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Central High School

IT TIME NSDA/ITA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER

A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

H1N1 scares, raises awareness

BY INDYA WALDEN

With all of the recent cases of the H1N1 virus, most commonly known as swine flu, there has been much confusion throughout the community as well as Central High School.

Since the start of the outbreak this summer many adults as well as teens have become more aware of the people around them. The sales of hand sanitizer among other disinfectant products have shot up drastically.

During the summer many lost their lives to this new virus. The virus started its wrath in Mexico where it killed both young and old.

Now that the swine flu has made its way to the United States parents, doctor's offices and hospitals alike are trying to keep this epidemic at bay.

So many the country and world over have become plagued with the virus. Countless lives have been claimed by this new found killer. Now that it has come to Central, both staff and students are making sure that everyone is healthy.

So far, there has been at least one confirmed case of the virus at Central since the beginning of the school year.

The school has taken precautions to ensure the health and safety will be put at a higher priority. Along with the daily announcements reminding all students to cover their sneezes and coughs, administration has given teachers supplies of toilet paper and hand sanitizer to keep in their classrooms.

"I'm happy we're provided with hand sanitizer and tissue so my student won't get sick and there will be fewer absences," said teacher Jen Jacobson.

With classrooms becoming emptier, many students are starting to have mixed feelings about what is really happening.

"It's kind of scary because of how quickly it came and how rapidly it's spreading," said senior Brianna Foster. "It seems like a lot of people are sick and it isn't even winter yet."

Many students like Foster have the same feelings toward many of their peers becoming so sick in such a short amount of time.

In their attempts to stay healthy, some students have gone as far as wearing surgical masks during the school day.

Even though many students try to avoid becoming sick, there are some that aren't into the hype of the virus as much as others are.

"I think a lot of people are making a big deal about it when it doesn't need to be," said senior Tanesha Parker. "I mean a lot of people are getting sick but that doesn't automatically mean they have the swine flu. Especially since it's just now getting cold outside."

Since the creation and distribution of the swine flu vaccine there has been a lull in the uproar of uncertainty. But, many are still worried about their state of health during this year's flu season.

Symptoms of H1N1 Virus

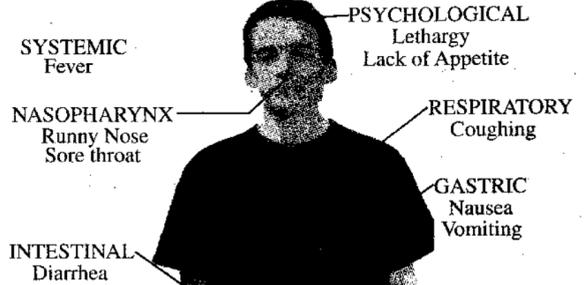


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DARIA SEATON/REGISTER

Omaha Public Schools celebrates 150 years

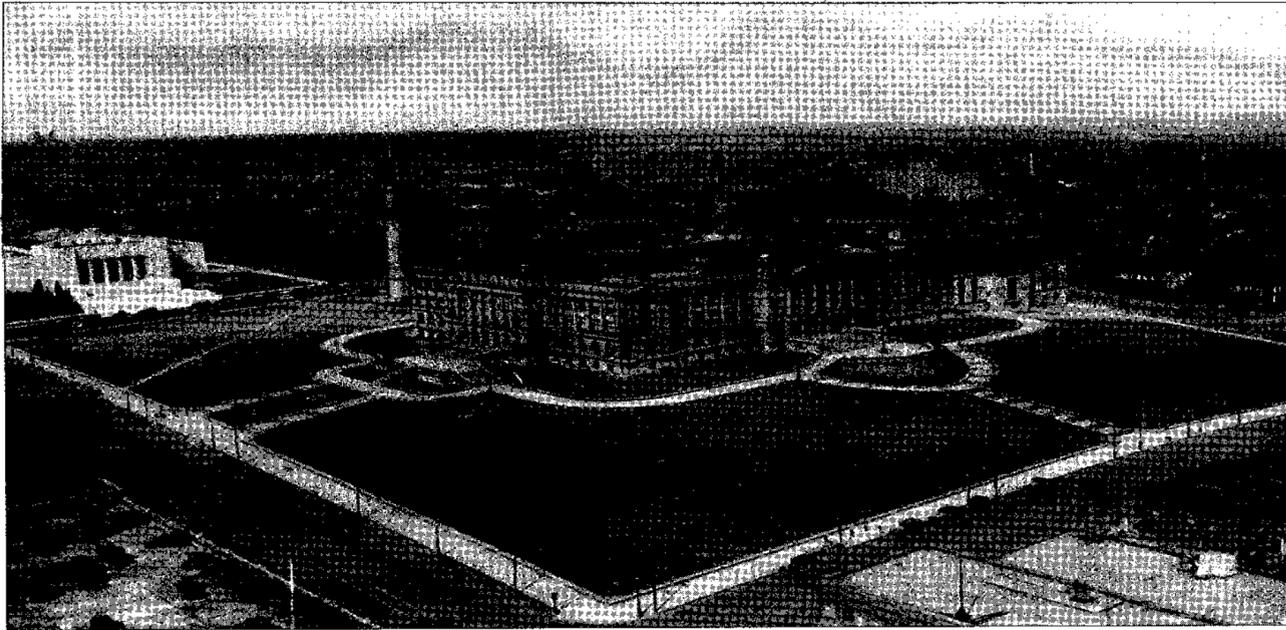


PHOTO COURTESY OF BARRY COMES

In 1930, Central High School was given a new auditorium after Dodge Street was graded. As the first Omaha Public School to open its doors, Central celebrates 150 years along with the district.

BY EMMA MINCER

Days by days, years by years, students stride through the hallways of Omaha Central High, contributing to 150 years of excellence.

Beginning in 1859, the first high school students in Omaha attended class in an old territorial state house. This led to the start of Omaha High School which simultaneously started Omaha Public Schools, or OPS, and created the school Central is today. The current building was finished in 1912.

This year is one of the most important because Central is celebrating its 150th anniversary. To commemorate this historic year, students will be seeing events like the Family Festival in October and Rock the Nest in April, which will show just how much history Central has.

"Central has such a long history," said Greg Emmel, principal.

Indeed it does. Emmel said that the new bronze plaque

in the courtyard, on the 2 side, was actually found in the basement of City Hall. Originally, it was from the old Omaha High School building, probably to commemorate Arbor Day in 1867 but was taken down when Omaha High was torn down.

After being around for many years, Central has become known for its academic settings as well as its staff for their teaching excellence.

"I think that not all but most of the faculty show positive interest in our academic achievement," said sophomore Ayah Nuwwarah.

The performing arts department is also in fine shape according to junior Colin Herman.

"School is amazing because of 8th and 9th hour," Herman said. "I spend it with stage crew."

For students who wish to become involved with the 150th anniversary, of not just Central but OPS, too, the

Family Festivals will be held every Saturday in October, beginning Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Oct. 3, however, the Festival for Central High School and South High School were held at South's building.

"We wanted to include families and the community to celebrate with us," said Luanne Nelson, director of the Office of Public Information.

Another activity for students to participate in will be held at the Durham Museum located at 801 S. 10th St. Nelson said this will be an exhibit on the 150th anniversary of OPS and the history behind it. One of the displays that will be shown is 300 photographs that depict students from the late 1800s to the present. This exhibit will occur during the month of December.

Yet, with all the festivities to celebrate this sesquicentennial year, there is still so much more history to uncover.

Shakespearean actors perform Macbeth

BY EMMA MINCER AND ALEX TRAN

The Nebraska Shakespeare Team came to Central on Oct. 2 as part of its annual fall tour. The team performed Shakespeare's Macbeth. Senior students in honors and advanced placement were allowed to attend.

Because of time constraints, the team was forced to perform an abridged version of Macbeth. Director A. Bryan Humphrey shortened the play to 70 minutes and adapted it for a six-person cast.

He was quoted on the play's program, saying, "What's it like to adapt Shakespeare's Macbeth down to a seventy minute performance by six actors? Think of capturing the essence of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony in seven minutes played by six instruments. Or better yet, just imagine getting a bull elephant into a pair of pajamas."

The six-person cast included, in order of appearance, Dakotah Brown, who played Banquo and a wounded sergeant, Sean Carlson, who played Malcolm and Murderer 2, Sarah Carlson-Brown, who played the witch, handmaid,

porter, and old crone, Vincent Carlson-Brown, who played Macbeth, Brian Frederick, who played Duncan, Macduff, and Murderer 1, and Maria Vacha, who played Lady Macbeth.

Macbeth is a Shakespearean tragedy about an honorable soldier who, suffering from corruption and greed, commits regicide. The play follows the its aftermath. According to the written play, the plot begins when soldiers Macbeth and Banquo encounter three witches after winning a battle against rebel forces. The witches prophesize, in the famous lines "All hail, Macbeth! Hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor! All hail, Macbeth! That shalt be king hereafter," that Macbeth, who is currently the Thane of Glamis, will succeed the more prestigious position as Thane of Cawdor. They prophesize that Macbeth will be made king of Scotland and further prophesize that Banquo will be the father of a great line of kings. Shortly afterwards, Macbeth becomes Thane of Cawdor.

Continued to 'Play' on page 9

Omaha sustains several budget cuts

BY CHELSEA THOMAS AND EMMA MINCER

Nearly 100 protesters - children on bikes, mothers pushing strollers, adults on street corners - stood united on the morning of Wednesday Aug. 12, in front of the Florence Library holding posters and books to send a message to Omaha City Hall to keep their library open.

To balance the city's \$12 million deficit by the end of this year, Mayor Jim Suttle's office had announced the latest layoffs, cuts in police enforcement, and the closing of some Omaha Public Libraries. Suttle's suggested actions should reduce the city's deficit to an estimated \$3 million. The latest cuts in Omaha Public Libraries led to 55 part-time and five full-time workers losing their jobs.

One of the cuts, however, has severely reshaped the library system. According to KETV.com, the downtown location will no longer be open on the weekends, book trading between libraries will be shortened, and the Homework Hot Spots program will be shut down.

"That's like so weird to close a library I mean, we need books, right?" said senior Ashley Kauffroath.

Library officials say Florence has the fewest patrons of any Omaha Public Library and emphasized that the closing is temporary.

"I know that they need to cut down with the city budget, but education is important. It shouldn't be the educational buildings that suffer. The youth need to be educated," said freshman Joe Fitzgerald.

The Florence Branch was supposed to be closed for a renovation this year; that \$768,000 reformation is now postponed until 2010.

The decision to close the library has upset residents of all ages. With the city council not being exactly clear on what is going to be happening, many students are confused on what their future has in store for them.

"If they close this library, then how can I do my homework?" said sophomore Ariel White.

Workers from every library are now feeling the pain of these budget cuts. Further planning for the future of the Omaha Public Libraries will be coming toward the end of the year.

As library employees as well as many city of Omaha workers learn whether they'll be laid off, Mayor Jim Suttle has structured that all members of his personnel will take eight unpaid leave days between Sept. 8 and Dec. 26.

On Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009 city council passed a budget for 2010. The budget states that there will be an additional real estate tax. The property tax will add 5.2 cents on the dollar. This means that if someone were to purchase a \$100,000 home they would end up having to pay an additional \$5,200.

Mayor Jim Suttle has announced more than \$600,000 in cuts from the Omaha Police Department. Suttle said that besides the layoffs, he had also decided to ground the city's police helicopters for the rest of the year. Suttle then announced the helicopters would remain in service thru the year, according to a press release issued by the mayor's office. It also states pilots would have reduced hours and the next recruiting class would be delayed.

"Less police seems crazy. How can that be better for our community if there are criminals running amongst us?" said junior Mary Thompson

The city has expected to save more than \$1.5 million from these collective actions. The city had proposed an entertainment tax that was thought to bring \$2 million. The layoffs and other cuts would save more than \$1.5 million. That still leaves a budget gap of \$3 million or more, which has yet to be discussed.

TAKE A PEEK:

News

NCHS guest speaker discusses feelings on being adopted.

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Fellow central high school student speaks about her creative summer.

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Some believe cartoons may send the wrong message to children.

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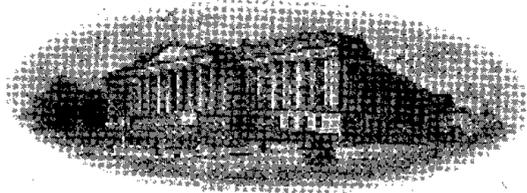
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Need I.D.?

Cartoons target young crowd with mature content

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College Corner

Janesha Pickens

Intended College: University of Nebraska Omaha

Location: Omaha, Nebraska

Type: Public four year university

“ Their campus is very diverse. And plus it's close to home. ”

Application dates: Deadline August 1

Yanira Perez Flores

Intended College: University of Nebraska Lincoln/UNL

Location: Lincoln, Nebraska

Type: Public four year university

“ They can give me a masters degree in Anthropology. It also has a very good art program. ”

Application dates: Deadline: May 1

News in Brief

US celebrates anniversary of constitution's signing

Recently the United States celebrated her 23rd anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Fifty five delegates on Philadelphia's Independence Hall signed the constitution. Since 2005, it has been a state law that all Social Studies classes in some way acknowledge the signing said Gary Groff, social studies department head. A display in remembrance of the constitution has been placed between the four and one side on the second floor.

Benson High and community mourns the loss of student

Wilson Vili, a Benson High School student died of pneumonia after football practice Tuesday, Sept. 15.

Vili appeared to be fine after football practice according to friends. He later went to a local restaurant for dinner and later collapsed. His cause of death was unclear until investigators ruled it as bilateral pneumonia and strep A. The OPS student was supported by over 500 people at his funeral held on.

Central staff and students participate in biannual blood drive

Central students and staff gave blood at the annual American Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, Sept. 29. American Red Cross has helped thousands of lives throughout the country in need of blood transfusions and other assistance.

CALENDAR

October

15 Fall Vocal Concert
Central vocal classes perform in the auditorium from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

17 Omaha Marching Invitational
Marching Band competes in a battle of the bands at Omaha Burke High School.

30 Opening Night "Into the Woods"
Students perform in central's version of known musical.

31 Encore Presentation "Into the Woods"
"Into the Woods" continues with a matinee at 2 p.m. and a later showing at 7 p.m.

November

5 Parent Teacher Conferences
There will only be a half day for students.

6 Teacher Work Day
There will be no school for students.

10 Fall Sports Banquet
Fall sports banquet will be held in the courtyard.
Jazz Concert
Jazz students will perform in the auditorium at 7 p.m.

21 CHS Chess Tournament
The tournament will be held in room 329 at 3 p.m.

26 Thanksgiving Recess Begins
There will be no school for students and staff.

Nebraska Children's Home Society observes founding

BY INDYA WALDEN

Taking in a child in need is one of the most selfless acts a person can do. In celebration of this act of kindness the Nebraska Children's Home Society (NCHS) held a gala for its 115th anniversary Aug. 29, 2009.

In celebration of their achievement, the NCHS had Sara Culberson a young woman who was one of the many children helped by this organization. At the tender age of one, a Caucasian family with two young daughters adopted Culberson.

While telling her life's story Culberson said, "As a child I was always getting involved in activities and trying to be the best at everything so that my family wouldn't leave me."

After years and years of wondering what happened to her parent she finally found out the truth: her mother had died and her father was in Sierra Leone struggling to keep his family safe during the civil war going on at the time.

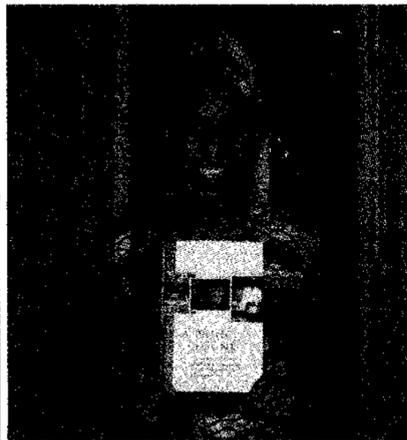


PHOTO BY INDYA WALDEN/REGISTER
Sara Culberson, author of "A Princess Found", spoke being adopted at the 115th anniversary gala of the NCHS.

When she was finally able to meet her father she found out that she was a maholi, which in her native country is the equivalent to a princess.

If Culberson chose to, she could rule the village where her father and his family lived.

Many students stories may not be as unique, but it still doesn't take away from the main reason that NCHS had their celebration.

The fact is that for the past 115 years this organization has helped thousands of children find loving, nurturing parents to call their own.

Though it was not through the help of NCHS, central sophomore Jordan Christensen was able to become a part of a loving family.

Christensen was given up for adoption soon after his mother gave birth to him at the age of 14. Once he became a part of the Christensen family he said that he never knew anything to be different in his home.

"I didn't really see a difference between me and my parents when I was younger," said Christensen.

He finally found out the truth about his parents between the ages of 5 and 6.

Unfortunately, Christensen is not able to have contact with his biological parents for another two and a half years when he turns 18.

"I plan on getting in touch with them, but for now I still have to wait," said Christensen.

Christensen's biggest desire about his parents is "to establish one whole family since I am not able to contact my biological parents."

Throughout his life Jordan has shown no resentment towards his biological or adoptive parents.

In fact, he believes that his adoptive parent have made him the best person that he could be and is not upset about his biological parents giving him up for adoption.

"I don't know the whole story, but I'm not mad about it," said Christensen.

Until Christensen can be reunited with his biological parents and create his complete family, he is leading a happy life with a family members that call him their own.

Legacy of the senate passes away at 77

BY DARIA SEATON

"We know the future will outlast all of us, but I believe that all of us will live on in the future we make," said Ted Kennedy, former senator.

Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy, sometimes referred to as the "liberal lion" of the senate died Aug. 25, 2009 after a 47 year term a senator of Massachusetts.

Kennedy held several roles in senate including Chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resource, Senate Majority Whip and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pension, according to CNN.com.

In 1980, Kennedy ran for president against Jimmy Carter and lost but continued to make contributions to the United States in more ways than one.

Kennedy helped pass laws that still impact the country today.

One law that he played a part in was the right to vote, specifically teens right to vote at 18.

"I think that it's basically a waste of time because no eighteen year old is worried about voting," said Junior Makayla Cutler. "All they are worrying about is partying and other things so that is stupid all by itself."

In addition, Kennedy showed support of others civil rights especially the elderly, mentally ill, disabled, people of all sexual orientations and prisoners.

For example, he "pushed legislation in 2007, named after the late Matthew Shepard, a gay man killed due to his sexual orientation, beefing up the existing law to bar crimes against women, gays, lesbians and transgendered persons," according to CNN.

In America everyone had rights. So this bill also introduced the Americans with disabilities act. Which prohibited discrimination against any qualified persons with a disability job application, hiring or discharge, compensation, advancement or training. Why should some one be prohibited because of a certain disability? This day in age any one can have a disability and be perfectly capable. Possibly more able than someone without a disability.

Another that is in the news a lot today, Health Care. Although there are some teen that may not pay attention today some may want to start. Being that everyone is of the age 14 in high school in the next election this could possibly be the generation that makes or breaks the health care plan that so many are fighting against.

Today because of the way more businesses are going bankrupt, if a person can't pay for the room that doctors put a person in they are quick to give it to some one that can. It doesn't matter who you are. Health care goes far beyond a hospital though.

It also included that workers be able to extend their health care even after unemployment. Now some job don't even offer health care benefits and that could run into serious problems for some people.

Outside of Medicaid for children under the age of 18 his health care plan consisted of WIC. WIC is the creation of the women, infant, children nutrition program. Ask any mother raising a child, they know that raising a one let alone an infant of new born can get pricey. With formula, pampers, clothes, and check-ups, Kennedy pushing forward this form of health care could have possibly made life easier for a lot of parents.

In the news now, there is talk about a reform of this health care system. One that has worked for so many people throughout out the years may now be taken away and there are mixed feelings from a lot of people and some aren't taking it so well. Before put into action it will be scrutinized, or carefully examined. Most people believe that this is going to be the rich versus the poor but it is really the citizens opinion and how you feel about the situation.

Although president Barack Obama did a speech on how he doesn't plan on taking away the health care we have now, it is just an alternative for those that don't have health care and it wont cost a dime the feelings are still in the air.

So for now Americans will have to sit back and watch and possibly see what Kennedy worked so hard to do possibly be reciprocated.

Another question, is education for everyone? Is school for everyone? Some might answer no to that question.

Kennedy believed that education was important and worked closely with former President George Bush on the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

NCLB was initially created to ensure that each child in America is able to meet the higher learning standards of the state where he or she lives. With the economy the way is it those with bachelors degrees can find it difficult to find a job so those with little education may find it extremely tough.

It is clear that to get ahead now education is the key. Obama clearly made it his goal to let every student know that in his Sept. 8 speech.

What would Kennedy say about all this? If Kennedy were still here, how would he feel? Would it be different or would he agree?

We will never know but the legacy that Kennedy left behind with the Senate and in our lives, we will have constant reminders of what he did in his time.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NY DAILY NEWS
President Obama shares a comical moment with the late Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy. Obama and Kennedy worked together on numerous bills in the senate.

Obama speaks about education

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Before this year many students could not say that they received advice from the head of our country.

On Sept. 8, 2009 all that changed when President Barack Obama spoke to the hearts of America on education throughout the country. The speech was held at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia.

Students and parents throughout the nation tuned in to listen to Obama's thoughts on improving education.

In his lecture, Obama spoke to a gym overflowing with high school students, staff, and local government officials. He stressed the need for students to increase their abilities and stay in school.

Halfway through his address, Obama stated in no doubtful terms that, "If you don't do that - if you don't go to school - you're not just quitting on yourself, you're quitting on your country."

When looking into the eyes of many tired individuals he told them that his mother would wake him up at 4:30 in the morning Monday through Friday to give him extra help in his studies.

His speech strongly focused on the liability of each student and his or her education.

Regardless of the admiration Obama's lecture received from Democrats and Republicans, there were a handful of districts throughout the country that refused to show Obama's speech to students. Officials in those districts expressed concern that his speech could be a tool for teaching and propaganda.

"Our high school dropout rate has tripled in the past 30 years."

The Education Department said that the president obtained a report from the National Board on Educational Testing and Public Policy at Boston College that was referred by the College Board in December.

It said: "The rate at which students disappear from schools between grades 9 and 12 has tripled in the last 30 years." Conflicts over the nature of Obama's speech developed from the Department of Education's suggestion that teachers should produce a classroom activity where students would be encouraged to think of ways they could help the president meet his goals.

Joslyn offers volunteer opportunity

BY DARIA SEATON

Colleges want well rounded students with impressive resumes, better than good grades, high standardized test scores, and extracurricular activities.

However, colleges also look for students who volunteer in the community. Volunteering shows care and a willingness to give back to the community.

Though many volunteering opportunities exist, the Joslyn Art Museum is giving high school students a chance to get involved with art and assisting young children.

Joslyn's program, Jambassadors, targets students between ninth and twelfth grades.

Volunteers can sign up for different jobs in the area that they are interested in.

During the year, volunteers must participate in two hours of training and must commit to at least 12 hours of volunteering per year.

A few Central students, junior Anita Hodge and freshman Lauren Goodwillie, currently participate in the program.

Goodwillie enjoys art and would one day like to pursue it.

Goodwillie will be working at an art school for fifth and sixth graders. The class is held once a week.

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Central Band marches in Dundee Days Parade



Central and other groups showed their spirit in the Dundee Days Parade at Memorial Park on Aug. 23. 1. Central High color guard entertains the crowd by performing a routine with school colored flags. 2. Bread Oven Company expresses their smoking hot bread, literally. 3. Central band students wait in preparation for the parade to begin. The Dundee-Memorial Park neighborhood, is located in central Omaha, Nebraska, bordering Memorial and Elmwood park, which is alongside the University of Nebraska, Omaha.

PHOTOS BY CHELSEA THOMAS/REGISTER

President addresses future health care plans

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

To raise awareness of the uninsured and under insured, President Barack Obama's speech on Sept. 9, 2009 discussed his wordy proposal to the nation with the idea of improving health insurance.

He proposed a national health care program to help individuals as well as companies, that do not have health insurance.

Obama said that he was not the first president to tackle this challenge. About a century ago then-president Theodore Roosevelt also called attention to health care reform.

He then said that there are many middle class Americans that either are not eligible to receive insurance or just cannot afford it. Currently, 30 million American citizens cannot receive coverage and over 14 thousand a day lose their insurance according to Obama.

The average American is said to spend one and a half more times per person on health care than any other country.

Some believe the U.S. should have a single-paying system like Canada. Having this system could restrict the private insurance companies and have the government provide coverage for everyone.

"Even though we have private companies, I think we should have a single-paying system," said senior Jasmine Westbrook. "Our country could become strong if there was an equal coverage for everyone."

Others think that the nation should end business based systems and let individuals buy insurance on their own.

"I believe the people who can afford to pay for health care should pay," said senior Lashae Ludi. "But, those who cannot should receive health care from the government."

The plan that he announced is expected to reach three goals: provide more security and stability, provide insurance to those who don't have it, and slow the rising of health care cost for families.

Some students believe this would be a good change for the country.

"I think it's a good idea what he's doing, at least from what I've been told and heard," said freshman Gage Dawes.

Obama states that small businesses are constantly raising rates just because they can, which could be profitable for them in the outcome. The plan for the insurance company is not to overthrow companies, but to give the citizens other options to choose from, the president said.

He believes that insurance companies and their allies don't like this idea. One reason being that the reform would just be another way for the government

to take over businesses that are stable.

The fact still remains that he has not said that he has intentions for putting insurance companies out of business.

"It seems like sooner or later the big businesses are going to overpower the smaller businesses. Eventually they will fall to the ground," said junior Heather Gelbart.

For decades there have been countless ideas given from insurance companies on how to, in layman's term "fix" the health care. As the ideas roll in, the solutions cannot come out.

First, President Obama has said that he refuses to sign a plan that adds one dime to the country's deficit. Second, he has estimated that funding savings within the existing health care system can pay for this plan.

Individuals and families that already have insurance are not expected or required to leave the coverage or doctor that they already have. But, it will become against the law for insurance companies to drop the coverage when someone needs it the most.

"No one should go broke because they get sick," Obama said.

Additionally, the new health care program would not change the existing Medicare program except to strengthen it financially and fill in the gap in which senior citizens' finances fall short.

Some think that consumers do better when there is a choice. Unfortunately in America, five or fewer insurance companies control 34 states' insurance. In Alabama one company controls almost 90 percent of their state's insurance.

Those who oppose this plan have indicated that the cost for this plan, if adopted, will most likely quadruple the national debt and present a tremendous economic burden on future generations.

Even though Obama has given countless numbers of speeches, some students don't know exactly what to expect.

"Although health care is good now, we have to stop and think that this will be good for us in the long run," said senior Tanesha Parker. "A lot of people make the choice to be for or against the reform not knowing anything about it."

The proposal that he is proclaiming should cost around \$900 billion over a time period of ten years. Overall it should eliminate \$4 trillion in the long-term.

The president reports that he is committed to solving the nation's health care coverage and cost problems.

He also stated that he is willing to work with anyone—democrat, republican, or independent—who is interested in real solutions.

Government funds program, claims clunkers

BY ALEX TRAN

The Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act of 2009 funded a program that helped consumers pay for more fuel efficient cars or trucks by trading in their less fuel efficient cars or trucks. The program was officially named the Car Allowance Rebate System (CARS) and dubbed the Cash for Clunkers program for short.

The Cash for Clunkers program had a confusing beginning and had an equally rough ending.

The legislation for Cash for Clunkers was originally written for the program to start on Jul. 1. It was estimated to end on Nov. 1, but the start date was pushed back to Jul. 24 to allow legislators time to specify and rewrite what cars qualified, according to the New York Times.

The initial response was staggering.

Soon after the program began, it was apparent that the initial \$1 billion of funding was depleting too quickly. On Jul. 30, the program was halted and by Aug. 6, legislature passed a \$2 billion refunding of the program.

Although there were qualms about enlarging the refunding amount, legislature proceeded with the original \$2 billion and restarted the program shortly afterwards.

The government planned on the Clash for Clunkers program to be a four month long endeavor. However, the government publicly announced on Monday, Aug. 20, that it would end its popular program the next day, Monday, Aug. 21, almost two months before the expected date. The program had been so popular that there were concerns about funding, also according to the New York Times.

The program required that consumers buy new cars certified by the CARS act when turning in their "clunkers."

The program also restricted the types of vehicles that can be submitted and categorized cars and trucks to decide how rebate eligibility.

To be eligible for a trade in, the vehicle must have been manufactured less than 25 years before the date of trade in, have a city/highway miles per gallon economy of 18 or less, be in drivable condition, and be continuously insured and registered to the owner for the year before trade-in, according to the government sponsored Cash for Clunkers Web site.

The act behind Clash for Clunkers required that all trade-in vehicles be crushed or shredded to prevent them from being resold in either the U.S. or other countries. Parts of the vehicle may be salvaged and resold, excluding the engine or drive train.

The program was called a success by CARS.

By the end of the program, exactly 697,114 vehicles were submitted to car dealers and rebates amounted to \$2.877 billion, just under the total \$3 billion granted to the program by Congress, according to data released to the public by the Cash for Clunkers program.

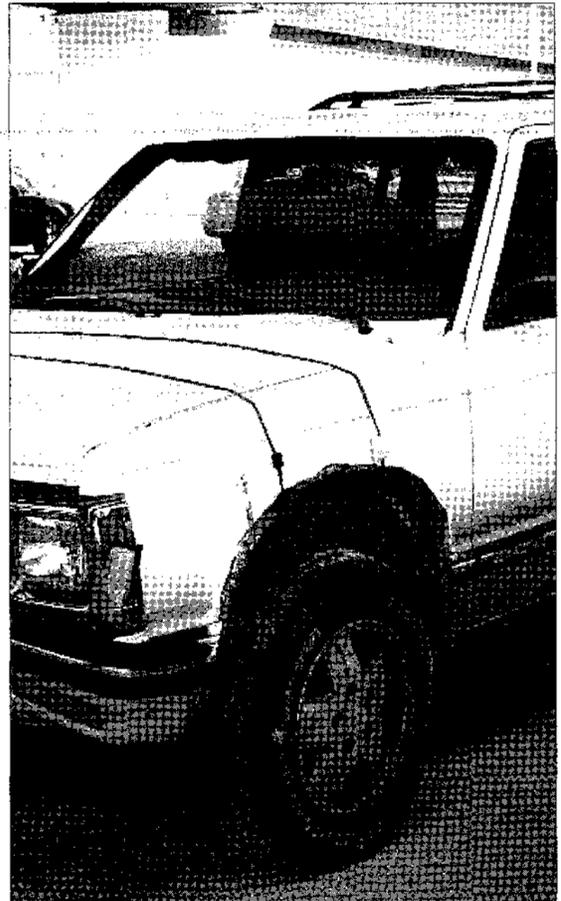


PHOTO BY MATTHEW VONDRASEK/ REGISTER

According to CARS, over 690,000 vehicles have been turned in. Rebates amounted to over \$2.5 billion by the end of the program in August.

Senior places in Nebraska Junior Miss

BY INDYA WALDEN

Standing out and envisioning hearing your name called is what every pageant contestant hopes for.

This year's Nebraska Junior Miss Scholarship Competition was held at Gretna High School, Aug. 9-7. Central's own Brianna Foster placed third overall in the competition.

The competition is judged based on scholastics, fitness, self-expression, interview and a talent recital. During the competition Foster, a senior, stayed with a host family that lived in Springfield.

The rehearsals for the girls were held at Pacific Hills Lutheran Church during the day, where they worked on their walks, interview responses and opening dance routine.

"It was really hard," Foster said while talking about her daily rehearsals. "A lot of them were dancers."

This competition is held every year in the month of August to give in-coming seniors an opportunity to earn scholarship money. Foster said that it is a fun and different way to earn scholarship money.

Among the overall scholarships, like the one Foster received there are many other scholarships to be won during the competition such as Interview, Self-Expression and Spirit.

As all competitions go there is always a talent portion that is a part of a

contestants overall score.

"I was the only one who didn't do a dance for my talent," said Foster.

Unlike most of the girls, Foster chose a different route and recited a poem. With a slight grin Foster said that the talent portion was her favorite part of the whole competition.

"Reciting the poem instate was my favorite part because I liked how the audience reacted and how they were engaged in what I was saying," said Foster.

After all talents were performed and every contestant had finished their interviews, the culmination of the competition was finally reached. The awards ceremony is what all competitors in any competition look forward to.

During the ceremony, Foster placed third overall in the competition, winning \$350 in scholarship money.

Foster said that she would rate the overall experience of the competition a "10."

"I would recommend it to anyone who wants to earn a scholarship in a fun way," Foster said. "It's completely different from any other competition."

Foster believes that any upcoming senior that would want to try something new should consider a this or similar types of competitions.

The pageant winner is also involved in activities at school. She is a member

of the African American History Club and holds the office of Senior Class Representative.

Foster's English teacher Deron Larson always knew she'd do well in something in which she showcased her talents.

"Brianna has been an excellent student right from the beginning," said



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIANNA FOSTER

Senior Brianna Foster (far right) placed third while students from placed first and second in the 2009 Miss Nebraska Junior Miss competition, a preliminary for America's Junior Miss Program held in August.

Students get down and "boogie in the jungle"

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Bright colorful flashy lights, loud crazy "that's my song" kind of music, and well-dressed students in the latest fashion. This is a typical high school dance and Central was no exception. Central High's 2009 Homecoming dance was held on Saturday, Sept. 12 in the GYM.

Despite school being an important role to some student's life, the student body couldn't help but think and discuss how they couldn't wait until Homecoming got closer.

Although mostly Central High Eagles attended the dance, there were some who have recently transferred to the purple and white territory and others who are new to high school life.

For those who have not attended a Central High School Homecoming their main question was "what can I expect?"

"Wild, crazy, nothing but fun is what you can expect when the Eagles have their homecoming," said Junior Mitchell Westberry. "The first time I attended a Central High dance was my freshmen year, of course I was already a student to the school."

Homecoming began at 7 p.m. and ran until 10:30 p.m. Not only were the students worried about how much fun they were going to have during and after the homecoming, but other's worries were also their safety.

"It's not the fact of me being scared," said freshman Aisha Cosey. "It's just the state of mind not knowing what may happen afterwards. You never know, people are crazy now days."

Focusing on surroundings and safety is a big concern. While students organize their transportation for after the dance some have other things on their mind.

Unlike Cosey, junior Chassidy Williams was focused on how to appear at the dance.

"I started shopping a week after I found out the information of when the homecoming was being held," said Williams. "Looking for a dress was not really the hard part, it was just finding the right dress with the right price which was kind of stressing me out."

On the exciting day, girls were ready for their hot entrance while guys on the other hand were trying to make the night as perfect as possible with that one special girl.

"My very close friend, that happens to be a girl and that I have been knowing since seventh grade, attended homecoming together," said junior Mitchell Westberry.

Outstanding lights, fancy ensembles and great music proved Student Council planned out a fabulous night for the Eagles.

"Homecoming night is always the greatest night I believe for high schoolers," said junior Kiara Green. "It's a night for all students to dress classy and for some to let all their alter egos let loose."

For some homecoming may seem like a dream. The various fun stages that every teenager goes through when organizing their night. Planning their ensembles, transportation, and the popular friends of their choice they'll be arriving with.

Even though it may seem as if nothing could possibly go wrong, for some there were some kinks.

"Homecoming night was actually okay" said Williams. "Despite me arriving late and having to wait in line with high heels on, I had a good time with my friends."

Wild, crazy, nothing but fun is what you can expect when the Eagles have their homecoming.

Mitchell Westberry



PHOTO BY BLAIR EMSICK/OBOOK
Students wait for the announcement of the placement for 2009 Homecoming Court. Seniors Ayomide Adekunle and Alexis Page were crowned King & Queen.

E-Math team places at math contests, prepares for future competitions

BY ALEX TRAN

Central's Enrichment Math (E-Math) team started off the school year well, placing well in the two competitions it has attended this year.

The E-Math team attended the North High School Math Contest last month and Doane College's Math Competition just last week.

Seniors Eric Jizba, Josh Dewitt, and Caleb Koch, junior Elizabeth DeLaitre, sophomore Adam Lacroix, and freshmen Ross Harding, Clark Ikezou, Avery Zaleski, Giselle Tran, and Breven Jorgenson attended the North High School Math Contest.

Because of limited entry spots and the competitiveness of Doane College's Math Competition, only Jizba, Dewitt, Koch, Harding, Ikezou, and Zaleski attended.

Central's competitive E-Math team sports a very diverse group of students in terms of age, bringing representatives from each grade to North's contest and freshmen and seniors to Doane College's competition.

Central placed fifth at North High, missing third place by 1.8 points - the equivalence of one question.

Senior Eric Jizba said that while this was disappointing, it was still a victory to come so close to beating Westside, always a top competitor in the state.

Gregory Sand, the E-Math teacher and sponsor, believes North's contest was a good kick-off contest.

"It's a good preview of who will do well at Lincoln," Sand said, referring to future contest the team plans to attend.

The E-Math team finished third out of nine schools at Doane College, behind Southwest and Lincoln East.

Dewitt placed 11th, Jizba placed 13th, and Koch placed 15th.

Sand commended the team members' performances, saying that his students maximized their potential for their ages and the time of the year.

"I think that's our best performance right now," Sand said.

The most important thing for Sand to do now is to learn the strengths and weaknesses of the team. These competitions allowed Sand to know where his team is now, and what it needs to work on.

Sand has an optimistic outlook for the rest of the year.

"Our big goals are to get kids into the second round at the UNL math

competition - the scholarship round," Sand said.

Sand has already made plans to in preparation for the UNL math competition and future contests.

Because some high schools spend enormous amounts of time practicing problems, Sand will start holding in-class math contests to stay competitive. This will give his team practice and ready them for upcoming competitions.

Sand hopes that these in-class contests will replicate the results of previous years. According to Sand, for the past five years, Central's E-Math team has always been competitive with top schools at the national level.

Sand believes the team also has the potential to compete at the national level.

Sand is preparing his E-Math team and honors E-Math classes for the American Mathematics Contest (AMC) tests.

The AMC is the first of a series of math tests that determine the United States Math Team, which competes in the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), according to the Mathematical Association of America American Mathematics Competitions' website.

Those that place in the top 5% nationally, or score better than 100 on the AMC qualify for the second test, the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME).

Three competitors on the E-Math team, including seniors Caleb Koch and Jizba, qualified for the AIME last year.

Sand hopes that this year as many, if not more, students will qualify.

Jizba is optimistic about his chances to qualify for the AIME this year.

"It's competitive, but I've also gotten better," he said.

Jizba attends math competitions for both the competitiveness and fun of the event.

"It's exciting, to be able to compete with some of the top math kids in the state," he said. "It's humbling, yet motivating at the same time."

The E-Math team plans on attending UNO's math competition scheduled for Oct. 30.

The E-Math team also plans on hosting two of its own contests, a high school and middle school contest, at Central in the next several months. The high school contest will be held on Oct. 22, and the middle school contest will be held on Nov. 19.

It's exciting to be able to compete with some of the top math kids in the state. It's humbling, yet motivating at the same time.

Eric Jizba

Central administration implements new phone policy, stays firm

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

"Turn it off and put it in your pocket, purse, or bookbag," said Mr. Mullen countless times throughout the halls. Little did students know they would learn to miss hearing this phrase.

On Aug. 17, freshmen students gathered in the auditorium to listen to the administration talk about the rules for the 2009-2010 school year. Dr. Ed Bennet, Central's Assistant Principal, explained the new electronic device policy.

This policy states that all electronic devices, if seen or heard, shall be confiscated. Period. On the student's first offense, the device will be confiscated for five days, but a parent or guardian will be able to pick up the item before then. On the student's second offense, however, the device will be held for five days regardless of parent or guardian interference.

When upperclassmen arrived at school the following day, many didn't believe the rumor of the new cell phone policy. Multiple students were shocked after attending the administrative talk.

Dr. Bennett informed all students of the fourth offense, which states, "Any electronic device will be confiscated and returned to the parent/guardian at the end of the semester." After hearing this all minds were set clear.

There was an assorted mixture of emotions throughout the students. Many students voiced their disbelief when they heard this announcement, while many others also sympathized with administrative attempts to make the school a learning environment.

"We should be able to have our phone," said senior Ashley Ziska. "But, it would be rude to pull your phone out during class."

Other students, however, agree with the policy.

"We should just stop complaining. We're here to learn not text or listen to music," said senior Josh Renfrow.

Teachers throughout the school expressed their opinions on the latest addition to the school year. Some felt it would be an improvement to the learning environment.

"Cell phones are very important, however there is a time and a place for them," said Denise Powers, who teaches Pathways and Personal Finance. "Parents always have a way to communicate with their students."

Some may feel the rule is a bit harsh, and that cell phones are needed for high school, others believe it is just what the school needs to put the students education at the highest level possible.

"It's school we're here to learn," said senior Sara Finley Wilgus. "But five days is just ridiculous."

Eight seniors make National Merit Semi-Finalist

BY EMMA MINCKER

In October of last year, several juniors took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Out of all the students from Central that took the test, Rosemary Brunshanan, Emily Epperson, Eric Jizba, Catherine Larsen, Carmen Lau, Theresa Lomneth, Taylor Olson and Alexandria Tran became one of the 16,000 Semifinalists in the state of Nebraska.

This year, Central had eight qualifiers - the most Central has had in over a decade.

The National Merit Scholarship Competition (NMSC) uses the Selection Index scores (critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills) to determine the students who will qualify for program recognition. Out of 1.5 million entrants, about 50,000 will be high scorers.

On early September of this year, nearly a third of the high scorers are notified that they have been qualified as Semifinalists.

"I've worked really hard this year and it's nice to know that after all I worked for, it finally paid off," said, Taylor Olson, senior.

In February, around 16,000 Semifinalists who have met the academic and other requirements will be notified that they have advanced to the Finals.

Finalists will qualify for the \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships, Corporate-sponsored scholarships, or College-sponsored scholarships. In March, around 1,500 of the 16,000 Finalists will be notified that they have become Special Scholarship recipients.

"College with a full-ride scholarship is a big thing," Olson said. "I come from a big family and money is real tight for college."

Olson also says that the benefit with the scholarship is that she can focus on studying, instead of the money issue.

"It's hard to believe because out of 1,600 students, you were one of the people to become Semifinalists," said other Semifinalist, senior Carmen Lau. "You always think it will be the situation where it always happens to someone else."

Becoming a Semifinalist in NMSC has perks outside of the \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships. NMSC allows Semifinalists to designate their top college they will apply to. Very often, these colleges will then waive the Semifinalists' fees to encourage them to apply.

Those that become Finalists receive even more commendation. Many colleges will offer Finalists full-ride scholarships as an incentive to apply and attend to their institutions.

Olson and Lau, and the other six Semifinalists, have much to look forward to as the college application season approaches.



PHOTO BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER
Seniors Carmen Lau (left) and Eric Jizba (right) are two of eight students who qualified as National Merit Semi-Finalists. They earned a PSAT score of 206 or higher, the 2008 qualifying score for National Merit Semi-Finalist for Nebraska.

Easy as pi: freshmen on the fast track in math

BY ALEX TRAN

Differentiation? Integration? Easy. After struggling through my entire junior year of Calculus BC, I've learned one thing: Thank you Texas Instrument.

Central High School has one of the most rigorous math programs in the state. Only one out of a handful of other state high schools, it offers the semester long math courses Calculus 3 and Differential Equations on campus, instead of at a local college.

And speaking of academic excellence, we've all encountered those math geniuses. We've experienced the astonishment, then the slight embarrassment, which then turns to outright indignation when we've scrolled down academic recognition lists that show elementary students smarter than we are, and ever hope to be.

For example, the other day, in Mr. Sand's infamous E-Math class, I was humbled (as in, I stopped paying attention and attributed it to those crazy Asian academic values, which is ironic because I am Asian) when he showed us the name of a fourth grader who had scored a perfect score on some national I'm-a-genius-math-student-in-high-school test.

Rabindranath Tagore, a famous Indian essayist, once wrote, "We come nearest to the great when we are great in humility."

I feel like another lesson in humility is in due order. And if you haven't already inferred it, this is my attempt to redeem my dearth of math excellence.

Central is endowed with a freshman class this year that is both talented and rigorous, a combination of attributes that often trumps the rest of us, who are either only talented or only rigorous.

Clark Ikezu, Avery Zaleski, and Ross Harding are all freshmen taking higher level math courses.

If the generally used accelerated math path is where freshmen take Algebra 3-4 and by their senior years, take Calculus 3 and Diff-Eq, then these math know-it-alls are on the fast track that puts the rest to shame.

Clark and Avery are taking Calculus BC, a junior and senior level math class.

Ross is taking Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, a sophomore class.

When I heard of these whiz kids of Central's math program, and after I got over my abridged version of

the Kübler-Ross model, I was excited at the prospect of actually meeting one of these geniuses that, unfortunately, put me in an embarrassing mini-depression every time I took a look at academic recognition lists.

Maybe there's an inverse relationship between how good students are at math and when they are able to give interviews.

The first time I approached Ross, which happened to be in Mr. Sand's room, he was seated in a desk, casually rearranging a Rubik's cube - and not one of those three-by-three toys, but the five-by-five monsters. With a good five minutes to spare before the passing period bell, I took the initiative to talk to him and grab a few good quotes.

When I approached him with my regular newspaper spiel, he answered, "Hold on, let me finish this. I want to see if I can get this done before class ends." And maybe after seeing the look of astonishment on my face, he quickly added, "I'm almost done."

Needless to say, he got the Rubik's cube done, and I didn't get my quotes.

When I finally managed to interview Ross, I made the second conclusion that there's another inverse relationship between a student's math excellence and his or her humility.

He took Pre-Algebra during his sixth grade year, and it was "too easy."

"This other kid mentioned trying to get into algebra, so I tried that. So we took the test, and I don't know... I just did well enough to get into [pre-calculus and trigonometry]," he said absent mindedly.

During this whole interview, Ross was solving a Pyraminx - some other derivation off a Rubik's cube.

When I asked him why he liked math, he answered, "I'm just a numbers person. That's what I understand. Basically, when you understand something, you tend to like it."

He likes math competitions (probably because he excels at "understanding" them) because of the variety of the questions.

"I just like that it seems that a lot of the time, they're asking the same question, but they always have a different way of asking it. You never get the same problem, you get different variations."

And when I finally asked him what his favorite math question he had ever worked on was, I ended up smiling

and nodding, and pretended to write things down.

After gaining some experience from Ross's interview, I approached Clark warily. I decided to take it slow.

"Do you like math?"

"Mm-hmm."

"When did you discover you were talented at math?"

"Summer after seventh grade."

I had to start getting this kid to say more than incomplete clauses.

Clark claims that before his third grade year, he was "bad" at math. When I asked if that was "bad" compared to the rest of us or compared to his standards, he answered, "No, I think I was bad compared to the rest."

Above is more proof of my hypothesis.

Whether that was the completely true, Clark skipped two math grades by his fourth grade year, with much help from his mom. By seventh grade, he was taking Algebra 3-4, but claimed that he didn't understand the concepts very well. To rectify this, he decided to take a more independent route in his math learning journey - he taught himself Algebra 3-4 and Geometry from books over the summer.

"I did that for at least a year and a half. Now, I like math a lot better."

By eighth grade, he was taking Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry, advancing to Calculus BC his ninth grade year.

Clark isn't as gung-ho about math competitions though, saying, "You have to study a lot. I just know it takes time to do so. In other nations, especially Asia, it's part of the school curriculum to just solve math problems." Clark, who also seems to be somewhat of a math purist, continued saying, "I just don't think they're important."

Despite Clark's evident talent in math, he is not planning on majoring in math in college. He does, however, want to pursue a career in the sciences, primarily research.

Avery, the last higher level math student, must have some other genius aspect in his math repertoire because I failed at finding a time to interview him.

These math kids (that excel at the I'm-a-genius-math-student-in-high-school tests) were too much for me. Maybe it was their awing presences or the way they talked

about math that further convinced an already thoroughly convinced me that I won't be comparable to

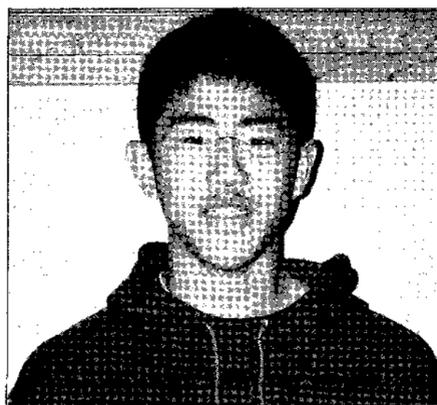


PHOTO BY INDYA WALDEN/REGISTER
Freshmen Clark Ikezu and Ross Harding are two of only three freshmen enrolled in upper level Math classes.

them (or that fourth grader) anytime in this century.

Oh, and to those who scorn my resignation to higher level math, claiming that Ti-89's can't do partial derivations, it's called Maple.

Light Club participates in worldwide See You at the Pole event

BY ALEX TRAN

The Light Bible Club led the Christian prayer event See You at the Pole (SYATP) Wednesday, Sept. 30. The members gathered in front of the flagpole to pray for various causes and people.

Before school, Central's Light Club gathered in a circle around the flagpole in front of Central. Vincent Lau, who graduated Central last year, returned to play the guitar for the group. The group alternated praying and singing for various causes.

While not necessarily a demonstration nor a political rally, SYATP is "all about students meeting at their school flagpole to pray - for their school, friends, teachers, government, and their nation," according to the SYATP website.

Senior Lea Pruitt, the president and student leader of Central's Light Club, said, "We prayed for ourselves as

Christians and others who weren't - everybody."

Pruitt believes that SYATP is a good opportunity for fellow Christians to come together.

"It's a problem," Pruitt said, referring to the difficulties of finding those with the same beliefs.

Pruitt believes that activities, like SYATP, allow students in public schools to connect with others who share similar beliefs.

Pruitt finds SYATP as a uniting activity. "It's something we all have in common," she said.

SYATP began as a student led event in Burleson, TX in 1990. Over the past decade, the event has gained popularity and now, over 20 countries participate.

Over 3 million students actively participate every year in the United States, according to the SYATP website.

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Junior sacrifices for spot in band

BY ALEX TRAN

Despite his size, junior Luke Compton succeeded in securing a position on the snare line on Central High School's drumline.

Compton faced several challenges on his journey to securing his snare position.

"First, I thought I wasn't good enough," Compton said over a phone interview, "but then I wasn't sure because of my size."

Marching band was by itself physically taxing, and the drumline practiced longer and harder than the rest of the band often did. Compton didn't know if he had the sheer physical ability needed to play and keep up with the rest of the drumline.

Compton was diagnosed with Achondroplasia dwarfism, a genetic condition that affects 1 in 25,000 people according to the National Institutes of Health as of March 2009.

His condition causes the muscles in his spine to tighten up, stifling blood flow to his legs. This causes his legs to fall asleep while standing up - a problem if he were to march or stand still for an extended period of time.

When asked whether his parents were worried for his physical safety, he said that his parents knew the concerns and while worried, could tell he was having fun playing the drums. His father and mother wholly supported him in his endeavors, saying that his pursuit of his dreams, in the end, was what really mattered.

There was also the problem with Luke's physical size. Because of his size, Compton was not able to carry a traditional snare like the rest of the drumline.

Compton weighed the aspects and options of his situation with his parents, Central's band staff, and himself.

The denouement was that he would play snare on the drumline.

“The denouement was that he would play snare on the drumline.”

carrier.

James Compton, Luke's father, didn't want his son's dreams to be stifled because of his size. Mr. Compton developed an ingenious plan for a snare drum carrier fitted for a smaller drum that his son could play while marching.

Central's band faculty arranged for Luke's drum, ultimately giving him all the resources needed to be on the snare line.

Compton feels that being on snare has made him grow as a person as well as a percussionist.

He commented on his improvements, saying, "I think I've gained more confidence, and I think I'm a better player."

When asked how the season has been going so far, Compton said, "I think it's gone well. We've been doing well, and we can still improve, but we're doing well."

Compton has an optimistic outlook on the rest of the season. He believes that the drumline has been working hard and that the marching band has good chances at the

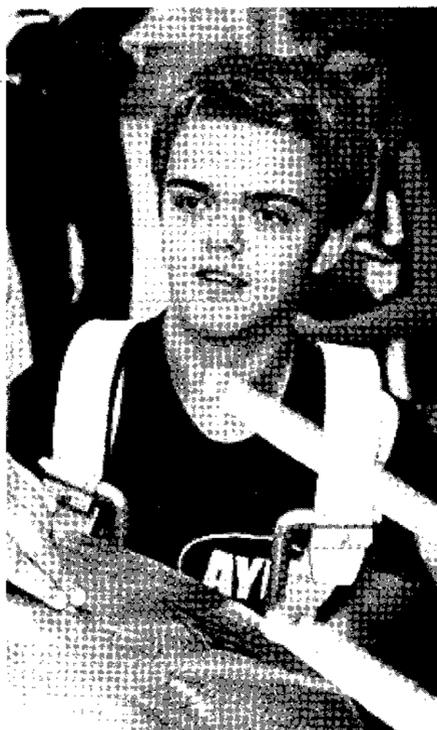


PHOTO BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER
Junior Luke Compton plays with the drumline during the one of the time-outs at Central's first football game. During half-time performances, he marches with the snare line.

next several competitions.

Central's marching band recently performed at the Omaha Marching Exhibition, hosted by Central at Seemann Stadium. The band is preparing for the most important marching competition of the season, the Omaha Marching Invitation coming up in mid-October.

Despite light difficulties with marching and his carrier, Compton has no regrets. He is able to keep up with the rest of the drumline.

"I keep up pretty well. Sometimes it gets hard, but I can keep up with everybody else."

Luke has big aspirations for next year.

Two seniors are graduating next year, and Luke will be the only returning snare drummer. His hope is to be center snare, the designated section leader for the snare line and the entire drumline.

Luke's dreams started long before his high school years.

He started playing the drums in fifth-grade and while in middle school, was inspired by his drum instructor to think about playing snare in high school.

His drum instructor, a Westside High School band faculty member, invited Compton to one of the Westside's after school band practices.

This turned out to be the motivating factor that sparked Compton's dreams.

"One night, he let me go to one of their practices and that's when I began my dream to be on snare line."

Bring it in

With the fall sports season quickly coming to an end, here's a look back at some teams and how they fared throughout the season.



With the school year over a month in session the fall sports are gearing up and going into the season head on. The fall sports consist of Football, Volleyball, Softball, Golf, and Boys and Girls Cross Country.

Although the season may or may not have started the way that they expected, it didn't stop them from giving their all in season. Some teams started practice in the summer, like football. Even with all of the early practices and crucial afternoons, hot or cold, they didn't take their eyes off the prize.

Better or worse the players and their coaches always get something out of the season.

Team member shares her thoughts on how she thought the season went. "I think the season went better than last year," said Junior Samantha Reznicek, varsity softball team member, "and it was also a fun experience."

Even though the regular season is almost over the teams get to ponder the eventful season that just took place or motivate themselves even more to make it where all the players want to be, the championship game.

Sports Q & A

As the fall sports season comes to a close, coaches have their own opinions and aspirations for upcoming years.

Q: How do you motivate your athletes?

A: "First of all I do things by example, being there working hard, being enthusiastic. I would also add trying to offer incentives."

-Coach Jay Ball



Q: How do you evaluate your players?

A: "I evaluate my players by who comes to practice, who has a good attitude, who is focused for the day and who is working to make themselves and the team better."

-Coach Jay Landstrom



Q: How would you describe a typical week of

A: "It depends on what team we're playing that week. We always try to be focused, give 100 percent and try to improve."

-Coach Jodi Brown



A: "Trying to build on success and point out the positive things in practices and matches."

-Coach Bob Tucker



A: "[I] evaluate them by attitude and amount of skill level compared to the other athletes and their effort in practice."

-Coach Jimmie Foster



A: "We try to get as many touches on the ball as we can possibly get."

-Coach Erica Meyer



A: "We have a good bunch of kids, it's not hard to motivate them."

-Coach Peter Pham



A: "[I] evaluate them by the scores they bring in, it's a very objective process."

-Coach Linda Brock



A: "It depends on who we play and what we see during the games. Each team works on what they need to."

-Coach Brent Larson





PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

All is fair in love and war. G.I. Joe was a film about war and a romantic love interest rikiindled in the heat of a moment. They overcome much adversity not by the force of others but the force of ones self. G.I. Joe starred Channing Tatum, Sienna Miller, and Marlon Wayans.

G.I. Joe tells universal story of adversity and love

BY DARIA SEATON

G.I. Joe started as a military themed action figure and now hits the big screen as a summer thriller that doesn't disappoint.

Who knew that the fate of the world would rest in the hand of two long lost lovers turned into deadly enemies?

In G.I. Joe it goes far beyond the interesting war antics and behind the scenes work and ideas that go along with preparing and training in war. Although you fight to save a life, war can also destroy the most important thing in yours.

The urban dancer from "Step Up", Channing Tatum leaves the dance world and enters the battlefield. Let's start from the beginning. From tights to machine guns, even if the movie wasn't the greatest who wouldn't want to go see it just because two of the best guys in the world are in it. Tatum and Wayans.

Four years earlier a young and caring soldier, Duke, played by Tatum and Ana, played by Sienna Miller decided to pursue their burning passion for each other and get engaged. From that moment I knew that this was all to perfect for this not to have problems. Everyone knows that nothing is ever the way that it seems.

Nothing in the world could pull these two apart except for one thing, her brother Rex, played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Duke and Rex fought in the same fight and Duke was always looking out for Rex, as if he was really his brother.

During a surprise attack Duke and Ripcord, played by long time funny man Marlon Wayne, they were forced to leave the situation and he was unable to complete his most important task that he made to Ana, bring her brother back unharmed.

From there on out he could never face her again, even though it almost guaranteed

that she had nothing to say to him any way.

Never again was she to be seen. Until miraculously four years later, while in combat, he found his only true love but not in the way that he had hoped. She was working against him, destroy him, and take him out just like what had happened to her brother.

It was until she almost took him out completely that a secret service called the Joes came to rescue him and maybe recruit him. They seen that maybe it was something more than a change of heart that turned her against her heart.

Could it be the loss of her brother or had technology maybe advanced far beyond what a normal human mind could possibly generate? Maybe even both? The tale of the evil doctor will soon be unveiled and the pieces of the puzzle will be put together.

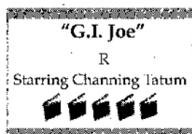
The real question is will grudges, unexpected and unknown transformations will bring together and destroy the world. Is blood thicker than water?

What your reading is not even a fraction of what you can expect from this movie. What you see is not what you get.

Not only is Channing Tatum super hot but this movie combines the forces of evil and unique fire burning passion between two star crossed lover and make it an interesting combination that will leave you wondering "what happens next?"

Although it may end in the story book ending that only happens in fairy tale it goes to show that there is one thing that beats all.

All the pain, heartache, adversity, and obstacles and that one thing is love. Guaranteed you will love it like Duke and Ana do each other. Funny part Marlon Wayans gets him a little girlfriend too.



Wii game proves fit for exercise

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

When the word "fitness" comes to mind many think of the word "pain." Doing push-ups, back-aching sit-ups, and also the horrible thigh master, is the usual regimen, but what if working out didn't have to be so hard?

In 2006, the world met the new version of a home game console called the Wii. The game features a wireless motion-sensing controller that looks more like a TV remote than a game controller.

According to Wii.com the Wii Remote controller is easy to use. "The familiarity of a TV remote, combined with motion-sensing technology makes for a seamless experience. Just pick it up and make the motions you would as if you were really bowling, playing tennis, or golfing," according to the site.

Just as this piece of equipment can be used as a sports tool, so can someone's body. Wii Fitness is like having one's own personal gym right at home. The game helps build lower/upper body strength while enjoying the comfort of being at home and the fun exercises.

"When I first purchased the Wii I was too happy for my own good," said freshman Taichee Lott. "I couldn't wait to invite friends over."

Although many people were enthralled about purchasing the new game merchandise they had no idea how playing the game could help their bodies. Results from playing these numerous games helps burn many body fat calories by only playing within an hour.

Though they did differ in some options one thing remained the same, it's up to the person playing the device of how much they want to push themselves to burn that body fat, according to Wii.com.

Despite the ability to develop physical fitness, it also continues to be a popular source of entertainment.

"When being at home with no homework or normally nothing to do, the Wii is great to have at home," said junior Tyler Miles. "I play from 30 minutes to an hour."

Over the past three years that the Nintendo Wii came out, over six million consoles have been sold. The numbers are striking, many more are sure to get aboard the all purpose device.

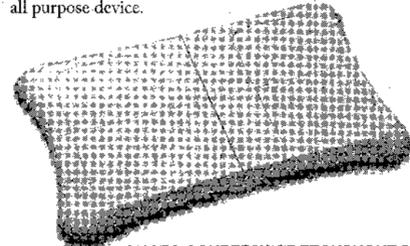


PHOTO COURTESY OF TECHSHOUT.COM

Final Destination: Death Trip is unnecessarily gory, cliché

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Ever since that pleasurable day that I saw the first "Final Destination" movie I have always had this weird liking of the films. Then comes around "The Final Destination 3D", not just my favorite movie, but it was IN 3D! Now that's a pretty big thing. So on some level I was kind of excited to see this movie, and no I wasn't expecting anything more than seeing people die in 3D. But, unfortunately, the destination finally came to an end. Sadly if you like gore, fake blood, and predictable story lines than "The Final Destination: Death Trip" is the movie for you.

The usual opening scene materializes while main character Nick O'Bannon played by Bobby Campo is at a NASCAR racetrack. While at the track he begins having an eerie feeling that a series of unfortunate events will occur (same story, different setting) and cause many racetracks to crash. This then leads to blazing wreckage. The over-the-top violence contained within this scene produces more laughter than terror. In addition, the scene itself serves up a feast of cheesy, awful effects: who hasn't wanted to see a stake guided through the back of somebody's jaw in three dimensions?

Don't get me wrong; I'm all about crazy killing movies, but seriously? It seemed like the directors sat around a table discussing gruesome ways to kill people. In addition, tension is built clumsily and never truly feels nerve-racking.

But of course predictable movies have predictable scenes. O'Bannon and his friends make it safely out of the track seconds before it blows up.

After watching "The Final Destination: 3D," you may find yourself hoping all 3D movies in general stop coming out. There was nothing breaking-new-ground worthy done with the technology here, just a lot of fake-looking objects flying toward the audience.

Like all "Final Destination" movies, the group of survivors believe that they have conned death. A new ray of artificial hope comes to life for everyone. But, of course, the pursuit has yet to begin.

Each of the crash victims begin to die one-by-one; each death more appalling than the last. In almost every case, fire, explosions, and flying debris do most of the damage. There are no quirky set-ups, no "didn't see that coming" thoughts to the events. A rock lands near a lawnmower? I mean come on now, the audience just knows that it's going to go fly into someone's face. Pipes and pieces of wood shoot out from unlikely places.

A number of factors lead to an otherwise bad horror film doing well at the box office, and "The Final Destination: Death Trip 3D" happens to be the perfect storm of circumstances.

Many people in the film industry know that their audience pays to see exaggerated, graphic death sequences, and that is exactly what this movie gives—in three dimensions. Most people would consider a movie like "The Final Destination: 3D" to be "so bad that it's good."

If you liked the other "Final Destination" movies, I don't see why you wouldn't like this one. This movie is pretty much the same formula, but this time in 3D.

The acting, and the characters were bad enough to root for their death. If you don't really like 3D, and can't deal with bad acting, don't see this movie.

This movie cannot possibly be taken seriously on any level. It honestly was only about pointing sharp or heavy things directly at the audience, and the resulting splatter of brains and blood.

It's one silly, ridiculous kill after another. If only someone, somewhere along the way had the good sense to make "The Final Destination" a comedy, instead of an unintentional one.

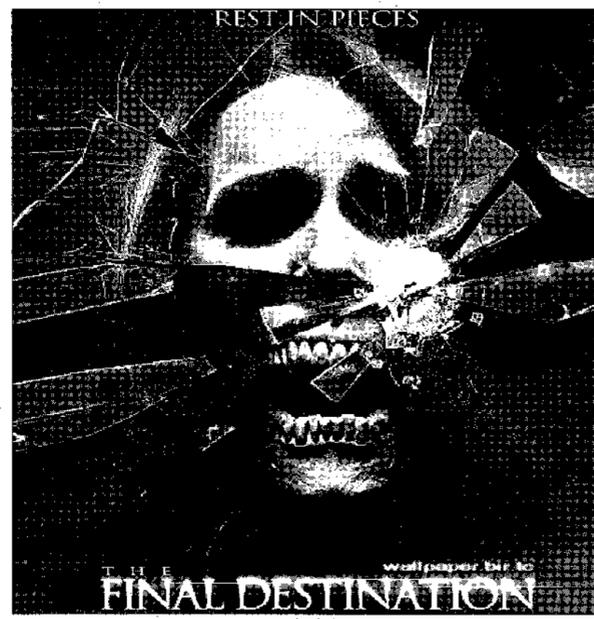
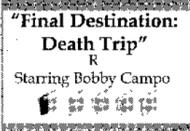


PHOTO COURTESY OF FLIPZIDE PICTURES

Food Inc. reveals the dirty secrets of food corporations

BY ALEX IRAN

I've always wondered why store bought tomatoes taste so, well, un-tomato like. Now, I know why.

The documentary Food, Inc., released June 12, 2009, lifts the veil on America's meat and agricultural production by calling our attention to our nation's changing way of food production.

In the last decade, the food business has become increasingly concentrated in the hands of several large companies, which often put profit over the quality of their food.

In an intense six year filming period, producer Robert Kenner compiled an extensive amount of information to finally bring Food, Inc. to the screen.

From watching Food, Inc., I learned a lot about my tomato. More interested in economic profit than actual taste, companies artificially ripened my tomato with ethylene gas so that it arrived to my table "fresh" (or more ignorantly, red). It was, at the very least, troubling to know that my farm fresh fruit wasn't so fresh.

I also learned that this principle of mass production can be applied to almost any of my food: beef, pork, chicken.

The meat production business has been revolutionized so that everything can be produced bigger and faster at the expense of health, for both the animals and the consumers.

For example, roughly half a century ago, a chicken reached maturity in 84 days. Technological advancements in genetics, hormones, and antibiotics have cut this time in half. Heavy treatments of hormones and antibiotics allow businesses to mass produce chickens in closed, cramped quarters. These cramped quarters are a breeding ground for bacteria, despite the antibiotics — both of which ultimately end up in our food.

But while I was irked by my tomato, and the mass production of animals did pull at my heartstrings, I wasn't completely convinced that our nation's food

production system was that radically corrupt, until I learned how it directly affects our health and the traditional farmer.

We've all heard the scares about E. coli poisoning and mass recalls of meat, both of which are true, but did you know that these dangers are preventable? Mass produced cattle are given feed that their bodies weren't meant to process, resulting in new strains of E. coli bacteria. E. coli cases have been on the rise in recent years and now, roughly 73,000 Americans contract the bacteria nationwide.

This only fueled half my astonishment.

The unnatural bacteria existing in the cows' guts could be easily remedied by feeding them a five day diet of hay during their growth period.

I realized that the growing health concern associated with our food wasn't simply an accident, but a blatant show of businesses putting profit over health. This showed me the extent of what our food businesses are willing to sacrifice for profit.

And even more alarming than this is the government's lack of action in addressing these problems.

Barbara Kowalczyk became a food safety advocate after her 2 1/2 year old son died of E. coli poisoning from eating meat from a food processing plant that had tested positive for contamination.

She has since been trying to pass Kevin's law, named after her son, which would give the USDA power to shut down food processors that have repeatedly tested positive for contamination. The government ultimately turned this law down.

If we continue to look at the political side of this food fight, we can see how the current system of laws also affects the livelihood of our traditional farmers.

Laws exist that allow companies to patent seeds, forbidding farmers to harvest and plant their own seed if it contains a patented gene. Those farmers that grow plants from patented seeds are forced to buy new seed every year.

Monsanto, the giant seed producer in the soybean industry, capitalized on

this law and has patents on roughly 90% of the soybean genes grown in America. Soybean farmers risk patent infringement if they harvest and plant soybean seeds from their soybean crops containing a patented gene by Monsanto.

The most troubling fact is that it doesn't matter how the farmers obtained their seeds. If, for some reason, pollen from a patented soybean plant blows into another farmer's crop, producing a hybrid containing the patented gene, the farmer is liable for patent infringement.

I was appalled when I learned that these laws disarm the rights of our farmers and, more dangerously, give companies a lease on life. As far as I know, just like I don't have control over the pollination of my seeds, companies shouldn't have any influence over the seeds I plant. And I shouldn't pay for the phenomenon of pollination which I also have no control over, especially if pollen is being thrown up from my neighbor's land onto mine by Mother Nature. These laws have robbed the rights of farmers being, well, farmers.

These laws have ultimately made it increasingly difficult for growers, like those in the soybean industry, to exist without associating with giant corporations, like Monsanto. These laws have given companies power that is easily and already manipulated to profit at the expense of our farmers.

Food, Inc. is a must see movie. It opened my eyes to some of the health and social problems that plague today's food industry by smartly capturing the essence of our nation's food production. Food, Inc. highlighted the morbid changes in our food in the past half-century, and even though food production has become bigger, faster and more efficient, and thus cheaper, the sad news of new strains of E. coli and infringements on the rights of farmers has also developed in society.

While this world of food production seems far away, Food Inc. brings it a little closer to home. Now, when I walk through the grocery store looking at my ethylene ripened tomatoes and bacteria ridden beef, I realize I could vote, three times a day, to make a difference, because I would rather pay a little more for healthier, cleaner food that benefits our farmers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AIRBORNE TOXIC EVENT

Musicians (from top left) Noah Harmon, Anna Bulbrook, Daren Taylor, (from bottom left) Steven Chen and Mikel Jollett became an official band in the Los Angeles area soon after performing in Echo Park in the fall of 2006. The indie rock band wasn't signed to Majordomo Records until 2008.

Indie rock band borne to perform

BY EMMA MINCER

You may have heard them on the radio; you may have not, but either way, The Airborne Toxic Event is conjuring up some fantastic pieces of music.

In their first signed album, *The Airborne Toxic Event*, the musicians infused indie and rock together to create an album that has passed 100,000 albums in sales.

The quintet's group name actually originated after the second part of the book "White Noise" by Don DeLillo, which is a post modernist novel about a man who faces death after a chemical mishap, dubbed by the military as an "airborne toxic event."

Like the protagonist, the group struggled to cope with challenges including performing despite the frontman Mikel Jollett's deteriorating vocal chords and the universal struggle to be recognized and signed.

Their first performance occurred in the fall of 2006 at Echo Park in Los Angeles. The band had become well known or at least in the Los Angeles area until they signed with the indie imprint, Majordomo Records in April of 2008. According to *The Rolling Stone*, *The Airborne Toxic Event* was one of the Top 25 Bands on MySpace in December 2006.

The *Airborne Toxic Event* has performed on many late night talk shows such as "The Late Show with David Letterman," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" Additionally, on May 20, 2009, an entire episode of "Last Call with Carson Daly" was devoted to them.

The first impression I got on listening to the CD was apprehensive because the songs have a slight gravelly tone and a funky beat. But, listening further into the tracks, it tended to "grow on" me. The lyrics do not tend to rhyme at all and there is no chorus, but that seems to make the songs sound fantastic. They are most definitely original.

The music flows beautifully and has a catchy beat with the many instruments used like guitars, keyboards, drums, bass, viola and the tambourine.

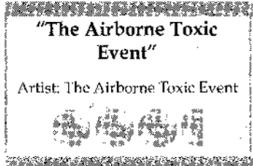
Many of the songs are about a sad love, or love that has went downhill due to cheating, drugs, alcohol, or lies. One song, however, "Missy" (track number nine), was about finding love which I thought was nice due to all the more depressing songs.

However, the album does have several instrumental pieces, the longest being the song "Innocence" (track number 10) which is almost seven minutes, and has probably about six or

so minutes worth of music.

On the contrary, the song, "Sometime Around Midnight" (track number seven), has become their hit single of the album. In June of 2009, the song checked in at No. 4 on USA TODAY's modern rock airplay chart and was at No. 30 on the newspaper's Hot Adult Contemporary chart. According to USA Today, U2's Adam Clayton even name-checked "Sometime Around Midnight", as one of his favorite songs.

Over all, the album is worth the money, which is close to \$11, depending on the store where it is purchased. They sound like Death Cab for Cutie with deeper vocals, but also have the rock edge like Modest Mouse. Fans should be fairly pleased with the end results and if you are not yet a fan, then this is definitely a band to watch for in the future.



ARTIST PROFILE: Band adjusts to singer's absence
The Airborne Toxic Event's frontman, Mikel Jollett, has been the band's driving force since he joined in 2006. He would have been the driving force if he had stayed. Jollett's vocal chords are deteriorating, and he has been unable to perform since late 2008. The band has adjusted to his absence by having other members take over his parts. The album "The Airborne Toxic Event" is a testament to their resilience. The band has a unique sound that blends indie and rock. They have gained a large following since their debut. The album is a collection of songs that showcase their growth as a band. The music is both catchy and meaningful. The band's journey has been one of perseverance and creativity. They have proven that they can thrive without their frontman. The album is a must-listen for fans of indie rock. It shows the band's ability to adapt and overcome adversity. The music is a reflection of their experiences and emotions. The album is a beautiful work of art. It is a testament to the power of music to heal and inspire. The band's journey is a story of hope and resilience. They have shown that it is possible to overcome even the most difficult challenges. The album is a gift to their fans. It is a collection of songs that will stay with them for years to come. The band's journey is a story of triumph over adversity. They have shown that it is possible to achieve your dreams, even in the face of all odds. The album is a testament to their hard work and dedication. It is a beautiful work of art that will inspire and uplift anyone who listens to it. The band's journey is a story of hope and resilience. They have shown that it is possible to overcome even the most difficult challenges. The album is a gift to their fans. It is a collection of songs that will stay with them for years to come. The band's journey is a story of triumph over adversity. They have shown that it is possible to achieve your dreams, even in the face of all odds. The album is a testament to their hard work and dedication. It is a beautiful work of art that will inspire and uplift anyone who listens to it.

Let me be the judge

BY INDYA WALDEN



So here's the deal: I'm helping you save time by watching movie trailers courtesy of Columbia Pictures so that you can make a better decision on what movies you should spend your hard earned paychecks and allowance money on.

For my judgment call, I will be using the ever-popular thumbs up and thumbs down for my overall decision.



Planet 51 Starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and Jessica Biel

Columbia's newest animated, action-packed feature film, features the voices of actors Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and Jessica Biel.

This intergalactic adventure starts when Charles "Chuck" Baker, played by Johnson, takes a rip to Planet 51; where green aliens lead their daily lives in the fashion of the modern '50s.

When Baker lands he is considered the "alien" on the planet and is befriended and helped by Lem, played by Justin Long.

In the 73 hours that the suave astronaut has to get back to his shuttle a lot can unfold. The movie is rated PG and is set to be released on Nov. 20. This is definitely a movie to take the siblings to see.



Did You Hear About the Morgans? Starring Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker

Sarah Jessica Parker and Hugh Grant share unbearable nuptials in "Did You Hear About the Morgans?" The couple has reached a disappointing plateau in their marriage and is far beyond the help of the greatest of marriage counselors.

After witnessing what should have been the death of Mr. Morgan, Grant, the couple is forced to join the

witness protection program and spend the rest of their lives together.

Though it is hard for them to get along in their new hometown in Wisconsin the couple slowly starts to realize why they chose to get married.

This movie is not yet rated and is set to debut Dec. 15. This is a great movie for couples to watch so they can remember why they got together in the first place.



Michael Jackson's This Is It Starring Michael Jackson

What was to be one of the greatest concerts of all time is now coming to the silver screen for the world to see. "This Is It" goes behind the scenes of what would have been Michael's farewell tour.

The movie shows the most intricate details of what went into the creation of this concert. The film also shows Michael in his peak performance

level that many the world over have experienced when he stepped on the stage.

This movie is set to release on Oct. 28th, but it will only be in theatres for two weeks. Ticket sales start Sept. 27th.

This is a movie that everyone should definitely go see, so that Michael's memory stays close to the hearts of those who loved him.



Student pursues dream over summer

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Going away from home can never feel like a good thing, but going away to get a head start on your future education can be.

Sophomore Imagine Uhlenbrock, attended an art camp in southern Vermont at Putney Boarding High School (PHS) to get a jump on her future in performing arts.

"Attending the camp all summer long was great," said Uhlenbrock. "The only thing that got to me was the fact that I am a city girl, and I am used to electronic devices and many main attractions. I was placed in a farm-like environment so anyone could get the picture from the point of view of how I felt."

Academics at Putney are very incredible for its size. The boarding school has many performing arts departments. Dance and drama departments are far above that of most high schools in the United States.

Although dance and drama departments are popular, another highlight of their school is their chorus and art programs.

Uhlenbrock focused on the aspect of music while participating in the program.

"While in the program my main task was to learn the dynamics of song writing," said Uhlenbrock.

Despite the fact that PHS is an educational school that is diverse from OPS schools there is something they two share in common, and that is the fact of how they would like to help their student's knowledge expand.

Putney High School provides the challenge of a rich and broad education that supports and encourages students to make the most of his or her gifts and achieve high standards in all their pursuits.

"When joining the program I was really focused and prepared to learn anything that could benefit my future," said Uhlenbrock.

Although Putney High School is a steady program that helps their students benefit knowledge, there are many other programs and clubs that are similar to PHS.

Omaha has their very own education program for eighth graders and high school students named Creighton Upward Bound Program.

The popular club is divided into two education levels, called Upward Bound Math and Science and also Upward Bound Classic.

Central High School has many students attending the program this year.

"Upward Bound Program overall is really good for students who are trying to get a jump on their education for the present and future," said junior Malcolm Minningfield. "I attended the summer program this year and it really helped me get a jump start in some of my classes, a major was in math."

Not only do some students know how to manage time, they also know what's best for them.

"Upward Bound is not just a program that helps you benefit your college choice for the future," said Malcolm Minningfield. "It also helps you with your current work you may have in your hands at the moment."

Even though the programs are different they both benefit students by preparing them for their future.

Like Minningfield, Uhlenbrock is confident that Putney's program is a must for interested.

"I would recommend anyone who is a fast learner or someone who is just willing to learn to join the PHS Program," said Uhlenbrock.



Uhlenbrock

CALENDAR

October

2 More Than a Game
Starring LeBron James
Rated: PG

9 Good Hair
Starring Chris Rock
Rated: PG-13

16 The Stepfather
Starring Dylan Walsh and Sela Ward
Rated: PG-13

23 Saw VI
Starring Costas Mandylor and Tobin Bell
Rated: R

28 Michael Jackson's This Is It
Starring Michael Jackson
Rated: PG

November

6 Disney's A Christmas Carol
Starring Jim Carey
Not Yet Rated

20 Planet 51
Starring Dwayne Johnson
Rated: PG

25 The Princess and the Frog
Starring Anika Noni Rose
Not Yet Rated

Six member cast astounds audience with tragedy

Seniors in honors and advanced placement English classes received the opportunity to view an abridged version of Shakespeare's Macbeth performed by the Nebraska Shakespeare Team.

Macbeth's wife, after hearing the prophecy comes true, convinces Macbeth to murder the king. After the regicide, the king's sons, in fear of their lives, flee Scotland and Macbeth and his wife are named king and queen. In an attempt to keep his hard earned spot, Macbeth orders the death of Banquo and his son, Macduff. Banquo is killed but Macduff escapes and flees to England.

In the aftermath of the deeds, Macbeth and his wife are not content. They are racked with guilt - Macbeth hallucinates and his wife sleepwalks and talks about their murderous deeds.

In the final act, Macbeth's wife kills herself and Macduff, with the help of the king's son, Malcolm, returns to Scotland and kills Macbeth.

After the abridged version of the Shakespearean play, "Macbeth" by A. Bryan Humphrey, the six-manned cast answered questions that the audience had, and then began to take down the set.

The set was professionally done and was made portable so the crew could set up and take it down in a short time.

The group tours various places in Omaha, greater Nebraska, and over in Iowa. They have been touring for one week so far but have been working on the production for about three and a half weeks with still two weeks to go.

"The best part of touring is the fact that you have to adjust your performance based on where ever you are and the audience as well. It really keeps you on your toes. It's like boot camp for an actor," said actor Dakota Brown, who played Macduff.

Josh Dose, senior, was there during the play as part of stage crew and was quite motivated with the play.

"I really like the theatre and I want to get in to stage management so then I could kind of see the different aspects of it," said Dose.

The Advanced Drama class worked with the cast in various activities to work on concentration and teamwork.

One game, called Fft, was a game where the group got into a circle and had concentrate on their surroundings to win the game. First, one person would begin and look someone in the eye and point to them while making a "fft" sound. Then, the person who was just "ffted" would then "fft" another and so on and so forth. The idea was to get a fast tempo without being too slow. A person was eliminated if he or she was too slow on the "fft", saying "fft" when it was not his or her turn, or not clear at whom the "fft" was directed to.

The game proved to be a challenge but left the actors as well as the students laughing as the "fft" sounded like they were spitting on one another.

The Nebraskan Shakespeare Team performed a very similar story but, because of their various constrictions, had to summarize and adapt much of the play. The majority of the actors played multiple characters; one actor played all three witches. Macduff's journey in England is never told onstage.

The Nebraskan Shakespeare Team is a non-profit professional theatre team that is dedicated to adapting and performing Shakespearean plays. In addition to touring high schools and communities all across Nebraska and Western Iowa, the team also hosts the annual Nebraska Shakespeare festival, more commonly known as Shakespeare on the Green.

The Nebraska Shakespeare Team is affiliated with Creighton University and the University of Omaha. Started in the late 1980's, the team has been since funded by local corporations, foundations, and private individuals, according to the team's website.

The group ends its tour at the end of this month. The group will perform at West Point Community on Oct. 15 and Albion Community on Oct. 18.



Lady Macbeth answers the audience's questions after the 70 minute performance of Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Young adult novel inspires and encourages readers

"A Map of the Known World" captivates readers with a unique and dramatic story. It brings out the heart in readers as main character Cora Bradley goes through a rough time in her teenage life.

BY EMMA MINCER

This book is honestly one of the best I've read in a long time. The entire book was eloquently lyrical because the words seemed to have a rhythm to them as they flowed along the page.

The tale is narrated by Cora Bradley who has just begun high school and dreams of escape from her life. After her older brother, Nate, dies in a car crash, Cora's life has just plummeted downhill. Her family is broken with little happiness and her parents have become increasingly over protective. Even her best friend, Rachel, has begun to slip away.

So, Cora finds peace in art which leads her to Damien, the handsome brooding boy who was in the car with her brother the night he died. Damien, himself an artist, and Cora form a tentative friendship and Damien shows Cora the truth about who her brother really was, and the art that he created.

As soon as Cora then begins to piece back together the fragments of her life, she finds herself falling for Damien which creates more turmoil around her already crumbling life. She now has to find the courage to follow the heart of her heart.

Cora's struggles to fix her life makes the reader want to root for her to achieve what she wants. She is a strong young woman and she is at a time in her life where the decisions she makes now, will impact her future greatly. Cora herself inspires me to try and make the best of what I am given in life. The way that she carries herself and the way she thinks and feels seems so realistic to teenagers in the real world that it is easy to understand her points of view.

A great deal of empathy is incorporated into the story. I actually found myself in Cora's shoes, feeling her emotions of sorrow, anger, love, and other teenage emotions as Sandell's words described them in detail.

The words were rich with flavor and texture as Sandell composed the world around Cora. They paint such good pictures so the reader can easily conjure them in the mind, but still leave room for the reader to come up with their own variations.

Also, there were some very poignant scenes with Cora and her family. At

times when there were arguments, they seemed real. Not like a conversation you would hear in let's say, Shakespeare, who wrote arguments that sounded flowery or planned out. No, Sandell actually wrote what sounded like a frank and harsh quarrel that teenagers and parents would really have. The kind of argument where one would not think before they speak and say the first thing that came to mind. The kind of argument that is throat constricting in the aftermath and makes you cry.

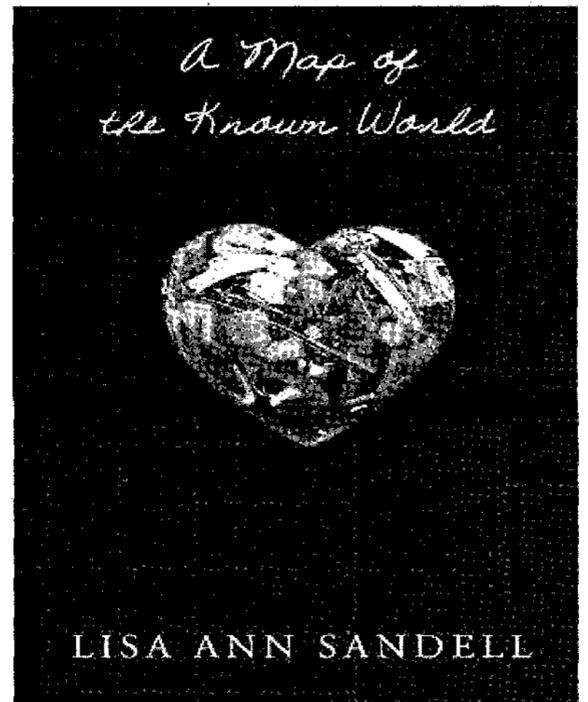
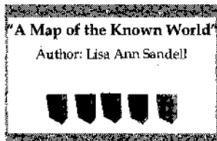
I remember when reading the rough and sad scenes, I would wonder how a family could be so torn apart. I have never lost a sibling to a tragic accident but I can see how losing someone can just shut a family down and have them react in the same way the Bradley's did. I feel though that if the Bradley's had maybe talked through their tragedy, they would not have closed up as much as they had.

The character of Damien was a boy after my own heart. He had a powerful role and I fell in love with him by the first time he was mentioned in the story. Damien's character seemed completely realistic to me and acted the way I thought a normal teenage boy would. He had the quiet, emotional, and artsy "bad boy" persona that I found to make his character believable.

This book is good for readers who like a good, short and emotional book and will probably be more interesting for middle schoolers and up. I had high expectations for this book from Sandell's previous novel, "Song of the Sparrow", and the author went above and beyond what I thought to be possible. This book showed that not only can Sandell write phenomenally in verse, but as well as prose.

The plot was original but a bit fast paced. There were places in the book where one minute you are reading about the current day and then, in the next paragraph, you learn you are three months into the future, and gave the impression of that part being cut out, but it did spread out real well in the end. The story was a bit slow in the first chapter or so, but flip through a few more chapters or so, and WHAM! You're hooked.

I have been recommending this book to everyone already so I most definitely recommend that to whoever is reading this to go check out or buy this book as quickly as possible.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMAZON.COM
Lisa Ann Sandell has written other young adult books and currently teaches a creative writing class.

Sudoku: Test your knowledge

Expand your intellect and problem solving skills with the following.

Central's enrichment math classes donated sudoku for the student body's entertainment.

4	1			8			7	6
7	6		4		5			2
			3			1	9	
6								
3	2						4	5
								8
	5	4					3	
			8	1				7
2	7			3				9

1		9		4		3		
						4	2	
6		4	7		3			8
	8	6			7		3	4
		7	3	2				9
	9		4				7	
		3		7		8		1
	1	5						
4			8		9	6		

Answers will be displayed in the next issue.

Enter at your own risk

The Register braves ghouls and goblins to check out the season opening of Myster Manor Haunted House.

The season runs from Sept. 25 to Oct. 31. The Register staff was able to leave. Will you be so lucky?

MYSTERY MANOR HAUNTED THEATRE

Fetal positions and screams in the night

BY INDYA WALDEN

Ear-splitting screams and the sound of metal against concrete are two of the many sounds heard outside and inside of Myster Manor. Fellow Register member Daria Seaton and I had the pleasure of seeing the haunted house behind-the-scenes. From costumes to make-up, we saw it all.

After 26 years of mystery and hysterical mayhem Myster Manor is still going strong. While waiting outside of what looks like a portal to hell there were many characters to encounter. Shilock is the Manor's resident mobster whose favorite weapon of choice is a sledge hammer.

A favorite character of mine and Daria's alike was a charming young fellow toting a chainsaw. Once we left Shilock we traveled through a labyrinth of rooms being separated and passed on from group to group.

While walking through there are many fantastical creatures and what seemed to be humans popping out from hidden doors and from unseen spaces above. Many times I found myself in a fetal position saying "Oh my God" while a boy who appeared to be no more than 12 staring at me in disbelief of my lack of courage.

As I walked through, the notion that these were real people that were acting never crossed my mind. All I could do was press on clutching Daria's arm like a two-year-old clutching his or her favorite stuffed animal.

When I was finally released from my nightmare come to life, I was quite satisfied with the overall presentation of the house. From the time I stepped in until I took the final slide out of the house I was kept guessing and looking around every corner wondering what was about to happen next.

As I walked away from the house I heard a terrifying cry that made me smile to myself and say, "I have to bring my friends here to see the looks on their faces." This haunted house is truly a work of art, whether you can walk through with your head held high or come out crying like a baby.

If you think you're up to the challenge find your way down to the corner of 18th and Cumings St. if you dare.

Prayer guides the way

BY DARIA SEATON

The leaves are changing colors and the weather is getting colder which means the scariest and most frightening time of the year is coming abroad, Halloween.

Fellow register staff member Indya Walden and I had the privilege of attending Mystery Manor's Media night. We were able to go into the so-called "haunted" house and then see the background work that goes into putting together this house. Did you know that the builders don't get paid to put together the haunted house, nor do the actors?

For the last 26 years, Mystery Manor has prided itself on being the scariest and oldest haunted house today. Along with the old attractions Mystery Manor has added a few new attractions including Pharaoh's revenge, Death Row, Slaughterhouse, and Clown Alley. Just watch out for the guy who comes at you with the chainsaw.

Although some may say that Mystery Manor lacks what it is that they expect from a haunted house, my partner in fright and I found ourselves praying and in the fetal positions a couple times while roaming the house. Jesus was truly with us that night.

For me the fright started before we even got into the house. While standing and waiting to go into the house, the guy with the chainsaw comes up behind Indya and I and starts up his chainsaw.

Little did I know that he was nothing compared to what was in store for us when we got into the house. Walking in and listening to the man waiting inside say "four of you are going in but only one's comin out," I prayed.

The rest is history. Although they may only be actors, that never crosses your mind when they are scaring the crap out of you.

Being the kind person that I am, I would tell you all of what to expect, but they might get mad at me. So if being scared is your thing then you just have to go and check it out at Mystery Manor. For more information, check them out at www.mysterymanoromaha.org.

Central alum contributes to terror

BY DARIA SEATON

For the last five years, 2007 Central High graduate Brenton Donaldson has contributed to the terror of teens and adults alike at Omaha's oldest haunted house Mystery Manor.

What would make a person want to work in the creepy old house where some claim it is really haunted?

"I've always been big on horror movies, and was never scared," said Donaldson. "I found myself paying more attention to the acting and not the movie itself."

Along with the fright Mystery Manor gives, they also sponsor the Matt's Dream Foundation. Matt Schmill, a former Mystery Manor employee, was killed just 30 minutes after turning 23 by a drunk driver.

Matt's Dream Foundation raises awareness about driving under the influence and the affect it can have on a victim's family. The foundation may also be a push for actors to work harder.

"The fact that we are helping the foundation, I have to personally step my game up," said Donaldson. "Because they are at the forefront of fundraising and awareness, every kid that shows up to the front of Mystery Manor will see the jeep and leave with that thought in their head."

The jeep Donaldson refers to Schmill's truck he dreamed of restoring, which is in a picture displayed at the front of the haunted house's entrance next to a picture of Schmill.

In the last 26 years, many things in the house have changed, but in the last two years is when the most change has occurred, including changing 12 rooms, said Donaldson.

"It keeps people guessing because a lot of people are regular spectators and are used to certain setups," said the actor.

To be able to do such a stressful job, Donaldson says he appreciates the reward he receives from the crowd's responses and "[the] reaction that I get out of people. [The] fact that I can do whatever I want and not be judged."

Indya Walden contributed to this story.



"Why so sad?" said the Joker. He is one of the many actors ecstatic to participate in Mystery Manor.



Why pay for plastic surgery if you could just use a mask. Here is one of the many characters portrayed in Mystery Manor.



Lester is going to be looking for more than just trees to cut. Lester is played by a former central student.

Mystert Manor honors memory of past employee

BY DARIA SEATON

Matt Schmill was celebrating his birthday with his family and friends on April 24, 2004.

While walking home at 12:30 a.m. he was hit and killed by a drunk driver. At midnight, he had just turned 23.

Schmill was employed with Mystery Manor and the haunted house is honoring his memory by allowing those with Matt's Dream bands to enter the haunted house with \$2 off of the full price admission from Sunday through Thursday.

After his death, ... The foundation's goal is to educate adults on how dangerous alcohol can be and the impact that drunk driving can have on the friends and family of victims.

In 2006, Matt's dream was awarded the Community Advocate Award of excellence from Project Extra Mile.

Along with that, it also won the Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award for Program Excellence.

Matt also worked directly with mystery Manor. He was an actor in the Dot Room and after he passed the room was retired.

Like many, Schmill had many hopes and dreams, and only some was he able to accomplish before his life was cut short.

One thing that Schmill always wanted to do was to rebuild his 1980

CJ7 and travel the jeep trails to the Colorado Mountains.

Although he was not able to do so himself, through the help of his loved ones and the community, his dreams were fulfilled.

On August 5, 2005, in front of Mystery Manor Matt's Dream truck and a picture of Schmill are displayed in front of the entrance.

The man who hit Schmill was caught four hours later and had a blood alcohol level of .138. The legal blood alcohol level in Nebraska is .08.

He was charged with a year in jail for each felony.

On September 26, 2005 Bob Schmill, Matt's father, County Attorney and Senators Kruse brainstormed to propose a bill that would make it

a felony to leave the scene of a personal injury and have a max of five years jail time.

It was then added to law LB772 and after almost a year, July 12, 2006, Matt's Law or LB772 was passed in the state of Nebraska.

On Oct. 18 at 11 a.m. Matt's Dream Foundation will hold a walk at Lake Zorinsky located at a 154th and F Streets, shelter number 5. Participants have the choice of completing a two or five mile walk/run.

The fee is \$10 or \$20 with a t-shirt. No members from cross country will be allowed.



Matt Schmill worked at Mystery Manor before he was killed by a drunk drive at the age of 23. Schmill worked in the Dot Room, which was retired after his death.



"Macbeth"

Nebraska Shakespeare Team graces Central's theater with an abridged version of the play

PAGE 9

"GI Joe"

War antics and a twisted love affair causes a stir at the box office

PAGE 7



REGISTRATION

The Register | Thursday 10.22.09 | central.register@ops.org

11 TIME NSPA/IEA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER

A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

Band reunites after indefinite hiatus

BY ALEX TRAN

The members of Blink 182 rejoined after their four year long hiatus and began touring across the country, stopping by Council Bluffs, IA's Westfair Amphitheater along the way.

At Council Bluff's, Blink 182 well received.

The concert started at 2 p.m., starting with smaller supporting bands and eventually leading up to the featured bands Fall Out Boy and Panic At the Disco.

Midway through the scheduled time, the Westfair Amphitheater, which sports a capacity of 12000 people, sold out.

The concert ended at 10:30 p.m.

When the much expected Blink 182 came on the stage, the music was nostalgic of past times. Not having released a new CD yet, the band played its most popular songs they had composed before they had suffered their hiatus.

Blink 182 performs its songs live much different than it does while recording. The band generally plays at a faster tempo and replaces many of the songs' lyrics with toilet paper humor and jokes.

Typical of Blink 182's style, the band parodied their lyrics at Council Bluffs.

Blink 182 was started by original members Tom DeLonge, Mark Hoppus, and Scott Raynor in 1992 in Poway, Calif. Drummer Raynor was replaced abruptly during a 1998 US tour by Travis Barker.

In February 2005, however, DeLonge left the band

and the two parties parted ways, going on an "indefinite hiatus." Shortly afterwards, DeLonge started the new band Angels & Airwaves, and Hoppus and Raynor started +44.

The breakup was relatively violent and each faction exchanged harsh comments through the press, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Possibly spurred by a plane crash last fall, where Barker was severely injured and two former Blink-182 associates were killed, Hoppus wrote on his blog that the three band members had made amends for past offences. He did not know if the band would reunite.

The band ended up making more than amends, declaring its official reunion as a band at the Grammy Awards telecast in Los Angeles on Feb. 9, 2009.

The statement, reprinted on Blink 182's website, read, "To put it simply, We're back. We mean, really back. Picking up where we left off and then some. In the studio writing and recording a new album. Preparing to tour the world yet again. Friendships reformed. 17 years deep in our legacy."

Blink 182 announced the dates and places of its summer tour, making its first live showing on Jul. 24. It toured all over the country and had several performances in Canada.

The band also toured with several other famous bands, including the All-American Rejects, Taking Back Sunday, Asher Roth, and Chester French.

Though the band completed its tour on Oct. 3, it has not released the date for its new CD.

“We’re back. We mean, really back.”

Films Make Art

BY DARIA SEATON

After school activities are sometimes rare for teens unless they are in a sport or club of some sort.

So often teens seek a place they can go every so often to step outside the box of normal everyday activity. The answer is Film Streams High School Film Club.

Film Streams was founded in July of 2007 and it wasn't long after that the film club came about. The High School Film Club is a program for high school students in Omaha and Council Bluffs to enjoy independent films, foreign films and documentaries, experience repertory selections, and critically engage the medium through guided discussions about art, subjectivity, and culture," according to Lindsey Trapnal, Film Club worker.

Independent films are simply films that are not produced or endorsed by big name companies such as Lions Gate or Warner Bros. Perhaps some of the most famous film directors that started by making independent films are Tyler Perry or Alexander Payne, an Omaha native.

Besides the club Film Streams has a free movie screening the first Monday of every month for students with valid student IDs. The movies aren't chosen at random but are selected according to what is appealing to high school audiences, such as Peewee's Big Adventure, which aired Sept. 8.

Sometimes they may have a guest speaker and end the movie with a discussion amongst the film club members.



PHOTO BY EMMA MINCER/REGISTER

The goal is to get students to start looking at films more "critically and "think of films as art" said Trapnal. Trapnal said it shows that art is more than just a picture and with art "there is no right or wrong impression of what you see."

Art is all around and film club could just open one's eyes to art that has been in their face the entire time.

Film club tries to meet at least once a month at the Ruth Sokolof Theatre located at 1310 Webster.

Sick of Hearing Big Tobacco's Lies?

Join No Limits, the youth-led activism group that fights against Big Tobacco, at the 2009 Fall Summit.

The summit is totally FREE, including transportation and gear! So have fun, make new friends, and discover the truth behind Big Tobacco's lies at the No Limits 2009 Fall Summit.

WHO: No Limits

WHAT: 2009 Fall Summit

WHEN: November 21-22

WHERE: Covenant Cedars in Hordville, NE
Northwest of York

Need more info? Ready to apply? NoLimitsNebraska.com



Defy the Lie. Fight Big Tobacco.

We Don't
Wanna
Hear It!

Fall Sports Score Cards

Take a look at how the fall sports teams have done this season.

Football

Scorecard

Date	Opponent	Result
8/28/09	Omaha North	L 27-7
9/4/09	Omaha Burke	L 38-14
9/11/09	Grand Island	W 14-10
9/18/09	Creighton Prep	L 17-7
9/25/09	Bellevue East	L 26-15
10/2/09	Papio-Lavista	L 36-30
10/9/09	Millard West	L 42-21
Late Oct.-Early Nov.	State Playoffs	

Players hope big

So far the Eagles have started their season with a 2-4 streak and still has more to come.

Starting off the season Coach Jay Ball feels they started off with good opponents and they had a strong defensive line. They can do better they just need to work on "doing the little things right," said Ball.

Although they didn't start off with a great record, Ball thinks they are getting better and achieving their big time goal.

"I hope we achieve our goal of making the playoffs," said Ball referring playoffs scheduled in late October in Memorial Stadium located in Lincoln, Neb.

Some players such as Paulino Gomez, linebacker and safety Randall Owens have stepped up since the beginning of the season and are being recognized in their growth this season.

According to Ball, the team has done a lot better in practice and is getting very competitive in the games.

Soon enough we will know if central has made it to the playoffs. Since their win against Bryan, the team will know definitely if the season is a wrapped or if there will be more practice to come in their last game against Westside.

Volleyball

Scorecard

Date	Opponent	Result
9/4/09	Elkhorn	W 2-1
9/4/09	Papillion-Lavista	L 2-0
9/14/09	Mercy	W 2-0
9/15/09	Omaha North	W 3-0
9/25/09	Burke	L 2-1
9/29/09	Bellevue East	L 3-0
10/1/09	Lincoln	W 3-0
10/2/09	Skutt	W 2-0
10/3/09	Gretna	W 2-0
10/3/09	Nebraska City	W 2-0

Expectations run high

Throughout the season the lady eagles have been conquering their territory as champions of volleyball.

They defeated Elkhorn at the Bellevue West Volleyball Tournament. "We were playing high ranked teams," said junior Brittany Prescott. "It was our first tournament and I thought we did really well playing as a team."

To prevent players on the opposing teams from scoring the team strikes the ball up and toward a teammate before it touches the court surface—that teammate may then volley it back across the net or hit it to a third teammate who then volleys it across the net.

Many players have been playing volleyball for numerous years. "I've been playing volleyball since the sixth grade," said freshman Sydney McGruder.

The volleyball games have been a great spectator sport. "I like the volleyball games because of the crowds and the competitive atmosphere," said senior Dillon Garnette.

The volleyball team members and many spectators hope the team will obtain victory in the near future.

"I think we can make it to state if we play our hardest in the up and coming games," said McGruder.

Boy's Cross Country

Scorecard

Date	Meet	Result
9/3/09	Titan Classic	
9/5/09	Burke Invite	
9/8/09	Bellevue XC	
9/11/09	Central Inv.	
9/17/09	Harold Scott	
9/22/09	Prep Invite	
9/26/09	Bryan High Inv.	
9/28/09	UNK Invite	
10/02/09	Millard West	
10/08/09	Metro Conf.	
10/15/09	District Meet	
10/21/09	Northwest Inv.	
10/23/09	State Meet	

Results were unavailable at the time of printing.

Looking towards the future

Although the team did about as well as it did last year, there were many season highlights. Chili Green placed 3rd at the Central Invitational and at the Lincoln Northstar Competition. Nick Clark ran an outstanding 17'13" 5K at the Creighton Prep meet.

"The season had its ups and downs," said Evans. "We finished about where we did last year." Many of the students, especially seniors were somewhat disappointed about how the season went.

Even though the team was not able to continue their season as well as they hoped, the Boy's Cross Country team has put in enough effort to look forward to this year's track season and next year's cross country season.

"I really feel that the boys put in enough effort to set a good foundation for the spring track season as well as next year," said Elliot. "We keep getting better talent as the years go by."

With all of the effort that the team is putting out, it looks like the only way for them to go is up. With all of the incoming talent in the years to come, Central's Boy's Cross Country team should be able to continue in their previous stride of excellence. The student body and staff should hopefully be able to look forward to a bright future.

Girl's Cross Country

Scorecard

Date	Meet	Result
	Varsity	JV
9/3/09	Titan Classic	Canceled Canceled
9/5/09	Burke Invite	No Team Scores
9/8/09	Bellevue XC	No Team Scores
9/11/09	Central Inv.	3rd 3rd
9/17/09	Harold Scott	9th No Team Score
9/22/09	Prep Invite	12th
9/26/09	Bryan High Invite	No Team Score
9/28/09	UNK Invite	16th
10/02/09	Millard West	No Team Score 5th
10/08/09	Metro Conf	12th No Team Score
10/15/09	District Meet	6th
10/23/09	State Meet	No Qualifiers

Team runs despite illnesses

Although the Girl's Cross-Country team has been plagued with hurt members, the team rallied together at the end of the season to place in several of their meets.

The team placed sixth at districts. Unfortunately, the team had no score at several meets because it did not have the minimum number of players to place. At one meet, only seniors Minna Smith and Caliegh Conn ran.

The cross country team has been small this year with only 11 members on varsity. Out of the 11 players, over half of them are seniors.

"There were a lot of people who got injured," Smith said. Several players have been benched because of injuries. Senior Aly David suffered from inflamed tendons in her leg and had to end her running season early.

Despite these setbacks, Smith still feels like the team did well. "We did okay. I think we had good team spirit. We ran well together," she said. "It was nice that in cross country, JV and Varsity interacted a lot, and there wasn't that much of an age difference problem."

The Girls cross Country team practices about two hours on a daily basis at either Memorial or Elmwood Park. Some days during the week, the team often had to miss school for races across town.

Boy's Tennis

Scorecard

Date	Opponent	Result
8/27/09	Omaha Westside	L 6-3
8/29/09	Lincoln NE Invitational	4th Place
9/1/09	Burke	L 6-3
9/8/09	Millard North	L 8-1
9/10/09	Papillion LaVista South	L 5-4
9/15/09	Creighton Prep	L 9-0
9/22/09	Papillion-Lavista	L 8-1
9/28/09	Gross Catholic	W 6-3
10/8/09	Metro Tournament	
10/15/09	State Tournament	

Looking forward to victory

Despite the graduation of several strong seniors last year, the boy's tennis team still started off the season well, finishing fourth at the Lincoln Northeast Tennis Invitational on Aug. 29.

Seniors Cole Peterson and Decatur Banker, varsity members since their freshman years, led the team in terms of experience and skill, but the team's new tour de force is the unexpected arrival of two new players.

Junior Ian Buckley, a former varsity Creighton Prep player, transferred to Central this year and played number one doubles with Peterson. His younger brother, Colin Buckley, is an incoming freshman and played number two singles.

Colin Buckley, already a vital asset on the team, won the most points for Central at the Lincoln Tournament by winning his bracket.

The team had a rough season. The early cold and unusually wet weather shortened practice time and amount of matches during the season.

At the State tournament, rain and damp weather caused play to be postponed until 11 am, three hours after the tournament was scheduled to start. During previous years, the tournament ended by 3 pm. This year, however, players were still playing past 7 pm.

Despite these predicaments, the players persevered. Buckley managed to advance to the quarterfinals.

Girls Varsity Softball

Scorecard

Date	Opponent	Result
8/27-28/09	(Omaha South Invite)	3-1 win
	(Omaha South Invite)	5-0 loss
	(Omaha South Invite)	4-3 win (3rd)
9/1	Bellevue West (Home)	16-0 loss
9/2	Mercy (Home)	5-2 loss
9/3	Papillion-LaVista	POSTPONED
9/5	Benson (Omaha North Invite)	8-0 win
9/5	Bellevue East (Omaha North Invite)	15-6 loss
9/5	Omaha North (Omaha North Invite)	3-2 win 3rd
9/8	Omaha Northwest (away)	11-10 loss
9/10	Millard North (Metro)	7-2 loss
9/12	Benson (Metro)	10-2 win
9/17	Omaha Burke (Home)	10-0 loss
9/18	Papillion-LaVista (Invite)	5-0 loss
9/18	Kearney (Papillion-LaVista Invite)	9-0 loss
9/19	Burke (Papillion-LaVista Invite)	7-5 win
9/19	Omaha Gross (Pap-LaVista Invite)	6-2 loss
9/22	Millard North (Home)	7-0 loss
9/23	Omaha South (away)	8-0 win
9/26	Omaha North (Home)	
9/29	Bellevue East (away)	
10/1	Omaha Westside (away)	
10/3	Millard South Invite	
10/5	Gross (away)	
10/6	Marian (Home)	
10/9-10	Districts TBA	
10/14-16	State TBA	

Some results were unavailable at the time of printing.

Players end on great foot

From the moment the softball hits the hard bat your heart stops. In a seconds time your life could either have a victory or a loss.

Softball is a hand-eye coordinating sport. It is a sport that is said to be most popular in the United States.

The ladies showed their expertise on how the game was played this season. The spectators consistently came to the games to show their support.

"I love going to all of the games," said junior Lilian Chaparro. "My favorite part is watching our team win of course."

With the crowds of spectators and teammates running out of the stadium, team member Christina Klem came to share her thoughts on highlights of the season.

"My favorite game would have to be the Westside game," said junior Christina Klem. "The whole game was really close, but in the end we lost."

Even win the game is over and the scores are set many players can't keep their mind off the prize.

With the season coming to an end Klem can't her mind off the events that will happen next year.

"For the new season our minds will be set on three things try hard. Play hard. Win Hard," said Klem.

CENTRAL FOOTBALL

Eagles play longtime rivals the North Omaha Vikings. For the last two years the Eagles have tried to regain the title of "champions." Though the title was lost,

BY DARIA SEATON

"We need strategies and better plays" said junior Tia Dawson. On Friday Aug. 29, Central tried to regain the title that they had lost last year to the North Omaha Vikings. But, despite their sweat and hard work, they were disappointed with a 27-7 loss. "We got beat," principal Greg Emmel said simply. For many years, the Eagles and the Vikings have had an on-going rivalry in basketball and football to see who could be the best. In 2007, the Eagles proved to be victorious against the Vikings along with winning the state championship. Since then, Central has lost to North two years running. Central still put up a fight despite this losing streak. Headed off to a good start, Central scored the first touchdown and lead the Vikings to a 7-0 lead. For many of the

students, the Eagles getting the first touch down was the highlight of the game, giving them hope that maybe Central could win this.

Sadly, it went down hill from there, and that would be the only time they were ahead and their only touchdown. Central played a tough first quarter but North seemed to play it better as they dominated the field with tough plays second quarter.

Senior Jake Fuhs, a quarterback, stated that they had "played hard" but couldn't execute. "We shot ourselves in the foot," said Fuhs.

In this year's game, although they played hard and had a good defensive line, penalties were a big part of the loss and as Fuhs said, Central made too many mistakes.

Although Fuhs thinks that they have things to work on, varsity cheerleader Kaylore Caldwell, junior, disagrees. "I don't think that there is anything to work on, they are just too young", said Caldwell "They are still learning."

Both Coach Jay Ball and Fuhs agree that the defense played well along with the special teams, which do the punts and the kickoff, it is still a team effort and one part of the team cannot do it all.

Emmel has faith in his team and believes that since their first game they are already showing mass improvement and are working harder. Although things weren't going their way the Eagles still held up their pride while the players and cheerleader "took a knee" as one of their opponents seemed to be hurt on the field.

Centrals team, principal and coaches still believe in them.

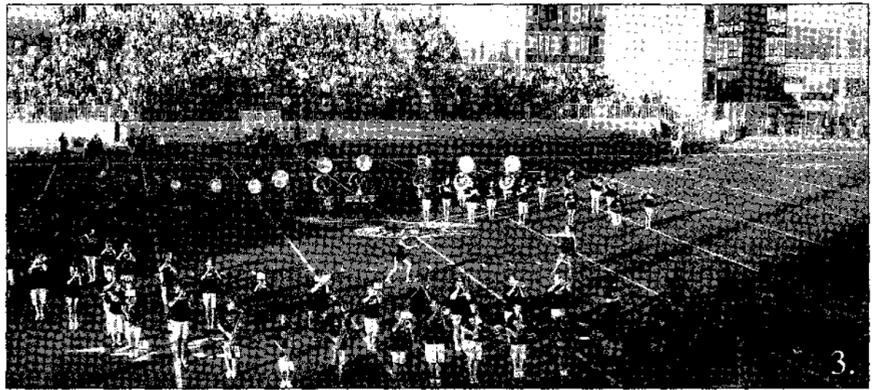
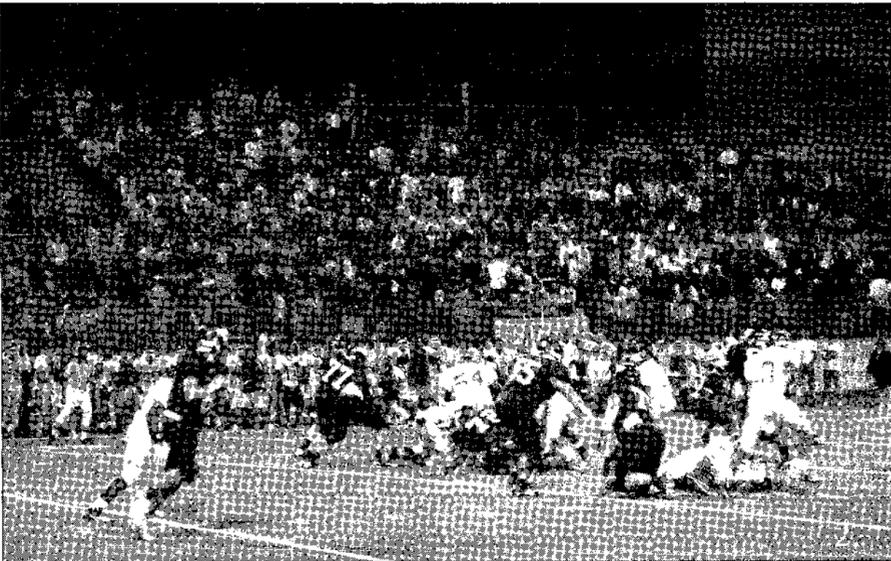
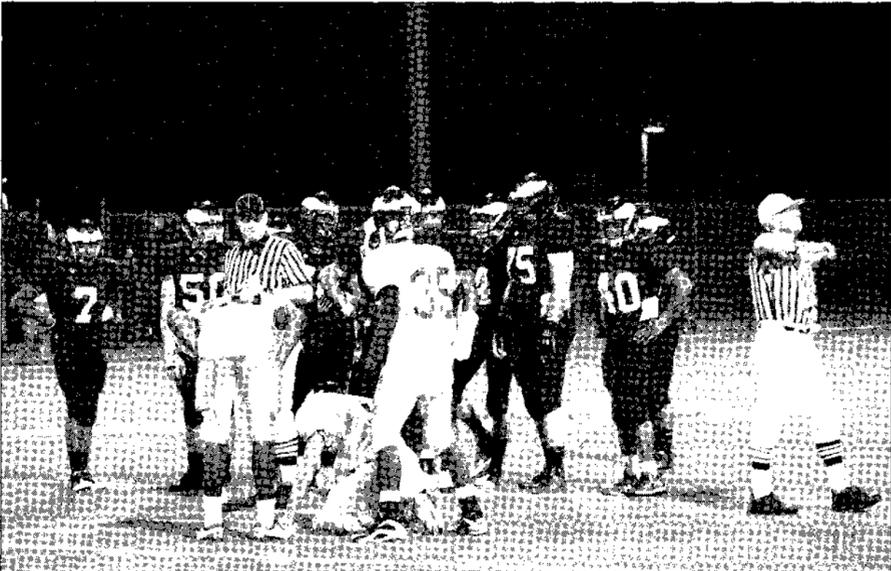
"If we win two of the next three games, I think we will make it to the playoffs," said Emmel.

The eagles can still have a successful season but they need to limit their mistakes not as many turnovers and get more big plays, which is one advantage North had over our team.

Although things weren't going their way, the Eagles still held up their pride while the players and cheerleaders "took a knee" as one of their opponents seemed to be hurt on the field.

So why is it that Central has lost the last two years? Caldwell says the team keeps losing more and more seniors every year. She does, however, think that the team did better this year compared to last.

Although the team may lack seniority and experience one thing that Central has over the vikings is heart and pride which shows through everything they do, in practice and on the field as well. Central will continue to fight and push through and end their season that best way that they can.



PHOTOS BY DARIA SEATON/ REGISTER

1. Players gather around injured North High School student. Players and cheerleaders then "took a knee", a traditional moment when many pause on bended knee until an injured player is removed from the field. 2. Both teams come head to head with a very close game during the second half. 3. Marching Eagles performed a half time show. 4. Juniors Mitchel Westberry, Joseph Baratta and Jacob Kniec supports their team in the student section. The game theme was Hawaiian.

Eagles prepare for the upcoming season with a scrimmage

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

From centuries ago to now, Central has strived to achieve academics as well as athletic excellence. Central's football teams started off their season with hopes of reclaiming their throne as the national champions, Friday, August 21 with their annual purple and white game.

Central's football teams showcased their skills out on the gridiron. From tackles to touchdowns these boys went all out showing some of their classmates just what they could do.

During the game, the team continuously proved the worth of their countless practices, through out the summer and zero hours during the school year. "I think the game showed that we practice hard, and (we) plan on playing harder," said senior Gary Todd.

Coach Jay Ball waited in anticipation to see how the varsity and junior varsity team would play. Coach Ball said that even though the game was not exactly what was anticipated, in the end, no one got hurt.

Many students as well as parents came out to show their support for the Eagles. The cheering crowd pumped up both Varsity and Junior Varsity teams, as they came out on the field with their guns blazing.

While watching the game many spectators placed their predictions for what is to come during the season.

Junior Cierra Tooley said, "From what I've seen we have work to do, but we can make it to state if we work harder."

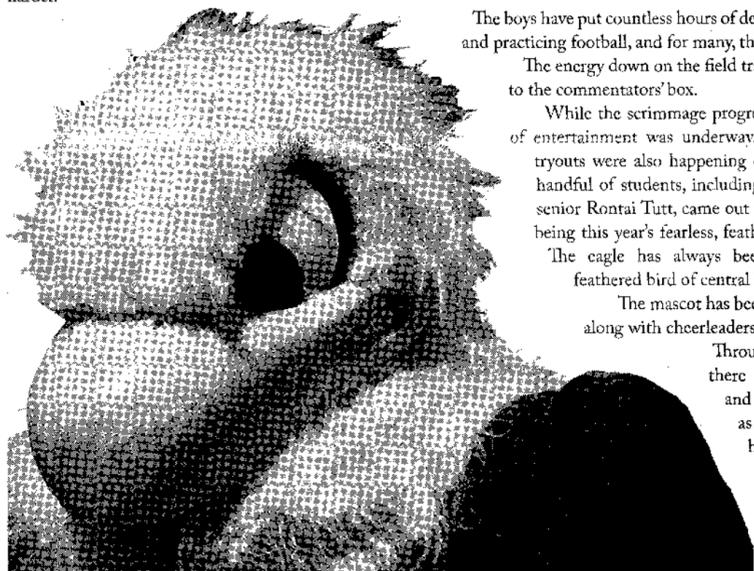


PHOTO BY DARIA SEATON/ REGISTER

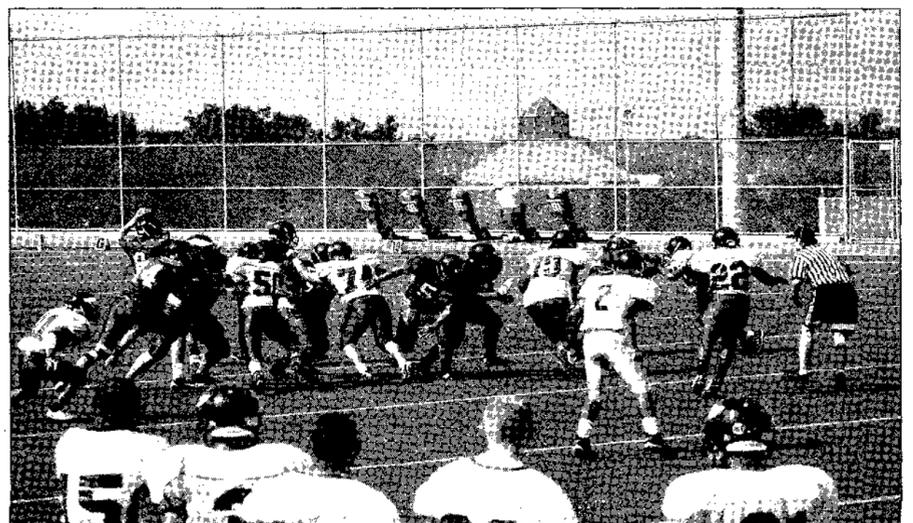
The boys have put countless hours of devotion into playing, and practicing football, and for many, this is their dream.

The energy down on the field transpired all the way to the commentators' box.

While the scrimmage progressed, another form of entertainment was underway. The eagle mascot tryouts were also happening on the sidelines. A handful of students, including last year's mascot senior Rontai Tutt, came out to try their hand at being this year's fearless, feathered crowd rocker. The eagle has always been the courageous feathered bird of central high.

The mascot has been the spirit booster along with cheerleaders on the sidelines.

Throughout the game there were many laughs and gasps of disbelief as to what was happening down on the field. When, suddenly, the first play caught everyone's eyes.



PHOTOS BY DARIA SEATON/ REGISTER

Central's Purple and White teams were divided up evenly. The White team ultimately won the scrimmage.

The cheers skyrocketed as high as the clouds when the first ball was thrown and received.

Many spectators glued their eyes to the field not wanting to miss one second of the game. Senior Davean Pittman shared the excitement, claiming early victory when he said assuredly, "we're gonna win."

It was first down and the anticipation was almost painful. The crowd was on their feet cheering in favor of their favorite varsity or junior varsity team.

High hopes and strength is what will fuel Central High School's ship of hard work and bring them to success. Like years past, the student and teacher body hope to regain reputation and quite possibly even become class A state Champions like the 2007/ 2008 school year.

"When we won state it was my freshman year, I was so excited that I couldn't go to sleep that whole night," junior Amber Micklonis said with enthusiasm.

The team is in high spirits and hopefully it will carry over to what is panning out to be the first of many great games of the season.

With championships just months away who knows what is in the near future for the eagles. Team members have been putting in time to avoid the a tragedy to have a failing season.

Marching band places at competition

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High's marching band overcame many obstacles during its fall season to perform well at the competitions it has attended.

The band recently performed at the Papillion LaVista Tournament of Bands on Saturday, Sept. 26. The competition was formatted to be a team effort. Bands were grouped into two teams of six bands. Out of each team, two bands were chosen to advance to the finals based on scores from their first performances. These finalists then performed a second time and their second scores added to the original composite score.

Central's band was chosen to help represent its team in the finals. The band was part of the winning team in the competition.

The band also attended the Lincoln High Marching Competition last Saturday. The conditions surrounding the Lincoln competition were taxing. Almost six inches of snow had fallen earlier that morning, and temperatures dipped below 40 degrees during parts of the day.

The band did not have the opportunity to have a complete run through of its show before performing in Lincoln.

Despite these conditions, the band earned an excellent rating. On Oct. 6, Central hosted the Omaha Marching Exhibition at Seemann Stadium. This exhibition was a chance for Omaha Public School marching bands to perform their shows for other OPS bands.

The band's theme this year is Life in the Hive, a show centered around bugs. Props include a 17-foot tall beehive and the entrance of a queen bee.

The Central High band director, Pete Wilger, said the band has done well and has improved in their musical performance and physical presentation. Wilger also said the band's sound has matured.

"I've gotten a lot of compliments from other schools and judges," he said. At OME, the band was complimented on its marching. Wilger also said people have taken notice. One person ap-

proached him and said that the band's marching has improved from two years ago.

The band performed its last marching competition, the Omaha Marching Invitational, last Saturday at Burke High School.

"[I hope] to have the best performance of the year," Wilger said. The band has had to overcome the obstacle of bad weather throughout the season, which had cut into the band's on-field practice time significantly.

"It was the coldest and wettest season I can remember, and I've been teaching for 22 years," Wilger said, commenting on the dreary weather.

But despite this setback, Wilger feels his students have adapted well and is pleased with their efforts, especially at the Lincoln High contest.

Senior Joe McCann feels good about the season. "I think it went really well," he said. "The hard work has paid off in our performances."

Wilger feels that the band has improved significantly. He feels that the wind section is very strong.

Wilger is also thankful to the band parents for their support and hard work. Several band parents have helped the band's visual statements, like the beehive prop.

Senior Eric Jizba said that this band has helped him in aspects more than just music. "Marching band is a great source of friends and it's taught me responsibility," Jizba said.

Jizba, senior Alaina Allen, and junior Robin Fey are all drum majors, a position that asks them to help teach and lead the band.

"It's a rewarding position," Jizba said. "It isn't the easiest, but I like knowing I'm helping the band as best I can."

Now that the marching season is over, the band looks forward to concert band and the District Music Contest next year. The band plans to travel to Chicago next Spring to attend a clinic.

"It went really well. The hard work has paid off in our performances."

Joe McCann

Freshman Colin Buckley excels on varsity team

BY ALEX TRAN

Despite being an underclassman, freshman Colin Buckley made Central High School's varsity tennis team.

Buckley currently plays number two singles behind senior Decature Banker. Defying the freshman stereotype, Buckley has brought innumerable experience and skill to the team. He is an important asset according to many of his teammates.

"Despite him being a freshman, Colin has much experience playing tennis and has brought a lot to the team," commended Senior Eric Jizba.

All of his hard work has enabled him to be competitive with some of the top boys' tennis players in the state.

Recently, Buckley helped Central High finish fourth at the Lincoln Northeast Tennis Invitational. He won the most points for Central's team by placing first in his bracket.

Buckley has a winning score of 17-4 for the season. "I hope to make quarterfinals," Buckley said in anticipation of State earlier in the season.

Buckley says his biggest problem mentally is focus. On a more technical note, he wants to improve his serve.

He managed to make it the quarterfinals at State after closely beating his opponent in three sets.

His toughest competitors will be Westside, Creighton Prep, Lincoln Southeast, and Lincoln East.

Buckley said that the best part of high school tennis is having fun with the other players on the team.

"That's probably the best part - the people on the team," he said. "They've been encouraging. Ike Thomas has been my footwork coach."

He said the team gets along well and the atmosphere is conducive to playing well.

"It's good," he commented. "We're pretty laid back so there's no pressure to win. You don't win or lose because you're nervous, but depending on your ability."

Tennis has also allowed Buckley to network with other Central students. "I didn't know anyone once I started, but now I know many of the people. It really worked out," the player said.

Buckley commended his coach, Bob Tucker, for his support. "He's a good coach. He comes out when you need him. He's more of a parent figure."

Buckley started playing tennis when he was eight years old. His mother and father taught him how to play.

"I pretty much go out and play whenever I can. I'm good at it. It's always been my sport," he said.

Buckley also plays tennis competitively outside of high school. He plays year-round, competing in large tournaments near Omaha and participating in various clinics.

Buckley's skill allowed him to play with the Competition Training Center (CTC), a two season long program that only accepts the most competitive players in the region.

The program is divided into two sessions: fall and winter. During the fall, CTC has Buckley play competitive single and doubles matches against his fellow CTC members. During the winter, CTC is a training clinic that teaches Buckley mostly strategy but also lightly on the mechanics of tennis.

Buckley currently ranks 9th in the state of Nebraska in the United States Tennis Association ranking list.

Buckley has plans to play tennis for either the University of Nebraska at Lincoln or the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

"I'll probably play through high school and try and get a scholarship to UNO or UNL. I want to play when I get to college," he said.



PHOTO BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER
Freshman Colin Buckley warms up with his team at Dewey Tennis Courts before the Ralston scrimmage, the last match before State Tennis.

NEBRASKA

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November 9	February 15
December 4	

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Senior drives the game home, places second in tournament

BY ALEX TRAN

Senior Anna Venditte went above and beyond by placing second at the Duchesne Golf Invitational last month.

The golf team tied for third overall out of 15 participating teams.

"I was happy," she said enthusiastically over a phone interview. "I was definitely not expecting to place second. It was exciting."

The conditions at the tournament were difficult. The tournament started early in the morning, while the weather was still chilly and wet.

"It was cold... It started at eight, so it started pretty cold," she said.

Junior Ariana Koch also attended the Duchesne Invitational and commented on the weather.

"It was windy, but it wasn't freezing, and we were up against some of the hardest teams in the state. The wind pushed the ball in opposite directions," Koch said. "The rain affects your grip, and [the wind] also affected how far the ball will go."

Venditte managed to persevere despite the weather.

By mid-afternoon, the weather cleared up and the temperature rose. The fluctuating weather had an impact on the way the grass lay and the amount of water on the turf.

"You...have to get used to the temperature and the wind. So you definitely go through different weather patterns. It's really hard. You have to kind of get used to it," Venditte said.

Venditte believes this was her best performance for the season. Her score at Duchesne's Invitational was her best the entire season.

Despite her impressive victory, Venditte still believes she could have done better.

"There's always a couple chokes here and there... [Afterwards] you think, 'I can't believe I did that!'"

Venditte improved throughout the season.

"There's been a lot of improvement," she said, "but there's definitely still room for a lot more."

Venditte said that her team supported her throughout the tournament.

Koch complimented Venditte for her skill, effort, and improvement.

"I think Anna has a lot of natural skill, a lot of natural ability and succeeds because she is so determined to play her own game," Koch said.

When asked how Venditte performed at this particular tournament, Koch said, "She was playing well. I told Ms. Brock, our golf coach, that from the first time I've seen Anna Venditte play till now, she has done nothing but get better everytime she plays."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNA VENDITTE
Senior Anna Venditte drives off the green at a golf tournament.

Venditte was the only senior on the team this year and believes that the team will be powerful when the young players become upperclassmen.

"They'll be very good, and I'm sad to leave because they'll do some damage as seniors," she said. "I wish I could be a part of that."

Venditte started playing golf at a young age but only started playing competitively her sophomore year of high school.

She took golf lessons when she was young and has been tutored by several golf professionals and technicians. She attributed much of her golf skill and experience to her older brothers, Tony and Pat, alumni of Central.

"[Tony] really helped me and encouraged me when we go out on the range. My brothers always help me, encourage me, and fix my strokes," she said.

Venditte was the closest player on the team to qualify for the State golf competition, missing the cutoff by only two strokes.

Although Venditte wasn't able to qualify for State, she is still thinking about playing golf later on in life. Venditte has plans to go to Creighton University, but isn't sure whether she wants to play golf in college.

Venditte also plays tennis in the spring and is thinking about playing tennis for college.

Letter from the Editor
What the new editor has to say on
the pursuit of ambitions
PAGE 16

Letters to the Editor
What the student body has to say
about a variety of issues
PAGE 16

"Congress shall make no law 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 to peaceably
assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

First Amendment of the United States, ratified Dec. 15, 1791

OPINION

The Register | Thursday 10.22.2009 | central.register@ops.org

NSPA BEST-IN-SHOW WINNER A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

Cash for Clunkers fails intended mission

Cash for Clunkers, the government backed car sales program officially, ended August 31. The federally funded program was designed to stimulate car sales while replacing old cars with newer fuel-efficient vehicles.

The program worked by enticing buyers with a government mail in rebate of \$4,500 for a trade in.

To qualify for a rebate your car had to get an average of 18 miles per gallon or less. Most car dealerships gave the rebate to customers up front and mailed in the rebate themselves.

Even though the program has ended, only about 120,000 rebates of the 700,000 applied for have actually been sent back to car dealerships according to www.cars.gov. Reasons for this have been that the rebate paperwork was very complicated and that Citi Group, the contractor reviewing applications has only 3,000 workers reviewing the applications.

Many consumers jumped at the opportunity for the rebate. All they knew was that they were going to get a big chunk of cash from the federal government. They got rid of their old car and got a brand new one that got twice as many miles per gallon. What could go wrong?

Well, as many will soon find out the federal government isn't their best friend. If many people had looked at the fine print they would have seen that the rebate wasn't guaranteed to be approved. That's right. It's expected that 10 percent of rebates will be denied.

Another thing most consumers bypassed in their quest for a new car is that most vehicles traded in for a rebate were worth more than \$4,500.

Don't get me wrong-Cash for Clunkers has, so far, been the most successful stimulus program for the federal government; however, there will be problems for the consumer later on.

Congress designated about \$3 billion in federal funds for the program but has

generated almost \$20 billion in car sales revenue. In other words, the federal government is making loads of tax revenue off of this program, and they're getting everyone into a fuel-efficient car.

The only downside of the program is that the consumer is being taken advantage of for the benefit of the federal government.

This truly goes to show that as a consumer, you should always be aware of the omitted details and fine print involved with any purchase, especially if it has anything to do with the federal government.

EDITORIAL
The OPINION of
the Register staff



Promises become things of the past

UM, EXCUSE ME?

A column by Emma Mincer

Now I know that there has been a time in your life where you were told, "Don't tell anyone." You probably answered in a sure tone of, "Oh, I won't." Did you actually keep that promise?

To me, it seems like people are having a difficult time keeping the promises they make.

For example, during the MTV VMA Awards, Kanye West interrupted Taylor Swift's acceptance speech and said that he thought Beyonce had the best video.

Later on, President Obama called him out on it during a CNBC interview by calling him a vulgar word. But, in truth, Obama's comment was supposed to be off the record, or confidential, but was leaked out when ABC News employees tweeted about it.

Where is the respect in that? When someone tells you not to say anything to anyone, then you had better not tell anyone! Because if you do, there could always be that one person who will tell another person and so forth.

Yes, you may have a friend who you know is completely trustworthy, but it should be a code of honor and respect that allows you not to tell him or her. If, however, you have to tell a person, think carefully before you do.

I'm not trying to preach anything to you here, but keeping a promise is a sign of respect. If a person tells you a secret of theirs, they obviously trust you not to tell anyone.

If you tell Sue that you are going to bring her some canned food for her local charity drive, you had better bring her those cans because she is depending on you.

Just like English, however, there is always an exception; maybe you were sick, or the cans were way past the expiration date. Still, you should then try to modify the promise you gave.

I don't want to seem hypocritical and say that I have never told someone else's secret to another person when they specifically told me not to, because I have. I find it extremely hard not to tell anyone a juicy secret. If I do, it usually comes back to kick me in the butt.

You know what they say. What goes around comes around. Om ya.

Gregory Emmel
PRINCIPAL

LaTrina Parker
ADVISER

Alex Tran
EDITOR IN CHIEF

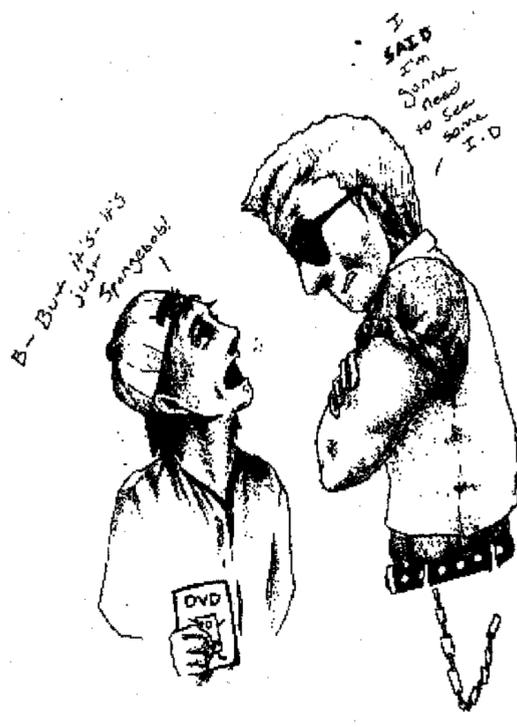


ILLUSTRATION BY ANITA HODGE/ REGISTER

Risque cartoons capture young audience's interest

For most who were born in the 80's or early 90's we grew up with the classic cartoons and some that had educational value. Barney, although most dislike him now, Sesame Street, Johnny Bravo and Powerpuff Girls. These are the shows that we now reminisce about when thinking back on early childhood. You may have learned what respect means, or how to tie your shoe, maybe even how to share from these shows. These are values that we use today and rather than your parents teaching you how to do it your favorite cartoon character did.

So who does the generation after us have to look up to other than Santa and the Easter Bunny? Could it be Peter, from the "Family Guy", who likes to get naked and fantasizes about sex, Bart, The Simpsons, an eternal 10-year-old that loves to back talk his parents and pull down his pants, or Stewie, from "Family Guy," a baby that starts off trying to kill his mom and ends up like his dad, daydreaming about sex? Sure, you're probably thinking that you love those shows and they are awesome. That's fine for someone of the proper age, but not a 3-year-old who can barely talk, but can sing the whole introduction to "Family Guy."

What kid at the age of seven needs to be watching a show where the dad only talks about sex and the family dog is an alcoholic? Here's the point: when our generation was growing up we had shows that were age appropriate and the only adult cartoons available had to be bought for \$9.99. Are they taking something that once was only for young kids and turning it into something that adults can relate to as well? How many adults can

really sit there and watch a full episode of "Family Guy" and not say once that this show is stupid? Yes, we might think it's funny at the age we are now, but so do young kids. Mainly because they think all cartoons are good.

Until about age 7 or 8 kids can be very gullible. They are easily persuaded when they see people that the look up to doing something, whether it's drinking, smoking, and cursing. Kids see them do it and automatically think that it's okay. The crazy part about it is that cartoon creators and writers do it purposely. Nothing that these people do is subconscious. It's all a part of the advertising scheme that they come up with. Kids see something that they like and they will beg their parents to get it. Although they may say no at first, let's face it: kids can pretty much cry and throw a temper tantrum and get virtually whatever. Dolls bobble heads, games and more.

So why is it that kids are attracted to these shows? Why are kids attracted to things that are not made for their age groups? The people who make the shows make it appealing to kids because they are one of the biggest spending audiences. Take the Simpsons movie that came out about two years ago. Clearly it was not meant for a 5-year-old to see, but the commercial advertised a spider pig.

It's apparent that kids would want to see it because of the character mainly portrayed in the commercial advertisements.

So there are many things that contribute to why cartoons have changed. But among all other reasons, money screams the loudest.

EDITORIAL
The OPINION of
the Register staff

MIDWEST PHOTO PRO

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09-10 Register

The Omaha Central High School Register seeks to inform its readers accurately as to items of interest and importance.

The staff strives to uphold the principles of journalism in all its proceedings.

The Register is a member of the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), the Nebraska High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA).

The Register is a 10-time Best-in-Show winner for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA national conventions in Philadelphia, San Francisco, Boston, Phoenix, Dallas, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Chicago.

The Register staff was also responsible

for the publication of the EDGE feature magazine, which also won a first place Best-in-Show award for specialty publications.

The Register has won multiple NSPA Pacemakers.

The Pacemaker is considered the Pulitzer Prize of high school journalism.

It has also won many Cornhusker awards from NHSPA.

It has been awarded Gold and Silver Crowns from CSPA for its overall work.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the Register staff and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Central High School or its faculty.

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or the Register staff.

Letters to the editor are encouraged.

They can be sent to the Register at 124 N. 20th St., Omaha, NE 68102 or via e-mail to Central.Journalism@ops.org.

Letters must include the author's full name and grade.

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If there is no one available, please leave a message. A staff member will call you back as soon as possible.

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OPINIONS-EDITORIALS

"I do think the smoking ban should continue to lower the risk of heart attacks."
Billy Banks (11)

Smoking ban benefits, habit continues to harm

BY EMMA MINCER

If one were to walk into a bar in Omaha, let's say in the year of 2005, most likely there would be clouds of cigarette smoke choking up the room.

Now, four years later, smoking is banned from all public places, allowing people to breathe, minus the throat constricting fumes.

Unfortunately, now, businesses are trying to find loop hole get around the smoking ban.

According to WOWT.com, businesses want to add patios to their buildings for people to use for smoking. This way, people can still smoke, yet they are not breaking the law by smoking indoors.

Honestly, I do not see how this could help with the no smoking ban, it just gives smokers an excuse to get around it.

Another excuse businesses try to use is not allowing people to smoke indoors, but then saying that they can smoke outside, usually right by the door. They even have little ash trays to put the butts out in. UNO, however, has decreed that students and staff must smoke at least ten feet or more from the door way. Like that is going to



help anyone.

Personally, I believe that they should just ban smoking from the premises of a school environment.

The first world known public smoking ban was in 1590 by Pope Urban VII and his 13-day papal reign. He threatened to excommunicate anyone who used tobacco in the porch way or the inside of a church in any way, shape, or form. From there after, smoking bans spread and entered the 21st century.

The beginning of the smoking ban in Omaha actually began in October 2006, which limited smoking in all public places with the exception of KENO bars, Horseman's Park, and places that did not serve food.

It was to be that in May of 2011, smoking would be banned in all public places until a judge ruled that it was unconstitutional to

make exceptions and the ban went into effect in May of 2008.

I applauded the judge.

My aunt and her ex own a bar called the Outback in Arnolds Park, IA, were there used to be clouds so thick, that it was like being in the smog of London.

My poor eight year old lungs took quite a strain there so I can imagine quite well the lungs of a nine month old baby in the back seat of a car, waiting about the smoke that was rapidly consuming the air supply.

Along with the ban, it is hoped that the limited places of smoking will bring down the population of smokers.

Currently, a box of cigarettes in America averages around \$6. That will put a dent in people's wallets if they are not careful. Especially with teenagers who smoke, are under 18 and do not have a job, \$6 a box is a lot of money to spend.

If all the money that is used to buy tobacco products were to be used towards the city, Omaha would be in fabulous shape.

On Wednesday Sept. 22, WOWT announced that with the smoking ban, the percentage of heart attacks was cut by 17 percent in the first year and the benefits continue to grow usually doubling the amount by the third year.

My thoughts are that if we stick to the ban, the number of people affected by smoking and its harmful tendencies will continue to lower.

Sadly, even with all the awareness of the health risks of smoking, new people become addicted to tobacco every day. They just can't say no.

Letter from the editor: make decisions based on future ambitions



ALONG THE WAY
A column by Alex Tran

I read Dr. Michael Brown's 2007 commencement address to the graduating students at the University of Pennsylvania, and from references of Animal House, to Mr. Kennedy's presidency, to gender inequality, I was inspired. He spoke of his alma mater - his college which acted as his surrogate mother, his experiences as editor-in-chief of the Daily Pennsylvanian, and his acts of social activism as a member on the paper.

Yes, I admit, I was impressed at his resume and worldly allusions. But, I was only inspired after reading how he took the opportunity as editor-in-chief to gain knowledge and experience that are applicable in the other areas he was involved in later in his life. As editor-in-chief of Central's Register, I can only dream of doing half of what Dr. Brown accomplished. With that disclaimer, I want to give you a piece of advice that I've learned from my experiences as editor-in-chief thus far. Akin to what Dr. Brown said in his speech, that "life in college does not predict life in the real world" and "people grow up," I believe high school and its completion are only the starting point in life's journey. It is the experiences and what you've taken from them that give you the tools to

make a difference.

I am telling his and my story today to tell you that people change. We have plans and ambitions, but we don't know what we're doing yet. Especially with the important decisions of college and future approaching, it is important to make choices that will prep us with the tools that we may later need to do what we want. We grow up, shed our naive ambitions and pursue others. We need to make choices that, 10 or 20 years from now, will cater to these ambitions - whatever they may be.

I started my journey on the Register slowly, like every other journalist. I began as a contributing author and later, to fulfill the vacuum of graduating seniors, became head photographer. Editor-in-chief, however, did not come so easily. It was only after I proved myself during the assemblage and publication of the first issue was I appointed the position by my advisor and staff.

The first issue was the most harrowing and time consuming, but also the most exciting. It was inspiring to work with other people on and off the staff, to interview the student body and hear their life stories. It was exciting to edit and put layouts together, to see my name in the paper, and to see the effects of my stories on the student body. In a sense, the Register represented Central and its opinions. Articles on news and sports inspired discussion, my op-ed articles influenced our peer's decisions. I realized that my actions did have an impact on other around me. Before, I took for granted my avenues of obtaining current information, but now I understand the role of the press and written communication in my life and the lives of others.

I've interviewed the go-getters, the pioneers of our society, but I've also listened to the life stories of the humble and quiet, the backbone of our

community. I often wonder who deserves more credit - both make significant contributions in their own way. Pearl S. Buck's book, The Good Earth, comes to mind whenever I think of this. It is a story about contribution and making a difference. In The Good Earth, O-Lan is always in the background, remaining loyal, hardworking, and self-sacrificing despite trials and tribulations. By the end of the book, I could tell that she was the one who really made the difference in the lives around her. From Buck's book, I've learned that everyone makes a contribution - my friends, my teachers, even the random girl I bumped into in the hall. It is not the avenue in which we contribute, but how we impact other's lives that marks those who are special.

Dr. Brown, who was actually a pre-med chemistry major despite his position as editor-in-chief, went on to win the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his studies in cholesterol metabolism. I, in no way, compare to Dr. Brown. However, like Dr. Brown, what I've learned from my short experience as editor-in-chief of Central's newspaper - the unexpected contributions of the everyday people around us and the differences I can make by voicing their stories - has given me know-how and tools to do something with my life. I am inspired to do something important and represent Central and the Register to the best of my abilities along the way.

Central High School has given us the tools we need to succeed. Although I may not immediately see the benefits, I know that my experiences as editor-in-chief have given me invaluable information I will use later in life. I'm making decisions that, I hope, will give me knowledge and experience to allow me to pursue my ambitions. I urge you to make decisions that will allow you to pursue yours.

LETTERS, E-MAILS, FAXES, POLLS, CARTOONS

Smoking ban should continue

Dear Editor,

I think the [smoking] ban should continue. My mom, step-dad, brother and his wife all smoke in one house. I hate it. It's must and a bad habit. To me, smokers don't care. Now, because of the ban, the air can get cleaner, it's more healthy for non-smokers and you don't have to breathe it. I feel the ban should continue.

Brandon Hall (9)

Smoking affects others

Dear Editor,

I definitely believe the smoking ban should be maintained. It will save the economy status, and it will save the future generations that are not around the second-hand smoke. It will also decrease habits for teens around high school age.

Matthew Koehler (12)

Cell phone and ipods don't distract

Dear Editor,

I think iPods should be allowed during work time and lunch and study hall, cell phones too. They're quiet and sometimes help students concentrate. I don't think they're that big of a deal to be taken away when out.

Jazmyn Burbine (12)

Second-hand smoke deadly

Dear Editor,

I think the smoking ban should be maintained because the second-hand smoke people inhale is deadly. It can cause lung cancer and that can lead to death. Your lungs also start turning black. It also mess up your voice and makes your teeth yellow. It's hard on people with asthma because you're making it harder for them to breathe.

Lee Lohman (9)

Increase in gang violence

Dear Editor,

I think gang violence in Omaha has increased because young kids think it is cool to be in gangs. Also, police aren't doing enough to actually try and top the violence.

Jasmine Godbolt (10)

Health, family, and environment

Dear Editor,

Yes, I believe that the smoking ban should continue and become more strict. Smoking is a nasty habit as it is fatal. Smoking leads to cancer and ends up in death. It can break families [and] harm young ones through second-hand smoke. Plus, it pollutes our air. Quitting will do some good for your health, family, and our environment.

Jonathan Amaya (11)

People should have a choice

Dear Editor,

The smoking ban should be maintained because apparently it is doing some good by the percentage of decreased heart attacks and it protects people from having to be around smoke if they don't want to be.

Denai Fraction (11)

What do you think about cell phones?

Dear Editor,

I think students should at least be able to use their phones during passing period or lunch. If a student needs to ask someone something, I'm sure sending a quick text won't hurt anybody. It also may make people use phones less in class.

Shane Vogel (11)

Dear Editor,

I think we should be allowed to have cell phones during the school day incase of a family emergency.

Alex Douglas (10)

Dear Editor,

I feel that students should be allowed to use their cell phones during lunch periods. I agree they are distracting in the classroom, but there is no reason students shouldn't be allowed to use their phones during a period that is only used for socializing and eating.

Celeste Robinson (12)

Dear Editor,

I believe using cell phones during the day should not be an issue, as long as the student completes his or her work. I can understand not having phones out during tests.

Venice Washington (12)

Parents need to take initiative

Dear Editor,

Personally, how I feel about the gang violence... I think more parents just need to take better care of their kids, teach them right from wrong while they're young, and give their children the support and attention and love they need.

Alasia Clark (9)

Second-hand smoke is unfair

Dear Editor,

Well, I think [the smoking ban] should be kept because why should you give people 2nd hand smoke for something that you are doing? Why should people have to suffer in public places. So I believe it should be kept.

Jesse Thompson (10)

More youth programs needed

Dear Editor,

As for gang violence, we need to maybe have more youth directed outreach programs to get and keep them off the streets.

Jazmyn Burbine (12)

Omaha lacks effective authorities

Dear Editor,

Realistically, there's nothing that can be done to stop gang violence only because there is nowhere enough authority to patrol the number of members in all gangs combined.

The gang violence has increased in Omaha because of the lack of respect given in a home life, allowing people to think it's the only thing to do.

Jordan Christensen (10)

Smoking ban is an improvement

Dear Editor,

Public smoking is not healthy and I am very glad it has been banned. I definitely think it should stay that way.

Justin Davis (10)

Recession increases gang violence

Dear Editor,

Gang violence has increased in Omaha because of the recession. More people are out of jobs, causing attacks and robberies. People need money and are going to do anything to get it, no matter what. Gang violence has increased and so has the survival mode.

Jasmine Steward (10)

Schools shouldn't extend year

Dear Editor,

No, the school district shouldn't reconsider extending the school year. The school year is long enough already and doing this will only make students want to be here even less than they do already.

Denai Fraction (11)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WANTED
Letters to the editor are gladly accepted in room 029, via e-mail to Central.Journalism@ops.org or can be placed in Ms. Parker's mailbox in the main office. Letters must be factual and contain the author's full name and grade. Incorrect or unsigned letters will not be printed. The use of pen names is not allowed.