



Photo by Williams

Students split personality

Absences Plague CHS

"I am thoroughly disgusted with students who blatantly violate school policy by skipping Mondays and Fridays," commented an irate teacher. Recently, the high number of student absences has affected the entire educational system at Central.

Probably those most effected are the students themselves. Evaluating both attendance figures and grade statistics has shown that 1/4 of those students who receive failing grades are absent 10 to 32 days.

One student with a high absences rate said that missing school was merely a reflection of an overall contempt of the school system. "It is obvious," he said, "that if a guy really wants to go to school he will, but those who don't want to go couldn't give a darn about funny little blue cards, attendance ladies, r their grades."

Dr. Moller seemed to come the closest to understanding this type of attitude when he stated, "Absence doesn't appear to be serious to the student. The idea that work can be made up easily is false. It is an insult to a good teacher if a pupil thinks he can make-up work. Attendance will be an eternal problem for public schools. The answer to this problem is to make the school appealing to all students."

Other administrators, who deal with the problem on a day-to-day level, are less philosophical. Mr. LeGreca said, "The absences are atrocious and I don't believe in one-day illnesses."

Mr. Jones commented that he has had more sophomores truant this year than in the past and that generally students and teachers consider school secondary. "I signed passes for twelve cheerleaders to attend the State Gymnastic Meet in Lincoln, November 19, when Central had one contestant," he said.

Teachers tended to be even more pessimistic about the situation. Mrs. Patricia Correa stated that, "The problem is terrible. Kids don't care about education anymore. Parents don't provide the impetus for the children to study anymore." Mrs. Correa also commented that a possible solution would be to lessen class size to allow more individual work.

Mr. Jim Martin felt that it was not the absences in themselves but the attitude of the absent students that particularly bothers him. He said, "Kids who are absent no longer care about making up their work. Many students seem to feel that their missing school should have no bearing on their grades."

'Show' heads selected

Mr. John Jorgensen has announced the Managers for the 1972 Road Show. "It was a most difficult task to select this year's Managers from so many well-qualified applicants," said Mr. Jorgensen. "We are looking forward to the best show ever, and that is covering sixty years of tradition. The new stage lighting should be an added plus." These, then, are the 1972 Managers.



John Cooper has been a member of the orchestra for three years, the band for two years, pit orchestra for two years and dance band for one year. Outside of Central, John has participated in Youth Symphony for two years, Town and Gown Orchestra for one year, All-State Music Clinic Orchestra for two years, All-City Orchestra for two years, and Concert-on-the-Green Orchestra during the summer. He has studied the clarinet and piano for several years and also plays the cello.



Choir and has participated in

several vocal music classes at Central, including mixed chorus, Junior Choir and beginning and advanced voice. Mike is a photographer for the Register and the O'Book, and is a self employed portrait photographer.



Ruth Kupper has been a member of the band for three years, the orchestra for one year, and the pit orchestra for one year. She is presently the president of the band and has served as its junior representative. Ruth is a member of the German Club, the Register staff and the PTSA Executive Board, and was on the girls' golf team. She is active in her church and has sung in her church choir for four years. Ruth is presently studying the harp and plays the trombone.



April Lowder has been a member of the orchestra for three years, A Cappella for three years, and Swing Choir for two years. She is presently the president of A Cappella Choir and is a member of French Club and Math Club. April is a member of the Can Do Ambassadors and Methodist Youth Fellowship, and teaches Sunday School. She has studied the

piano for eight years, studies the organ, and is taking voice instruction.



Julie Morehead has been a member of the orchestra for three years and the pit orchestra for three years. She was treasurer of the Pep Club in her junior year and is now an Eagle. Julie has also participated in Forensics League and Beginning Chorus. She is active in Reader's Theater and has participated in the 1971 summer musical, All-City Music Festival since 1968, and Wayne State Clinic from 1967 to 1970. Julie is also in her church's choir and orchestra.



Marty Prettyman has been a member of the band for three years, A Cappella for two years, Chamber Choir for one year, and Swing Choir for one year. He is the head drum major for the band and is vice-president of the French Club. Marty is a member of the Board of Evangelism in his church, a member of the church choir and is senior representative for his church youth group. Marty won several awards for his talent as a drum major in a clinic in Colorado last summer.

central high register

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A Cappella talent shown in 'Damn Yankees'

The theme of a desperate person selling his soul to the devil, which can be found in literature all through the ages, is the theme of this year's musical, "Damn Yankees!"

Following in the footsteps of Faust, Jabez Stone, Tom Walker and a few seniors trying to pass out of the twelfth grade, "Damn Yankees!" tells of a flabby, middle-aged real estate dealer named Joe Boyd (Alex Prodywus), who vows that he would sell his soul to see the Washington Senators beat the powerful New York Yankees.

The devil appears in the form of Mr. Applegate (Steve Denenberg) who accepts Joe's offer. Joe Boyd is changed before the audience's eyes to Joe Hardy (Craig Spidle), a young, athletic superstar. Applegate introduces Joe Hardy to the Senators' manager, Benny Van Buren (Owen Wengert), and after a quick, impressive tryout, Joe joins the team.

Complications arise when Joe begins to miss his wife Meg (April Lowder), and he tells Applegate that he wants to return to his former state. A mistake on Applegate's part leaves an escape clause in the contract allowing Joe to return to his old life at midnight on the day before the final game. Applegate

tries to prevent the use of this clause by sending his agent, Lola (Linda Jacobsen), to try to make Joe forget his homesickness.

Supporting roles will be played by Sharon Cribbs, Lynette Spurlock, Kathy Kirshenbaum, Steve Marsh, Les Reimer, Don Skradski, Chris Aden, Kurt Stecker, Gordon Young, Bill Gregg, Sue Smith, James Runnels, Larry Myers, and Marty Prettyman.

Sue Smith is the student assistant for the production and Carol Casperson is the student pianist.

In portraying Applegate, junior Steve Denenberg will need to develop certain skills of the sorcerers trade. On several occasions he must produce a lighted cigarette out of thin air. He also appears from a puff of smoke on other occasions. Fortunately for Steve, Central has a magician in residence, Mr. Raymond Williams, head of the Speech and Drama department.

"Damn Yankees!" is based on the book *The Year the Yankees Won the Pennant* by George Abbott and Douglas Wallop. There will be two student matinees on December 9, and evening performances on December 10 and 11 at eight P.M. in the Central High auditorium.



Photo by K. Wagner

Mr. Robert McMeen directs cast for A Capella's presentation of "Damn Yankees."

Changing educational ideas

Education has come to mean almost everything except "the acquisition of knowledge." Getting an education has become such a mass of red tape; full of hall passes, schedule cards, and deadlines, that we've forgotten what we have initially set out to do.

For example, if a student wishes to get a book from his locker during a study hall, he can't legally do it. Teachers are often forced to end an absorbing discussion abruptly because they have been so conditioned to respond to the omnipotent "bell" that signals a beginning and an end to learning.

Students often find themselves ignoring their real interests because of requirements and limited course offerings.

Somehow the idea of "teacher" has degenerated into one of law enforcer. Their position has been shifted from one of helper to a disciplinarian. Teachers need students who want to learn about a certain subject, and likewise students need teachers who want to instruct them. When a blatant hostility exists between the two, the only gains are hurt feelings.

Another perversion of the educational system is its emphasis on competition. Children end up feeling insecure when they don't do as well as their classmates. Poor grades indicate only the system's failure to teach; and furthermore they punish a student for not learning instead of encouraging him to try again.

The first thing that must be done about this problem is to stop thinking of education in terms of discipline and preparation and start thinking about learning seriously. As soon as people put their ideas into the proper perspective, and realize that learning is what counts, we can start building foundations for study—using the people and resources all around us to gather knowledge from, instead of shutting ourselves up in an institution that exists only for its own benefit.

Jane Rimmerman

Jesus organizations appear at CHS

The Jesus movement that has been sweeping the country is present at Central High School. It appears the movement is organized at Central through three main divisions: Young Life, Youth for Christ, and youth groups sponsored by various church groups.

The Register interviewed "representatives" of each of these three groups. We spoke to Jean Sundstrom and Ruth Kupfer of Young Life, Dale Mann of Youth for Christ, and Linda Vachel, president of the Hanscom Park United Methodist Church Youth Group.

Young Life and Youth for Christ are non-denominational organizations. They have local groups at most of the Omaha area high schools.

Both groups hold meetings approximately once a week at the houses of some of the people involved in the group. The meetings largely consist of religious discussions, although Youth for Christ has sponsored fundraisers such as a haunted house in Council Bluffs.

Linda's group, although sponsored by her church, is also non-denominational. It sponsors

social functions and community service projects in addition to religious discussion meetings.

All four people interviewed indicated that the new interest in religion may be attributed to what may be described as "a search by people for answers." As Jean said, "People know they are missing something, and find it through Jesus."

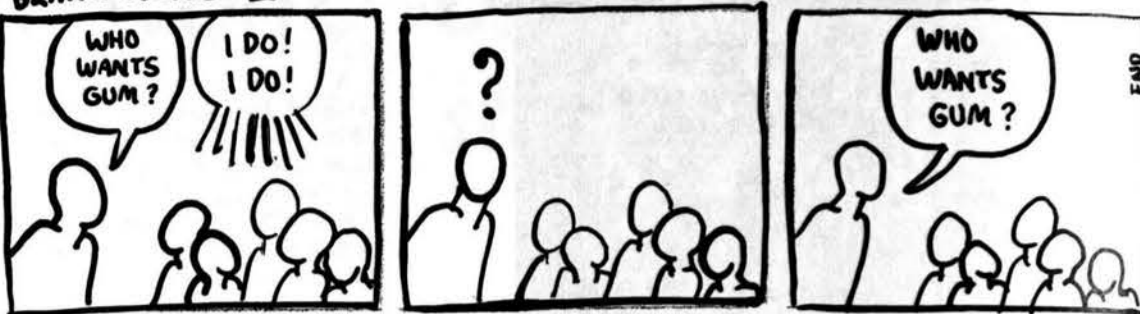
Groups use new innovations

The local Jesus movements have followed the national trend in changing and adding new aspects to church services and traditions.

Young Life has introduced a sharing service where individuals relate their experiences to the congregation. The Hanscom Park Church Youth Group has conducted Sunday services for their congregation and introduced popular songs with accompaniment with guitars.

All four people interviewed said they would not describe themselves as "Jesus Freaks" since they felt the term connotated a fad and not a permanent commitment to Jesus. They prefer to call themselves Christians.

BLANK PEOPLE by BENZIOLA



Ziola proves to be one of Central's creative geniuses

Perhaps you know him as an actor, or as an artist, or simply as elmo. However you've heard of him, Ben Ziola is worth noting as one of Central's "creative people."

Regarding his creativity, Ben said, "People inspire me. Individuals who impress me usually end up as the main subject for a drawing, a painting, or even a piece of writing."

Ben also writes short stories, several of which will be published in the upcoming issue of the Dimension, creative writing magazine.

Mentioning his writing Ben said, "I wanted to write simply so I picked a simple name to write under, elmo." When writ-

ing as elmo, Ben often mentions melanie.

melanie lives across the street
melanie hides behind the bushes
and throws mud balls at me
melanie cheats at marbles when we play
melanie stepped on my pet water bug
i love melanie

Ben explained, "There is a real melanie. When I was about three my family lived in a basement apartment, Across the street, in a fancy house, lived melanie."

"For excitement, I paint," Ben said. This year, at Central, Ben is working on watercolor painting in his art VII class. Ben also spends much of his free time painting and drawing. He has won two local gold key awards and placed second in the Hallmark national art competition.

In the past few years, Ben has developed an increasing interest in drama. His acting career includes minor roles in Arsenic and Old Lace, Dinny and the Witches, and Member of the Wedding, all Central High plays. Outside of school, Ben has been involved with the Omaha Playhouse. This summer, he played one of the Indian braves in the Playhouse production of Peter Pan.

For relaxation Ben said, "I enjoy listening to Judy Garland. Give me a pillow for my head, a cold Dr. Pepper, and Judy singing and I am content."



Whether johnny got his gun is brilliant propaganda or simply the truth I cannot tell you.

Dalton Trumbo, who wrote both the novel and the screenplay for johnny got his gun, has been a leading Hollywood screenwriter for over twenty years. He wrote under many pseudonyms because in 1947 he was blacklisted along with nine others for refusing to answer two questions posed by the House unAmerican Activities Committee. In 1950-51 Trumbo spent ten months in a federal penitentiary in Ashland, Kentucky for contempt of Congress.

johnny got his gun, written in 1938, is about Joe Bonhomme, a doughboy in World War I, "the last of the romantic wars." The events of World War II gave the novel its weird political history. Out of print, back in print johnny got his gun haunts its readers.

Perhaps the story of Joe Bonhomme is excessively melodramatic. Perhaps the book All Quiet on the Western Front is greater art. That is unimportant to the moviegoer who comes trembling out of the theater.

The movie uses contrast effectively; especially vivid are the black and white scenes alternating with color dream sequences. Dramatic silences punctuate the story. In general, the acting is good.

johnny got his gun is a most masochistic and haunting movie which I sincerely recommend.

Janet Gendler

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Patterson merits all-Metro

Mike Patterson was selected as an All-Metro choice by the Omaha World Herald last week. Honorable mention choices were backs Dave Hill and Nick Lucas, tackle Darryl Linneman, and end Sandy Cipinko.

Mike, who was honorable mention last year, played both fullback and linebacker for the Eagles who finished one of their better seasons a few weeks ago. When asked about the team's improvement this year, Mike replied, "I think the main reason the team did better was because we worked more as a unit. All of the players got along with each other and that helps."

Mike also said he owes much of his success to the fact that he has been playing organized football for six years, including three at Central. He cited the fact that he gained knowledge of the basic fundamentals as well as experience as one of the mainstays of playing organized football.

Mike, who is six feet tall and weighs 190 pounds, rushed for 571 yards on 102 carries for an average of 5.6 yards per carry. As for college, he said he would like to attend the University of Nebraska next fall.

Cagers face cuts

Central's basketball team is a week and a half away from its opening game with North, December 3. The JV and varsity are down to 34 players with one or two cuts to go. "There is more maturity this year. There are a lot of kids up from last year's JV team. They are making the varsity lettermen work hard to hold their positions," commented Mr. James Martin.

Our first game is against North this year, and it could prove to be an interesting match-up. Both Ray and Art Turner are back from last year's North varsity team. Ray was the high scorer for North against Central last year.

When asked about last year's returning lettermen, Mr. Martin commented, "Dennis Forrest has made good progress. He should be able to start practicing in a couple of weeks."

"Carlos Dillard looks good this year. He is quick on the start of a fast break. This year he should be able to collect many baskets on his driving. If the teams play him loose, he has a very good outside shot."

"Keith Brown is showing much improvement. He characterizes the determination of the returning lettermen."

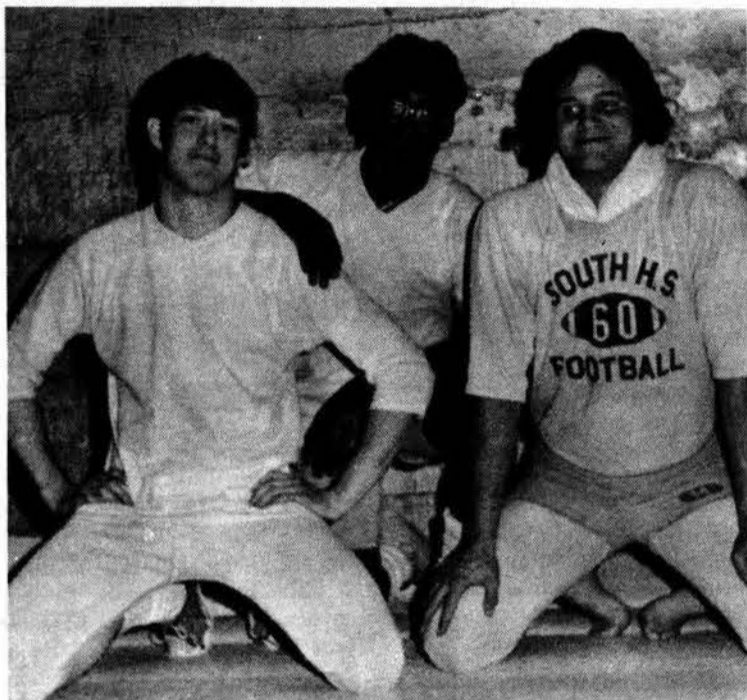


Photo by Dunn

John McCue, Terry Ammons, and Roger Bellows await season.

Wrestling season to begin

Central's wrestling team is now preparing for the upcoming season, to start December 3. Some of our top wrestlers this year are Tim Fullerton, Bob Fullerton, Terry Ammons, John McCue, and Roger Bellows. "The kids that are still out for wrestling this year are very dedicated," commented Mr. James Bond.

One problem that hurts our wrestling team during matches is, that we have to forfeit one to two matches before we even start. When asked why we don't have more kids out for wrestling Mr. Bond replied, "One of

the reasons we don't have more people out for wrestling is because wrestling is a very demanding sport, and most people just don't want to pay the price."

"As far as our record this year, we will definitely be in every match," commented Mr. Bond. The strongest teams Central will face this year are Benson and Westside. Our first meet will be Dec. 3-4, which is the North High Invitational, followed by a dual with Bryan on Dec. 7, and our next meet will be the South Invitational on Dec. 9, 10, and 11.

register replay

Jerry Manheimer

High schools also recruit

Many people know about the recruiting policies practiced by many colleges. Like the famous college coach who dances with a prospect's mother to lure the prospect to his school. We all know what happens. The mother, of course, enrolls at the coach's school while the eight foot tall 350 pound ten letterman who is first in his class enrolls somewhere else. That always happens to colleges. But, did you know that some high schools try to recruit, too.

Yes, that's right. Mr. Martin the basketball coach, told me that he has been aware of the fact that some Omaha high schools try to lure promising junior high school athletes to their respective schools.

Prospects rewarded greatly

The first thought that went through my mind after he told me that was what do the high schools have to offer the prospects: a free ice cream cone at lunch, a shortened day, easy teachers, or maybe the residing Miss Teenage Universe who goes to school there.

No, I was dead wrong. They offer them basketballs. Free basketballs. Keith Brown was one cager who was given a basketball by a coach to persuade him to go to his school. Keith knew other athletes at that reservoir of athletic talent, Horace Mann, who were given similar favors.

Mr. Martin said that he doesn't try to recruit junior high prospects. Instead, they choose Central over other schools because of the great basketball tradition here, facilities withstanding.

Football players compared

Sometimes, when you're watching high school football players, don't you try to compare them with familiar stars of the gridiron. For example, after watching a Central gridder break a long run, someone told me, "he has more moves than Johnny Rodgers." This occurs often enough, so I took some of Central's stars and compared them with famous names of the football world. Below, are a few of the more obvious comparisons.

Mel Jefferson—Morris Stroud
David Hill—Johnny Rodgers
Mike Carter—Greg Pruitt (Boo!)
Mike Patterson—Speedy Duncan
Vic Sorenson—Jim Tyrer
Rick Elliott—Jerry Tagge
Paul Tatum—Jack Tatum
Nick Lucas—Chuck Dicus
Chester Bullion—Tom Gatewood
Larry Butler—Marlin Briscoe
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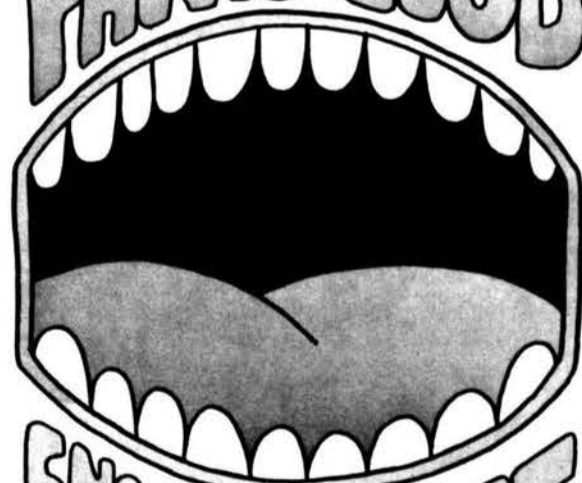
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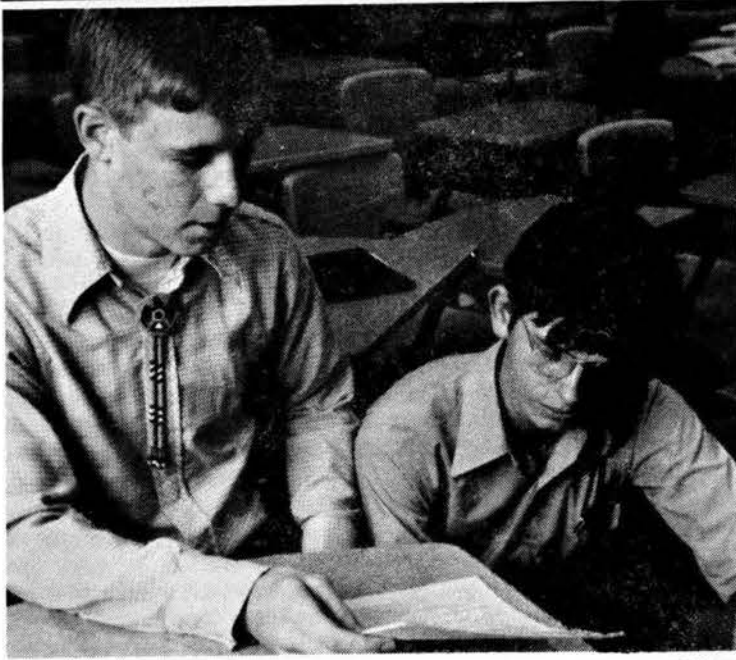


Photo by Williams

Academy nominees Walsh, Hall.

Seniors nominated to army academy

"The Army has given me a chance to go to college which I didn't have before." This was the reaction of Central senior Michael Walsh to his nomination for acceptance at the West Point Military Academy.

Mike and senior Michael Hall were recently nominated for acceptance to the army academy. Nomination is considered a great honor because of the great competition for acceptance.

Mike Walsh has served in Central's R.O.T.C. program with distinction for four years. He won the freshman and sophomore medals for excellence that are awarded to an outstanding member of the program. He has served on the Hussars and Lancers for the past two years and this year was commander of the Hussars.

When Mike was asked why he wanted to apply to West Point he commented that he has always admired the military and that he wanted to make it his career. Also the general excellence of the academy impressed him.

Mike said that this was proof that the military is more than a war making body, because it was helping him to get to go to college.

Michael Hall has been in the

R.O.T.C. program for the past two years. He is a member of the wrestling team and has been in Scouting for seven years, and is currently an Eagle Scout.

Mike was very happy with the nomination to the academy. He told the Register that he wanted to apply because of its excellent engineering school. Mike also wishes to make the military his career.

The two nominees were selected from a recently initiated program. The program enables R.O.T.C. students to apply directly to West Point instead of through their Congressmen. This has been found to save time although it gives the individual no advantage in the selecting process.

Competition for acceptance to the institution is so heavy that out of fifteen thousand original applicants only around eight hundred are accepted. To be accepted a candidate must score well on his S.A.T. tests, plus take a special entrance exam given by the academy.

Finally, the candidate must take a series of vigorous physical tests to determine his physical fitness. The two Central candidates will take their physical tests on Monday and Tuesday, the 22nd and 23rd of November, at Offutt Air Base.

Debaters place well in contest

"I think that our placing well in both speech and debate at the Benson tournament is indicative of Central's potential for the rest of the debate year." This was the reaction of Central debate coach Linda Dunn to the results of the recent Benson Kiwanis tournament at Benson High School.

Central students Michael Rips and Bennet Rodick came away with first place honors in original oratory and extemporaneous speaking respectively. Larry Williams received the third place award in extemporaneous speaking. In debate, the team of Jeff Pattee and Nick Patrinos captured third place with a 4-0 record.

Other Centralites that participated in debate were Howie Buffet and Mary Obal who ended up with an 3-1 record in varsity division. In Junior Varsity division the team of Debbie Frodyma and Davida Alperin went undefeated with a 4-0 record. Carol Dworak and Nick Newman also participated.

After the tournament Mrs. Dunn observed that with encouraging results in debate Central can look forward to another fine debate year.

Speed reading courses

Six week speed-reading mini-courses, taught by Mrs. Elizabeth Empson and Mr. T. M. Gaherty, have recently been completed.

Mr. Gaherty cited the program as "very successful. Every student in the session improved. Most students at least doubled their reading speeds." Some of the greatest increases (in words per minute) were: 208 to 1,144; 132 to 912; and 170 to 902.

Mr. Gaherty has started a new session of the course. Mrs. Empson will begin a new session this week. The course will be offered throughout the year at different periods.

Mr. Gaherty taught the course this summer and initiated the program at Central. Mrs. Empson, new to Central this year, teaches other classes in reading skills also.

Stuff A Stocking
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John Roberts

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Register to vote!

All American citizens who will be eighteen on or before May 9, 1972, will be able to vote in the upcoming elections if they register. Central students who meet these requirements may register at Central on January 12-13.

Mr. E. A. Lindberg, Social Studies Department Head, stated that over 270 Central students will be eligible to vote. He stated that, "People who now have the opportunity to vote should exercise it. It is a civic duty. We can't force the students to vote, but as citizens it's their duty."

A group of Central students has volunteered to help with the registrations. On December 21 they will learn registration procedures at the election commissioner's office. Kay Kriss is coordinator of this group and Central's registration.

Volunteers to aid in registration

Students volunteering to help with registrations on January 12-13 are: Period I: Chris Nielson and Kay Kriss; Period II: Marty Prettyman, Paul Schmolt, and Kay Kriss; Period III: Lu Ann Kucirek, Melvin Jefferson, Tom Shinrock, and Mindy Cooper; Period IV: Richard Caniglia, Roxie Alloy, and Mark Sanford; Period V: Mike Browder and Jim Stejskal; Period VI: John Robine and Louis Marasco; Period VII: Dave Albrecht, Roxie Alloy, and John Robine; Period VIII: Hollie Cooper, Sally Becker, and John Robine.

Class studies crime

Mr. Harry Peterson, a member of the Lincoln City Council and a former policeman, recently spoke to several Modern Problems classes. The subject of the question-answer session was crime and juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Peterson said, "Pure pressure is a great cause of delinquency. It works like dominoes—if parents are pressured they take it out on their kids." He also said that irresponsible guidance from home, school, and church can lead to delinquency.

Half way house needed

Mr. Peterson would like to see a half-way house made for youths with rough backgrounds and pressured lives. "It's more important to have these institutions for kids before they can get into trouble than for alcoholics and such."

Mr. Peterson, referring to recent prison disorders, said, "Empathy is the key to getting along." He went on to state that the guards as well as the reform workers must be understanding.

When asked why convicts often commit crimes after gaining parole, Mr. Peterson said that some men actually want to be sent back to prison. "The average man who goes into prison has never been important to anyone but himself. He has been used by others and has never received proper guidance; in prison, he's at least respected by the other convicts."

Mr. Peterson has worked at the Kearney Boy's Reformatory. He stated that, "The punishment in Kearney is not punishment. The home life and adult guidance at Kearney, in many cases, is better than what the boys had at home."

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