

Omaha Central High School

From the Heart of Downtown Omaha

From underneath



Lei Brown

Galen Morrison, Varsity Basketball power forward, looks for a way to score. The team won 59-51 over Millard West and ranked 7th in the state. See story page 15.

ESL hurdles over language barrier

By Sarah Pugh

Linda Nguyen spent three years on a boat, traveling through six different countries before reaching the United States.

Marlene Andikasim decided to live with her brother in Omaha after her family visited him from Indonesia.

Gloria Serellano followed her father to Omaha, who came first to try to find employment.

What do these kids have in common? They are all teenagers in the English as a Second Language program.

English as a Second Language, or ESL, grew 300 percent this year. The program, introduced second semester 1995, teaches approximately 30 foreign students how to speak and write English.

Michelle Golden, former foreign language teacher, teaches students from Mexico, El Salvador, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines with the aid of two para-professionals. And more countries may be represented next year.

"It looks like we'll take room 245 and turn it into a large ESL room next year," said Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High principal. "There are about 70-75 students who should be attending Central that are now at South or Benson."

According to Dr. Thompson, Central does not have the space to hold all the students in the Central neighborhood who need the ESL program. The move to room 245 will provide the necessary space, but will only be made if the budget allows. In addition, another teacher and two para-professionals would need to be hired.

"We're fulfilling a real community need," Golden said. "If we don't do it, nobody will.

Not only are these kids learning a new language and a new school, but also a new culture. Even the way we ask questions is different."

All students involved with the program say they want to learn English to have better educations and careers.

"You have to pay," freshman Felipe Garcia said. He was referring to Mexico, where some states require payment to attend school.

He hopes to become fluent in English and eventually be a veterinarian.

"I want to have a better life," Felipe said.

"Some kids from the same country have different levels of schooling. One may have no schooling at all. Every kid has an individual plan," Golden said. "We try to get kids who are basically at the same level together for classes."

Gloria says she wants to be a teacher because she likes children, "especially small kids." She says she likes the class because the students all get along really well.

Besides classes, many ESL students are involved in school activities. Jennifer Castro, Giancarlo Cordova and Dzaio Vu were selected as students-of-the-month, more from one class than any other room.

They are also involved with the Feb. 29 Cultural Fair. According to Thompson, Gloria is an excellent dancer and will be performing at the Cultural Fair.

"I really think they are a terrific addition," Dr. Thompson said. "ESL is a real benefit. The variety is fantastic."

Golden said she has the best job in the school.

"I've been to baptisms, house blessings, marriages..." Golden said. "It's neat to be included in their lives."

Weed and Seed Program provides 'resource officers' Police go back to high school

Rebecca Hammond

Police officers Calvin Jones and David Newell are walking a new

They are not walking crime-ridden streets, but rather the halls of Omaha Public High Schools. Jones is the full-time resource officer at North High School and Newell is the full-time resource officer at South High School.

The resource officer program assigns a full-time police officer to inner-city schools, says Lisa Foster,

assistant principal at North. Funding for the program is provided by the Weed and Seed Program. Weed and Seed is run by the U.S. Attorney General's office, said Gail Braun, grant writer for the City of Omaha.

"Weed and Seed is a strategy," Braun said. "It weeds out crime and its influences and seeds community revitalization."

Braun said the main goal of the Weed and Seed program is to provide resources to students, parents and teachers in inner city areas. Omaha has been receiving Weed and Seed grant money since 1991.

"All schools can use whatever resources they can get when working with youth," Foster said. "I feel really positive about the program."

Educating young people about the law and the role of the police is the primary focus of the program, says Foster. Prevention and enforcement follow that.

"It's my job to break down the walls between youth and police," said Newell, resource officer at

South High.

Katheryn Pillar, assistant principal at South, said the response to the officer from students and teach-

guys."

On a typical day, Newell said his duties include counseling, intervention and getting involved with

whatever we're doing that day," Jennifer said.

Jennifer said she would feel comfortable going to the officer if she had a problem her mother or a counselor could not help her with. Newell said his counseling efforts are both one on one and in groups. He said he does intervention counseling, too.

For several years police officers have been getting involved on the elementary school level.

"The resource officer program picks up where D.A.R.E and the Junior High program G.R.E.A.T. leave off,"

Braun said.

Westside, Council Bluffs and Lincoln public schools have similar programs in place. Newell and Jones have been in the schools since mid December.

ers has been very positive.

"I don't mind having an officer at South," Jennifer Buller, sophomore, said. "He's just here to help us understand the role of police and show us that the police are not bad

the students. He said he tries to focus his efforts on building relationships.

"Every Friday in gym class, we have a free day and Officer Newell will come in and play basketball or



Lei Brown

Officer Jones spends time talking with students James Mason, Chevist Johnson and Antoineya Richards at North High School.

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Parking problem possibly solved with lot near 20 St.

Quite possibly the only disadvantage in attending Central High School is the parking problem. Certainly, to most Central students, parking every morning equals hassle, long walks and most of all, spending money.

There are only 78 parking spaces provided by the school and those are only offered to seniors. One hundred and seven lucky students are allowed to spend \$100 dollars a year to park every morning in the Omaha Education Association lot.

Police officers make the streets surrounding Central a regular stop to dish out ten dollar parking tickets to students who are brave enough to leave their cars too close to stop signs or no-parking zones. Let us not forget the even more courageous ones who run out to the street during lunch to feed the ever-hungry parking meter.

Parking on the street is scarce and those who do usually arrive more than an hour before school starts. In fact some students arrive at 6:45 just to find a space. It is not hard to be convinced that Central has a major need for more parking. Fortunately, a solution is in sight. Directly across the street on the east or "one" side of the building is a parking lot for sale.

If purchased for Central, this lot could provide approximately 150 more parking spaces for students. Negotiations for the sale of this lot are in progress. If the plans and the cost are approved by Dr. Schuerman, superintendent of Omaha Public Schools, the school board must then approve the purchase of this lot for Central. Assistant superintendent Dr. John Smith said that the parking problem at Central has been recognized, and the lot for sale has been sighted as a possible solution. The staff of *The Register* would like to encourage strongly the purchase of this lot.

If this lot is purchased, the staff is confident that students would not violate surrounding property or pedestrian traffic laws. Possibly, the purchase would allow Central to host its own basketball games and other events. Though it may be costly, it would eliminate one more obstacle that students face to get to school on time, safely and efficiently which would be worth the dollars spent.

Johnson did not have right to decide fate of teen shoplifter

Society's standards have indeed changed. Some individuals even think that the life of a 15 year-old boy is only worth a few packs of beer. Recently, David Johnson, Kwik Shop clerk, shot and killed Joseph Knudsen and injured 23 year-old Hosie Ealy. When Johnson shot them, the two were fleeing from the store after stealing four 12-packs of beer.

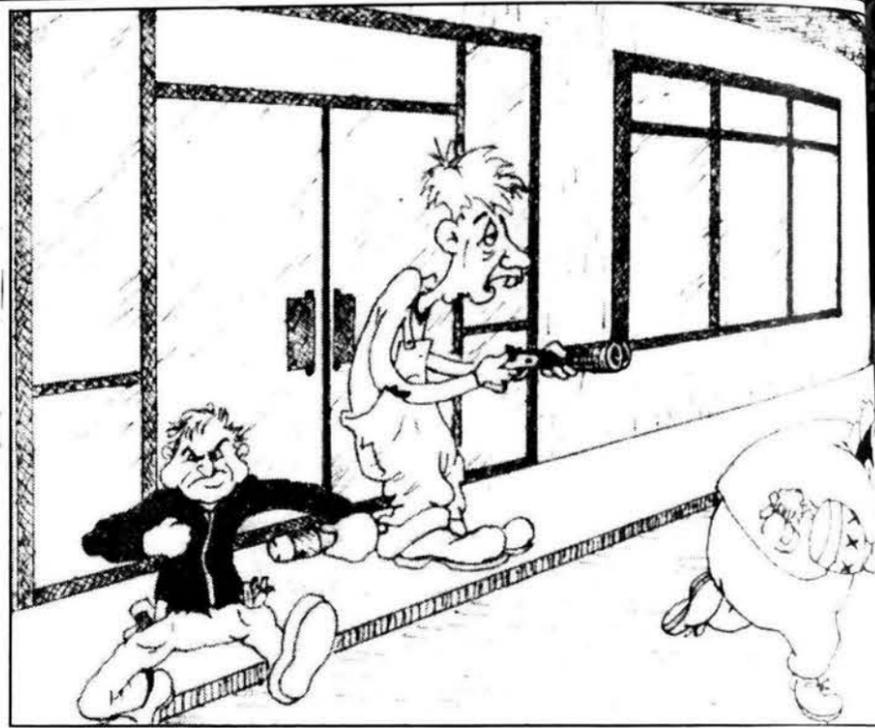
The clerk claimed that he was attempting to make a citizen's arrest. According to Professor Richard Shugrue, professor of law at Creighton University, a citizen's arrest is the apprehension of a person suspected of a crime by an individual who is not a law enforcement officer. In such an arrest, the individual might detain the suspect until police arrived.

Johnson's actions were clearly beyond the perimeter of a responsible citizen's actions. Police aren't allowed to arbitrarily shoot people, and ordinary citizens certainly have no right.

It is understandable that Johnson would have wanted to apprehend the two thieves. However, through his actions he implied that the value of store property is more important than the value of human life. A price tag could never be put on the life of a young person.

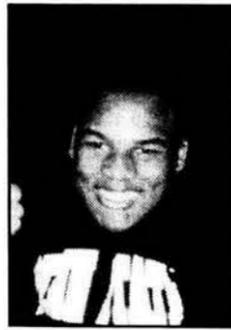
Previously, Johnson was attacked by robbers at a different convenient store. While this is unfortunate, such robberies and attacks are not unheard of when a clerk is working the "graveyard shift." Past experiences in no way justify Johnson's inexcusable behavior. In Johnson's up-coming trial, he claims that he is not guilty of murdering Knudsen but that he acted in self-defense out of fear for his personal safety. The chances of Johnson's safety being in jeopardy are slim, considering the fact that the thieves were running away when the clerk shot them.

Hopefully, the results of the trial will reinforce the sanctity of human life and confirm the inevitable consequences that a person must face if he robs another of that essential liberty: the right to live.



Register Your Opinions

Do you think taking the ASVAB is a waste of time?



"Yes, I think if you want to take it, it should be willfully. People should choose to come, like on a Saturday."
- **Early Bryant, senior**



"No, it is a good measure of your attitude in different areas which could help you in your college search."
- **Karen Kazor, junior**



"Yes, because I'm not going into the military. It takes time out of my regular school day."
- **Maria Theophilopoulos, junior**



"I think it is. I am not interested in going into the military, it is just not the way for me. I think only those interested should take the test."
- **Chiquita Vinson, junior**



"The ASVAB provides tools to better self-assess. The test will assess each individual so that they can decide how to best use their skills. It is not just for military careers, it is all encompassing."
- **Mrs. Molyneaux, career counselor**



"It is not a waste because the outcome can be used as an interest survey. Scores on the outcome tell you your aptitudes in different areas and that has to do with the military."
- **Major Yost, ROTC instructor**

"Register Your Opinions" is a sampling of student opinion. It does not represent the entire student body or the staff of *The Register*.

January 31, 1996

"...Long Ago and Far Away..." by T.S. Burdick

tic.

Maybe it is my own teenage blindness, but I can not see the day in which I will writhe with paranoia, cynicism and the like. I say despite popular opinion (and my own bashing of society on a regular basis), life is not wholly bad and neither are we.

Psychologists will tell you that not only are you inheriting neurosis from your Woody Allen-watching, valium-popping parents, but that from day one you are bombarded with mistakes, fears, pain and regret until you learn to give up. Except they call it behavior modification.

Example. A baby elephant born in a circus is tied down with a huge chain. The elephant can only walk so far before the chain restricts the elephant. The elephant believes it will never be able to get past a certain point. Later in life, that same elephant is tied with a simple rope, but does not even attempt to break free.

Silly as it may sound, humans do this as well. Public speaking is known to be an adult's number one fear. At one point in time we have all said something that we either regretted, or felt was stupid or inadequate. Sooner or later people no longer are afraid of feeling stupid and that just adds to the eventual neurosis.

It is a reoccurring theme throughout our lives. Boy meets girl. Boy and girl 'fall in love.' Boy and/or girl have their hearts broken. Boy and girl fear giving their hearts to people. They lose trust in love and human kind. They become all the more neurotic.

But I find this whole way of thinking to be utterly ridiculous. I say that psychologists are fools. There is no order or logic to human

emotions and reactions. A computer can be programmed, but people have to choose to conform.

Shakespeare once wrote that ignorance was true bliss. And some believe that too.

Once you start living life and finding out what the world is really like then you are no longer happy.

I can't see how a person can lead their life that way. Even though Shakespeare may have written that, he also wrote ballads about love and the way people made him feel. Along with the tragedies came laughter and comedies.

It wasn't just pain, fear or regret. He wrote about life, and all of its experiences.

It's all one lump sum. Love it or leave it. Don't forget he also wrote nothing is either good or bad except thinking makes it so.

Our world, our reality is defined by our perception of it. Think about pain and hate and death and abuse and that is what you will see. That will be the life you lead.

But what continues to bother me is seeing so many of the people I care about give up.

Why create a world, a reality in which there is nothing pure and joyous? If that is your attitude then why even continue? What is your reason for facing every day?

But not of all the cynics do go on. It is truly a sad thing to see a 13-year-old kid swallowing bottles of aspirin. Suicide is nothing more than a permanent escape from a temporary problem. Pain doesn't last forever, and life is not just pain.

I guess that every pain I've endured will be worth it if my words or actions could reach out and touch people long after I'm gone, like those countless nameless stars fallen so long ago and far away...



Cove, life, and the usual...

"...Bright are the stars that shine. Dark is the sky..."
— Paul McCartney

Some see the night as a calm dim of peace, beauty and freedom. Others see it as some dark shroud hiding with infinite dangers. Cynicism versus romanticism, it is the tale of the ages.

Is it better to live in dreams and face possible disappointment or to live in doubt? I would say that anyone who wants to feel any joy or happiness in life needs to be willing to face a little pain or disappointment.

It's a part of who we are. It's a part of life. To be a cynic is to die, miss out on all that life is. After all, if there were no pits and valleys in life, what would we have to measure the peaks and zeniths in life against?

Now, psychologists say there are certain stages in life that we all go through. That with each day we not only gain a little knowledge and wisdom, but maturity and neurosis. Neurosis and cynicism are not optional, they are inevitable. But I know and forever will be the eternal, hopeless (and quite helpless) roman-

Letters to the editor

Send all letters of opinion to room 315 or look for the box on the two side in the courtyard. It is the policy of *The Register* not to print unsigned letters. *The Register* reserves the right to edit letters based on length or appropriateness.

'Name Recognition'

Dear editor,

All of my life, one of the things I was sure about was my name. When I applied for my permit from the State of Nebraska, however, they turned me down because the identification I presented, my birth certificate, wasn't "good enough." Apparently they questioned whether I was truly who I claimed. Although this seemed stupid to me at the time, the State of Nebraska, represented by our cherished scholastic system, proceeded to give me a new identity. Although I've been known as David all my life, during the student council elections my name was changed to "Davis."

Student council elections are trivial events. All class elections that exclude campaigning are based on name recognition, nothing more. The person with a recognizable name has a much better chance than the person unknown to the populace. I guess then it becomes obvious that I should lose. Who ever heard of Davis Rennard?

At first this seemed like such a small incident. A simple type-o misspelled my name. When I shared the fact that my name was misspelled with a few other classmates, I found that there were actually some people who didn't vote for me because they didn't recognize my name. I eventually got around to talking to the student council sponsor, who assured me I came quite close to winning and should run again next year. This was probably meant to comfort me, but what it really meant was that I had actually lost because my name was misspelled.

At a school, teachers, administrators and every other part of the staff becomes an example to the student body. They set examples for us to follow. Eye gues than thet wee shood tri to mispel anythin wee caan, becoss thet is wat wee ar taut.

Sinnerrilie,
Davis Rennard

'Ashamed to be a Central Eagle'

Dear editor,

In all of the four years I have attended Central High School, I have felt nothing but pride and love for my school. Until now. Never have I felt as ashamed to be a Central Eagle as I did the night of January 12 at the Varsity Boys' basketball game against Millard West. The uncalled for rudeness of Central's crowd was completely unjustifiable. Those who participated in the criticisms, whether they led the cheers or simply followed along, were an embarrassment to the school and a disgrace to its reputation.

Certainly, some rowdiness occurs at every game and it's usually at least acceptable, but at extremes to which it went Friday night, it was intolerable. Because I have no influence over those students, I realize that this letter may actually encourage rudeness, yet I hope that some who were in the crowd and have the least bit of pride in their school will do something to stop it in the future. The majority of the students who led the criticisms against Millard West are the representatives of our student body whether in athletics, academics or co-curricular activities. However, on the night of that game everyone of them was doing a poor, poor job of representing us. I am pleased to see so much school spirit, but I'd rather the crowd use all energy to cheer for Central's team, instead of against the opponent's. In closing, I wish to offer apologies to the Central basketball team for putting up with humiliating behavior.

Sincerely,
Tanya Watzke, senior

'Talent on our Team'

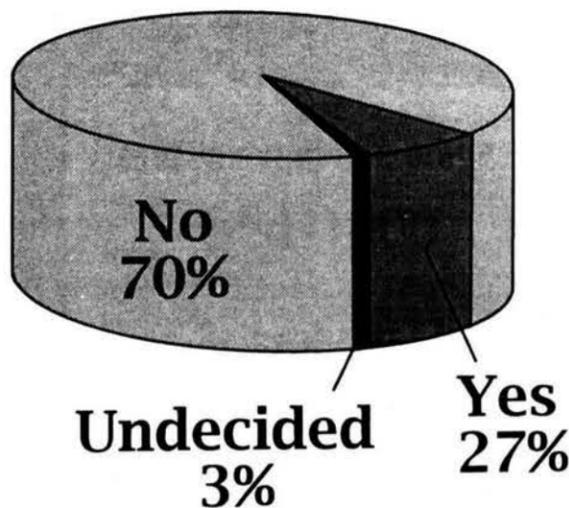
Dear editor,

We got our school newspapers today and we were pretty upset to see that we weren't in the school's paper. Our record is 4 and 0 and we have earned a spot in the Holiday Tournament. We have won one overtime game and one double overtime game. The first overtime came against South High on Monday December 18, 1995. We won 65-62. The double overtime came against Lewis and Clark on December 19, 1995, and we won 66-63. Our other two victories came against Northwest and Millard South. Against Millard South we came back from 20 points down to win 68-57. We have a lot of talent on our team and it would be nice if you could help get the word out.

Thank you,
Jacky Smith and the Boy's freshmen basketball team

Central Standards

Do you think that there is too much Husker hype?



108 students polled

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Career Center students explore new worlds in the realm of Virtual Reality

News in Brief

Central women dare to be themselves

On Jan. 11, 1996, numerous Central female students attended the first Young Women's Leadership Conference at the College of Saint Mary. The conference, sporting the theme "Dare to Be You," featured various motivational speakers and workshops.

Students went to three different workshops throughout the day, with topics ranging from "The ABC's of Self-Defense" to "Understanding and Managing Finances." Other featured large group speakers were Sister Marie Micheletto, a psychotherapist who spoke of balancing the pressures in life, and Cindy L. Jurgens, who spoke of finding balance in an unbalanced world.

Central administrator Bernice Nared and seniors Stacey Cody and Rachel Jacobsen participated in advisory committees for the conference.

Martha Nelson, senior, attended the conference and said, "I enjoyed the workshops and I could tell a lot of work was put into it. I'd recommend it to next year's senior girls."

Career Fair brings businesses to Central

On Thursday, Jan. 25, 1996, Central sponsored a Career Fair in the courtyard. Area businesses such as Henry Doorly Zoo, The Omaha World Herald and Baker's Supermarket participated in the all-morning event. Students were allowed to visit during study halls and lunch hours to discuss possible job opportunities.

Central student filmed in Cox commercial

Junior Ben Johnson was featured in a Game Over commercial. Ben is an employee of the video game store, located at 132 and Center St.

"It was not what I thought it would be," Ben said. "It was not dramatic. I went in and sat on a couch."

Ben was selected for the commercial because he is an employee.

He said he doesn't know if he will act in future commercials for Game Over.

Pom Squad hosts first Kiddie Dance Camp

Pom Squad held a Kiddie Dance Camp Jan. 25-27 as a fundraiser for next year's squad. Senior Pom Squad members taught 42 young girls a dance and provided spirit poms and tee shirts. The parents received one free ticket to the Jan. 27 basketball game at which the campers and the Pom Squad will both perform for the half-time show.

Stacey Cody

Central students attending the Career Center on Dec. 13, 1995, got a taste of something a little different than the normal curriculum. Jeff Conig, information manager at the Career Center, ran a program which allowed students to engage in two to five minutes of Virtual Reality.

"We took the lead in exposing our students to new technology," Conig said. "We want to enhance their understanding of how advanced Virtual Reality has become."

Most students from Central who attend the Career Center participated in the U.S. West-sponsored workshop, with parental permission.

"It was a great experience," Matt Hayduska, senior, said. "But they made it out to be a little more strange than it actually was."

A speech was given by Conig in a designated room. Virtual Reality's current and further advancements were discussed.

Next, the students were given a few instructions on how to use the helmet and other accessories which would then send them into the virtual world.

"The helmet was really heavy, it weighed most seven pounds," Matt said. "It was adjustable to your head. We also used a joystick to help move ourselves around once inside the game."

The game, entitled Castle World, involved walking around a one story castle with a moat and a drawbridge. There were four rooms and the hallway students were able to walk around and explore.

Because the program is school-oriented, no fighting was allowed among players. Swords and spears which aligned the walls were allowed to be picked up and held, but not used.

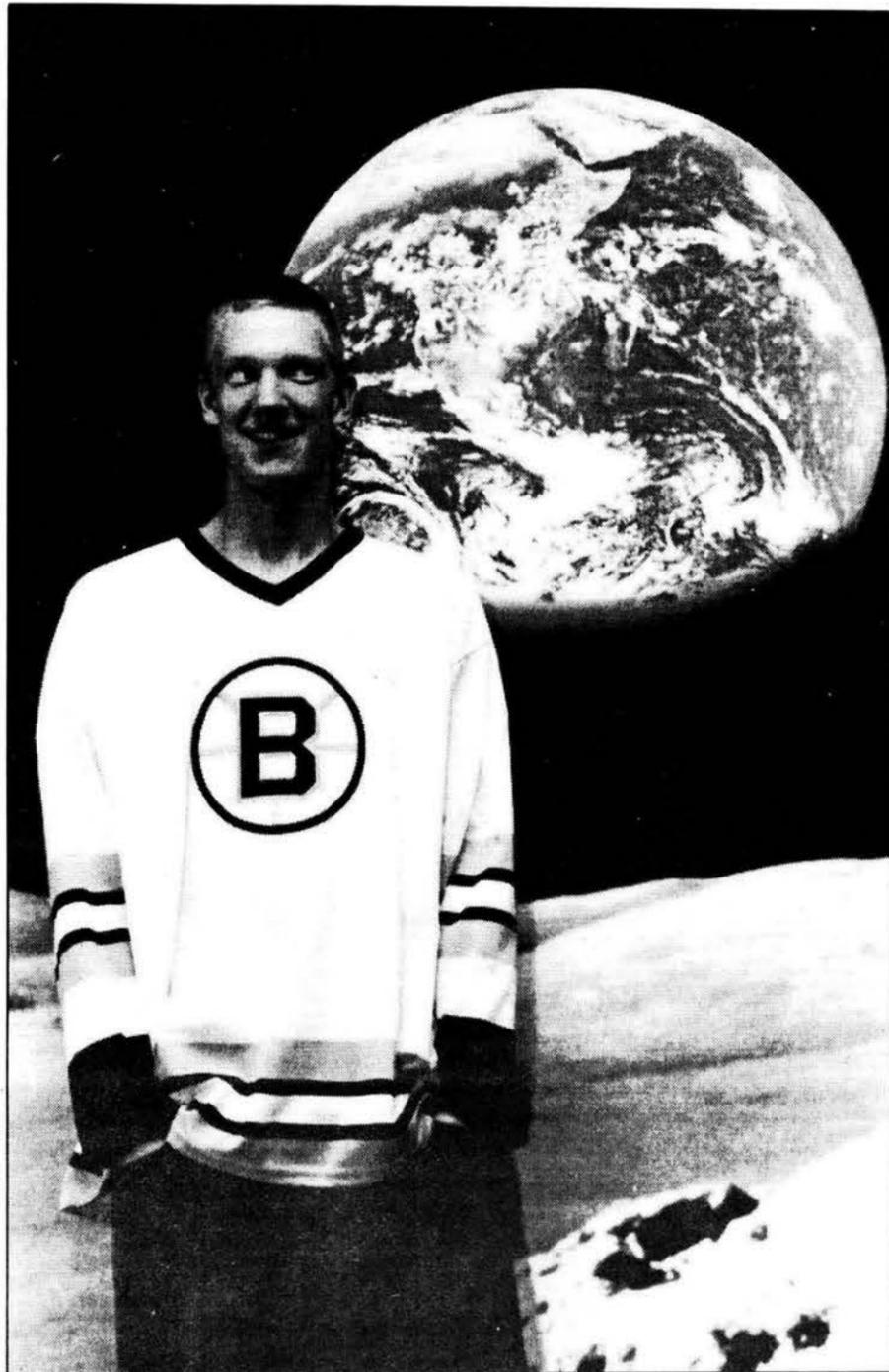
"All we really did was walk around," Matt said. "But there was a room we could enter and play chess."

Castle World was the only program available due to a slight drawback during the afternoon involving a malfunctioning in the games.

"The permission slip had a warning on it that said some students could get sick from the intensity of the programs," Jeremy Evans, senior, said. "It would have been better if we'd had more choices to choose from."

Virtual Reality, which will be visiting all area high schools this year, will next be at Lewis and Clark Junior High School. Matt Hayduska encourages students to take the opportunity.

"It's free, and it's a chance to do something new and different."



Jill Halgren

Virtual space: Matt Hayduska ponders his perception of reality after experiencing Virtual Reality at the Career Center. Participants played the Virtual Reality game Castle World. Students were only allowed to participate with their parents permission because the virtual environment can make some people sick to their stomachs. Virtual Reality will be visiting all area high schools sometime this year.

Hair, Homework, and Other Traumas debuts at the Rose



Loi Brown

Central students had the opportunity to create and perform the musical, *Hair, Homework, and Other Traumas* the 25-28 of January at the Rose Theater. This play was the first teen production since the recent reconstruction of the theater.

Clubs Column

By Mark Eyman

African-American History Club

The African-American History Club works with the community to promote issues concerning African-Americans. February is Black History month across the nation. The club will be doing intercom quizzes to help make people aware of great things that African-Americans have done. Last year, the club cleaned up the birth site of Malcolm X, a well known African-American leader who was born in Omaha. The club currently has 25 members, and is accepting anyone who wishes to become a new member for second semester.

Academic Decathlon

The Central High Academic Decathlon team participated in a competition Saturday, Jan. 20. The competition involved categories such as Fine Arts, Language and Literature, Science, Social Science, Math and Economics. This year the Super Quiz consisted of questions dealing with anything about the United Nations. There are a total of 12 team members, nine of which actually participate and three who are alternates. The team placed second in regional and will participate in the state competition Feb. 16-17 at UNO.

A Capella

A Capella, Central's selective choral group, will be competing at the All City music competition on the first weekend in February. The 79 members will be singing in the Native American Cantata on Sat., Feb. 11. The Cantata is called "Cry for a Dream." Dana College, Clarion Chamber Chorale, and Omaha Public School's Minisingers will be singing at this event along with A Capella. The performance is at St. Cecilia's Cathedral at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets must be obtained from Lyn Bouma, music sponsor. Auditions for next year's A Capella are being held throughout the month of January. Auditions for Bel Canto and CHS Singers will be Feb. 1. Please see Mrs. Bouma for audition times.

MESA

The Math Engineering and Science Achievement club, MESA, had a guest speaker from the University of Nebraska at Omaha on Jan. 17 and will be talking to minority students interested in pursue math or science after high school. MESA is a club for minority students who plan on going into technical fields. MESA is sponsored by universities in the metropolitan area.

Central student car pro never visits mechanic

By Stacey Cody

At seven years old, most kids are watching Nickelodeon or playing with Barbie dolls.

But Lindsay Conn, senior, was getting her first taste of radiator fluid and her first smell of monkey grease.

"I changed the brakes on my dad's car," Lindsay said. "It was a lot of fun."

Since then Lindsay has pursued her hobby religiously. She has worked with her own car, a 1975 Volkswagen Bug, as well as a Mercedes, a jeep and a 1967 Mustang.

Besides the normal pumping of gas or occasional oil change, Lindsay has converted from fuel injection to carburation, worked on the carburator, done wheel injections, brake work and a lot of body work.

Lindsay's father, Tim Conn, is her mentor and teacher.

"He wants me to be able to fend for myself if I ever need to," Lindsay said.

Lindsay's passion is not unnoticed by her friends. Jennie Waldmann, senior and close friend, has often been in a situation where Lindsay's mechanical abilities become apparent, and been a great aid top a troublesome situation.

"We'll just be driving along, and all of a sudden she'll start talking about parts of her car I had no

idea existed," Jennie said. "Then we'll stop somewhere and she'll pull out her toolbox and start working on her engine."

While some might find Lindsay's knowledge unusual, she says she does not feel mechanical abilities are reserved to men.

"Females in general don't work on cars, but it doesn't mean they can't," Lindsay said. "I will admit there are some things I simply don't have the upper

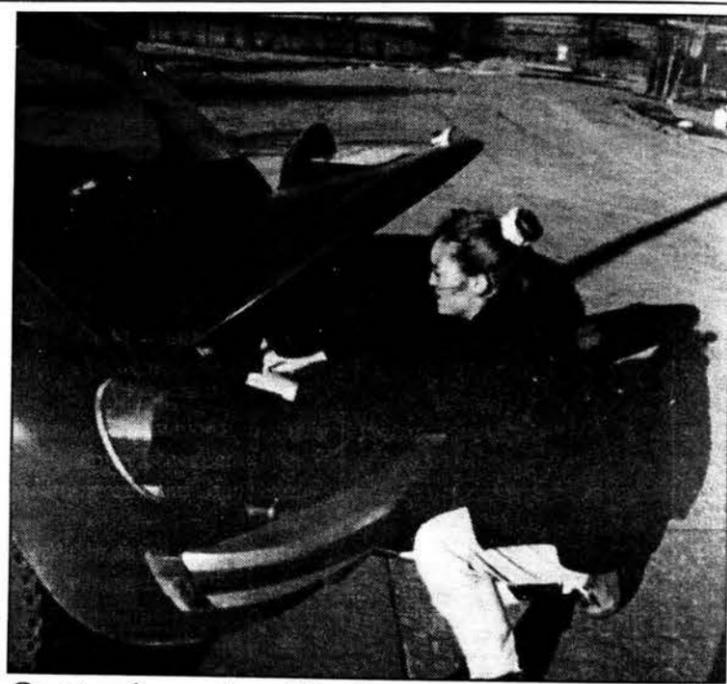
body strength to do alone, but at least I know what I'm doing." Although admitting auto work is tough when it's cold, Lindsay said she enjoys it very much.

She's never had to go to a mechanic before, but has been patronized several times by car part store clerks.

"I figure that if I'm all greasy

and in a car part store buying car parts, they should realize that I have

automotives. One day after school



Central senior Lindsay Conn demonstrates the art of auto mechanics on her Volkswagen bug.

some knowledge of what I'm doing," Lindsay said.

Lindsay's knowledge has come in handy many times.

Most students, when faced with car trouble, would either panic, call their parents or a mechanic.

Lindsay has never had to deal with these dilemmas because of her vast experience and skill with

guys who started laughing

Lindsay said. "I think the

amazed I was able to do it

Lindsay admits the patronization gets tiring while.

"It's disappointing," Lindsay said. "But the satisfaction when I'm able to fix my car own is worth it."

■ New staff member Central dream job for P.E. teacher

By Rebecca Hammond

Physical fitness has always been important to Cheryl Tieger, Central's newest gym teacher.

"I love physical activity," Tieger said. "I became a gym teacher because I think that whatever career you chose, you should enjoy it."

While attending the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Diane Pfeiffer, former Central physical education teacher, spoke to one of Tieger's classes.

According to Tieger, Pfeiffer made the Central aerobics program sound ideal.

"I remember saying wow, that is a dream job," Tieger said.

Shortly after applying with Omaha Public Schools, Tieger was informed that Pfeiffer's position was available.

She took the job and is currently teaching aerobics and individual sports. She also coaches junior varsity softball and girls track.

"I like coaching because I get to know my students on a different level than when I just have them in class," Tieger said.

Tieger said the best part about teaching at Central is the students.

"As a first-year teacher, my students are my teachers," Tieger said. "Because there are so many different kinds of people here, I get to learn a lot more than some first-year teachers at other schools."

Tieger's personal life is as fitness oriented as her professional life.

Her hobbies include running, hiking, swimming and football.

Recently, while in Arizona, she hiked several mountains.

She also enjoys traveling, reading inspirational books and getting to know other new teachers.

"It is my biggest goal to run in a marathon one day," Tieger said. "I'm not in training yet, but one day I'll do it."

Tieger said she wants to continue teaching at Central well into the future. She plans to get her masters degree in physical education or counseling.

Tieger also plans to get married this summer and wants to have children.

Tieger graduated from Millard South High School.

She went to UNO and got her bachelors degree in physical education.



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Dancer dedicates hours to perfecting form

Stacey Cody
 Pirouettes, grande jeté, and attitude turns are not words that most dancers use during an average day. For Chesley Thomas, senior, this kind of vocabulary is necessary for success in her chosen future profession. To Chesley, dance is a way of

"It's incredibly personal to me," Chesley said. "It's helped me grow."

Chesley has been accepted to the dance department of Florida State University, a highly competitive program. She is also looking at other universities' performing programs.

According to Chesley, even as a child she has always loved to dance.

"When I was younger, I would watch T.V. and choreograph my own dances in the living room," Chesley

With the help of MTV as a learning tool, Chesley's mother noted her interest and asked to sign her up for lessons.

"It was a decision I made on my own," Chesley said. "My mother simply asked me if I wanted to take dance lessons, and I said

Chesley began studying dance at age 10 with the Mary Waugh-Taylor dance studio.

She admits to being nervous on her first day, but there was also a sense of excitement.

"The first time I danced, I knew it was all I wanted to

do," Chesley said. "From there on, I danced constantly. I wasn't quite sure how I would pursue it, but I knew I would."

Although admitting it's tiring at times, Chesley said she has worked hard toward her dream.

She attends an average school day, and then goes to the studio from 4 to 8:30 p.m. every night, where she studies and teaches lower-level classes.

"It's definitely worth it," Chesley said. "I get tired, but I can't see my life

without it. Plus, teaching is great. I really like my students, and it in-

spires me when I look at the excitement on their faces. I was given the

that back to someone else."

Chesley also believes that dance is for everyone, no matter what age.

"It's an expression of people's feelings, of who they are," Chesley said.

"People shouldn't let their age prohibit them from dancing if they want to."

Chesley's dance instruction does not stop with Taylor's studio.

She has traveled to different conservatories in the U.S., studying for weeks at a time in the summer.

She has taken classes at the David Howard Studio in New York and at Ballet Omaha.

In the summer of 1993, she went to the Ballet West Conservatory in Salt Lake City for

six weeks and studied for three weeks over the summer of 1995 at the Lou Conte Studio in Chicago.

"The summer in Chicago was the best," Chesley said. "I danced and took classes with the Hubbard Street Company. My style is more contemporary ballet, and that's what they focused on."

Chesley said she enjoyed her summers away from home because of the independence and challenge she feels when faced with other dancers. While coping with the difficulty of being alone, she also had to focus on dealing with new teachers and learning a new dance style.

"There's definitely a lot of competition, but it's good," Chesley said. "They're all wonderful dancers, and they push me to do my best. I'm able to focus more intently on why I'm there."

Chesley plans on attending school, and taking her career from there.

"I would love to dance in a company or teach at a university," Chesley said.

She also discusses the possibility of having her own company, and moving away to Chicago, San Francisco or North Carolina. "They all have excellent schools," Chesley said.

According to Chesley, dance means a great deal to her life.

"Dance, for me, is an expression of who I am. It brings me such internal joy. I feel very fortunate to be involved in such a beautiful art."

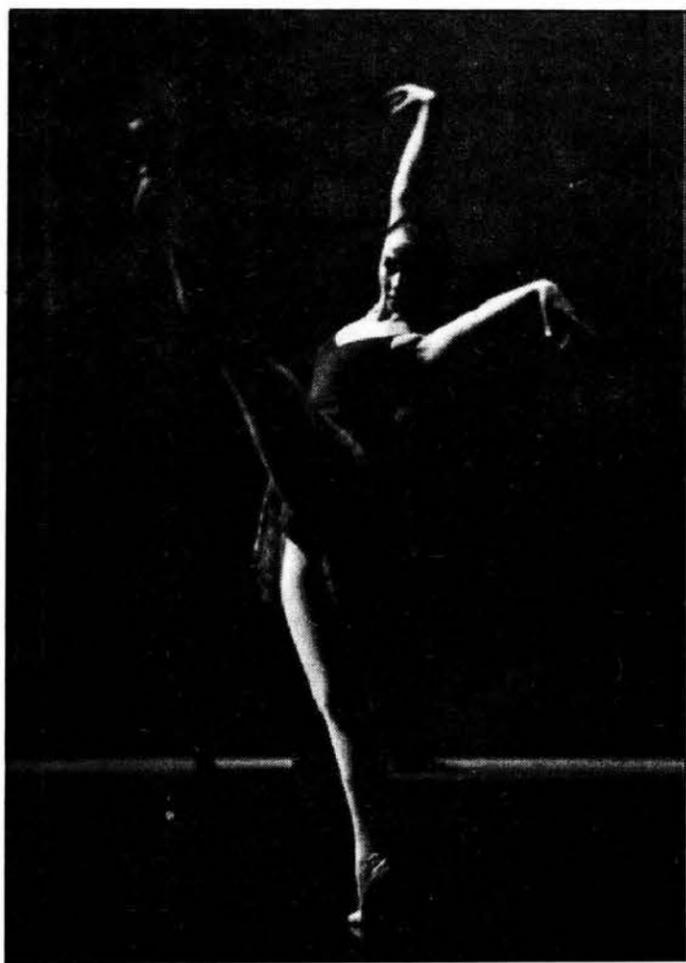


photo courtesy of Chesley Thomas

Chesley Thomas dances in a production during the annual Nebraska Dance Festival.

most wonderful gift by my instructor, and it pushes me to try to give

Conservatory in Salt Lake City for

Beyond the realms of school Teachers take second jobs to make ends meet

By Lea Platz

Some of Central's teachers have chosen to take on a second or even a third job in addition to teaching high school. The reasons for additional occupations range from needing something to do in the summer to wanting store discounts.

Some of the teacher's second jobs lie in similar fields. Tammy Wade, foreign language teacher, has worked at Structure for nine months.

"Here I get to work with some of the people that I teach, which transfers into gained people skills," Wade said.

Karen Laughlin, business teacher, also works at a clothing store.

"I have worked at Eddie Bauer since it opened up about three years ago," Laughlin said.

Some jobs do not relate to teaching. Sonja Johnson has worked at Crossroads Hair Salon for eight years.

"I talk to lots of students and their parents. I find that relaxing," Elizabeth Monaghan, junior, has seen her Spanish teacher Sonja Johnson at Crossroads.

"Seeing teachers outside of

school shows you that they are real people," she said.

Laughlin also holds a third job bartending at 18th Amendment where she has worked for six years.

Jim Harrington, David Martin and Robert Wolff teach courses at colleges. Martin holds three teach-

Community College since 1983.

"I like it because I only teach two nights a week and it is good money," Harrington said.

Previously a customer of Laser One, Harrington has had a job there for two years. At this laser disc store he works under the supervision of 1988 Central graduate and former student Kyle Anderson.

Wolff, physics teacher, has taught at Iowa Western Community College for five years.

"It gives me a chance to change focus," Wolff said. "The ages are also broader than in high school, generally between 18 and 50. I need more money with kids in college."

Lyn Bouma's other source of income also has to do with teaching. She offers private voice lessons

for the A capella students. "Working with them as individuals contributes to the group in school," Bouma said. "It also keeps me singing."

"The way students and teachers act towards each other outside of school is different. You are on common ground," Sumner Israel, senior, said.



Sonja Johnson shows off her cutting edge styling technique.

ing positions in Omaha. He teaches every semester at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and one class at Metropolitan Community College. In addition he runs Fine Lines, a literary magazine.

"These other activities do not interfere with my work here at Central," Martin said.

Harrington has taught at Metro



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Digging Deep Into

Central legacies span generations

By Angela Parks

Central tradition draws people back. Several current students have followed in their parent's footsteps by attending Central. Also, some current teachers returned to Central to teach where they once were students.

Central's tradition of being a school of academics was started when the first class graduated in 1876. The first graduating class consisted of nine girls and two boys. Central became a high school officially in 1891 because of overcrowding. Before becoming a high school it contained all grade levels. In 1915, Principal J. G. Masters changed the name of Omaha High School to Central because Central was no longer the only high school in Omaha. Principal Masters also formulated the concept of the National Honors Society.

Junior Karen Kazor's brothers graduated from Burke and so when Karen's mother, Renee Kazor, found out that Karen wanted to go to Central she said, "I was glad and excited." The reason for Karen's mothers excitement was that she had attended and graduated from Central. According to Kazor, she chose Central because her sister had gone to Central and that it was known as being a college prep school.

"Central was one of the best schools," Kazor said.

Junior Andrea Friedman is also keeping the family tradition of attending Central. Andrea's father and grandmother attended and graduated from Central.

Sandy Friedman, Andrea's father, spent most of his time in Dr. Moller's office, who then was vice principal, because of his excessive talking. Friedman said that Sharon Cipperley could attest to him being a perfect student. Cipperley graduated from the same time as Friedman who graduated Molline Rubin Cassman, Andrea's grandmother, graduated from Central in 1948

under Principal Arthur Nelson. One thing she remembers is that emphasis was placed on scholastics. "Central had, and has, a good reputation," Cassman said.

Beverly Fellman, foreign language teacher, was also drawn back to Central. Mrs. Fellman graduated from Central in 1959 under her maiden name of Bloom. Not only did Fellman graduate from Central but her mother, three brothers, husband and son also did.

Fellman was a cheerleader, columnist on the "Register" and in A capella while at Central. Also Fellman was a National Merit Semi-finalist. Fellman returned to Central to teach after she graduated from college.

Another graduate of Central is Peggy Wheeler, English teacher. Wheeler graduated in 1984 under Dr. Moller and came to work under him in 1989. She said that it was very welcoming to be working with Dr. Moller.

While at Central, Wheeler was active on the "Dimension" publication of creative writing, which she now teaches, and in all the plays.

Memories

Central graduates remember teachers, the building and dances.

One legendary teacher according to Friedman and Kazor was the librarian. Friedman said her name was Blanchard and she would give everybody "grief."

"She was from the old, old school," Friedman said. He also said there was a teacher by the name of Davis and who very strict.

Central graduates remember having assigned stair cases for girls and boys. According to Friedman, they also had separate counselors. "The counseling center was not nearly as sophisticated as today," Friedman said.

Another aspect remembered is the

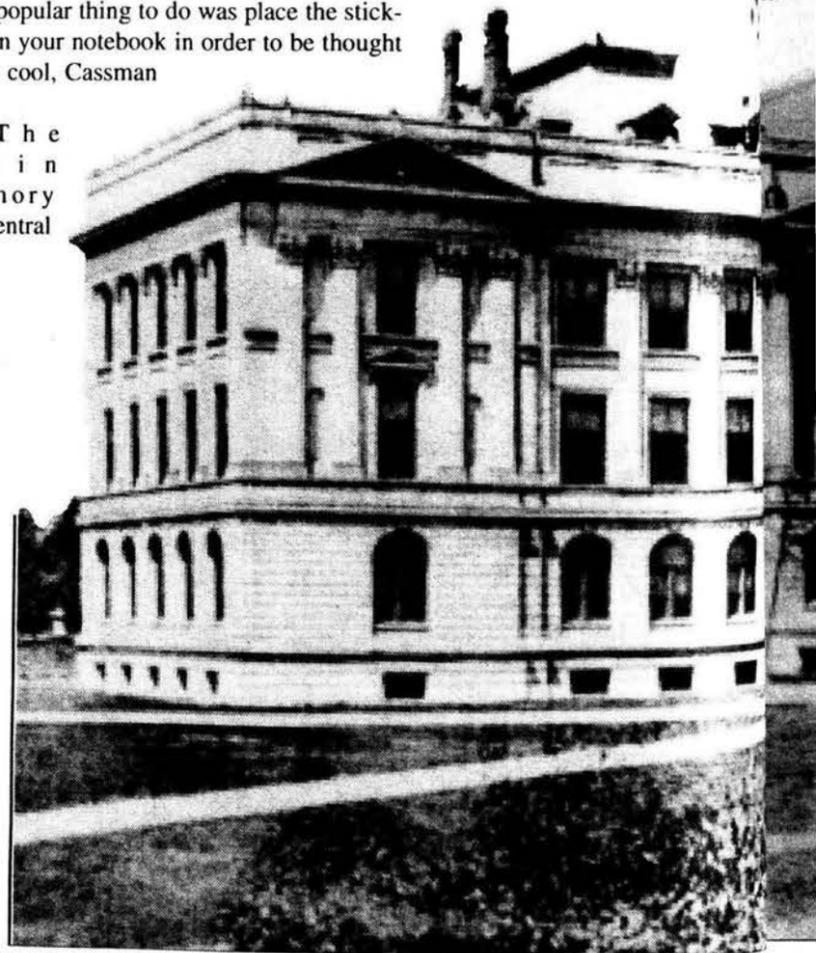
courtyard. Kazor said she can remember having to walk around the courtyard in bad weather because it was not covered.

Bathrooms are what Fellman remembers about the building, because her office used to be a bathroom. The bathrooms used to be on the stair landings were you see office doors now. Fellman says you can read a lot on the walls in her office.

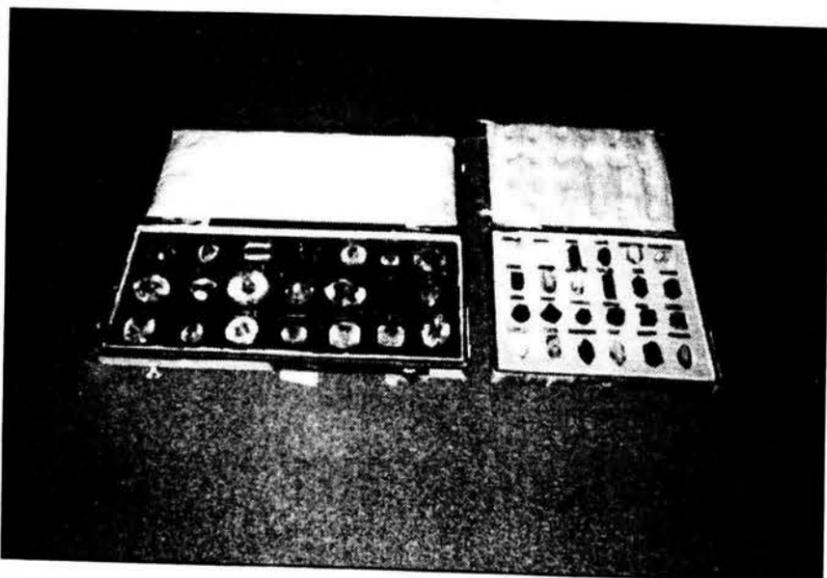
Dances were very popular according to Cassman. She said there were a lot of dances and when you bought a ticket, it was a sticker. The popular thing to do was place the stickers on your notebook in order to be thought of as cool, Cassman says.

The main memory of Central

in all of the graduates eyes is the great tradition of Central as an academic, scholastic school. "Central has been always known as the number one academic school in the state," Fellman said.



The Crown Jewels



Laura Richards

These crown jewel replicas have been in the Science Department since at least the 1920s, Dr. Bob Wolff, physics teacher, said. They are used mostly in the chemistry classes when discussing crystals. The jewel replicas are used every five years or so, Wolff said. Wolff said the jewels came when "Papa Schmidt," a science teacher, taught at Central. Papa Schmidt received his doctorate in crystals. Wolff does not know if the jewels hold any monetary value.

Eight decades pass

By Valerie Newhouse and Laura Richards

Prior to 1869, Capitol Hill was the site for Nebraska's territorial capital. When the state capitol was moved to Lincoln that year, the area was set aside for educational purposes only. The Omaha School was built in 1870 for the city's only school.

From a name change to a new building, Omaha High School has a varied history. Over eight decades of students have passed through the halls of the present-day building, renamed Central High School in 1915. J. G. Masters, principal from 1915-1939, changed the name of Omaha High School to Central High School because by then there were other high schools in Omaha.

Throughout the years of higher education, the school has acquired a long and unique history Michael Evans said. A 1990 alumnus, he is researching the early archi-

tectural history of Central was Michael Evans is senior older brother.

John Latenser, architect that Central High School. The designer was Renaissance Revival. He only with Central's building.

French Renaissance Reg a 20 ture is often used with the capital buildings.

This may be why Central school fused with being the old school building, according to Omaha County a book published by Land the Junior League of Omaha.

Latenser designed many buildings in Omaha, such as The County Court House, the and approximately 35 other buildings in Nebraska and.

Latenser "accidentally" ment of the building 20 feet hill the school was on would

Central's History

Deep dark truth of Central tunnels

Valerie Newhouse and Laura Richards

Heard about the infamous tunnels rumored to connect Central to downtown Omaha?

The "tunnels" referred to by various people and out of the building are really just air units that start one area and lead to another door for servicing reasons. Louis Sanders, building engineer, said that sometimes ink gets clogged in the office and the real problem will be under the school. Servicemen have to climb through the tunnels to find the exact location of the problem and fix it.

Dr. Thompson, Central High principal said, the air compression units and other mechanics units

are common and necessary in a building of Central's age.

He said the air compression and handling units circulate air throughout the building so no areas become too hot or cold, or too stuffy.

This sometimes causes a huge draft in certain areas of the building, which is unavoidable.

The only tunnel known by school officials to have ever connected Central to beyond its boundaries is now closed, according to

would be locate.

The smokestacks were used for many years to heat Central. After they were replaced, the tunnels were closed off to create small storage rooms.

Tunnels are not just located in the basement. The fourth floor also has tunnels that could be described as hallways.

The hallways connect the art rooms to the science room on the first side of the building.

The Greenwich Villagers which ended in the 1970's, were a group of art students that displayed their artwork in the hallway.

The hallway still has "The Garret" painted on the wall. The hallway is lit by emergency lights, Dr. Thompson said.

Several of the tunnels both upstairs

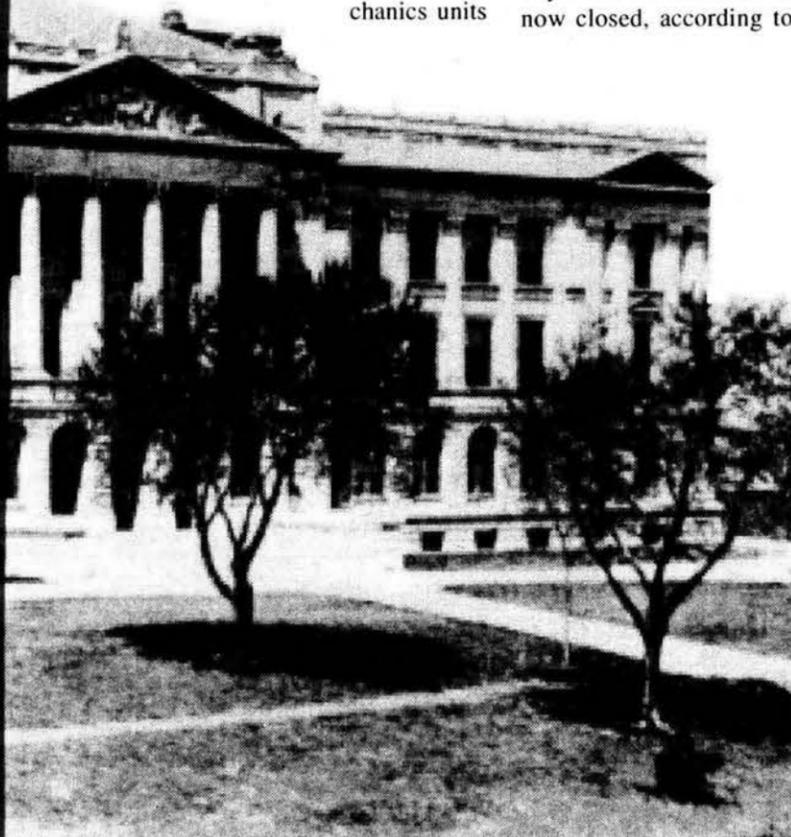
and downstairs lead to rooms which are used for storage.

The various rooms contain desks, chairs, tables, old Central trophies and supplies, Dr. Thompson said.

The legends of the tunnels below Central High School are definitely more colorful than the real truth.

Central Facts

1. Central High School was the site for the first electrical light display in Nebraska. The lights were rigged up on the school on July 4, 1876. That year, the first seniors graduated from Omaha High School.
2. Some famous graduates include: Henry Fonda, actor; Fred Astaire, dancer; Peter Buffett, score for Dances of Wolves; Peter Kiewit, entrepreneur and Gale Sayers, NFL football player.
3. The cafeteria used to be where the ROTC rooms are now located in the basement. That is why the floor is tile on that side of the building on the lowest level.
4. The stairs in Central used to be segregated by gender. Girls went up and down one set, boys used another. The reason for the segregation was because the landings on all sides of the building held restrooms. That also explains why the landings have tile floors.



Sanders.

The tunnel from the custodian's break room led to the smoke stacks where 22 St.

Through the halls of Central

According to Evans. Latenser felt that it was too high for students to climb day.

Originally the State Legislature had that bill must not be lowered, but Latenser was successful in stretching the bill.

Later, Dodge St. was lowered as well, giving a 20 foot drop to the street. Porches were designed and built for the south and west so students could regain access to the school from those sides.

Latenser built the new school around the old school building while classes were being held in it.

The new school was built because of crowding and poor ventilation, according to *The National Register of Historic Landmarks*.

Evans said that as part of the interior renovation, statues were in the halls. They were found to have been paper mache, says

He said these statues were removed prior to and during the renovations because they were being defaced and were in the way of Central's growing population.

The statues were placed in storage and now that location can not be determined, Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High principal, said.

Brian Watson, social studies teacher, said there were also nooks in the building which held busts of famous figures. These were filled in when Central was renovated in the 1970s, he said.

The courtyard of Central was originally left uncovered after Omaha High School was torn down from inside the new building. A former student and architect designed the cover for the courtyard during the renovations.

Central was declared in the 1970s as a Historical Landmark. OPS does keep the right to change the building as they deem appropriate.



Lei Brown

Dr. Thompson explores the infamous tunnels with the newspaper staff. The tunnels are located in the basement and on the fourth floor.

AROUND OMAHA: BULLET HOLE



Ready, aim; Wes Ewasiuk, owner of The Bullet Hole, takes aim at his target with a 9mm semi-automatic handgun.

By Caroline Foley

The Bullet Hole opened on the first of January and according to its owner, Wes Ewasiuk, business has been great.

"There was a desperate need for a shooting range in Omaha that was clean, well-lit, friendly, had good ventilation and, most importantly, safe," Ewasiuk said.

The Bullet Hole provides ear muffs and protective eye glasses to insure the safety of the shooter. The shooting range also has bullet proof walls between the stalls.

Four National Rifle Association certified instructors are on staff to teach classes like Women's Personal Protection and Women's, Junior and Coed Basic Pistol. These courses cost approximately \$40 and include in-class instruction, as well as range shooting.

"Every kind of person you could imagine comes here. We get mothers, fathers, police officers, housewives and anyone else who shoots or wants to learn how to shoot," Ewasiuk said.

There are some guidelines for people to follow when shooting. First, all guns that are brought into the Bullet Hole must be in a case. Licenses will be checked regarding the ownership of the gun if the person is acting suspicious. Secondly, safety equipment must be worn at all times while in the shooting range.

Ewasiuk recommended that children coming in to shoot bring a parent and that the first few lessons be educational.

"Familiarizing the child with the gun is the most important thing when learning how to shoot," Ewasiuk said. "They should also be told how to never play with a gun without the supervision of a parent."

The Bullet Hole has a wide selection of guns, which can be rented for \$8 an hour or \$4 for a half an hour. Safety equipment is available with the rental of every gun.

The Bullet Hole is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. every Sunday.

"We have seven shooting stalls and they are all pretty much in use from open until closing," said Ewasiuk.

Ewasiuk said that a person without a gun, bullets and protective gear should expect to spend \$20 for an hour of shooting. Targets are also available in large assortment of games, like bullet poker, or pictures of movie stars.



Fire! Wes Ewasiuk fires at a target from MOD Squad while demonstrating how to properly fire a gun.

TEENS SPLIT BOWLING STEREOTYPES

By Caroline Foley

When most people think of bowling they picture old sweaty men, funny shoes, tacky shirts and noisy crowds.

However, at bowling alleys like Ranch Bowl and West Lanes, teenagers contribute a large portion of business.

"The bowling interest was piqued about four years ago with the popularity of grunge music," Ranch Bowl employee Tom Wright said.

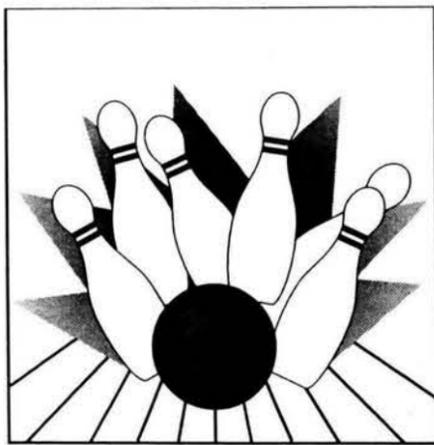
"We get about 40 percent our business from teenagers and we would not be as successful without them," Wright said.

According to Jan Kirke, an employee at West Lanes Bowling Alley, "Between 30 and 35 percent of our patronage comes from teens, particularly, high school students."

"A lot of parents worry about what their kids are doing and if they are okay. I always keep an eye on the kids who come around.

Almost all of the teens who spend their weeknights here have a good time," Kirke said.

"It's a lot of fun and I am really good at it," Central junior Jeff Madej, an avid bowler, said.



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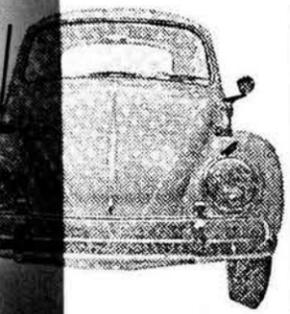
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ENTERTAINMENT

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January 31, 1996

Car Show: A Conceptual Experience

ender
an 200 cars, trucks and
icles were on display
14 at the third annual
of the Midlands at the
rium. It was close to an
as rivals such as Ford,

manager of Lexus of Omaha, it is money well spent.

"It's a true multipurpose vehicle. You can throw the dogs in the back and take them to get shampooed and still go out to dinner in the thing," Bendet said.

to catch a glimpse of the cars. Jeremy Anderson traveled all the way from Sioux City to see them.

"This is my third year at the show. Missing the car show is like missing my wife's birthday. I like to sit in the cars and look at the engines,"

Anderson said. His wife Angela agreed.

"He drags me out here every year. We get in our rust covered '79 pickup and drive all the way here to look at something we'll never have."

Car shows have become a

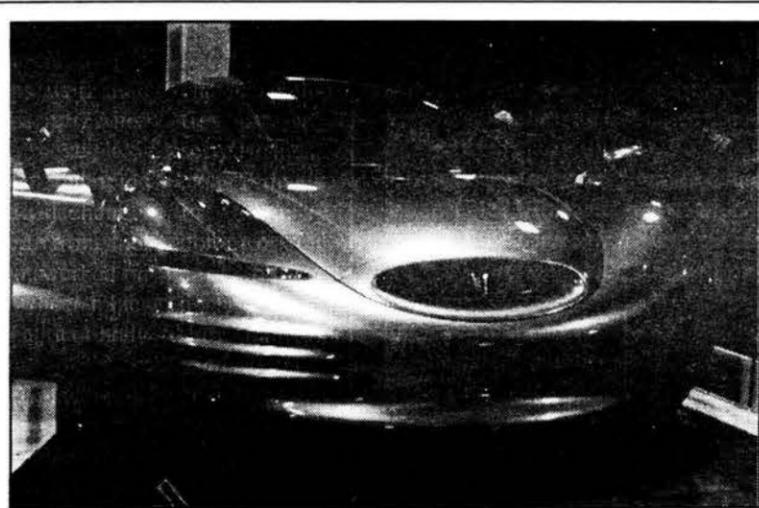
big hit in the past few years. Almost 100,000 people attended the Omaha show. Besides being an event for the public, car shows give manufacturers a chance to impress potential customers.

"They're spending money to look at our products," Rosier said. "If I was interested in buying a washer and dryer, I wouldn't pay five bucks to look at them. That's basically what it amounts to. That says a lot."

Most people attending the car show were not thinking of buying a car. Instead they were seeing what was new for '96 and fulfilling an urge that comes with looking at cars.

"Car shows are the only opportunity people have to sit in them, smell them, feel them and mentally taste them," Howard Rosier who managed Ford's 23 vehicle display at the show, said.

Many people traveled miles



Lei Brown

The Jetsons revisited, with this Plymouth LHX at the futuristic Auto Show of the Midlands.

Snowboarders like snow fly

Caroline Foley

ount Cresent Ski Resort held fourth annual snowboard competition on Sunday January 21. Snowboarders were cast into based on skill level, beginner, intermediate, advanced and professional. The locations for the various and contests were held all over mountain. Judges were stationed at different jumps and awarded individuals who had the best jump, form and style.

orton outdoor equipment sponsored the competition. 93 K-ROCK snowboarders participated the day watching the snowboarders while playing a wide variety of music and giving away prizes to spectators.



Lei Brown

Boards Up! Max Rogers, 8, participated in the fourth annual Burton snowboarding competition. Rogers was the youngest competitor.

New ice skating rink Fun skates into Omaha

By Jen Houlden

So you think you're slick? Try the new iceplex out west. South Pacific Tranquility Iceplex opened on Dec. 1 and is currently open for business seven days a week. The iceplex is located at 128 and West Maple St.

The iceplex is equipped with two ice rinks, one of which is Olympic size and one that is standard size. The iceplex is also equipped with a practice area for figure skaters, a sitting area and concession counter.

John Fager, Burke High senior, a manager at the iceplex, says that the rink has pretty consistent business, especially on the weekends. John said about 200 to 250 people skate at Tranquility on Friday and Saturday nights, their ages ranging from about 13 to 20.

The rink is rented by figure skating classes, hockey leagues, and birthday parties. Birthday parties are \$7 per person, which includes skating admission and skate rental, snacks and the set up and clean up of the party room.

The iceplex also has figure skating and hockey lessons, with "Learn To Skate" classes open to children as young as two-years old.

The iceplex is much larger than a person would expect. It has a large eating area outside of the two rinks, which are separated by a large glass partition. There are a couple private party rooms for children's birthday parties. Many children play in the lobby area while their siblings are at Saturday morning practices for hockey and figure skating.

It is the only ice rink in Omaha equipped with an electrically powered zamboni, the ice resurfacing machine. It's also the only dual rink in the state of Nebraska. John said that the owner, Tim Moylan, is considering building another rink in Lincoln. Moylan plans to reinvest in the city the funds from the iceplex back into the city after his 25 year contract is up. At that time, Moylan plans to give the rink back to the city.

"Omaha is really fortunate to have this rink. They were going to build one in Sioux City, where I live, but the city wouldn't let them. It's a real benefit to the city," Mike Barta, a Sioux City, Iowa resident said. Barta travels approximately 90 miles about every other week to take his son to hockey practice at Tranquility Iceplex.

One of the main benefits of the iceplex is its location. At 128 and West Maple St., it is much more accessible than the Benson Park Ice Skating Rink, which is located midtown at 69th and Military Ave., and Hitchcock Park Ice Arena in South Omaha at 45th and P streets. Because of the consistent growth westward out of Omaha, many people find the location much more convenient than driving down into central Omaha for figure skating and hockey practices. Tranquility Iceplex also has many public skating times.

In the warmer months, the managers plan to turn it into more of a sports related complex. They plan to maintain one ice rink, but melt the other one down and use it for basketball and indoor soccer.

The ice plex is very well run and designed, providing a much more accessible atmosphere than some other more run down ice.

SOUTH PACIFIC TRANQUILITY ICEPLEX

PUBLIC SKATING TIMES

	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
MONDAY	8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	10:15 PM - 11:15 PM
TUESDAY	8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	
WEDNESDAY	8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	
THURSDAY	8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	1:00 AM - 1:00 PM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	
FRIDAY	8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM 10:15 PM - 1:00 AM
SATURDAY		1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM 10:15 PM - 12:30 AM
SUNDAY		NOON - 3:00 PM	10:00 PM - 11:00 PM

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Mediocrity rings loud and clear

By Caroline Foley

The new release from Loud Lucy, *Breathe*, is a horrid collaboration of 1980's cock-rock and bad writing.

This latest saga in the quasi-alternative mainstream is one of this year's most corporate albums. The band has close to zero talent and that small amount that they possess was probably attained from hours of watching the complete "Playing the Guitar in Minutes" videos.

Lately, it seems that every time the radio is set to a "modern rock" station, their song "Ticking" is playing. "Ticking" starts out with an almost cool sound, but every chorus sounds like a combination of Whitesnake and a wounded dog.

A notably bad track on the album is "Over Me." This song completely lacks any and all musical merit, unless whining counts as an art form. The best song on *Breathe* is probably "Meet You Down." This song is tolerable only because the lead singer does not raise his voice



Courtesy of Geffen Records

above a whisper, which, by then, is a blessing.

Another annoyance that comes with the purchase of this album is its cover. Instead of lyric sheets and song titles, the listener is bombarded with photographs of the band that show exactly how cool they are.

These pictures, however, only show that an untalented band of three 13-year-olds can produce their "own" CD.

It is a shame that a band like this can become so successful in the music industry, while other talented bands go unheard.

Simplistic new album beautifies music scene

By Jennifer Houlden

Ani DiFranco may not consider herself a pretty girl, but she's got a voice as beautiful as a nightingale. Her latest album, *Not a Pretty Girl*, is a collection of songs that Ani has brought straight from her heart. With her down-to-earth voice, her real life lyrics and a background of folk guitar and an occasional drum, her music contains an honesty that is absolutely ravishing.

*got a garden of songs
where I grow all my thoughts
wish I could harvest one or
two*

for some small talk

With reflections on lost love mixed with confusion, apologies going out to forgotten friends and midnight musings about herself,

Ani reveals a lot about herself and many of the things she finds important in her life. At first, the lyrics seem to have a bit of the whining of Alanis Morissette. Fortunately, after reading through and then listening to the songs, it's obvious that the man hating-self pity preaching aspect of Ms. Morissette is absent. Of course if you're one of those misguided Morissette fans, who dig all that crap, Ani DiFranco can snivel with the best of them. The most dazzling aspect of the album is that it is mostly composed of just Ani's voice and acoustic guitar, also played by Ani. With her powerful guitar, the music conveys the message of the song without having to cringe when the poetry gets lost in the distortion.



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Readers take the trend to bed with the

By Jennifer Houlden

James Finn Garner has taken the classic idealistic stories of enlightened but misguided persons and combined them with the stringent political and social requirements for a pertinent and appropriate story for the multicultural non-ethnocentric age impaired humans of today-or, more clearly, Garner has added political correctness to the bedtime stories for children. *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories* artfully combines the need for equality in all social issues and the classic fairy stories that have enchanted the young for generations.

The stories include the tales of "Rumpelstiltskin" and "The Three Codependent Goats Gruff." Other stories such as "The Duckling That Was Judged on Its Personal Merits and Not Its Physical Appearance" were, according to the introduction of the book, deleted for space reasons. Garner also apologizes in advance for any display of "sexist, racist, culturalist, nationalist, regionalist, ageist, lookist, ableist, sizeist, speciesist, intellectualist, socioeconomicist, ethnocentrist, phallocentrist, heteropatriarchalist, or other type of bias as yet unnamed." He admits that by taking all bias and -centrisms out of the sto-

ries, he has probably made some mistakes. Unfortunately, he has also taken out all the charm and so delightful in the first place.

However, the charm of certain appeal because of the ridiculous wording. When you read a story like "The Wolf and the Lamb," you can't help but feel that the author is being a bit too political.

The stories never offended me in the first place.

mockingly for entertainment after about 45 pages of reading if his intentions were really to inspire cleaner, less biased thoughts in the reader. Much of a feminist, but be sensitive to other people. Maybe I was irritated by the excess of political correctness because the stories offended me in the first place.

Regardless of my opinion, the excess verbiage is amusing. It may add a little light to the old stories and social commentary for the hearted.

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uh? by Carrie Parrott



teachers. Have you ever thought about how much time you spend with them? For over a decade they occupy one-third of our lives—nine months of the year—a long time. In grade school, I knew that my year for the rest of the year would be determined by what teacher I had. Teachers are dreaded because of their reputation and appearance. I was one at my elementary school convinced that one sixth grade teacher drove a broomstick instead of a car to class every morning. We were sure that she was a genuine witch. She had long dark hair, and she put up on the sides with old, rusty yellow pins. She wore maroon, shiny, bell-bottoms along with unattractive articles of clothing and carried a purse straight out of the sixties. Since she had been teaching for decades, her voice had a hoarseness that sent shivers down our spines. She was obsessed with cleanliness, and when she cleaned desks, she would hold them up to the light so she wouldn't miss any smudges on her hands. If you looked at the woman with a needle, you might think that liquid evil would come out of her veins instead of blood. Another teacher feared at my elementary school was the gym teacher. She was a great teacher, but she had a gruff demeanor and she yelled, "Get out of my kids away. When she yelled, she would throw her kids into your squads!" kids were then they had ever run be-

fore. She thought up strange, pointless games for us to play, such as throwing Nerf balls and pantyhose balls filled with newspaper across the gym, and made us participate in numerous field days and an Olympics competition.

On the other hand, there were the teachers that children prayed they would have. This was the teacher that let her class play "around-the-world" when learning the multiplication tables, with candy for the winners. She read cool books such as "Superfudge" and "Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh" out loud and always gave the class an extra 15 minutes of recess when we were good.

In junior high school, teachers were gossiped about almost constantly. Everybody was positive that the Spanish teacher was a lesbian, and it was always one of the hottest topics at lunch tables. An attractive male teacher was giggled at by teeny-bopper girls in the hall, and when it was heard that two science teachers in the school, husband and wife, were getting a divorce, rumors flew for weeks.

Finally, there are the eccentric teachers that we love, but are baffled by at the same time. My eighth grade social studies teacher was one of those people. Every day, he went on for 30 minutes of class about his allergies and ringing ears, his bicycling escapades and his brand new motorcycle. One day after school, he said to a companion and me, "I'm gonna go home and rope myself some doggies." The flabbergasted look on our faces might have told him about his strange personality, but I don't know if he ever figured out that most of us thought he was just plain weird.

Nice, evil or just plain crazy. Teachers take up a huge chunk of our lives and fill it with pain, suffering and, most importantly, entertainment.

Jane Austen classic hits the 20th Century

Sense a romance worth your cents

By Rachel Jacobson

O.K., so I yawned once or twice in *Little Women*. *Age of Innocence* put me to sleep. I was in a coma before eight minutes passed in *Remains of the Day*. Needless to say, I am rarely entertained by Period Romances. *Sense and Sensibility* was a delightful exception.

Jane Austen's eloquent sarcasm, the realistic costumes and scenery and the ingenious acting skills of Emma Thompson, Kate Winslet, Emilie Fraoicois, Hugh Grant and Alan Rickman united brilliantly to make this movie absolutely enchanting.

Although *Sense and Sensibility* takes place in 19th century England, its themes are unmistakably universal. Austen speaks to the heart. Her novels provided political commentary on the greed and corruption of her society. Austen's primary theme epitomizes universal literature: love.

Sense and Sensibility is a classic romance. It is the story of a recent widow and her three daughters. Their father's death has left the four women penniless and heart-broken. The two older daughters are left only with the option of searching for a wealthy husband. The eldest daughter, Elinor, played by Emma Thompson, finds her soulmate in shy, sweet, Edward, played

by Hugh Grant. Her younger sister, Marianne, played by Emilie Winslet, a passionate musician who is forever searching for a man on a white horse.

In addition to starring as Elinor, Emma Thompson also wrote the screenplay for the film. She was the recipient of a Golden Globe award for her efforts, and *Sense and Sensibility* received the honor of best picture at the ceremony which took place January 21. Perhaps the decision will foreshadow the Academy Awards' nominations, to be announced in mid-February.

An Emmy would be well-deserved. The characters are overwhelmingly realistic. They are not at all one-sided or shallow, and their depth makes the entire cast impossible not to fall in love with. Even the most evil characters in the movie are never wholly disagreeable.

The scenery and costumes take the viewer back almost 200 years. Everything is intricately detailed and elegant. The interior of estates and "cottages" can only be found today in *Architectural Digest*, and the dresses and suits are ornately detailed.

Even if you believe that you are not one that would enjoy a period romance, leave your pride and prejudice at the door. Jane Austen's wit and universal themes will charm even the most critical of viewers.

Symphony celebrates 2nd National Championship

By Nick Stender

It is said that nothing can escape the massive wave of Big Red fever that is sweeping across Nebraska like a full-force hurricane. Even the Omaha Symphony could not withstand the excitement. On Jan. 12, the symphony and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Marching Band presented a rousing musical tribute to the team and the victory.

Unlike traditional performances, it was the first time a symphony ever began with chants of "Go Big Red" and attempts of starting the wave. Red sweaters, jackets and sweatshirts bearing bold N's replaced the usual suits, ties and dresses.

The concert offered a chance for the 1,542 cheering fans to celebrate Nebraska's second consecutive national championship. Resident conductor Ernest Richardson

said the purpose of the concert was to give fans an opportunity to celebrate the victory as well as the orchestra members.

About 120 members of the marching band got things off on the right foot during the first half, performing a series of powerful and exciting tunes with plenty of polish and precision. The drum line amazed the crowd with its spectacular regimented coordination.

The second half opened up with Richardson, wearing a red jersey, and the orchestra performing the theme to *2001: A Space Odyssey*. As the music dramatically unfolded, the backdrop lit up with a vibrant shade of red and a huge white "N" appeared to a standing ovation.

The highlight of the evening came when the orchestra presented an abridged "sports" version of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. Included was a pre-game warm-up,

yellow flags for wrong notes and a coin toss—heads, the orchestra follows the conductor; tails the conductor follows the orchestra.

Channel Six sports caster Dave Webber and KFAB sports caster Trey Jones did a play-by-play "concert cast."

As the orchestra performed Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man," a video tribute to Coach Tom Osborne played on an overhead screen. Scenes from the season were shown to the accompaniment of Tchaikovsky's Coronation March.

The evening climaxed with video highlights of the Fiesta Bowl, brilliantly choreographed to Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture." After a standing ovation when the words "National Champions" appeared on the screen, an encore ensued with Richardson and Webber singing the Nebraska Fight Song.



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From the bench: Sports Opinion by Josh Cohen



Wouldn't it be nice if one day a Central student could go to Central to see a varsity home game.

Use our gym, which is more than capable, for home basketball games.

See a football game at our own field, not a community field, shared with other high schools.

Go to a baseball or softball home game that is somewhat close to our school, not on the other side of town.

I had a dream that one morning, when I came to school, Joslyn was ours, the inside converted into a multi-purpose athletic complex.

Equipped with swimming pool, baseball and softball fields, regulation size track, and (the only one of its kind) indoor grass soccer field.

Also, our practice football field was no more. No more crummy astro-turf that promoted knee injuries to our starters. Now we gaze upon our new, on-campus, grass stadium. With lights and concessions, and enough seating for the whole student body, including the cheap seats across the way for the visiting schools.

I was in a state of complete amazement, but unfortunately at this point I woke up.

I said to myself, "Wow, that would be cool if it was true," but after all, it was just a dream.

As of now, the only varsity sport that does get played on Central grounds is women's volleyball.

Although junior varsity down through the freshman teams for all sports do use Central's on-campus facilities, the varsity teams do not.

I understand that our administration cannot do much about this, and it is mainly the school board's decision to give us more facilities for athletics and so on, but let's get real.

Central is known high and low for its excellence in sports, as well as academics.

Other schools don't want to face us in basketball; we are just too good. (But they are scared of our math team.)

They are intimidated by our football team. (But downright scared of our Academic Decathlon team.)

I know Central is an inner-city school, and it's hard to obtain land for building new facilities.

Back in the day when I was a lowly eighth grader at Mcmillan junior high, I attended several meetings at which people from other schools came to talk to us to try to convince us that coming to their school, instead of Central, was the right idea.

North High, especially, focused on the fact that Central has no room for expanding its campus, and that this would be a major downfall in deciding to attend Central.

I never gave this much thought, but now I see that they had a valid point. It kind of gives them an edge over Central.

Although their academics, in my mind, don't compare, they do have room for enlarging their school and creating new facilities for their athletes, which we do not.

Dr. Thompson has made it known that he is interested in obtaining the parking lot directly east of Central, which many of you know has, at the most, ten cars in it a day.

Bravo! This move will not only help with day to day parking, but it will also give our campus enough parking to hold varsity basketball games in our own gym.

Can you believe it? Instead of driving to Norris junior high, you might actually come to Central on a Friday or Saturday night to attend a home game.

I think this is the first step in the right direction for Central's future in sports, not only for the teams themselves but for the students who support them.

Also our administrators are on the right track, they just need some help from the outside to get things done.

So I applaud what they are trying to do, and hope that this move will work out and generate more school spirit towards athletics in those Centralites of tomorrow.

Maybe now, others will see what we have to go through for our athletic programs.

Eagles soar ahead

CHS SWIM TAKES THE PLUNGE

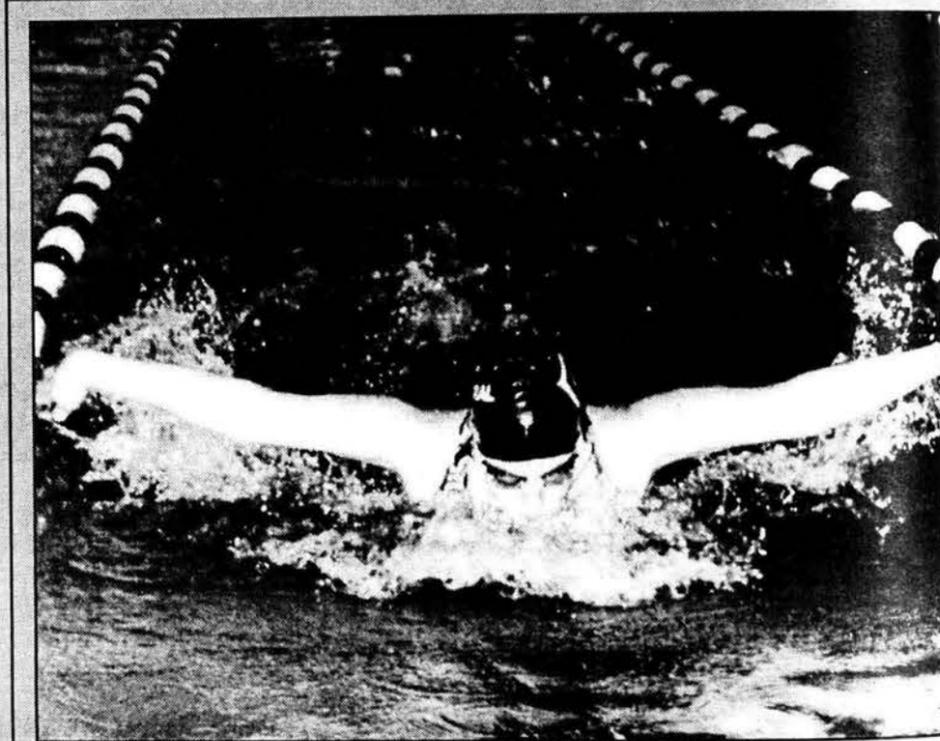
By Kate King

The 1995-96 Central swim team is competing well this year despite some set backs and is already looking forward to next year's season, assistant coach Kathleen Laughlin said.

Laughlin said that the teams are doing well this year

Jan. 30 will be a learning experience for the team placed eighth out of 13 at the Lewisville Invitational Jan. 20. The team faced two Sioux Falls teams which have been said to be a hard team. Some members of the Eagle team.

"The team is extremely good this year."



Splash: Junior Cari Cain polishes up her form on her butterfly stroke in practice at Norris Junior High.

despite the injury of Chris Darst, junior. She said that he is one of the team's best back strokers and that his collar bone injury will hurt the medley race. She continued to say that overall the team is consistently improving and since the members are relatively young, with only two seniors, they can easily maintain their status for next year's season.

"The team keeps beating their own times," Laughlin said. "They're definitely improving with a stick-to-itiveness. It's fantastic."

The hardest teams facing Central this season are Prep/Marian, Millard South and Lincoln East, according to Ryan McGrane, junior. Ryan said that the teams they have a chance of losing to are should be in the top five at state. He also said that the Prep/Marian meet on

year will be better," said Ryan. "We will recruit next year. Nate Bullington is another freshman. He definitely has State potential in stroke."

Laughlin said she hopes to keep the team through the summer with swimming at the Club or Brownell-Talbot. She also said the several State contenders including freshman Bullington, sophomore Eddie Piatt, junior Johnson, Tiffany Taylor and Abbey Dimin.

Central faces more competition at the South Invite at Millard North on Feb. 2-3; the Metro Championship at Westside Feb. 3-4; the State Championship will be at the Devaney Center later in February.

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Boys basketball streak leads to state ranking

by T. I. Brumfield

After a 1-2 start, the Central Eagle Boys basketball team rallied to a 9-4 record and a current five game winning streak.

Central played Creighton Prep at home. The Eagle offense was up to the challenge of playing the long-time rival Junior Jays and handled Prep 77-61.

Central then traveled to Westside to play Creighton in a tight match-up. But with a minute to go, Westside pulled away from the tied score and beat Central 48-43.

With a 2-3 record, the team looked ahead at the Metro Holiday Tournament. The first game was against the same Bellevue East team that had beaten Central by 14 points earlier in the season.

Central was persistent and came out with a defense that held Bellevue East to only seven points in the second half while the Eagle offense scored 22 points to beat them 71-61.

The team carried that enthusiasm into the next game and trounced Bryan 68-54.

But the next game would not prove to be easy. Central played the then 7th ranked Thunderbirds from South. Through the first three and a half quarters there was no one evidently dominant team, but South pulled away in the fourth to beat Central 64-59.

But since the tournament was double elimination, Central was allowed to play Creighton Prep again for the number three spot. The Junior Jays didn't go down so easy this time.

Prep fought to the end, but Central could not be stopped. The Eagles won 58-52 and finished third place in the tournament.

The Eagle's play did not go unnoticed. Central players claimed two out of the awards given out at the tournament. Galen Morrison, junior, was named to the All-Tournament Team, and Ryan Behrens, junior, was

given the John Kindell award for leadership and sportsmanship.

But waiting for Central when they came home was South. This was the same South team that handed Central their last lost and kept them from advancing to the finals.

Central hadn't forgotten. "Our guys were really looking forward to playing them again," said coach Behrens. Though Central's offense didn't play the best game of the year, Central's defense once again stepped up and held a highly offensive South team to only 38 points in the entire game.

Coach Behrens said he credits the 13-point-Eagle victory to the changes the players made from what they learned from the first game against South.

Central's next opponent was the Wildcats from Millard West. Central hung had a 59-51 win.

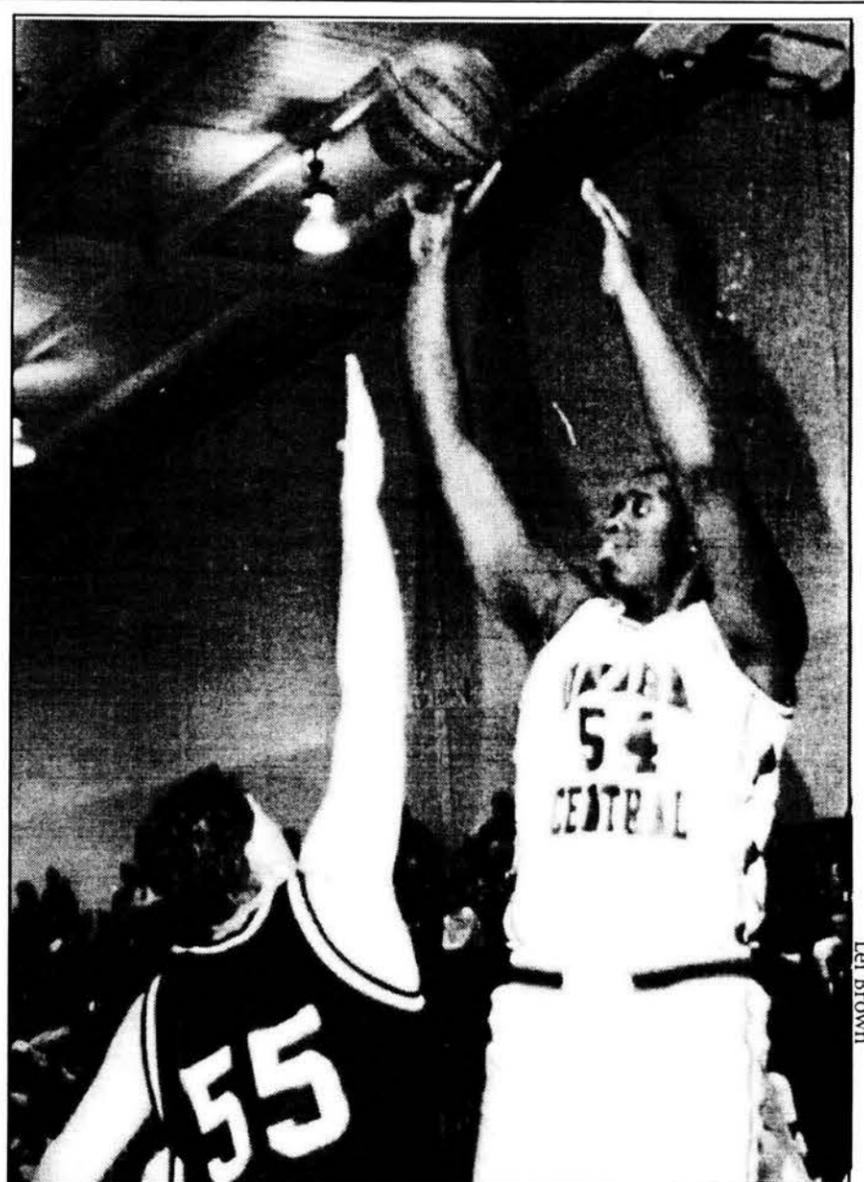
During the Bellevue West game Central was penalized for over three times as many fouls as the other team. But the Thunderbirds sank only nine out of their 23 free throw attempts while Central was shooting 86 percent from the line. The Eagles edged by 60-57.

Between the recent winning streak, the defensive play, and the third place finish at the Metro Tournament, Central had acquired an eighth place ranking in the state.

Central found an early lead, but the Indians stayed close behind. Late in the second half Millard South battled back to regain the lead. But in the final moments it was just too much for Ryan Behrens, Galen Morrison and Kenny McMorris, junior.

The Eagle offense took over and Central won decisively 72-63.

"I think the fact that we are the top metro team ranked pretty much sums up how well we've been playing," said Luke Denny, junior.



Lei Brown

Shaq Attack...Central style: Junior Robert Jefferson goes up and over a Millard West defender.

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SPORTS



We Cover Eagle Territory

Lady eagles strive for improvement

By Josh Cohen

Contrary to what some may think, the Central High Women's Varsity basketball program has made a tremendous turn around in the past year.

The women are off to their best season in years, according to Head Coach Dave Felici. Their record is currently 4-8, which is already two wins better than last season's record.

"We have been improving a great deal," coach Felici said. "We have worked very hard this season, and it has really been paying off."

On Dec. 27-31, the Women's Varsity team participated in the annual Metro Holiday Tournament. They won their last two games of the tournament.

The lady eagles beat Bellevue East in a convincing 51-35 win. "We only had seven girls to play with," coach Felici said. "If we had more depth, I think we would have even played better."

Junior Quiana Mitchem, who is the state's leading rebounder with 120, had her best overall game of the season, according to coach Felici. She had 15 points and 16 rebounds.

Next, they faced Millard West, and won by 10 points 53-43. Junior Emily Broom led the scoring with 10 points. Quiana and senior

Nicole Benson combined for ten blocked shots and 23 points.

"We did not play very well on defense," Emily said. "But we still

quarters of basketball all season," coach Felici said. "But, in the fourth quarter we turned it around and played the best we have all year."

Junior Cassandra Lathan had a 24-point fourth quarter to help the eagles rally to within three points.

"We just ran out of time," Quiana said. "We played better than they did at the end, but playing so bad in the first three quarters hurt us bad."

But, quite possibly the most disappointing loss came to number two-ranked Millard South on Friday, Jan. 19, according to coach Felici. The lady eagles lost 53-23.

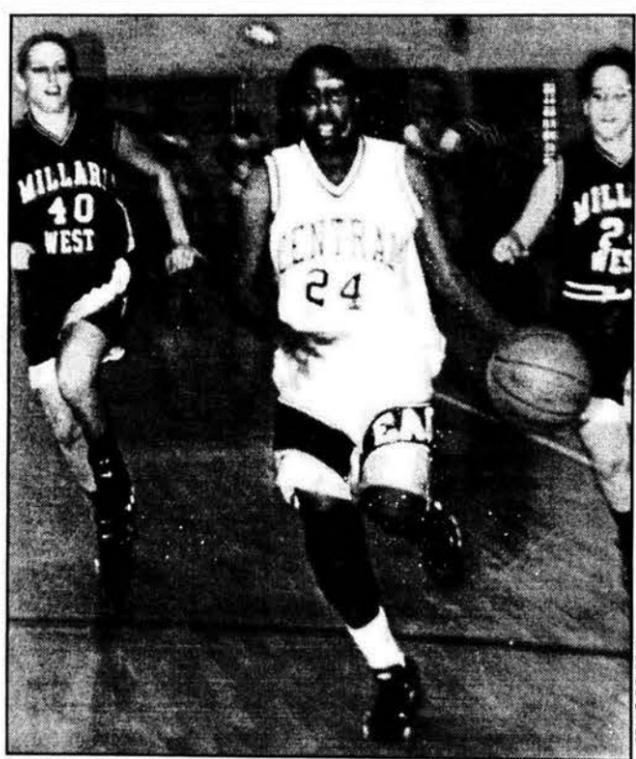
"Our offense was not clicking, shots were not falling, we were missing easy lay-ups

and were not being aggressive enough on defense," coach Felici said. "That was really the turning point of the game."

The lady eagles missed 14 lay-ups and gave the lady Indians 23 opportunities at the free throw line. They capitalized on 16 of them.

"We still lack some playing experience," coach Felici said. "But I think we have been working hard lately and are going to be ready for Bryan and Lincoln High this week."

The next games on the schedule are on Feb. 2-3 at Papillion and home for Burke.



Fast Break! Senior Traci Rooks takes the ball to the hoop against Millard West.

Leil Brown

played fairly well."

After the holiday tournament, the lady eagles faced South High. Central won in only its second blow out of the season, 53-23.

"We dominated that game," coach Felici said. "We really played good all around basketball."

After a three game winning streak, the lady eagles hit a little skid.

They went on to lose their next two games.

Their first game was against Bellevue West and they lost 58-55.

"We played three of the worst

Exchange Student fights for right to play

By Josh Cohen

Have you noticed a new face on the bench the past few varsity basketball games?

His name is Lukas Huber and he is a foreign exchange student from Switzerland. He has been in the United States since August and has been attending Central for his senior year of high school.

Lukas' parents arranged for him to come to the U.S. and live with the Mann family, who were the house parents for his sister, Rachel, when she came over three years ago. She had problems with the first family she

lived with, and the Manns took her in. During this time, Lukas' parents became friends with them.

So, when Lukas decided he would like to experience life in America, the Manns suggested that he come and stay with them.

This cut the risk of going through the same trouble Rachel went through by using a registered exchange program.

Lukas has now been living with the Manns, who are his legal guardians, all year, and has been here at Central since the start of the 95-96 school year. So, some people may be wondering why he has not been on the team all season.

Lukas has not played because the N.S.A.A., Nebraska School Activities Association, declared him ineligible for Varsity play.

"The reason they declared him ineligible was because [Lukas] did not come through a registered exchange program," Central Athletic Director Paul Pennington said.

For this fact alone, the N.S.A.A. board of appeals ruled that Lukas would have to follow the 90-day policy like any normal student who transfers schools.

The 90-day policy states that any person who transfers schools shall be ineligible for Varsity play unless deemed otherwise by the N.S.A.A.

By declaring Lukas ineligible, the N.S.A.A. took away over half of Lukas' senior season with the eagles. His first day of eligibility was Jan. 11, 1996.

"We appealed, but the board said they wanted to be consistent in their rulings, so they denied our appeal," Pennington said. "To me, an appeal is made to make an exception to consistency."

Lukas has not complained or quit playing.

"Mr. Pennington did everything in his power to help me," Lukas said. "But there was nothing he could do once the appeal was ruled on."

As Athletic Director for Central, this was only the sixth appeal that Pennington has had

to make. Up until this, he was five winning his appeals.

"Every other appeal I have thought there was no way to win it," Pennington said. "This was the first where I really thought we would win with a win, but we didn't."

Pennington said that he felt sorry by the decision not to let Lukas play.

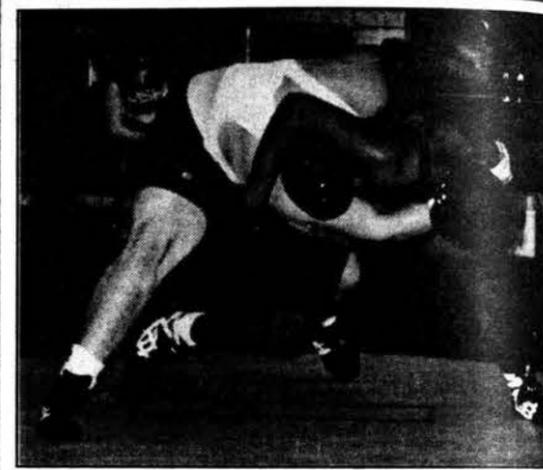
"I felt embarrassed because of the system," Pennington said. "I think the system failed."

If Pennington had not known Lukas was ineligible, and Lukas played the rest of the season, every win would have been forfeited if anyone had found out about his status.

"I am just glad that we can play now," Pennington said. "It would have been a shame to the other kids if we hadn't. Because Lukas would have had to suffer for our mistakes."

Although half of Lukas' season has been lost, there is a glimmer of hope in the fact that Central has been playing outstanding basketball lately, and is currently rated second in the state.

So, if Lukas hangs on until the end of the season, he might get a chance to play in the state tournament at the Devaney Center.



Take down: Senior Early Bryant takes opponent from Millard South down to the mat.

CHS WRESTLERS WIN

By Les Anich

"They call us the four horsemen," junior wrestler Vito Agosta said. Sophomore Josh Buckles, senior Gabe Lawrence, junior Vito Agosta and senior Vito Agosta are nicknamed the Four Horsemen by their fans.

"All four of us made it to the semifinals in the Ekfelt Tournaments," Josh said. "Gabe, Vito and myself have been in the finals in previous tournaments."

Horsemen is a proper nickname for these four wrestlers. Vito runs two to three miles before school, usually a day before tournaments. Josh runs almost ten miles every week.

"Gabe runs only when his car doesn't start," Vito said.

The Four Horsemen won a total of eight tournaments during the 1995-1996 season with State, Feb. 15-17 at Devaney Center, Feb. 10 and two duals, Jan. 23 against Benson and Millard West and Jan. 30 against Bryan and Millard North at Central.

"We'll win districts for sure and go on to State," Josh said. Gabe, 17-2, won at the Council Bluff, Tricenter and Creighton Invitational. He is rated fifth in State at 125 pounds.

Ladarius, 15-6, finished first at 171 pounds at the Creighton Invite.

Josh and Vito each have a 21-5 record including two state wins.

Vito, 119 pounds, won at the Ralston and Creighton Invitational. He is rated third in Metro and fourth in State. Buckles, 103 pounds, won at the Council Bluff and Tricenter Invites. He has fourteen pins in six duals. He is rated third in Metro and was previously rated second in State.

Vito has 67 takedowns in 26 duals.



Free Throw: Lukas Huber practices his shot.

Leil Brown

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