

National Pacemaker
Award Winner

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the Omaha Central High School REGISTER

Cornhusker Award
Winner

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2000

VOLUME 114,
ISSUE 1

Oldest High School Newspaper West of the Mississippi, Established 1886

• First in a three part series dealing with capital punishment in Nebraska

Nebraska woman feels effects of death penalty

By Matt Wynn

"All I knew was that the state was killing one of its own citizens," Marylyn Felion, Chairwoman of Nebraskans for Peace, said of her first night at an execution. "And that was such a devastating experience that I made up my mind I was never going to get to know a death row inmate."

Felion's promise to herself did not last long.

In 1995, another execution was scheduled.

A man, Robert Edward Williams, was sentenced to die on the Nebraska Electric chair for the rape and murder of two Omaha women.

Felion said that she was in pain the entire day that the execution was supposed to happen. She couldn't attend the execution because it was scheduled to take place while she was at work, but she still felt very strongly about the event.

After work that day, Felion called a friend, who told her that the execution had been called off.

"I was so happy that when I got home I wrote a little note to this person just to say how happy I was," Felion said.

Before long, Williams wrote back.

For two years Williams and Felion kept in touch by mail. Felion said that at this time she still had no intention of ever going to the Lincoln State Penitentiary to meet him.

Then, in Sept. of 1997, Felion

read in the paper that the Nebraska Supreme Court had turned down Williams' request for a retrial.

To Felion, that was the last straw. She said she couldn't allow him to go to his death alone, after corresponding with him for so long.

She asked Williams if she could visit him.

He agreed, and on Oct 30, 1997 Felion and Williams met for the first time.

"One of the very first things that Robert said to me when I got in there was he wanted me to understand that drugs and alcohol were not responsible for the terrible crimes that he had committed," Felion said. "He was responsible. The drugs and the alcohol had opened the door and all the rage and hatred that was inside of him came pouring out."

For the entire month of November, Felion went to the Penitentiary three or four times a week.

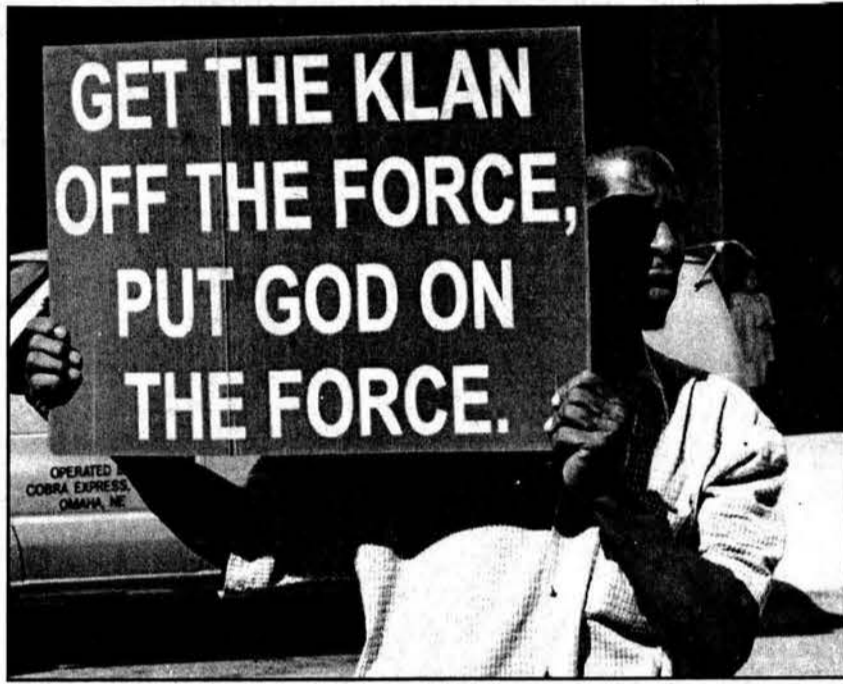
Unfortunately, she could only be there during regular visiting hours, which severely limited the time they could spend together.

Neither of them wanted that. So Williams suggested that Felion become his minister.

"This surprised me," Felion said. "I had no idea how I was going to go in as a minister. I'm not a minister or a nun."

So Felion went to the Sisters of Mercy to see if there was any way she could be ordained as a minister to

Turn to DEATH, page 6



By Michael Gerhardt

Supporters of the slain George Bibins rallied outside the Douglas County courthouse Sept. 6 to protest the grand jury's decision not to press manslaughter and other charges against Omaha police officer Jerad Kruse.

On July 19, Omaha Police Officer Jerad Kruse shot and killed George Bibins after a high-speed car chase. Bibins was driving a stolen Jeep Cherokee and had crashed into a telephone pole. Kruse shot the unarmed Bibins while he was still in the driver's seat.

The rally was in response to the Sept. 1 ruling by the Nebraska grand jury. The demonstrators first gathered at 24 street and Aimes, the site of the shooting and later moved to the courthouse.

Once at the courthouse, the demonstrators met up with other demonstrators. The demonstrators stood along the steps of the courthouse green, holding up newspapers displaying headlines of different racist acts from around the world. After the television stations conducted a short television interview with Bibins' family, the group left to go their separate ways. Demonstrator Rocky Davis said the main purpose of the rally was to seek justice for Bibin's death. No police representative was present at the demonstration. Omaha Police department sgt. Dan Cisar said this was because the police wanted to avoid taking a side. He also said there was no reason for the police to be there. The group had no need for police presence, Cisar said.

Many demonstrators were quick to make their opinions known. "This situation deals with a bad

Right: Demonstrator Rocky Davis holds a sign at a rally for the slain George Bibins outside Douglas County courthouse.

Above: Rochelle Gordon protests racism on the police force.

atrocities. In this day in time, it leads a suffering among our people that should not live another second of disrespect that the Omaha Police Department and several other agencies have left harboring," demonstrator Anthony Jamal-Shadid said.

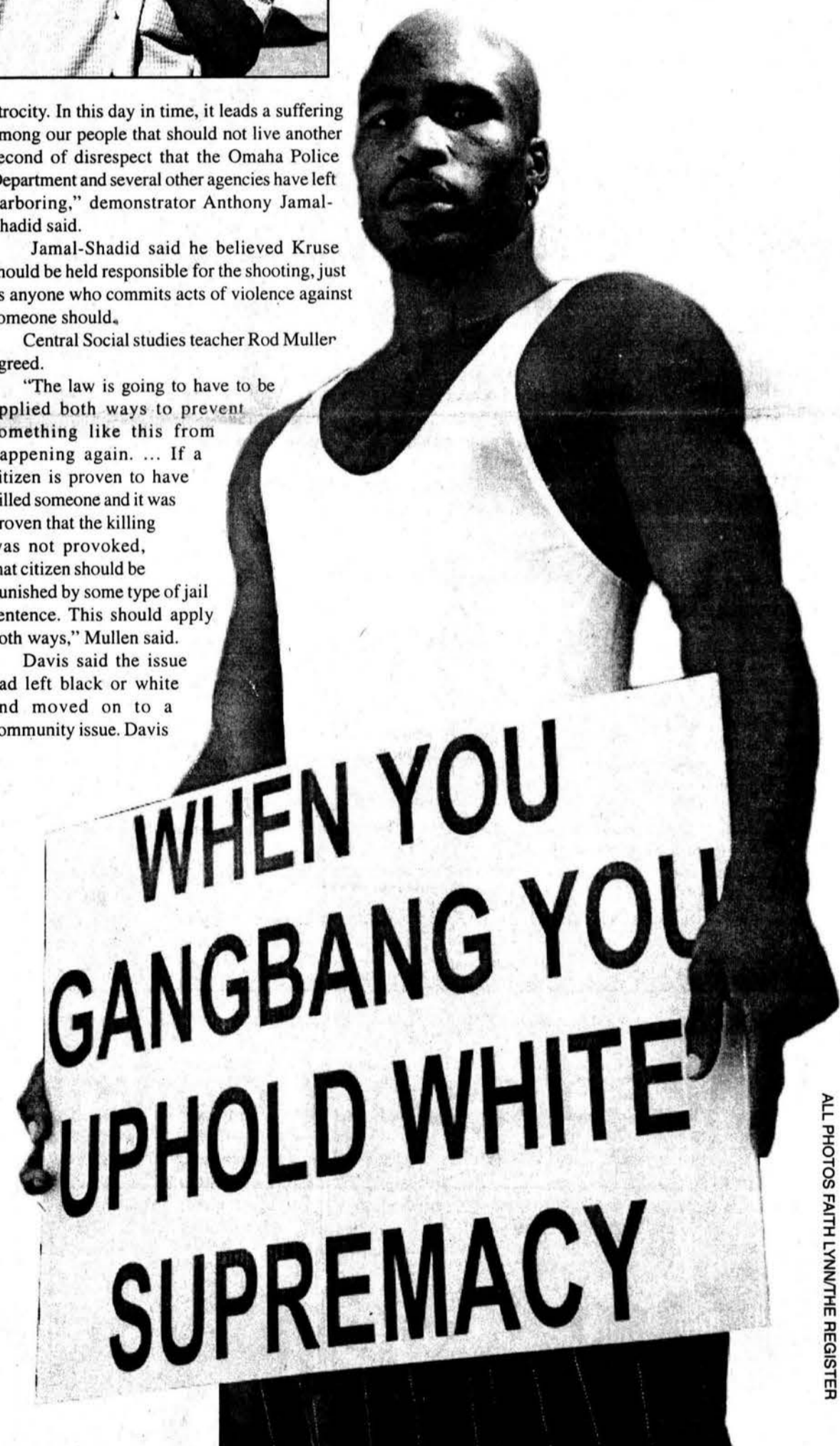
Jamal-Shadid said he believed Kruse should be held responsible for the shooting, just as anyone who commits acts of violence against someone should.

Central Social studies teacher Rod Muller agreed.

"The law is going to have to be applied both ways to prevent something like this from happening again. ... If a citizen is proven to have killed someone and it was proven that the killing was not provoked, that citizen should be punished by some type of jail sentence. This should apply both ways," Mullen said.

Davis said the issue had left black or white and moved on to a community issue. Davis

Demonstrators rally against Bibins' ruling



ALL PHOTOS FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER

Merit pay results inconclusive

By Sarah Peterson

In August of 1999, the Denver Public Schools (DPS) and Denver Classroom Teachers Association (DCTA) reached an agreement to pilot a Pay for Performance Program that would base teacher's salaries on the academic achievements of the students they teach, a member of the design team for the program said.

Betty Wissink said that after one year of the pilot, results are still inconclusive.

"It is still too early to tell the impact on student achievement," Wissink said.

In the pilot, 342 teachers in 12 elementary schools collaborated with their principals to develop two objectives based on academic achievement. Teachers were paid \$500 for each objective met, and an extra \$500 for participating.

At the end of the year, 87.1 percent of the teachers had met both objectives, Wissink said. Only 9.6 percent had reached one objective, and 2 percent met neither of their ob-

jectives. Success varied by school.

"Most teachers were pleased with the extra money," Wissink said.

During the pilot, teachers remain on a regular salary and the extra money received from meeting objectives is a bonus. The pilot will now continue until 2003, Wissink said. At that time, teachers will vote whether to continue and with what changes if continued. While originally 85 percent would have had to vote, it was decided in March that only 66 percent have to approve the plan.

If voted to continue, teachers would be taken off of the regular salary and would have to meet objectives in order to increase their salary, Wissink said.

OPS Superintendent John Mackiel said that he believes that merit pay is a misguided effort that will not be effective.

"Merit pay works exceedingly well in industrial settings where productivity can be measured," Mackiel said. "How can we measure a teacher's productivity?"

Turn to MERIT PAY page 3

National school population reaches record levels

By Sarah Peterson

Students are surging into the nation's schools in record numbers, according report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

The total public and private school enrollment for this year is expected to be at a record 53 million, and this trend of record enrollments is expected to continue. Public high school enrollments are expected to

increase almost another nine percent by 2009.

Baby boomers (born between approximately 1948 and 1966) are sending their generation of children-the baby boom echo (which started around 1977)-to school, the earlier part of which are now entering high school. The surge in births after World War II peaked in 1957 at 4.3 million births. The echo generation reached a record 4.1 million births in 1990. However, unlike the post-baby

boom era, the number of births in the post-echo generation is expected to remain stable at around 4 million births a year for about the next decade.

The greatest percentage increases in school enrollment have occurred in Nevada, Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, Illinois, and California.

Tom Snyder, director of annual reports at the National Department of Education, said that between 1990

and 2000, Nebraska had an 18.4 percent growth in high schools.

"This was one of the higher states in the midwest," Snyder said.

The national average of high school growth was just slightly higher than Nebraska at 19.1 percent, Snyder said.

Between 2000 and 2010, Nebraska is projected to have a decrease of 4 percent of high school students, Snyder said. Nationally, high schools are projected to have a 4 percent in-

crease. "This is a significant statistical difference," Snyder said.

Nine of the 12 midwestern states

Nebraska school population grows 18.4 percent, nation reaches 53 million

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Chicago school district backs religious book covers

By Sarah Peterson

"Do not steal. Do not tell lies about others. Do not want anything that belongs to someone else."

These statements may seem harmless, but they are causing controversy in the Chicago Public Schools.

Operation 10 Commandments has placed a modern version of the 10 Commandments along with other inspirational quotes on book covers that are being distributed to area youth, Debra Hall, Special Events Coordinator and Public Relations Director for the operation, said.

The operation is run by the Total Living Network (TLN) in hopes that the inspiration from these sayings will have a dramatic impact on the lives of today's youth, Hall said.

"These are a daily reminder to help the spirituality of the youth," Hall said.

Steve Benen, a spokesperson for Americans United for Separation of Church and State—a non-partisan educational organization that strives to preserve religious freedom, said that as long as it is the individual's choice to use the book covers, it is legal.

Benen said that it became somewhat controversial when the head of the Chicago Public Schools endorsed the book covers.

"It was a little troubling when a person in charge endorsed the covers," Benen said. "It would have been better if the superintendent had remained neutral."

Gerry K. Rowe, President and CEO of TLN, developed the idea and discussed it with the head of the Chi-

cago Public Schools, Paul Vallas.

Hall said that Vallas was in support of the book covers as long as the decision to put the covers on is made by the student. The covers can not be passed out on school ground.

"We want people to make this personal choice for themselves," Hall said.

Operation 10 Commandments is not the first to put out such book covers, but are following what others have already done—and quite successfully at that, Hall said. The network has already distributed 100,000 covers, and plans to print another 75,000.

Hall said that orders for the covers have come in from almost all of the states.

"We've received wonderful support and great response," Hall said.

The network does not yet know about the future of the operation, Hall said. If the response is positive, they might continue. As of now, the operation will end the last day of September. However, if financial support continues the operation might continue.

Dr. Gary Thompson said that district policy in OPS would not permit any form of advertising to be distributed within the school. However, the school has no legal control of the sidewalks surrounding the school.

Senior Mitch Raftery was indifferent to the operation.

"As long as it's the student's choice to put the covers on, it's a fine idea," Raftery said.

He said that he could wear a shirt to school that displayed the 10 Commandments, but he has chosen not to do that.



ARTS ON THE GREEN: (LEFT)

Alexus Harrison, seven, (Below right) Nia Jones, seven, and (Below left) Jordyn Harrison, four, displays her talent on the driveway of Joslyn Art Museums parking lot next to Central High School.



ALL PHOTOS KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER

Local elementary schools relocated to abandoned factory

By Ally Freeman

Some Omaha Public School (OPS) students are spending this school year in an old cereal factory, patiently awaiting the reconstruction of their buildings.

Melissa Orlando, principal of Rosehill elementary school said that she was told last fall that Rosehill had become one of the top eight schools to be renovated first in OPS.

Orlando said that after interviewing architects, they determined that

Rosehill would have to be completely demolished and would need to relocate during the construction process.

Senior Sarah Cleveland said she attended Rosehill in elementary school. Cleveland remembered the existing building being very old and in need of repairs.

"It was a good school, it just happened to have bad facilities," Cleveland said.

She said she is excited to learn that her elementary school is being reconstructed.

It was not until last spring that Orlando was notified that the district would be purchasing the old U.S. Mills factory and turning it into a school. She also learned they would be sharing the school with Miller Park elementary.

Orlando said she was initially hesitant about moving their school into a warehouse and sharing the space with another elementary.

"I wanted it to be a school environment," Orlando said.

Now Orlando can say nothing

bad about the move.

"It is wonderful, you could never believe it was a warehouse at one time; it looks like a school and runs like a school," she said.

Orlando is also upbeat about sharing the building with Miller Park. She said that they have been able to better utilize and combine the two schools resources.

The students were also pleasantly surprised with the converted warehouse, Orlando said.

Parents did have some early con-

cerns including transportation. Orlando said that this was the first time Rosehill had to use transportation, and parents were worried about the bus rides to school. But Orlando said the kids are content.

"Kids love riding the bus," she said.

In order to adapt to the transportation needs, the two schools were forced to stagger the school times to accommodate busing.

Orlando said that Rosehill starts after Miller Park and remains in

school until 4:05 p.m.

She said that they will occupy the warehouse for two years while the existing school building is being demolished and leveled with construction beginning on the new facility after October.

Luanne Nelson, Omaha district spokeswoman, said that John Smith, Asst. Superintendent of business services, searched for a building to hold students during the remodeling and renovation process OPS is going through.

Rising beef prices threaten shortage for OPS

By Ally Freeman

Where's the beef?

Starting in November, school lunches could be lacking ground beef from all menus, the Director of Nutrition Services in the Omaha Public Schools said.

Tammy Yarmon said the main reason for the shortage is the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has instituted new guidelines on meat processors. However, she

said there was not enough time to make the changes and the plants had already produced much of the meat.

Yarmon said OPS has enough beef in storage to last through October.

"After October, we will have to look to see when the next beef shipment is coming," she said.

If they learn they will not be receiving any beef from the USDA, OPS will look at purchasing beef locally or adjusting lunch

menus.

Yarmon said much ground beef is not used during the summer months, but during the rest of the year elementary and secondary school lunches contain beef at least once a week.

Senior Jennifer Stober said she would definitely notice changes in the lunch menu.

Stober said she eats school lunch every day and one of her favorites is Rotini with meatballs.

However the lack of beef would not greatly affect her decision to eat lunch at school since she can still eat meat at home, Stober said.

Sue Olson, Asst. Chief of the commodities procurement branch in the livestock and seed division at the USDA said that they are still in the process of buying meat and are trying to provide as much beef as possible to schools.

Olson said that the USDA issued

additional food safety standards that caused delays in production. As a result the beef will cost more this year, she said.

Olson said that schools are allotted entitlement dollars based on the number of school meals served. The schools then use the money like a checkbook to purchase food. Since the beef costs more schools have to rethink where they spend the commodities.

"The higher priced beef is draining of their [schools'] entitlements," Olson said.

I need a cool down!



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER

THIS ICE CREAM IS REALLY GOOD...Senior Jessica Ritsch and Junior Janelle Ritsch enjoy an afternoon at the Crossroads Mall this summer. Many Central spent their summer months at the many malls in Omaha.

Teen pregnancy rate drops with abstinence, birth control

By Jenny Nelson

The teen pregnancy rate is the lowest it has been in the last 60 years, the Communications Director of Planned Parenthood said.

Beverly Nolte said that there are mainly two reasons why the birthrate is so low.

She said that teen-agers are learning about abstinence, and that those who are sexually active are using birth control.

"Teens are learning to be more responsible," Nolte said.

She said that throughout the nation, there is a 7.8 percent decline in teen pregnancies, and it is dropping in Nebraska and Iowa, too. Nolte cited this information from the Center for Disease Control.

"We hope to see that continue dropping," Nolte said.

Central senior Melissa Slape said that she is glad to learn that teen pregnancies have dropped.

"Teen-agers should not be having babies," she said.

Slape said that she thinks that teens are not emotionally ready to care for another living being.

She said that her older sister got pregnant when she was 17.

Principal Gary Thompson said that he does not deal directly with pregnant teens, but from what he sees, it is still prevalent.

"From what I see it seems like it is still a substantial problem," he said.

Junior Julia Anderson said that she has not noticed a decline in the pregnancy rate.

"It doesn't look like there has been one at Central," she said.

Dorothy Hill, an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ and the director of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, has worked as a volunteer at Planned Parenthood since 1942.

She is a member of the Friends of Planned Parenthood and is "on-call" to help in the counseling of young women.

Hill said she has seen on-hand the decline in teen pregnancies.

"That comes with the availability of counseling and more education," she said.

Nolte said she believes that Planned Parenthood has contributed to the decrease in birth rate. The two things that Planned Parenthood focuses on are education and prevention.

Employees travel, teaching teens

about abstinence and birth control, she said.

Planned Parenthood also offers various medical services, all confidentially and on a sliding-fee scale, Nolte said. Teen-agers are guaranteed help, and they only pay what they can afford.

"Parents don't need to know," Nolte said.

She said that everyone that comes to Planned Parenthood leaves with birth control if they want it.

If a teen comes to Planned Parenthood to take a pregnancy test and it comes up positive, they give the teen three legal options—parent the child, give him or her up for adoption, or have an abortion, she said.

She said employees can refer teens to other professionals in the community, such as doctors or free lawyers for an abortion.

Hill said, "A woman's right to choose is up to the woman and her doctor, for the safety of the pregnancy."

Nolte said that they do not pressure teens or make the choice for them, just give them all the information they can.

"Our emphasis is that it's their decision," she said.

Teacher salary talks cause budget delays

By Joe Meyer

Because of a new spending budget, the Omaha Public School (OPS) district is trying to minimize some school-related expenses until teacher salary negotiations are completed, assistant superintendent Dr. Dennis Pool said.

Pool said that the district is cautious of spending money because they do not have an operating budget for this year. He said that they are being careful not to spend money that they do not have.

The restrictions are caused by the ongoing salary negotiations with teachers.

Pool said that the district currently has a 3.5 percent increase in salaries budgeted for the upcoming school year, but the teachers are currently requesting a substantial raise.

At a negotiation meeting on Aug. 29, the Omaha Education Association (OEA) made its twenty-sixth proposal. It outlined a 5.42 percent raise for the first year, followed by a 6.5 and 6.6 percent raise for the second and third years, OEA spokesman Tom Skates presented.

In preparation of more spending than expected, the district released a

statement two weeks ago advising principals to reduce funding for certain departments, until the budget is adopted, Central principal Dr. Gary Thompson said.

Thompson also said that funding is currently being withheld for professional teacher conferences out of state and major school equipment. He also said that he thinks the district has implemented a hiring freeze.

"The district has told us not to spend monies right now," Thompson said.

Thompson also said that he does not expect a budget until a teacher contract is made.

Although the district is operating without a budget, Thompson said that Central is basically operating the same.

"It hasn't had a major effect at this point," he said.

Carol Hipp, social studies department chairperson, also agreed that the spending restrictions have not had a big impact on Central High School.

Hipp said the department has received magazine subscriptions, textbooks and adequate materials for this year.

"The social studies department can not complain," she said.

County Board approves Omaha tourism bond

By Kaitlin Davis

The Douglas County Board recently approved a \$750,000 contract to promote Omaha in the tourism industry nationally.

A recent study done by Plog Research Inc. of New Brunswick, NJ, reviewed how Omaha is perceived in the United States, Tim McNeil, Manager of Marketing an Business for the Convention and Visitor's Bureau said.

The research was then set into a proposal for a \$750,000 contract to better Omaha tourism, McNeil said.

"We want to try and develop a clear and concise image for Omaha," he said.

The Douglas County Board contracted Equation Communications based in South Carolina to head up the project Board member Kathleen McCallister said.

All members of the Board voted in favor of the proposal except for Kathleen McCallister who voted against the measure.

"It was one of the smartest things I've ever done," she said.

The mayor's office and MECA had not seen the proposal prior to the voting, she said.

"The proposal had never been seen prior to that day. The data had not been presented to tourism," she said.

McCallister said she was angered that MECA was not included in the original plan and that other Omaha tourist companies were not given any control over the proposal.

"If we aren't doing it with MECA, then what are we doing?" she said. "MECA has to be a partner in this."

McNeil said that MECA will ultimately be involved in the project, but that MECA is new and may not have the capacity to handle a nation wide project of this magnitude.

"MECA will have some part," he said. "We have appointments to meet with all these people."

The company would like to try and promote Omaha's best qualities, McNeil said.

"We've had a great response from the tourism industry," he said.

McNeil said Equations plans to promote the arts in Omaha, such as the Orpheum Theatre, the Joslyn Art, the Omaha Symphony, and the Playhouse.

They will place emphasis on the Henry Doorly Zoo and the Old Market, McNeil said.

In the future Equations will incorporate the Convention Center in the project, he said.

McNeil said they want to promote Omaha as a safe and inexpensive place to visit.

"Absolutely, we need to promote Omaha," McCallister said.

McCallister said she wants to promote Omaha, but that this proposal and contract was not the right way to go.

She said that more time should have been given to the Board in order to look over the proposal.

The Board received the proposal the day before they voted on it, she said.

"Something in my gut told me that it was already a done deal," she said.

Equation Communication was among many companies that applied for the contract, and it was selected, McCallister said.

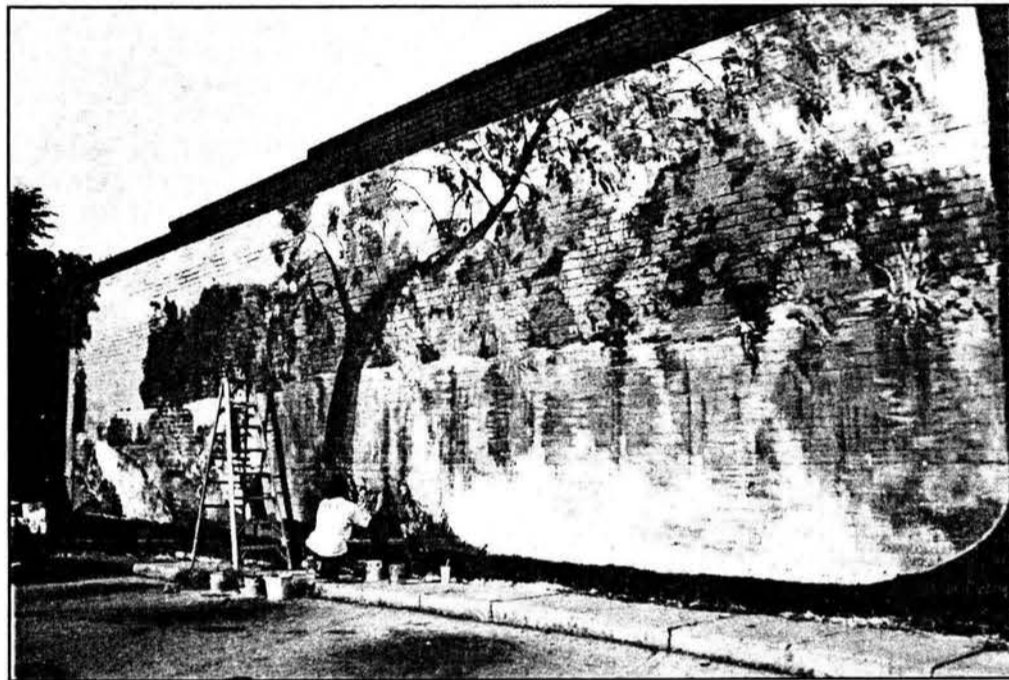
Mural solves graffiti problem



PAINTING PRETTY (RIGHT): Local Omaha business owner Kesa Smuts solves a graffiti problem by reproducing a postcard from 1913 (TOP) on a wall on 35th and Center. The postcard pictures a scene from nearby Hanscom Park.



KAITLIN DAVIS, THE REGISTER



PICTURES AND POSTCARDS (LEFT): The mural, on 35th and Center, will help cover the wall where graffiti problems were evident

Denver teacher pay study inconclusive

■MERIT PAY, continued from page 1

He said that before worrying about how to motivate teachers, people should worry about how to make teacher's salaries comparable to other professions.

"From birth to age eighteen, young people are only in school nine percent of the time," Mackiel said. "That means 91 percent of their influence is from outside of the school."

He thus said he questioned how teacher's pay could be based on this short time that they have to influence the life's of the children they teach.

In addition, he said that basing pay on standardized test is absurd because these tests are designed so that 50 percent of the students fail.

The pilot in Denver is testing several different methods on which to base objectives, Wissink said. One-third of the teachers base their objectives on standardized test, one-third on criterion developed by the teacher, and one-third based on increased teacher knowledge and skills.

Mary Romero, elementary principal at Colfax Elementary, said that her school measured the success of their plan through the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. The entire staff—including nurses, psychologists, and teachers—was involved in trying to raise math and reading scores of the approximately 400 students at the year-round school by five percent.

The school decided that they wanted to participate in the pilot, and also to make raising reading and math scores their goal, Romero said.

"The plan was helpful," Romero said, "but our staff was already ahead of the plan."

Romero said her staff already participated in staff development, so the pilot was an opportunity for the teachers to earn an extra \$1500 for what they already did.

All but two of the teachers at the school met both of goals in reading and math, and the other two met at least one of the goals, Romero said.

"Overall it was good for the kids," Romero said.

Staci Porter, Edison Elementary principal in Denver, said she had mixed feelings about the effectiveness of the program at her school.

"I'm afraid that teachers will begin teaching to meet their goals instead of educating the students," she said.

Edison is a traditional, inner-city, urban school of approximately 514 students.

"We have an extremely competent staff," Porter said. "But we don't always have the same resources as suburban schools."

Edison tested the pilot by allowing the teachers to decide what test they were going to use, Porter said. Teachers chose from the Colorado State Assessments, assessments of spelling and math developed at the school.

"There was really a lot of flexibility," Porter said.

Ninety-seven percent of the teachers at the school met both of their goals, she said.

"We are still unclear about the benefits," Porter said. "There is still much learning and training to be done."

One thing did calm Porter's fears, though. While there had been a fear that teachers would become competitive about which teachers met the goals, this did not occur.

Junior Michael Heller said that he believed merit pay would be a bad idea.

"Teachers will lower their standards for higher pay," he said.

Dr. Thompson said he has mixed feelings on merit pay because it is so difficult to compare teachers' performances.

Thompson used to teach AP Biology at Central, and said it was a difficult class to teach because of the subject matter. However, he said all of the students in the class also had a desire to learn.

"How do you judge teachers of more basic level classes where students might not have those skills or that desire?" Thompson asked.

Foreign teachers experience America

By Faith Lynn

What's the difference between Nebraska and the country of Spain?

Quite a lot, say teachers Miguel Páez and Raquel Rodriguez, who came from Spain this year to teach at Central.

Teacher Miguel Páez said he was involved in an exchange program that brought 15 teachers to Nebraska, including he and fellow teacher Raquel Rodriguez.

However, they are finding life in the United States to be very different and quite an adjustment from their home countries.

Both teachers had never been to the United States, and said they were amazed at how beautiful it is and how

friendly the people are.

Now that Rodriguez has spent a few weeks in America, she said she thinks Americans are all very friendly. "I thought America was dangerous, with people walking around with guns all the time."

"You are all very, very charming," Páez said.

He said that in Europe, society is more closed, while in the United States, people are very outgoing and friendly.

Some students may think that it is very exotic or unusual and exciting to have a teacher from a foreign country, but Páez said that it is different in Europe.

In Europe, he said, people from Germany teach German, teachers

from France teach French, and so on.

He said that he thought the United States was sort of prejudiced in that respect; that they like to draw more on their own resources than ask other countries for assistance.

Rather than asking for or expecting teachers from other countries, he said, they look to their own schools for new teachers, almost ignoring other countries.

He said that he thinks the United States needs to be more open-minded and not so reliant on itself.

Páez said that he thought the location of Omaha was interesting. "Look at what surrounds it," he said. "There are farms and cornfields to the west and all around. As one crosses the country from east to west, Omaha

is right at the frontier."

He said he was surprised by how expensive it is to live here. He said that it was very expensive just getting to Omaha and getting started.

He had to pay for his airplane ticket, he said, then there was food and an apartment and a car, and that it all adds up in the end.

He said that he does not miss very much about Spain, but that he would like to find some real Spanish food.

He said that he enjoys the food here, but that after a while the food becomes "the same dog with a different collar," which is a Spanish expression that means that something is basically the same as something else.

Páez said that Nebraska re-

minded him of his home in Murcia, Spain. He said that the fact that everything was so green here surprised him.

He said that his home is very beautiful, but dry like a desert, and that one of his favorite things about Nebraska is the landscape.

Páez said that he does miss food, friends and family, but that he is glad that there are so many rock concerts here.

"What do I like best? Rock concerts!" he said gleefully, then reeled off a long list of rock bands, including Def Leppard and Metallica.

Both Páez and Rodriguez said that they were given three states to choose from, and ultimately chose Nebraska because it was rumored to

be very quiet and friendly.

Rodriguez said that she was originally chosen to go to Los Angeles, Calif., but that she would have had to leave Spain earlier than she would have liked to.

She wanted to teach secondary school rather than smaller children, she said, which was a determining factor in coming to Nebraska.

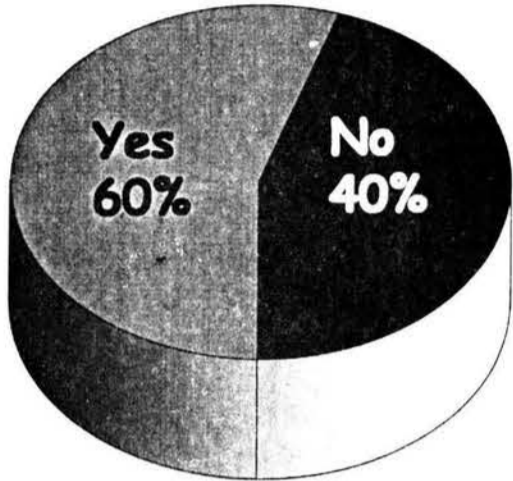
Her hometown of Palencia, Spain has about 100,000 people, so Omaha is not much of an adjustment in size, though she admits that she probably would have had trouble in a large city like Los Angeles.

Páez said "It's a challenge," but both teachers are doing very well. Both speak English very fluently with a light Spanish accent.

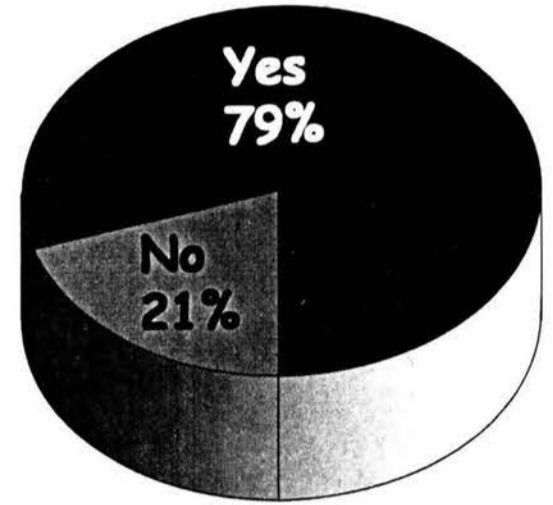


Maybe This Will Change The Many Consequences of

Have you ever been drunk?



Have you ever been to a party where underage people were drinking or getting drunk?



Expulsion sends CHS Student to alternative school

**All Graphs
276 students
polled**

QUENTIN
LUENINGHOENER/THE
REGISTER

By Danielle Rollins

Hey, what's in that Fruitopia bottle?

Kyle Clark was expelled on Saint Patrick's Day 2000 for possessing and distributing alcohol concealed in a Fruitopia bottle.

After his parents were called and a conference was held with his administrator, Clark was sent to finish the semester at Parish Alternative School.

This school was started to provide a structural discipline program for students who had been expelled from their traditional school, Expulsion Center.

Robert Faulkner said.

It is a place where students could continue with their education, he said.

Clark said he spent three weeks out of school before being transferred to Parish.

He described Parish as being very different from any traditional school that he has been to, a huge room separated into four separate areas by boards.

There were no passing periods or extracurricular activities, he said. Instead of lecturing about the topics they were to study, the teachers would provide each student with a packet containing the work they were to complete to receive credit.

They were given the work and expected to complete it without any further discussion, Clark said.

"I think it is easier in class if it is explained to me before hand," he said.

Clark said that it was very difficult getting adjusted to Parish. It was unlike other school and he missed his friends from Central.

"I thought that I was going to get picked on by bigger people," Clark said.

Clark said that they were required to tuck in their shirts, and they were not allowed to bring backpacks or coats with them to class.

They were not allowed to carry anything into the room and the books were provided, he said. There were many security guards, and every grade level was in the same room.

Clark said he was put into a 'group' that met Monday,

Wednesday and Friday mornings. On Tuesdays, Thurs-

days and Friday afternoons he was expected to either work or do community service.

By doing community service, he could receive extra credits that he would need to complete his sophomore year, he said.

Clark said his group consisted of 65 people that would be the only people that he would have class with for the entire time he was at Parish.

The principal taught them social skills, and they were given extra credits for working.

Clark said he ate lunch with the same group of people in his class. He said it was much different than a normal school lunch period.

"It was worse than a regular school lunch, I'll tell you that," Clark said.

Parish was meant to provide opportunities for expelled students, Faulkner said. The lack of freedoms and choices were meant to teach the students discipline.

If they choose to disobey the rules than they do not get to participate in extracurricular activities, he said.

"I want to provide a very structured discipline program for them,"

Faulkner said. "We've eliminated any freedom they have."

Dr. Gary Thompson said that he feels alcohol use among teenagers is a big problem.

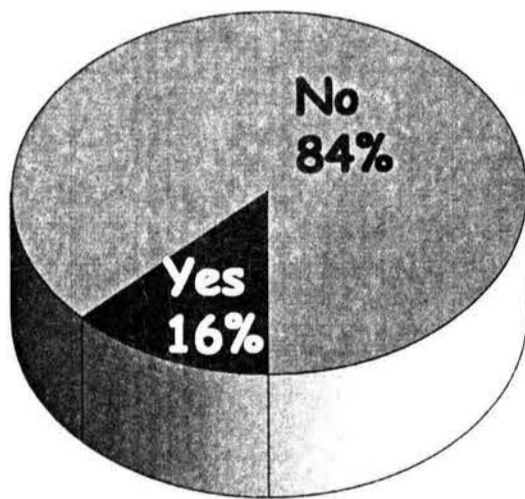
The required punishment for alcohol offenders is a nineteen-day suspension and mandatory counseling.

"I am very pleased with the mandatory counseling," Thompson said, "My hope is that we can get [the students] some help."

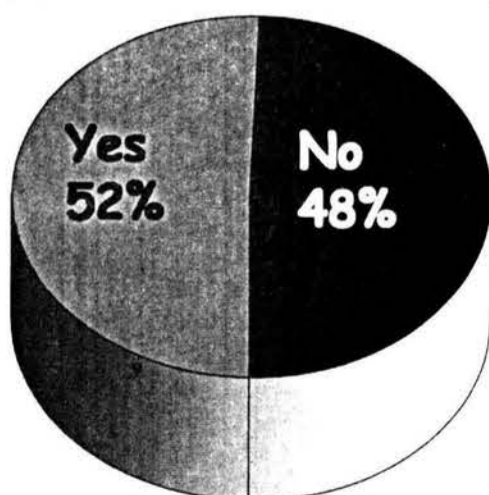
Thompson said that under-aged drinking has become a serious problem.

"I think that it is a terrible problem," Thompson said "But I think that it has been a terrible problem for many years."

Have you ever attempted to purchase alcoholic beverages while underage?



Have you ever had someone over 21 buy you alcoholic beverages?



Rehab Your Weekend Plans... Alcohol Use for Teenagers

Rehab gives life back to patients, a manager of the Drug Court says

By Jenny Nelson

Alcohol and drug rehab is the best response human beings can give to one another, although it is not always completely effective, the Client Services Manager of the Drug Court Program in Nebraska said.

Paul Yakel said that rehabilitation is giving something back to somebody. He said that the term "rehab" implies that a person has already been rehabilitated.

The goal of rehab is to redirect the sick person back to a healthy standard of living. This is not easily accomplished if the person grew up in an unhealthy atmosphere, Yakel said.

"A lot of folks don't have the basis to even begin living a healthy lifestyle," he said.

The drug court program is a twelve-month opportunity for substance abusers to have their felony taken off the record, Yakel said. He said that these people are kept busy rather than being put in prison.

Many of the people the Drug Court deals with did not have a healthy starting point, Yakel said. He said they suffer from cognitive dysfunction, or thinking errors.

"We all suffer from various thinking errors," Yakel said.

He said that the Douglas County Drug Court is the only such program in Nebraska, but Lincoln is looking to open one. It is fairly effective, Yakel said.

Out of 200 or so graduates of the program, only three have been in trouble for drugs or alcohol a second time, he said.

Yakel said that the Drug Court deals with few teenagers. It is mainly adults or teens tried as adults. The youngest age is generally around 17, he said, and the average age group is 25-40.

"It [the Drug Court concept] is not necessarily tough on crime, but smart on crime," Yakel said.

The Drug Court program and other substance abuse treatments are much more cost effective than putting the abusers in prison, Yakel said. Putting people in prison costs taxpayers.

Although rehab programs do not cost taxpayers, they can run up quite a bill for the person seeking treatment.

Sober Living by the Sea in Newport Beach, Calif., is a 90-day minimum rehab program that costs \$15,000 for 90 days, Pat said. Pat said he works for this program, and that they go on a first-name only basis.

At this structured living center, patients live at the beach and are kept busy from 5:30 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. everyday, he said. There is an 85 percent success rate.

"You couldn't find a better program," Pat said.

He also said that patients attend Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings everyday.

Another branch of Alcoholics Anonymous is a program called Al-Anon, Lyle, who works for Al-Anon in Nebraska, said. This program also

goes on a first-name only basis.

"Al-Anon is the other side of the coin," he said.

Lyle said that alcoholics go to AA meetings to cope with their illness, whereas the alcoholics' families go to Al-Anon to learn to live with alcoholics.

They operate using the same steps, he said, although it is a separate form of treatment.

Senior Amanda Radi said she believes that rehab is helpful if the person sticks with it. She said her father was in rehab for two years and it helped him get clean.

"Rehab is effective, but the person has to be strong enough when they get out of it. Rehab can only do so much," Radi said.

She said that she knew kids that got clean from rehab programs, but after they got out, they went back with their previous friends and ended up using drugs and alcohol again.

Yakel said that he deals with people who say they want to shape up and get clean, yet who persist in abusing drugs and alcohol.

He said that it is more important to listen to behavior than what people say.

"All behavior is supported by thinking," Yakel said.

He said that many people do not believe they should have to give any effort to receive results.

In order for rehab to be effective, the substance abuser must put in a lot of effort, Yakel said.

"A lot of folks don't operate that way, though," he said.

Yakel said that America is a drug-taking nation that is always looking for a "quick fix."

He said the Drug Court not only deals with people taking illicit, or illegal, drugs or alcohol, but also prescription medicine.

"Annually, three times as many people die from using prescription drugs than illicit drugs," Yakel said.

- The longer one abstains from alcohol, the more likely one is to remain sober.
- Relapses are common, and it does not mean that a person has failed.
- If a relapse occurs, it is important to try to stop drinking again and to get whatever help is needed to abstain from alcohol.

Treatments that may help reduce drinking among recovering alcoholics:

- Stress management therapy
- Assertiveness and communication skills training
- Behavioral self-control training
- Acupuncture therapy

Does alcoholism treatment work?

◊ Many commonly used treatments have not been adequately evaluated and need to undergo controlled clinical trials.

◊ Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) has proved difficult to evaluate because of the inability to randomize patient samples due to member anonymity.

Information acquired from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), July 1992

YWCA studies show alcohol contributes to date rape

By Melissa Angelo

According to the Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition, national studies indicate alcohol is consumed prior to a sexual assault by 75 percent of perpetrators and 55 percent of victims.

Pam Clarke, the education specialist for the YWCA, said that alcohol and drug use is related to sexual assault but it is not the cause. They contribute to rape by clouding judgement and preventing a person from thinking in the right state of mind.

"A lot of the research on the connection between alcohol and date rape has focused on the college campus, particularly in the fraternities," Clarke said.

She said that she worked on a college campus last year and that she would hear of the upperclassmen guys targeting freshman girls. They would invite the girls to parties and saw them as easy targets for sexual activity.

"Particularly at fraternity parties, men are slipping a date rape drug into drinks in order to have sexual relations with their victims," Clarke said. "In terms of sexual assault, alcohol increases their vulnerability to be victimized," said Clarke.

Marcia Adler, Clinic Director for Student Health Services at University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), said Student Health Services complete classroom presentations on responsible use of alcohol on a range of 30 classroom presentations per semester.

"In my own nursing experiences, I have never been involved in a student rape or sexual assault case where alcohol or drug abuse has not been a factor," said Adler.

Rebecca Riley, Sexual Assault Counselor for the YWCA, said society has a tendency to blame the victim for being raped if they were using alcohol or drugs at the time of the assault. This decreases the likelihood of victims to report the rape, she said.

Riley said that sometimes people who have been victimized turn to alcohol or other illegal substances to cope.

"That doesn't mean that every one that is sexually assaulted will turn to alcohol or illegal substances, but the tendency is there because it's a method of coping," Riley said.

Mary Vyverman, Department of Public Safety Crime Prevention Officer at the University of Creighton, said that there have not been any cases of date rape or sexual assault on their campus.

"The Dept. of Public Safety provides ongoing safety and crime prevention awareness, education to it's students, faculty, and staff throughout academic support services throughout the year," Vyverman said.

According to a study last year by UNO, 76 percent of students on campus have less than three drinks a week.

"We employ two drug and alcohol counselors to counsel students who are tangled with the law outside of the campus, and it is also part of the disciplinary action for the violators caught on campus," said Adler.

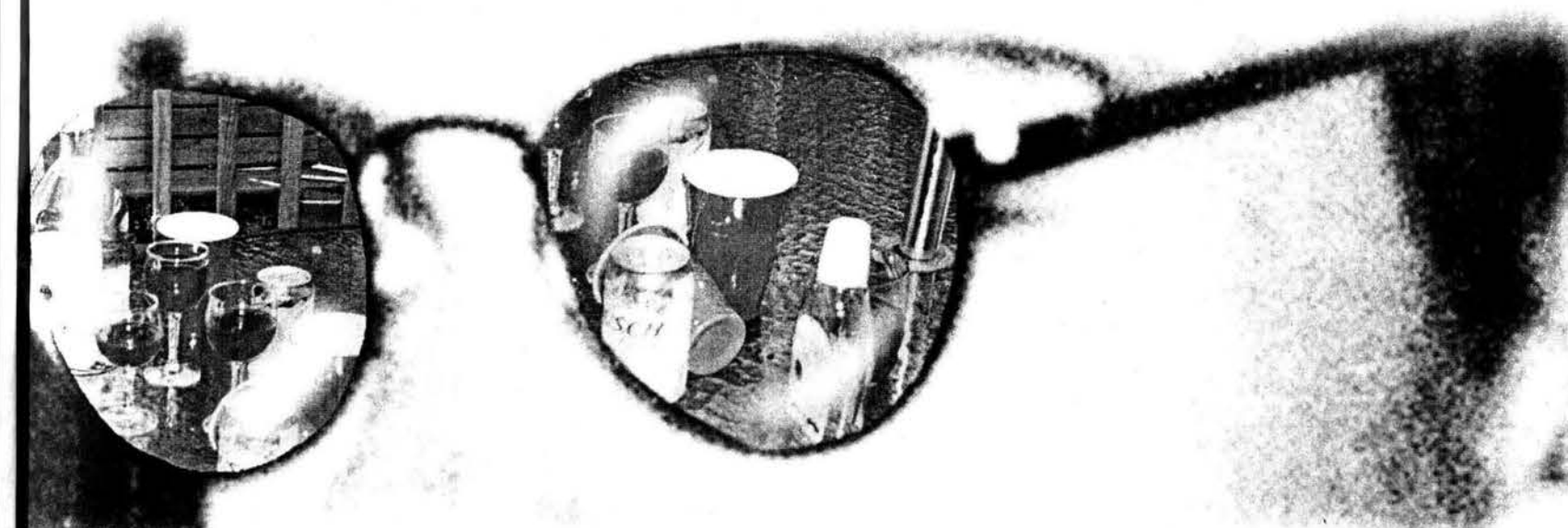
According to a brochure provided through a public service grant from Hoffman-La Roche, counselors have been dealing with rape related to substances, particularly those involving alcohol, for years.

Also, according to the brochure, recent media coverage has focused largely on two sedating substances: Gamma Hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and Rohypnol (flunitrazepam).

GHB is a central nervous system depressant that has been investigated as an anesthetic and for treatment of narcolepsy and alcoholism.

Rohypnol is a prescription sleeping medication available outside the United States.

"A lot of rape prevention has focused on making women aware of date rape drugs when they are out and about," Clarke said.



I WEAR MY SUNGLASSES AT NIGHT... This picture is a representation of the constant focus of some teens on alcohol.

QUENTIN LUENINGHOENER/REGISTER

MADD, not even...

Volunteer program educates people about drunk driving, director says

elle Rollins

MADD organization (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) has been around for over twenty years, but does help save lives? Roselyn Cappiello, President of a chapter seems to think so.

Cappiello's work in MADD extends beyond the October of 1990, Cappiello said she was hit by a driver in an accident that left her a quadriplegic.

She said she lost the job that she loved and is unable to participate in some of her favorite activities like camping.

During the trials that she has faced over the years, grief and anger is included. She said that the role she has played in separating her from her youngest daughter has been hard.

"My mother she knew died in the crash," Cappiello

Cappiello does community service and speaks at schools with her husband, Micheal, she said.

Not all people believe that MADD is a life saving organization. Junior Rachael Hart said that the organization is not doing it's job.

"It [MADD] is just a bunch of crazy moms who don't know how to deal with death," Hart said.

Hart said that the organization is not preventing teenagers from driving drunk, and therefore has not fulfilled it's purpose.

However Cappiello and the Omaha chapter are trying to become more involved with the community schools, Cappiello said.

Using videos, demonstrations and her own personal story, Cappiello said she teaches students anywhere from college to elementary school ages about the dangers of drinking and driving.

"Sometimes you have to tell mommy and daddy that

you don't want to get into the car because they have been drinking," Cappiello said, repeating a serious message that she often uses with the grade school children.

She said that school demonstrations are a big part of what makes MADD tick. More than 35 percent of all 16 to 20-year-old deaths are a result of motor vehicle crashes, according to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

Thirty-seven percent of those crashes were alcohol related, making a total of 2,104 persons aged 16 to 20 killed in an alcohol related crashes in 1998, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Another event that MADD is involved in is the Victim Impact Panel, a conference between past victims and present offenders designed to impact the offenders with the weight of their choices, Cappiello said.

"We want them to see and feel the pain that we've suffered due to these actions," she said.

Cappiello said she feels that this organization's main purpose is to reach out and touch the people; to show them the pain of loss and teach them not to take anything for granted.

The Red Ribbon Campaign is another event put on by MADD, she said. Starting in November, volunteers will walk along the busy roads of Omaha, handing out ribbons to people in cars who promise not to drink and drive during the holidays. Their slogan, "Tie One on for Safety," explains this plan.

While many of these events are standard among many MADD chapters, Cappiello said she takes them to heart.

The hardships that she has experienced seem to motivate Cappiello to further the MADD organization. She said her plans for the future include building a higher budget and making MADD a household term.

By looking at the popularity that the Omaha chapter has achieved, it seems that she has succeeded.



Students build houses for Humanity

On Sunday, Sept. 10, Central students participated in the Habitat for Humanity Youth Build, sponsor Rita Ryan said. Students worked on a house at 4609 N. 22nd St. Around 60 students signed up for the event.

State scores high on standardized test

Nebraska is ranked first in the nation for ACT scores when compared to other states with a high percentage (70 percent or more) of graduates tested, spokesperson Betty VanDeventer said. Students continued an 18-year trend of outscoring others from across the country on the college entrance exam. Overall, Nebraska ranked 13th in the nation with an average ACT score of 21.7. The national average was 21.0.

National Merit Semi-finalists announced

Seniors Chris Fisher, Travis Hepburn, Erica Kess, Sarah Peterson and Tyler Stahl were named semi-finalists in this year's National Merit Scholarship competition, Principal Dr. Gary Thompson said.

"Central has had semi-finalists in the competition every year but one since 1956," Thompson said. "This brings Central's total to 397 semi-finalists."

Thompson said that the qualifying selection index score was 205 for Nebraska this year. The semi-finalists are in the top 0.5 percent of scorers in the state.

OPS school board considers suing state

The Omaha school board is working with the legislature to fix the problem of school-finance policies, thus avoiding a lawsuit, the Board President John Langan said. There is no lawsuit filed at this point. The OPS budget was cut eight million dollars as a result of it being an "equalization" district, he said. In other words, due to an increase in property value, the legislature said that the district could get the money from its patrons.

Internet tools ease college searches

A recent study found that four out of five collegebound seniors currently use the Internet to research universities. The report, conducted by Stamats Communications determined that last year more than 80 percent of high school seniors used the Web in their quest. The number rose from 57 percent in 1997. A similar study conducted found that half of high school students utilized the Internet six times during the previous month in search of college information. The studies reveal the trend in increasing Internet tools for aiding college searches and application processes.

Increased enrollment poses problems for OPS

Enrollment continued from page 1
are projected to have a decrease in high school populations during the next 10 years, Snyder said.

In OPS, school enrollment is expected around 8 percent between 1989 and 1999, OPS researcher Peter Smith said. Enrollment increased from 41,251 students to 45,039 in the ten year period, an increase of 3,788 students.

John Sietsema, an education statistician at the NCEA, said the primary problem in these large enrollments is that enrollments have increased in a lot of areas where facilities are not

prepared for the increase. "This results in overcrowding and the need for the construction of temporary buildings," Sietsema said.

Central's population has only increased by about 100 students this year, Thompson said. This includes a combination of new freshmen and transfers from other high schools. The school's population this year is estimated at between 2,350-2,400 students.

"Classes are not a lot larger than last year," Thompson said.

He said that the new schedule has created a gain in classroom space, which has been very beneficial.

Rally seeks justice for Bibins

Rally, continued from page 1
community issue. Davis described himself as a "gangbanger turned community activist."

Dr. Everett Reynolds, president of the Omaha branch of the NAACP said Bibin's death was racially motivated. Reynolds said that in many incidents like Bibin's, the police officers reported of thinking of James Wilson was a white police officer killed by African American gang members, Reynolds said.

"It was a black/white issue in the sense that you don't see in west Omaha, black officers shooting unarmed white citizens," said Mullen. Senior Charrisse Ladd agreed.

Ladd said the police officers saw he was an African American and simply assumed he had a weapon.

Cisar said race had had no more comment.

Cisar said he could not comment on what can be done to stop situations like Bibin's from occurring.

Scientists' Discoveries Advance Medicine

By Kaitlin Davis

Scientists involved with the Human Genome Project recently made a breakthrough discovery in technology when, after ten years of research, they completed a map of the human genome. Co-Director of the Genetic Sequence Analysis Facility at the University Medical Center said.

William Chaney said scientists have pieced together, over the past ten years, thousands of strands of genetic code to map the human genome.

The human genome consists of thousands of fragmented codes that tell scientists information about the human body, he said.

The genetic code, made up of DNA, carries information for scientists about diseases and hereditary defects--such as Cystic Fibrosis, male pattern balding and many types of cancer, Chaney said.

He said the Human Genome Project started its work to map the genome about ten years ago.

"It's hard to say what good things will come of it," Chaney said.

The mapping could ultimately lead to better treatment of genetically related diseases, such as cancer and diabetes, Chaney said. Many of these diseases can be treated with gene therapy if diagnosed early enough.

Chaney said that gene therapy is a process that tries to correct the mutated gene in the DNA that causes a disease.

"Some diseases will be helped, but not necessarily all of them," he said.

Gene therapy involves cloning

good genes and trying to replace the bad genes with the good cloned genes, Chaney said. In many cases, the genes must be altered during the developmental stages of a fetus before birth.

The mapping will ultimately help scientists when they try to locate the damaged or mutated DNA, he said. Most gene therapy is still in its experimental stages.

Celera, a private company, who aided the Human Genome Project is at present trying to patent the genes they mapped, Chaney said.

"I'm very uncomfortable with the patents," Sandra McCreight, the Advanced Placement Biology teacher at Central High said.

The patent will allow the company to earn money on whatever medical knowledge may come of the map McCreight said.

If the private company patents the gene sequences, then they must be paid for any research done on those sequences, McCreight said. This could hinder any further research done.

Biological warfare may also be a problem posed by the new knowledge gained from the Human Genome Project, Chaney said.

"Knowledge is not bad, but knowledge can be used for bad purposes," Chaney said.

At the present the Human Genome Project will not be used for biological warfare because of the little that is yet known, he said. However, it may pose a problem in the future.

"It's gonna happen. It could be very devastating," said McCreight.

Omaha woman expresses experience with death penalty

DEATH continued from page 1

Williams. This meant that Felion could come in at any time of the day, any day of the week, and visit.

During the course of this, Williams asked her to be his spiritual adviser, to be the one that would lead him to the electric chair.

"That kind of took my breath away," Felion said. "I'd never done anything like that before."

Felion gladly accepted the position.

Two weeks before Williams' execution date he was placed on death-watch.

Then one week before the execution, he was moved from his cell to a hospital room in the Penitentiary. Every night in the hospital room people would check Williams' vital statistics. Then when it came time for him to be electrocuted, they would know exactly how much power would be needed to kill him.

"Does this make sense?" Marylyn asks, "They're putting ready to kill a person so they put them in a hospital. That's the opposite of what most hospitals are used for."

The hospital room was actually

composed of two separate rooms and a hallway.

In the first room there was a bed. Other than that nothing was given to Williams unless he asked.

The second room was for visitors. It contained three plastic chairs and little else.

The hallway connected the two rooms. Two guards were in this hallway at all times.

It was up to these guards to make sure that Williams did not commit suicide.

"You don't want a death row inmate to commit suicide," Felion said, "Then they wouldn't be able to kill him."

Felion first visited Williams in the hospital room on the day before Thanksgiving.

Felion said that while she and Williams were having communion, the warden entered the room and asked Williams about what he would like for his last meal.

Williams was not scheduled for execution until the following Tuesday. The warden needed to know because it was Thanksgiving, and all of the regular personnel were going to be home for a long weekend.

"I just wanted to shriek," Felion

COLLEGE CORNER

A closer look at Texas Christian University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, American University and Colorado College

Texas Christian University

Location: Fort Worth, Texas
Admission: 79 percent of applicants accepted
Enrollment: 6,254
Average class size: 27
Housing: Dormitories, fraternities and sororities
Academics: Education, journalism, communications, health sciences and the fine arts are a few of the strong and popular departments.
Average test scores: 1030-1250 SAT, 22-28 ACT
Tuition: \$11,590
Interesting facts: While Greek life is big at TCU, the minority scene is small despite administration efforts to increase minority recruiting.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Location: Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Admission: 37 percent of applicants accepted
Enrollment: 15,291
Average Class Size: 33
Housing: Dormitories, fraternities and sororities
Average Test Scores: 1130-1340 SAT, 26-30 ACT
Tuition: \$10,622 (out of state)
Interesting facts: Chapel Hill, the surrounding town, is geared almost entirely toward the school, and students will find that both varsity and intramural sports are popular here.

American University

Location: Washington, DC
Admission: 79 percent accepted
Enrollment: 5,494
Average class size: 19
Housing: Dormitories, fraternities and sororities
Academics: American University's academic reputation has been steadily on the rise. The pre-law and international relations programs stand out as the best in the school. Communications is also big and students have access to the international political scene around them.
Average test scores: 1080-1280 SAT, 23-29 ACT
Tuition: \$20,118
Interesting facts: American offers a unique orientation program called the Freshman Service Experience. Students who sign up volunteer to move in early to do community service projects while meeting fellow students.

Colorado College

Location: Colorado Springs, Colorado
Admission: 50 percent accepted
Enrollment: 1,968
Average class size: 16
Housing: Dormitories
Academics: Colorado College breaks up its academic year into three-and-a-half-week blocks during which students concentrate on a single course. At the end of each block, a four-day break allows students to cleanse their minds before starting the next class.
Average test scores: 1180-1360 SAT, 25-30 ACT
Tuition: \$21,822
Interesting facts: During block breaks most students go snowboarding, skiing, rock-climbing, or traveling for five days in the beautiful environment surrounding the college.



REMINISCING Marylyn Felion examines a painting she did of her friend Robert Edward Williams, who died on the electric chair.

Third party candidates bring variety, ideals to election, member says

By Ally Freeman

With the growing number of independent voters, third parties continue to gain prevalence in the United States. Dr. Sue Crawford, an American Politics professor at Creighton University said that third parties shape the government by changing or adding to the debate over issues.

She said although third parties are rarely elected, they change issues in the other parties' platform. "It is very hard in our system for third parties to become elected or established," Crawford said. She said that many voters might like a third party but are concerned they will not win and are wasting a vote. Jim Sutton, a member of the Re-

form party since 1997 disputes the fact that by voting for a third party, the voter is wasting his choice. "People have only wasted their vote if they don't vote their conscience," Sutton said. Sutton said that the U.S. is ruled by the politics of fear and citizens are brainwashed into voting for the lesser of the two evils of the primary two political parties.

The Reform party was created because the two party systems became a delusion, Sutton said. "Neither party offers voters a real choice; they talk about issues but never act," he said. Founding principles of the Reform Party include setting the highest ethical standards for the White House, creating a new tax system, setting term limits in Congress and promoting jobs in the United States. Crawford said that generally the Democrats and Republicans don't represent third party issues. "They think the two parties aren't working well and want to offer a dif-

ferent option," Crawford said. In addition, Crawford said it is hard for third parties to get established because the system is governed by the government-run by the two parties. Matching funds are also hard to get for third parties, while both the Democrats and Republicans get them automatically. Senior Steve Houlden supports the Green Party, another major third party currently running the in presidential race. Houlden said the Green Party's candidate Ralph Nader seems to be a genuine candidate who is more concerned with supporting important is-

sues than getting elected. Houlden said that when he turns 18 he will most likely register with the Green Party. "It may be a waste of a vote, but unless people are willing to do something, [third party candidates] will never get elected. He said that he definitely encourages the formation of third parties because Democrats and Republicans support the same issues and are not going to get anything accomplished. "If we can break the two party monopoly, we can carry the cause of Reform all the way to the White House," Sutton said.

Lee Terry goes for re-election

By Michael Gerhardt

After two years in congress, Nebraska Republican Congressman Lee Terry plans to continue to try and benefit the families and future of Nebraska.

For this upcoming election, Terry is making a bid push for reform of the educational system, and bringing in more accountability for everyone involved. Terry is a supporter of more parent involvement in education, as well as local control of education.

"I trust that the local school boards parents are going to spend the local money wisely on behalf of our children," said Terry.

Terry is also well aware of the problems of teacher pay in OPS, but acknowledges that the problems are everywhere in the US, not just Nebraska. Terry said teachers are leaving from everywhere.

"There is no more important factor to educating our children than the teacher," Terry said. "A quality teacher means more to the success

of a child than any brick or mortar or program. So when you get good teachers, you want to keep them. To keep them, you have to pay them a market price."

Terry said he voted for a budget that allotted \$5 billion to education. For this year's budget, he voted for \$7 billion for education. Terry said that the strings need to be cut that hold back education money from local control, so that more money could be given to keep teachers and develop the school district.

Terry said he has faith that the local school boards would do the correct thing with the money given to them.

Terry said another way to get more money in the district is government funded special education.

He said that 25 years ago, Congress passed an unfunded mandate to force local schools to teach special education. Congress promised to pay 40 percent of the costs, but in reality, Congress is currently paying only 13 percent.

He said if Congress would pay the extra 27 percent, the left over money could be used for teacher pay raises.

Terry is also ready to take drastic action with gun control. Terry said he voted for a bill last July that in-

cluded mandatory trigger locks and background checks at gun shows. "I want to take reasonable measures that guns stay out of the hands of felons, violent criminals and kids," Terry said.

Terry said he was especially frustrated with the argument surrounding trigger locks. Terry said that the trigger lock issue was wrongly joined with school violence.

"I want to challenge anyone who says that trigger locks would have stopped Columbine, or [Little Rock], or the one we had in western Nebraska ten years ago. If we're going to talk about school safety, don't talk about the American people a disservice and talk about trigger locks and raise that up on a platform like it's a cure. Because it has absolutely nothing to do with school violence," Terry said.

Terry said trigger locks main functions are to keep guns out of the hands of small children who wouldn't know how to operate a lock.

Terry said this kind of protection would only work with a small child.

"I really want us, this nation, to have a legitimate discussion on school violence and what we can do as a society and as a government," Terry said.

Terry added that every handgun sold already comes with a trigger lock. Gun manufacturers placed this policy voluntarily in 1996.

Terry said he recently passed



Kiel makes first Congressional run

By Michael Gerhardt

Democratic candidate for congress Shelley Kiel is counting on her experience as a teacher and a Nebraska legislator to take her to the United States Congress this upcoming election.

Kiel had been a Nebraska legislator for two terms and a teacher for 26 years before deciding to run for Nebraska's 2nd District Congressional Seat. Kiel is known to be a strong advocate of education and gun control.

Kiel said she believes her experience as an educator will help in her fight for better education in Nebraska and nationwide schools.

"I think my experience as a teacher gives me a better knowledge of how classrooms really work and what resources are necessary to provide a good education," Kiel said.

Kiel also said she believes it is up to the students to work for their best education. She said that 93 percent of students agree that student disruption is the biggest problem in classrooms.

In her two terms as a legislator,

Kiel has pushed for better retirement packages for OPS teachers. But Kiel acknowledges that the biggest problem in OPS is the teacher pay discrepancies.

"It's a really serious issue because we're not only seeing people not go into teaching because of the salary issues, we're seeing teachers leave the profession because of salary issues," Kiel said. "There are things the state can do and there are things the federal government can do."

Kiel said the state can provide direct aid to the school districts to improve teacher pay, but the federal resources have to come through costs like repairing schools. Kiel said she does not believe in direct federal support for teacher salaries.

The recent OPS principal spending cap, Kiel said, contributes to inequalities amongst the schools. Kiel said the decision was made without thinking.

"I don't think OPS considered that simply doing a blanket cap on principals [spending] at schools is going to result in inequity. Schools

that have a wealthy population will get [funds to spend], the poorer schools will not," Kiel said.

Kiel also sponsored safe schools legislation during her term, as well as grants and other bonuses for those who go into teaching.

Another huge part of Kiel's campaign has been her quest for tighter gun control. Kiel is a strong advocate of mandatory trigger locks and background checks at gun shows.

"We need to make sure guns are secure... I think all gun dealers need to be licensed. If you're a gun dealer and you're not licensed you don't have to do background checks. You'd don't have to do anything except sell guns," Kiel said.

She said most un-licensed gun dealers are at gun shows.

Kiel has also worked on banning the importation of high capacity ammunition clips. Kiel said the manufacturing of these clips was illegal in the US, but not importing them was not.

She also helped stop a law allowing Nebraskans to carry concealed weapons. She is also pushing for parental civil liability laws, so that if a child uses a gun in a crime, the parents of the child can be held responsible.

"We need to make sure that adults who do not secure their guns are subject to severe penalty," Kiel said.



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Name: Raquel Rodríguez Alév
Subjects: Spanish 1-2, 3-4
Why Central? "Because I wanted to know the educational system in this country."



Name: Linda Brock
Subjects: biology
Why Central? "The opportunity to teach biology part time was given to me and I took it. I feel very fortunate to be here."



Name: Roger Hasz
Subjects: Pathways
Why Central? "I heard about the outstanding technology program here and wanted to become a part of it."



Name: Derek L. Leslie
Subjects: Pathways 21
Why Central? "I have a family history at Central, and the diverse student body, class selection, and great staff are all motivation factors."



Name: Miguel Angel Páez Múnoz
Subjects: Spanish 1-2 and 3-4
Why Central? "Well, because I'm paid for it! (kidding) I was chosen by the Nebraska Board of Education to teach in Omaha in an education program."



Name: Jerry Sill
Subjects: French 1-2 and 3-4
Why Central? "Looking to the challenge of a larger school and curriculum."



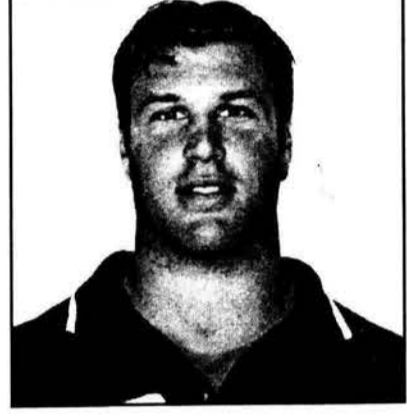
Name: Patrick N. Brown (no pictures available)
Subjects: Algebra 1-2,3-4
Why Central? "My wife wanted to pursue graduate work in music at UNL; I told her to find where she wanted to do her work and I would follow. I believe Central to be the A+ of OPS."



Name: Cara Heminger
Subjects: French
Why Central? "I had heard about the great French students at CHS from many people, and they were nice enough to hire me!"



Name: Sandra McCreight
Subjects: AP Biology 3-4, Biology 1-2
Why Central? "It was time for a change. I am impressed with Central's reputation for excellence in preparing students for the future."



Name: Ryan Murtaugh
Subjects: Physical Education
Why Central? "It is an excellent school with a fine reputation, both athletically, and academically."



Name: Mark Smith
Subjects: chemistry, physics
Why Central? "I moved to Omaha after graduating to get married. I found a job here at Central."

Name: Tarah Baumert
Subjects: Algebra 3-4, Trig
Why Central? "I wanted to be in Omaha near my family and I decided that I liked Central the most."



Name: Amanda Beery
Subjects: Algebra 3-4, E-Math
Why Central? "Many different reasons: The high academic standards, atmosphere, location, and diversity."



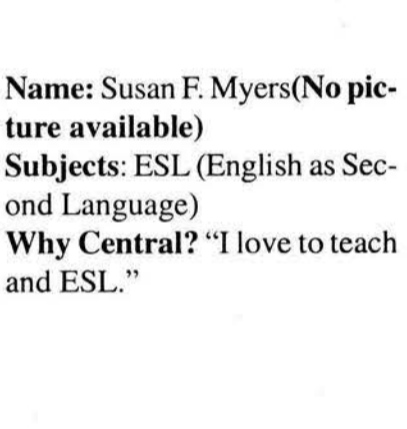
Name: Chad Burns
Subjects: math
Why Central? "I followed my wife here. She is in medical school."



Name: Larry Johnson
Subjects: CAD
Why Central? "CAD."



Name: Nancy Medina
Subjects: Human Growth
Why Central? "I wanted to pick up some grad. hours, teach senior high, and most of all, have someone else tell me what to do."



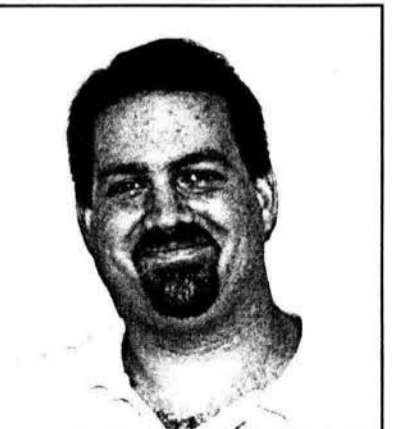
Name: Susan F. Myers (No picture available)
Subjects: ESL (English as Second Language)
Why Central? "I love to teach and ESL."



Name: Dwaine F. Sutter
Subjects: JROTC
Why Central? "To have an impact on young lives."



Name: Gene Boeka
Subjects: World Geography, American History
Why Central? "My family and I wanted to move to Omaha for a better education for our children. The only high school I wanted to teach at was Central."



Name: Jess Busse
Subjects: AP Chemistry
Why Central? "I wanted to teach chemistry full-time and I thought teaching at Central would be enjoyable."



Name: Toni Kerr
Subjects: German
Why Central? "I am here at Central to teach the AP German class. I'm a German native and I am assisting Mr. Moore."



Name: Ron Moore
Subjects: German
Why Central? "I was interested in working with more of a variety of people and students."



Name: Christine Pfeifer
Subjects: Honors Algebra 3-4; AB Calculus
Why Central? "Because Central has an excellent academic tradition and all of the best students go here."



Name: Bob Tucker
Subjects: World Geography, American History
Why Central? "I was interested in working in a high school with a strong academic reputation and had a varied student population."



Name: Jodi Gail Borosko
Subjects: World History, U.S. History
Why Central? "I have always had a strong interest in history and education."



Name: Kris Chávez
Subjects: Aerobics, Fitness for Living, Team Sports
Why Central? "I was hired to help build a new aerobics program."



Name: Stephen Kibler
Subjects: English 9,10
Why Central? No answer



Name: Mindy Morgan
Subjects: Algebra 1-2, General Math
Why Central? "It is such a great school in general."



Name: Dana Salvador
Subjects: (ESL) English as a Second Language
Why Central? "I heard that it was a really good school."



Name: Ryan Wise
Subjects: US History; World History
Why Central? "I am teaching at Central because of its excellent academic reputation."

PERSPECTIVE

The opinion of the Register staff

September 18, 2000



Michael Gerhardt

The Nebraska Electric Chair

WRONG!



COLLAGE COURTESY OF MARYLYN FELION

EDITORIAL
The Opinion
of
the Register

OUTRAGED This collage, made by Marylyn Felion after the execution of Willi Otey in 1994, illustrates the intense emotions at executions. The collage has toured the state of Nebraska several times in various art shows.

Summer filled to brim with fond memories

I like seaports. I had just spent a week on a cruise in Greece, visiting exotic islands with exquisite foods and beautiful, white sandy beaches (Many of which were topless beaches, but only for 85-year-old hermaphroditic sea urchin people with excessive mole hair) and all of those wonderful things.

As if it were possible, my trip was made better by this seaport euphoria. Find the deepest, darkest, dankest, most pungent bowl of an IHOP restaurant and it can't possibly compare to a seaport. Also, there were roughly 38957 people in the seaport, all trying to get their luggage, which in Greece, has a minimum weight of 38957 pounds and has to look exactly the same. Customs in Greece is great, too.

I also liked how many cigarette butts I found on the ground. It's not like you, the filthy, extremely nice person needs to throw them in the garbage can.

It may only take five or six extra steps for your lethargic, emphysema-ridden, carcinogen-infested, clump of malignant carbon for a body, but it probably is not worth it. Smoke all you want, and please, please make me look at your garbage. Later on, we'll go and have a barbecue.

I loved how they drove in Italy, with an undying, skull-exploding passion.

I loved how the people from towns with names like Sqytr drove. It was great. They drove on the sidewalks, the drive through lanes, into plate glass windows, through crates of chickens and often on the power lines.

Of course, they do all of these absolutely wonderful things at the wonderful speed of 3,895,739,456 mph while applying their make up, talking on their cell phone, changing the volume on the stereo, bathing, reading a book and giving birth to a horse.

They're often dressed as the Kool-Aid Man. Then they came crashing through a brick wall and gave people flavored drinks.

One of my favorite parts of the trip was hearing about the intoxication level everyone was going to reach while we were there. Isn't that why you come to foreign countries?

I mean, who cares about the scenery or history or breath-taking beauty of the Forum or the Coliseum? Who cares about that?

Not when there are extremely cheap strawberry daiquiris, which looked to me to consist of nothing but camel vomit and nylon.

I'm insanely fond of people who make fun of the homeless. I love it when people pick on the downtrodden and depressed. I don't think they're miserable enough. I think you insensitive children should go and pick on them more often. Do it as degradingly as possible, you extremely lovable, huggable, squeezey person you.

One thing I did find very amusing was the mopeds in Italy and Greece. There were thousands of them, weaving in and out of the people walking, coming within mere inches of hitting each other.

Now, we all know that mopeds don't actually look very cool. In fact, it's very difficult to look even the least bit cool on a moped. But in Italy, people tried it any ways.

You had your average Italian stud; his dark hair slicked back, wearing his average Italian stud clothing. Then he mounts his hog, a purple moped, and roars off. I could barely stand.

After several botched executions, the electric chair comes under public scrutiny

On the surface, the procedure is shockingly quick and simple.

The convicted man (or woman) is escorted into a room, strapped into the electric chair and secured.

A mask is then placed over the guilty party's head and a curtain is pulled back to reveal ten witnesses on the other side of a glass partition.

A few seconds later, a switch is pulled.

The body convulses. After a certain amount of time, the circuit is cut and the victim is checked for vital signs.

If he (or she) is still alive, the mask is replaced and the switch is pulled again.

This process is repeated an interminable amount of times.

The end result is a dead body and ten shocked witnesses.

Commonly known as "The Chair", it's the manner in which Nebraska deals with individuals who have been accused and convicted of first-degree murder, which is defined as willful, deliberate and premeditated killing or killing while committing another felony.

For the most part, executions given in the chair go off without a problem. But there are

■ Turn to DEATH PENALTY, page 12

Clear cut roles make for an abundance of ignorance

Idea is the meat I want to sink my teeth into.

Censorship, totalitarianism, workism and feminism are the meat I want to bite, chew up and swallow.

These are the things I'm going to try my hardest to make arguments against, and I'm fairly certain it isn't going to be that difficult.

But I'm going to do it my way.

People told me that I should attack people in my column.

They said that I should point my finger at certain people and wag it disapprovingly.

They told me to take strong sides on an issue, to point out who I like and who I don't like. But that's not my style.

I'm an attack dog, yes. But I attack ideas, not people.

Before you even read the words, "Read Between the Lines" you made up your mind

whether I was a good guy or a bad guy.

You may not even have ever met me. You have some ink on paper and a mugshot, and you think that's enough to let you know what kind of person I am.

Oh yeah, I'm a perceptive, anti-PC, iconoclastic, social commentator.

No?

Maybe you think I look more like a self-indulgent, pretentious, attack dog of a sexist in faux libertarian clothing?

Whatever your feelings are, they don't really matter.

Your love and hate switches with

the wind. Like the Yankees fan that cheers a Wade Boggs that plays for New York with the same vehemence he booed him when Boggs was on the Red Sox.

You keep your nose in the air, catching the prevailing stink.

Now you may not picture yourself as an individual with such a closed mind. Most

people won't.

Maybe you agree with Republicans on some issues, and the Democrats on others.

You may switch sides in this cop and robber world, but you're still playing cops and robbers.

All little kids do the same thing. Think of the confusion a child watching television could go through.

Here's the pirate, Long John Silver. Sometime he's really nice to Jim Hawkins, going so far as to save his life.

But sometimes he's mean, doing things like stealing Hawkins' treasure map and caring only for money.

It's frustrating. Is Silver a good guy or a bad guy?

And if the kids don't know, how can they know whether to cheer or boo?

Little kids are looking for a dividing line to tell them whether something is good or bad.

They want to be able to judge a person by his looks, as opposed to the actions that person may carry out.

Common little kid stuff; they want to make things easier on themselves. You can't blame them for that.

The sad part is that for most people, that kind of thinking doesn't end with puberty.

Movies, television, government, school and other institutions cause it to persist our entire lifetimes.

You want to be able to tell whether a person is good or bad.

Saddam Hussein kills babies. Mother Teresa saves them. It's that simple.

NO IT ISN'T!

Yo buckaroos, there are no good people. Only people.

I can imagine what our class reunion will be like in twenty years.

People will be coming in from all walks of life.

I'll be watching the crowd with interest, waiting to see if an old friend that I somehow lost track of comes through the door.

Then I'll see my old administrator across the way and run to greet him.

We'll joke, reminisce, and might find out that after this whole game called high school is said and done, we get along pretty well.

I played my part as disillusioned teen, and he played his as an administrator.

So then what was the point of the game?

Political Cartoon



Pg 11: Bush looks for a platform to call his own.

Read Between the Lines



Matt Wynn

Editorials

“Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”
FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, RATIFIED DEC. 15, 1791

For the love of God

Ever since the Constitution of the United States was penned, there has been an enforced golden rule in American Politics: Keep religion out.

Now that rule has come under fire. Many political groups have worked

religion into their platforms, and even more have simply vocalized their religious views during political speeches and events.

This kind of blatant disregard for such an instrumental document cannot be tolerated, especially on the campaign trail.

Whether it is the Reform Party claiming that politics should mirror the intentions of God or the GOP pressing for prayer in public schools, religion in politics is a big issue this election year.

With good intentions or not, involving religion in politics is still risky business. Politicians should do whatever it takes to sustain a centrist view on political issues and not involve religion.

The Golden Rule of politics is not to involve personal views. The United States is a republic where politicians represent

their constituents. Therefore, all attempts to involve religion in politics should be rejected immediately, no questions asked.

The first problem with including religion in politics is the First Amendment. The preaching of religious ideals can never be justified anywhere in the U.S. government. The United States' ideals would quickly deteriorate if our government adopted religious views.

The founding fathers established the First Amendment for good reasons.

The First Amendment protects everyone's religious right to individual's inalienable rights. Implementing legislation and policies based on one religion, major-

ity or not, alienates others that do not practice that religion.

The First Amendment was established to maintain the rights of the few. Trying to strengthen this amendment by injecting politics with religion would ultimately lead to its demise.

The second problem that surfaces when religion is incorporated into politics is the sudden appearance of politicians' personal policies, detracting from the goals of majority rule.

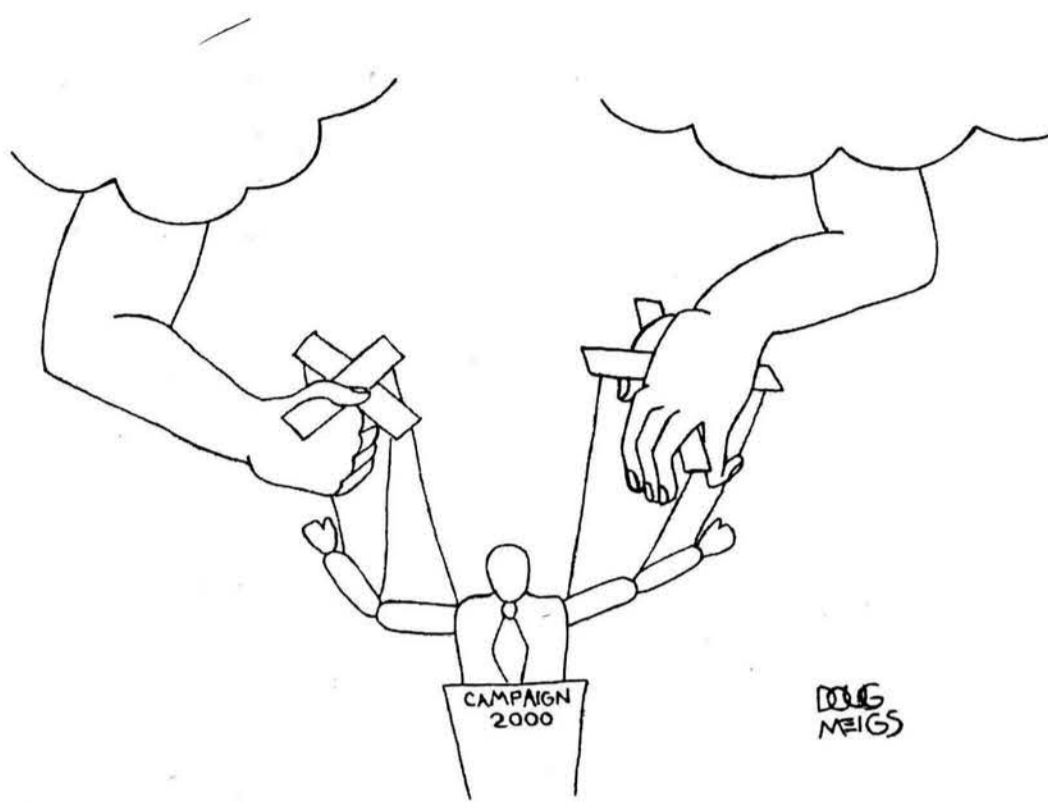
If politicians were puppets with strings being pulled by a divine creator, then the political views of the United States would quickly be forgotten.

The United States is a land of the free. Freedom is a hard concept to totally grasp, but what re-

mains clear is the need to maintain minority rights and include everyone in governmental affairs. It is hypocritical for a politician to enact a policy that crushed the rights of the minority and then justify it by saying that the policy was what God intended.

Politics is a game based on reality. Political issues are decided

for the good of the people. Laws are made by the people, for the people. Politicians make laws and the citizens should abide by those laws. Laws should not be decided based on the religious beliefs of those politicians. Enacting laws based upon personal views makes politics a game of the unknown, distorting its real intention.



EDITORIAL
The Opinion
of
the Register

EDITORIAL
The Opinion
of
the Register

Central receives grants for renovations aimed at improving surroundings

Every year, students arrive at school and are welcomed by the sweltering heat, a cramped auditorium and inefficient cafeterias.

That routine will all change in the near future.

As every student probably knows by now, a school bond issue passed last year will allow Central to receive many renovations, including air conditioning.

Central is often seen as the forgotten high school in regards to modern facilities, but the addition

of these major improvements will bring Central into the 21st century.

Among these proposed improvements are: heating and air duct upgrades, plumbing upgrades, electrical improvements, lighting and technological advancements, masonry work and roofing repairs.

The school district hopes to begin construction during the summer or fall of 2001.

The changes will affect almost every part of the school, from the fourth floor cafeterias to the auditorium in the basement.

One highlight of the proposed

plan is the complete renovation of the auditorium.

New auditorium seating will be installed, catwalks will be constructed, and the stage will be renovated to better accommodate the population of the school.

Also, a new cafeteria and kitchen addition will be built to replace the dysfunctional facilities.

The current cafeteria and kitchen will be converted into classrooms. This will help reduce class size and will lead to a more functional fourth floor.

But what will the cost of these mammoth construction projects be?

These renovations will cost

the taxpayers of Omaha \$15.2 million.

The school will also probably undergo inconveniences like those that Benson and North High underwent when they were remodeled.

The courtyard might end up having to house classes while air ducts are installed in regular classrooms, because Central does not have an abundance of empty classrooms.

Dana, Larson, Roubal and Associates, the same company that was involved in the latest renovation of Central in the 1970s, will be assigned to undertake the projects.

The district has not released a definite schedule for the completion of the various projects, but the renovations will be well worth the wait.

After all, the school will certainly profit from these planned renovations.

Throughout all of the chaos that will take place during the multiple improvements, students need to keep reminding themselves of what the final results will be.

Unfortunately, the construction will probably prove to make the environment of the school more hectic.

Dust, noise, and the closing off of sections of the building may

be side effects of the renovations.

But if the construction is to run smoothly, student cooperation and understanding is going to be required.

The planned improvements look like they will complement the existing school structure perfectly.

The planners and district officials that are planning this event should all be congratulated and thanked.

More importantly, the citizens that voted for the bond should be praised.

Citizens have proven that they have an interest in revitalizing Omaha's public schools, and that is something to be proud of.

Nine period day causes problems, fixes little

Central's change from a ten-period to a nine-period day does not work.

The intent of the schedule change was to free up more classrooms during the day and extend the lunch period so that all students could get through the lunch lines.

These things had to be done in order to prepare for the onslaught of new students that were expected to arrive at Central this year.

Unfortunately, the schedule change also had some unforeseen side effects that were not prepared for.

For example, if a student takes an honors science class this year, the class must take up two full class periods.

This rule was the same last year, but many students worked both science periods into the lunchtime classes.

By doing this, it was possible to make the two-period science class take up the equivalent of one class period.

Now, the student is required to take the science class for two periods on one day.

On the next day, however, the student has to sacrifice a full period of that class for a study hall.

This study hall makes for more relaxed schedules, yes, but many students do not want that.

Students would rather have a single period of science every day. This would make room for another class, thus allowing the student to earn another credit.

Another pitfall of the new schedule is in regards to the order

in which classes take place.

Many honors and advanced placement classes are scheduled to take place at the same time of day.

This means that in certain cases, students that would like to take all honors classes cannot do so.

For many students, this limits their possible grade point-average and, in turn, lowers their academic status at school.

This impact is most prevalent when a student applies for college, and the school thinks they are less academically successful than the student really is.

This may affect whether or not the student gets accepted or what standing that student receives upon entering that school.

The point of high school is to learn as much as possible in the four years that are spent there.

In short, the goal of public schools should be to maximize the student's time spent on education, not waste it.

If the new schedule prohibits students from maximizing their day, then the real focus on education is lost.

It then becomes painfully obvious that this new schedule does not work.

The new nine-period day has led to an increase in student-related problems.

Granted, the new schedule might make more classrooms available, but this change should not have been made at the students' expense.

The nine-period day has caused more problems than it has fixed, and that is the exact opposite of what the school system should be doing.

EDITORIAL
The Opinion
of
the Register

Seniors earned more respect

I think that seniors should be able to have open campus lunch.

I have lunch sixth hour. I have only been able to eat lunch twice because of the insanely long lunch line.

It would be faster and cheaper for me to run down to Taco Bell or McDonald's.

Why haven't we ever been given the opportunity to prove our class can handle the independence of an open lunch?

Is Dr. Thompson afraid we won't come back for afternoon classes? Who would suffer from that? Only the students who were dumb enough to violate their privileges of leaving campus.

I have gone to Central since freshman year, and the only thing that I have earned as a senior is a spot in the senior parking lot.

What would it hurt to allow seniors to have an open campus lunch?

Elizabeth Haskell, 12

Politicians infringe on rights

I feel it is ridiculous that almost all candidates are willing to blatantly infringe on taxpayer's rights, and most people are eating it up with a spoon.

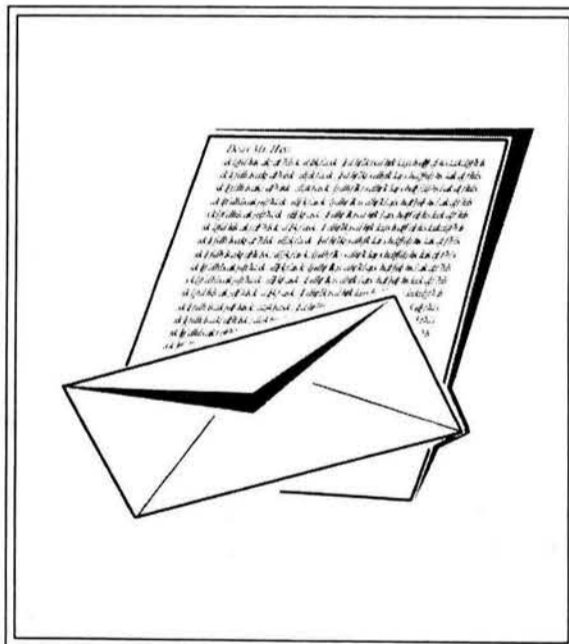
Politicians are slowly taking away our second amendment rights and too many citizens are welcoming it.

I believe it was Benjamin Franklin who said, "Anyone willing to give a bit of freedom for a bit of security deserves neither."

Giving up the freedom to protect yourself doesn't offer safety, but the exact opposite making a person more vulnerable and weak.

I was given my first gun when I

Letters, E-mails and Faxes



was eight and was taught how to care for it and how to fire it.

Not once did I have a friend over to play with it.

By giving me a gun of my own, my parents successfully took away all curiosity and gave me a respect for the power of a weapon.

When I turn eighteen one of the first things I plan to do is exercise my second amendment right by purchasing a firearm and joining the NRA.

Hopefully, the nation will recognize the mistake they are making before abiding such a valuable and precious right.

Matt Griffin, 12

Drug presence felt in school

A major problem that faces Central High as well as many other high schools is drug use and distribution.

I see people every morning sitting in their cars smoking weed.

I see groups of people after school lighting up as well.

That doesn't bother me as much as seeing it in school.

Everyday, especially at lunch, I see people selling drugs to other students.

I know it's very difficult to catch people doing this, but I think the rest of the school deserves the faculty and staff to try a little harder to do so.

For the most part, the little bit of selling and smoking marijuana and other drugs will not offset other students.

But the fact remains: It just shouldn't be going on at school.

Dustin Moyer, 12

Cheating affects everyone

I am sure that we all have come across someone that has cheated here at school.

Heck, you yourself might even have done it once or twice.

Or you might be one of them, you know, the ones who couldn't pass a test without their cheat sheet if their life depended on it.

It is really upsetting when you work hard on something and only get a decent grade.

It is even more upsetting when the kid next to you gets an excellent grade.

But it is the worst to find out he got it the grade simply by copying off of his friend.

It is not fair.

The worst part is for our seniors, colleges will look at our transcripts and only see numbers.

They will not see who was a cheater and who wasn't.

Well, once we get into the real world, maybe the cheaters will learn their lesson.

Nikki Seffron, 12

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Opinion

'Information Superhighway' loses all relevance

The Internet is overrated. The Internet, which at one time had more potential than the advent of the television, has fizzled and died, yet people are still addicted to it.

The Internet could have, if used properly, been the world's greatest resource.

But due to misuse, lack of maintenance and absence of regulations, the Internet has become one of the biggest eyesores in pop culture today.

It is not without its admirable points, but its misfortune has it, it has been plagued with a number of huge problems which can all be traced back to one thing; greed.

During the early and mid 1990s, the technological boom of the time promised an information superhighway within five to ten years.

Like any well traveled highway, the well-

to-dos on corporate America's hierarchy saw advertising potential.

In the same light, freeloaders found a fast form of transportation for smuggled products, such as software and music.

The 'superhighway', as it is known now, is much different than what the ambitious programmers of the 1980s and 90s foresaw.

This superhighway has been overused to the point that it is no longer passable and is no longer the most direct way to get to peoples' informational needs.

This is evident to anyone who has ever used the Internet to research anything.

With an average Internet search using some of the common search engines today a person is likely to find hundreds of sites in which his topic came up.

He would be lucky if five of them have any relevancy at all to the

topic he was searching for.

Throughout the years a number of different ideas have plagued the Internet.

Online gambling and pornography has become commonplace, and it is nearly impossible to enforce local and federal laws on such formats on the Internet.

The most recent trend to help devalue the World Wide Web is the advent of 'e-commerce'.

Almost every major company, and nearly all small businesses have hopped on the e-commerce bandwagon, and many fall off before they have shifted out of first gear.

It is not only the small business owners that take the bait and then get caught, big business America is being damaged.

CDNow.com's stock has plummeted by more than 80 percent over the past two years.

The infamous online bookstore Amazon.com has yet to turn a profit in a single year of its existence.

Although the current condition of the

Internet is decaying, computer junkies and web surfers do have something to be excited about.

Recent trends are showing that the next technological frontier may be what the forefathers of the Internet originally anticipated; advanced communication.

Email is easily one of the greatest points on the Internet's resume, and it looks as if communications might move forward in the near future.

There have already been developments in the field of Internet long-distance, which will possibly break up the telephone service monopoly that is in place today.

With the use of digital cameras, video phones are slowly becoming a possibility. Things once seen in Science Fiction movies are assimilating into pop culture.

The Internet has a lot of work to be done on it before it becomes a true information superhighway, but steps are currently being taken to make it that way.

If nothing else, though, the information superhighway has provided an interesting ride.

Never Look Back



Quentin Lueninghoener

INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY CLOSED AHEAD

QUENTIN LUENINGHOENER/THE REGISTER

Top Ten Websites You Should Never Visit

- 1) www.deathbywhirlingblades.com
A graphic description of one boy's science project.
- 2) www.midgets4sale.com
The E-commerce website to fill all your midget needs.
- 3) www.jellobymail.com
Perfect for holiday mail order.
- 4) www.essaysbylloyd.com
Forgot to do your theme? Lloyd can help.
- 5) www.pi.com
3.1415... so on and so forth. Helpful for reports, otherwise, worthless

- 6) www.quitpickingyoursore.com
Find out how to treat that gangrenous scab on your elbow, you disgusting freak.
- 7) www.mhammer.com
Can't touch this, na na na na...
- 8) www.historyoftherubberband.com
In the time of our forefathers, rubber bands...
- 9) www.macrame.com
It's all the rage, we swear
- 10) www.jaroftoenailclippings.com
Buy them in bulk! Get them for your friends! Hand them out for holidays! Put them in cakes! Just buy them! Please!

Car trouble makes for after school fun

It all started at approximately 4 p.m. I had just finished the second day of school and was looking forward to heading home.

Upon reaching and unlocking my car, I discovered that my power locks were not functioning.

"Hey, that's alright," I thought. Then, I turned the key and my car refused to start. The starter turned, but the car did not start.

I immediately looked at my lights. Naturally, I had left them on.

So I tried to find some of my peers to help me jumpstart my car.

Then I realized that all of them have either left before or immediately at 2:50.

I did find someone, but their battery was not the same size as mine and that led to a lot of smoke and foul odors.

The paradox about jumpstarting a car is that one either finds a knowledgeable soul without cables or a person with cables who is too afraid that you will break his car.

I was quickly running out of options, so I headed towards school.

I was frantically trying to find someone that could help me because I was expected to work in about 45 minutes.

I asked the lawn guy, a counselor, and some football practice spectators, but no one could do anything to better my situation.

I asked a janitor and made the rounds in the basement. At this point, I had concluded that young

women are the most likely to have a pair of jumper cables in their car.

I do not know why. Maybe I am making just another one of my ignorant and stupid generalizations again.

Anyways, I asked the first person I saw at school. She wanted to make me a deal.

She would jumpstart my car if I would star in a commercial they were taping out by the steps of the three side.

I agreed because I needed a ride home and a commercial sounded like a good idea.

The commercial turned out to be an advertisement about Mrs. Shelly Kiel for her campaign for the second district house race.

I was supposed to walk up the stairs behind the state senator while she gave some rhetoric about wanting to, "Make schools safer, classes smaller, and students better."

Halfway through the filming, I looked at my watch and thought to myself, "I was supposed to be at work fifteen minutes ago."

But a deal is a deal. I agreed to suffer through this and finish it, and my car did run at this point.

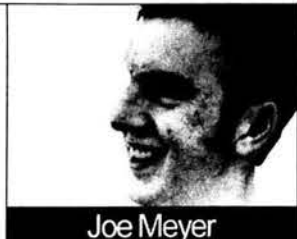
I decided to shut my mouth and continue to run up and down the stairs of Central.

After the shoot, the woman who jumped my car for me asked me if I would be interested in volunteering on a political campaign.

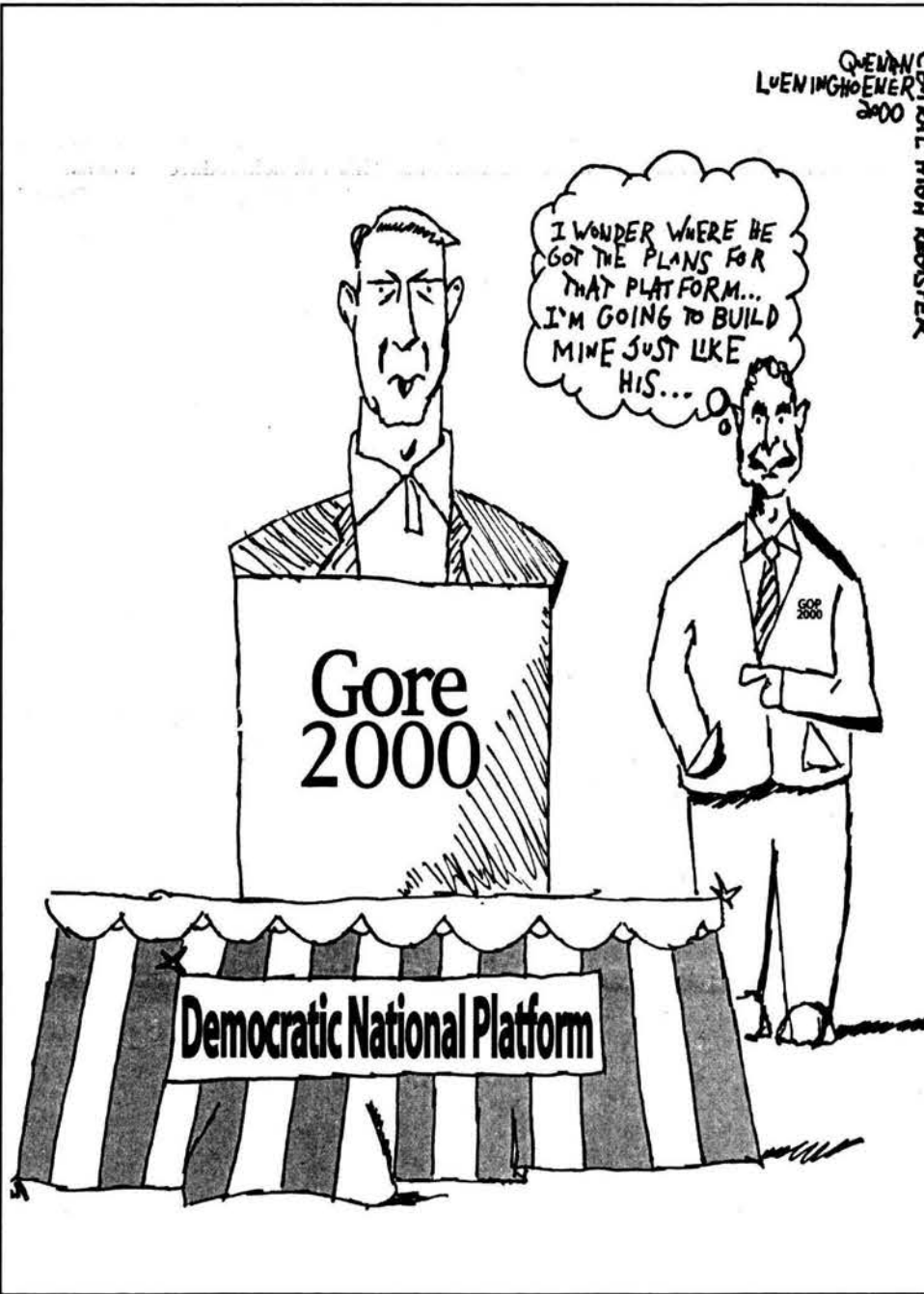
Having a common interest for local politics and the fact that Kiel seemed pretty cool, I agreed.

So Kiel for Congress and welcome to the Bahamas!

Welcome to the Bahamas



Joe Meyer



Pressures of Monday cause stress, Friday patiently awaited

For some reason I always sleep the best five minutes before my alarm goes off on Monday morning. I toss the entire night, but at 4:25 a.m. I pass out into the deepest sleep of my life.

Suddenly the alarm of death goes off and I am forced to face reality. I have to go to school.

The horror. I was so tired that I was thinking of playing sick. Then I realized that if I played

sick I would inevitably miss something incredibly important, like linear equations, or tension, two of the most useless pieces of information ever, both of which somehow have control over whether or not I pass my junior year.

You wonder why there are so many stupid people in this world? It's because they were so busy learning math and science that they completely forgot every shred of useful

information that they ever had.

I used to be an intelligent person. I would use big words and read lots of books. Now I am a complete flake. Want to know why? Because I read "Great Expectations" in freshman English, the most meaningless book ever written.

Now I frequently have trouble remembering my address, but I can tell you about the symbolism between Pip and Miss Havisham. Yeah, I'm gonna get ahead in life.

I decided to go to school and fill my head with more profitless information. I proceeded to do what I do every morning, spent an hour and a half doing anything but actually getting ready.

This usually backfires when I realize that I have ten minutes until I have to leave and end up running around the house like a mad woman trying to get dressed. The only reason that I don't just get ready is that it would be way too easy and therefore defeat my purpose in life, which is to make everything much

harder that it actually is.

I finally got to school (at six) and started pretending to do my homework. I didn't really do my homework because then I would have nothing to do in the first ten minutes of class. Instead I just sat there with a book in front of me and tried to look intelligent. This is so that when people actually start to arrive I don't look like a complete friendless loser; I simply look studious.

Finally the bell rang and I was free to skip off to class and experience the joys of learning. So far I have learned two things that I will actually use in life 1) If a student places an open book on their desk they can sleep all they want. 2) NEVER eat school spaghetti. Don't ask why, just obey without question.

Luckily I haven't had to actually pay attention in class so far this year.

Because of my last name I am almost always placed next to a window and therefore I can daydream the entire hour. My philosophy is that if a teacher is dumb enough to place you next to a window then he is telling you that the class isn't import enough to pay at-

ention to.

Not that school isn't interesting. I really like listening to the girl who sits next to me talk about her nail polish choice for 40 minutes straight.

She said that she perfectly matched the color to the little stripes in her shirt. She used many words to illustrate this to her pathetic little friend who was hanging on to her every word. I would have liked to hear how this conversation ended, but when she started talking about her new shoes I took my pen and shoved it through my skull.

As the last bell rang I rushed out the door, beating, pinching and squeezing through the abnormally large crowd. I somehow managed to find my car. I raced home to enjoy the brief but pleasurable bits of time before my brothers came home and filled our house with noise and chaos.

As I fell asleep that night, I am assured that the last thoughts that ran through my head would be of how likely it may be that we would have a freak snowstorm and school would be cancelled the next day.

REGISTER YOUR OPINION

What do you think about the new nine period day?



"I have no time to do my work, I want homeroom back."
Andy Adams, 12



"I think it works for the advantage of everyone."
Jamar Dorsey, 11



"The day is too long."
Miguel Moraz, 9



"The longer lunch periods and longer passing periods make the day go by faster."
Anna Rafferty, 12



"I like not having a homeroom."
Kari Belt, 9



"I think it's stupid."
Ashley Cox, 10



"I can't really tell the difference."
Kerri Bahr, 11



"I like it because we have longer lunch and passing periods."
July Sherman, 10

Napster falsely accused of destroying music industry

Recently, the music sharing program called Napster has come under fire for copyright infringement and other crimes from artists, record companies and Congress.

While these arguments are somewhat viable, the benefits of Napster far outweigh the consequences.

Napster uses encoded music CD files, called MP3s, and connects the user to a server where Napster users can download MP3s from each other.

Napster is not the first file sharing utility. People were using File Transfer Protocols (FTPs) years before Napster appeared. Napster just made the whole process easier.

One of the main arguments used by artists and record companies is that it takes away their revenue. They say a CD "burner" can be used to record these "stolen" MP3s on a CD for free.

This is false. A study conducted by Green Field Online and YouthStream Networks, 79 percent of college students who used Napster

still bought CDs, while only 35 percent used Napster to make custom CDs. Besides, people were making custom CD's long before Napster became so popular.

The same study found that 66 percent of students use Napster to preview music before they purchase CD's. Napster is most often used as a tool to preview music, not as a forum to collect free music.

While this may lead to fewer album sales, it also increases customer satisfaction. A different study by Jupiter Communications found that users of Napster are 45 percent more likely to purchase new music, contrary to many allegations from the recording industry.

One of the first studies on this subject, taken in Canada, bears the same results. The study recorded that 73 percent of users who downloaded seven or more MP3 files purchased four or more in the past six months.

Lars Ulrich, drummer for the rock band Metallica, has spoken vehemently against Napster. Metallica, along with rapper Dr. Dre and others filed a \$15 million lawsuit against the company.

Metallica thought about filing individual lawsuits against users, but decided it would be futile.

Napster then banned over 200,000 users who had downloaded Metallica or Dr. Dre's MP3s, but those users were later reinstated.

They acknowledged these lawsuits were asinine. With all of the studies listed, it could easily be assumed that Napster could have boosted Metallica's or Dr. Dre's album sales, not hurt them.

These artists are acting like whiny little babies who have had their toys taken away.

Contrary to popular belief, it is not always illegal to share, download or have MP3s on one's computer. It is perfectly legal to download the MP3. Distributing them to others who own the album is also legal.

Rapper Chuck D. made an excellent point about this entire situation. He pointed out that if the record companies had gotten this kind of technology first, they would have used it to fit help them, but since the people got it first, it's treated as some horrible thing.

The disclaimer that appears when a user opens Napster should preempt any lawsuit. It specifically outlines the legality of its use.

The disclaimer informs the user that while thousands of MP3s have been authorized for distribution by the artists, millions of others have not and should not be reproduced for other uses.

Most Central students cannot or will not vote, so why do we have to listen to all of this election drama?

I do not know, but I do know that the "drama" of Al Gore's election bid and the "excitement" of the Nebraska elections are driving everybody insane due to their overwhelming blandness and stupidity.

Al Gore likes to kiss his wife, America's leading proponent of Judaism thinks Joseph Lieberman is "too Jewish".

POINT ONE: Al Gore's public osculation.

Al Gore kissed his wife at the Democratic National Convention over a month ago. Why does everybody still care?

Is being able to kiss your wife in front of 80,000 people in an auditorium with millions watching a prerequisite for being president?

If so, that qualifies Donald Trump because he has kissed all of his 3,587 wives in like fashion.

This little peck was rehearsed. Al Gore is an emotionless little man who is just a mercenary for the Democratic Party with no opinions or feelings of his own.

Not to mention the fact that his wife is named Tipper.

That fact alone should disqualify him from all jobs except the loudest and most dangerous.

For example, Al would fit in perfectly in the uranium mines.

Placing our current vice president in a mine extracting quantities of U-235 would serve other purposes as well.

He could probably relate better

to inanimate radioactive quarry dust than the US citizens.

POINT TWO: The Anti-Defamation League had a press release and a segment on a morning news program criticizing Lieberman for "appealing to voters along religious lines."

In other words, the ADL is telling Lieberman to not show anybody that he is Jewish while running for vice-president.

The ADL is predominantly Jewish and so is Lieberman, so why are they telling him not to show his faith?

Statements like this seem to be counterproductive to the ADL's mission of fighting anti-Semitism in the United States. It almost as if they are saying there are limits to being Jewish in today's society.

So it all comes down to one question. What is the ADL thinking? ADL Representative 1: This Joe Lieberman fellow is sure making Judaism accessible to many people.

ADL Representative 2: No, not accessible Judaism!

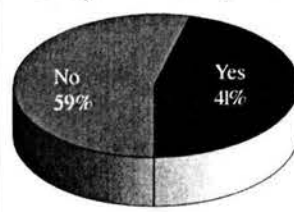
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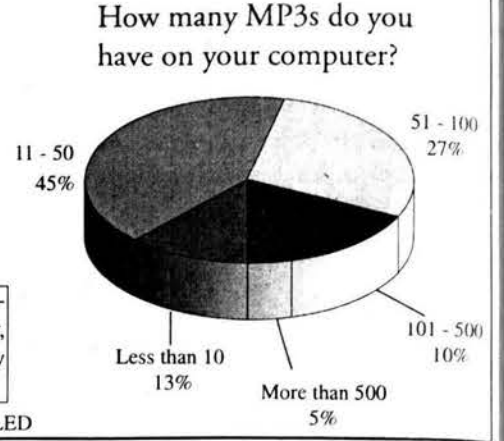
Instead the ADL chose to alienate Lieberman from his own religion and refuse to support the first opportunity for the United States to have a minority as its vice president.

It is shameful to see what should have been a celebrated occurrence tarnished by the ADL's attempts to be overtly politically correct.

Do you use Napster?



How many MP3s do you have on your computer?



While 41 percent of Central students admit to using Napster, the majority of them have only downloaded 50 songs or less.

276 CENTRAL STUDENTS POLLED

Electoral drama distorts politics

Most Central students cannot or will not vote, so why do we have to listen to all of this election drama?

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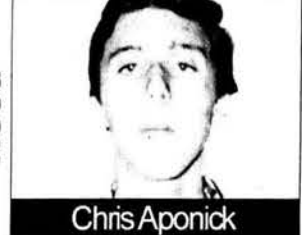
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Dimestore Hood



Chris Aponick

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Death penalty

continued from page 9 several instances where that has not been the case.

The execution of Allen Lee Davis is probably the most infamous of execution mishaps. During the execution, which took place in Florida last year, blood was seen to be oozing from under the Davis' hooded face during the execution.

During hearings in Florida about the constitutionality of the electric chair, defense attorneys introduced photographs of Davis taken immediately after his execution. They showed his bloody face with the leather mouthstrap pushed up against his nose.

In numerous cases witnesses have testified that the victim's skin "bubbled".

In Georgia, technical difficulties with the chair resulted in one man being burned to death.

In 1997, flames shot from the head of death row inmate Pedro Medina during his execution.

In 1990, smoke poured from the hood of inmate Jessie Tafero as he was put to death.

All of these examples of botched electrocutions force officials and citizens to ask themselves: Could there be any other way?

Of course there is. In fact there are several methods of execution that

are carried out in the United States right now.

Some states still use the gas chamber to execute prisoners, but an overwhelming majority of states kill prisoners using lethal injection.

In fact, the only states that continue to use the electric chair are Georgia, Alabama and Nebraska.

Most states that use the death penalty switched to alternate methods of execution.

In recent years, the electric chair has been deemed as cruel and unusual punishment.

These opinions are not uneducated. A deeper look into the life of an inmate waiting for his execution date sheds a lot of light on the situation.

One week before the execution, the prisoner is put under deathwatch. Prisoners under deathwatch are taken to a different room than they have previously been incarcerated in.

The décor of the deathwatch room is sparse. The state doesn't want to risk any prisoners killing themselves, so the only furniture in the room is a bed.

A hallway leading away from the room ends in a guardroom, where

a single guard sits at a large, metal desk.

Another hallway leads from the guardroom to a visitor's room. The visitor's room has three chairs sitting in a row and little else.

This is the environment the condemned man must inhabit until his inevitable death.

Every night of deathwatch the inmate's blood pressure is taken, body weight checked, and vital signs recorded, so that on the day of the execution the correct amount of voltage can be given.

A few days before the execution, the inmate is asked what he wants for his last meal.

Then, on the day of the execution, the prisoner is woken up and given his last meal. A priest is allowed to talk to the prisoner and counsel him.

Vital signs are checked and the prisoner is shackled.

Six soldiers then lead the prisoner to the death chamber. A priest is allowed to accompany the inmate if he pleases.

In the death chamber, the inmate is offered diapers. The shock of the electric chair is so great that his bowels are released. Anal plugs are also offered.

The inmate is then sat in the chair and strapped in.

The curtain is drawn back and the inmate sees several people.

Five members of the media are allowed to witness the execution.

Almost surely, members of the inmate's family will be present, as well as members of the victim's family.

The prisoner has a few seconds to speak to the witnesses. Most often, the prisoner apologizes for his crimes.

The mask is then placed over his face and the first jolt is given.

The entire process is anywhere from three to thirty minutes.

The inmates are made aware of this process while incarcerated. Then they are told exactly what date and time they will be led through it themselves.

It almost seems as if there can be no more horrible way to die.

The electric chair is a cruel and unusual form of punishment. It should not be allowed as a form of punishment in our judicial system.

Instead, perhaps the Nebraska Unicameral should look to other states for assistance.

Lethal injection seems to be a much more pleasing, cheaper and easier method for everyone.

Also, if Nebraska were to switch their method of capital punishment to lethal injection, it could make the death penalty much more acceptable among citizens.

In short, dogs are not even killed using electrocution. They are given lethal injections.

Why should humans get any less dignified treatment?



The Omaha Central High School Register seeks to inform its readers accurately and fairly as to items of interest and importance. The Register (USPS 097-520) is published monthly September through May by Central High School, 124 N. 20th Street, Omaha, NE, 68102. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the Register staff and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the students of Central High School or its faculty. Signed editorials are the opinion of the author alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Central High School or the Register. Readers are welcome to send letters to the editor in room 315. Letters must include the author's full name and grade. The use of pen names is not permitted. Unsigned letters will not be printed. Letters may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy and taste. Letters containing substantial misrepresentation of fact are not considered. The Register is self-sufficient. To place an advertisement or to inquire about ad prices, call the business manager at (402)557-3357. Periodical postage paid at Omaha, NE postmaster. Send subscription information or address changes to the Register, care of Omaha Central High School.

the Omaha Central High School Register September 10, 2000 Volume 114, Issue 1



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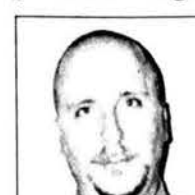
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Kiss rocks Omaha one last time

By Michael Gerhardt

ONE LAST KISS: Gene Simmons, Paul Stanley, Peter Criss and Ace Frehley played at the Civic on Aug. 29

They've followed the band since they were young. Most of them are old and balding, but that doesn't matter. Not tonight.

Tonight, they're young again.

Tonight, it's Kiss. Kiss, Aug. 29, at the Civic Auditorium, in Omaha, Neb.

Fifteen years earlier, this show would have been any teenager's dream. Today, it looks more like a convention for the middle aged "I still rock, I swear" groups.

But the concert still did rock. A lot more than most concerts anymore.

But then again, it's Kiss. How could it not rock?

The moment came that everyone was waiting for. The lights went on, the sparks shot off, the flames exploded and Kiss came on stage.

Paul, Ace, Peter and Gene, they were all there, fully painted. Every true, red-blooded American knows who these people are.

While watching them play, a sense of disbelief occasionally rears its head. It's Kiss. The Kiss. The loudest, most rockin' Rock and Roll band in the world. It was hard to believe its Kiss, playing live.

Gene Simmons had his tongue (the only man ever to be able to lick his own chin), Paul Stanley did his fancy, effeminate foot work, Ace Frehley played his meandering guitar solos and Peter Criss showed off his amazing drum work (amazing, that is, considering what he was wearing).

The first of the many, many memorable occurrences/songs throughout the evening was the colossal rendition of "Do You Love Me?" On the massive display screen behind Kiss, as well as the



COURTESY OF SADDLE CREEK RECORDS

display screens the Civic has, they played early clips of Kiss, from when they first started to before they broke up. After the song, Stanley loudly proclaimed his love of

The next amazing spectacle was one of their newer songs, "Psycho Circus," with ten-foot high flame jets, sparks and blinding flashing lights. A few computer graphics lit up the screen behind them, although most of the lighting up was done by the pyrotechnics.

After this, Kiss played another new song, "Millennial Man" and had another, much more impressive display of computer graphics. It was like a computer game, with a very amusing plot.

It looked like Kiss has been sucked into a time warp and forced to fight against bizarre aliens by shooting lasers out of their instruments. This was all that was

tween each song, thanking the audience for their long lasting support.

Their entire set seemed to blur together, since at the volume they were playing, things tended to sound the same. The pyrotechnics were without a doubt the best part of the show. The music was there, but not nearly as good. Then again, very few people go to see Kiss for the music. It's a lot like Gwar.

After a few more songs, everyone left the stage except for Simmons, who began to play his quintessential bass solo, including the tongue and the blood. This was all expected. Everyone knows that Simmons does this kind of stuff.

What was very unexpected though was his 10 foot vertical leap onto the rafters suspended above the stage. While Simmons is certainly not the most amazing bassist, his theatrics more than made up for it. His bloody face combined with his general size made him look pretty intimidating up there, high over the crowd. His mastery over the crowd was made clear by his vies for applause. A simple raising of the hands would bring a resounding applause.

Later on, Kiss left the stage and Frehley came on alone, to play his ten minute guitar solo. Like Simmons, Frehley is not an amazingly skilled guitarist. It looked like he missed half the notes he was trying to play, but then again, it was quite a distraction when smoke began to belch from the neck pickup of his guitar.

"It's a brand new guitar! It shouldn't be smoking yet!" Frehley said, sounding shocked.

Kiss played a couple more of their timeless rock and roll tunes, before leaving the stage. The lights turned off, and shortly there after came the chants for an encore.

A couple minutes later, Kiss appeared once again, to play their all time classic, "I Want to Rock and Roll All Night, and Party Everyday." The crowd went wild; confetti exploded from balloons above the crowd, each member of Kiss rose on platforms and the pyrotechnics went insane. It was the biggest display of rock and roll ever.

But hey, it's Kiss. What do you expect?

L & A

The Goo Goo Dolls tour through Lincoln and play a show that wows the crowd.

Review: Page 14

Johnny Rzeznik of Goo Goo Dolls



COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS RECORDS

Bright Eyes' singer enjoys musician's life

By Daisy Bonham-Carter

Bright Eyes' band member Conor Oberst is unlike the average young adult that one happens to find in Omaha.

Only 20 years old, Oberst has done well: Bright Eyes first album, "The Collection of Songs Written and Recorded 1995-1997" came out when he was a junior in high school.

Oberst was just starting his freshman year in high school when he held his first concert in Omaha and also playing a national tour with other bands.

Oberst, guitarist, pianist and singer in the current five-member band, Bright Eyes, has gone all around the world starting at a young age.

"I'm the only permanent of Bright Eyes," Oberst said who has been with Bright Eyes since 1996.

Oberst said he came up with the name, Bright Eyes, by watching a late-night movie where the girl's boyfriend always referred to her as "bright eyes."

Oberst, who writes the lyrics and basic chord structure for the band's songs, describes his music as having an attitude called "indie-rock" music.

The songs Oberst writes are based on his

own personal experiences and observations.

"You try to incorporate your personal feelings with observations about the world around you," he said.

Bright Eyes has recorded over 100 songs and has released five albums between 1996 and 1999.

The albums: "The Collection of Songs Written and Recorded 1995-1997," "Letting



ABOVE: Conor Oberst of Bright Eyes has been called a "prodigy."

Off the Happiness," "Every Day and Every Night" and "Fevers and Mirrors" are full of songs that one would not believe a 20-year old would do.

Critics have said that Oberst is a "prodigy."

Bright Eyes' most recently released album, "Fevers and Mirrors," is the album Oberst has just produced.

National magazines said the album is "the most powerful of all his," although it is the shortest of the albums that have been released.

Before Bright Eyes existed, Oberst was a musician for two other bands. Oberst was the drummer for Park Avenue and guitarist for Commander Venus.

Even in middle and high school, Oberst said he would skip school to play in shows that were held overseas or somewhere else in America.

Oberst is not the only musician in his family. His parents are musicians. His older brother, Matt Oberst, has also played in several local bands.

Because of his family's musical hobbies, Oberst was encouraged to play the piano at a young age.

"When you're doing what I'm doing, you need to have really happy and supportive par-

ents," Oberst said.

Since January of this year, Oberst has been in many American cities on both the east and west coasts.

Beginning at the young age of 16, Oberst has put on shows around the Omaha area. Now, he visits places like China, Europe and Japan.

"Yes, I like it [performing for other people]," Oberst said. "Sometimes it can get boring and tiring, singing the same songs over and over. But it's fun."

Bright Eyes' singles have been featured on Omaha's radio station The River (89.7 FM) and radio station The City (106.9 FM).

When he hears himself on the radio, he is critical about his music and points out the band's mistakes.

"I used to hate hearing my voice on the radio," Oberst said. "But now, I've gotten used to it, and it's not so weird anymore."

Oberst leads a relatively ordinary life in his hometown of Omaha, which is amazing because of all of his accomplishments.

When Oberst is going to public places, he is not stopped by crowds of people wanting his autograph.

"No," laughs Oberst, "I'm not that famous."

Mars Music opens doors to area musicians

By Layne Gabriel

A teenager with bleached hair was playing a pink 1960s Fender Stratocaster. The white tag dangling from the head of the guitar boasted \$214 off, with the final cost just under \$500.

Another teenager lifted a \$1400 Gibson SG '61 Reissue off the rack to show someone. These are only a few of the simple things that was seen at Mars Music, the new music store in Canfield's Plaza.

Central High graduate and Mars Music employee, Greg Edds, said that Mars Music is not like any other music store in Omaha.

"Any five-year-old can bring down a \$5000 guitar," he said.

The 1800 square foot store attracted almost 4000 people on opening night, Edds said.

Edds said the store is very family-oriented and anyone is welcome to touch and play anything, except the four vintage guitars.

A few employees were plugged in and

just jamming to pass the time, while others were helping the people in the store get those hard to reach guitars and basses from the top racks.

Edds said that he loves his job at Mars Music and spends most of his paycheck there when he gets the chance. He said it is a fun place just to hang out.

With 200 to 300 guitars decking the walls, keeping yourself entertained is far from difficult.

Aside from the guitars and basses, Mars Music has an impressive dimly lit recording studio, a stage and a drum room.

Inside the drumming room a 12-year-old kid was sitting at a set of drums. Although he said he has never taken a lesson in his life, he played like he has been playing for years.

About one dozen drum sets were set up around the room, some electric, and all sorts of people just came in and played.

James Borchers, an employee in the drums department of the store said that his job has a very high volume level, regardless

of the glass between the drums and the cash register where he works.

Borchers said that the level is higher on weekends when there is a steady stream of people coming in to play, especially when most are children. The professionals do not really sit down and play, they usually try out what they want and then leave, he said.

Not only Omahans have payed a visit to Mars Music. Members of the Nixons, the Suicide Machines and Poison checked the store out while they were in town. Members of local bands can be seen often.

Passing two and a half hours

at Mars Music is not difficult and the store has many new instruments and tools to offer musicians.

BELOW: Mars Music employee and Central graduate Greg Edds relaxes and plays the guitar at work.

LAYNE GABRIEL/THE REGISTER



Three boys named Goo

By Layne Gabriel

Half an hour before the Goo Goo Dolls concert at the State Fair in Lincoln, a crowd of teenage females, as well as a few males, were standing in front of the buses waiting for a glimpse of Johnny Rzeznik, lead singer and guitarist.

The Goo Goo Dolls' performance was phenomenal. The show was full of great music and received a wonderful response from the audience.

The crowd at the show was incredibly diverse. There were people with blue and purple hair, frail teenagers in tube tops and forty-something adults.

After the opening act, Tonic, and a half an hour break, the lights went out and the crowd went wild.

The Goo Goo Dolls came onstage and began with "Dizzy." The audience was on its feet, standing for the full 90 minute set.

Following "Dizzy," Rzeznik said to the crowd, "I want to hear you scream the roof down tonight," and the response was worthy of a few throat lozenges to soothe the torn throats.

Bass player Robby Takac played barefoot and danced around the stage when he was not singing his songs.

"Slide" was another highlight of the Goo Goo Dolls' set, with Rzeznik asking the audience to sing along. The singing from the audience at times would almost drown out Rzeznik.

Rzeznik talked to the audience quite a bit, especially while he was taking his cigarette breaks. He could command applause by simply lifting his arms, and he spent most of his time smiling when not singing. It was obvious he was truly enjoying the show.

Rzeznik spent a little time talking to the crowd about boy bands and how he felt odd being in a real band, somewhere between the boy bands and the heavy metal bands. He danced a little bit for the audience, which received many screams and hollers.

The Goo Goo Dolls then played the song "Name," from their first mainstream album, "A Boy Named Goo." That got the audience singing again.

Rzeznik spent the song "January Friend" dancing around the stage, using it as his personal playground. The energy emanating from him was awesome and commanded the audience's attention while Takac was singing.

Rzeznik and Takac joked around quite a bit, telling stories of bras getting thrown onstage at other shows. At one point in time Rzeznik was lying on the floor protecting himself with his guitar from Takac's foot.

Following "Broadway," they played what could be their most popular song to



COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS RECORDS

"AND I DON'T WANT THE WORLD TO SEE ME..." Goo Goo Dolls Mike Malinin, Robby Takac and Johnny Rzeznik played a fabulous show with Tonic at the Bob Devaney Center on Aug. 29.

date, "Iris."

"Iris" was chilling. When Rzeznik hit the last chorus, he said, "You guys will sing with me, right?" and the audience gladly complied. The voice of the large crowd was just as loud as Rzeznik's and perfectly in unison.

The Goo Goo Dolls left the stage after "Iris" only to return for a two-song encore.

During the final song, Rzeznik and Takac showed off their most recent creations, their instruments decorated with blinking Christmas lights. Rzeznik stopped in the middle of the song to show the audience the different settings for the lights. They wrapped up the final refrain and left the stage.

Tonic's opening performance was also rather impressive. Their music sounded much better live than recorded.

They began with "Open Up Your Eyes" and did a very good job. The audience recognized most of the songs and Tonic was

granted with an enthusiastic response.

Jeff Russo, guitarist, and bassist Dan Lavery had fabulous chemistry all throughout Tonic's set and the show seemed to be simply a playful romp for lead singer and acoustic guitarist Emerson Hart and company.

The song that got the most out of the crowd was "If You Could Only See." Hart requested the audience to sing the last refrain on their own and everyone gladly obliged.

Tonic finished their set with "You Wanted More" and then exited the stage receiving thunderous applause from the audience.

Following the show, there was still that crowd of teenagers waiting by the buses to see the band. Hart came out and the group screamed a bit. By the time most people were a block away the screams came again. Perhaps it was Rzeznik.

Drastic caters to unique taste

By Layne Gabriel

Not too many places in Omaha have seen the likes of Aerosmith and members of Counting Crows, as well as Maynard James Keenan of Tool, walk through their doors within the past 18 years.

Drastic Plastic, a record store in the Old Market, has.

"Aerosmith was funny. They tried to get Mike [Howard, owner] to give them a discount," manager Andrea Butkiewicz said.

Two members of the Counting Crows fought over an album both of them wanted and Keenan spent over \$150, Butkiewicz said.

A store spent such \$150, Butkiewicz said these is unique because of unusual items not sold at other stores in the Omaha area, Butkiewicz said.

She said Howard began the store in April of 1982 in south Omaha as a hobby. It went berserk and it's popularity has since grown.

"We see a lot of people from Sioux City, Des Moines [and] Lincoln," Butkiewicz said.

Drastic Plastic offers a variety of music, employee Steve Cook said.

"Anything from old seventies punk rock

bands like the Jam, Devo stuff like that, and then newer stuff, like hardcore bands," Cook said.

Aside from newer and more obscure bands, Drastic Plastic offers music by more famous bands such as the Beatles.

Drastic Plastic is also well-known for their stock of vinyl which that are made available by the contacts Howard keeps with record companies. Howard does his best to get the highest quality vinyl possible, Butkiewicz said.

As for the employees, many of them have gotten job offers following employment at Drastic Plastic.

"Everybody here is in some type of band," Butkiewicz said.

Former workers have gone on to such things as playing in San Francisco, working for a record label, acting on Broadway and DJ-ing on the radio in Florida.

Butkiewicz said that Drastic Plastic tries to keep something on hand for everyone, but not all passers-by make it inside the store.

"We have people that don't even make it in the door," she said. "They get a nose in and run away screaming."

Fan sites offer info to music followers

By Layne Gabriel

With the advent of many new programs and tutorials online, it seems that anyone can create a website and publish it on their own. As many Internet users know, aside from the official website for their favorite band, there are sites created by fans.

Fan websites are put together by people with any day job. Age is no matter, as some designers are 15-year-olds and others are 22 or older.

Nicole Larson, 15, and a high school student in Mankato, Minn., runs a fansite for the Dixie Chicks, www.dixiechicksfans.com. Larson's site gets about 1,000 hits per day and is updated daily.

Larson said she spends about five hours per week working on her site.

The type of music the Dixie Chicks play interested Larson. She said she was interested in finding more information about the lead singer.

Larson has owned her site since Jan. 1998 and has received some perks from it.

"Because of my website, I've gotten to meet the girls three times (once each year). They are very kind and sweet to their fans and they said themselves, they love my site," she said.

Keith Duemling, a 22-year-old server administrator from Cleveland, Ohio, has been running his Nine Inch Nails fan website for about two years.

"It first began as a personal site and then

quickly evolved into a Nine Inch Nails site," Duemling said of his site, www.smashedupsanity.com.

"Most of the material for the site is found online. We do our best to cover all aspects of Nine Inch Nails, both online and offline. From covering the various tours and recording memorabilia to add to the site," Duemling said.

Duemling has three other fans working on his site with him.

"We're the first ones buying the CDs when they go on sale, and the last ones to leave the concerts," he said.

Duemling has high hopes for his site, which gets over 1,700 hits per day, and wishes to work with the official site, www.nin.com, in the future. He said he also enjoys showing his support for the band through his page.

Dustin Sorge, an 18-year-old college student in Seneca, Penn., has a site on a lower scale.

Sorge's Korn site, <http://come.to/korn23>, has been up since 1995 and gets about 75-120 hits per day. Sorge said he does not update his site much anymore.

Sorge gets his material from other websites and said he does not visit the official site much, but he still gets a stable stream of daily emails about it.

Larson, Sorge and Duemling said they would like to continue their sites as long as possible. The support for most of the sites has been good and all of them enjoy their creations.

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Playhouse puts on 'Forum' flop

By Daisy Bonham-Carter

The play "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" was horrendous.

The synopsis of the first half was okay. Nothing new or special: two people fall in love on a bright, sunny, spring day.

These people, Hero (played by Brian Whisenant) and Philia (played by Kirstin Kliver) cannot fall in love because he is a prince and she is a prostitute who has been sold to a captain.

Hero says to his slave, Pseudolus (played by Matt Kamprath) that if he can hook him up with Philia, then he can be set free.

Okay. It is a simple plan for right now: Pseudolus puts the girl to sleep with some sort of magical potion and sneaks them off into "Never Never Land" and the two can live happily ever after...

That is the first half of the story's plot,

which all happened in an hour and a half, before the 15 minute intermission. A few people walked out of the door at that point because the play was so terrible.

Yes, it had the occasional funny joke, but the play was mainly full of bad puns that were not very well thought out. They did not fit the story either.

Because Philia lives in a prostitution house with a few other girls, the play had some sexual content also.

Each girl had to prove she was the right one for the night by dancing and showing off in front of her to-be owner.

The costumes were not that great either.

The costumes were very bright: neon pinks, blues, greens and purples were used instead of the beige, gray, white and red colors that better suit the era. The brighter colors did not really do anything good for the play.

The same goes for the set. The costumes and sets looked as if they were made for a play that took place in the 1960's.

One would think that if a person is doing a play based in Roman times (200 years before the Christian era), the costume designer and stage manager should take into account the time that the play was based in.

When this play was being planned out, the director and stage manager should have thought the colors were more important.

The people behind the curtains thought that the colors were what really counted, which is not what is most important to a play.

Think story line setting and then start worrying about what suits the script.

Perhaps, seeing the play on the opening night was much worse than seeing the play in a later performance. Hopefully by then the actors would know their lines and the costumes would change to ones that would better suit the performance.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," directed by Carl Beck is on at the Omaha Community Playhouse until September 24.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIND-UP RECORDS

PRECIOUS PEARL: Rodney Rocha, Kevin Quinn, Kevin Roentgen and Noah Shain, members of American Pearl, released their first album Aug. 22.

American Pearl shimmers

By Layne Gabriel

American Pearl's self-titled release is a nice change from the rock usually seen on the pop charts.

The skills of guitarist Kevin Quinn and lead singer/guitarist Kevin Roentgen set the tone for the album, which moves quickly and sounds wonderful.

Roentgen's lyric writing skills are not quite up to par but his voice has a smooth sound to it.

The album opens with "California." The lyrics are simple yet strong and give the listener a good idea as to what is to come on the rest of the album. The guitars and drums are very strong and keep up throughout the album.

The opening guitar riff to "Giveaway" is one of the best riffs on the album and is worthy of a mention. The rest of the song does not really stand out from the album, but the opening riff quickly gets the listener's attention.

The track "Free Your Mind" has a slightly Creed sound to it at the opening with a harder guitar part following. The song is about the fine line between hate and fear that surfaces through violence and prejudice.

The album is not one that can be listened to part by part. Some tracks stand well on their own, while the album sounds much better when played fully from start to finish.

Track seven, "Bleed," takes a much

different turn, beginning with a more clean cut guitar style than the other songs.

The vocal harmonies between Roentgen and bass player Rodney Rocha make the song much more intense. It is one of the most impressive songs on the album and would most likely be wonderful live.

"And I'll be stronger than before 'cause they can't bleed me anymore," Roentgen sings during "Bleed."

Most of the album is filled with the sounds of aggression and pure emotion from all members of the band and keeps the album moving and the listener interested.

In the song "Amphetamine Girl," Roentgen sings, "If she don't burn out, then I guess she'll fade away." The sound of the song is a bit more distorted than others on the album, which may be to making a statement.

American Pearl wraps up the album with the song "If We Were Kings." It starts off with a bit more of a happy beat.

The melody is slower, calmer and sounds sweeter. The song is about religion and contemplating what it would be like to help others.

The album as a whole is wonderful and should get more recognition by radio stations.

The cover art is impressive, with photographs of all four band members and their tattoos. It is a beautiful album in its own way and sounds fabulous.

Hippos have creative style

By Carmen Sird

The Hippos. Don't ask me what kind of name that is, I have no idea what they were thinking. The picture on the cover is nothing at all to talk about either. But it's funny.

I gave the album a chance anyway, though. When reading the words they do sound a bit corny and make you do a double take, but when listening to it with the instruments it sounds different.

It also sounds like a trombone is played in over half of their songs, which gives it a good beat. The instruments make their music just okay, but it is nothing you will hear beating in the back of a Chevy Impala with some 15 inch speakers.

I noticed right away that most all-guy bands like to talk about chicks a lot, but these guys take it to another level. It almost sounds like they have never had a real steady girlfriend before.

There are six guys in this group and there is at least a song from each of them to a girl and probably more than that but I may have miscounted.

There is a real popular girl who has her own song, "Pauline," and she also gets a

couple words at the end of the CD.

Track two and one of the singles from the album, "Wasting My Life", is cool but unrealistic. Who is going to waste their whole life waiting on just one person? Not me, how about you? One can only assume this song is an exaggeration.

The Hippos talk about some of the most crazy stuff like struggling, pollution in their heads, sleeping all day and watching TV all night, going to the sand and grabbing your thongs, being far behind and walking with a cane, being all alone and not being the same as they or he use to be. Doesn't that sound crazy?

However, the beats on number 13 were cool.

Some of their songs people can relate to because it is something everyone goes through. That is why I was able to listen. Not everyone is smart enough to put his or her problems in a song and make money from it.

I am not going to say their album sucks but it is not that bad after you get the gist of it. The Hippos do a good job for what they do and the audience this record is geared towards will truly enjoy it.



HIP HIP HOO- RAY! The Hippos Danny Rukasin, Rich Zahniser, Ariel Rechtshaid, James Bairian and Lou Castle dropped a perky record "Heads are Gonna Roll" on Aug. 24.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERSCOPE RECORDS

Ultimate Fakebook has humor

By Layne Gabriel

Ultimate Fakebook's newest album, "This Will Be Laughing Week," is exactly that: humorous.

The album sets a high school theme with the first track, "She Doesn't Even Know My Name." It sounds like a song the kids from "Grease" would have danced to.

The guitar on most of the album is rather bland, but combined with the drums and vocals, the songs begin to take life and sound good.

The fifth track, "A Million Hearts" added to the piece with a piano piece added to the simple vocals and basic beat. "A Million Hearts" is a much slower and rather peaceful song that sounds like something that one would hear at a prom.

The song is actually rather sad, with lead singer Bill McShane lamenting about a woman that may someday break a million hearts, including his own.

The album is sugary and not too pop-sounding for most listeners. It could at times be compared to Blink 182 on a calmer level

but Ultimate Fakebook has their own sound.

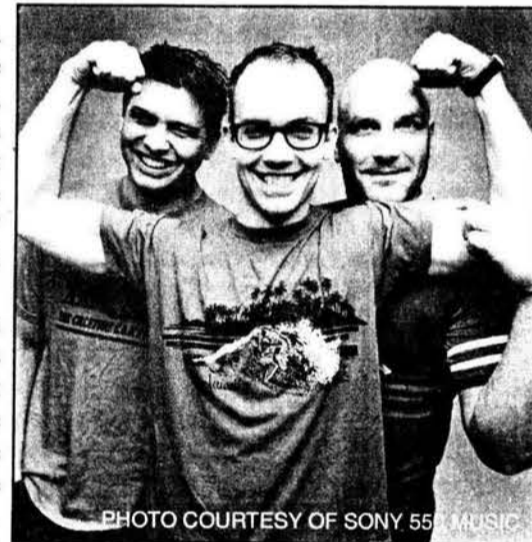
The title track is an optimistic song about how last week was overly depressing and now everything will be better. The acoustic guitar plus hand claps make the song cheerful, but not too perky.

"This Will Be Laughing Week" is followed by "Little Apple Girl," a song that sounds like Fenix TX or some of the more pop-punk bands.

One of the better songs on the album is track 10, "Far Far Away." The lyrics are dreamy, with the refrain asking if George Lucas will save the band from heartbreak. The song appears to be about movies, perhaps "Star Wars" in particular.

The album wraps up with "Perfect Hair," a song with very few lyrics and a really perky sound, thanks to the piano, but takes a quick turn to the harder side, or at least as hard as Ultimate Fakebook can get.

The album flows well and shows that the band knows what it is doing and where it wants to go with its music.



ABOVE: Eric Melin, Bill McShane and Nick Colby are Ultimate Fakebook

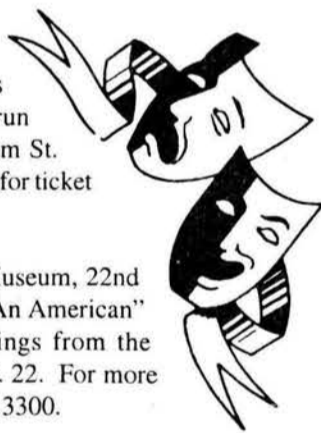
Local Productions & Shows

The Dundee Theatre on 4952 Dodge St. is featuring "The Castle," Sept. 14 through Oct. 21. Tickets are \$3.95 before 6 p.m. Seniors, children (3 to 11), and college students with ID get a discount. Contact the Dundee Dinner Theatre for more information and ticket reservations at 551.3595.

"Weird Al" Yankovic, king of pop parody, will be at the Civic Auditorium Music Hall on Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. Reserved seats are available at the Civic box office for \$25 or Ticketmaster at 422.1212. For more info call auditorium at 944.4750 or visit the Ticketmaster website at www.ticketmaster.com.

"Babe, the Sheep Pig" is playing at the Omaha Theatre Company for Young People. The play focuses on a sheep herding pig. It starts on Sept. 15 and will run through Oct. 1. The theater is located at 2001 Farnam St. Contact the Omaha Theatre Company for Young People for ticket information and reservations call 345.4849.

"Picturing Nebraska" will be at the Joslyn Art Museum, 22nd and Dodge St. through Nov. 26. "Marsden Hartley: An American" through Sept. 24. "20th Century American Drawings from the Arkansas Arts Center Foundation Collection" on Sept. 22. For more information and admission fees, call the Joslyn at 342.3300.



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MICHAEL GERHARDT/THE REGISTER

One of Omaha's newest hardcore bands, Art's Got a Gun, composed of current and former Central students, starts off with a bang.

ROCK ON! Hardcore band Art's Got a Gun played a backyard show at the home of lead singer Zack Peterson during August, on bassist Francis Rhoe's birthday. From left: junior Joseph Tingley, Central grad Peterson, senior Rhoe and former Central student Brian Mehan.

Look out for Art

The Only Time



Layne Gabriel

Tackling real life television

Hypothetical statement by corporate America: "Gather up a group and put them on television! Add some conflict and competition. We'll make millions!"

What the heck were they thinking?

With all the hype of new "real life" television shows, one can't help but wonder what kind of people would be on them. Try this question on for size: what show would you be on?

What is better? Is it spending a few months on a island in the middle of nowhere eating rats for the chance of winning a million bucks?

Or perhaps it would be more interesting to be carted around in a lousy Winnebago on "Road Rules" with a load of other intolentable people to do things that normally would not be done unless the participants were using heavy drugs.

Or the third choice is to be on camera 24 hours a day on "Big Brother." Contestants have the potential of getting removed from the show.

The final choice is "The Real World." Pack up and move into a huge mansion in a big city, get a job and get about five hours a day without the camera's voyeuristic eye.

What would I choose? "The Real World."

Now don't get this wrong, MTV is awful, but this show has to be one of the most addictive shows on the station. It's a soap opera starring a bunch of twenty-somethings that are too different for anything to logically work out.

Only recently began watching "The Real World" and have seen most of the Hawaii episodes and as many of the New Orleans episodes to date. The Hawaii kids created a coffee house/surf shop and the New Orleans kids are working on a cable access show.

But "The Real World," as usual, is full of conflict. Therefore, here is a brief synopsis of almost every season created:

- * The loudmouth
- * A devout religious person
- * A homosexual
- * A goofball
- * A really cute dude that has a girlfriend
- * A couple other useless people

How could "The Real World" be turned down, compared to eating, rats and driving across the country to complete missions?

Although "Survivor" got great ratings, what is more interesting than the show itself is why someone would watch it. The first five minutes of the last show were so boring that a movie sounded better.

The one thing that is annoying about "The Real World" is that every time I turn around, MTV is showing reruns of this season's shows. What is the purpose of repeating this torture continuously?

But hey, the cast is famous. Isn't that what everyone wants, their fifteen minutes of fame? And that would not like a few more than that!

Open-mic encourages creativity

The reporter recently went to the Medusa Project for her first time reading poetry on open mic night. This is her first-hand experience.

By Layne Gabriel

I wandered into the Medusa Project, an art gallery downtown, and found only one person working inside. For a moment I thought I was in the wrong place but, judging by the exhibit on the wall that I had read about, I was not.

I sat myself in the corner on the hard floor leaning against a wall. I picked through my writing, selecting my pieces for the night. A few people slipped in and out, getting ready to enjoy the evening.

Everyone there seemed to have one small notebook, but surrounding me was a collection of papers and notebooks scattered about as I tried to decide what to read for the night.

There were three pillows strewn all over the floor and the dozen people there used them to rest on. The microphone was plugged into a guitar amp and had no stand.

The atmosphere of the Medusa Project was very charming and quaint. The photography of the current exhibit on the walls was beautiful and the writing being shared was exquisite.

The featured reader of the night was Brian Bengtson.

Bengtson has HIV.

He told the audience that a lot of his work was about the effect of HIV and AIDS on

people. Bengtson was infected eight years ago. He seemed to be very in touch with his feelings.

His work was very strong and his talent was obvious from his first poem onward.

When he was finished, I nervously volunteered to read.

The whole time I read, I was slightly shaking and my voice was quivering.

It felt very odd to be able to utilize my voice to interpret my writing and make my words come alive to the people watching me.

It was awkward being the youngest one there and pouring out my world to people twice my age.

I was worried about how the audience felt about my writing, but I did get applause.

I ran through all the reasons in my mind that they would not have liked my writing. Was it bad writing, speaking too fast, tripping over words or something else? I found nothing wrong with what I had read.

Bengtson was a tough act to follow, but I think I did the best I could have.

Book has fans of all ages

By Ally Freeman

It has caused bookstores to stay open until midnight, kids to wear costumes in June and adults to be fascinated by wizards and magic.

The phenom is the fourth book in the "Harry Potter" series that transfixed the country this summer creating more hype than any children's book in years.

The series, written by J.K. Rowling, is planned to have seven books.

Senior Laura Hendee said she began reading the series to a child she was babysitting and got hooked.

"They are fun to read and I'm impressed by the writing," she said.

Hendee said she read the series, consisting of four books so far, in only three days.

She described the plot as the adventures of Harry, a young boy who is learning to become a wizard while foiling an evil wizard's violent plan in each book.

Hendee said whimsical books such as this series are a nice contrast to books read in class.

"The books are a good way to take a break for your brain," she said.

Central High School librarian Kristel Mayberry said she had anticipated a growing interest in the books this year and bought two copies of the first three books in the series, but so far students have had little interest in them. Mayberry said mainly staff members have checked out most of the books for their children.

Tierza Twork, the community relations coordinator at Borders bookstore on 72nd and Dodge, said prior to the release of the fourth Harry Potter book they took pre-orders three months in advance.

Twork said Borders also remained open until midnight to unveil the book and open

an hour early to sell more the next day.

Twork said they sold out of the book the first day.

She said she believes children are attracted to the book because they identify with the lead character since he is the same age as they are. Twork said she has also seen many adults express interest in the series.

"Adults like to see what their kids are reading and these books remind them of books they read when they were kids," she said.

Twork said she had never seen another series generate as much attention as the Harry Potter series has. It is still selling well almost three months after it was released, she said.

"Each one sells more than the previous book [in the series]," Twork said.

Junior Ian Atwood, a computer page at A.V. Sorenson library, said there was a waiting list of 350 people in expectancy of the fourth book.

Atwood said he himself chose to read the series to see if it lived up to the much-surrounded hype.

"In a sense they have [lived up to expectations]. I'm enjoying them thoroughly," Atwood said.

He believes that they are gaining so much attention because there has never been a series before that attracted both kids and parents to reading books.

Along with the novels, a movie is also planned.

Hendee said she is not eager for the movie because she fears it will ruin the series.

"Once you read something you picture how you think it is, and the movie changes your perception of that," she said.

However, she is anticipating the fifth book in the series and plans to be put on a waiting list to receive it as soon as possible.

Happenings

for September

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>19 Tuesday
 -CD Release: Madonna, 'Music'
 -CD Release: Bjork, 'Selma Songa'
 -Open Mic @ Stage Right
 -Riverdance @ the Orpheum until 9.24</p> | <p>22 Friday
 -Getgo Records @ the Ranch Bowl</p> |
| <p>20 Wednesday
 -Open mic @ Medusa Project</p> | <p>23 Saturday
 -"The Searchers", Kidney Foundation Fundraiser @ Indian Hills Theater</p> |
| <p>21 Thursday
 -Anakin's Podracer from Star Wars @ SAC Museum until 11.28
 -The Urge @ Royal Grove in Lincoln</p> | <p>24 Sunday
 -Mike Watt @ the Ranch Bowl
 -"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" closing performance @ the Omaha Community Playhouse</p> |

Next Week

- 9.25-CD Releases-Soulfly: 'Primitive' & 98 Degrees: 'Revelation'
- 9.27- Open mic @ the Medusa Project
- 10.1 Soulfly @ Sokol 7:30pm w/ Downset & Primer 55
- 10.9 Bright Eyes @ Sokol, 8:30 pm

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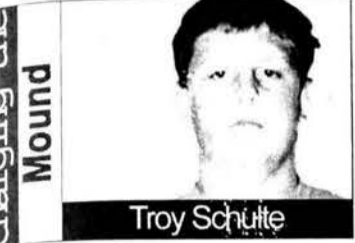
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Huskers face tough route to Miami, FL

The middle of September and long hot summer can only bring so many things to mind. One: the beginning of school, and two: another season of the most exciting sport in the country, college football.

With every season comes an unthinkable amount of questions regarding the season and what it will bring, questions that sportswriters and gamblers all over the country wish they had the answers to. Well, I'd just like to say I have the answers, and since I like you all so much I'll give you the answers to the five most important.

Q. Who, if anybody will upset the season top ranked Nebraska?

A. Most people say Kansas St., Colorado or maybe both, nope. If anyone in their extremely weak schedule will beat NU this year it will be the Oklahoma Sooners. OU has not beaten NU since 1990 when they were still bitter rivals. Now with second-year head coach Bob Stoops they finally have the talent and coaching to pull it off.

Q. Can super sophomore Michael Vick lead Virginia Tech to another undefeated regular season and a BCS bowl berth?

A. No. Vick is without a doubt the most talented player in the country and should win the Heisman trophy but, with the loss of nine starters off of last year's defense and Miami's sudden rise back to power, they won't even win the Big East.

Q. Out of the five most recent HS graduates to go on to Division I schools (Terrel Gardner Colorado St., Brandon Williams Michigan, Matt Billups Iowa St., Lornell McPherson Nebraska, and DeAntae Braxby), who will be the most successful?

A. Billups. Last winter he opted to attend Iowa St. over Nebraska so he had the chance to play running back. With the Cyclones having only one running back with any experience, he will get plenty of playing time and contribute to a growing program.

Q. What is the biggest surprise so far this season?

A. Bob Davie and his Notre Dame Fighting Irish. Last year's 5-season was less than stellar to Notre Dame standards. This year they upset Texas A&M in their opener and put scare into Nebraska losing to them overtime. That Nebraska game might just have been enough to keep Davie's job for at least another year.

Q. Now the most sought after position in the college football world, which will play on January 3rd the FedEx Orange Bowl for the national championship?

A. Florida State and Nebraska. Every year these two schools are packed with the best players in the country and placed at the top of the season rankings so, it seems that this would be the easy choice. Also, with Nebraska playing an easy conference schedule and with Florida State playing in the ACC they should be undefeated in the regular season.

Now, for whose going to win the game. The Seminoles have played the last two national championship games (this being their third) and their 28 year old quarterback should have the talent and experience to win.

But, if this year Nebraska can get a running back to hold on to their offense will be more dangerous than last year's and probably score 40 points a game, which would probably be enough to beat the Semionoles.

My prediction is that Nebraska will beat the Semionoles, 31 - 20. The five most sought after questions in the college football world and I just answered all of them free of charge, consider that a gift from me to you.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

IT'S NOT DELIVERY... Rob Wylie throws a right jab during his kickboxing match at Harvey's Casino on Sept. 3rd. He is the teammate of Central student, Matt Bentley, who won two bantamweight titles at this event

Central student captures title at national kickboxing event

By Seamus McMorris

Through displaying a barrage of knees and kicks, a Central junior became one of the National Amateur Kickboxing Final champions at the Harvey's Convention center.

The event also featured fights featuring Rob Wiley who has won several national titles

Matt Bentley, a junior at Central, won against his opponent, David Flurry, through three grueling rounds in a heated bout.

"It was one of the best fights I have ever been in", Bentley said.

Flurry, from Dubuque, Iowa, had started talk about the fight before hand with a few comments about Bentley.

"Bentley is overrated," Flurry said. "[Bentley] is going down in the ring."

Bentley started the bout with his ritual of bowing to every corner of the ring to pray that he will defeat his opponent. He seemed unfazed by his opponent's comments. When Bentley ended his ritual the fight began.

The first round began with a right kick from Bentley as the crowd went wild. After that, however, it was

a quick exchange of blows leaving both fighters weary. The rest of the first round was hard to watch as the lights momentarily went out.

As the lights came on, the fighters went right back to the bout and Flurry was knocked down. He quickly arose unhurt and was given an eight count by the referee.

The bell rang soon after that and as Bentley put his fists down, a right cross hit him in the face from Flurry. This enraged Bentley along with the comments before the fight from Flurry.

As the second round began, Bentley came out of his corner and started to work on the body of Flurry with knees and kicks. Flurry punched and kicked but Bentley was still able to attack.

The round can be summed up in one move... Bentley had Flurry up against the ropes,

as Bentley raised his right knee, his fist arose as well and when Flurry went to block the knee, Bentley knocked him down to the ground with a right hand to the face.

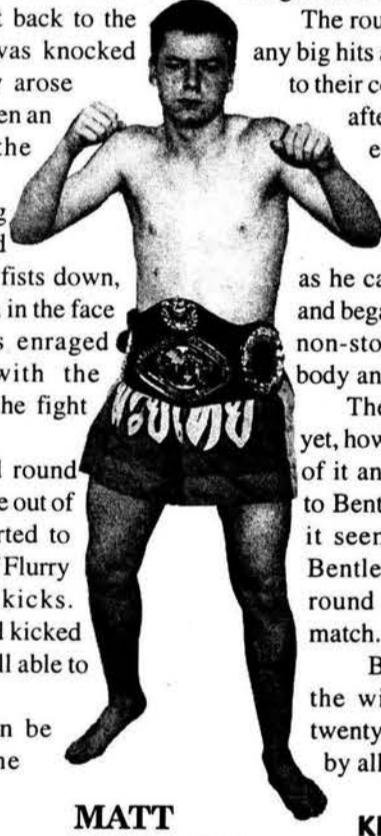
The round continued without any big hits and both fighters went to their corners weary and tired after the bell had rang to end the round.

Bentley, it seemed could not stop his aggression as he came out of his corner and began the third round with non-stop knees to Flurry's body and face.

The fight was not over yet, however, Flurry came out of it and landed several hits to Bentley's body. The fight it seemed was almost all Bentley as the end of the round was the end of the match.

Bentley was declared the winner in a thirty to twenty-six score registered by all three judges.

Turn to KICKBOXING, page 20



Coaches key in preventing violence

By Troy Schulte

Some people say that violence among high school athletes is an issue that needs to be addressed. Others, like Central head football coach Joe McMenamin, say that athletes receive more attention because of their athletic talent.

Over this past summer a Papillion La Vista offensive lineman was involved in a fight and was charged with first-degree assault.

"Kids get into fights all the time," McMenamin said in reaction to the incident.

Him being a talented football player made the incident newsworthy, otherwise nobody would have heard about it, McMenamin said. Psychologist Dr. Jack Stark agrees.

"You have to keep in mind that 15 to 20 percent of people have psychological problems," said Stark. Athletes are brought to the forefront, he said.

If problems like this take place over the summer, as with the

Papillion-La Vista lineman, there is not a lot coaches can do about it, Stark said.

"If it happened in the summer," McMenamin said, "I would look to the police and give anywhere from a one game suspension, to off the team."

Stark said that there is a lot coaches can do to prevent a problem from happening beforehand. He said that sometimes egos are a problem, and players are put in position to make mistakes and coaches should provide them with morals, if they do not get them at home, Stark said.

At every level coaches' jobs are at stake, McMenamin said. He said that sometimes coaches keep problematic players on the team in order to succeed. He does not agree with practicing that method and said that some coaches need to crack down more.

McMenamin said that in all his years at Central, there has never been a problem with one of his players regarding violence that he knows about.

Hunt for gymnastics coaches proves difficult

By Seamus McMorris

Central, North and Northwest have merged together in gymnastics to form a super team due to a lack of coaches and players, the gymnastics coach said.

Coach Linda Harrington said that the mixture of schools is not solely based upon the direct lack of players but the utter lack of coaches and resources as well.

"There are just not enough (coaches)," Harrington said.

Although the support from the North Athletic Department has been great, it is not enough, Harrington said. The funds they received only go so far until they have to start using fundraiser monies, Harrington said.

Harrington said that she is relying on the Assistant Coach Ray Matsunomi to coach the team because of her lack of experience as a coach.

"Matsunomi brings a lot of experience to the staff being in and out of gymnastics since he was a kid," Harrington said.

The lack of people is a big factor, though, the team only has about twenty people at the beginning of the year and end up with fifteen at the end of the year, Matsunomi said.

The sport seems to be dominated by females, especially with this particular team, only averaging about three men a year on a team of about eighteen, Matsunomi said.

"The season should start out a little worse than last year but the team should come together in the end",

Matsunomi said.

They only have three seniors and one junior with roughly ten sophomores and freshman. Although the team has a lot of youth this year, it also has a lot of depth, Matsunomi said.

"It's a young team", Matsunomi said.

Central senior Josie Wieland seems to agree. Wieland plays on the gymnastics team and seems to be a dominate leader for the team.

Wieland's career of gymnastics for the combination of schools almost did not happen. She was unable to obtain any information for the gymnastics team. "There was nothing", Wieland said.

Wieland said that because there was no information until a little blurb in the circular she had no idea what she was missing out on.

Wieland says that occasionally transportation can be a problem with school vans. She went on to say that there is some confusion on off days for one school creating scheduling problems.

Wieland says that she likes the way the coaches handle the problems that do come up and the fact that they are not afraid to try new things.

Wieland said that even with the problems that the combination of schools has, it is still pretty well organized.

Wieland said that most of the gymnasts first start in dance clubs before high school gymnastics.

"There are just not enough (coaches)."
 Linda Harrington, gymnastics coach

Ex-Central player strives for success in Green Bay

Chris Aponick

"Hard work always pays off" is the motto that I-Back High graduate, Ahman Green, has lived and died by ever since his days at Central.

"In the weight room and on the field, I have always given 110 percent," he said.

Green has used this advice, which was given to him by his stepfather, through high school, college at the University of Nebraska and now in the National Football League where he plays for the Green Bay Packers he said.

"I will probably be remembered as a hard-worker," Green said. "I always gave an extra effort if I felt a step behind."

Green said he has always pushed himself to never be beat.

In high school, Green mixed track with football. At the end of his junior year green was first in the state

in the 100 meter dash.

"In my senior year, I knew I had the athletic ability and I could meet my goals," he said.

Green said he had good teammates at Central and that everybody hung together.

"It was very team-oriented," he said "Coach Joe McMenamin instilled that in us. The team had a good time together."

However, Green did not start out playing high school football as an Eagle. He transferred from Omaha North at the start of his junior year and the two teams played each that season.

"The first half was a good game but the second half began with me making a 91 yard touchdown return. We (Central) won 28-14," Green said. "That's the most memorable game I have ever been in."

Green said he also gained experience playing in memorable games

while at Nebraska, as well. In his freshman year, he was part of the Nebraska national title team.

Another memorable game was at Washington State. He played the second half and rushed for 100 yards and two touchdowns.

"I had the confidence to play in college but that game proved I could," Green said.

Green said he learned new things when he started in the NFL.

"The main one was I learned how to read defenses better," he said.

Green was drafted by the NFL's Seattle Seahawks and played there until he was traded to Green Bay at the start of this season. Green said he was shocked about being traded. However, he has come to like Green Bay.

"It's almost identical to Nebraska. There's no baseball or basketball, just the Packers," Green said. "The town has really good fanfare."

He also said he likes Green Bay because it is a quiet town.

"I am a small town type of guy," he said.

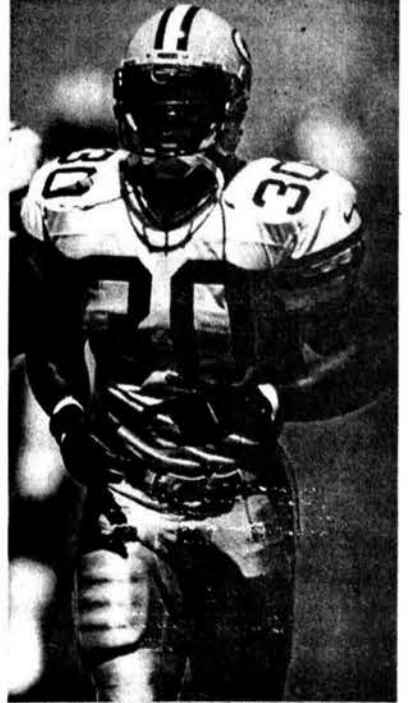
Green has already started in several games so far this season. He gained the starting position after Dorsey Levens, the Packers top runner last year, went down with a leg injury. Green also had to recover from an injured leg.

"I only wanted to play if I was at 100 percent. I want to get 100 yards a game and get some catches," Green said. "I want to be able to run hard out there."

Green said that the hardest part of coming back off the injury was the first day of practice.

"The first day in pads I was slow because of the knee brace. I wanted to crank it up the next day," Green said.

Green said he hopes that he can contribute to the Packers.



JIM BIEVER/GREEN BAY PACKERS
NUMBER 30 Ahman Green adjusts to life in Green Bay.

EAGLES #1



Emily Neumann/The Register

GO CENTRAL! Central Eagle fans get pumped up for the Central vs. Creighton Prep game on Fri., Sept 1 at Berquist stadium. Central was having problems in their opening game against Creighton Prep, but that did not keep Central fans from showing their support. From left to the right: Ty Griess, Tim Davey, Robert Fogarty, Clinton Lloyd, David Piskac, Scott Pearson, Christopher Ingraham, Justin Furby and Jason Goosen.

Former Eagle overcomes injuries to play for NU

By Troy Schulte

One former Central High football standout's college football career is just getting off the ground, even though he played his last game as an Eagle almost three years ago.

DeAntae Grixby, a 1997 all-state defensive back who graduated from Central in 1998, is just starting his football career at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln after battling two years of serious injuries.

During the last game of his high school career in the 1998 state playoffs, Grixby, who also started as I-Back, separated his shoulder and eventually had to have surgery on both shoulders to correct this.

While a freshman at Nebraska Grixby tore his anterior crucial ligament (ACL).

Both of those injuries were enough to put Grixby on the sidelines for two years. Grixby tried to make the best of a bad situation while he sat on the sidelines for two full seasons.

"I got to stand on the sidelines and watch them [teammates] on TV," Grixby said, "I was just a fan."

This season Grixby is listed as a freshman. He made his collegiate debut on Sept. 2 against San Jose St.

During that first game he returned kickoffs and had one carry for nine yards on the last drive of a 49-13 blowout.

Even though he got limited playing time Grixby understands his role as a backup to starters Dan Alexander and Correl Buckhalter.

"I just want to help out on special teams," Grixby said, "and step in and contribute in case of an injury."

As for the expectations of the 2000 Cornhuskers, Grixby says there is one thing on their minds, that is to win the FedEx Orange Bowl for the national championship.

"We're just going to go game by game," Grixby said, "and show everyone in the world who the best team in the country is."

Of all the things he accomplished

during his career at Central, there is one thing that sticks out in Grixby's mind and he says he will never forget.

"Beating Prep my junior year," he said, "of all the stars to come through here we were the second team since 1960 to beat Prep, that was just so fun."

On that October night in 1998 Central rolled over Prep from starting to finish beating them for the first time since 1984.

In the game Grixby carried the ball 15 times for 191 yards (167 yards coming in the second half) and a 25 yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter putting the final touches on a 28-7 Eagle win.

In his junior year, Grixby ran for 966 yards and 8 touchdowns averaging 107.3 yards-per-game.

That yards-per-game average was good enough for 10th in the state.

Central was 7-2 that season heading into the state playoffs before losing to Papillion/La Vista in the quarterfinals.

Grixby's senior season was not as successful with them going 4-5 in the regular season but still landed a spot in the state playoffs.

In the first round they shut out Millard West 19-0, in that game Grixby ran 6 times for 42 yards before separating his shoulder ending his high school career.

Central went on to play Millard South losing 17-0 ending their season. During the 1997 season Grixby ran for 943 yards and 10 touchdowns his 104.8 yards per game was good enough to rank 8th in the state.

Right now Grixby is finishing up his studies and is scheduled to graduate in two years.

After he graduates, Grixby said he would like to get his masters degree in business and become a graduate assistant.

He said he would then like to become an assistant coach for a college football team, preferably at NU. "I would like to stay in football somehow," Grixby said, "Just not as a player, I think this is it for me."

Terrell Gardner

Former Eagle starts out at Colorado State

By Seamus McMorris

One former Central eagle discovered what life can mean after high school.

Terrell Gardner, a former Central eagle, has been continuing his football career at Colorado State University (CSU) with the Colorado State Rams.

Although Gardner does not start for the Rams, he plans to by the end of the season.

At the moment he plays strong side guard, playing backup to Brodrick Lanaster.

He has his work cut out for him, with learning the new system of plays and formations, but he says that he plans to have it all down by the end of this season.

Gardner said that there is a major difference between high school and college football.

He said that things move a lot faster in college football and he just concentrates on offensive, as opposed to high school where he worked on just about everything.

Gardner also said that there is

more competition for college football and that he has to work foreverything a lot harder. Gardner said that even though he enjoys college football, he misses high school football.

He says that he likes the coaching staff at CSU but misses Coach McMenamin and the coaching staff at Central because it was not as much work and more fun.

"Its like the best from every school", Gardner said.

Coach Joe McMenamin said that he has fond memories of his former starter. McMenamin said that he was a good player due to his size and tremendous speed.

Gardner was well liked on the team and received no special accommodations while he played said McMenamin.

McMenamin also said that Gardner's best moment was against Creighton Prep his senior year.

McMenamin said that Gardner was a leader in the line and the line looked up to him as a player.

"Terrell was more than just size," McMenamin said.

Gardner said that he most enjoyed the opening games and the Benson games because of the trash talk.

But he said that his favorite game was against Prep his senior year.

In that game Gardner had the key block that let Brandon Williams go on a ninety-yard run to score a touchdown for the Eagles.

"I cracked that guy," Gardner said

Gardner did well his senior year with twenty-four tackles, thirty-seven assists and two fumble recoveries for the year.

When asked about his future plans, Gardner responded by saying that he would like to go onto the pros, but he knows that sometimes that does not always work out.

He plans to fall back on his degree in computer sciences with a minor in finances if he needs to.

"I'm blessed with this talent," Gardner said

"I cracked that guy!"

Terrell Gardner, former Eagle

Gleaming the cube



KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER

The Good Times are Killing Me Tour passed through Omaha on Tuesday, August 22. They skated at Robert's park which featured skaters Ethan Fowler, Kris Markovich and Jon West.

LEFT: Jeff Chase, sponsored by Bykez, Bordz, and Bladz, does a tail stall on the snake run before dropping in.

Imperial Palace

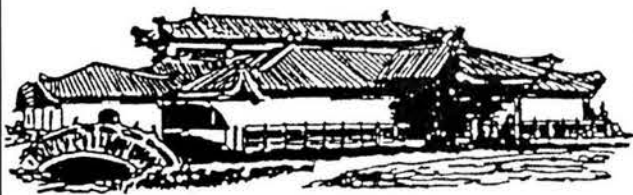
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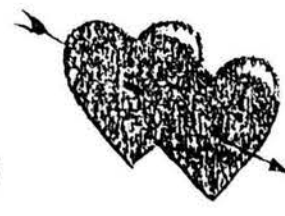
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TRUE LOVE WAITS

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

September 18, 2000

PAGE 19

GIRLS GOLF

Coach: Wendy Olson
 Returning letterwinners: Libby Dyer (11), Ashley Krijan (10), Alyx Matyja (12), Katie Pryor, Jordan Zendejas (10), Abby Olbirtz, Kenzie McCall (11)
 Outlook for this season: An average season is expected Olson said.
 The team has played three matches and have won one so far.

Key games this year: Metros- September 27
 Districts- October 2
 Key players this year: Ashley Krijan (10)
 Alyx Matyja (12)
 How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?
 "I don't know, this is my first year," Olson said.

2000

GYMNASTICS

Coach: Linda Harrington
 Record last year: 7th at state
 Returning letterwinners: Six

Outlook for this season: A lot of youth with not many seniors. It's a young team so it will be a little rough
 Key games this year: Metro for girls- nice learning experience and a lot of people with major competition
 Millard North- best team in the state so it's always a challenge
 Millard South Invite- Lots of people with a competitive atmosphere
 Key players this year: Josie Wieland- She is a powerful leader
 Lindsay Herrington- She is a good leader and a great gymnast
 Liz Pavlik- She is a promising talent.
 How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?

vious season?
 "This season will start worse but it will get better. They have a lot of depth this year with a lot of younger people on the team,"



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER
JOCIE WIELAND (12)

CROSS COUNTRY

Coach: Tim Shipman
 Returning letterwinners: Carlos Zendejas (12), Andrew Danford (12), Graham Engdahl (12), Adam Deacon (11), Ryan Shaw (10), Marie Engdahl (11), Jamie Hills (10), Meredith Grunke (10), Cori Gustafsen (10)

Outlook for this season: We have a good mix of underclassmen and sophomores, we should improve and be competitive. The goal is to try and build a team, Shipman said.
 Key meets this year:

Metros- Oct. 5th
 Districts- Oct. 12th
 Key runners this year: Chris Gorga was 8th at state last year. Ryan Shaw and Carlos Zendejas will also be important, Shipman said. Marie Engdahl and Meredith Grunke are the main girls.
 How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?
 The men's team has a good mix of sophomores and juniors and should improve, Shipman said. While the girls will try to be more competitive, he said.



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER
CARLOS ZENDEJAS (12)

VOLLEYBALL

Coach: Jodi Dierks
 Record last year: 18-13
 Returning starters: 3
 Robyn Sorensen, Holly Greenamyre, Emily Prest
 Outlook for this season: It is a very athletic team, but it has a lot of youth in many positions. Therefore, the team is improving a lot with

every game. The team will struggle early but will end strongly," Dierks said.
 Key games this year: Papillion, Bellvue West, Marian, and Millard North, they are all top ten teams.
 Key players this year: Holly Greenamyre and Robyn Sorensen because they have the most experience and are leaders. Also, Angela Capellupo because she is new to the setting position (the quarterback of volleyball.)
 How do you think this season will compare to last?

This season they strive to have more than 20 wins under their belt, as opposed to 18 in 1999.



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER
CENTRAL VOLLEYBALL IN ACTION

SOFTBALL

Coach: Kerri Murtaugh
 Asst. Coach: Scott Wilson
 Record last year: 10-14
 Returning letterwomen: Emily Lykke (12), Angela Fredrickson (12), Jessica Gofa (12), Emily Felix (11), Bernhardt (11), Emily Miller (10), Kate Muldoon (10)

September 18th
 Papillion La Vista Invite- September 16th
 Districts- October 5th & 6th
 Key players this year: Jenny Miller (10)
 Ashley Wilds (9)
 Emily Muskin (9)

How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?
 "We are a lot younger and have less experience," Wilson said.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER
KATE MULDOON (10)

FOOTBALL

Coach: Joe McMenamin
 Record last year: 8-3
 Returning starters: Four on offense and four on defense
 Outlook for this season: The potential is good. Our goal is to make the state playoffs and see how far we can get from there," McMenamin said.

Key games this year: Our district games. The teams in our district are Millard South, Bellevue West, Westside and Burke. "If we win these, it guarantees that we go to state," McMenamin said.
 Key players this year: Jamar Dorsey and Nick Lemek on the

offensive line. Quarterback, George Davis is a two year starter.
 "He is the glue for the team," McMenamin said.
 Running back, David Horne, and wide receivers, AJ Anderson and Mark Leflore.
 How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?
 "It will be the same type of team as last year. It will be as good on defense and hopefully about the same for offense. The defense has Clifton Gintz as linebacker, Mike Paltan as defensive end and Marlon Carter in the secondary," McMenamin said.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER
JAKE PEDERSEN (11), JOSH SPRACKLIN (12)

TENNIS

Coach: Matt Shafer
 Returning starters: 3
 Outlook for this season: Graduated a lot of players that are missed and also played doubles. Several top players who have improved a lot. A couple of seniors who have tournament experience. A lot of guys are getting their first varsity experience. Its a young team.

Key matches this year: Papillion Invite. It is in two weeks and its a big tournament with lots of schools. Metro st. army compete at North invite could win would help confidence.
 Key players this year: Singles: Ian Sansom and Edward Yin
 Doubles: Seniors, Justin Furby and Mike Kruger. Also, Dennis Yin and Rob Garvin, who is a freshman. These six players will compete at mostly all of the tournaments
 How do you think this season will compare to the previous season?
 "Last year, we had several players that had experience. This year, several players have not played in a tournament. We are starting back from square one," Shafer said.



KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER
IAN SANSOM (12)



ED YIN (11)
 KAITLIN DAVIS/THE REGISTER

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TRAINER'S CORNER



Safe training beats the heat

Central's athletic trainer, Jeanee Weiss, discusses heat illnesses.

What are the warning signs?

Heat illness may vary in degree of seriousness; therefore warning signs may be different. Heat cramps are involuntary spasms of the muscle and may occur without warning. Heat exhaustion is caused by the dehydration and overheating of the body. Signs may include dizziness, weakness, nausea, and profuse sweating. Heat strokes are characterized by loss of consciousness, body temperature of 106 degrees, lack of sweating, and clammy skin.

What happens to an athlete's mindset as heat illness start set in?

Once the athlete recognizes that he/she is experiencing some form of heat illness, he/she may become confused due to the dehydration, or he/she may begin to panic. Should such illnesses occur a number of times, the athlete may become discouraged in participating from that particular sport, or exercise in general.

Do the risks of some injuries increase if training in the heat?

Yes. In addition to the heat illness previously discussed, injuries as a result of exhaustion or fatigue increase. In the heat, your body fatigues faster, putting you at risk for sprains (stretching of ligaments), strains (stretching of muscle or tendon), fractures.

What is the best prevention?

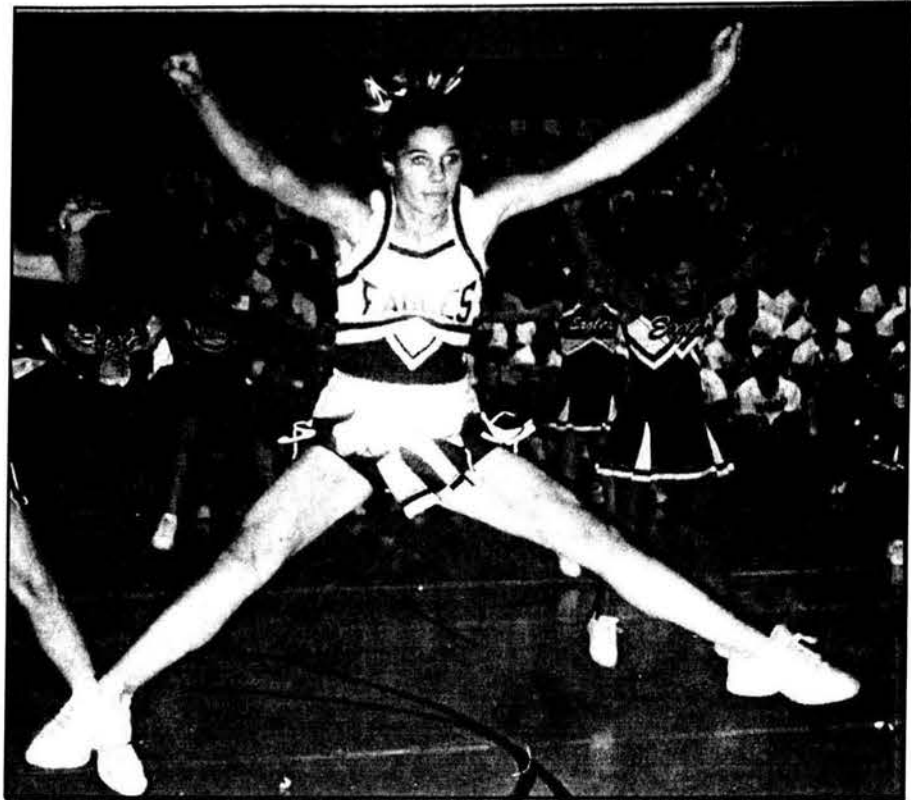
If you're hoping to prevent heat illnesses, consume at least two quarts of water per day, wear loose-fitting cotton clothing that allows your skin to breathe and evaporate sweat, and choose cooler times of the day to exercise.

What is the best treatment?

When dealing with any heat illness, the most important step you can take is to cool the body. This may be accomplished by stopping the activity, moving into the shade or air conditioning, wipe the body with cool wet towel, drink water, and immerse in ice/water if needed.

What are the main factors that cause heat illnesses in athlete?

When the athlete has not consumed adequate fluid prior to activity. Causes such as dark clothing, wearing rubberized or spandex clothing and practicing between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. are also factors that put the athlete at greater risk of developing heat illnesses.



NIKKI SEFFRON: shows her school spirit while performing with the cheerleading squad during the fall pep rally.

Central kickboxer wins championship

Kickboxing, from page 17

Bentley fought at the National Amateur Kickboxing Finals for a vacant bantamweight belts in Muay Thai.

The judges decided Bentley the winner in a 30-26 score by all three judges. Bentley became the victor by unanimous decision.

Bentley fought at the National Amateur Kickboxing finals for a vacant belt in the bantamweight division for Muay Thai. Muay Thai is a form of kickboxing that allows knees and elbows.

Bentley has now been awarded the International Kickboxing Federation Bantamweight Muay Thai Championship belt and the International Kickboxing Federation United States Bantamweight Muay Thai Championship belt for his win over Flurry.

Bentley is now ranked number one in the United States and number two in the world.

This ranking did not come overnight, however. It has come over the years with a lot of hard work and training.

It all started at age nine when his mother entered Bentley into self-defense lessons because of the kids picking on him in school.

Bentley's coach and teacher, Mick Doyle, saw potential in him at an early age and entered him in point sparring competition. However, Bentley was not terribly successful and both Bentley and his coach thought that Muay Thai and Kickboxing would be the best place for him.

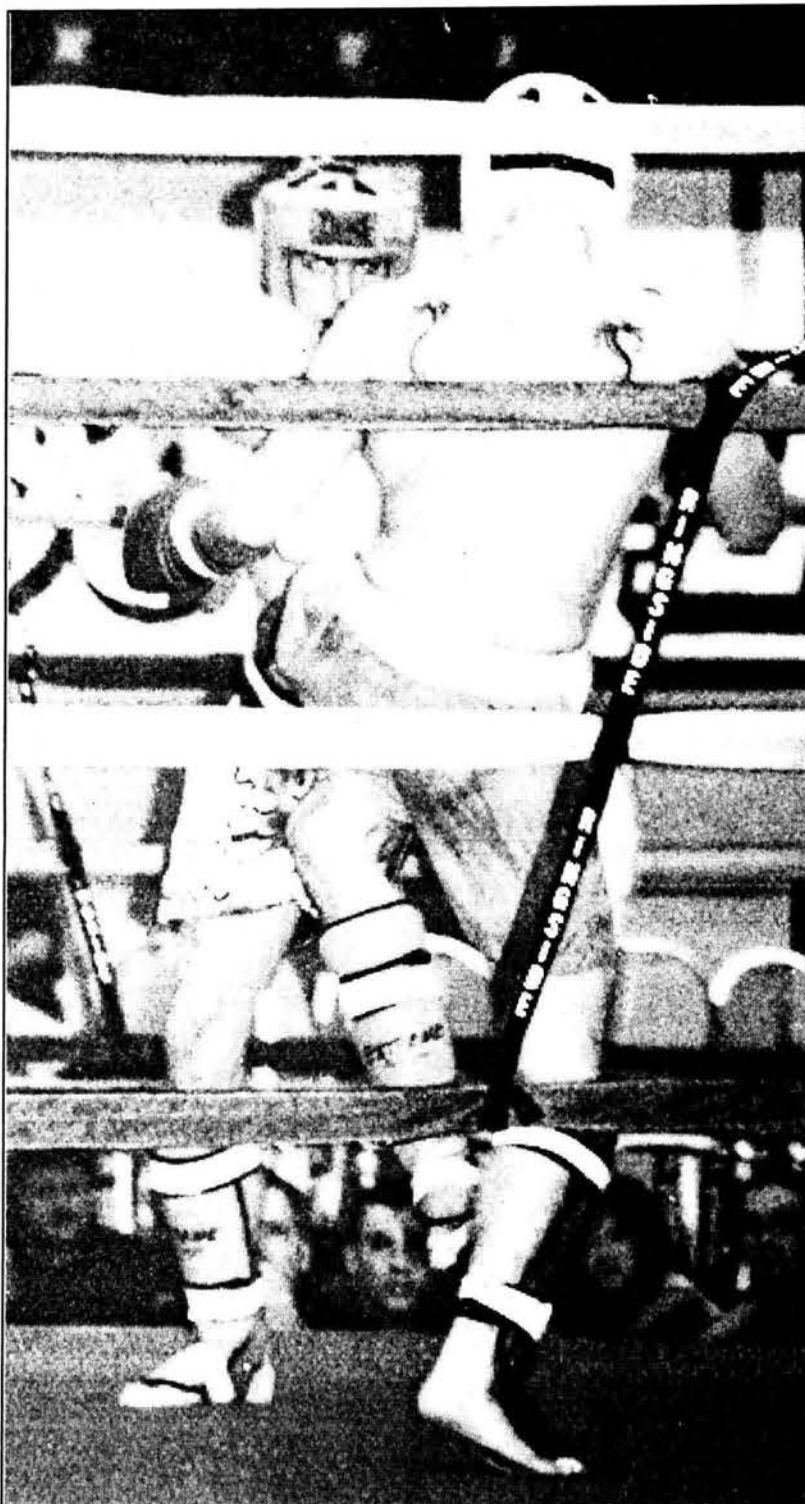
In Bentley's seven years of training, he has traveled to Ireland twice and has had a recent trip to Thailand. He may not have come back with the win but he always retained his dignity and honor.

Bentley is now captain of the United States Junior Competition team. This team not only does Muay Thai fighting, but Low Kick, and Above the Waist kickboxing as well.

The team has been challenged by

the Belarouse team and the Ireland team. Even though Bellarouse fighters have been highly successful, Bentley said that he and his team are

up for any challenge. Muay Thai is supposedly going to have an official Olympic sport in the 2004 Olympics.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

KICK: Rob Wiley attempts to finish off his opponent with a kick during his bout at the National Amateur Kickboxing final held at Harvey's Casino on Sept. 3rd.

Husker webcast paves new roads for broadcasting

By Chris Aponick

The Internet broadcast of the Sept. 2 Nebraska football game may start the trend that affects how people watch sports, the University of Nebraska sports information director said.

Shamus McKnight said that the Sept. 2, 2000 webcast of the Nebraska-San Jose State game was the start of a good trend that he would like to see continue.

The game's broadcast was viewed by more than 200,000 computer users, McKnight said.

This is the first Division I football game that had been broadcasted on the Internet," Nebraska Educational Television executive producer, Bill Ganzel said. He said the broadcast generated many positive responses from around the world.

We received e-mails from China, Holland, England and New Zealand," Ganzel said. "In China, a group of Husker fans gathered around a computer to watch the game."

The webcast's reception was pretty good for a computer with a 56K-modem, Central social studies teacher, Bill Tucker said.

Tucker said he would watch a Husker webcast again.

NETV broadcasted the game along with FOX Sports. Most of the technology behind the game belonged to NETV McKnight said.

The process NETV uses to broadcast on the Internet is called "streaming video" Ganzel said.

"NETV has been streaming audio/video for other Nebraska sports for over one year now" Ganzel said. "We stream the games so people outside of the area can watch the games."

The broadcast was done using the cameras that are used to provide the video feed to the big screen televisions inside Memorial Stadium. The feed is then sent to NETV through an underground fiber-optic channel. NETV proceeded by putting the images up on satellites. A company hired by FOX Television then brings down the video off the satellite's feed. It is then placed on a computer and they put it on the Internet.

The Huskers' radio announcers provided the audio commentary. Viewers were able to log on to FOX Sports' website or Huskers.com to

watch the game. However, many Central students and staff had trouble with the game reception on their computers.

Junior Cole Schulte watched the game from Circuit City where he works.

The computer streaming the game put the game up onto a big screen television. The reception looked bad and the audio feed went ahead of the video," Schulte said.

Nick Delman, freshman, said the video feed had still screens and had to reload the site several times. "It took forever too get on," Tucker said.

Central social studies teacher, Gene Boeka said he was impressed with the quality.

"I would prefer to listen to it on the radio," Boeka said.

The webcast was not able to be a television quality production due to the transmission. McKnight said a 56K modem does not get as good of reception as a high-speed connection," he said.

Omaha mainly has cable modems. However, cable modems have the best quality reception. Ganzel said.

"If people are on modems, frankly they (the video streams) are going to be really bad," Ganzel said. "They will not have smooth motion and may look like a slideshow." Video is hard to send down modems because of their size Ganzel said.

As more people watch Internet webcasts, they will begin to demand better quality in production, Ganzel said.

This could be a reality because Nebraska may choose to provide them McKnight said.

Nebraska football games may be webcast depending on the television schedule.

"If the Nebraska games are not selected by ABC or FOX's Big 12 coverage, if there is no other way without the Internet, then we will webcast them," McKnight said.

However, the ability to stream streaming video could also be used by high school Ganzel said.

"It is perfectly within the ability of high schools to do it," Ganzel said. "Maybe it would be only one camera but the cost for the technology is not that much. It would be easy to do a live video stream and put it on the school website."

For the Nebraska sports scene, the Internet is a new option, McKnight said.

Central sinks as Southeast dominates

**ratings as of 9-14-00

Lincoln Southeast is once again at the top of Nebraska high school football.

This time it is exerting its dominance through a defense that has not allowed a point in two games. This is a defense that wins state championships and because of that they are ranked number one in the September Register Prep Rankings.

On the other hand, seven points is all that separates the Central Eagles from an undefeated season. Central has fallen to Creighton Prep, 28-27, and to Bryan, 28-22.

Central has struggled due to its tough schedule and a group of relatively inexperienced players. However, if Central wins district games at Burke, at Westside, and home games against Millard South and Bellevue West, it will find itself in the hunt for the state title again.

Creighton Prep has barely won both of its games.

Millard West holds the middle ground at number 5 after a close loss, 38-28, at Papillion.

Eight teams are undefeated in the top 10 and anyone could be at the top when state playoffs roll around.

PREP FOOTBALL RANKINGS

1	Lincoln Southeast	2-0
2	Omaha Creighton Prep	2-0
3	Millard West	2-0
4	Papillion-La Vista	2-0
5	Omaha Bryan	2-0
6	Millard North	1-1
7	Omaha Burke	2-0
8	Grand Island	2-0
9	Omaha Central	0-2
10	Omaha Westside	2-0

The Opinion of the Register Sports staff

Central's offensive line establishes unity

By Chris Aponick

Having strength and unity as a group, accepting their roles on the team and helping out the team as the season gets rolling, are the three paramounts for Central's junior-led offensive line.

The line is separated from the rest of the team in practices Jamar Dorsey, right tackle, said.

"We practice in a small group. There is more intensity in the practices," he said.

Unity is also built in how the line works on the field because the offensive line has to move together. The running back and the quarterback only do one thing, but the (offensive line) have to know what the other guys are going to do," Dorsey said.

However, a strong unity also serves to help when things do not go according to plan.

"Sometimes you have to improvise. You have to be ready to give up your body for the good of the team," left guard, Nick Lemek said.

We have a couple of kinks to work out but we have gelled really well Dorsey said.

Two of the starting linemen have had to fill holes left by injured players. There was a lot of adversity caused by the injury to former right guard, N. Johnson, but David Kass

stepped up to replace him. "Kass had to learn all the positions," Lemek said.

David is a humble guy, but he is not shy on the field, Dorsey said. "He won't shy away from a little violence," Dorsey said.

Center Matt Foreman also had to fill a vacancy left by an injury to Sherrod. Foreman came in with no complaining, Dorsey said.

"I am just happy to step up and to play," Foreman said.

Both players learned their positions very quickly.

"At first, Foreman did not know how to snap the football," Lemek said. "He snaps pretty good now."

Central's linesmen know their importance in creating a successful football season.

"Central has a history of great running backs, but they need offensive line to open up holes," Dorsey said.

Last year, Central had two 1000-yard rushers. That was attributed to a good line.

"If you do not have a good offensive line then you cannot do anything," Dorsey said.

The offensive line is the most underrated part of football, he said. "Without us, there would be no superstar running backs," Lemek

said. "However, our reward is seeing the running back make a 50-yard touchdown and knowing I made an integral block," Lemek said.

The line also is ready to help out as the team tries out its new offensive on its rivals. Hopefully, the team will be able to win games due to its new look, he said.

"We are hoping to open up more passes," Dorsey said. "The makes us an unpredictable team."

The evenly mixed pass and run attack gives the team more dimensions, Lemek said. The season's early success was to get revenge on Creighton Prep who they split games with last season.

"Prep is everybody's best match up and their rivalry," Dorsey said. Central played Prep on Sept. 11 which was their first game this season. They lost 28-27.

"We had all year to think about this game," Dorsey said. "We needed to come out fired up and play 48 minutes of hard, smash mouth football."

Dorsey said that he wants to meet Prep again.

Despite this loss, the line continues to grow along with state title aspirations.

"I want to go to Lincoln and win state this year," Dorsey said.