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UNO provides teachers at accelerated rate

Meredith Kalina

A new program has been created by the University of Nebraska at Omaha to allow college graduates to receive their teaching certificates at an accelerated rate, and will therefore fill the teacher voids in the metro-area.

"This is a certification program for individuals who have a degree in an area that, with a career change, can be taught," Becky Schnable, the coordinator of Student Services at the

University of Nebraska at Omaha, said.

She said that the program known as the "Teacher Academy Project" (TAP) has worked with the seven area school districts in an effort to lessen the high demand for teachers in the area.

Schnable said that Omaha has teacher shortages in the areas of math, science and foreign language.

Central principal, Dr. Gary Thompson, said he agrees that there is a teacher shortage right now.

Central has seen the most problems with the lack of teachers in the Spanish language department, he said.

Schnable said that even though the program has condensed the certification process from two years to one, they have taken steps to insure that the individuals will be prepared at the teaching level.

She said that along with the individuals taking classes, they will participate in internships at area schools and then later in their, student

teaching.

"They are not just taking classes, but they are getting hands-on training," she said.

Schnable said that the program will begin in June 2000 and go to May 2001, and the applicants will have to go through a specific process before being accepted to the program.

"The applicants are reviewed and interviewed by the university and the different districts," she said.

Therese Bender, a personnel administrator at the Omaha Public

School District, said that she is very confident in the program and is excited about the possibilities it will create.

"We want qualified individuals in the classrooms," Bender said.

She said that the individuals, who will complete the program, have already been through college and now have a sincere desire to teach.

She said that the program will provide many opportunities for those individuals and the districts.

"We feel like it's a real viable

resource for us to get teachers on demand", Bender said.

She said that the state of Nebraska requires teachers to have a teacher's certificate, and that with this program, people interested in a teaching career, but do not have a certificate will hurry the process.

"We want qualified individuals. They will be supervised and they will have to meet a standard that has been set by the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the school districts that are involved," Bender said.

NSEA rally unites teachers behind salary legislation

By Andrew Danford

As a part of the group's continuing commitment to support a statewide teacher salary increase, the Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) held a rally at the State Capitol on Jan. 31.

NSEA Assistant Director of Communications Al Koontze said the organization held the rally to support the proposed teacher salary bill, LB 937, as the education community considered the legislation.

"We thought that a show of support would help influence the legislature," he said.

Koontze said people from across the state attended the NSEA's rally. Nearly 1400 teachers attended the rally.

"We expected maybe 300 people at the most," Koontze said.

He said 11 people delivered speeches to the senators as part of the rally.

Central Teacher and NSEA Vice-President Vicki Anderson also attended the rally. She said although rallies are very effective in their purpose, teachers do not expect to remedy the problem entirely at once.

Anderson said Omaha ranks as the 48th most populous city in the nation but ranks 93rd in teacher salaries.

"Teachers are realistic," she said. "We do not expect to go from 93rd to 5th overnight."

State Sen. Ardyce Bohlke, a Central alumnus, introduced LB 937, the legislation behind the teacher rally.

Bohlke, who also serves as the chairperson of the Unicameral's education committee, said the purpose of the legislation is to bring Nebraska teacher salaries up to the

regional average.

"We know that quality education begins with quality teachers," she said. "This legislation is intended to keep the quality teachers in the state."

She said that as the bill is currently written, money will be spent over a two-year period in order to boost Nebraska teacher salaries.

Bohlke said nearly \$40 million would be spent during the first year of the bill's enactment. During the second year, \$32 million would be needed.

Koontze said the regional average teacher salary is \$36,600. The Nebraska average is \$33,470, he said.

Central junior Graham Engdahl said teachers deserve the salary increase.

"I think it is a lot harder job than people think," Engdahl said. "It's a lot more trouble than they get paid for."

However, Central junior Steve Houlden said teachers do not deserve a salary increase.

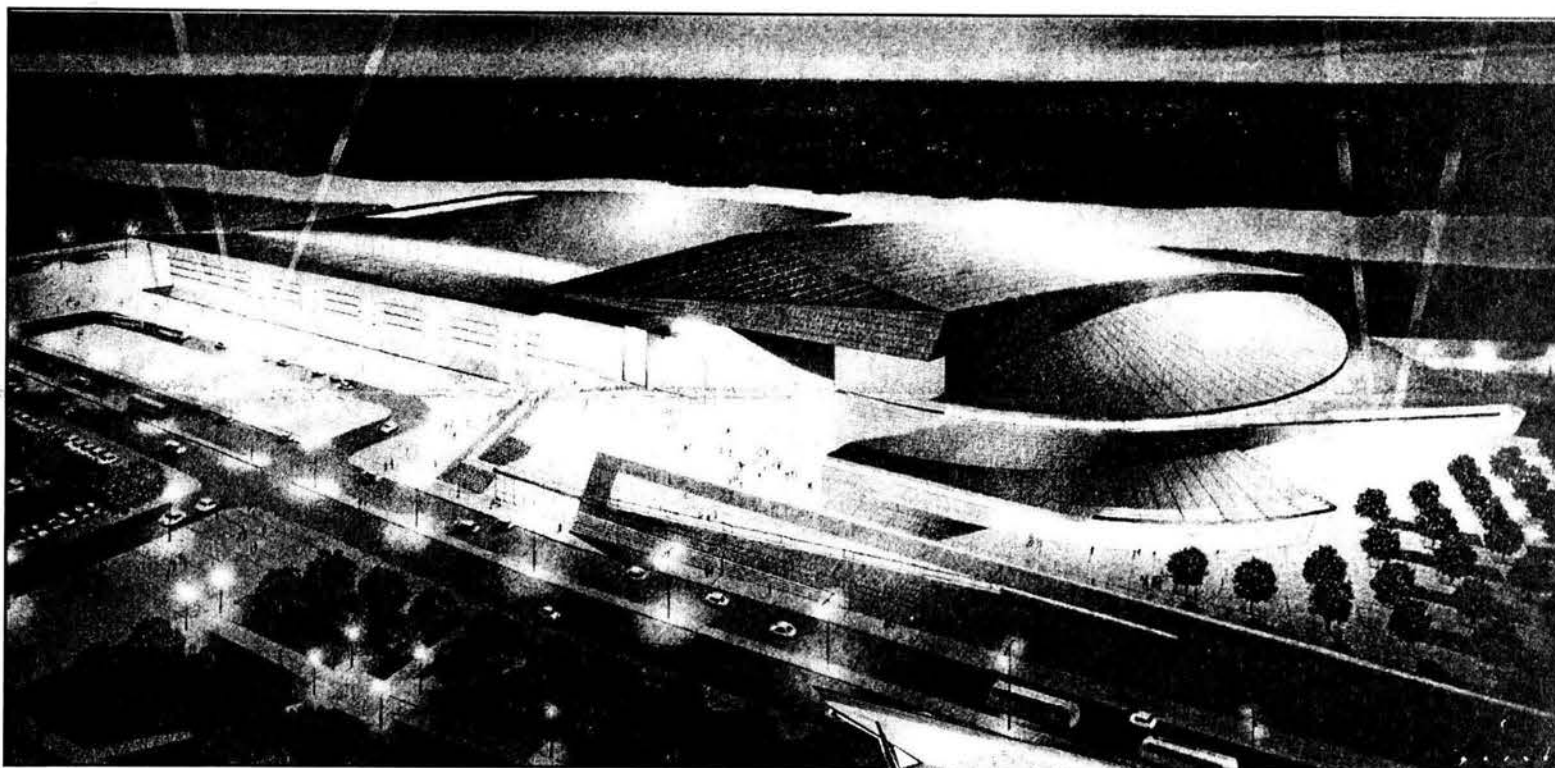
"Teachers don't deserve a pay raise," he said. "The student's own initiative is the most important part of learning."

Anderson said if teachers do not receive a salary increase soon, the problem will only grow. She said the business world and healthy economy often lure people away from the profession today.



JARED HART/THE REGISTER

■ Turn to MONEY,
page 8



GRAPHICS COURTESY OF DLR GROUP

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Artists' conceptions of the new arena/convention center. If the \$198 million bond issue passes on May 9, the project will be finished during the fall of 2003. The total cost of the project is projected at nearly \$281 million.

Commission presents proposed project to public

By Andrew Danford

In an effort to better inform the public, the Metropolitan Entertainment and Convention Authority (MECA) presented its plan for the proposed arena and convention center through a series of forums on Feb. 2, 8 and 9.

Those who attended these meetings were presented with scale models, artist conceptions and blueprints for the new facility that will be completed during the later portion of 2003 if everything proceeds as planned, MECA Chairman David Sokol said.

Sokol presented a quick overview of the facility. Ken West of Dana, Larson and Roubal (DLR), the engineering firm that designed the facility, and Greg Peterson, Omaha city planner, presented the architectural and infrastructural aspect of the facility following Sokol's overview.

"One of the most important jobs we have over the next three months is getting the information about this project out so that the voters can make an informed decision on May 9 [the date of the election]," Sokol said.

Voters will have to decide on a \$198 million bond issue to help pay for the construction of the facility. Also, a change in the city ordinances to allow for the creation of an independent committee to oversee the project, the Civic Auditorium and Rosenblatt Stadium will be on the ballot.

Central sophomore Dennis Yin said he is in favor of building the facility, even if Council Bluffs builds a facility of its own.

"I feel it would bring more business to the Omaha area," Yin said. "There is more here than in Iowa."

Central junior Tim Davey also said he believes it is essential for the city to build a new arena and convention center.

"When your biggest concert in town is Neil Diamond, I think it's time for a change," he said.

■ Turn to ARENA, page 2

Foundation donates to new arena

By Andrew Danford

As a show of support for the planned arena and convention center, the Peter Kiewit Foundation announced it would donate \$25 million to the project on Feb. 10, Executive Director Lyn Ziegenbein said.

This grant will provide the city with one-third of the \$75 million needed from private donors to construct the complex.

Ziegenbein said she hopes the money will encourage other private donors to

contribute to the project.

"We are challenging the public to raise the other \$50 million," she said.

The foundation will grant the money to the project on two conditions. The public must pass the bond issue on May 9.

In addition, the remaining \$50 million must be raised before the election for the grant to become valid.

The grant represents the largest single donation the foundation has made during its 20 years of existence, Ziegenbein said.

Satellite conferences expand on education

By Andrew Danford

The growth of the information age has recently impacted the education community in one more way—satellite conferencing.

The U.S. Department of Education is currently sponsoring a series of nationwide video conferences dealing with educational issues known as Satellite Town Meetings.

Ginny Wright, a special education consultant for the Nebraska Department of Education, said the meetings are held nearly twice a month through June. One of the meetings every month focuses specifically on school safety issues, she said.

Wright, who sponsors the meetings at the Nebraska Department of Education, said she learned about the program through an e-mail from

the U.S. Department of Education and thought that such discussion would be beneficial to parents, teachers, and students.

"I was interested not only because of the topics, but because it was also a great opportunity for discussion," she said.

Central sophomore Mike Zhang said he believes the meetings would be an excellent means for people to discuss issues with people across the

country.

"If you want to get together, it would be more cost efficient than physically going there," he said.

Zhang also said the meetings could be beneficial in solving problems in schools. He said the added insight from people who could have faced the same problems in their area of the country could help people in another region.

Wright said the money for the

program, which started this year, comes from the federal government.

"I think that it is an excellent use of taxpayer's money," she said. "More people should take advantage of this unique opportunity."

However, Central freshman Jacob Priluck disagrees with this use of federal funding. He said the money should be used within the schools first before funding is used to support activities such as the satellite

meetings.

"I would rather have the school curriculum improved," Priluck said. "It is just a waste of money."

Wright participated in a Town Hall Meeting on Jan. 20. She said the turnout was better than expected. About 30 people attended the first meeting in Lincoln.

■ Turn to TALK,
page 8

MECA reveals plans for Omaha arena/convention center

ARENA, continued from page 1

During the past three months, MECA has worked with DLR and the two other design firms on the project, NBBH Sports and Entertainment of Los Angeles and LMN Architects of Seattle.

The proposed facility will be built on 422 acres on and around the former Union Pacific Railyards, Sokol said. Union Pacific will sell the land, 104 total acres, to city for \$11.3 million if the bond issue passes

in May.

"U.P. has essentially donated the difference between the price and market value of the land as a show of support in the project," Sokol said.

Peterson said in addition to the actual facility, many of the roads surrounding the site will have to be changed to fit with the proposal.

"This plan would really give us an opportunity to enhance the access to the area," he said.

The proposed facility will be divided into three major sections, West said.

The first of these sections would be the arena itself. The facility would be able to seat between 14,600 and 17,000 spectators depending upon the event, West said. The arena would also include luxury suites for viewing events.

Also, a convention center will be built as part of the project. The convention center will provide 170,000 sq. ft. of space, West said.

Between the arena and convention center, there will be a connecting area known as the "swing space."

Sokol said the swing space could add 24,000 sq. ft. to the space needed for an event occurring in either the arena or convention center.

"Many have referred to this space as the 'living room of Omaha,'" Sokol said.

He said the space could be used to greet dignitaries and hold luncheons when celebrities visit Omaha.

All together, the site could provide 240,000 sq. ft. of space to hold events, West said. The total cost of the project will be about \$281

million. However, Sokol said this sum could be achieved without any tax increases. He said existing sales and property taxes could be used to support the \$198 million bond.

Only \$86 million of the bond will actually be spent on the project. Revenue from the facility should be able to defray the other \$112 million, he said.

Sokol said private donors will fund around \$75 million of the project. MECA has not found a suitable source for the remaining \$8 million, he said.

Sokol also said MECA will work very hard to keep the project within its budget.

"It is MECA's job to bring a project in at cost," he said. "The people of Omaha would expect nothing less."

Voters will also decide whether or not to create a permanent MECA organization to oversee the arena and convention center, City Auditorium and Rosenblatt Stadium.

Sokol said the mayor and city council will appoint the members of this committee.

ADL sponsors trip to Washington D.C.

By Ally Freeman

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has created a unique prejudice awareness program inviting high school students to visit Washington D.C. to learn about and help prevent the problem of prejudice.

Tierra Stennis, junior, was recently selected as a participant in the ADL's Youth Leadership Mission to the United States Holocaust Museum.

Stennis said she first was chosen to attend the Prejudice Elimination Workshop offered by the ADL. At the workshop they participated in skits, and learned about preventing prejudice.

Debbi Brown, assistant director of the Omaha ADL, said that the Prejudice Elimination Workshop is offered to educate people about the importance of valuing the diversity of people.

The workshop has been offered for 14 years, Brown said.

Brown said teachers, counselors and principals were told to choose leaders from their school to represent them at the workshop.

"The criteria was to be leaders, but they did not have to meet any high academic standards," Brown said.

After the workshop the attendees were offered a chance to apply for a free trip to Washington D.C., Stennis said.

She said she applied for the trip because she believed she would be a positive asset to it.

"I think I am already a leader in some way," Stennis said.

She said they had a few days to fill out the application, which included writing about her personal strengths and experiences, the Holocaust and how they are going to

fulfill the obligations of being an ambassador.

When Stennis found out she had been chosen as the Central delegate she said she was so happy, she cried.

"I felt good about myself," Stennis said. "It was the perfect opportunity for me."

Brown said that it is a three and a half-day trip where the participants will focus on team building. The students will be provided with an overview of the history of the Holocaust, tour the Nation's capitol and receive a guided tour of the U.S. Holocaust Museum.

"The strength of the trip is the diversity of the students," Brown said.

In bringing together the four students, they hope to create an understanding among them, Brown said.

Twenty students from the Omaha area were chosen and will be joined with twenty students selected from the Mountain Region ADL.

"The ADL is hosting the youth leadership mission as a means of addressing and moving beyond some tensions between America's diverse, racial and ethnic communities," Brown said.

She said the students will receive a great educational experience.

"The trip is a tool for motivating the participants to fight prejudice in their schools and communities, they will also examine historical and modern day examples of moral courage," Brown said.

Robert B. Stern is sponsoring the ADL's Youth Leadership Mission to the U.S. Holocaust Museum. The participants are not required to pay for the trip.

Stennis said that when they return to their schools they will serve as ambassadors.

And the winner is...



MIKAYLA CHAMBERS/THE REGISTER

BENJAMIN IWEN (12) holds up one of the pieces of art from his award-winning portfolio. Iwen, along with Talya Greenspoon (12), had his portfolio picked in the Nebraska Scholastic Portfolio Competition to represent the state in the national competition in New York. Each portfolio contains eight pieces of artwork, three of which must be drawings. Once in New York, the portfolios will be judged along with others from all over the country.

District participates in teacher exchange program with Spain

By Melissa Angelo

Due to a contract between the Nebraska Department of Education and the Spanish Government, Omaha has received three new foreign language teachers this year.

Bosco Perez, Encar Barreiro, foreign language teachers from Spain are now at Bryan High School, and Imma Langa, a foreign language teacher from Spain, teaches at Northwest High School.

Jan Gleason, Personnel Administrator of the Board of Education, said the Nebraska Department of Education did a pilot program because there was a shortage of Spanish teachers in the whole state.

Bosco Perez, said the reason he found out about this program is he was a part of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain.

Central principal, Dr. Gary Thompson, said in recent years it has been really hard statewide to fill any language teachers positions.

"We've been very lucky to find

foreign language teachers but I know it's getting more and more difficult to find good quality teachers," Thompson said.

Michelle Garcia, English as a Second Language Department Head, said the teachers are addressing a need that would otherwise go unfilled, and it is a good opportunity for the teachers from Spain to do this.

Daryl Bayer, Foreign Language Department Chair, said it is a wonderful idea to have native speakers on staff, but they face difficulties such as block scheduling and discipline.

"We had a teacher from France teaching at Central, Lise Aumeunier, for about a quarter and a half," Bayer said. "She was excellent. She had observed teachers and she became aware of teaching methodologies and was able to implement them in her classes."

Perez said teaching at Bryan under block scheduling was difficult first semester but this semester has been much easier for him.

"I was invited by Susana Lara and Wendy Olson to Central in order to talk with students about Spain, and they were able to ask me questions," Perez said.

Wendy Olson, Central Spanish teacher, said students loved to listen to Mr. Perez.

The supervisor of all Foreign Language in Omaha Public Schools said Perez was willing to speak at Central about his country so I signed up for his services," Olson said.

Summer Bullion, junior, said the teachers we have are good but the teachers from Spain are better because they're more encouraging for you to learn their language.

Cynthia Morales, sophomore, said she thought it was wonderful learning about his culture.

"It's interesting because not only are you learning their language, but you learn their culture also," Morales said.

Perez said he plans to stay in Omaha at least one year, but he said he could stay here for three more years.

Unicameral considers seat belt bill

By Ally Freeman

Passengers beware! A new bill requiring children under the age of 18 wear seat belts is only a vote away from being passed in Nebraska.

The bill, sponsored by State Senator Nancy Thompson of Papillion, will require all children under the age of 18 be in a seat belt or a car seat no matter where they are sitting the car.

Doug Koebernick, legislative director of the senator, said that Thompson's main point in creating the bill was to reduce deaths from children failing to wear a seat belt.

Koebernick said that according to the Nebraska Office of Highway Patrol, the number of children killed from car accidents, 75 percent were not wearing a seat belt.

According to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, of the children age 15 injured in vehicle crashes, 48 percent were not using a safety restraint.

Currently 25 other states have legislation that require all children younger than 16 to be covered by child restraint or safety belt laws.

Central sophomore Ian Atwood said he not only supports the proposed bill, he also believes they should extend the law to require seat belts of everyone in a car, no matter what their age.

"I wear a seat belt 100 percent of the time," Atwood said.

Koebernick said the current law states if a child is under the age of four and under 40 pounds, they must be in a car seat or wearing a seat belt.

"There are five, six and seven year olds who die in car wrecks because they were not using a seat belt," he said.

He said that after being heard by the transportation committee, it was amended into another bill, LB 410.

Koebernick said that the bill, which is in the final rounds of debate, should be passed sometime in the next few weeks.

He said the bill will not affect passengers in the front seat or the driver's cause currently they are all required to use a seat belt.

Freshman Jessica Franksen said she thinks the new law is a positive change.

Franksen said that three years ago she and her mother were in a car accident and the seat belts saved their lives.

However, even though she said she wears a seat belt, she believes many of her peers will not change just because of the new law.

"If they have started a habit of not wearing a seat belt, they won't change just because a new law was passed," she said.

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Social Occasion Dresses

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Plastic surgery allows teens to enhance appearance

By Courtney O'Malley

Nobody is perfectly happy with the way they look. Plastic surgery is a way to make a body more proportionate, said Patient Services Representative for Aesthetic Surgical Images.

Timera Regan said that although plastic surgery is a more appealing option for some, a small percentage of teens actually undergo surgical procedures to enhance their personal appearance.

"The reason people undergo surgical procedures to enhance their appearance is more of a self-consciousness issue," Regan said.

Despite surgeries that are involved with accidents, most teenagers under the age of 19 are not legally able to have cosmetic surgical procedures without parental consent, Regan said.

There is always the exception for those that require reconstructive surgery due to accidents or mishaps, said Regan.

Sandy Smith, Patient Coordinator for Skin Specialist Joel Schlesinger, said that less than two percent of the people who come to the skin specialist are teenagers.

Although teens under the age of nineteen are rarely patients for cosmetic surgery, there are many procedures to choose from. Such procedures include breast reductions and enlargements, abdominal plasty, Rino plasty—otherwise known as a nose-job, liposuction, thigh-lifts and face-lifts. Other procedures for men include pectoral implants and pectoral reductions, Regan said.

"Students choose to have surgical procedures for their own self-esteem," Smith said.

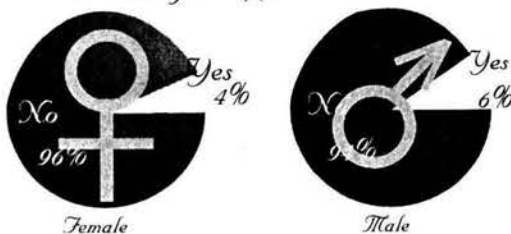
With all surgical procedures there is a small health risk, but most of the surgeries are outpatient surgeries and do not require any hospital stays, Regan said.

The range in costs for such procedures may be anywhere from \$3,000 to \$10,000 depending on the procedure, Regan said.

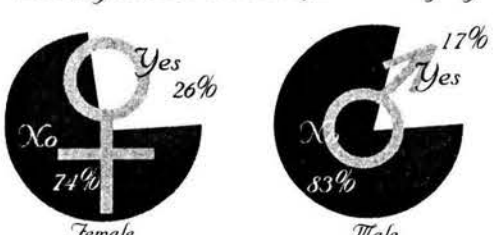
On the other hand, the range in costs for cosmetic surgeries for the Skin Specialists is \$1,500 to \$4,000, Smith said.

While cosmetic surgery is stereotypically only something females do, the average percentage of males that have the surgeries is about the same as the percentage of females, Regan said.

Have you ever had a medical procedure to enhance your appearance?



Would you ever consider plastic surgery?



214 students polled
JARED HART/THE REGISTER

Accident proves reconstructive surgery to be beneficial

By Courtney O'Malley

After a 20 ft. fall, reconstructive surgery helped to repair the facial structure of Central sophomore Joe Meyer.

"I jumped on the ledge, on the three side across from Joslyn, to wave good-bye after the debate tournament, and the momentum from the jump carried me over," Meyer said.

Danny Jacobs, senior, witnessed the accident.

"The fall was really an athletic maneuver," Jacobs said. "Joe realized that the momentum was going to carry him over, so he managed to push off to the other side, and did make it over."

Although falling 20 ft., Meyer was never knocked unconscious or in shock.

"Even though Joe was bleeding profusely, he still kept talking," Jacobs said. "He told me to get a camera to document what happened. He also told me to go look for his tooth."

Meyer said that he broke his facial structure in seven different places, and also broke his wrist.

Meyer said that he had to have his jaw wired shut. In the future he will have to wear rubber bands on his braces.

No other surgeries will be needed in the future. The bruises suffered from the fall will heal on their own, Meyer said.

"People are obsessed with the way they look. They enhance their appearance with surgery, so they don't look abnormal like me," Meyer said.

Much of society dissatisfied with appearance, psychologists say

By Jenny Nelson

"Some women think too much/Some women drink too much/And some women even pray too much/But all women think they weigh too much."

Bill Rucker, marriage and family therapist at the Center Point Building, quoted these words from Ogden Nash to emphasize the problem many women have with their appearance.

Rucker said that in his thirty years of counseling, he still encounters people who want to be thin. The styles were a lot different when he began counseling, he said, but overall, things have not changed much.

"Thin was still in," he said.

Sophomore Hallie Wunsch said that society's idea of a beautiful person is one who is symmetrical and physically perfect. She said she believes that beauty comes from the inside.

"A beautiful person is a nice person," Wunsch said. The Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Dr. Lisa Crockett, said the idea of people who we normally consider beautiful has changed over time.

Crockett said the standard of beauty has gotten thinner while the weight of the average woman has not changed much.

She said that the standard of attractiveness is getting harder to attain.

Susan Skulsky, a licensed and certified professional counselor who has worked with teens for over 15 years, said that having physical beauty does not mean that a person is well adjusted or happy.

"There is no such thing as a per-

fect body," Skulsky said.

She said that if a person focuses on making their appearance perfectly presentable, they think they do not have to deal with all of the imperfections inside.

"There are plenty of imperfections in life," she said.

Skulsky said that people with a perfect outside have a false illusion of comfort with themselves. If one is comfortable with oneself, they are happy with who they are, she said.

"It's hard to get comfortable with yourself," Skulsky said.

Crockett said that there has been research done that shows that 85 percent of women are dissatisfied with their weight.

She said that men are also becoming dissatisfied with their bodies. About half of men want to gain weight, and the other half want to lose

weight, Crockett said.

She said that there have not been many studies to evaluate what causes people to be dissatisfied with their appearances. She said that models are a direct link, but there is nothing to prove it.

Wunsch said that from her personal experiences of others, models are a direct link, but there is nothing to prove it.

Skulsky said that it is not helpful to magazines, people seen in etc.

COURTESY OF KATRINA KERNS



KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER

KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER

Perfectionism leads to eating disorders, Program Director says

By Courtney O'Malley

If the media were more responsible about showing realistic women, instead of underweight models, it might help make eating disorder problems less severe, said a representative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Women's Health.

Neena Gupta said she feels if the media did not portray people so unrealistically, it might make women less obsessed about weight.

According to an information sheet on eating disorders published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the idealization of thinness has created a distorted and unrealistic image of beauty and success.

Cultural and media influences such as television, maga-

zines and movies reinforce the belief that women should be more concerned with appearance than ideas and achievements.

"The models that we see only represent two percent of Americans," Holly Hoff, Program Director of Educating Disorders Prevention Awareness (EDAP), said.

Hoff said she feels that society places a pressure on one standard of beauty that is not normal.

"Eighty percent of Americans are said to be dissatisfied with their body image," Hoff said.

Society further creates an image that may cause some to spiral out of control into eating disorders, Hoff said.

The three most common eating disorders are anorexia, bulimia and binge eating disorder, she said.

According to information from the U.S. Department of Health and Services, anorexia is the excessive loss of weight

due to starvation. Those that suffer from anorexia have an intense fear of body fat and weight gain.

Approximately one in 10 anorexia die from starvation, cardiac arrest or complications.

Bulimia is a very common disorder that affects one to three percent of adolescents in the U.S.

Bulimia is a routine of secretive and uncontrolled eating that is followed by behaviors to rid the body of consumed food.

Such behaviors include purging (vomiting), abuse, diet pills, excessive exercise or fasting.

STRAIGHT
TALK ON
EATING
DISORDERS

*More than 90 percent of people with eating disorders are females

*At least 5 million women in the United States are affected by these diseases

*People with anorexia nervosa struggle to meet an unrealistic body image

PERFECTION

SOCIETY'S IDEALS

Eating Disorders

There have been studies where kids were dressed differently and were therefore treated differently in shopping malls. Kids who were dressed nicely and had a "clean" appearance were treated kindly.

Many people think that if they do not look just right, they will not be successful, Rucker said.

Skulsky said that society today is cultivating a false self. Perfection is geared toward this false self, she said, and people get caught up in it.

She said that beauty must start inside and work its way outward.

"If you have comfort with yourself, you will be an attractive person," Skulsky said. "It radiates from inside, it's a part of your soul."

She said that people strive for perfection in their appearance so that they do not feel common.

People do not want to accept ordinariness, she said.

Everyone must remember—beauty is in the eye of the beholder," Skulsky said.

ARE THESE STUDENTS PERFECT?

FAR LEFT: Senior Katrina Kerns models for Elite.

LEFT: Junior Noah Moe, although not a model, may be an example of perfection.

BELOW: Sophomore Josey Danner is a student for International School of Modeling.



Models show society's view of beauty, some say

By Jenny Nelson

Models do not influence people by portraying themselves as the ideal bodies as much as one might think, the Fashion Director of the Arlene Wilson Modeling Agency in Chicago said.

Shea Spencer compared the effects of modeling on society to movies causing violence. He said it is the same kind of circle.

Appearance is still a major part of modeling, though, Traci Lenigan, the Director of the International School of Modeling in Omaha, said. Models need to be athletically fit and cannot get underweight.

Lenigan said that models must be in a good healthy condition with good teeth, even features, clear skin and good hair.

"[However], today's model needs to be a little more true to life," Lenigan said.

She said that since the customer age base is getting older and more mature, they are less likely to be fooled by unrealistic-looking people.

"People aren't as excited about a 13-16 year old model who is painted up to look like she's 20," she said.

Sophomore Dana Thompson started modeling last year when she was 14 through Arlene Wilson in Chicago.

Thompson said that when she first started they took her measurements. From then on it was up to her to keep her shape.

"If you lose your shape, you get fired," Thompson said.

She said that eating disorders are a common stereotype among models, but that she eats well and is not set to a diet.

Senior Katrina Kerns said she has been a

model since she was 15 through Elite. She said she hasn't seen anyone with eating disorders, but she knows it's in the industry.

"When you are conscience about it [watching what you eat] you become over-conscience," Kerns said.

She said that she is always careful about what she is eating, but she has never had an eating disorder.

Lenigan said that an ideal model must have even measurements.

The typical Miss America candidate would have a bust measurement of 36 inches, waist measurement of 24 inches and hip measurement of 36 inches. Agencies are getting away from the surgical augmentations, though, she said.

"An agent isn't going to do anything detrimental to a model's career," Lenigan said.

Kerns said that models on runways wear clothes that one would never see on an average person. She said the runway models are 5 ft. 8 in. to 5 ft. 11 in. and wear sizes two to four.

Lenigan said that plus sizes in the industry are sizes 10 to 12.

Much of society views models as being the ideal beautiful people. However, sophomore Adam Mertz also said that models have the reputation of being stuck up and shallow.

He said he has seen Thompson in magazines.

"She's hot," Mertz said.

Lenigan said that beauty is a combination of physical appearance with self-awareness. Attitude is very important.

She said that there are many things to learn in becoming a model.

"No one's born a model," Lenigan said.

Teens strive to fit in by over-achieving

By Sarah Peterson

Perfect /per-fikt/ *adj.* A being entirely without fault or defect.

During their teenage years, many people try to fit in with their peers, Barbara Jesing, a therapist from Family Services said. Some teens try to fit in by achieving "perfection."

This can have both positive and negative effects, Jesing said.

Jesing said that if people try to please everyone without having an internal value system, it could lead to many problems—such as anorexia.

However, she stressed that trying to fit in is not always negative.

"It's good to want to fit in," Jesing said. "It helps you figure out what is right for you."

In a recent poll of 214 students at Central, 41 percent of student's said that other people's opinions influenced their actions, appearance, etc.

Jesing said that perfection is defined as having high standards for one's self or trying hard to reach a goal.

While this is often positive, it can be negative when people don't leave themselves room for failure, she said.

"People are a mix of perfect and imperfect," Jesing said.

When people don't leave themselves any room in-between perfection and failure, it can be self-defeating, Jesing said.

This can also be negative when people take on the mentality that if they can't be perfect, they won't be at all, Jesing said. Occasionally these people will consider suicide.

Jesing said that some students attempt to achieve perfection by working for good grades.

Linda Bannister, a school psychologist with the Omaha Public Schools, said that she really doesn't see a large problem with teens working too hard to get good grades.

"Our perspective, as school psychologists, is that we see few people who actually spend too much time on their homework," Bannister said. "We see more people who have difficulties in school and don't spend enough time on homework."

Bannister said that it was most important that teens be well rounded.

"Grades are important," she said, "but youngsters need to have friends and a social life—just time to be kids."

Sophomore Sloan Dawson said that he considers himself a perfectionist.

"Sure as hell I'm a perfectionist," he said. "I'm a perfectionist, a hardworker and I'm impatient—it's not a good mix."

Dawson said that he works on things until they are perfect.

In a poll of 214 Central students, 32 percent of the people said that they considered themselves perfectionists.

Freshman Scott O'Dell said that he does not consider himself a perfectionist.

He said that he thought that none of the freshmen really got good grades—it was more upper-classmen who worked hard to get good grades.

"They're eventually going to burn out," O'Dell said.

Bannister said that teens should only spend four hours on homework a night.

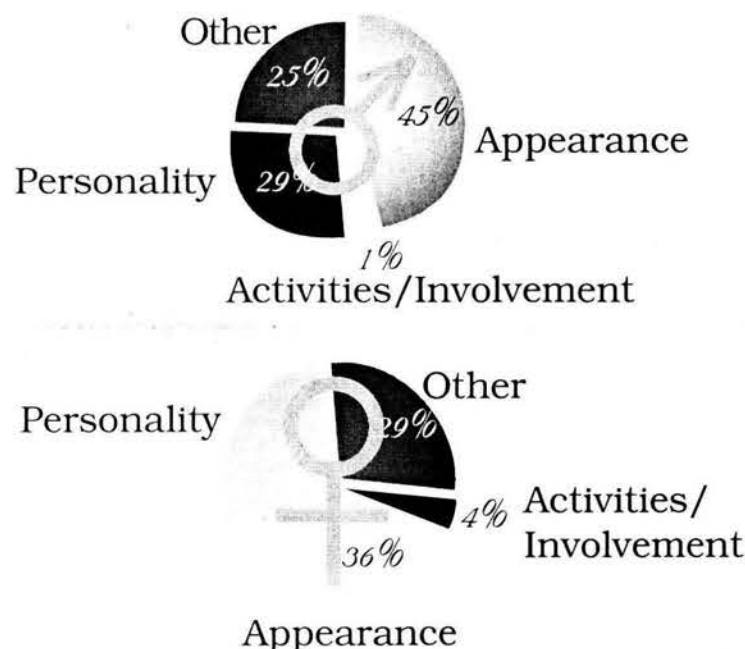
However, she said that depending on a student's goals, this could increase slightly.

She said that it was also important to look at why students put forth so much effort. Students' goals, parental pressure and self-motivation could all be considered.

Jesing said that teens should spend their time in a variety of activities.

"If students are studying so hard that they don't socialize, they are not living a balanced life," Jesing said.

What first attracts you to another person?



214 students polled



Lindsay Harkness, 10

APPEARANCE: Not really skinny and not too much taller than me.

PERSONALITY: Nice, humorous and kind to everyone.



Justin Cummins, 10

APPEARANCE: Nice eyes, smells good.

PERSONALITY: Understanding, active, good conversationalist.



Whitney Williams, 9

APPEARANCE: Tall, hazel eyes, caramel/dark skin, and muscular.

PERSONALITY: Smart, attentive, humorous, polite, and talkative.

JARED HART/THE REGISTER

Center for Educating Disorders Prevention Awareness, says

and with bulimia is compulsive eating.

The third most common disorder is Binge Eating Disorder, or BED.

BED is the repeated episode of uncontrolled eating. Many researchers believe that BED is the most common, affecting almost one to four percent of the general population.

There is not one clear cause of eating disorders Hoff said. Cultural influences, a history of dieting, family, depression and low self-esteem may be possible factors.

"Eating disorders are a mental illness, they are not like a

cold," Gupta said. "They need to be treated accordingly. You can't just go to the hospital and get cured."

The number of those suffering from eating disorders has increased dramatically.

"Within the past three decades, the number of women with eating disorders has doubled to five million," Gupta said.

Of those that suffer, ninety percent are women, Hoff said.

The most common ages of those that suffer with eating

disorders are the age of puberty and late adolescents to early college years, Hoff said.

"This is a time when significant life changes occur. People try to control these emotional changes by attempting to control the food in their life," Hoff said.

Perfectionism is a major component of eating disorders. People see images that are unreal, which is often why they strive for something that seems to be perfect, Hoff said.

"It's too bad that young girls can't tell the difference that beautiful doesn't always equal thin," Gupta said.

*Anorexia ranks as the third most common chronic illness of teen females

*Anorexics are often characterized as perfectionists and overachievers

*One in 10 women with anorexia die of starvation or medical complications

*Bulimia nervosa is a disorder where a person binge eats and then purges

INFORMATION COURTESY OF U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE'S OFFICE OF WOMEN'S HEALTH



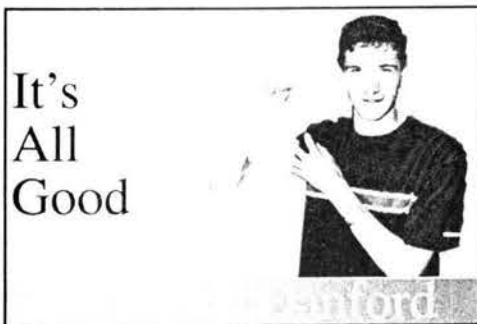
Perspectives

Popularity

Consumer products

The Internet

Information age damages communication



"You've got mail." But who is it really from?

The growth of the information age has led to a new form of deception—mistaken identity.

Individuals can use the Internet, television and other forms of communications media to fool others into believing they are someone or something that they are not.

A few weeks ago, I was on the Internet with a friend's—Oosandi's—AOL account. I should have known that I was in trouble right off the bat. Some young Casanova tried hitting

on me thinking that I was some fresh meat from Omaha as her profile would lead him to believe.

I thought it would be fun to play along. Before too long, his head was full of dirty illusions and false hopes.

He thought that I was really some lady of the night who would sleep with anyone after half a flask of Old Number Seven.

It was actually kind of fun. When he suggested we rent a movie, I proposed that we make some home movies of our own. He even wanted to meet with me that night so we could slam.

I gave him a friend's address; Jared still hasn't forgiven me.

The computer froze after he sent me his picture. I was still looking for a good photo that I could send him of me.

It was actually probably for the best. I started to feel bad that I was leading this guy on. He never did anything wrong to me. I should have never done anything wrong to him.

These forms of communication just make it too easy to lie. I can say things online that I would never dream of saying in the real world.

I am not the only one. People run scams off of the

Internet. They are just too hard to control. Web sites are created every day. People hide behind their computer screens and interact with others.

The people, who are harmed, are not to those who commit the crimes. They are screen names and credit card numbers. There is no human interaction.

Also, people do not know the difference between reality and fiction in today's society.

Television audiences witness deaths, crimes on a daily basis. On the same television set, they witness the suffering of people in world countries on the nightly news.

People are not able to tell the difference between the two.

Therefore, when society is exposed to promises of the Internet or the hopes of e-mail, they have a hard time discerning the of the matter.

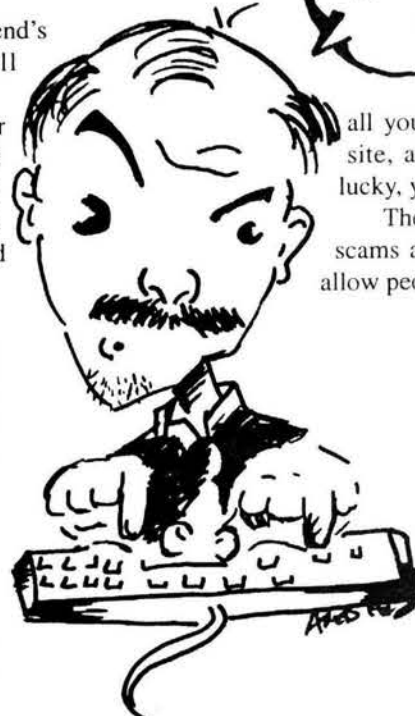
Be careful with whom you talk to on the Internet. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Stay on your toes, and it will all be good.



all the time. Just e-mail all your credit card numbers in to one site, and if one of your numbers are lucky, you too could be a millionaire. The informercials on TV, the phone scams and even the new online brokers allow people to be fooled by technology.

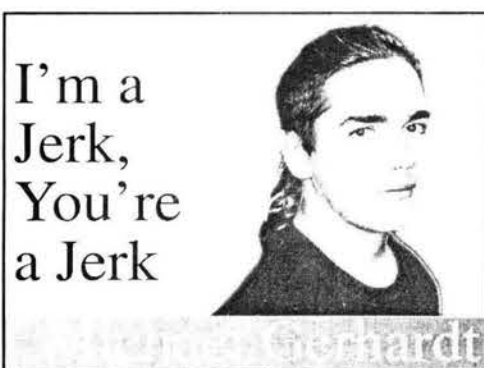
Top 10 Internet Pick-up Lines

1. Let me help you set up your connection.
2. People tell me I have the best site around.
3. Let me hack into your system.
4. Do you want to see if Intel is really inside?
5. You can stop your search now—



6. You've already found me.
7. My computer just crashed; you don't mind if I crash here tonight?
8. My homepage gets 1,000 hits a day.
9. Let me link you to my site.
10. Do you want to see my motherboard?

Even more frightening products discovered



As a service to my loyal readers, I'd like to give everyone an update on stupid consumer products.

So I'm sitting around at a Village Inn, trying to eat a salt shaker (I was broke and hungry, shut up), and I noticed something called "pourable mustard." Now this is an obvious requirement for mustard, since every idiot knows that mustard is mined in nugget

form in Zimbabwe. After this, mustard is heated and molded into its new form. Mustard cannot be poured without this.

Earlier, I was at Target with my girlfriend looking at make-up. Normally, this is a very frightening experience for guys, who are afraid that "roid-raging lumberjacks might jump out from behind the aisles and make them their wife.

I wasn't really very frightened by this, since I was used to people trying to make me their wife in the locker room. But I did end up yelling for a half-hour about the different asinine things I found in this aisle.

I found a lipstick called "nudity." I found a lipstick called "campy." I found a lipstick called "cyber." What is wrong with people? Call your lipstick what color it is! If it's purple, call it purple! Conversations like these don't sound very intelligent...

Female #1: Oh, that lipstick color is so

cute. What is it?

Female #2: Campy.

Female #1: What?

Female #2: My lipstick is campy.

Female #1: No, Batman movies are campy. Your lipstick is red.

Female #2: Yeah, I know it is, but campy just sounds better.

Female #1: No it doesn't, it just makes you sound like an idiot.

Pilgrim: Let us all feast on this bounty of turkey.

I have a box of bread sticks at home, which seems pretty harmless, except for the fact that they encourage child cannibalism. On the back of the box, they have a pretty little display of what the breadsticks go along with, such as chili, pizza, salads and finally, kids. It had a picture of small blonde child, which you are to eat with your breadsticks. Sauce is optional.

I was at an engineering show a while ago,

and I found the most beautiful topic in the history of the world. The urilit, the toilet/urine, the most functional object on the planet besides those rocks that that say little human traits on them (I hate those). I swear I'm making this up. It even came with a graphic of wire people aiming and the different trajectories, if you know what I'm talking about. When I first saw this item, I was quaked with excitement.

Finally, we've all been to the Crossroads Mall and seen that little booth where you get your name put on a grain of rice; probably a large amount of money. You pay for this. You can keep your little grain of rice with your name written on it, and do all kinds of great things with it. No, wait, you can't. It's useless, and people who pay money for it are stupid, and should give me money instead, or possibly the homeless.

I'll try not to rant next month.

How to be popular



I don't know how many times I have walked down the illustrious halls of Central and had the average Joe ask me, "Oh omnipotent demigod Jared, please tell me your secret to popularity."

And of course I am always forced to give the same answer. "No." But as many seniors usually do, I have finally decided to divulge most of my secrets to popularity.

Before we learn the steps to higher enlightenment, we must first understand this issue. Popularity is a superficial Band-Aid for low self-esteem.

It is based solely on clothing, money and the skill to back-stab. It is nothing more than a name-brand shirt, a fake smile and ability to spread rumors. Nice cars also help.

It is my understanding that if you can believe most everything told to you, without checking the source, your popularity will be heightened.

It's easy! Just believe everything told to you, blindly, and despise people with out good cause.

For example, if Jill tells Julia who tells Mary Beth who tells James who tells Tanemashequia what happened, the information is totally correct. Believe it whole heartedly. So to truly be popular follow the crowd, and hate everyone they hate.

Now, understanding this, we may begin

the wonderful voyage of building your popularity status.

Appearance: Your appearance can make you popular. Except if you have blonde hair. If you have blonde hair, you are destined to become popular. This has been known since the beginning of time. Blindingly white teeth help out also.

Freshmen to Senior: There is a reason seniors don't get along with freshmen. They are speaking from experience, no one is the same as they were freshmen year. If they are something is seriously wrong. From this we get the coolness that is a senior. This, and the fact that seniors should not have classes with freshmen, is why first and fourth years are not close.

Nothing personal, just business. I mean you don't see many freshmen chillin' with seniors. I hope.

Dating: The farther on in life we go, the more dating changes. From "going out" to couple skating, to pointless Jr. High relationships to the present, dating is never the same from year to year. This is why so many people are on so many different levels. The secret to popularity is to never get pinned. If you do, all hope is lost.

If you date a different person every weekend, not only do you get the goods, you get the ever elusive popularity.

Honestly, what is the sense in seeing the same person every night for a whole six months in high school? Besides cutting off friendships, you are boring. So to all significant and the others, you are dull and unpopular.

Find something and stick with it: If one noticed, the people who are popular freshmen year, are never popular senior year. Not only because everyone is sick of their antics but because they have not found a style of their own.

So in the long run, just emulate my life

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Guest Columnist
Register '00

Perspectives

Drugs

Letters to the Editor

Bias



Anti-bias training fights hatred

The Pentagon recently commissioned new anti-bias training for every member of the armed forces, in order to clarify the meaning of the "don't ask, don't tell policy." This is a step in the right direction for equal rights for all in the military.

After the July death of a Kentucky private who was rumored to be gay, Defense Sec. William Cohan ordered the anti-bias training in each section of the armed forces, to help prevent anti-gay harassment. The goal is further emphasize the fact that anti-gay sentiments will not be tolerated.

First, this new training will finally update the military to modern morals. The military fights for freedom for the American people, but yet gay members of the military have to fear harassment and attempts on their life.

This is wrong.

This new training will finally bring the current military standards up to current societal standards, where there is a punishment for hate crimes and violence. This would allow more

gays to enlist in the military, with less fear of harassment.

While some argue that this training would be useless, it might educate and help the ignorant people who commit these acts.

Some would argue that a bigoted person cannot be changed, but others would say that education is the only way to change a bigot. These classes would educate the bigoted and help them to understand and tolerate gays.

With this training being given to all members of the armed forces, every member will be educated and hatred will be combated on many levels within the military. The senior civilian and military leaders of the armed forces were also asked to write letters to their commanders underlining that homophobic actions and threats will not be tolerated.

Finally, this new training will clarify the ambiguous "don't ask, don't tell" policy the military adopted five years ago. There have been multiple instances of gays being harassed until they admitted their homosexuality, causing an unfair end to their military career. These new classes will hopefully help curb this harassment, so more people, who are gay, can continue to serve their country as they wish.

Editorial

The opinion of
The Register

Register Your Opinion

"Register Your Opinion" is not meant to represent the view the entire student body or the staff of the Register.

Are the new AP/Honors requirements beneficial to Central?



No. They should have the choice to drop out if it's too hard.

Patricia Cannon, 10



Yes. We need to have a more exclusive AP plan to make sure that the people who sign up can handle it and work for it.

Steve Houlden, 11



No. If you are already in an honors class, it's a given you are going to stay.

Christopher Aponick, 10



Yes. It's just like college. People should stay with it.

Charisse Ladd, 11

Proposed smoking ban prevents public smoking

The Nebraska State Legislature has a bill currently in legislation to ban smoking in all public places and government areas. This bill would help prevent the public from having second-hand smoke forced on them, helps keep people healthy and places cleaner.

LB 1033 aims to ban smoking in all public places, except in meeting areas, as well as public vehicles and work places. This bill extends on other bans that are already in place all over the country, as well as the clear-air act. This ban is needed for other reasons as well.

While some say this bill is unfair and would damage smokers rights, banning

smoking in all public places would have many positive effects.

People who do not smoke should not be forced to breathe in the toxic fumes of those who do. Second hand smoke has been proven to actually be worse for a person than firsthand smoke.

The ban would also prohibit smoking within ten feet of all government owned buildings and vehicles. This would keep government vans and cars from reeking of stale smoke and free of cigarette burns and the area around government buildings from being surrounded by cigarette butts and other

litter.

This ban also affects smoking in college dorms. No more than 40 percent of the residential housing on campuses of the Board of Regents of Nebraska will have smoking permitted.

This is an excellent idea, since no college student wants a dorm room that reeks of cigarette smoke and has cigarette burns all over the carpet. Like government buildings, it will keep college dorm rooms clean.

This ban could also help lower the amount of people who smoke, since they could smoke in only a few designated areas. It could even keep people from starting since it would become such an inconvenience to smoke.

It would also reflect society's growing acceptance of people who smoke. While this may seem prejudice, it simply reflects society.

This new ban would also declare an emergency, so this bill would go directly into effect if passed.

This kind of ban is needed to keep non-smoking Americans free of second hand smoke and keep places cleaner for everyone to appreciate.

Furthermore...The Nebraska State Legislature should be congratulated for granting \$500,000 a year to youth-driven anti smoking campaigns. A campaign like this helped drop the teen smoking rate by 20 percent in Florida.

Editorial

The opinion of
The Register

Paraphernalia ban corrects double standard

It does not make sense that it is perfectly legal to purchase, use and sell drug paraphernalia, but not drugs. To fix this blunder, the Nebraska State Legislature is proposing a bill that would make it illegal to sell, possess, manufacture, or advertise drug paraphernalia.

Drug paraphernalia is defined as any object that would be knowingly used to facilitate illegal drug use.

The bill LB 1102 would greatly advance the attempts to control drug use. The current law allows a person to purchase everything involving the use of drugs, except for the drug itself.

Permitting the sale of drug paraphernalia is almost directly promoting the use of drugs. In the least it is weakening the laws that prohibit the use of drugs.

People say that paraphernalia is used for things like tobacco, but for the most part it is used for illegal purposes. Some stores try to cover this fact up by displaying signs which outline the uses of the paraphernalia, which never includes drugs.

This does not solve any problems though. No one who comes to a store to buy a pipe is going to read these signs.

Allowing it to exist is making drug use and the culture that surrounds it more prevalent and attractive. The availability of it also promotes an acceptance of drug use. The visibility of drug paraphernalia clouds the sometimes devastating effects of drug use.

LB 1102 would also deter the advertisement of drug paraphernalia. Drugs and their paraphernalia go hand in hand. If it is illegal to advertise drugs it should be illegal to advertise the instruments used along with it.

If someone possesses drug paraphernalia it is more than likely that they will use it for illegal purposes. Therefore, deeming

possession of such materials illegal makes perfect sense.

Eliminating the legality of possession, sale and use of drug paraphernalia would make it increasingly more difficult to use and distribute drugs.

It would also enable law enforcement to make more drug related arrests and in effect have more control over drug use in Nebraska. It would as well as lead to more seizures of illegal drugs.

LB 1102 would allow the simple removal of drug paraphernalia and in effect, takes great strides in the effort to control the drug population.

Editorial

The opinion of
The Register

The Register

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LETTERS, E-MAIL & FAXES

Roadshow needs changes

If you've ever been to our Roadshows, you will see that this year's was not that different than the past year's. It was funny, and the kids sang beautifully. Everything about Roadshow was the same, maybe not the same acts, but the same ideas. There were the two or three people that were in half the show. Personally, I think those two or three people are very talented in what they do, but I don't think that they're talented enough to be the entire show.

Why not trying out for three, two, or even one act, instead of trying out with ten acts and not giving anybody else a chance? Why not be a little humble and share the spot light with others? To me, all you are doing is showing how great you are and throwing back in the faces of the others who wanted one chance for one act.

But maybe the problem is deeper than that. You have to try out, so why not try out for as many as you can, you're being judged anyway. Yet the judges (teachers) being fair of course, seem to pick these two or three people repeatedly. I don't know how they do it. I guess they see these two or three people and are just in awe of their talent and want, in all fairness, to see them in almost all of Roadshow.

I'm not trying to make enemies. I just think the judges and those two

or three regulars should take into consideration what other people want to see.

I'm not saying Roadshow was a disaster. I enjoyed it for the most part, but it's just about the same for the last three I've seen. Let's try something the students like.

I would also like to commend the "Clown on Stilts" act. I think it surprised most of the student body, even if the reactions about it were different. I thought it was the best act of the show.

So next year is my senior year and those two or three people who will remain nameless will have ended their Central career and hopefully next year we can break tradition and have truly unique Roadshow different from anything we've seen.

Ty Griess, 11

Less tradition needed

Contrary to popular belief, I'm not absolutely opposed to Central High. Dr. Thompson is a good principal, who allows a lot of freedom in his school.

But as much as he gives freedom to do things, there are also things that are not allowed because Central tries to keep its traditional image.

It seems to me that most of what is done here is either done to boost school ratings or to appease parents.

For example, if a student wants to have piercings in places other than their ears, they will not be allowed on the pom squad.

Seems a little silly to me, just to preserve an image. Perhaps if the administration was willing to make a few compromises, school spirit and the like would be a more popular idea.

Matt Wynn, 10

Reassignment pointless

I feel that if you live in District 66, you should still be able to attend Central. I live near Aksarben and I like Central, but next year I will be forced to go to Westside because of where I live. Personally, I think the whole District 66 area is pointless and asinine.

Nicole Paroda, 9

Euthenasia prevents pain

Why is it currently illegal to end the pain of suffering of a sound-minded person who wishes to die, but is unable to accomplish it alone?

In cases like those that Dr. Jack Kevorkian treated, patients suffer from terminal illnesses that make it impossible for them to live a productive and happy life. Often, they suffer so much pain from their illness that they can barely function. If a patient like this was on life support in a hospital and unconscious or comatose, the doctors and family

could, perfectly legally, make a decision to end the patient's suffering by stopping life support. Yet, if a person decides of his own volition that he no longer wants to go on living with the pain of disabilities that he have, it is against the law to help them end his own life. Isn't it just as logical to allow assisted suicide of a conscious person deciding for themselves what they want they want as it is to decide the life of a brain dead person? That person may have wanted to go on living, the prospective assisted suicide patient does not. When he openly told the truth, he was condemned to life in prison. If he had tried to lie, he might have been set free or not as harshly punished. Is this ethical?

In addition, a person's right to die could be classified as constitutional right. A person can exercise free will as long as it does not harm anyone else. Choosing to end one's own suffering is hurting no one, and it should be a choice that ill people will a valid reason to wish to die should be allowed to make. Why should anyone else's moral stance stand in the way of a persons decision that solely concerns him?

Jennifry Gunn,10

When writing a letter to the editor, please include your name and grade

Billionaire provides libraries with computer

By Jennifer Friedman

Central students will now have an easier time logging in at the Omaha Public Libraries, thanks to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Gates' Library Initiative, a branch of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, has donated 20 new computers to be divided between five different Omaha Public Libraries, Linda Trout, the special projects manager for the Omaha Public

Libraries, said.

The Initiative also donated 11 more computers to the main library for a training lab, Trout said.

The library branches that will be receiving the 20 new computers are the W. Dale Clark, Benson, A.V. Sorenson, South and Washington libraries.

The grant awarded to the libraries was based on the average income of the library and the need for the grant.

The Gates' Library Initiative

awards the grants state by state, beginning with the most needy libraries.

Janet Davenport, the Omaha Public Library's senior manager for technology, said that the foundation looked at the poverty and population level within a three-mile radius of each library. Those with the most people living below the national poverty line received grants for computers.

Davenport said the foundation's

purpose was to bridge the digital divide between people who have access to computers and the Internet, and those who do not.

Originally, Nebraska was not scheduled to receive a grant until 2002. However, the Gates' Library Initiative started a new program, the Accelerated Grant Program for large libraries, so that libraries that serve over 300,000 people could apply, Trout said.

This let Nebraska receive its

grant two years earlier than scheduled.

Norma Riley, the executive director of the Omaha Public Library Foundation, said that she received notification in January that they could fill out a grant application this year.

Riley said that the 50 to 60 page application told the library what it could ask for. The library had to justify what it applied for, Riley said.

The Omaha Public Libraries are expecting to receive the computers

and have them running by June.

Davenport said that there are computer training facilities at the libraries. Free computer classes for the public will be offered at the libraries as well.

The main training lab, located at the main library, will be used for staff training, Trout said.

Trout said she believes the grant will help improve the staff's ability to answer questions from the library's computer users.

Spanish language education benefits Omaha police force

By Jennifer Friedman

Communication in South Omaha between citizens and police will be much improved because of a class being taught to Omaha officers.

Officer Don Savage, Sgt. Mark Martinez and Sgt. Rich Gonzalez are the current instructors of a Spanish class for the officers and recruits of the Omaha Police Department.

Martinez said that there is an increasing amount of Spanish speaking people in Omaha.

This increase led to the idea of creating the classes.

"We're public officers," Martinez said. "In order to serve the public in an efficient and affordable way, we need to learn to speak Spanish."

Before the program was

developed, the Omaha Police Department would ask for volunteers to come and teach basic Spanish.

Martinez said that since the officers were not getting the same instructors, there was no consistency to what they were learning.

Savage, Martinez and Gonzalez took it upon themselves to go to the University of Southern Mississippi and learn how to teach their recruits and officers "command" Spanish.

Martinez said that "command" Spanish is one-way Spanish, from the officer to the Spanish-speaking individual.

Martinez and Savage both said that the classes they are teaching are good for improving community relations.

The three instructors teach basic command Spanish to their recruits.

The officer gives a command and does not have to worry about getting a long response that he or she will not understand, Martinez said.

Such phrases in command Spanish range from "Good morning," to "Hands up!" Martinez said.

Savage said that the officers may sign up for advanced Spanish.

Advanced Spanish teaches officers to conduct traffic stops, and is also a little more conversational than "command" Spanish.

Savage said he feels that the classes have given officers a gained increase awareness of cultural diversity.

Spanish classes are offered to the officers about once a month.

The classes are also required for every incoming police officer and for all incoming recruits.

The "command" Spanish classes are offered along with the other training programs throughout the department.



Education enhanced by new satellite conference

TALK, continued from page 1

"It was unusually good for a satellite download," she said.

Wright said despite the favorable showing, more youth attendance is needed for the program to become a true success.

"Both student and family involvement are necessary," she said.

In addition to discussing the issues with those across the nation, those who attended the meeting debated the topic, following the satellite transmission, amongst themselves.

"It felt like we needed to talk,"

she said, "so we stayed and talked."

Wright said individuals do not need to travel to Lincoln in order to participate in the meetings.

She said anyone could connect to the meetings via satellite.

She said before people can connect to the meeting, they would need to fill out an application and other paper work.

"You could have a download at Central if you so chose," Wright said.

Zhang said although the meetings do seem like a good idea for some people, he does not personally feel inclined to participate in the meetings.

"I can see how some people

might find it beneficial," he said. "I do not think that I would get much out of the meetings, however."

The U.S. Department of Education has sponsored two meetings already.

There are nine more scheduled for the remainder of the school year.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on March 21.

The theme of this conference will be "Nurturing Readers: Building and Sustaining Community Reading Programs."

Wright said she hopes attendance will increase as the year progresses.

"I just need to keep getting the word out," she said.

Cupid loves you!



PHOTO COURTESY OF JASON GOOSSEN

LOVE IS IN THE AIR.... The American Technology Honor Society (ATHS) creatively raised money on Valentine's Day. ATHS President junior Joey Ferhman dressed up as Cupid and is shown here "fooling" around with junior Jason Goossen. Students and teachers had the chance to get their picture taken with Cupid for \$3. Ferhman said they raised over \$100 for ATHS.

Animal surplus forces humane society to move

By Sarah Peterson

The Nebraska Humane Society recently expanded its services by opening at the new, larger Lied Humane Center, public relations director for the Humane Society said.

Darcy Beck said the new location, at the former Festival Foods on 8929 Fort St., held a ribbon-cutting

ceremony and began providing services on Feb. 7. A grand opening was held on Feb. 19.

The Humane Society found itself continually struggling with the constraints of its old, rapidly deteriorating facility at 89th and Fort St., Beck said.

"The old building looked pretty bad and depressing," she said.

The building, constructed in 1968, was originally designed to hold a maximum of 250 animals. Since that time, the number of animals coming into the facility doubled.

In 1997, more than 1200 cats and dogs were euthanized simply because there was not enough room.

Beck said the new building is over 65,000 square feet and will be

able to hold around 500 animals.

Animals were also kept in unfit areas at the old facility, Beck said. Dogs were confined for long periods of time in an area with no natural source of lights—often making them become depressed or aggressive. Dogs were forced to urinate and defecate in the same area in which they slept.

Animals will also have more modern and healthier areas to stay, Beck said. A new surgical suite will also be constructed so that every animal will be spayed or neutered before they are adopted.

"The building will provide a better situation for the animals and a more optimistic view for visitors," Beck said.

Established in 1875, Nebraska Humane Society is the oldest Humane Society in the United States. It operates on an annual budget of \$1.8 million, one million of which is generated through a contract with the City of Omaha Animal Control services. The rest is raised through shelter operations and private donations.

Teachers low salaries cause questions in state legislature

MONEY, continued from page 1

"If you don't do something about teacher salaries," Anderson said, "the problem is only going to get worse."

She said the Coke delivery driver receives a starting salary of \$37,000.

Anderson said people in the teaching profession see these type of opportunities, and are less inclined to remain in the teaching profession and in Nebraska.

Koontze said the average teacher salary in Nebraska ranks 43rd in the nation. The average teacher starting salary ranks 44th.

Anderson said these salaries are not high enough to compete with the job market in the Omaha area.

Anderson said these comparatively low salaries are the cause of

many of the teacher shortages in the district.

She said 40 positions in the district have remained unfilled since the beginning of the school year.

Anderson also said it has caused the percentage of students enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has dropped significantly as a result.

In the past, Anderson said the teacher salary issue has been a problem from time to time.

"The grumbling has been there for years," she said.

Shae said the rally in Lincoln was the third she had attended as a teacher. The last rally she participated in took place 11 years ago.

She said the rally in the past did bring about results.

However, she said due to spend-

ing increases, the teacher's salaries were back at the levels they were previous to the increase in about two years.

In addition to their physical presence, Anderson said about 4,000 byists will voice their opinion through e-mails to state senators.

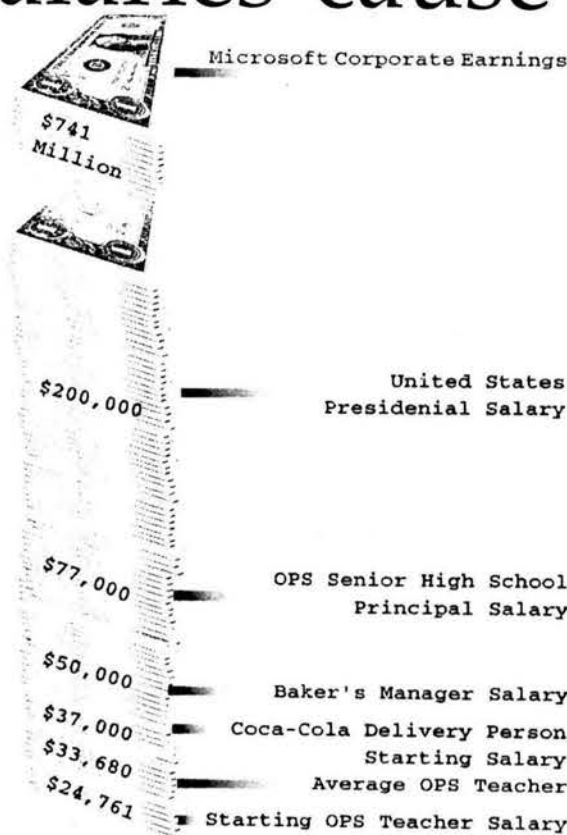
At Central, she said between 15 and 20 people regularly participate in this cyber-lobbying.

However, as a result of the universal importance of this issue, Anderson said that she expects the number to increase to nearly 100 teachers.

Koontze said he felt the rally was a great success.

"The senators definitely understood that there is a crying need for change," he said.

THE MO' MONEY WE COME ACROSS . . . A graph depicting the average incomes of various occupations in 1998. A proposed bill in the Nebraska Unicameral would help to raise the average teacher salary to the regional average of \$36,600. The average teacher salary within the Omaha Public School District is \$33,680.



ENTERTAINMENT

Blue Barn Theater plans to repair damages caused by fire, water

Becki Chandler

For those of you looking forward to the opening of the Blue Barn Theater in the Old Market, you're in for a disappointment, Kevin Lawlor, Artistic Director for the Blue Barn Theater said.

The Blue Barn Theater has been closed since May 1999 because of a fire that damaged the entire theater.

However, another fire has damaged the theater once again postponing the original opening date, Lawlor said.

"I had hoped to re-open the theater in March or April of this year but we unfortunately experienced another bout of bad luck," he said.

The first fire was nine months after the original opening of the Blue Barn, Lawlor said.

He said that roofers had been working on the building with propane and a fire erupted causing damage to the entire place.

Along with the fire damage, water damage was another contributing factor to the repairs, Lawlor said.

"The fire fighters had to pour five thousand gallons of water per minute for twenty four hours straight to completely extinguish the fire," Lawlor said

The Blue Barn Theater, also connected with the Bemis Company Building, required a major cleanup to repair the damage made, Lawlor said.

Once again, another repair will be have to be made to reconstruct the building, Lawlor said. However, the second fire didn't reach inside the building so the repairs will be less, he said.

He also added that because of the great extent of damage made again by fire the owners are primary decision makers on how much repair will be made to the building.

The Mercer family, who owns the Blue Barn Theater, will decide on what the effects

of the fire are on theater once they know exactly how much damage was made.

Lawlor said that there will be no productions because of the fire but there have been two shows at other sites so it gives the actors a chance to work.

He said that the theater specializes in contemporary acts that range from comedy to drama.

This loss of theater is a disappointment to some. Junior Mitch Raftery said he frequented acts at the Blue Barn.

"I really enjoyed seeing shows at the Blue Barn because they were really interesting and different from any of the other shows I have

seen before," Raftery said.

Raftery added that although the Blue Barn is not as known as the Rose or the Omaha Playhouse, he knows that the Blue Barn is valued as a theater to many.

Lawlor said that he hopes to have the theater opened by the end of the summer but added that this will not happen without people volunteering to help fix the damages. Many people have made donations for equipment needed to make the repairs, he added.

"Hopefully the theater will open soon and I definitely encourage everyone to come see a show at the Blue Barn as soon as possible," Lawlor concluded.

Dub All-Stars tear the house down in Lincoln

Stefanie Wulff

All right all you Sublime fans, I should have seen every one of you at the Long Beach Dub All-Stars concert on Feb. 5 in Lincoln. You are a procrastinator and went to your ticket after the show sold out or you're under 18 years-old.

Was it the praising of marijuana and weed in the lyrics or the fact that the show was at a bar that required everyone to be at least 18 years-old to attend?

No matter what the reason was, it didn't matter.

I was 18, I had a ticket and wild horses wouldn't stop me from going to see these legendary performers.

Fortunately, I have wise friends who have the same respect for Sublime as I do and could afford the small \$15 ticket fee and accompanied me to the show.

Better known as the 'left over members of Sublime,' the Long Beach Dub All-Stars are Sublime in my book.

Due to a drug overdose, the death of Sublime lead singer, Bradley Nowell, left the remaining members wanting to continue free spirited music and all for good reason- their music was Sublime (no pun intended).

The formation of the Long Beach Dub All-Stars was the perfect way to continue Sublime's harmonious music and reggae style.

The small but quaint venue, Knickerbockers, located in the heart of downtown Lincoln, was jam packed, but I could definitely feel the show was a sell out by my long shoulder to shoulder and back to front of everyone I was around.

The opening act for the show was just as good as the headliner, which is very rare. Half Pint, DJ Field Marshall and Danger tore up the house.

Field flowed smoothly, and his lyrics touched my heart during some songs and caused crowd surfing during others.

It was complete insanity, and it was just the opening act.

When the All-Stars hit the stage all hell broke loose. The sound of Sublime hit the air and I grew nostalgic.

OH, why did Nowell have to die from a drug overdose?!

Every single song the All-Stars played was amazing and I didn't stop dancing all night. The best song played by the All-Stars so far was "My Own Life."

Opie Ortiz, lead singer sang, 'All I really wanted was someone to let me live my own life.' This song is my new theme song and is directed towards my parents.

The attitudes of the All-Stars were cheery and ready to rock the roof off the house.

"Rosarito" was a song about going to Mexico to find Ortiz's girl. It was uplifting and his voice was so smooth I just had to sing along.

"Sensi" was a song about marijuana, which is bad, but made for an excellent song. The beat was incredible and my body swayed nonstop all throughout the song.

To my surprise, the All-Stars played Sublime songs as well as their own.

This made the concert even better. I didn't expect to hear any songs from "40 oz. to Freedom," or Sublime's self-titled album.

For the last couple of weeks all that has been playing on my stereo is "40 oz. to Freedom" and it was orgasmic to hear the songs performed live.

The songs were happy, enriching and intoxicated my body like alcohol does to a frat boy.

Seniors Russell Moore and Mikala Schuman joined me for the show and I'm sure they were thinking the same thing.

Except, of course, when Schuman got the wise idea that she wouldn't get dropped on her head if she crowd surfed and decided to give it a whirl.

Needless to say, she was dropped on her head. Hate to say 'I told you so' Schuman, but I just have to.

A couple of days after the show, I bought the All-Star's album, "Right Back" and can't stop listening to it. It reminds me heavily of the show, which was nothing but an excellent evening.

Some of the songs have a reggae beat while others are more hip-hoppy and seem to make Nowell rise from the dead. I'm sure he is smiling from above everytime the All-Stars hit the stage.

Ortiz's voice may not be as beautiful as Nowell's, but it seems as if he has as much love and devotion for the music of Sublime as Nowell had.

Any Sublime fan would find them in a heavenly atmosphere if they went to see the Long Beach Dub All-Stars. The boys sure do know how to put on a good show.

Opie Ortiz of the Long Beach Dub All-Stars

STEFANIE WULFF/THE REGISTER

OPEN WIDE!

Former Central student, Jeff Tubrick, performs with his band, Plosion, at the Ranch Bowl on Feb. 3. Central senior Dustin Bushon and junior Blake Leavitt join Central grad Justin Thompson in this hardcore band.



McKAYLA CHAMBERS/THE REGISTER

Energetic performance saves flimsy set at Ranch Bowl

By Ally Shandell

"Why'd you guys come out to see Plosion tonight?"

"Because Blake is sexy!"

Such was the cry of the groupies at the Ranch Bowl on Thursday, Feb. 3.

They were there to see the "ever popular" Blake Leavitt, the drummer for Plosion and a Central junior.

Plosion, a local band, has been playing the hardcore scene for three years.

The band played with System Failure, Creatures of Habit and Reprobate and the show left something to be desired.

Of the five band members, two currently attend Central and two others are former students.

Each of the five has incredible stage presence and energy, however, their music still has not quite reached that same level.

The fact that a majority of their fans seem to be teenage, female groupies from Central says a lot.

Most of the audience seemed to enjoy the show. There was a lot of moshing, jumping around, and yelling; the band members reacted quite actively with this.

When guitarist, Central senior Dustin Bushon, jumped into the audience with his instrument and began crowd surfing, everyone cheered and screamed.

This is but one example of the extreme

energy and stage presence that the members of Plosion played with.

Justin Thompson, Plosion's bass player, is a Central graduate.

Both Thompson and Leavitt played with high intensity and are two of the most talented members of the band.

Another band member who performed very energetically was vocalist Jon Tvrdik.

Despite the fact that when he sings, the lyrics are unrecognizable even in English, but this is simply a signature characteristic of the hardcore genre which Plosion is so prevalently affiliated with.

The band played two songs from their new four-song demo, "While Rome Burns" and "Oblivious to the Contagion."

"Oblivious to the Contagion" was actually a very good song, compared to the rest of their set list. They also played many of their older songs, Tvrdik said.

Plosion has one full length album, "One Life to Live," which is a little over a year old. However, the band played no songs off of it.

The album was recorded with the band's former drummer, Tvrdik said.

While the lyrics were somewhat difficult to understand, they do have deep meaning, if one can actually manage to make them out.



Plosion has grown over the past three years in the local scene and continues to become more and more popular.

They were featured that Thursday morning on the radio station 93.3 K-Rock. Two of their songs were played and the band members were interviewed.

Each one of the band members is individually talented in their own way.

Together as a band, however, Plosion still demonstrates a lot of room for improvement.

Eighty-sixth annual Roadshow showcases Central's many talented students

Talya Greenspoon and Stefanie Wulff

Central's Roadshow took place Feb. 10. Below is an actual conversation held by two faithful, senior Roadshow audience members and Register staffers; Talya Greenspoon and Stefanie Wulff.

T- So, Stefanie I heard you went to the nine performance of the Roadshow.

S- Yeah Talya, did you see it?

T- I saw it on the last night. I liked it a lot. What'd you think?

S- Well I give it a big two thumbs down! BORING! The acts were dull and there was way too much piano.

T- Really? On the whole, I was really impressed by all the talent at Central.

S- Yeah, the show was filled with several talented kids, but the talent was limited cause the same people kept showing up in every act. I realize that they have a bunch of talent and want to flaunt it, but give someone a chance to shine once in a while.

T- Hmmm, I see your point. But, do you

mean you didn't like anything?!

S- Well, yeah. Senior Erik Smith wrestling with himself made me laugh, but the other comedic skits he was in were really blah.

T- Of course his drum duet with junior Blake Leavitt was amazing!

S- That was definitely one of the best acts in the show.

T- Speaking of best acts, that drama club skit definitely wasn't.

S- Totally! What the heck was that?!

T- Exactly!

S- All the girly dancers were cute, but they got old after a while. You could tell they were all really nervous, they didn't smile much, but then again, I admire their courage to dance in tiny outfits in front of hundreds of people.

T- Come on, Stefanie! I heard you do that every weekend!

S- Shush, my parents might read this! Did you like Aaron Perilo's version of "Hey Jude"?

T- As a true Beatles fan, I thought he rocked! Which is more than I can say

for the Bel Canto's Beatle tribute right before. There's something just not right about a group of 30 girls singing "When I'm 64."

S- I'm glad I missed all those because I probably would have fallen asleep.

T- Well you couldn't have slept through Liz Eakins' "Without You." I was close to tears.

S- Yeah, she definitely



McKAYLA CHAMBERS/THE REGISTER

PUT STYLE WITH GRACE...

Senior Tasha Coffin displays her dancing ability at Central's 86th annual Roadshow performance in February.

has a voice to be proud of. What'd you think of sophomore Ian Atwood's portrayal of the Indian during "YMCA"?

T- When I wasn't shielding my eyes, I was laughing hysterically!

S- Yeah, he should have hit the tanning booth before the show. I think the act would have been better if the guys would have lip-synched the words.

T- I don't know, I thought it was pretty funny the way it was.

S- Yeah, it definitely was a highlight of the show.

T- I think they should have ended the show with the "YMCA" skit rather than the strangely enthralling clown on stilts. Although I was in awe of her amazing balancing skills, I was a little confused of the point.

S- I felt like I was in a bad flashback of a nightmare I had when I was a kid.

T- I feel your pain. I guess maybe some of my perspective stems from going to the evening performance and not the matinee where three-fourths of the audience just wanted to get out of class. No one booed or

laughed (when they weren't supposed to), and the lights were actually off.

S- Yeah, I admit it was very rude for the Central students to boo everytime the piano come on to the stage, but the Roadshow coordinator should take the hint and not book so many piano acts.

T- I was so amazed with the singing in the performances of "Silver and Gold" and "Hero," not to mention the comic timing in the few but funny skits and the composing skills of some of the performers.

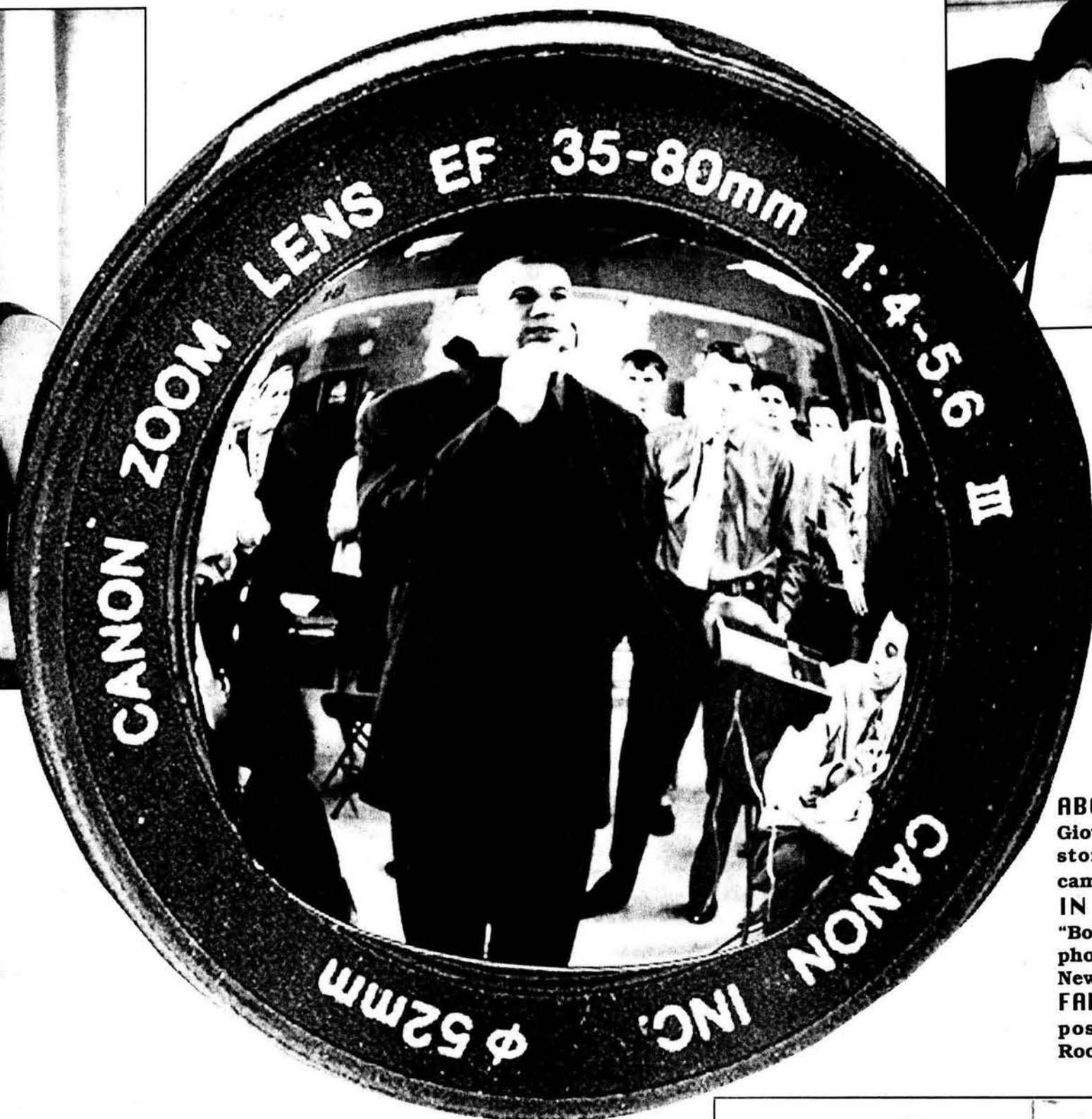
S- The girls who sung "Silver and Gold" had strong and beautiful voices and the song carried much meaning. I only wish I had a voice like that so I could serenade a hot guy.

T- I think next year, the Roadshow could work on putting some bands in and figuring out a more effective order to the acts.

S- I agree. All in all, I was disappointed at the Roadshow this year because the acts that had the goal of being funny weren't and there was way too much piano. Hopefully, next year, the Roadshow planners will realize that piano acts are as boring as sitting in a waiting room and nobody wants to hear them.

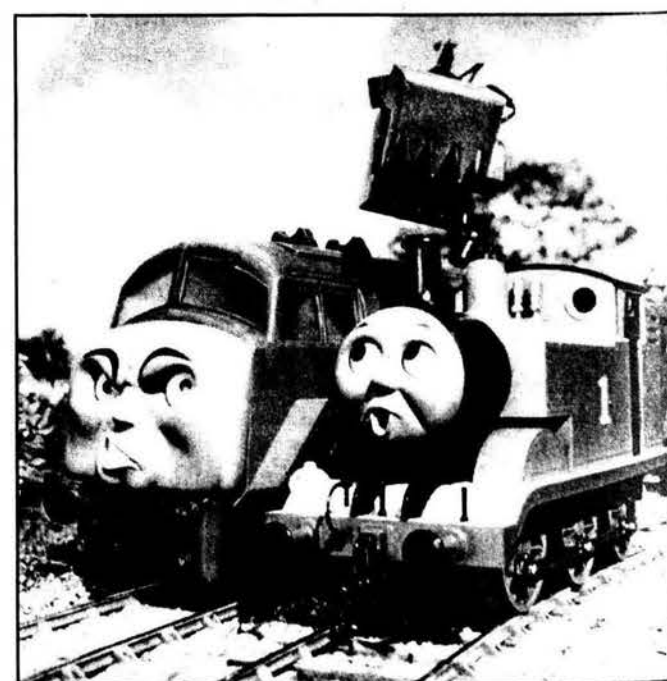


PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA AND DESTINATION FILMS



ABOVE: Ben Affleck (left) and Giovanni Ribisi (right) talk up a storm in "Boiler Room" which came out in late February.
IN LENS: Guys on the set of "Boiler Room" gather to talk on the phone in one of the scenes for this New Line Cinema film.
FAR LEFT: Nia Long strikes a pose in the new flick "Boiler Room."

LEFT: Jerry O'Connell is chilling in his new movie "Buying the Cow" which hits theaters in the spring.
BELOW RIGHT: Thomas the Tank Engine (right) and Diesel 10 (left) will delight children everywhere when "Thomas and the Magic Railroad" comes out in July.
RIGHT: William Fichtner (left), Bette Midler (center) and Marcus Thomas (right) support a star studded cast in the motion picture "Drowning Mona" which comes out on March 3.
BELOW MIDDLE: Hallie Kate Eisenberg (left) and Minnie Driver (right) are both "Beautiful" in their new film which will come to theaters midyear.



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'Scream 3' carries on the tradition of horror movies

By Stefanie Wulff

The movies are all the same. Some big-breasted female always runs up the steps when she should be running out the front door.

It happens every time and Neve Campbell is one to carry out the tradition.

Well, I must be truthful. I didn't see "Scream 2," so obviously I wasn't thrilled to see "Scream 3."

The final act sequel to this trilogy delivered a surprising twist, yet the same plot as all the others.

I guess that's why they call it a

sequel.

Campbell was again the protagonist of the movie along with other innocent bystanders who were slain in the act of terrorism. So who was the antagonist?

That's what I tried to figure out during the whole movie.

I thought to myself, "Stef, the two bad guys in the first movie died, so it couldn't be them, and in 'Scream 2' the bad guys mom from the first movie was the killer, so it couldn't be her.

And Cotton Weary, the framed suspect of the first movie gets slain

in the first scenes of "Scream 3," so it couldn't be him, so he's out, too. Could it be Sydney's dad? An evil stalker?"

Names were flying through my head throughout the whole movie.

During two-thirds of the movie, I felt like I was having déjà vu.

The scenery, characters and the motives for murder were the same as the other movies, but the movie took place on a movie set of Sydney's old neighborhood in the previous movies.

This is where it gets really confusing.

In the movie, a movie is being

made about "Scream 3" called "Stab 3." Most of the action in "Scream 3" happens on the set of this movie, which, of course, looks like the set from "Scream 2."

It's kind of like you're watching the movie while watching the movie, or watching two movies at once with the same story line.

Characters in "Stab 3," like Jenny McCarthy, portray characters found in "Scream 2." In other words, "Stab 3" is "Scream 3."

For reasons only the killer knows, McCarthy and other cast members of "Stab 3" are slaughtered

on the set. Campbell figures out that the murders are being committed in order of who's being killed in "Stab 3." (i.e., McCarthy was the first to go in "Stab 3," so she's the first to go in "Scream 3.") Catch my drift?

The next innocent victim is to be the television reporter, Gail Weathers, played by, of course, Courtney Cox. And may I say that her hair cut makes her ears look twice the size as I've ever seen them before?

This time Sydney, Gail and Dewy, team up and try to stop their fate of being slaughtered.

Basically, "Scream 3" is like the

other two; the murderer chased Sydney and the gang around with a knife and prank calls them all in that dark, mysterious voice.

If you've seen the other two or even one of the "Scream" movies, you should check out the last chapter in this horrifying story.

I was hoping that Sydney would die at the end of the movie and the masked man would finally win (he deserves it so).

However, you're going to have to see the movie to find out if Sydney reigns over this masked murderer once again.

RIGHT...Jessica Simpson climbs the chart with her first single from her debut album. Simpson has frequently appeared on MTV which assisted her on the road to fame.



Jessica

Simpson

'Sweet Kisses' focuses on topic of love

By Stefanie Wulff

It's a nasty, nasty world out there for beautiful people trying to become famous.

With a voice like Mariah Carey, a moan like Christina Aguilera and a body like a super model, Jessica Simpson fits in the mold of a thirsty-for-fame teen idol trying to put her foot in the door of MTV.

Simpson's debut album, "Sweet Kisses" has everything to do with love. Whether it's falling in love, wanting to fall in love, falling out of love or getting over someone falling out of love with you, the word 'love' is mentioned way to often.

I was never one for solo female performing artists, especially if all they sing about is love.

Songs such as "I Think I'm In Love With You," make me happy, but also makes me want to puke. The familiar tune makes my body sway while the lyrics made me shout "Oh my God! What is she talking about?"

Simpson thinks she's in love because something strange has come over her and her friends think she's been acting different. And basically, that's the song.

Maybe I'm being a bit too harsh. If all songs

played on the radio were dissected, analyzed and heard with no music, I'm sure 90 percent of them would make absolutely no sense or sound so stupid, you'd never listen to them again.

And Simpson's album falls into that category. Yes, she gave it a worthy effort and has a beautiful voice, but there isn't any more room in society for these types of singers and songs.

My suggestion to her is to find some people who play real instruments, like guitars and drums, and form a real band with songs that have subjects dealing with more than the ever so popular topic of love.

Or, if Simpson doesn't reach fame with this album, (which won't surprise me much) I suggest she go in to the field of impersonating others. Her voice is strong enough to pull off a Mariah Carey interpretation, while her poems of love could be passed off as Jewel's.

"Where You Are," the third track on the album makes me nauseous. Simpson does a lovey-dovey duet with male hunk Nick Lachey of 98° and sings about how they still believe that they will meet 'once again, one sweet day.'

She wants to know where he is and when

they'll 'dance again under the moonlight, just like they used to do.' The song is pretty depressing, but gives hope for the two love birds.

In this song cleverly titled, 'Final Heartbreak,' Simpson is trying to convince a guy to give her a chance because his girlfriend just broke up with him and Simpson thinks she is the 'one for him.' Oh gag me! The song reminds me of a Spears' song sung by Carey with the beat of the Backstreet Boys. Enough said.

Perhaps the most inspirational song is "Woman in Me," because it doesn't show Simpson as a boy-crazy teen wanting to fall in love. Simpson is assisted by Destiny's Child throughout the song, which helps the love image vanish. Thank you Destiny's Child.

The background music to Simpson's songs are pretty much the same, but sometimes made me nostalgic of older songs, such as Michael Jackson's "Thriller." Of course, the album wouldn't be complete if the last words on it weren't "I love you." So at the end of the last song, Simpson tells us all that she loves us. And oh boy did it warm my heart to hear that.

Just about the coolest thing about this girl and this album is that her last name is Simpson. And I love "The Simpsons."

New Release

NO SCHOOL! Chevy Chase, who plays Tom Brandston, stars in the new movie "Snow Day." The movie, which was released in February, is about what can happen when school is canceled. From ten-year-olds tackling villains, to professing your love to the girl of your dreams, "Snow Day" is a movie to check out.

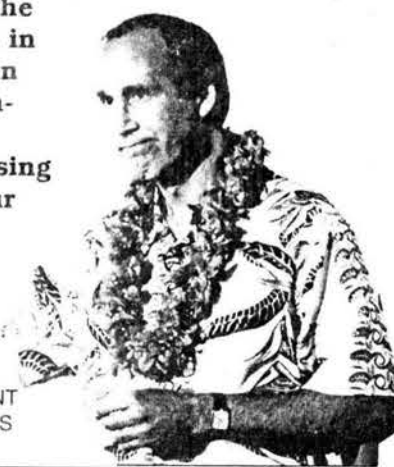


PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT AND NICKELODEON PRODUCTIONS

Students clarify life through their writing

By Lainie Gabriel

A tall sophomore dressed in black settles down at his lunch table at Central and removes a black book and pen from his backpack.

He begins to write in the book furiously.

He is Christopher Bell, and he, as well as many high school students, uses writing as a form of therapy.

His friend, sophomore Robin Dahlke, also writes in her black book.

Both of them enjoy writing short stories and poetry and they use it to get their thoughts out on paper and make their lives easier.

"When things happen, or thoughts occur to me, it builds up, so I write it all down to clear room for new thoughts and ideas...It helps me to express ideas, concerns, and feelings I would never say out loud," Bell said.

Psychologist Dr. Lynda Madison said that getting thoughts on paper makes life more manageable and it is clarification on what could be bothering the writer.

"It's my easy way of venting feelings or simply passing time," Dahlke said, "I write about life, everyday hardships... I want to use it as a sort of a reflection of how I matured over the years."

Bell said his writing leans more to the darker side and usually deals with topics people do not like to think about, but according to Madison, this is not abnormal.

Teenagers think very deeply about many things and write about

losses or potential threats to their personal well-being, Madison said.

Dahlke said she has a tendency to write at home or at school, while Bell said he does most of his writing at school.

Bell said his writing has gotten him in to trouble at school a few times.

The subject matter of his writing is sometimes considered something that is necessary to take action on.

"Random teachers occasionally catch a glimpse of my writing, I suppose the dark nature catches their eye and they worry about me, so I've been sent down to the counselors. We all have thoughts of darkness, it's just that some of us are more aware of it," Bell said.

Dahlke, on the other hand, has never had teachers question her writing. She said she has never left her book anywhere where people could find it and read it.

Madison said keeping a journal is important to the development of teenagers.

She recommends that every teenager keep one.

"If they enjoy writing, I think they should try it... I think it's very therapeutic for a lot of people," Madison said.

Bell and Dahlke said they are in agreement with Madison and keep journals in addition to their other writing.

"We are always told it is 'unhealthy' to bottle up our feelings, and writing them down is a great way to express them," Bell said.

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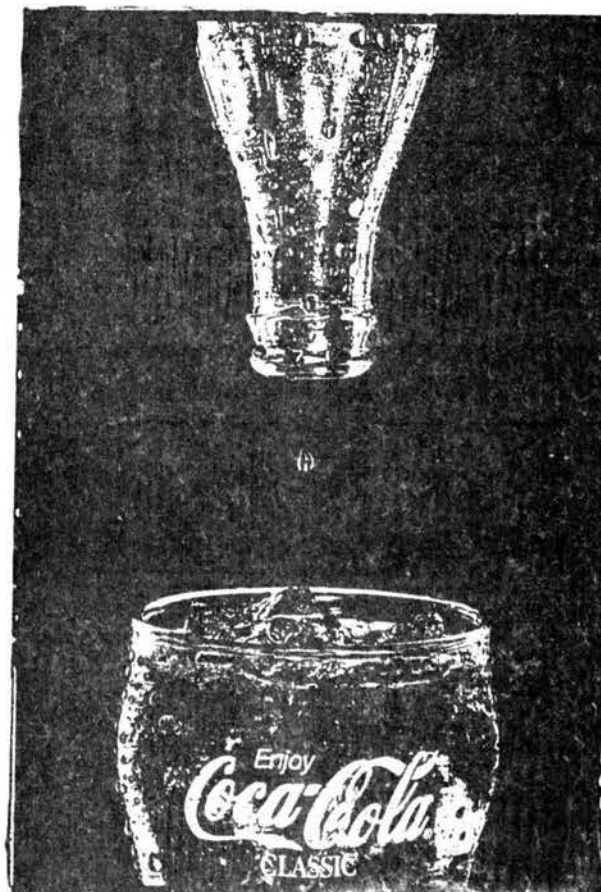
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Zapla

Teen magazines:
a bunch of hooley

Teen magazines.

The demoralization of society lies within the pages of *Teen*, *Seventeen*, *YM* and all the others.

Why should we depend on these stupid publications to learn about life, love and relationships when right from the beginning we're taught to learn it for ourselves?

I admit, I do buy magazines for my own leisure and enjoyment.

The only difference is that when I buy one, I don't take anything and seriously try it on myself.

Sorry, but if I have to learn how to apply different layers of eye shadow so that a guy will like me for the way I look, then I refuse to read such trash.

I do like the quizzes though.

Here, let me give you an example:

Your best friend has decided to have "relations" with your ex-boyfriend behind your back and then she tells you all the gory details without giving you a name. Do you:

a) Hide your feelings in a bowl of your favorite Ben and Jerry's and sulk in the corner?

b) Confront them during their time of intimacy and forgive them the next day and continue on with your life?

c) Lash out on everyone and everything you see leaving complete and total destruction all around you and turning guys off from you forever?

Yeah right. Those choices are things that I would do... never.

I mean, come on, be at least semi-

realistic.

The whole fashion thing kind of gets to me, too.

Leather pants with a silk see through top. Ooooh, can't you just see someone come to school wearing that stylish ensemble.

I'd be pretty.

Oh, and you've got to love those stilettos. Every page you turn, stilettos.

And who can forget those lovely samples of perfume that smell like butt funk?

Whenever I take one home, I smell like I've just come out of an overnight party at the nearest Younkers perfume counter.

It doesn't help that the models on every page are as thin as the paper they're on.

All the articles inside are telling me that I shouldn't be ashamed of how I look, but if I was thin, I too could be in a magazine.

All I need are eyes with bags under them and some hair that has way too much hairspray and I'd be set.

No thanks, I'll stick with the way I look and my lonesome job at Baker's.

Hey, they pay me the big bucks.

However, I really enjoy looking at the male models. I don't know why, but they just don't look as sickly and tired as their female counterparts.

I remember tearing out the pictures of the hot guys so I could put them on my wall and gawk at them.

I like to think that I've progressed from that stage in my life.

Then again, maybe I haven't.

I'm not saying that all magazines are stupid and provide you with false information.

In fact, I'm probably one of the few people who swear by the information provided in *Cosmopolitan* and *Glamour*.

There's nothing that I want more in this world than to believe that all their information is based on real life and actually factual.

To summarize, I'm not out to bash all magazines or insult all models. I'm just giving out handy advice to say that you should not become these fake illustrations that are blown up in magazines.

You shouldn't feel like you have to spend hundreds of dollars to make yourself feel good.

top 5
picks

Worst Fashion Trends

1. Capri Pants
2. Gothic style
3. FUBU
4. Abercrombie and Fitch
5. Jerseys

Shoe Brands

1. Adidas
2. Nike
3. Doc Martens
4. K-Swiss
5. Puma

* 92 Students Polled

Happenings

Feb. 28-June 4-- "Dale Chihuly Inside and Out" at the Joslyn Art Museum

Feb. 29- March 5- "Fame-The Musical" at the Music Hall

March 2- HALF DAY

March 3- NO SCHOOL

March 4- Powerman 5000 with Static X and Dope at Sokol Auditorium

March 5- Sevendust and POD at the Ranch Bowl

March 10- Pomeroy at the Ranch Bowl

March 17- ST. PATRICK'S DAY

March 18- Jimmy Wilson Jr. Foundation fundraiser at the Ranch Bowl, 7 bands

March 28- 311 with Jimies Chicken Shack at Pershing Auditorium in Lincoln

March 29- Tina and the B-Sides at the Ranch Bowl

By Stefanie Wulff

The Guano Apes have converted audiences all over Europe into die-hard fans with its eclectic sound, stage presence and ability to capture forceful energy with their music, RCA publicist Todd Schenkenberger said.

The German band's debut album, "Proud Like a God," takes the listener on a wild ride through the sounds of metallic crunch, delicate vibes and twisted funk, Schenkenberger said.

The Guano Apes' first single, "Open Your Eyes," combines hard-hitting rock with new age electronics, he said. While other songs aren't as hard core, the Guano Apes play a variety of music.

The Guano Apes consist of three guys and a girl, he said. Sandra Nasic sings vocals, Dennis Poschwatta on drums, Stefan Ude on bass and Henning Ruemenapp on guitar.

Schenkenberger said that the formation of the Guano Apes was simple, but not easy. "The three guys played together for years as The Guano Apes, but they didn't have the right voice to crystallize their sound," Schenkenberger said.

He said that the band tried several singers, but could not find the right match. Poschwatta urged his friend Nasic to give his band a shot, he said.

Ruemenapp said of Nasic that "she wasn't afraid to go to the extremes-from singing soft to screaming."

Schenkenberger said that Nasic turned the whole band around. She not only provided a striking focal point for the band, but had a dramatic impact on the



PHOTO COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS

OPEN YOUR EYES... Dennis Poschwatta, Sandra Nasic, Stefan Ude, and Henning Ruemenapp are the Guano Apes.

performances on stage, he added.

"Nasic has the intensity and raw emotion that keeps your eyes glued on stage during a performance," Schenkenberger said. "She explodes at the mic!"

The Guano Apes' goal was simple, Schenkenberger said. It was self-expression. However, all the time and effort the group put into the band took them much farther, he added.

In 1996, the Guano Apes entered a band competition called 'Local Heroes' which was sponsored by VIVA TV (Germany's version of MTV) and went on to win the contest, Schenkenberger said.

The prize money, he said, was enough to record "Proud Like a God" and the Guano Apes were also awarded a free video shoot at a recording studio.

Thanks to the exposure on VIVA TV playing the "Open Your Eyes" video for two months, the Guano Apes were offered a deal from Gun Records and "Proud Like a God" was released.

The band's second single, "Lord of the Boards," a song about snowboarding, made the band a European phenomenon and the song was commissioned for the 1998 European Snowboarding Championships in Austria, Schenkenberger said.

"Lord of the Boards" became a huge hit for the Guano Apes, pushing their album well past platinum in Germany and gold status in four other countries, he added.

"The weird thing was that the band didn't mean for the album to be a major label release at all," Schenkenberger said. "They [band members] just wanted to pay the bills."

doesn't mean you have to blurt them.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) The best part of life is spending time with the ones you love. Focus in on your friendships and you will find life much more harmonious.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Stop being so bitter to everyone or get used to sitting home alone on your weekends.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Trouble is brewing in your future. Run while you can and enjoy your freedom before you get caught for that evil thing you did a while back...

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Focus on your goals in life. We need your electricity to ignite and unite the world.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Prom is just around the corner and it's your night to shine. Finally. You're divine, fine, kind and mine.

Stefanie's Prophecies



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) You may not think your opinion counts, but it does. If you have a tendency to clam up around people, just imagine them in their briefs.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) The world is at your fingertips. The spells you cast make your friends so whipped.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Feeling



Celebrity Deaths

Charles Schultz, Peanuts cartoonist, passed away due to his battle with colon cancer and a heart attack on Feb. 12.

Jim Varney, who played Ernest in the "Ernest" movie sequels, passed away due to lung cancer complications on Feb. 10.

CBS introduces real-life show

Columbia Broadcasting Systems (CBS) will introduce a new production titled, "Big Brother." The show is a "Real World" like television show that follows up to ten strangers living in a house without any contact with the outside world, television and very little privacy. Each week, the viewers are encouraged to vote on who will be ejected from the show.

Joslyn exhibits Chihuly's artwork

The Joslyn Art Museum will host "Dale Chihuly: Inside and Out," which includes

works made of glass, glass blowing demonstrations, drawings, flower arrangements and a workshop. The exhibit will last until June 4.

Oscar nominees announced

The nominees for the 72nd annual Academy Awards were announced recently. Nominees for best picture are "American Beauty," "The Cider House Rules," "The Green Mile," "The Insider" and "The Sixth Sense." The awards will be broadcast Sunday, March 26, on the American Broadcast Company (ABC.)

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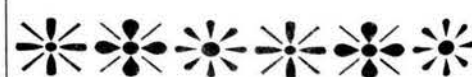
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Y2K Spring Sports Preview

Boys' Baseball

Head Coach: Scott Hodges

1999 Record: 3-19

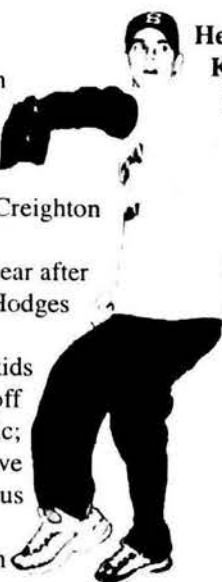
Key Returning Players: Dustin Friedman(12), Jeremy Scurlock(12), Robert Andrews(12)[*Pictured at right*], Ryan Sniewel(12), Michael Westerholm(11)

Key Opponents: Millard West, Westside, Creighton Prep

Outlook: The team hopes to improve this year after somewhat disappointing season last year, Hodges said.

"We've got a good balance of returning kids who have put in a lot of time since the off season," Hodges said. "I'm pretty optimistic; our goal is to win ten to twelve games and have some key upsets along the way to push us forward."

The team is also looking for more fan support, Hodges said.



Girls' Track

Head Coach: Tammy Wade

Key Returning Players: Tai Burleson(12), Mary Anderson(12), Tee Campbell(12), Meredith Zendejas(12), Taylor Meier(11), Jocie Wieland(11), Rebecca Iverson(11)

Key Opponents: Millard West, Omaha North, Burke, Papillion-La Vista

Outlook: "The team is returning a lot of people, Tai Burleson is a returning sprinter, she was the state runner-up in the 200," Wade said, "We also have Mary Anderson in the 400 and 800, Rebecca Iverson in jumps and relays, and Tee Campbell in jumps. The team looks to be competitive in sprints, relays, and short distance races."

Boys' Golf

Head Coach: Jim Galus

1999 Record: 4-4

Key Returning Letterman: J.D. Westerholm(12)

Key Opponents: Burke, Omaha North, Northwest, Millard North, Millard South, Millard West, Creighton Prep, Bryan

Outlook: "There are a lot of young guys who are stepping up, and we are open to everybody," Galus said. "We like to beat OPS, and would like to win tournaments and get medals this year, and we would like to improve as the season goes on--we generally peak at the end of the year."

Boys' Soccer

Head Coach: Tim Herbert

1999 Record: 6-9

Key Returning

Players: Benjamin Davis(12), Justin Galaska(12), Andrew Ludwig(12)[*Pictured at left*], Jeff McWhorter(12), Matt Lind(12)[*Pictured at right*], Chris Ochsner(12), Erik Smith(12), Matt Smith(12), Aleks Berzins(11), Colin Boatright(11), Tim Davey(11), Chase Billotte(10)

Key Opponents: Millard West, Westside, Creighton Prep

Outlook: "We've got 14 returning players and nine starters who are very experienced and a very competitive team--it's going to be better than last year," Herbert said.



Girls' Soccer

Head Coach: Joe White

1999 record: 3-11

Key returning players: Andrea Mullen(12)[*Pictured at left*], Raechel Achelpohl(12), Sarah Manners(12), Kelli Mattson(12), Stasia Bakhit(12), Megan Myers(12), Meredith Rinaker(11)

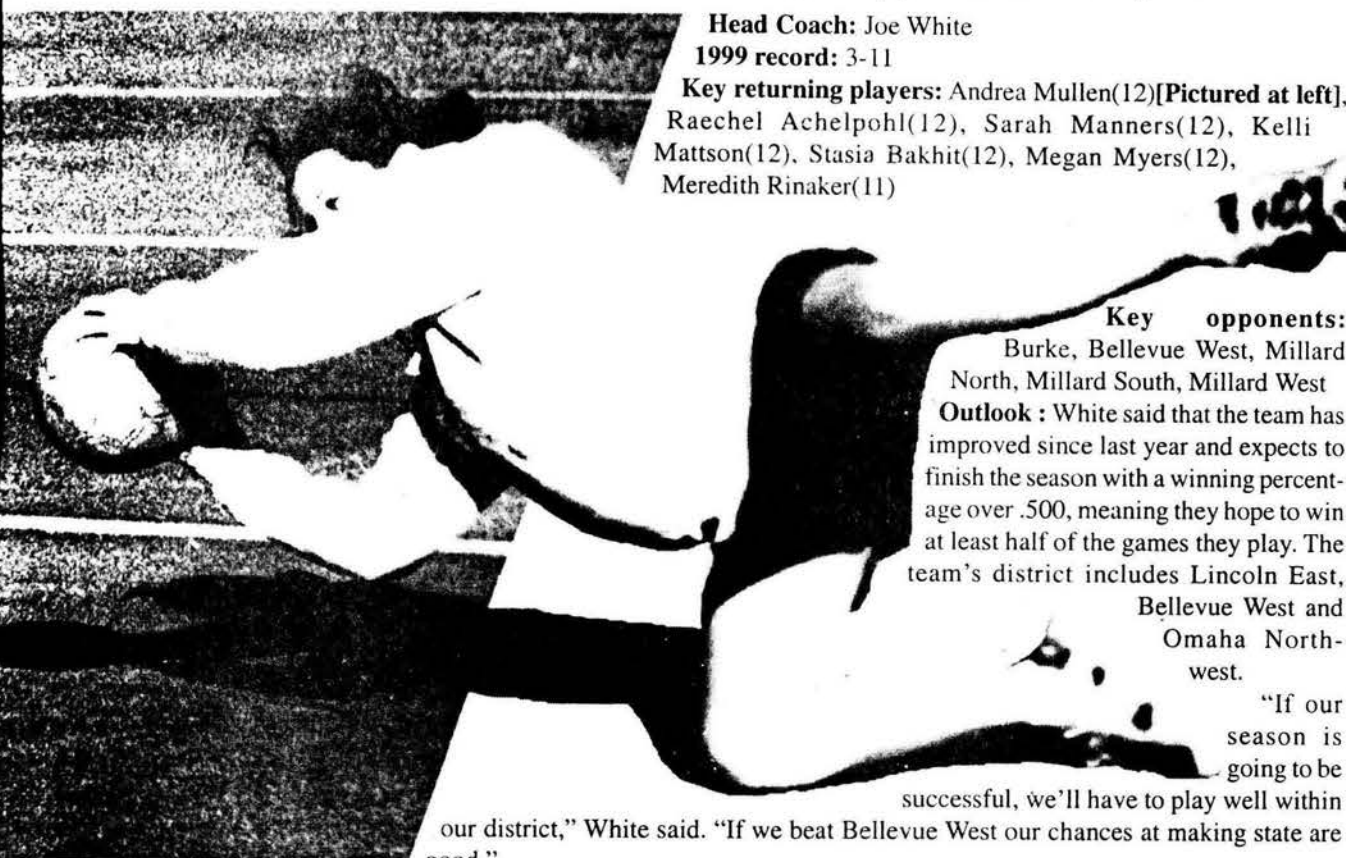
Key opponents:

Burke, Bellevue West, Millard North, Millard South, Millard West

Outlook: White said that the team has improved since last year and expects to finish the season with a winning percentage over .500, meaning they hope to win at least half of the games they play. The team's district includes Lincoln East, Bellevue West and Omaha Northwest.

"If our season is going to be successful, we'll have to play well within our district," White said. "If we beat Bellevue West our chances at making state are good."

our district," White said. "If we beat Bellevue West our chances at making state are good."



Girls' Tennis

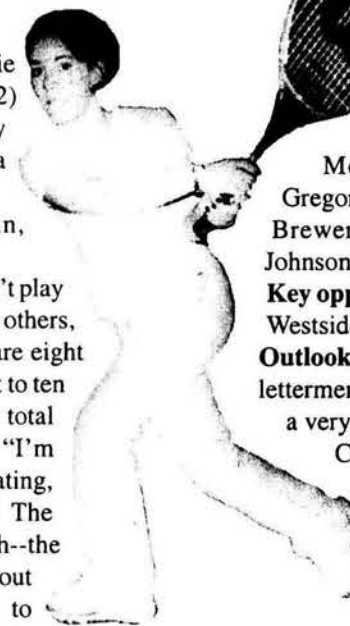
Head Coach: Larry Andrews

1999 Record: 3-6

Key Returning Players: Jacquie Cannon(12), Lena Hosford(12) [Pictured at right], Ally Freeman(11), and Laura Hendee(11)

Key Opponents: Marian, Westside, Millard North

Outlook: "Some of the girls don't play because they're newer than the others, but we kept everybody. There are eight to nine girls on varsity, and eight to ten girls on J.V. There are 25 girls total on the team," Andrews said, "I'm looking forward to, and anticipating, a good and successful season. The lettermen are fun to work with--the girls are going to learn more about tennis and we're going to try to accomplish our goals."



Boys' Track

Head coach: Jeff McCune

1999 Record:

Finished 3rd in class A

Returning State

Qualifiers: Jamaine Billups(12), Lornell McPherson(12), William Gregory(12), James Butler(12), Marlon Brewer(11), Freddie Ellis(11), Noah Johnson(11), Kristopher Kuhn(10)

Key opponents: Kearney, Millard North, Westside, Lincoln Southeast

Outlook: With the amount of returning lettermen, we have a great chance at being a very successful team," McCune said. Central's track team lost two key players this year, Kendrick Clay and Brandon Williams in the four by 100 relay, in which they placed first last year.

Central's track team lost two key players this year, Kendrick Clay and Brandon Williams in the four by 100 relay, in which they placed first last year.

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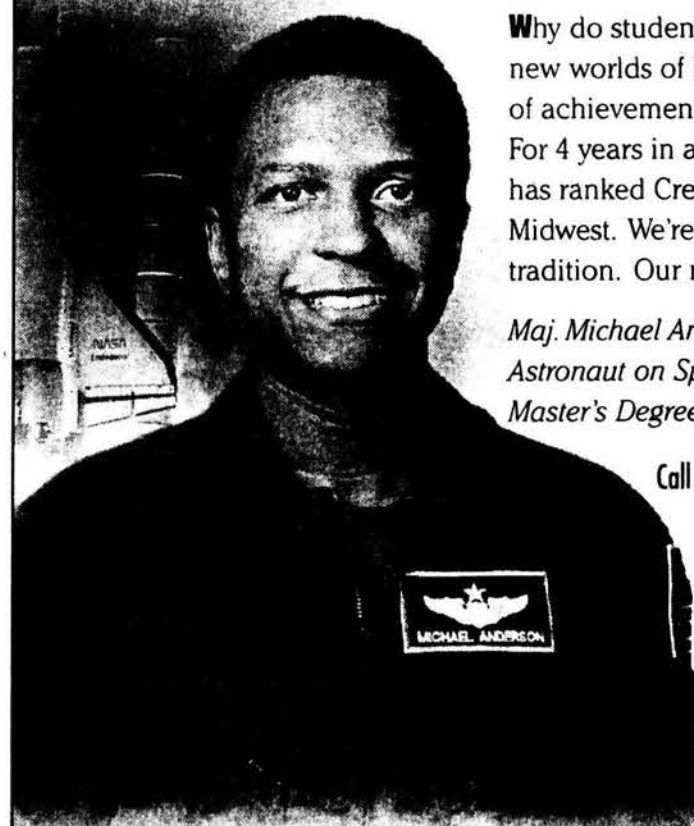
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SPORTS

Foul Play



Meredith Zendejas

Game pressure affects athlete's self-esteem

After watching the Super Bowl, I came to the conclusion that society puts too much pressure on athletes, and they blame one person for the outcome of the game.

It was Tennessee versus St. Louis. I was at my grandparents' house.

My cousin was in favor of Tennessee. The rest of us were in the kitchen cheering for St. Louis.

Every time Tennessee would mess up, my cousin would come in the kitchen and check to see if it was the same on both televisions.

Then his younger brother would go into the other room and taunt him.

It was the last 0.8 seconds of the game that really got everyone in an uproar.

What is wrong with this picture?

Your team, Tennessee, made it to the Super Bowl. They had their best season ever.

The game had been close the entire game.

Your team is only down by one touchdown.

It's down to the final 0.8 seconds.

The coach yells the final play, the play that requires you to carry the ball to the endzone.

The game, whether you win or lose, is up to you.

The pressure is on.

If you make the touchdown you will be a hero. If you don't, you will be known as the person who lost the game.

No one will care that someone else didn't catch a ball ten seconds ago to try for the touchdown.

No one will care if the quarterback got sacked or under-threw or over-threw the ball.

People will only remember the last play that was to decide if you won or lost.

It is like this in any sport.

It is the bottom of the ninth inning. You are up to bat, the bases are loaded, your team is down by one, and there are two outs. You have two strikes and three balls against you.

The ball is thrown.

You swing, and miss.

You just lost the game for the whole team.

I don't understand how people can blame one person for the outcome of the game.

I understand that someone has to be the one to do the dirty work, but we should be encouraging.

But on the other side, if you make the touchdown, you just won the game for the entire team.

Who cares about the other team members who made the other touchdowns or carries?

Take Michael Jordan for example.

In 1998, his retiring year (again), he made the winning shot of his career to win the championship game.

Which I still think that there were some unfair calls made, and the Utah Jazz should have won. But I am not bitter!

The only play that is played over and over again is that last play where Jordan made the final shot.

It didn't help his ego any that it was the final shot of his career that won the game, but I am still not bitter.

Does anyone remember how Dennis Rodman and John Stockton fought for the five games before hand?

If you are going to watch a game, watch the entire game.

Yes, the last play of the game is important, but so is the athletes' self-esteem.

Seniors find success at state tourney

By Jeremy Scurlock

When the 72nd Nebraska high school wrestling tournament arrived, two Eagles had already earned a spot for themselves in the medal presentation ceremony.



HIS LOOK DOESN'T REVEAL HIS SUCCESS. Senior Max Kenny shows his disappointment after losing the 119-pound third place match by the look on his face.

Seniors Max Kenny and William Garcia were the lone members of the Central wrestling team to place in the state wrestling tournament this year, Garcia said.

Kenny said that he wrestles in the 119-pound weight division and that he placed fourth in the tournament. He added that he defeated his opponent in the first round, Mark Hunt of Columbus High, by a score of 14-7. His quarterfinal match against Dante Lewis of Omaha Bryan ended in a 21-7 loss.

"The tournament is double elimination, so I knew I could still medal if I wrestled well," Kenny said.

Kenny fought back and defeated three opponents on his way to the third place match, Chad Kleveland of Beatrice, Derek Harris of Alliance and Brandon Zurek from Omaha Burke, he said. Kenny's final match was against a wrestler that he said he had never wrestled before and had only seen on one occasion.

Kenny said he wrestled Thomas Stokes of Lincoln Pius X for third and was unable to overcome the taller Stokes. Kenny was pinned in 1:45.

"[I'm] disappointed but not mad," Kenny said after the match. "There's no shame in fourth."

Garcia said that he placed sixth in the tourney's 112-pound weight division, but had to overcome two losses to do so.

Garcia said his opening match against

Omaha Creighton Prep's Justin Allen went to overtime before he won 6-4.

"We spent a lot of time locked up, neither of us could gain the upper hand," Garcia said.

In Garcia's quarterfinal match he faced Jeremy Emerson of Columbus High. Emerson was undefeated to this point in the season compiling 35 wins and zero losses during the season.

Garcia said he pinned Emerson in 2:16.

"I used a move called the 'Kizzee Roll,'" Garcia said smiling, "Then he just went limp in my arms; I rolled him over and pinned him. I put him to sleep in about seven seconds."

Garcia's first loss came in the semifinals at the hands of the wrestler who would eventually win the 119-pound state title, Dan Hilario of Omaha Burke.

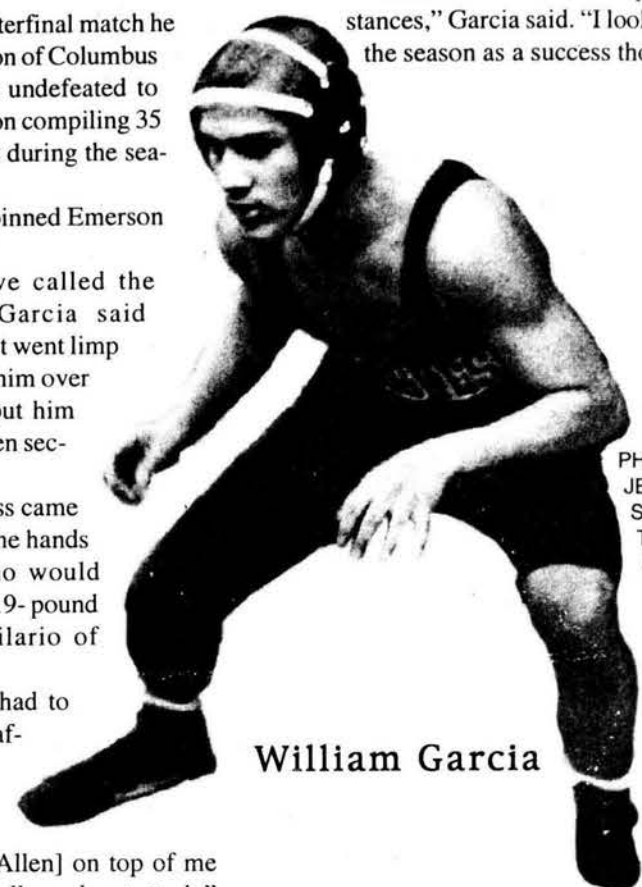
Garcia said he had to wrestle Allen again after his loss to Hilario and that this time he lost.

"I pulled him [Allen] on top of me coming out of a cradle and got stuck,"

Garcia said, "I beat myself pretty much."

Garcia said his match for fifth place was against Jared Digmann from Alliance. Garcia lost the match 5-0.

"I hate to lose under any circumstances," Garcia said. "I look back on the season as a success though."



William Garcia

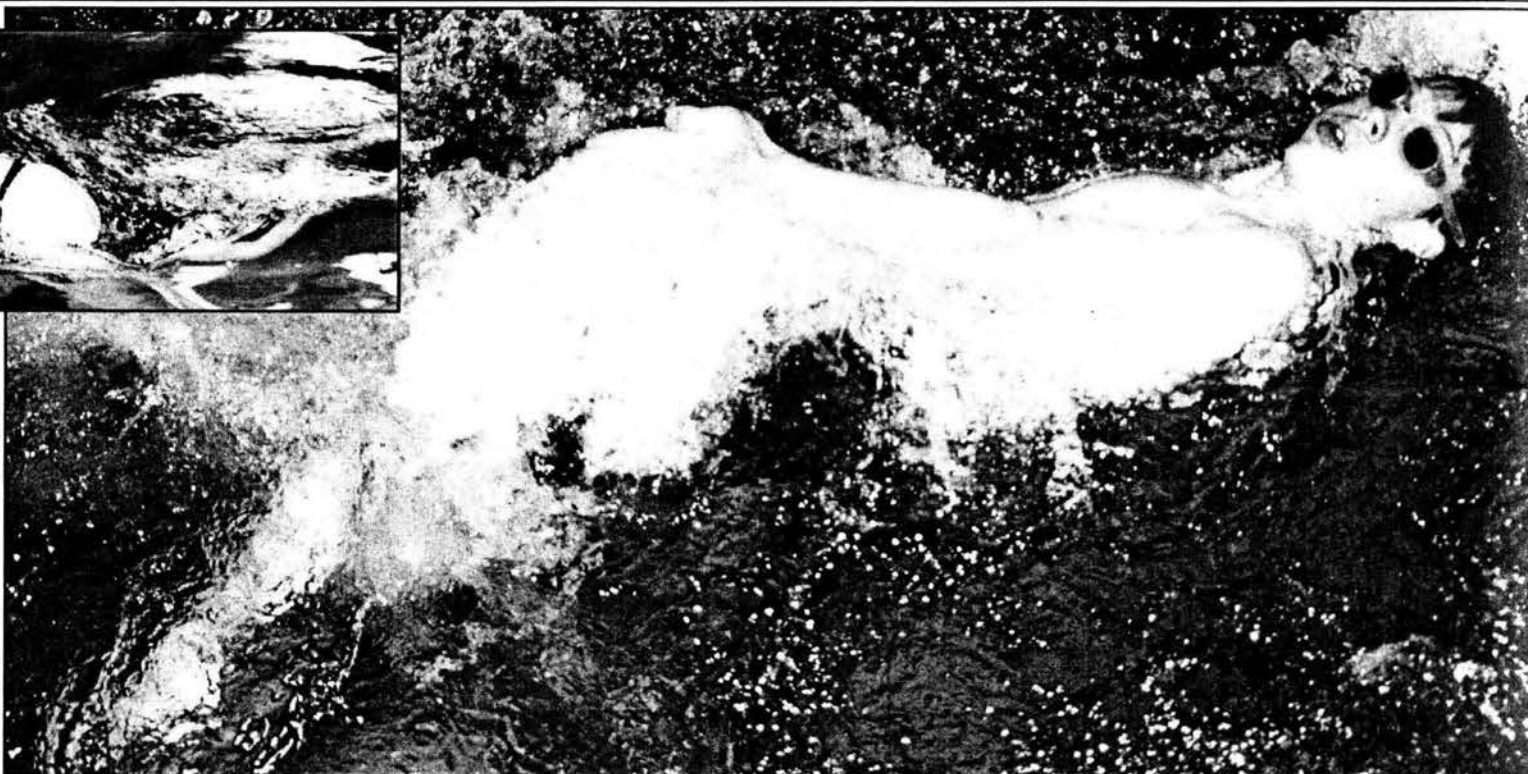
PHOTOS BY JEREMY SCURLOCK/ THE REGISTER

KAITLIN DAVIS/ THE REGISTER



ABOVE: MARISSA MCLURE (11) steals a breath before continuing to glide through the water.

RIGHT: ANTHONY GARDNER (9) propels himself head-first through the water by means of the backstroke during a practice at Norris Junior High.



KATIE PATTEN/ THE REGISTER

Basketball: from high hopes to little hope

By Jeremy Scurlock

At the end of the 1999-2000 Eagle Basketball season, the squad can look back at its season and point out when things began to take a turn for the worse, senior center, Ben Jacobson said.

"We have some seniors who've been with the varsity since their freshmen or sophomore year," Head Coach Rick Behrens said. "The leadership this year was strong, which made for a good foundation for the team."

Behrens said the team started the season ranked sixth in the state in the *Omaha World Herald's* Class-A top ten.

"We [the basketball team] started by winning four of our first six games," Jacobson said. "Then Boomer [senior guard, James Mills] went down with a hurt knee."

Mills said that he sprained the middle crucial ligament or MCL in his left knee in a

win against the Omaha North Vikings during the Holiday Tournament over Christmas Break. Mills spent about three weeks unable to practice and watching games from the bench, Jacobson said.

"Sitting the bench wasn't easy," Mills said. "Every game I spent on the bench killed me!"

The game following Mills' injury in the Holiday Tournament, sophomore Jared Ruffin quit the team during their game against the Omaha Burke Bulldogs. Ruffin, who had the most receptions on this season's football team, transferred to Prep for what was called "differences with the coaching."

"He wasn't happy with the clock he was getting and let it be known," Jacobson said. "He was being kind of selfish. He's a younger guy, he should've waited for his time."

Jacobson said that the ball team was having trouble playing as a team with the loss

of Mills and that turnovers were a huge factor in many of the team's losses.

"When he [Mills] went down, things just didn't click," senior center Mike Kuhn said. "It took awhile to adjust to playing without him."

Kuhn said that while Mills was sidelined with his injured knee, the team's starting point-guard, senior Brian Rahaman, became ill with a case of the stomach flu.

"He [Rahaman] didn't sit out long, but you could tell he wasn't 100 percent," Jacobson said.

Mills said that he tried to come back to the line-up before it was advised. While playing in the game against the Millard North Mustangs, Behrens said, Mills re-injured the same knee. Mills said that it wasn't as serious, but it did scare him.

"It [his left knee] doesn't affect my offense, but on defense it's hard to make an

aggressive pivot," Mills said.

Behrens said the real problem this season was consistency.

"One game somebody would be on fire," Behrens said. "So you keep 'em in, then they don't do as well as you might have expected so you have to give some one else a shot."

Kuhn said that although the team's record may not reflect it, it can definitely compete with the teams in its district. Behrens said the number one team in Class-A, Bellevue West, seventh ranked Lincoln East, and Omaha Creighton Prep are the teams that make up the rest of Central's district.

"If we'd won another one of our district games," Kuhn said "we'd be assured a place in the state tournament."

Behrens said the team won its game against Prep 72-67 and lost its other district games, 51-47 to Lincoln East and 68-59 to Bellevue West.

New coach takes the reins of CHS baseball

By Ally Shandell

New philosophies and different strategies are the tools the new head coach will be using to lead Central High School's Baseball team to victory this year.

Coach Scott Hodges has taken over for the former coach, Matt Shafer, who wanted to devote more of his time to his family and to coaching boys' tennis, Hodges said.

This is Hodges' first year as a Physical Education teacher at Central.

He said that he went through an interview process after applying for the position, and then he was chosen.

"Having my first head coaching position is very exciting," he said, "I'm going in very optimistic."

Senior Dustin Friedman said that he is happy with Hodges as a new coach.

"He helps us a lot during workouts," Friedman said, "His techniques are sometimes differ-

ent but they're really good. For instance, he'll give a player a new batting stance to try, and it almost always works. If it doesn't, he'll find something that does."

Hodges is getting started early this season in order to better the team.

Following a disappointing season last year, finishing off with a 3-19 record, Hodges is working hard to improve.

"He got us involved early. We're getting off to a good start preparing everybody for the season," Friedman said.

Hodges has been holding practices already even though the season hasn't started yet.

"I'm trying to rebuild enthusiasm among the players," Hodges said.

While the team shows signs of improvement, he said that it is sometimes difficult being a new coach.

"Some kids have trouble adjusting to my philosophies," Hodges said.

Friedman, however, said he agrees with

Hodges' coaching strategies and techniques.

Hodges is also doing a lot of fundraising in order to raise money for the team, Friedman said.

Hodges said that in trying to rebuild the program, he is looking for more fan support.

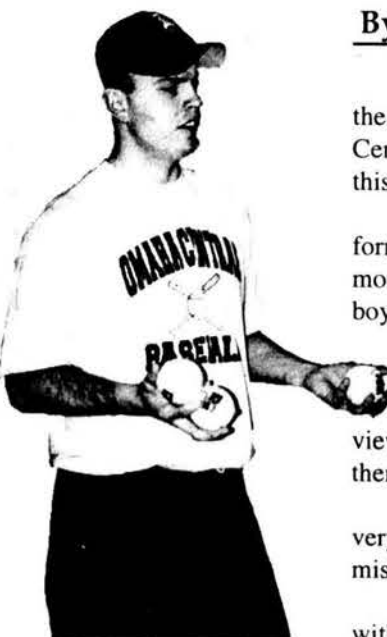
"We need some 'bleacher bums,'" he said. "Come out and support us!"

Hodges has been coaching high school baseball for five years, but this is his first in Nebraska. Other coaching positions he has held were at various high schools in Illinois.

Both teammates and coach agree that the season will be a good one.

"The team will definitely be better this year," Friedman said, "There are a lot of returning seniors who have been playing together all four years."

He added that the team may start out shaky, but will definitely win some games by the end. Friedman said that he has confidence that the team can win many games against teams such as Millard, Ralston and Papillion.



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Coach Scott Hodges