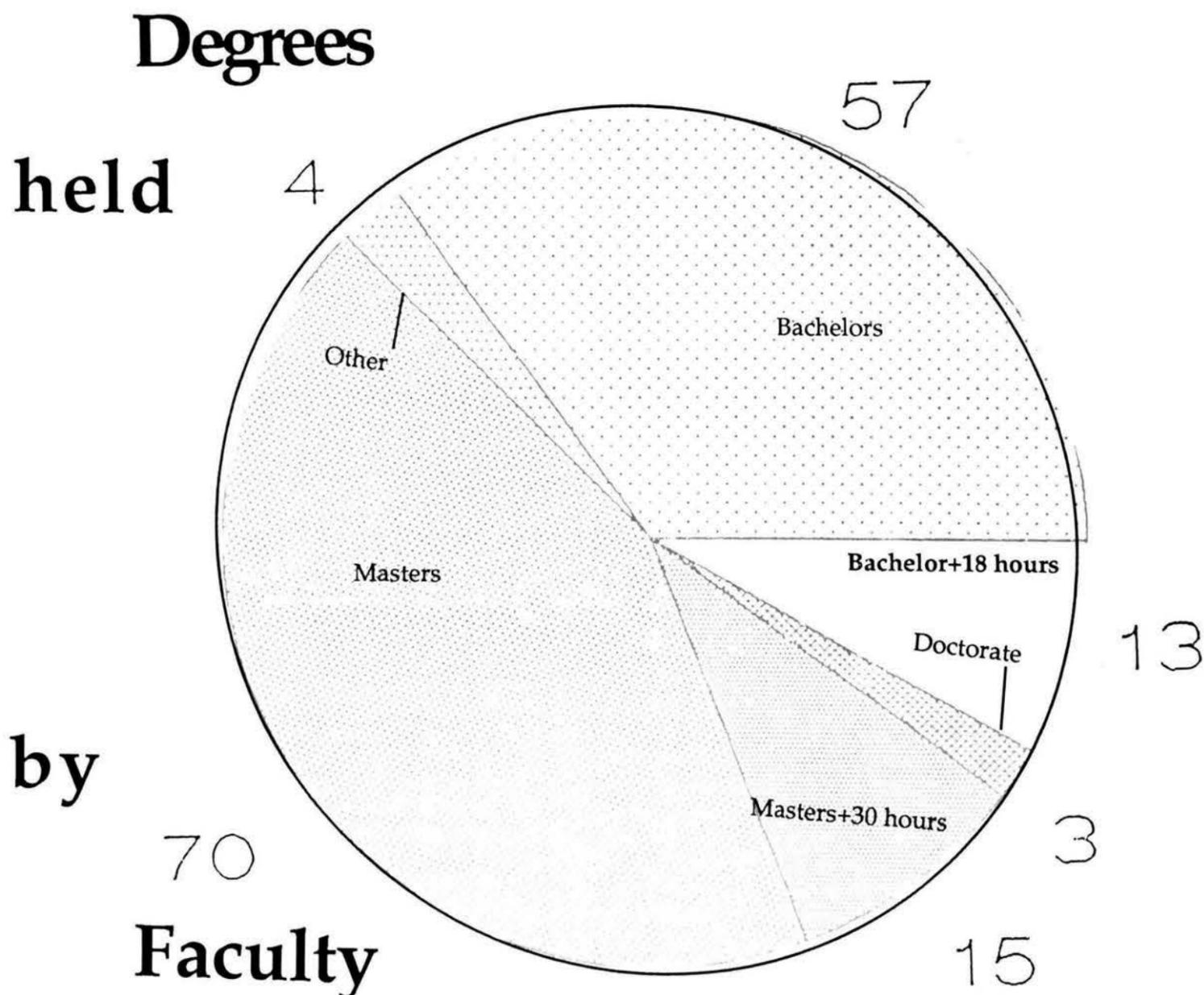
Ms. Jennifer Thornby, a first year English teacher, said she is teaching because she has always enjoyed helping others. "I love what I am doing so much, I would prefer to be happy than to make more money."

Central teachers also find the school itself to be rewarding. "What makes Central such an outstanding school," said Mrs. Valdrighi, "is that there is a consensus that learning is crucial and must be a priority. The collective psyche, administration, teacher and student, is still focused on education."

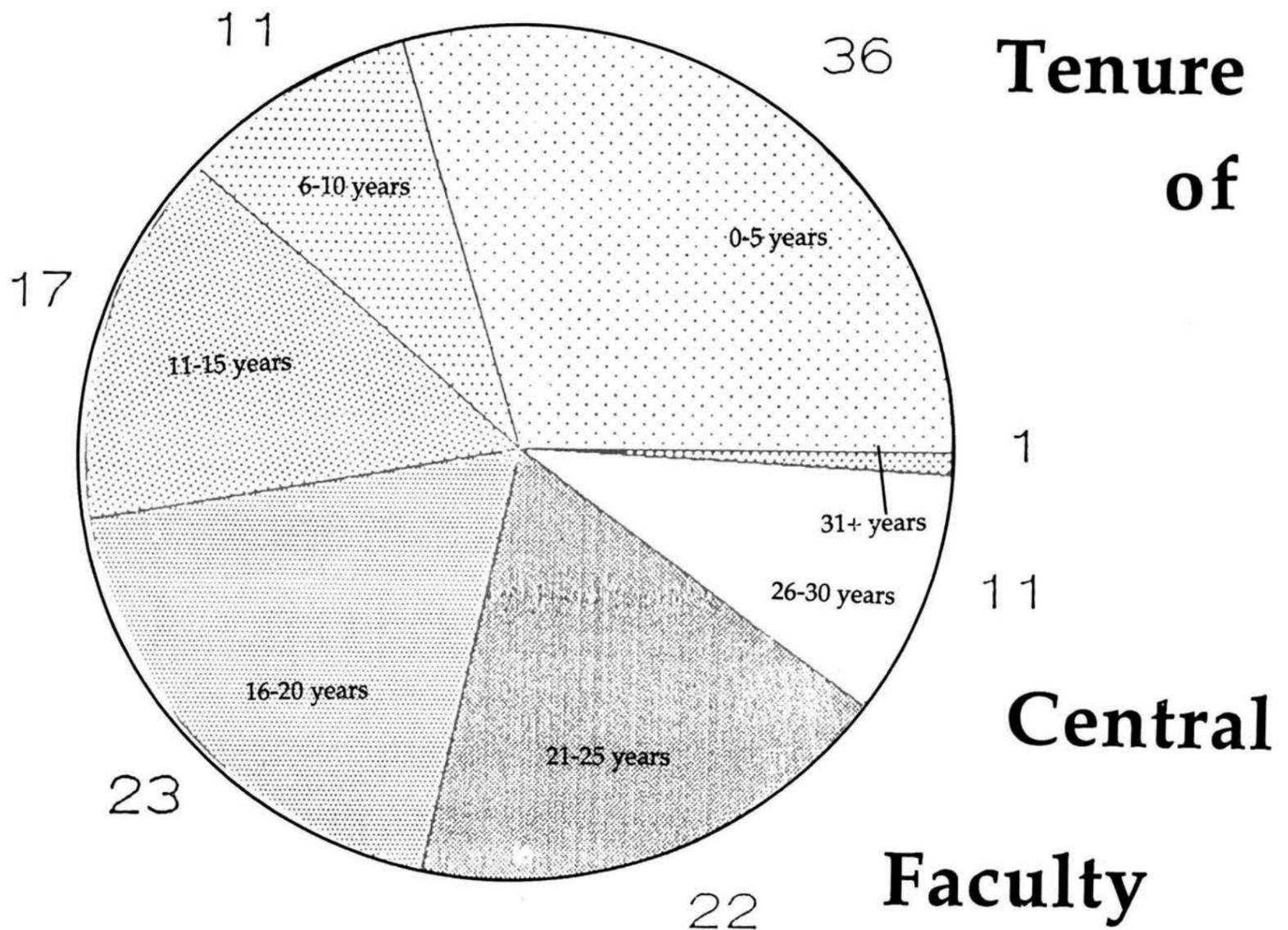
According to Mr. Daly, parents are also important in a successful school. "Without their support, we would probably not be the school we are today," he said.

"As far as I am concerned," said Mrs. Gatewood, "Central is the #1 school in all of OPS."

Despite the positive attitudes of teachers, the age-old profession of teaching remains one of the poorest paid. "Every family's major concern is a good education for their children," said Craig Christiansen, president of the Omaha Education Association. "But when it comes time to pay the bill on that, no one is ever willing."



Experiences to Central's classes



Teachers find second jobs enjoyable

By Heather Baker

Ever wondered what your teachers did once the school day was over? Many of them have second jobs to earn extra money while not teaching.

Mr. Frank Marsh, physics teacher, is one such teacher. Last year, he and a friend designed a computer software program for farmers. This program, called Feed Land Incorporated, deals mainly with cattle management.

"It's amazing. It keeps track of over 1200 variables for every critter inventoried," said Mr. Marsh. Examples of such "variables" would be weight, height, and age.

And the cost of this program? According to Mr. Marsh, the cost was around \$2000 to \$2400 for one program.

Another teacher with a second job is Mr. Norm Custard, computer teacher. During the summer months he drives a refrigerated truck for Titian Transportation. He started the job after

high school to earn money for college, and has driven about every summer since then.

According to Mr. Custard he works about 2 to 3 days a week, depending on his destination. The rate for this job is about 22 cents per mile.

"According to Mr. Custard he works about 2 to 3 days a week depending on his destination."

"If it were part of a union [for truck drivers] the rate would be 30 or more cents," he stated.

Not only teachers but also counselors

find outside work. Mrs. Faye Johnson is one such counselor. When not teaching she spends her time directing two church choirs, one at King Solomon Baptist Church and one at God's Ministry Church.

The amount of time Mrs. Johnson spends on her choirs is about 8 to 10 hours a week, including 2 rehearsals and Sunday services.

And the pay for this job? According to Mrs. Johnson the average pay for a choir director is between \$300 and \$500.

When asked why she directs church choirs, Mrs. Johnson replied, "It fullfills my yearn for music."

Why do so many teachers find extra work? According to Mr. Marsh "It's enjoyable."

"It's something to do. Sure the money was nice, but it's more like a hobby."

Broadway musical hits big in Omaha

By Seraphim Carlson

"Les Miserables" translated to mean the miserable in French was exactly the opposite. The Broadway production that opened on Tuesday, September 4, at the Orpheum was a hit.

Based on the 1862 novel by Victor Hugo, the story of "Les Miserables" contains numerous characters including a protagonist Jean Valjean. The plot unfolds after Valjean has been released from prison and is starting his life anew. He promises to take care of Cosette, the illegitimate child of one of his workers, Fantine, who is dying.

The story proceeds throughout Cosette's life, ending in her marriage and with her learning of her history right before Valjean's

death.

The Central High French Club planned to see "Les Miz" as one of their activities this year because of the setting in France. Heather Dunbar, senior and French National Honor Society president said that many French students were unable to attend. Heather organized the trip and added that those that could attend greatly enjoyed the show.

Amy O'Loughlin, senior, spoke of the musical as "a surprisingly easy play to follow with a well-balanced amount of laughter and tears." She also added that the synopsis printed in the program made the show much easier to follow.

Another French Club member, Krista Morrison, senior, said, "I

really enjoyed the show, although I think, had our seats been better, I might have enjoyed it even more. You couldn't have sat much

farther back than where we were."

The special effects and props in the show were magnificent. The suicide of

police spy Javert throwing himself into the River Seine was done masterfully, giving a real feeling of falling and of death.

The solo "On My Own" sung by Eponine about her secret love for Marius who loves Cosette was sung beautifully, making that piece a favorite.

Another beautiful song was "Come to Me" sung by Fantine and Valjean upon Fantine's death. At this time Valjean promised to care for Cosette.

This Broadway production was done so well it felt as if one might have been seeing it in New York. The members of the French Club who were able to attend were lucky to have been able to attend such a wonderful production.



Sean Chapman

Homecoming Dining Guide



Neon Goose:
Located just south of the Old Market the fun downtown setting makes for an exciting atmosphere. Serving a full continental menu, the award winning restaurant is also well-liked for its fresh seafood. Reservations are not accepted, seating is first come first serve. Prices on the regular menu vary \$3.00-\$10.00, with specials ranging from \$11.00-\$17.00. 1012 S. 10th 341-2063



Grisanti's:
Specializes in salads, pasta, chicken, seafood, veal, steak, and desserts. Favored for its freshly made bread served with an Italian sauce. A fresh green salad is also served tableside. Quaint Italian decor makes for a lovely setting. Prices range from \$4.00-\$13.00. 10875 W. Dodge Rd. 330-0440



Imperial Palace

Imperial Palace:
This authentic Chinese restaurant creates a real feel of Oriental dining. Serving delicious Chinese cuisine it is a real dining treat for lovers of Far

Eastern foods. The architectural design of the building, which is in the shape of a Chinese palace, makes for a great dining atmosphere. Reservations are accepted for parties larger than five. Prices range from \$6.95 going up \$14.00 if one is really hungry. 112th and Davenport Old Mill 330-3888



Spaghetti Works:
This great affordable Italian restaurant has a wonderful location downtown in the Old Market. The nice semi-formal atmosphere is made even better by the affordable prices. Having both an all-you-can-eat salad bar and all-you-can-eat spaghetti it accomadates both the large and not-so-large appetites. Prices range from \$2.99-\$7.95. 502 S. 11th 422-0770

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A Bit
of
Whimsey
with
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Parents, allergies, and other annoying stuff

It's that time of year again. You know what I'm talking about. Monday Night Football, Harry Husker's infallible predictions, the elimination of teams for the World Series, the end of summer jobs, another school year recapitulated, parents' nagging, and the long-dreaded allergies are just a few seasonal occurrences that pop to mind. This is a time of year that is so difficult for the women of today's society to withstand.

It becomes a virtual impossibility to pull men away from a t. v.—you'd think they'd never seen a group of full-grown men turn to professional barbarians letting out professional groans and slapping one another's professional posteriors. It's a bonding experience as any man would tell you. The men on the field bond with each other by getting fresh with each other (a practice which, in common society, is certainly frowned upon), and the men out in t. v. land bond their eyes to the t. v. with superglue. Yes, it's a true bonding experience all-around, one which we women certainly envy.

But this is not meant to be a column in which all I do is gripe about men. Why limit my griping to just men when there are so many other things that merit my griping time? The last couple of weeks have been a living hell for those of us who tend to be allergic to anything having to do with nature. One can recognize us allergy-sufferers by the red eyes, red nose, wadded up kleenexes, and that dazed expression which we all wear and

then just kinda mumble the word "allergies" to any sympathetic person who might inquire as to what's wrong.

Between the allergy pills, allergy sprays, allergy mists, allergy shots, and the other 1,001 appropriate paraphernalia which are vital necessities to the allergy victim, all of us, the miserable allergy sufferers and the twits who romp around like pollen doesn't exist, are bombarded with this annoying medical occurrence. No matter who you are, you can't help but be affected by the allergy season.

"The reason you're feeling like death today is because the pollen count is up 30 points."

For instance, you've got the news. They make those stupid graphs, maps, and other scientifically useless grids which are supposed to show us that the "pollen count is up in the midwest today" and that ragweed is becoming a problem in the south. Who cares if the pollen count has gone up 500 points? All I know is that I'm more miserable today than I was a week ago and I'm more stuffed up this year than last year. It's almost as though these allergy newscasters think that they're making us feel better by saying

the pollen count is up 30 points. It's almost as though they're saying, "The reason you're feeling like death today is because the pollen count is up 30 points." Well, don't you feel better already?

Lest we get caught up in the allergy talk (something which we could discuss for pages, I'm sure), let's move to an even more annoying topic: parents. We all have them, so it's inevitable that sometime in our lives they're going to annoy us. And what better, more opportune time than at the beginning of a hectic, stressful school year?

Never fails. At the emotionally trying times in your life (at the beginning of the school year, for example), parents seem to know exactly what to do and say to push you to the point of committing yourself to the funny farm....that or to the point where you just kill them (luckily for me, I'm a girl, I can plead PMS). At the start of the school year, all the "end of summer, start of school" lectures come: no more late nights, no more hours of phone calls, and you have to come home immediately to do your homework. It's almost as if they expect us to take school seriously.

Of course, no lecture would be complete without an argument. You HAVE to be an obstinate teenager and put up a fight. Then you get the classic, "I am the parent and you are the child." What would we do without our parents to clarify these matters? I wouldn't be able to sleep nights wondering how I bore someone twice my age. Fortunately for me, it's senior year, I'm going to college in the south (plenty of ragweed, ya know), and my dad doesn't watch Monday Night Football.

MOVIE REVIEWS

Lemon Sisters

By Seraphim Carlson

The Lemon Sisters, a movie about close friends, takes place in Atlantic City. Now, this might sound a lot like the movie *Beaches* but don't worry one shouldn't leave the theater depressed after this one, but maybe a little disappointed.

The three stars of this movie are real life friends Carol Kane, Katherine Grody, and Diane Keaton. This movie was neither exciting nor thrilling yet cute and funny. The three

actresses made for some funny parts and also some touching moments.

The three girls became best friends while living in Atlantic City. They called themselves the Lemon Sisters after receiving lemons as a consolation prize at a game on the Boardwalk. Katherine Grody's mother had always told the girls "three lemons apart are just lemons, but three lemons together are a jackpot." Upon receiving the lemons the girls made a vow to meet every

Monday for the rest of their lives.

The vow is kept while the women meet to sing every Monday at a night club. Things change when the night club is closed and two of the three women come into a great deal of money. Arguments arise when everyone wants the money spent in different ways.

In the end, the women understand that the key to change is to "know what to let go of and what to hang on to."

Presumed Innocent

By Becky Beerling

A fatal attraction of a new kind appears in the new suspense movie *Presumed Innocent*.

Harrison Ford stars as Rusty Savage, a prosecuting attorney in the D.A.'s office, in *Presumed Innocent*, the movie developed after Scott Turow's novel.

For all readers who like those "who done it" mystery movies *Presumed Innocent* is perfect.

The movie's plot is pretty simple. Harrison Ford is assigned to investigate the murder of a woman in his office, Carolyn Polehmus. Carolyn was also once

Rusty's mistress who he is still infatuated with. So the case is more than business for him.

As the investigation continues, they keep running into dead ends except for one missing B file that is on Carolyn's computer. Rusty asks Raymond Horgan the D.A., about the file and Raymond tells him that he and Carolyn had been seeing each other and that she had asked for the file.

That same night Rusty is called back into Raymond's office and two lawyers tell him he is now being accused for the murder of Carolyn

Polehmus.

Raul Julio's winning performance as Rusty Savage's defense attorney is one of the true highlights of the movie.

The storyline of the movie in *Presumed Innocent* takes the viewer through surprise after surprise. Parts of the movie are a little slow at times but the details are all pretty essential to the plot. The excitement at the end of the movie makes any sense of boredom throughout worth it.

Presumed Innocent is an exciting movie with an amazing cast. Leaving the movie theater the viewer feels completely entertained.

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Late Innings
with
Brian James

1990 Baseball season

Field of Nightmares?

"Baseball is a game of the long season, of relentless and gradual averaging out." — John Updike

At first glance, it might look like another baseball season has come and gone. Well, it has. Another crop of young talent has made itself known around the league, and some of the old timers have felt it best to hang up their pinstripes and start new careers (probably as TV sports commentators, or, by what they like to be called, "color analysts"). But it was just another season, right?

Only if you read the box scores.

Otherwise, in the immortal words of Gretzky—"No."

July 25, 1990 — Finding themselves with what must have been an all-time low number of people to sing the national anthem, the San Diego Padres decide to let Roseanne Barr sing it. This incident alone could have made baseball fans, at least Padre fans, think that the season wasn't even

enjoyable or worth much, but fortunately for the fans in San Diego, their team was out of it long before the fat lady sang. Call me unpatriotic, but she is the very reason I always go check what's in the fridge during that song.

July 29, 1990 — Baseball ends another chapter in its history, one that involved conspiracy, payments to shady businessmen, and activities that, as Commissioner Faye Vincent said, "were not in the best interest of baseball." Vincent permanently banned George Steinbrenner, owner of the New York Yankees, from ever running or dealing with the ball club.

I feel this was long overdue. The man has been an annoying part of the sports page long enough and its doubtful many people would disagree, especially in Yankeetown. Many will be glad to know that he will now have to buy a ticket to see his last place team play.

A major part of the Yankees' downfall in the last 10 years has been because of Steinbrenner. Many players felt that he played the role of manager too often and that he meddled excessively

in the affairs of the team. He only fired and hired 18 managers! He's hurt his team and he's hurt baseball, but I believe the resiliency of the sport will prove itself once again.

Just look at the Pete Rose mess. Baseball's all-time hit leader getting caught betting on his team is obviously not something you want to put on a season's highlight film. And it took place around the time of the baseball owner's lockout! Enough said.

If there were ever a time baseball fans would get so disappointed (even disgusted) with their "national pastime" and stop supporting it, the time is now.

Baseball must have a die-hard group following it because, even with all the court room dramas and such surrounding it, it's still as popular as it has ever been. Stadiums are packing them in, but I doubt it's for an encore by Roseanne.

A special love between baseball and its fans exists, and that is why the game endures.

Teams experience change

New coaches provide fresh outlook

By Libby Duckworth

As far as fall sports are concerned, several Central coaches find themselves in new positions; they are now head coaches.

When asked about his new position as head football coach, Mr. Joe McMnamin replied, "It's been a good transition for the players as far as the staff is concerned." Aside from being head coach, he remains

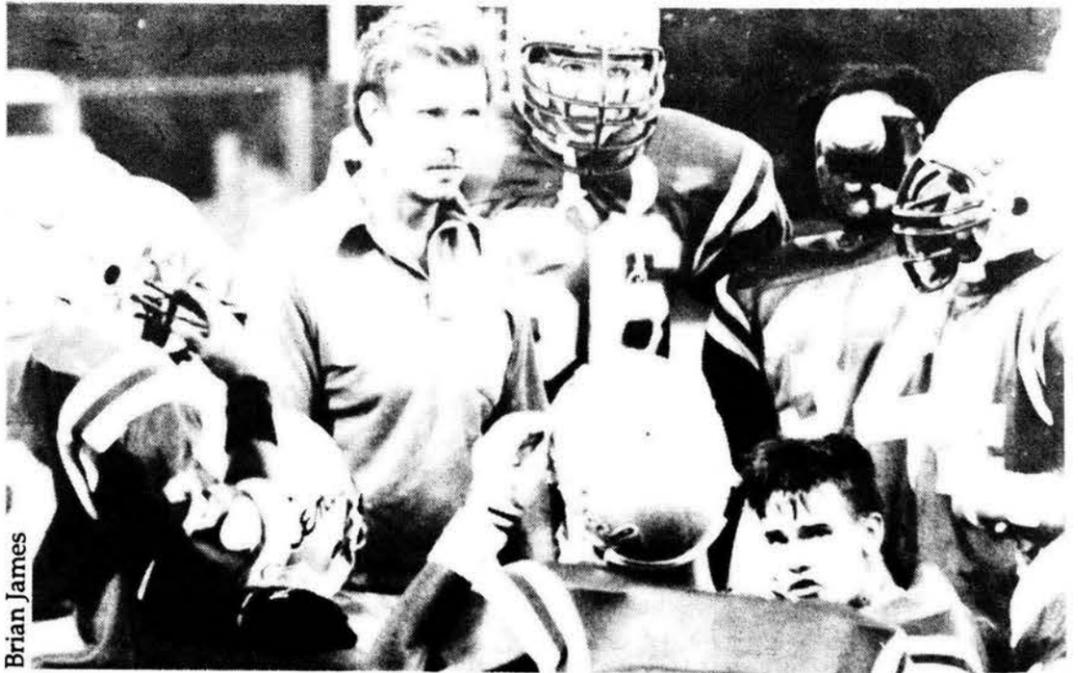
asked about the remainder of the season, he replied, "If we keep improving I think we have the chance to be a really good football team."

Mrs. Vicki Wiles, previous assistant of the girl's volleyball team, is head coach this year. She stated, "I have adjusted really well because last year it was a team effort between the head coach (Miss Hettwer) and myself."

She also added, "The new assistant and the freshman coach have been very helpful (in the transition)."

Coach Wiles stressed the fact that she is dealing with a lot of hard-working young ladies who devoted their summer to camp and conditioning.

She concluded, "The season is going very well and there are a lot of talented athletes with a long



Coach McMnamin, the new head football coach, rouses his team to a 10 - 8 victory over Northwest High School in the home opener.

"Last year, I was the assistant coach. This year, as a head coach, there is a lot more responsibility, but I like it a lot."

offensive coordinator, but he stated, "There is very little change (in his coaching responsibilities)."

According to Coach McMnamin, the biggest change is in the defense. Mr. Galus and Mr. Georgeson are now the defensive coordinators whereas Coach Reed had occupied the position in the past.

Mr. McMnamin believes that the players have worked really hard to come together as a team. He added, "It was great that we won our first

game although some mistakes were made." When

road of competition ahead."

As for cross country, the new boy's coach is Mr. Matt Carmichael, and the girls coach is Mrs. Jennifer

Thornby.

Mr. Carmichael commented, "Last year, I was the assistant coach. This year,

as a head coach, there is a lot more responsibility, but I like it a lot."

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SIDELINES

Football

In his first game as Central head coach, Coach Joe McMenamin guided the Eagles to their first win of the season against Northwest. Central's offense gained 259 total yards, while the defense limited the Huskies to 167 yards in the 10-8 victory.

In the Eagle's following two games, it was a different story. Against Millard South, Central suffered four interceptions in the 27-6 loss. Against Papillion, the Eagles lost 42-0.

Summer Baseball

The Central High Summer Baseball team shined this past summer, finishing third in the metro with three all-stars. The three all-stars were Robert Barta, Ross Nisi, and Kmera Bartee, who also received the Nebraska Legion player of the year honors. Coach Elvis Dominguez said, "They [the players] really turned it up a notch during the season."

Girls' Golf

The golf season is underway, and the Central girls golf team is in good form, Coach Jo Dusatko said. "The girls are doing great. They have a great attitude." They just finished second at the Abraham Lincoln Invitational, and, said Dusatko, "We just beat our goal on our home course at Elmwood."

Wrestling

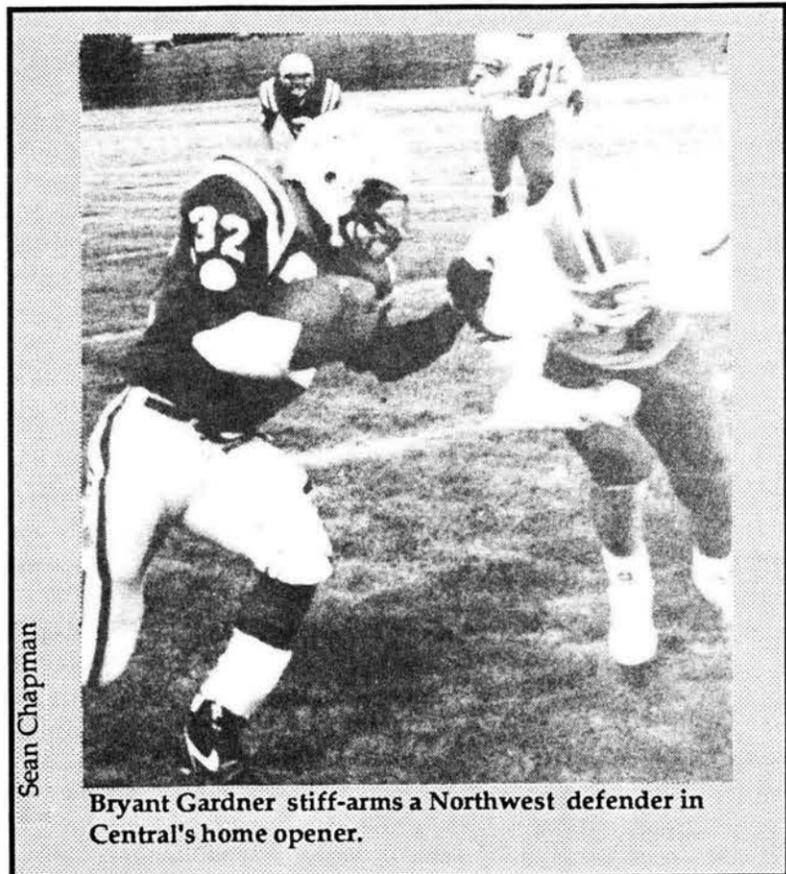
This summer, six Central High wrestlers and Coach Gary Kubik attended an annual wrestling clinic at the YMCA in Estes Park, Colorado. The six wrestlers were Kacasha Station, Mike Taylor, John Tiemann, Mike Anderson, Pat Driscoll, Jason Blair, and Kascha Kochia. Coach Kubik explained, "The clinic [was instructed by] several high school and college wrestling coaches [along with] some college wrestlers. The team practiced all the skills of wrestling and learned several new techniques."

Tennis

Central's boy's tennis team is off to a terrific start, according to Coach John Waterman. Going into the Papio Tourney on September 14th, the team was undefeated with a 5-0 record. "Our goal is to show continued improvement throughout the season," he said. Number one and number two seeds Andy Urias and Aaron Bachman are also undefeated.

Gymnastics

The Central High gymnastics team, under the instruction of Miss Connie Kozak, is vaulting into a new season. The won the Northwest Invitational held on September 4 at Northwest High School.



Sean Chapman

Bryant Gardner stiff-arms a Northwest defender in Central's home opener.

Cross Country

Central's cross country team is off and running for the 1990 season. On August 31 Central competed in the Ralston Invitational meet. Although the team did not come away with a top finish, they achieved some personal goals. "We're a young team and right now we're still learning," said Matt Carmichael, cross country coach.

Volleyball

The volleyball team is starting off this season strongly with a total of four wins under their belt. Coach Vicki Wiles commented, "We have the opportunity to have a winning season and be a tough competitor at Metro. She thought that if the team won its last three games, it would be a positive finish to a tough season."

Gymnast flips way to Russia

By Allison Atkinson

At the age of three, Shani Sellman, senior, fell in love with gymnastics. At the age of seventeen she was able to do what few young athletes in the United States have the chance to do. She not only had the opportunity to further her abilities as an athlete but also to experience a different culture.

This summer, Shani Sellman spent two weeks in the U.S.S.R. working out six hours a day, six days a week with Ukrainian gymnasts at the Olympic Training Center in Kiev. Shani's coach at the Academy of Nebraska Gymnastics, Mitch Johnson, came to her with the idea last year while discussing possible summer camps. "At the time it seemed like a far-fetched idea," said Johnson. But they went ahead and gave it a try. "It was worth a shot," he said.

Shani was quick to notice the differences between American and Russian training programs. Shani remembers

watching the training of a sixteen-year-old gymnast, whom she thought "excellent," but whose trainers thought "over-the-hill." "They just have a different perspective on what is considered great and what is not," Shani stated. "They look for perfection. That is what makes them win."

The intense schedule of the Soviet gymnasts was overwhelming compared to the training she does at home, which is very time-

consuming.

She believes that her training in the Soviet Union has given her a greater view of her abilities. She said, "Just being there, I learned so much."

Johnson feels that Shani benefitted from the program very much. He said, "Her attitude is different and has improved. She looks at the sport through a different perspective."

"It was a really neat experience for me," Shani said. "I'm glad I did it."

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Sayers recalls Central athletic tradition

By Brian James

It was 28 years ago that Gale Sayers last touched a football in a Central uniform. But still today he is known as one of the most talented and successful athletes ever to come out of Central.

Nicknamed "The Kansas Comet", Sayers blazed through opposing defenses during his career. His flashy style of play turned the heads of many, as he would incorporate juke moves and zig-zags across the field to elude linebackers.

In an interview with Gale, he said playing sports just came naturally for him.

"As far as athletics, there really wasn't anything tough about it. I had a God-given talent to play football."

Gale went from being a star in high school to being a "comet" at the

"Until anybody scores six TD's in an NFL game, I won't even put them in the same league with Gale Sayers."

University of Kansas (where he earned his nickname). He played three seasons there (freshmen were ineligible for varsity) and then was drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1965.

Gale experienced immediate success and at one point in his career he held 9 NFL and 16 Bears' team records. But with five games left in the 1968 season, Sayers tore knee ligaments. His injury forced him into retirement at age 29. He ended his football career having compiled 4,956 yards.

When he was eight, Gale and his family moved to

"I had a God-given talent to play football"

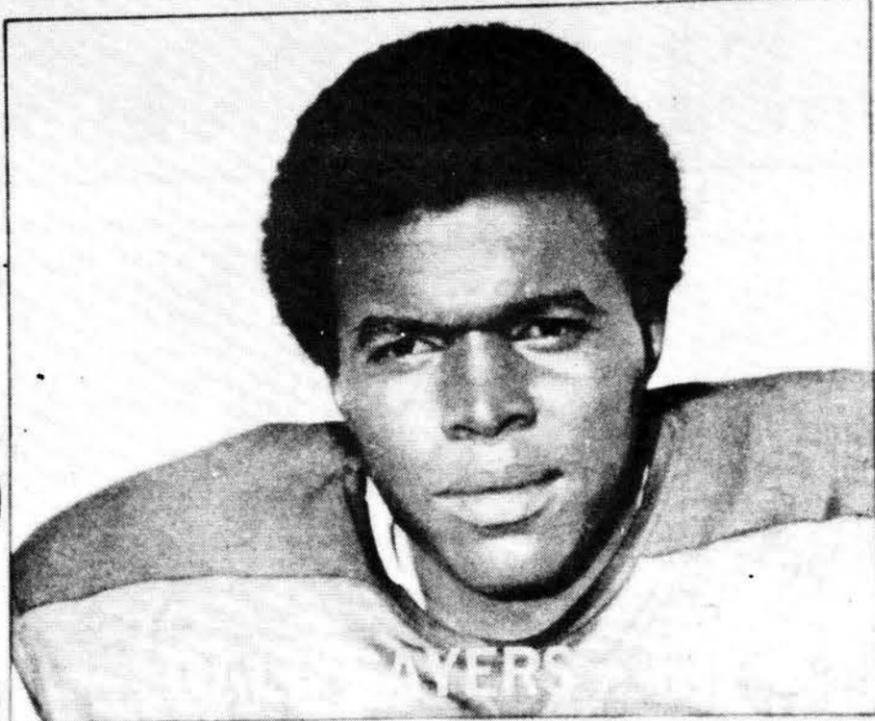
Omaha from Wichita, Kansas. He has two brothers, one who is younger and one who is older than he. Gale said he played all sports during his childhood.

"In grade school, we played flag football, baseball, and ran track. Living in Omaha and on the North side back then, you just wanted to stay active, so I did all of them."

Gale said he played midget football when he was in eighth grade, but started excelling in the sport early in high school.

"I only weighed

BEARS



about 110 pounds going into high school. Between my freshman and sophomore year, I gained 50 pounds and grew about 3 inches."

Sayers started on defense for the Eagles his sophomore year and then played behind his brother as a running back. It was at running back where Gale and his coaches started seeing his true ability.

Frank Smagacz, former Central track and football coach (1950-62), coached Gale in both sports.

"He was a great athlete and worked hard," he commented about Sayers. "He was the best halfback I ever coached."

"Coach Smag was the type of coach who 'talked' you into doing things, but he really got the best out of us," Sayers replied when asked about Coach Smagacz. "You really knew he cared about us."

Under Smagacz, Sayers and his teammates won two state track championships and one state football championship. Gale set the state long jump record at the state track meet in 1961 (still unbroken at 24'10-1/2") and broke numerous football rushing records.

Gale said he has many memorable moments about his high school playing days.

"I think my long jump at the state meet and when I was the MVP at the all-star Shrine Bowl really stand out as being highlights for me."

Although athletics came naturally for Gale Sayers, he often found himself struggling with his school work. As Gale said, "The toughest part about school was school."

"I wasn't a real good student at that time. I didn't take time to be a good

student." Continuing to look back on his academics, he said he "didn't take advantage of his high school career academically. I was not a good high school student and consequently I didn't even get a scholarship when I came out. I had to work for a year to get my grades up."

"I appreciated my education because I wanted to prove that it could be done."

When Gale got to college, he was determined to turn his school work around.

"I don't think anybody had confidence that Gale Sayers would make it in college academically. I appreciated my education because I wanted to prove that it could be done."

Although he left Kansas without getting a degree, he returned shortly after his retirement to finish his education. He earned his undergraduate degree in 1973 and his master's degree in 1975.

In his playing days at Kansas, Sayers amassed

"He was the best halfback I ever coached"

2,675 yards rushing in three seasons.

Gale said an important reason why he chose to go to Kansas was because of its football program. But he said at one point Coach Smagacz even wanted him to turn pro right out of high school.

"Yes, I certainly

did," Smagacz said. "I thought he was good enough."

Sayers held off from turning pro until the Chicago Bears drafted him in 1965.

As a rookie, Sayers quickly established himself as one of the dominant halfbacks in the league. Not before or since has a rookie scored 22 touchdowns in one season. Six of those TD's he scored in one game, including an 85 yard TD punt return. For his achievements, Gale received the 1965 NFL Rookie of the Year Award.

Gale continued to do

well until, in the middle of the 1968 season, he tore knee ligaments. He rebounded in 1969 with another successful season, but it was essentially his last. He retired in 1972.

Gale says he is confident he could have played five more years if he had stayed healthy. But, he quickly adds, "Football is a short-term proposition. You better be prepared to quit."

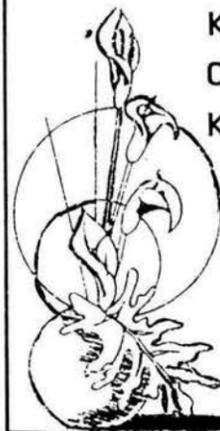
In his prime, though, Gale Sayers was up there with the best. Coach Smagacz said he is often asked to compare current players to Sayers. He said he tells people, "Until anybody scores six TD's in an NFL game, I won't even put them in the same league with Gale Sayers."

Calender

- 9/21 Football: Lin. SE-Home (Burke)
- Tennis: Bell. East-Home
- 9/25 Girl's Golf: Bell. West - Home
- 9/27 Girl's Golf: Metro
- Tennis: Prep-Home
- 9/28 Football: Prep Home
- 10/1 Tennis: Fremont-Home
- 10/2 Gymnastics: Home
- 10/4 Cross Country: Metro
- 10/5 Football: Westside-Away

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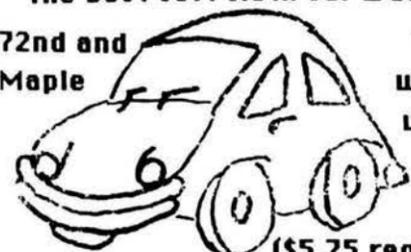


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