

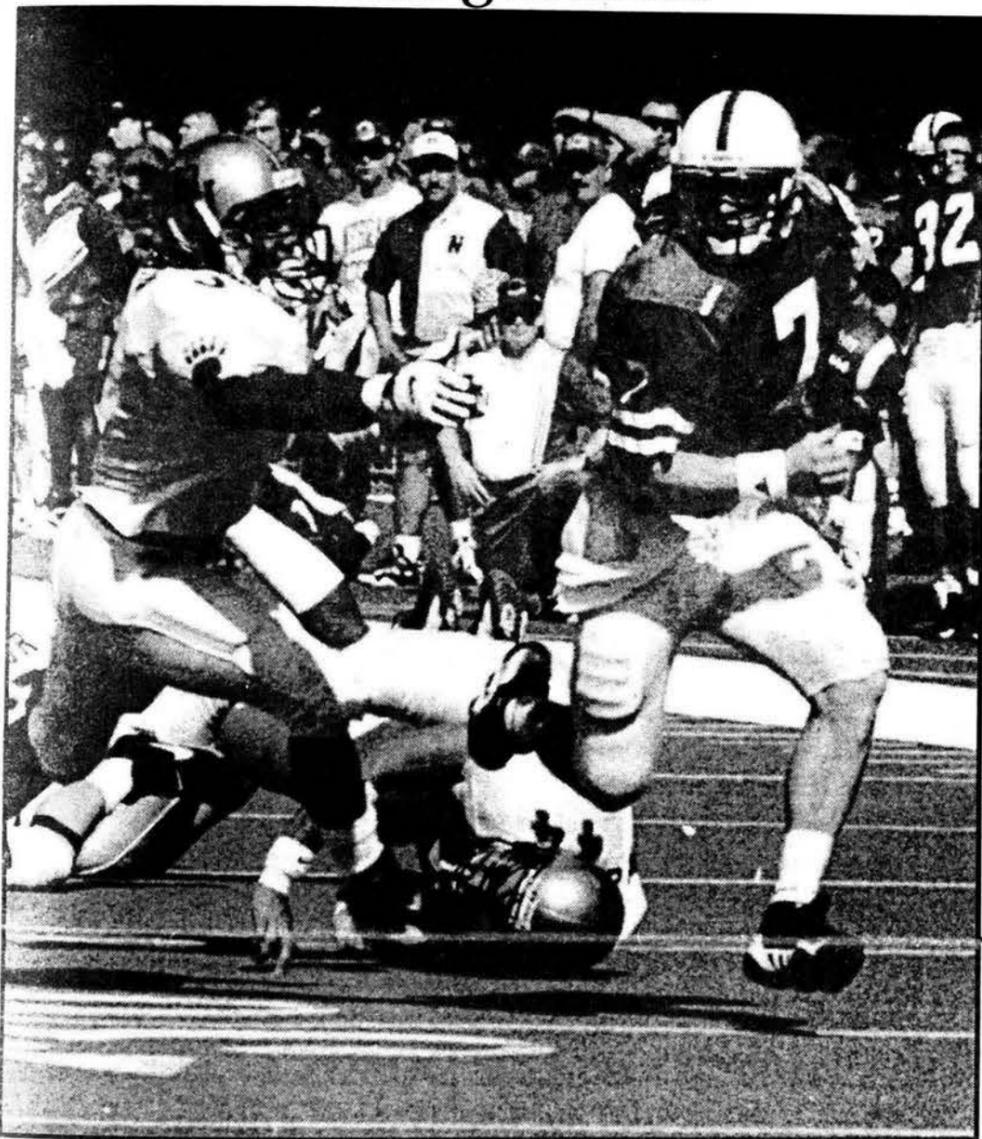
the Register

The oldest school paper west of the Mississippi. est. 1886



Groundhog prom, page 11

Breaking loose...



Courtesy UNL

Nebraska Quarterback Scott Frost evades Baylor University defenders. Frost will be Nebraska's starting quarterback for the 1997-1998 season. He came off of a skiddish year this season and hopes to lead the Huskers to a third national title in four years next season. see story page 15.

American Bar Association ABA calls for end to death penalty

By Lea Platz

Capital Punishment may be about to come to an end if the American Bar Association (ABA) has its way, an Omaha defense attorney said.

Mr. Steve Achelpohl, a defense attorney currently involved in a death penalty case, said the basic reason for this proposal is that the ABA has deemed the death penalty unfair and discriminatory.

The ABA is made up of over 370,000 lawyers nationwide. The actions that these lawyers take consist of giving advice and making recommendations which the Supreme Court may later act upon.

In 1971, the United States Supreme Court found that the death penalty was administered in a discriminating fashion, and all executions were halted until suggested criteria were met.

"The law was being applied in something less than a fair and evenhanded way," Achelpohl said.

Now, in 1997, the ABA would like to see the death penalty removed completely until the law can administer it fairly without an inconsistency throughout different states.

"As the death penalty is administered now, we are fooling ourselves to pretend that these things are fair," Achelpohl said.

Another factor which the ABA is concerned with is the amount of innocent people being executed.

The ABA desires to decrease the chances of someone dying unnecessarily.

The group of lawyers have again recommended a moratorium, or prohibition, against all cases of capital punishment.

Achelpohl said that fairness has simply failed in the system. He said that many times it had been discovered that the decisions were arbitrarily made.

There needs to be an adherence to objective factors," Achelpohl said.

"There are those lawyers who think that what the ABA has sug-

gested is necessary.

Lincoln attorney Kirk Brown said that the reasons behind suspending the death penalty are suspect.

Brown said that he could not think of a single case within the last twenty years where an innocent person was executed.

Even with the consistent accuracy within the last two decades, it is not realistic to demand complete accuracy from the courts.

"You have to expect the legal system to potentially make some mistakes," Brown said.

By condemning a method of punishment before it is perfect, Brown said, the system is not allowed the chance to be polished.

"The whole retraction of the death penalty is more of a reaction to the Congress rather than the law itself," Brown said.

The ABA has not taken a new position on the death penalty but just wants the policies already in place for the protection of the innocent to be maintained, Achelpohl said.

Westside presses for teen drug program

By John Gaskins

With growing concern over teen drug use, Westside High School and District 66 have tightened security and decided to form a community drug awareness program. Under such a program, students may be tested randomly for drugs and be required to seek counseling.

Mr. Richard Lundquist, Director of Guidance and Co-Director of the District's Task Force for Drug Awareness, said Westside has al-

ready increased searches for drug possession.

He also said that teachers, students, parents and many community leaders have supported the idea for a program that would detect and help known drug users.

Westside formed a panel of student representatives to talk to administrators and counselors about the problem of teen drug use.

Lundquist said many of the students claimed that there is an overwhelming number of students who drink alcohol, smoke marijuana and use other drugs. This problem has also been verified by student response to a confidential survey concerning drug and alcohol usage.

"The panel basically told us, 'hey, get your heads out of the clouds. This is for real,'" Lundquist said. "We think it is time for some awareness of the problem."

Westside formed the Task Force and came up with many ideas about the program and policies on searching for those students in possession. In trying to crack down on drug possession, Westside's security has

been tightened as security guards and administrators check parking lots and other locations allegedly frequented by cigarette and marijuana smokers.

Plus, the school performed a controversial and unexpected midnight search of lockers and hallways for marijuana using search dogs, a practice that Lundquist said will be used in the future randomly. He said that students are not searched, only lockers.

On top of tougher security, the Task Force decided to propose a program to identify and treat drug users. The two main bases for the program would be random drug testing

of suspected users and a recovery program for known users.

Lundquist confirmed that a specific plan for the program has not been decided on and the program is not in use at the present time.

Lundquist said the random drug testing would only be done for students whose parents sign a form verifying parental permission to perform the test on their child. He said students who do not have parental verification would not have to be tested.

"These are mainly for students whose parents have strong suspicion that their child is using drugs,"

Lundquist said.

Suspected users will be tested randomly by an independent agency.

If the student tests positive for drugs, the parents will be notified directly at their home.

Lundquist said it is very important that the names of the suspected and known users are kept confidential.

From there, the student will be required to receive evaluation and counseling from a professional drug counselor, a policy Lundquist thinks of as treatment, not punishment.

"We are trying to give awareness and help to the many kids who are hurting themselves and others by doing drugs."

Despite the program's popularity, Westside senior honors and debate student Chris Nilsson said that a school-related program is an unnecessary step in testing students for drugs.

"The schools are becoming a bit too involved in the personal lives of students - it should be a parents' job first."

It should be the parent's job first.
-- Chris Nilsson, Westside student

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■ LB 648 Legislation benefits education

The recent Legislative Bill 648 is practical and addresses many problems in the Nebraska school systems. With the passage of this bill into law, stricter penalties for misbehavior will make our schools safer.

For example, in LB 648, the punishment for assaulting faculty or staff members would be elevated to a class three felony. This means that this crime would be considered as serious as assault on a police officer. Hopefully, such harsh consequences will be enough to deter students from carrying out such violent actions.

There is simply no reason why an instructor should feel uneasy about coming to work because they are concerned about being attacked by some wild student. If this bill prevents such incidences, it aids us all.

LB 648 also addresses issues which affect a greater percentage of the student body. As of now, students must be extremely careful to take nothing to school which could be misconstrued as a weapon. They cannot bring utensils to cut food or even fingernail clippers since most have a sharp metal nail file which could possibly be used to harm others. Although it is easy to understand the cautiousness of the administration in these areas, it can be quite an inconvenience to students.

If LB 648 is passed, it includes a section which defines more clearly the term "deadly weapon." Under this new definition, a weapon is described as something which poses a serious threat to the "safety and well-being" of the school.

Because the bill recognizes the differences between bringing a weapon with the intent to harm and taking a piece of cutlery for lunch, many problems the administration currently faces regarding such issues would be eliminated.

The only part of this bill which may initially attract a student's opposition is the section which addresses the driving privileges of students who are expelled or suspended from school.

According to LB 648, these students would have their licenses revoked for the period of time they are out of school.

Although this may seem harsh at first, the logic behind it is reasonable. The Nebraska State Education Association, which originated the bill, was clearly concerned that the students who were being punished would simply get into trouble again during the time they were kept out of school.

However, by taking away the most convenient form of transportation for these students, it will be much more difficult for them to find trouble. The expulsion of a student is intended to be a period of punishment, not a relaxing time to party.

In general, this bill would greatly improve Nebraska's educational system. The sooner LB 648 is passed and put into effect, the better off Nebraska schools will be.

Religious tradition does not justify juvenile enslavement

Among the small villages in Ghana, Africa, certain types of bondage are as common a retribution as jails are in America. As the year 2000 approaches, one might confidently assume that in this world, sexual slavery is something of the past.

Unfortunately, despite the many thousands of advances our planet has made, there is a little girl being used as a sex servant for a priest in Ghana.

Even worse, rather than having those persons directly responsible for the crime be punished, a virgin girl is given up by the family to the priest of the area. In the southeastern part of Ghana, this ritualistic atonement steals the identities of thousands of girls.

Given willingly by the families, the girls become the priests' property, able to have freedom only when the priest feels that she is no longer a favorable asset for him. Until this point, the girl must begin her time as a member of the Trocosi, or a slave to the gods, by doing such work as cleaning and cooking.

At some point she is taught to farm. But those obligations shall only appease the priest until she grows older, at which point sexual acts will join the list of her duties.

When the girl is finally dismissed, the repentance has not ended completely. The original girl's family replace her with another virgin, and eventually the next girl too shall be no longer pleasing and be relieved by another.

It is an endless cycle of a family's daughters, nieces and cousins all being robbed of their lives and chastities because of the mistake of a relative.

Under Ghana's constitution, slavery is illegal. However because of the religious association with the tradition of Trocosi, it has been overlooked for generations and generations of young Ghanaian women.

The people of Ghana who allow this form of punishment to continue are essentially saying that two wrongs do make a right. Ghanaians let themselves believe that by sacrificing a girl's innocence to a priest for a relative's act of murder, or rape, this third party, separate from the crime, somehow eases the pain of the event, and also soothes the gods.

This is a terrible case of a figurehead in religion manipulating the people so he and the other priests may reap the rewards of having young unsuspecting girls on their premises to attend to tasks they should not be subjected to.

Furthermore, it plainly violates the basic human rights of these girls. From childhood, until they have become mothers themselves, these slaves are subject to sexual abuse and a general danger to their health as women.

Under no religious defense should this practice continue. No belief in any deity should be able to warrant a blameless girl's abuse. No constitution should provide a loophole to repeatedly doom generations of women.



REGISTER YOUR OPINIONS

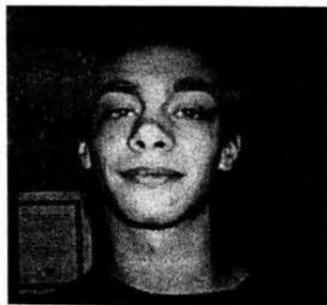
"Register Your Opinions" is a sampling of student opinion. It is not meant to represent the views of the entire student body or the staff of *the Register*.

Should marijuana be legalized for medicinal purposes?

Yes, because the positive effects greatly outweigh the negative. The kind of people that are going to benefit from this aren't potheads-- I think that is what a lot of people are worried about.



Steffen Hooi 12



No because it will put pharmaceutical companies out of business, and we can't have that.

Jesse Smith 11

Yes and no. I think legalizing it for medicinal purposes is a step in the right direction, but eventually, when people open their minds, it needs to be legalized for general use.

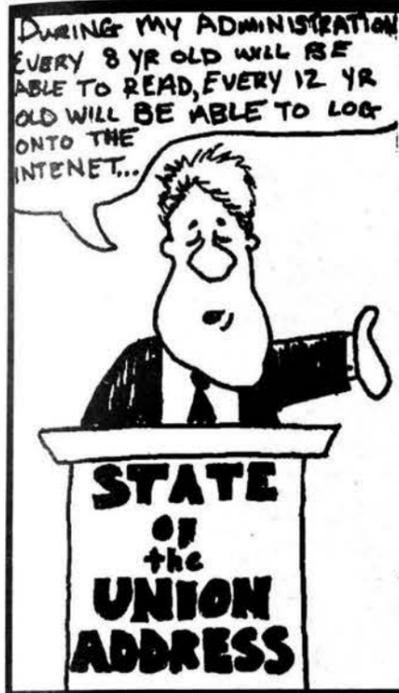


Colin Duggan 12



Yes, because if there is a way to help alleviate suffering, we should use it. If smoking pot is going to help them out, it doesn't bother me.

Kristina Detwiller 12



Racism has no place in schools

Through My Eyes

By Erin Beal



Our nation's continual struggle to achieve both diversity and racial harmony has hit another bump in recent weeks.

Surprisingly, the scene of these recent problems has not been on one of the coasts nor in the government. Instead, it was between student activists and the administration at Iowa State University.

The controversy resulted from the 1995 naming of a campus building after Carrie Chapman Catt. This woman was both a leading suffragist and, according to many students, a racist.

The original group of students were punished for holding an unauthorized rally and the activists' numbers have been growing ever since. Consistently in institutions across the country, student opin-

ions are not given serious consideration in decision making. It has been two years after the renaming of the hall that the president of ISU wanted to meet with them.

However, even then he refused because the students insisted on having a moderator present.

It seems that if the administration had listened more closely to the students original objections, the entire campus would not be facing the problems which have been brewing for almost two years now.

It is also amazing that the administration was too blind to even consider that many of her statements could be viewed as racist.

In her 1917 book *Woman Suffrage by Federal Constitutional Amendment*, Catt wrote that "white

supremacy will be strengthened, not weakened by woman suffrage."

Her defenders claim that these comments are only in response to the objections of southern men to women's suffrage. Apparently, an increased black vote was a major concern for Southerners. No matter why Catt made the comments, they are still racist and condescending.

Personally, I find no reason why Catt should be honored in this way when so many of her comments could easily be considered inflammatory.

This is not to forget about her significant role in the history of women's rights. Once again, however, Carrie Chapman Catt's racist attitude should throw her out of contention for such an honor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM

Dear Editor,

On Monday, January 20, 1997, none of us came to school. It wasn't a weekend, it wasn't a snow day and it wasn't even the infamous "senior skip day."

OPS got this break because it was a special holiday, a time of remembrance. It was Martin Luther King Day. I'm sure, like myself, many OPS students don't even know the exact date of this holiday. I would even go as far as to guess that some don't even know the meaning behind it. But there's one thing that everyone knows—no school.

This to me, is pathetic. If OPS is going to recognize this as a holiday worthy of no school, it would be clearly stressed to all students as to why. As a student of Central High School, I feel like the only thing being stressed here was "sleep late" or "long weekend."

My question is, how many Central High students rolled out of bed knowing why they were able to wake up hours later than usual. At first, I saw this as an issue that needed to be directed to OPS, but as I have talked to kids at other schools, I realize there is only one place to direct this issue—CHS.

Martin Luther King Jr. was an extremely important figure in the US. Although we all know who he is, some a bit more than others, there is nothing wrong with a little reminder. At "High School X", students were able to attend an assembly the Friday before their long weekend. The assembly was not a huge deal. A couple of interesting speakers, several are words from members of the student body and music from a school singing group to tie into the theme. The assembly lasted only one period and even though it might not have been the most enlightening period for all, each student knew exactly why they wouldn't be at school on that following Monday. I'm not implying that an assembly is the only solution, it's the idea behind it that I find valuable. I am not only bothered, but also quite surprised at the way the Central High faculty and staff would choose to handle not just this holiday, but also other important dates throughout the year.

Maybe our administration needs to become more aware of the fact that there is more to education than "reading, writing and arithmetic."

Maggie Jacobson, Senior

Dear Editor,

I must say I am confused. I wish somebody would explain to me what is happening to this school of ours. I don't understand how I keep reading in the papers about all of these programs that are supposed to be raising the standards of teaching and what we are supposed to be learning, yet all I see is the quality deteriorating. Teachers used to be worried about making their lessons interesting and fun, yet now they are only concerned about getting the criteria in our 42 minute class periods. All the administration cares about now is how the school looks to the media and the superintendent. What happened to caring about the students that drop out, or never go to class. I guess the thing I am really confused about is why nobody cares anymore. In the three years that I have been here I have seen this school go downhill; everything from the quality of lessons to sitting on the west porch. I've been screaming my lungs out and stomping my feet until the floor shakes trying to make people realize that this is only the beginning. All of my fellow seniors keep telling me, "It's our last year-let them deal with it." I am sick of nobody putting their foot down. It used to be that the students would stand up for each other and now they tattle on each other. From now on we need to stand together or else we will all fall apart in the future. My lungs are tired and my feet hurt. Will someone please explain to me, why, in 20 years we will be embarrassed to say we graduated from Omaha Central High School-- the school with students that never stood together to make a change for the future.

Jenny Gleason, Senior

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CENTRAL STANDARDS

NO YES 100 Students Polled

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52 Do you use the recycling bins in the courtyard?

70
30 Is your family involved in a recycling program in the home?

55
45 Do you litter?

51
49 Do you have any ethical/moral problems with littering?

WHERE TO FIND US

Send all letters of opinion to room 315 or find the box on the two side of the courtyard. It is the policy of *the Register* not to print unsigned letters.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Central sweeps up at Scholastic Art Awards

Central art students displayed works in the 70th Nebraska Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition held at Dana College in Blair, NE from Feb. 10 through the 21st.

Many Central art students received awards from the national competition sponsored by Scholastic Inc., an educational publisher out of New York City. The students received awards from many different categories, including drawing, painting, photography, electronic imaging and sculpture.

There are four different types of awards given to students. The highest ranking is the Gold Key Award. Students who receive Gold Keys have their works sent to New York City to compete on the national level. Students may also have their winning portfolios sent to New York for competition.

"It feels good to win. I'm glad I got it," Kristina Detwiller, senior, said. "I was definitely surprised though."

Kristina received two Gold Key Awards, along with two Silver Key Awards and two honorable mentions.

All awards are based on the competitions in each region. Nebraska is considered one region because of its size.

"Each teacher gets 25 entries, the entries include work from the previous second semester and this first semester," Mr. Larry Andrews, art teacher, said.

After the works are submitted, a panel of judges, consisting of art teachers, look at the works and select the winning entries.

The students compete for the awards in two groups.

The first group has grades seven through nine while the second group has grades ten through twelve.

Many students find it hard to have their artwork judged.

"I hate being judged, it's really weird," Kristina said. "I'm glad for the recognition, but they don't really hold the judgment."

"It's super hard, there are five judges and you never know what's going to happen or how the judges will react," Heidi said.

Heidi received a Gold Key, honorable mention, Dean's Camera award and portfolio award for photography. She also received a Silver Key for a wire sculpture she made.

Students in art classes work on class assignments and from there entries to competitions are chosen.

CHS plays well

Students sound their stuff at All-City

By Tim Hakanson

Over 150 Central students joined other high school musicians at the Omaha Civic Auditorium on Feb. 8 for the 48th annual All-City Music Festival.

The All-City Music Festival was a gathering of elementary, middle and high school musicians. Central students performed in the high school orchestra, chorus and band.

Ms. Molly Moriarty, Central orchestra conductor, was the string coach for the junior high All-City Orchestra. She made auditioning for All-City a requirement for her students this year, unlike last year when auditioning was optional.

She said that in previous years, everyone who wanted to be in All-City was accepted and people would only audition for higher chairs. Now that students must audition to participate, she requires them all to try-out.

Mr. Pete Wilger, Central concert band conductor and All-City orchestra chairman, said that having a string section in which all students auditioned improved the quality of the orchestra.

The orchestra's performance went very well," he said.

Moriarty also thought that the High School Orchestra had a good performance.

It went well, and there was a good selection of music," Moriarty said.

Ms. Lyn Bouma, music department head, said that schools send their top choir to All-City. Central sent the Acappella Choir, freshmen boys from the Junior Choir, and sophomore girls from Bel Canto to the All-City High School Chorus.

She said that the choral portion of the program was well-received by the audience, especially the final selection, "He Never Failed Me Yet." She said that Central was lucky to have two girls with solos in this piece.

Yvonne Jackson and Lacey Pruitt were improv soloists on the piece, meaning they made

their solos up on the spot.

Bouma said that they did a good job of improvising.

Amy Revenaugh, junior, sang in the chorus and played flute in the band and was in All-City for her sixth year.

It was the best All-City experience I have had since sixth grade," Amy said, "All the groups picked music suited to their ability."

She also said that "He Never Failed Me Yet" was the highlight of the show.

The High School Band was the last group to perform, followed by a finale.

More Central instrumentalists tried out for the band this year than in previous years, Wilger said. Band members were required to try-out for All-City to get their letter. He said that this idea helped people prepare and practice more.

Wilger said that the All-City Band did very well.

The High School Band and Orchestra and all of the choruses performed "From Sea to Shining Sea" to conclude the performance.

Kristoff Berzins, sophomore trombone player, was impressed with the concert.

I think that it was fun,"

Kristoff said, "I liked listening to the choir, orchestra and the band. The concert was better than last year."

Wilger said that the All-City Music Festi-



Playing it up... Samira Nazem (10) rehearses her piece the for All-City Mucsic Festival.

val, at 48 years, is the longest-running all-city program in the country. Both Wilger and Moriarty participated in All-City as high school students.

LB 648 seeks more control for schools

By Carolyn Bullard

With the proposal of Legislative Bill 648, backed by Sen. Shelly Kiel, the issue of school safety will be brought to the floor of the 95th Nebraska Legislature.

The bill originated from the Nebraska State Education Association. They said that they saw a need for changes in the jurisdiction of Nebraska schools.

The association then took their ideas to Kiel who, supporting them, began to revise the ideas, and with input from different groups, created a bill.

"I thought it (the ideas represented in the bill) was really important for the legislature for a number of reasons," Kiel said.

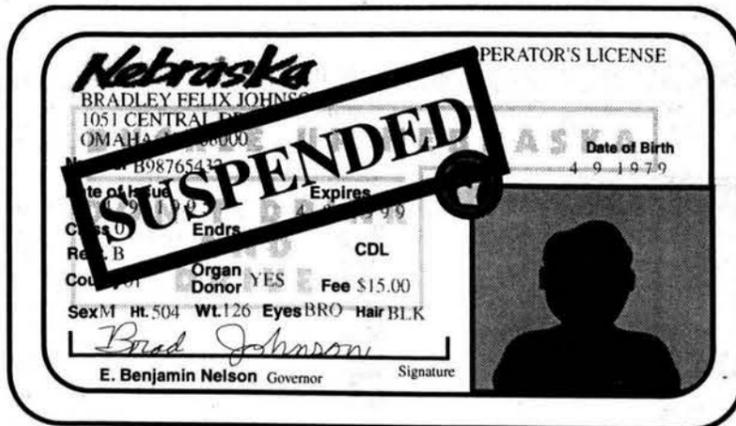
There are multiple proposals in the bill.

"The bill could actually be broken down into six or seven separate bills, but it was agreed that all of the presented ideas related to safe schools, so it made sense for them to go together," Kiel said.

The first issue raised by LB648 is that of violence towards staff.

According to the bill, the penalties for causing physical harm to a teacher or staff member would be upped to the same status of a police officer, there fore would be considered a class three felony.

A second item addressed is the repealing of the now current \$1000



liability cap on personal injuries to teachers and staff members while on the job.

If passed, it would modify the current law imposing more parental liability/responsibility on the parents of the student causing physical harm.

Another part of the bill concerns the defining of deadly weapons in public school systems.

Instead of limiting this list to fire arms, the bill defines deadly weapon as "an immediate an inherently dangerous threat to the safety and well-being of an educational setting." Much of this bill deals with providing clear definitions.

Kiel said that this would delineate between bringing something to cut your orange at lunch and bringing a knife with the intent to harm someone.

The bill also confronts the is-

sue of corporal punishment in the class room. It clearly distinguishes between the use of corporal punishment and physical restraint, so that use of corporal punishment can be prohibited, but physical restraint would be permitted if needed.

The bill gives teachers the right to kick students out of their classrooms for two to five days, and have them sent to an isolation or in school suspension room.

Kiel said that this is the only part of the bill that has received some opposition.

Along with giving teacher this right, it also would give schools the right to make rules concerning the use of cellular phones and paging devices. As well, school boards would officially be given the right to have mandatory uniforms if desired.

One aspect of the bill that

would affect students directly is that it would take driving privileges away from students who are expelled or suspended from school.

The portion of the bill amends the current Motor Vehicle Operator's License Law to read, "The director shall suspend the operator's license of any person who has been expelled under the student discipline act for a period of time equal to the term of such expulsion."

Though the bill has been written and is supported by Sen. Kiel, it still has quite a way to go before it can actually become law. First the bill was introduced onto the floor of the legislature. Then it went to an executive committee, who decided which specific committee should hear the bill presented and a date was assigned for a hearing.

On Mar. 5, the bill will be heard by the Judiciary Committee.

They will then decide to either kill, hold or send the bill to the floor of the Legislature to be discussed in what is referred to as general file.

Unless the bill is defeated in general file, it proceeds on to select file. It is then debated and heard again.

It then has a final reading, and if passed on, is given to the Governor.

The Governor either signs veto's or lets the bill become law without his signature.

Teacher lobbies state senators on education

By John Gaskins

With many opinions about how government should be involved in our public schools, Central Spanish teacher Ms. Vickie Anderson travels to the state capitol in Lincoln periodically to stand up for education.

Anderson lobbies for teachers and students on education bills before state senators and legislative committees at the capitol building when she feels strongly about an issue.

Some issues she has lobbied for include funding for schools, health care plans and benefits for teachers and retirement plans for teachers.

Anderson said she thinks the government becomes too involved with education without taking into consideration the feelings of educators, students and parents. She said she is tired of the government trying to tell teachers how to do their jobs.

"Teaching is one of the few occupations where you are not treated like a professional," Anderson said. "I don't try to tell my plumber how to fix the toilet because I assume he knows what he's doing. For whatever reason, the government does not treat teachers that way."

The teacher cited that this year, 49 different state senators proposed 80 bills concerning education. Though Anderson understands education is an important issue to legislators, she says that they spend too much time trying to come up with their own idea for an education sys-

tem and not enough time listening to the opinion of educators.

"Lobbyists such as myself spend all of our time trying to refute their ideas when we could be proposing new ones," Anderson said. "If they would listen to our ideas in the first place, we could get things resolved much quicker and easier."

The process for lobbying is a very complicated and hideous one, Anderson said.

Lobbyists are never able to speak on the floor in front of the entire legislature.

Instead, lobbyists have three options if they want to advocate for an issue.

One option is to write their complaint or comment on paper forms available in the entrance of the building that some senators might read.

Another way is to write letters to or E-Mail your senator.

To voice an opinion more ac-

tively, a lobbyist can set up a one-on-one interview session with a senator or speak before a legislative subcommittee.

Teaching is one of the few occupations where you are not treated like a professional.
--Vickie Anderson, Spanish teacher

Anderson said she has used all of these ways of lobbying many times, and has gone to the capitol five times a year over the last 15 years to lobby and has sent countless E-Mail messages and letters.

However, Anderson still said that lobbying is not taken seriously enough.

Also, because teachers and administrators do not have enough time to take trips to Lincoln personally to speak for legislators, there are hired lobbyists whose jobs are to represent the general public and the educators.

Some of these groups include labor unions such as the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO).

The most recent issue Anderson has lobbied for involved health

care plans. She said over 70,000 Nebraska educators have their health plans with Blue Cross/Blue Shield that are inexpensive and work well.

However, Sen. Curt Brom of Hastings purposed a bill that would require kindergarten through twelfth grade teachers to be under the more expensive and less convenient state plan, which she says teachers are not happy about.

"We don't know why they are singling teachers out and we don't understand why Brom can't take into consideration our opinion," Anderson said. "It's a perfect example of why sometimes I just want to go up to these people and say 'mind your own business.'"

Anderson said the general public should become more involved in government decisions because they have a constitutional right to freedom of speech.

The first and best way to have a say in the government is to vote, she said.

"We elect representatives to the legislature so they can reflect and carry out our views," Anderson said. "Unfortunately, sometimes they don't listen to them enough."

That is where lobbying for and against proposed legislative bills comes into play, Anderson said.

She said it is important for teachers and administrators to become more involved in educational politics in order for education to improve. She is doing her part.

High-tech classrooms send Iowa schools to future

By Brian Joseph

Imagine communicating with your teacher, who is 100 miles away, by the use of high quality video cameras and television screens.

Two hundred and fifty Iowa high schools are part of a special project called the Iowa Communications Network. Each high school has one special classroom that can interact, both audibly and visually, with other special classrooms in other high schools by use of a fiber optics system.

"Its pretty much cutting-edge technology," Mr. Ed Propst, the supervisor of technology for the Council Bluffs school district, said.

Propst said that these classrooms are used to send the visual and audio of the happening of a class being taught in one high school to another high school across the state. A classroom has the capabilities of being either an originating or a receiving classroom.

Students in both the originating classroom and the receiving one can contribute to class discussions. Both the teacher and the students can interact completely by the use of special video screens and high quality video cameras.

"Each classroom has the capacity for two-way audio and two-way video," Propst said.

He said that each classroom has three cam-

eras, one that focuses on the teacher, one that views the teacher's desk or podium so that the teacher can display objects and one camera focuses on the students.

If a student wants to contribute to the class, the student presses a button on the microphone at his or her table and the camera, by the use of robotic parts, will move to get a clearer view of the student.

Propst said that each classroom has three screens, one in the rear of the classroom for the teacher to view the receiving classroom's students and two in the front of the room for student use.

"Students in the originating classroom can see other students (in the receiving classroom) and vice versa," Propst said.

With this technology Propst said that students have been able to go on "virtual field trips." There was

a virtual field trip to DeSoto Bend during the bird migrations. Propst said that there are plans to have a virtual tour of Joslyn Art Museum.

He said that all of this is done by the use of a fiber optics system. It is a system of cables that is also used by the Federal Government, civic organizations, public libraries, and hospitals within Iowa.

"It's kind of a joint venture," he said.

Propst said that it is limited only to these parties. No businesses can come onto the system.

However, Propst said that this is not all that there is to this project.

Students can use the special classroom to tape presentations.

He said that each classroom can be hooked up to computers, VCRs or laser disk machines. He said that the rooms have internet access.

He said that each classroom also has other standard equipment.

"Every classroom has a fax machine," Propst said.

All of this equipment allows teachers to be able to better research topics according to Propst

"We're enhancing the curriculum," he said. Propst said that the rooms will become more important in years to come. He said that right now the classrooms are being used "several hours everyday."

"It's getting used more and more all of the time," he said.

Propst said that even though one would think such a room would be difficult to operate, it is not. He said that "very little training is needed" to operate the system.

It takes only two switches to turn on an entire room.

Propst said that the if the rate of new schools getting these classrooms continues, every high school in Iowa will have one in two years.

"Right now we're in the expanding stage," he said.

Propst said that Iowa is looking to connect with other states.

"I know Nebraska is looking into things," he said.

Propst said that there is some talk of taking this technology to junior high schools as well. However taking this to junior high schools would be a tremendous commitment of money.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Singers compete in Chicago

Bel Canto, A Cappella and CHS Singers will be competing in the Heritage Festival singing competition in Chicago April third through the sixth.

On Friday the fourth, after a day of traveling, the students involved will go sight-seeing and shopping.

On the following day the students will be involved with the competition itself.

That night the students will attend an awards dinner at the Medieval Times restaurant where the students can view people jousting.

The Central singing groups will be staying at the Oakbrook Marriott hotel in Chicago.

Pom Squad teaches camp

The Central High Pom Squad invited girls grades first through six to participate with Pom Squad members in the halftime dance show at a boys' varsity basketball game, Millard North against Central at Norris on Fri., Feb. 21.

There were 44 girls who participated in the Kiddie Camp. Twenty-one different schools were represented at Kiddie Camp. Ten of the schools were part of the OPS school district and 11 were from non-OPS schools.

Last Tuesday and Thursday, the Pom Squad worked with the girls on dance steps.

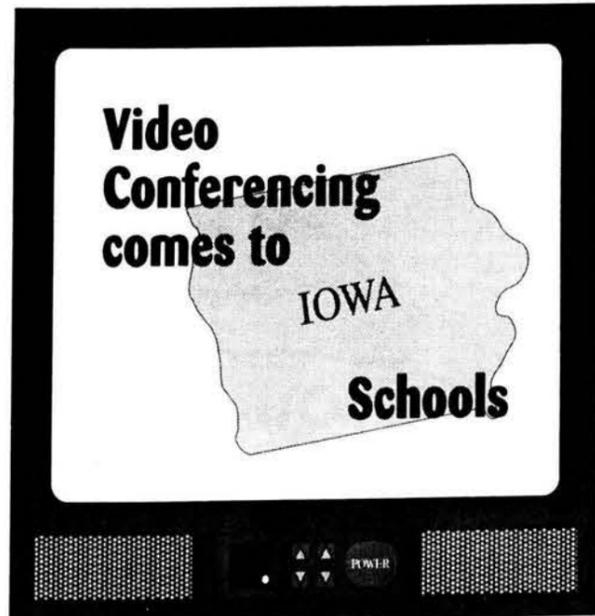
The girls received t-shirts, pom poms and a tape of the dance.

"It was fun to work with those girls, and they enjoyed it very much," Maria Theophilopoulous, senior and member of the Pom Squad said. She said that this was a way to promote the Pom Squad.

Registration aided by fair

Freshmen, sophomore and junior students made their class selections during February.

This year the underclass were invited to an elective fair held on Wed., Feb. 5. Teachers demonstrated the different electives available. Underclass students were able to go to the elective fair in the old gym during their English classes.





By Rachel Slosburg

- School: Florida State University
- Location: Tallahassee, Florida
- Percent Male and Female: 45 and 55
- Number of Applicants: 13,801
- Percent Accepted: 76
- Percent of Students Accepting Admissions Offers: 30
- Mean ACT: 24
- Estimated Tuition (including room and board): \$11,200
- Percent of Students involved in Greek System: 20
- Most Popular Majors: Biology, Criminal Justice and Psychology
- Mascot: Seminole

Miscellaneous Information:

Florida State University, with 20,000 undergraduate students and 14 undergraduate schools, enables students to study in a large variety of fields.

FSU is known for its sports. In fact, the Seminoles' football team has been ranked in the Top Ten for the last several years.

Social life is a big part of FSU and almost all students show their school spirit by going to sporting events. Pep rallies lasting over a week have been common to the FSU campus.

Classes are large; one class may have hundreds of students. An FSU student needs 30 semester hours on campus in order to graduate. However, a student still finds time to have fun and support the school.

Famous FSU graduates include astronauts Norman Thagard and Winston Scott, pro basketball player Charlie Ward, and musician Ellen Zwilich.

All information taken from *The 1997 Edition of The College Catalog*

Career representatives offer students advice

By Brian Joseph

A career visitor representing a specific career is available in the courtyard during the lunch hours so that students may ask the representative questions about his career to help the students better understand careers of their interest.

Mrs. Lynda Molyneaux, Central counselor, in conjunction with Mr. David Reyes, the school-to-career facilitator, is bringing various representatives of careers to Central so that students may learn more about careers in general. Molyneaux said that the careers represented are chosen along the lines of the outcome of last year's career survey presented in study halls.

She also said that it is a great opportunity for students to learn about careers that are of interest to them.

"It gives [students] first-hand information about that job," Molyneaux said.

Students have the ability to have one-on-one conversations with the representative, which allows students to get more information.

The idea of the career representative came out of the planning for the Career Fair, Molyneaux said. She said that she was thinking about how successful the Career Fair was for helping students learn about careers and the idea just came from that.

Molyneaux said that there have been many different careers represented in the courtyard. There have been careers from chemist to professional model.

"We're going to cover all areas of career exploration," Molyneaux said.

Molyneaux said she wants students to ask specific questions of the representative. She suggested asking questions about training, salary, education and availability.

Molyneaux also said the representatives have been very willing to come into the school.

"It's good PR for them to be in this building," she said.

Mrs. Phylsha Doane, the model career representative, said that she agrees. She said she had wanted to be a representative. Doane said that she had been asked many questions, however, students seem to be rather shy.

She also said that she has much to teach students.

"[Modeling is] harder than it looks," Doane said.

Steve Larson, senior, was one student who talked with Doane. He said that he gained some information from her and perhaps made some connections.

"I've always wanted to [model], but I've been too scared to try," he said.



Caroline Foley

Planning for the future: Phylsha Doane, professional model, tells Tiffany Davis, junior, about her work experiences with the International School of Modeling.

Museum attracts Latino artists, educates public

By Emily Martin

El Museo Latino, the first Latino museum in Nebraska, contains art by Latino artists and other special exhibits featuring art, costumes and photography.

"The purpose of the museum is to try to bring to the Omaha area feature Latino artists on the local, national and international scene," Mrs. Magdalena Garcia Munoz, executive director of the museum, said.

Sharing the Latino culture with the community is one of the museum's goals.

"If you look at the majority of the visitors to the museum, at least 90% or higher are non-Hispanic," Munoz said. "We are sharing our art and the variety and richness of our culture that we have as a tradition."

One of the exhibits currently at the museum showcases traditional toys and miniatures from Latino countries. In the exhibit there are many different toys, from musical instruments such as guitars and ritual drums to marionettes from Mexico City.

The exhibit has many other authentic toys that are not as familiar to people from the United States as they are to the people from Latino countries that actually play with them.

Other exhibits currently at the museum feature yarn art, Latino masks dating from 1940 to 1995, as well as an exhibit featuring art depicting the Day of the Dead. With each exhibit Munoz said she tries to schedule lectures that appeal to both adults and children.

"People like to see different things, that's what keeps people coming back, that's what keeps a museum running," Munoz said. "The collections, the lectures, the different artists, all of these things people enjoy."

The museum not only has exhibits, but also offers ways for people to learn more about the Latino culture. Through the museum people

may attend workshops, dance classes and guided tours.

"I would like to see the museum grow to where I can have more groups in the museum," Munoz said. "I would like to see it grow to where we can serve more of the audience we want to."

Currently the museum packages some exhibits to send out to different museums around the state. These traveling exhibits are one way El Museo Latino spreads information about the Latino culture.

El Museo Latino, which boasts over 6,000 visitors a year, opened its doors on May 5, 1993.

"I knew there was a need here in Omaha to share the Latino culture, so I approached some local community leaders and artists to start the museum," Munoz said.

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Central debate team wins several awards

By Tim Hakanson

"Central has the best and largest Speech and Debate team in Omaha Public Schools," Mrs. Kris Bertch, speech and debate teacher, said.

The team has taken part in eight competitions so far this school year. Several debaters have won awards at these competitions.

Senior Omar Nazem, president of Debate Club, said, "The team as a whole is not doing as well as expected."

He said that a highlight of this year's team was the defeat of last year's national champion, Green Hill High School in Texas by seniors Mary Blazek and Kiley Kane. They also won the Fremont Invitational.

"We felt ecstatic," Kane said. "It was unexpected."

"We're looking for a strong showing by them at state in March. They may make nationals," Nazem said.

Junior Dan Danberg agreed that Mary Blazek and Kiley Kane have potential.

"They will go to nationals. They have the focus and the vision," he said.

The team not only competes in tournaments, but it also hosts high school tournaments and is the only team in OPS to train, judge and teach for the Junior High De-

bate Program in Omaha.

On Jan. 28, the GOLD Central High tournament was hosted by the team and on Feb. 7, Central hosted the Central High Eagle Invitational. GOLD stands for Greater Omaha League of Debate.

Four students competed at New Trier High School in the Chicago area on the weekend of Oct. 12 in a national tournament. They were juniors Sam Kruger and Dan Danberg and seniors Mary Blazek and Kiley Kane.

Bertch said that this was a high caliber tournament and that the team was successful.

Among the competitions at which Central debaters have won awards is the Lincoln Southeast tournament on Dec. 6, where Omar was awarded top speaker for debate.

Varsity speech team member Emily Martin, junior, won an award for poetry and freshmen Leo Dwyer won an award for original oratory.

At other competitions, the speech team has won many other awards, Bertch said. At the Millard South High tournament on Nov. 15, seniors Zach Girthoffer, Joe Girthoffer, Tim Faulkenberry and Scott Dall won an award for their group interpretation, "The Three Amigos."

At the GOLD competition at Burke High on Nov. 22, junior

Melissa Brusche and sophomore Cara Dalrymple won awards in dramatic interpretation.

Dan and Sam, as well as juniors Alli Pagan and Ryan Lewis were quarterfinalists at the Mercy High Competition.

Sophomres Sonya Voss and Melody Dworak each won second and third place ribbons at the Fremont Invitational.

Ryan Watzke, senior, won a first place trophy and a first place plaque for being the top speaker and the best presiding officer at the Congress competition at Lincoln High.

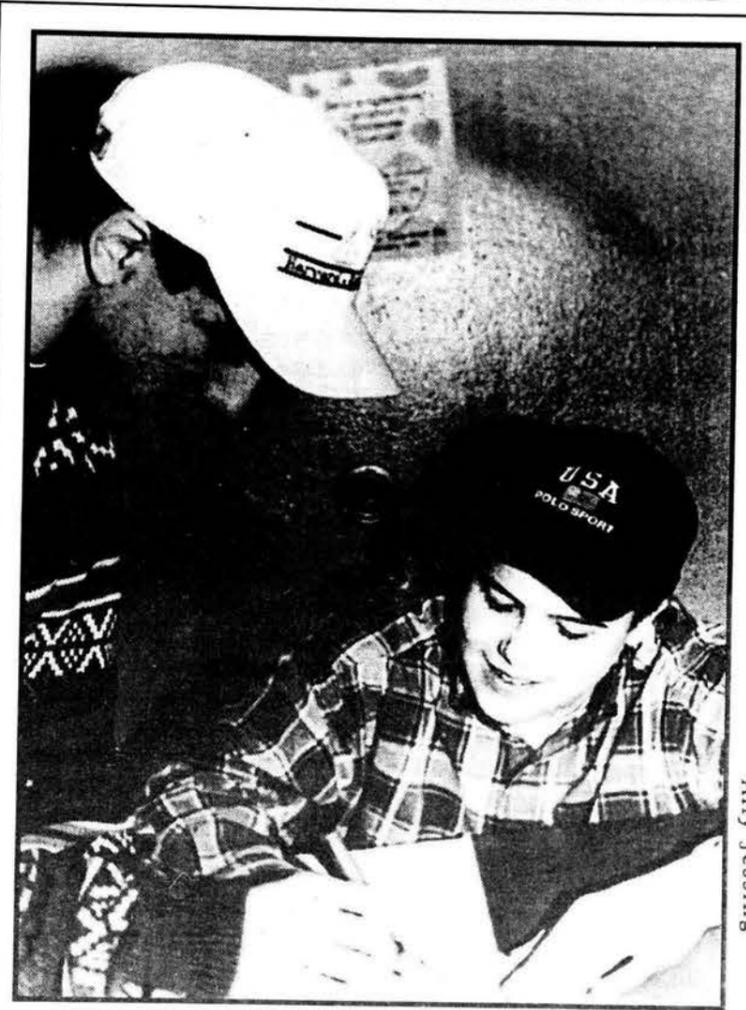
In addition to these varsity and junior varsity team members, many novice debaters have won awards including junior Jesse Smith and freshmen Kristi Derrick, Samira Nazem, Danny Jacobs, Chris Ochsner, and Heather Anderson.

Freshmen Matt Miller was undefeated at the Iowa City West tournament.

Omar said that the team has a good future and that they have strong debaters in Sam and Dan's team.

"I expect nationals from Dan and Sam. They are a building team with national potential," Mary said.

Nazem said that the freshmen on the team also have potential and a good work ethic.



Ally Jessing

Junior Dan Danberg and senior Omar Nazem go over last minute details before the Central High Eagle Invitational on February 7. Dan was a quarterfinalist at the Mercy High Invitational.

Your Future 101

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- Do you like working with people?
- Do you want to earn a top income?

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CELEBRATING HISTORY

■ African American History Club

Club learns to relate history to life

By Tim Hakanson

For the past three and a half years, Central High School has sponsored an African American History Club that has focused on learning more about African American history and how it relates to life today.

Christina White, senior and president of the African American History Club, said that the club is meant to encourage students and help them learn more about the achievements of African Americans.

Ms. Pat Brizendine, African American History Club sponsor, said that the club is a service oriented organization.

She said that many African American students feel disconnected from school activities. She said that the African American History Club helps them feel a connection and a desire to participate that often leads to joining other activities.

The club participates in service activities and other educational activities. Last year, they helped clean up the birth site of Malcolm X. Brizendine said that she has recently received a list of activities from which they will pick this year's service project.

She said that the club began about three and a half years ago when one student came and asked if there could be an African American History Club. She said that the first year was spent trying to figure out what kind of club it would be and what purpose it would have.

"We talk about history as it relates to us today, not only in America, but also in Africa," Brizendine said.

She said that it is open to everyone who wants to make a difference in the African American community.

The club is doing some activities this month to observe Black History Month.

"We are helping students know about achievements of African Americans in subtle ways. We do not want to step on peoples' toes," Christina said.

She said that the announcements in the morning bulletins and over the intercom are a good way for people to hear

about the achievements of African Americans. Minority Scholars, not the African American History Club, give these announcements.

Treasurer Christian Nwaju, sophomore, said that she is happy that the announcements are being made. However, she wishes that the club was involved.

Christina said that the club will have steppers from college fraternities and sororities perform for Central students during the last week in February. Stepping is the use of feet to make music.

Brizendine said that many students were disappointed with the way the school has handled Black History Month this year.

Last year, a Soul Food Taste, a performance by the youth theater and an African Art Store display were put on during school. An African Film Festival was held after school. Brizendine said that these activities were well-accepted and successful.

She said the club has had trouble getting organized this year because many students take zero hour classes before



school and other work after school.

Christina said the club has also had trouble getting money and had to sell a lot of candy.

Shamilia Lindsey, junior, does not think that the club is recognized by the school as much as it should be.

She hopes that the school will help the club more in the future. She said that it is not just for black people, but it is

Black leaders encourage awareness

By Rachel Slosburg

Several African American leaders who have impacted the Omaha community shared their opinions on the celebration of Black History Month.

Many leaders expressed a commonality between their views on Black History Month, especially the idea that black history and the recognition of other minority groups should occur throughout the year. The leaders' opinions varied on how they celebrate or appreciate Black History Month.

These leaders include the names of Brenda Council, Eddie Staton, Joanne R. Harrell, Tommy Hughes and Jamesena Grimes Moore.

Brenda Council, former school board president and 1996 and 1998 mayoral candidate, said she promotes the celebration of Black History Month.

"It is an important time for all Americans to recognize and celebrate the contributions of African Americans in the shaping of this great nation," Council said.

Council said the public service announcements currently running are very profound and send a message to the entire nation. Council said she believes in the Reverend Jesse Jackson's idea of America.

"We as a nation need to understand that America is like a quilt of all different patches bound by a common thread. Each patch has a significance and I see Black



Brenda Council

History Month as a time in which the nation can better understand this concept," Council said.

Council said she participates in Black History Month activities in her work and at home.

"We have Black History Month calendars at my house and I receive a number of invitations to speak to schools and businesses," Council said.

She said she was a Black History Month speaker for the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

When asked how Black History Month should be celebrated in the schools, Council said students need to interact more with the activities concerning Black History Month.

She said Black History Month and the awareness of other minority groups should be incorporated into the normal curriculum and the students.

"It is not only during Black History Month that we should recognize the contributions of minorities," Council said. "If a student does some in-depth research and gets involved with the celebration of Black History Month, the student may spark his interest in the subject and want to expand his knowledge of black history."

Eddie Staton, national president and co-founder of Mad Dads Inc., said Black History Month is significant and necessary.

"African Americans need a time to focus on their cultural background and history," Staton said. "Black

History Month should be a history project for the entire nation; African Americans have made terrific contributions even while slaves," Staton said.

Staton said his wish is for America to recognize the accomplishments of African Americans in a sincere and respected manner.

"We have two cultures celebrating African American history and we must go along way for a better understanding and appreciation for what we are," Staton said.

Staton said the media often portrays a negative image of African Americans.

"The media gives the perception that blacks make up the majority of welfare, but in reality, the statistics show more whites using the system," Staton said.

Staton said in Mad Dads Inc. he gives more counseling to white kids than black kids.

Staton also agreed that Black History Month should be a year-round celebration.

"Black labor created white wealth," Staton said. "There needs to be recognition for what the blacks have given to this country."

In celebration of Black History Month, Staton said Mad Dads Inc. along with Sweet 98 hosted a premier of the movie *Rosewood*, a film about a true story of a town with racial conflicts in Florida.

He said he personally celebrates Black History Month on a daily basis.

Joanne R. Harrell, vice president of Nebraska operations for U S WEST Communications, said Black History Month is not only important to African Ameri-

cans.

"Our country because the majority of people of color."

"I hope our process where it is integrated into the

She said she positive contributions away some of the

Harrell also the school curriculum.

"A student about people of color's contributions."

Tommy Hughes for Humanity and agency in the Old

Harrell said she History Month is celebrated throughout

"I think the not do a great enough to create

Harrell said she progress

Hughes said she progress

TRYING BLACK

Schools join in black history festivities

By Erika Wulff

Schools all over Omaha are celebrating Black History Month in various ways. Students of all ages are partaking in cultural programs and exploring the achievements of black Americans.

Ms. Sandra McGee, principal of Conestoga School said that students celebrate Black History Month by focusing on the overall practice of brotherhood towards one another.

"Black History Month gives teachers another avenue to teach multiculturalism," said McGee.

McGee said students at Conestoga watch films, read stories, and have discussions about equality and brotherhood. Students will also gather in an assembly where the school will listen to a special Black History Month speaker.

At Burke High School, students celebrate with a display case dedicated to black leaders. The display consists of pictures and brief histories of the leaders such as Frederick Douglass, Bill Cosby, and Harriet Tubman. Activity supervisor Ms. Maxine Turner said that Burke students have the opportunity to learn about black history all year.

"Our school offers an African American History class and an Ethnic Culture class that is taught both semesters," Turner said.

At Washington School, students discuss and watch black history films during their social studies class, prin-

icipal Ms. Linda Kraus said.

"Teachers work to incorporate the achievements of minority groups in all areas of study," Kraus said, "I think we have been successful in doing so, judging from the students attitudes and actions."

Kraus said Washington also has a display case featuring black leaders and their roles and achievements in society.

Ms. Kathy Troutner, principal of Jusit Middle School, said that her students do a report on a black leader every month of the school year. February is brotherhood month at the middle school. Troutner said brotherhood month is celebrated by studying various ethnic groups, their culture and contributions. Students also put on a Black History Program for other children at the North Christ Child Center. Troutner said that it is vital for students to have a strong sense of brotherhood that they can carry with them throughout life.

"The goal is to love people, no matter what month it is or what color they are," said Troutner.

Mr. Mel Clancey, Superintendent of Elementary Education, is avid in promoting Black History month and multiculturalism in the Omaha Public Schools. Clancey has been a guest speaker at various Omaha schools during Black History Month.

"O. P. S. has so many diverse resources to teach

multiculturalism. It serves as a model school district," Clancey said.

Clancey said that it is extremely important for every student to know about the achievements of all ethnic groups who helped form our country. Clancey said he hopes that students will take time out during Black History month to reflect on the achievements of those before them and to get motivated to follow in their footsteps.

"My main wish for Black History Month is for black Americans to learn about the history and contributions of their ancestors and to realize that many black leaders started out with humble beginnings," Clancey said.

At Benson High School, students celebrated Martin Luther King Day in an all school assembly. Activities director Mr. Ivory Woods said.

"The assembly is based on making Dr. King's dream a reality through nonviolence and love," Woods said.

The assembly gathers a large crowd, including all students, staff, board members, supervisors and other locals who share the same dream. Events at the assembly consisted of performances by the Benson choir, jazz band and student council presentations.

Woods said Benson is currently celebrating Black History month with various displays on famous events and Civil Rights

works, bulletin announcements and videos.

"Benson High School is very proud of their diversity," Woods said.

Throughout the year, Benson celebrates Native American Month in September, Hispanic American Month in October and Asian American Month in May. Woods said these months are celebrated by informing students of ethnic culture and contributions and by having students of those backgrounds display some aspect of their culture through stories, dance or food. At Walnut Hill Elementary, students spend each morning listening to Moments in Black History. Mrs. Lorraine Amill, principal, said. Amill has provided many cultural activities for the students to participate in this February. She has provided for the Urban Music Review to come play for the students on Feb. 20 to teach them about black music history. On Feb. 28, Mr. Clancey will guest speak at the school followed by a number of student performances of moments in black history.

"We display this multicultural package and infuse it throughout the year," Amill said.

Amill feels confident that her students are becoming more aware of multiculturalism because she has heard them speak of many names and events that were before unknown to them.

for every culture to unite.

"If we keep trying, it will be noticed.

More people will recognize.

There is a good outlook for fresh ideas.

She said these activities field trips to the Black History Museum and guest speakers.

She said that she thinks that all of

ns of heritage

trying to read and learn about earlier pioneers. He said he listens to black history tapes at home.

Hughes said he thinks the schools should also be involved with the celebration of Black History Month.

"I think they should spend every single day covering topics ranging from intellectual inventors to cultural traditions."

Jamesena Grimes Moore, vice president of the volunteer resources at the United Way of the Midlands, said she is proud to celebrate Black History Month.

Grimes Moore said Black History Month is a meaningful time for people of color to celebrate and appreciate their heritage.

"Black History Month is a specific time to share knowledge with others," Grimes Moore said.

"The more educated people become, the more tolerant they become and it is easier for people to work together and focus on solving the bigger problems."

Moore said schools should celebrate Black History Month in a variety of ways.

"The schools should hold essay contests, bring black speakers and any activity which gives the students a better understanding of African American history," Grimes Moore said.

Ernest Chambers, state senator, declined an interview stating that he did not condone the celebration of Black History Month.

He said black history and the contributions of African Americans should not be appreciated and recognized by the community only at a certain time of the year, but rather every day.

Moments in African-American History

February 1926 : Negro History by Carter G. Woodson. Became Black History month in 1976

May 10, 1910 : The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was incorporated.

November 2, 1983 : President Reagan signed a bill establishing the Martin Luther King, Jr., national holiday.

July 8, 1943 : Mildred Brown founded Nebraska's first African-American newspaper.

September 1, 1979 : Hazel Johnson-Brown became the first African-American woman U.S. Army general.

December 14, 1959 : The "Motown Sound" was born when Barry Gordy founded Motown Records in Detroit, Michigan.

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Black History Month by

Entertainment

FEBRUARY 25, 1996

Humor livens up Road Show

By Rebecca Starr

The quality of entertainment in this year's Road Show exceeded past and was far from a "sentimental journey." Few were left disappointed with all of the variety the show had to offer.

The Road Show alternated musical performances with dance performances and skits, but the skits were funnier and the piano solos were shorter.

The show this year started with the band. Usually the band isn't something I enjoy about the Road Show, but this year they played a swing song and hurried off the stage. It was quite painless.

Mary Hill, senior, started the show with an individual dance performance that was wonderful and was one of only three dance performances this year. The other two being Maria Theophilopoulos doing a tap routine and the Lady Steppe's making music as they danced.

Road Show went smoothly until the first piano solo and then there was another and another and another. I realize that these are usually played for the adult audience and I can definitely respect their talent, but have no appreciation for it after years of forced lessons.

There were several guitar du-

ets this year including Mike Mechaley and Ryan Mcgrane both accompanied by Ben Wieduwilt.

"Die Inside," an original song performed by sophomores Johann Johnson and Noelle Thornburg and freshman, Eric Smith, was done extremely well.

Another of the musical acts that was geared toward a younger listening audience "White Room" a Creme song played by seniors, Damien Thompson and Ben Wieduwilt and sophomores, Jackson Kardell and Denver Dally.

Of the school-arranged musical performances, the Jazz Band outperformed any of them.

The first skit, the Monty Python Bridge Scene, performed by Nate Kovarik, junior, and David Rennard, sophomore, was a humorous exert from *Monty Python's Holy Grail*.

"Ding," performed by seniors John Gaskins, and Maggie Jacobson, was an extremely funny skit in which John picks up Maggie and every time something is said that wasn't up to par with each other's expectations, the other would go ding and start over. So, John didn't go to college and is prone to nervous breakdowns. What a catch!

John returns to the stage as the visitor from the east, the amazing

Carnak. Accompanied by Andy Ochsner, senior, Carnak delivered one liners that managed to offend everyone from 7-11 workers to Millard residents to our own senior class representative Mike Kelly. They were hilarious.

The Spartan Cheerleaders made a student council sponsored appearance that featured seniors Chris Darst and Maria Theophilopoulos. A Speedo clad appearance by senior Aaron Kaisershort, although humorous, was not nearly the caliber of last year's skit.

But, I have been saving the best for last. The highlight of this year's Road Show was The Steppin Sweepas. Seniors Sean Baxter, Ben Johnson, Rhyam Keel and Damien Thompson managed to make the entire audience laugh with their spoof of the Lady Steppe's. The actors pushed brooms across the floor and started a beat that some how ended up with Sean stripping, Rhyam break dancing, Ben twirling a broom though his legs and Damien singing Tom Jones. Definitely the highlight of the show.

Road Show was the best it has ever been and a extremely enjoyable way to spend three hours. Hopefully it will be equally as good in the years to come.



Sisters, senior, Anna Jane and sophomore, Katrina Kearnes sing a duet in the Road Show.

Body piercing makes mark on students

By Kate Alseth

If you thought having needles jabbed through your body parts was only an ancient form of torture, think again.

One of the most popular trends among teenagers is body piercing. From noses to bellybuttons, people are piercing every piece of skin imaginable.

Most of these piercings are easy to get and fairly inexpensive. Sophomore, Megan Alexander, said it cost around \$60 to pierce her tongue at Body Mods, a tattoo and piercing salon in Benson. Junior, Leslie Ugehly, paid \$22 for her eyebrow ring.

Typical prices run around \$45 for a bellybutton ring, \$55 for a tongue piercing, and \$22 to \$40 for a nose ring. To get the piercing you must be 18 years of age or bring a parent with you.

Looking at the holes that people have, you can't help but wonder about the pain they went through to get the piercing.

Megan said that it didn't hurt at all while her tongue was being pierced, but it swelled for the next few days and was very sore.

Most people who have had eyebrow or nose piercings said that it hurt when they were piercing it, but they didn't feel any pain after the needle or stud had gone through.

Not everyone finds piercings attractive. Teachers, parents, and some students find the rings and studs coming out of people's lips and noses offensive and disgusting.

Megan said that her parents forced her to remove her tongue piercing because they didn't approve of it.

"It's self-mutilation," Ms. Elaine Libby said, "I think it's and disgusting."

"I don't understand the point of punching holes into your body," Trevor Fitch, junior, said, "self expression has its limits."

There are drawbacks to some of these body piercings. Most of these piercings have a good chance of getting infected. A major negative of getting your tongue pierced is that it will not close.

So if you get tired of having your tongue pierced, sorry, the hole will be there for a long time. The majority of these piercings will leave some sort of scar.

To pierce many of these body parts you must be very smart and have the correct tools to do it.

There are no actual qualifications to own a piercing salon. Working in these salons, Monty Vogel, owner of Body Mods, said.

The state of Nebraska does not require a license to work as a body piercer. Piercing and tattooing salons are treated like other businesses.

Mr. Vogel worked as an apprentice to another body piercer for two years before opening his own salon in Benson. During those two years he learned the correct technique and procedure for piercing, so don't do this at home, kids.



Say Ahhh! Heidi Cain, senior, shows off her tongue ring.

Allison Jessing

Counting Crows New album surpasses old

Becca Starr
Counting Crows make their return to the radio with new album, *Recovering the Satellites*, and every-
body is glad to have them.
Much like their last album, the band pre-
sently plays slower songs with
about their miserable
at when your life is
le, it is nice to have
e that can sympa-
th you blasting
ur radio.
e song that re-
requent air-
of the new
s "Long De-
" featuring
ey Cox,
actress, in the
who also hap-
to be the lead
s, Adam
girlfriend.
e've seen enough
on "Family Ties"
Friends" that we
n't have to see her on prime
levision or gracing MTV during
Springsteen or Counting Crows vid-
e's rich now, she can go buy a big house in
Hills and own lots of cats.
believe me when I say that I sympathize with her



when she's got her boyfriend singing lyrics like "if you think that I could be forgiven, I wish you would" being belted out across the United States.

The rest of the album continues the flat singing and heavy lyrics that seem to work well for the band.

The title track "Recovering the Satellites" is probably the best song on the album and goes along with their traditional hard/soft style that few have mastered like the Counting Crows. With lyrics like "She sees a shooting star and comet tails, She's got heaven in her eyes," you get the feeling that their lyricist is a romantic.

The almost unanimous response to the new album and its bigger-than-ever crowd following makes the Counting Crows a band to look for in the future.



Caroline Foley

Let's Dance!! The annual Groundhog Prom provided Jeff Koneck, Career Center media and communications director, with a chance to show off his friendly, feline friend. Koneck portrayed Sigfried from the famous stunt duo, Roy appeared later. Next year the Groundhog Prom will be held at Aksarben in celebration of its twentieth anniversary.

Flashback to the fifties at Fenwicks

Sandra Cummins
Banana sodas, 50's arcade games and a jukebox at ev-
booth are just some of the things that make Fenwicks
Cream and Eatery Co. a fun place to eat.
Pictures of Clark Gable and Grace Kelly along with
a-Cola posters with Bing Crosby line the walls to pro-
a unique atmosphere.
Neon signs and a banana seat bicycle hang from the
The service is laid back and friendly. The staff doesn't
whelm you with peppy small talk.
No one hassles you five times during your meal to ask
how everything is.
Upbeat oldies songs like "Rock Around the Clock"
"Shout" put you in a great mood while you order from
original menu.
The burgers and fries are average but where else can
drink a double chocolate soda or a raspberry phosphate?
chocolate shake is anything but usual.
They outdo themselves by adding whipped cream,
chocolate sprinkles, ice cream and a cherry.
The food is moderately priced, and there's no lobster

but the BLT does the job. Their menu includes shrimp and great salads. At Fenwicks there's no 30 minutes of waiting for your food; it usually comes within ten.

There are always more curly fries than you can eat.

Towards the back there's a giant jukebox, and for a quarter you can select two oldies songs that play over an intercom throughout the whole diner.

The music helps you reminisce about poodle skirts, sock hops and drive-in movies.

If the food hasn't filled you up and there's still room for dessert, try the 'black and white dream.' It's a banana split with vanilla, chocolate and chocolate chip ice cream, strawberries, whipped cream and a cherry.

Almost all of their desserts are very rich, sweet and involve chocolate.

On your way out the door, get your picture taken in an old-fashioned photo booth to remember your experience. It really works!

The theme is topped off with a soda fountain with swivel chairs where ice cream is served.

Fenwicks is located on 4922 Dodge St. between 49th and 50th St. It's a great place to hang out with friends or family. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner.

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Sometimes Dazed and Usually Confused

By John Gaskins



OJ? No Way!

I know, this is probably not what you had been hoping for... or the last thing you want me to talk about, but I think I would enjoy the opportunity to get this O.J. stuff off my chest and then bury it for good.

In case you've been living under a rock, I'll review this for you. A big, Heisman Trophy-winning, bad-acting, bad-sports-casting, money-bagging, wife-beating, compulsive-lying, scum-sucking psychopathic jerk named Orenthal James "O.J. - the Juice (what juice is that - blood?)" Simpson was accused and acquitted in a criminal trial of murdering his wife Nicole and her friend Ronald Goldman three years ago.

This past month, he was found liable for their deaths in a civil trial. Whether you think O.J. is guilty or not, one thing is certain - this whole issue stirred up some stuff. And now I think we're all tired of it. Of course, being the bigmouth I am, I have to rant about it, anyway.

The focus of this column (as if I ever have a focus) is not about my views on the murder or the trial, but I will get those thoughts

out of the way quick. First of all, I think O.J. is guiltier than Tonya Harding with a crowbar at a Nancy Kerrigan concert. Let's see... he had his, Nicole's and Ron's blood, his hair follicles and for all I know his crack pipe screens laying all over the place.

As for the trials, the civil trial did not have to prove him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt as the criminal trial did. Plus, the Juice actually had to stand trial and make a lying fool out of himself the second time around (after failing about 800 lie-detector tests), which justifies why that jury found him liable.

But enough about that. I'm here to point out the fact that if the media and obsessed O.J. Trial fans could hype this up just a little bit more, the apocalypse might just be upon us. What I have to say to these people is this: Get a life, people! Go log on the Internet, watch Star Trek, stroke your Chia Pet or better yet get out of the house and expose yourself to sunlight. It's over! O-V-E-R!

Some people are milking O.J. way too much for air time, like our favorite trashy talk show host, Geraldo Rivera, every night on his

pitiful CNBC talk show. I don't understand why that raging, talentless, blow-hard piece of trash can't get back to hosting talk shows about hermaphrodite transvestites, child-molesting Skinheads and digging up Al Capone's garbage. Hey, Ratboy, no one wants to listen to you.

The point is the media coverage of the first trial was just plain sick. Judge Jabba the Ito should never have let a camera in that courtroom. Of course, I do admit it was kind of fun watching Marcia Clark beg for respect as if she were a rented mule while Simpson lawyer Robert Shapiro played pocket pinball and laughed at her.

Even more fun was watching O.J. putting on his pimp face and guessing what was going on in his mind... was it a) retracing each step of the night he murdered his wife... b) thinking about how stupid Marcia Clark is... c) trying to remember the name of his current girlfriend... d) contemplating what flavor of ice cream and which alcoholic beverage he will have that evening.

In fact, the only thing missing from these trials was Rusty the Bailiff!

However, my point was the O.J. Mania was way too out-of-line. It was obscene. I got just a tad tired of the helicopter footage of the car chase, the mobs of screaming wackos and demonstrators outside the courthouse and the complete media tramps who benefited from a murder trial and be-

came pornography stars and Talk Soup hosts (although Kato did have his moments in the sun).

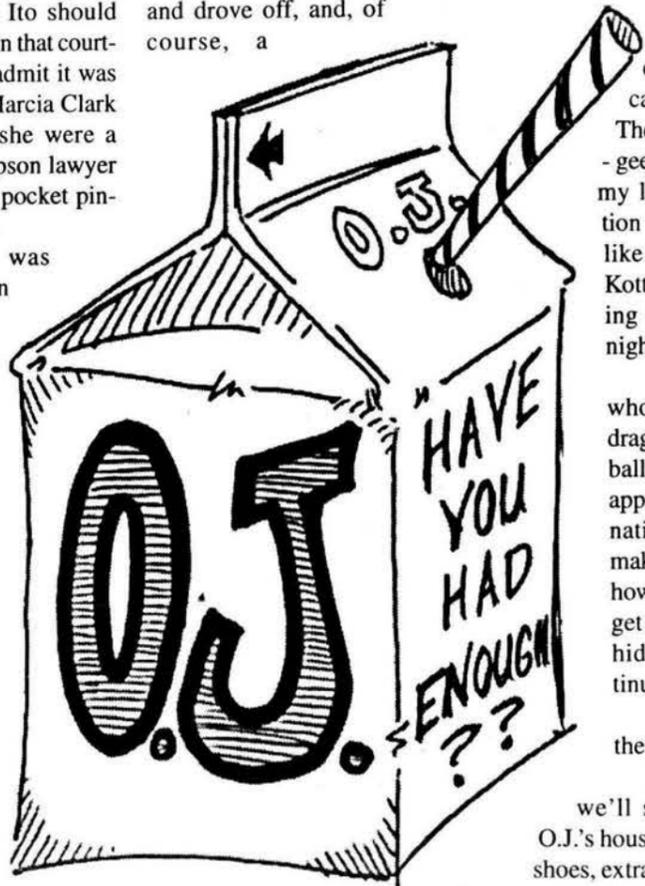
After being found liable and charged \$8.5 million for the deaths, he walked out of the courtroom with that same pimp face, looking about as flustered as a satanic Marilyn Manson fan after a Vienna Boys Choir concert. O.J. then got in a car and drove off, and, of course, a

a few more decades. Suddenly, announcer stopped everything to announce President Bush had been shot, but instead came up with a breaking news flash that O.J. stopped his car and gone into a local Baskin Robbins Ice Cream store. Well, stop the presses, he did it cost? Was it nice to the cash register? Did he want it in a bowl or a dish? Ask me! The final moment that I care! That was it for me. - gee, maybe I should get my lazy butt and pay attention to other pressing matters like which Welcome Baskin Robbins Kotter rerun are they showing on the superstation that night.

Unfortunately, the whole affair will probably drag on like a Nebraska football loss. O.J. will probably appeal, go to tropical destinations and play golf, make instructional videos on how to commit murder and get away with it while hideous people will continue to actually care.

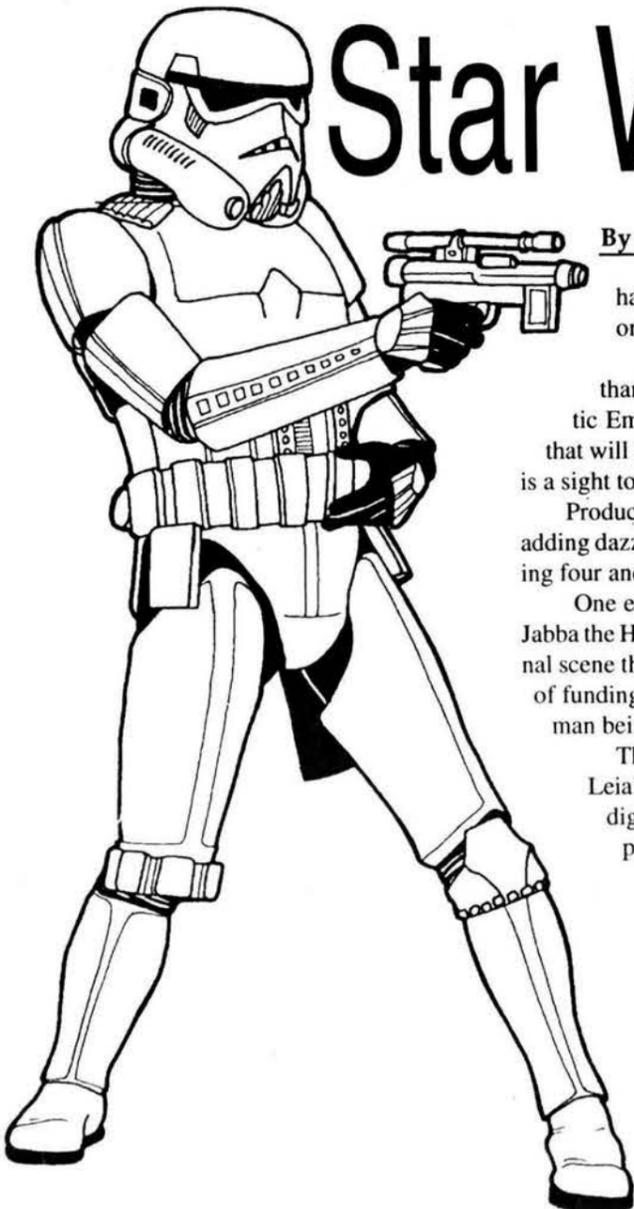
I can see it now and the rest of the millennium. "Next on Geraldo we'll show extra footage of O.J.'s house, extra footage of O.J. shoes, extra footage of O.J. changing pants and extra extra bonus footage of O.J. slamming doors, hoagies and beers at Hooters. - just can't get enough.

The O.J. Simpson trial, I think, made us talk, and make a hurl. Thank goodness it is over we can move on with our lives about stinkin' time!



camera taped his drive home.

The cable network I was watching (and give me no props for watching this circus in the first place) then smartly decided they had nothing good to show and maybe they should take away the helicopter footage and yack about the trial for



Star Wars blasts big screen

By Sam Achelpohl

The special edition re-release of the mega hit *Star Wars* has hit the big screens once again, raking in \$34 million on its first weekend alone.

Han, Luke, Leia, and Chewie are all back and better than ever as they combat the evil Darth Vader and the galactic Empire. With enhanced special effects and digital sound that will blow you out of the universe, the re-mastered *Star Wars* is a sight to see.

Producer George Lucas has gone all out with the old classic, adding dazzling special effects to the original movie as well as adding four and a half minutes of footage never before seen.

One exciting addition is the introduction of the evil mobster, Jabba the Hut, which was computer designed and placed in an original scene that was never seen in the original movie because of lack of funding. The scene originally showed Jabba the Hutt as a human being but was cut out.

The movie starts off with the original chase scene between Leia's ship and the massive Imperial Star Destroyer. Enhanced digital effects gives the scene a great sense of what to expect from the rest of the movie.

Scenes on the desert planet of Tatooine are just as remarkable. The scenes from the spaceport city of Mos Eisley makes the movie a spectacular sight.

Jawas swinging from the reigns of fifty foot animals remind you of Jurassic Park. The number of aliens in the Mos Eisley cantina have doubled, adding more strange-looking beings to the movie.

The space battles between the Millennium Falcon and Imperial Tie Fighters have been re-done as well. Much more detail has been constructed in these scenes. From the body of the Millennium to the laser blasts that it fires.

The explosion of the Death Star was remastered to look more realistic and like a mushroom cloud that left the audience in a state of awe after its final destruction by Luke Skywalker.

Even the lines at the movie theater are in retrospective to the release in 1976. Indian Hills theater, which was one of four theaters showing the special edition release, had lines winding from the front around the other side of the theater.

On the day of its release on Jan. 31, both evening shows were sold out before noon and tickets to both the matinee and twilight hour shows were sold out in the next few hours.

Even a week later, lines were still wrapping around the theater and shows were still being sold out.

Marc Grass, manager of Indian Hills theater, said that he never expected that many people to show up.

"We've never had any kind of sellout like this in recent years," Grass said. "We were gearing up for a lot of people, but we didn't even imagine this many people showing up."

The release of *Star Wars* has brought back the George Lucas legacy that had so many people in awe years ago. He's done it again with the release of this new special edition version of *Star Wars*.

Not only is this special edition on the big screen today, *The Empire Strikes Back* was re-released this past Friday, Feb. 21.

Later in March, *Return of the Jedi*, which was the biggest of the three movies, will also be re-released. All of the *Star Wars* films are the directors cuts of the original films, and have been digitally remastered.

Still later, the first three episodes of the *Star Wars* saga will be filmed and George Lucas will unveil his new state-of-the-art special effects devices.

Star Wars is a timeless classic which will prove that the franchise will be with us for a long, long time.



Visions are written purely for the entertainment of our readers. Any resemblance to fact is purely coincidental.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

It will become necessary for you to actually open your backpack this month. An overload of busy work given from frazzled teachers will leave you feeling just a little bothered. It won't last forever.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Beware of consequences resulting from past actions. They are likely to come back to haunt you. With thought, and a month in your room, your experience might teach a valuable lesson.

Pisces Feb. 19-Mar. 20

In the middle of the month an unfortunate misunderstanding will leave you missing something important. Pay good attention or this information could really bring you down.

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19

There is too much going on around you to sit back and relax this month. Many people, both classmates and others, are depending on you for a multitude of things. To ignore this fact would be a mistake.

Taurus Apr. 20-May 20

You have been feeling a little bothered by the attitudes of those around you. Remember that the way you act will have an impression on people you spend time with.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21

For the month of February, gossip will run rampant. Though it may be difficult to stay out of, remaining distant from the talk would be the best bet. If you talk, you'll be the next to be talked about.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You have had several big changes lately, most of which you are not comfortable with. It will become very important not to take these things for granted.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22

People have been doubting your opinions lately but remain confident and they will not bring you down.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Your good intentions will produce results for you this month, however, there are some things that you will need to put in a real effort to accomplish this month.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Habitual laziness is disrupting your progress in many facets of your life. Organize, take time to think about what you have to do, and you will be headed in the right direction.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

When considering revealing something for which you have been sworn to secrecy, remember that what goes around comes around.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Even though Valentine's Day has come and gone, the month of February will bring you plenty of pleasant company. Think in terms of fun.



Happenings

- Jive Monkeys 3/1 Fusion**
- Tool 3/5 Mancuzo**
- Blood Hound Gang 3/7 RB**
- Blues Explosion 3/12 Sokol**
- Dalia Hood 3/15 RB**
- Sheryl Crow 3/17 Orpheum**

■ CHS Students

Dirty Deed animates stage

By Sandra Cummins

Three Central students will be performing in a new fashion melodrama entitled *The Dirty Deed* at the Diner Theatre.

Seniors Chris Darst, Damien Thompson and junior Cory McCallan are all members of the cast.

Chris has eight parts. He plays everything from Gavin, a kindly old caretaker, to Fifi, a French maid.

"Old Bill Swint is probably my favorite character," Chris said. "He's got a fun voice. Swint is a sailor who is friends with the antagonist."

Damien plays Preston Plymouth, a robust, square-jawed man who is one of the heroes.

"Preston is the most pure-hearted hero ever to love," Damien said.

Cory is Chris's understudy. He will be playing Chris's parts open-

ing weekend.

The Dirty Deed is like a parody of a dramatic play with over exaggeration.

"If you're in the right mood it's funny," Chris said. "There's a lot of sexual content."

Damien said he thinks that the play has some pretty corny scenes.

"This play is really cheesy but it's a lot of fun," Damien said.

The audience plays an active role also. Each person receives a 'handbook' that tells them when to "boo" or applaud. Some cast

members even get popcorn thrown at them.

"The audience really gets into it," Chris said.

The cast is very young, ranging in age from 11 to 22. Chris and Damien both agree that the cast is terrific and very talented.

The Dirty Deed is a locally performed play. Performances are scheduled to run beginning Feb. 21 through Mar. 15 at the Diner Theatre on 60th and Maple St. Shows are every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday.

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Turf Talk

By Les Anich



Now or never

Finally, it is about time. It took more than two decades for a Central Men's Varsity basketball team to earn respect and also reach the no. 1 ranking in the state. Who would have thought Central would be no. 1? Who would have thought Stu would give the Eagles the benefit of the doubt that we have the best team in the state?

Being no. 1 surely had to feel great for the student body, Central faculty and, of course, to the players who rightfully deserved it.

Even though the no. 1 ranking only lasted a week, I cannot wonder what might lie in the future of this superb and talented team.

With the Metro Conference's leading scorer senior guard Galen Morrison and the three-point accuracy of seniors Ralph Blank, Kenny McMorris and Ryan Behrens, the team will shoot down any team in the state.

And add on seniors

Brandon Myers, Luke Denney, Sam Farrington and Robert "Shaq" Jefferson, the team is unstoppable.

"We have an all around great team," Ralph said. "We have a nine player rotation and that makes it difficult for the other teams to keep up with us."

The 1996-1997 Central basketball team is the most talented and the most equipped squad in years.

Presently holding the no. 3 ranking in the top 10 and no. 2 in Class A, the Eagles are better off no. 3 so other schools do not focus too much on them. It gives them a little bit more room to breathe and mainly focus on each game. Not that they previously did not, it just turned their focus towards the game and not if they could hold on to the no. 1 ranking in the state.

Holding the no. 1 ranking in the state is hard work. "Other schools definitely target the no. 1 team in the

state," Ralph said. "That is where the other schools want to be, so they play at an extra high level."

Will they reach it again?

There is no doubt about it.

With the potential of this team, there is no other team in the Class A or in the state who matches up to the Eagles' talent.

Predictions, everyone gives predictions for which school is going to win state.

After twenty-two years of no. 1 basketball teams from Central, the 1996-1997 Eagles must feel it is finally their chance to win a state title.

Never mind that Central is not no. 1. Never mind that Class B Hastings heads the top 10.

The Eagles can definitely win basketball games. They can win their district. They can go to the State Playoffs and reach the championship game.

Their combination of talent and experience will only lead them in that direction.

All in all, the Eagles make for a great basketball season. Will a title await the talented Eagles at the end?

Only the team's heart, combined with their talent will show where they end up in the end.

How bad do they want to be no. 1?

State meet draws near for swim team

By Sam Achelpohl

As the state tournament draws near and most major meets over, Central's swim team is gearing up for a good showing in state competition.

"We expect to do very well at state," senior captain Zack Johnson said. "We hope to get a good showing out of our state qualifiers."

At the recent Metro Meet, held on the weekend of Feb. 13, Central swam well against some of the tougher teams in the city like Westside, Creighton Prep and Marian.

"Metro was really just like any other meet this season," Zack said. "It was really just a building point for the big meet when state comes around."

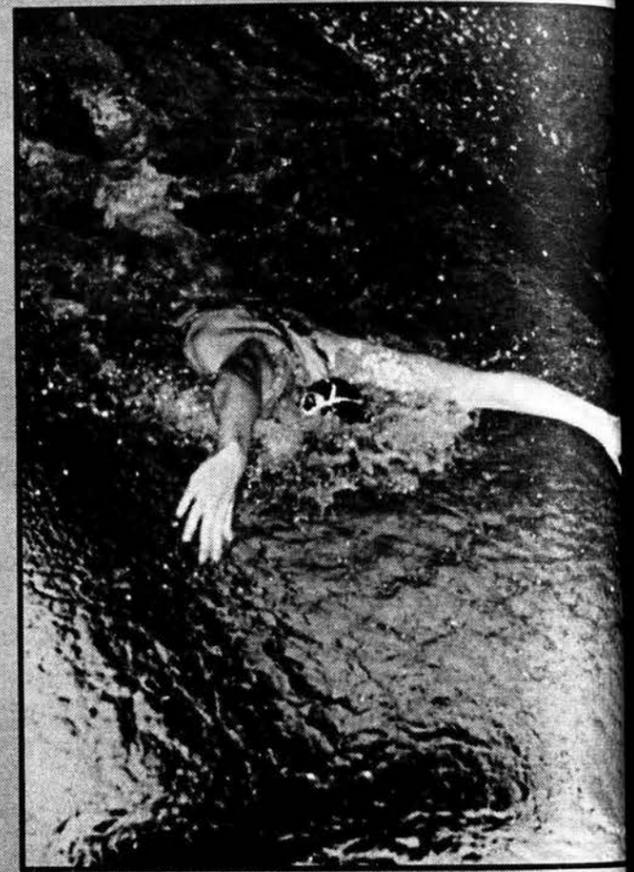
The team scored twenty-five points against other metro teams and finished fifth in the competition.

Juniors Mike Gill, Eddie Piatt and Nate Bullington have all posted state qualifying scores in two relay events, the 200m medley and 200m freestyle. Zack also qualified in relay events.

The swim team has recently been facing some tough competition at both the Westside Invite and Creighton Prep and Marian meets.

"We've had to pick it up in the last half of the season against some of the tougher schools," senior Karl Richstatter said. "The team has improved a lot."

The team's depth has given Central a good opportunity to place a lot of swim-



Full speed ahead! Sophomore Marci Holmes swims her leg of a freestyle relay event at the recent Metro Tournament held on the weekend of Feb. 13.

mers in the hunt to place in state.

Sophomores Marci Holmes and Jody Baines, junior Erin Quinlan and seniors Abby Dinin and Cari Cain are all members of the women's swim team that qualified for state at the Millard South duel.

Coach Kathleen Laughlin said that the team has shown a lot of improvement from last year's team.

"We've definitely had an improvement since we qualified for more events this year than last year and we consider last year a record year," she said.

Coach Laughlin also said that they are swimming more like a team this year instead of last year when they swam as individuals.

"It's great that the team is taking those steps for the team, it's making a huge difference in our performance."

Abby Dinin said the team is having a better showing against bigger teams this year.

"When we come against the bigger teams we swim better because we had better competition," she said.

"Hopefully the swimmers that qualified for state will have a good showing at state," Abby said. "We're going to have to compete against teams like Marian and Creighton Prep, and if we can have some good times, we expect to do well against them."

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NU quarterback uses offseason to find his faith

John Gaskins

After a long, exciting and somewhat turbulent season as the University of Nebraska's starting quarterback, Scott Frost had time to put his life in perspective.

Frost was in Omaha on Sat., Feb. 1 to help promote the release of and celebrate the life of Midlands author Art Linkletter's biography on the late former NU quarterback, Brook Berringer. Frost spoke in front of a packed audience at Westside Community Church on 156th and Dodge about Berringer, Nebraska football and his recent devotion to Christianity.

Frost said he became a Christian last September after Nebraska's stunning loss to Arizona State, a crushing blow to the powerhouse program and a loss for which he was heavily criticized. Prior to that, Nebraska had won 26 straight games and two consecutive National Championships.

The junior took over as starting quarterback, under much media attention and lofty expectations. With such big shoes to fill, Frost said he focused nearly all of his attention on football and his playing, an obsession shared by coaches, fans and players everywhere at the start of the season.

It was an obsession that would lead to destruction and his spiritual rebirth.

Frost had been the star quarterback for Wood River, Neb. High School and earned Parade All-American and Gatorade Player of Champions Nebraska player of the Year honors.

However, he was criticized heavily by the Nebraska media for his decision to play for Stanford University instead of Nebraska and legendary head coach Tom Osborne.

After two seasons at Stanford, Frost decided to transfer to Nebraska. After sitting out the Huskers' 1995 Championship season, Frost returned to action as the starter in 1996 under much media attention and expectations from the media and fans as Heisman Trophy runner-up Tommy Frazier's successor.

"I wasn't feeling as much pressure to live up to his level of play as I was about not having played a game in over a year," Frost said.

Frost said the '95 team taught him that Nebraska football players must always be ready to win. He said the best experience from that season was his friendship with Berringer.

"Brook showed me the ropes and befriended me," Frost said. "He not only taught me about football, but about life."

Sadly, Berringer's life was cut short by a tragic airplane crash last spring, a painful loss to Frost, who had at the time become the starting quarterback.

After the Huskers started the 1996 season with a home-opening victory over Michigan State in Lincoln, Frost went to Arizona and played the game that would change the course of the season and Frost's life. The Sun Devils sacked him three for safeties and picked off three of his passes in the 19-0 rout, the Huskers first loss in three seasons.

At the time, it seemed like everything came crashing down hard on Frost and the Huskers. No one took the loss harder than Frost. Shortly after, the quarterback reevaluated his life.

"That was the turning point right there," Frost said. "I realized there were more important things than football out there, and that was when I let Christ into my life."

After the breakdown in Arizona, the Huskers went on to win 10 games in a row and captured the Big 12 Conference North Division title as hopes for a national championship began to arise.

However, Nebraska was stunned by Texas in the Big 12 Championship game. Without hopes of a national championship and with disappointment lingering once again among the fans, Frost said the team hung tough.

"It was a very tight team. We supported each other through everything," Frost said, adding that there are many devoted Christians on the team, including Osborne.

"He's a great guy. Everything you see and read about him being an honest, fair and caring person is true," Frost said.

The Huskers persevered after the loss to Texas and went on to defeat Virginia Tech handily in the Orange Bowl, a win that put Nebraska in the Top 10 to end the season and gave hope to a strong season in 1997. Frost said his favorite part of being the mighty Big Red's starting quarterback is "definitely gamedays - playing out there in front of thousands of screaming fans gets your blood going." He said his least favorite is the fame, recognition and media scrutiny he gets week in and week out during the season.



Courtesy of UNI

Go Big Red: Nebraska quarterback Scott Frost said the Husker's loss to Arizona State changed his life for the better.

Frost carries a 3.69 grade point average while majoring in business administration. He is the son of former Husker great Larry Frost and Olympic Gold Medal discus thrower Carol Frost, who Scott said was his childhood coach.

With his darker days behind him and a bright future ahead of him, Scott Frost said he is rejuvenated and content with his life after his devotion to Christianity.

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SPORTS



We Cover Eagle Territory

Eagles gearing up for state

By Mike Kelly

The Central Men's Basketball team is gearing up for a run at the State Tournament.

With two games left in the regular season, the Eagles stand a strong chance to gain a wild-card. All Central has to do is win both of two games left in the regular season.

"We have had an excellent regular season and it would be nice to not have to worry about winning districts," senior guard Ryan Behrens said. "We won't let down no matter what happens."

On Feb. 14, Central suffered its worst loss of the season at the hands of Omaha North. The Eagles lost to the no. 6 Vikings by a score of 80-54.

"It was an extremely bad game," senior forward Brandon Myers said. "Some days are like that, but it is always tough when you get blown out."

North led throughout the game and put the game away in the fourth quarter, holding Central to only 4 points in the fourth quarter of the game.

"At least we have them again in districts," senior guard Galen Morrison said.

Along with North and Central, Bellevue East and Benson make up District 3. The projected first round matchups would place the top seeded Eagles against no. 4 Bellevue East and second-seeded Omaha North against no. 3 Omaha Benson. The District Tournament runs Mar. 3-4 with the winner advancing to the State Tournament at the Devaney Center in Lincoln, Mar. 13-15.

"I think it is important to win districts even if we do get the wild card," senior forward Luke Denney said. "We need the momentum going into state."

Before the loss to North, the Eagles had a two-game winning streak.

A 66-61 victory over Papillion-LaVista on Feb. 7 and a 25 point win over Omaha Burke on Feb. 8 boosted the Eagles record to 15-3.

The five point win over Papio was the second time Central had beaten the Monarchs this season. In the Metro Holiday Tournament, the Eagles punished the Monarchs 71-42.

Before a near capacity crowd at Norris Jr. High, the visiting Monarchs matched Cen-

tral basket for basket throughout the first half of the game.

"They played us a lot closer this time around," senior guard Ralph Blank said. "They got some early scores and stayed with us throughout the game."

Led by 18 first half points by Galen Morrison, the Eagles took a two point lead into halftime.

After three quarters, Central lead 51-49. Papillion battled to take the lead on five straight points, but Central answered the challenge.

Ralph Blank hit a three pointer with under three minutes left in the game. After a Papillion turnover, Ralph hit another three from the top of the key to put Central in the lead for good.

Ralph finished with 12 points and Galen led all scorers with 28 points including an acrobatic fade away three pointer that brought the crowd to their feet.

"Galen was his usual self," senior guard Sam Farrington said. "He was amazing. He played great."

Galen, a 6'0 guard/forward is currently the leading scorer in the Metro, averaging over 23 points per game.

The next night against Omaha Burke the Eagles started scoring quickly and never looked back.

Central moved out to a 20 point halftime lead before cruising to an 81-64 victory.

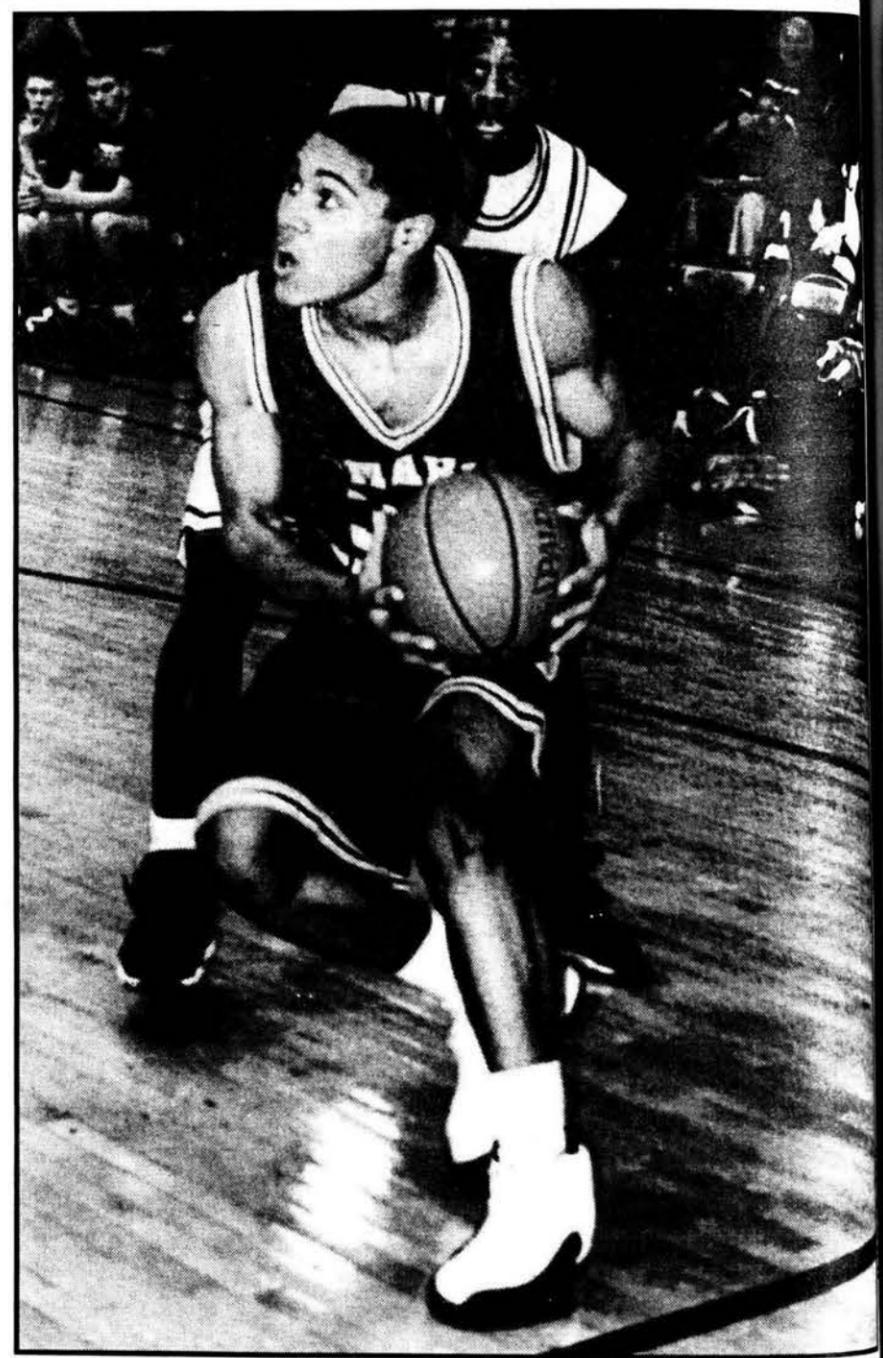
Galen had another 30 points and senior guard Ryan Behrens tied a season high with 22 points, including 5 three-pointers.

"The win at Burke was outstanding because we got off to a very nice start and never looked back," Ryan said. "We were definitely on that night."

The 16-3 Eagles are currently rated no. 3 in the State, behind Class B Hastings and Grand Island. The Eagles are no. 2 in Class A behind Grand Island.

"We don't tend to worry very much about the ratings at this point in the season," freshman forward Ben Jacobson said. "The only ratings that matter are the ones at the end of the season."

Coach Rick Behrens said that the Eagles have played consistent basketball throughout the year.



3-2-1 liftoff: Senior Galen Morrison evades a Burke player on his way to the hoop. He scored 30 points in a 81-64 victory.

"It is a long season and sometimes it is tough to keep the intensity going," Coach Behrens said. "But after a loss like we had against North, the intensity has been very good."

The Eagles try to constantly improve peak at the right time.

"If we put everything together we will definitely achieve our goal," senior Brandon Myers said.

Sports land students college spots

By Mike Kelly

For the top high school athletes, the college recruitment process is the first step in the transition from high school athletics to college athletics.

Collegiate programs need athletes as much as athletes need them to continue playing and going to school.

Schools are allowed to start sending official letters to athletes beginning July 1, after their junior year.

and additional information about the athlete.

If the college coach likes what they see from the athlete and are serious about recruiting them, the coach will invite the player to visit the campus, see the facilities and possibly watch a game if the sport is in season. Athletes are allowed visits to five schools without paying for the visit and can go to as many schools as they want if the athlete pays their own way.

Some Central athletes have already begun the process. Senior baseball player Brandon Myers has been contacted by numerous schools including junior colleges, St. Johns (NY), and Jacksonville St. (ALA).

Brandon made an official visit to Jacksonville St. the weekend of Jan. 25-27.

"The Jacksonville St. trip was nice because I got to learn about a program that I did not know that much about before," Brandon said. "I have never been to Alabama before."

Central tennis player Andrea Friedman has been offered various scholarships for tennis.

"Right now Missouri looks very good to me," Andrea said. "It has quality academics and I can play their too."

Senior basketball/baseball player Ryan Behrens and foot-

ball/soccer player Luke Denney have received letters and phone calls from coaches in both of their respective sports.

"I will face a tough decision on what sport to play and where to go," Ryan said. "I will have to keep my options open, because I do not know what is going to happen next year."

An alternative to going to a Division I school is going to a two-year college. For some athletes, junior college provides an athlete time to develop his skills and give him the experience he needs to compete at the Division I level.

Former Central soccer players Matt Hein, Jeff Driscoll and Aaron Champenoy are currently playing junior college soccer in hopes of landing a Division I scholarship.

"Junior college is an excellent option for players who have good potential but are not yet ready to play Division I yet," Baseball coach Steve Eubanks said.

No matter what level of recruiting takes place, it is an exciting time for players.

Senior football player Damion Sayers is being recruited by UNO, Morning side and Northwest Missouri St.

"I have worked very hard to be a college level player," Damion said. "It is exciting that it could all pay off."

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