

Central high

# Register

No. 5

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Vol. 95

## THE GRADUATE

### 'Horrible Herb' hails Omaha High his home

by Sheldon Smith

"Horrible Herb" they call him. The producers of unfit merchandise or services have Herb Denenberg's name high on their list of undesirables. On the other hand, the consumer rightfully holds his name among the greatest public allies of our time. As a consumer advocate, Denenberg is well known in Pennsylvania where daily, from 9 a.m. to noon, he hosts a radio show, can often be seen on television news spots, and has been on the NBC network programs "Real People" and "Speak Up America."

Denenberg grew up in Omaha where he was born in 1929. After graduating from Central in 1947, he entered Creighton Law School. After seven years there, he graduated with a grade point average that was at that time the highest in the school's history. His education was not over then; in fact he went on to get more law degrees at both John's Hopkins University and Harvard Law School and eventually received a Ph.D. in insurance from Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance and Commerce.

Soon, Denenberg made the transition from student to teacher and began teaching insurance at the Wharton school, and in 1968, he became Wharton's first Loman Professor of Property and Liability Insurance.

There, he began developing considerable prestige as a result, and through a recommendation from Ralph Nader, Denenberg was appointed Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner by Gov. Milton Shapp. However, as a public figure, he was under constant scrutiny for his criticism of the insurance industry and for the regulations he proposed for it.

As he told Sun Newspaper reporter Wes Iverson, "I sometimes have to laugh out loud now. I was the first one to tell the insurance companies that they were going to have to write their insurance policies in language that people could understand. They kept saying, 'We can't do it. We can't do it.' Now we're seeing them issuing press releases about how their policies are so readable, just like it was their idea in the first place."

While he was in office, Denenberg was quite a prolific author, publishing more than 20 "Shopper's Guides" (recently compiled into a book called *Herb Denenberg's Smart Shopper's Guide*) and consumer pamphlets on insurance and health care.

After 38 months in office, he left his position as insurance commissioner. "Shapp would have forced me out anyhow," he says. "When he appointed me, he had no idea that I would do what I did."

Although he ran for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate for Pennsylvania after his resignation, he was defeated in the primary. Yet this was not discouraging to Denenberg, for he found that he could retain his impact and power against his consumer foes as a consumer journalist.

"It's the easiest job in the world being a consumer journalist. Every place you turn, there's a ripoff. Every time I take a trip, I end up doing a piece on what the airlines did to me, or how the hotel screwed me," said Denenberg.

His importance as a spokesman for the consumer can be illustrated by one of his television consumer spots in which he warned of potentially dangerous radiation leakage from certain brands of television sets and microwave ovens. In this example, the products had been recalled by their manufacturers but had never been returned for repairs by their owners. Denenberg advised the viewers of his show to call the FDA number he gave them if they had any doubts as to the safety of their products.

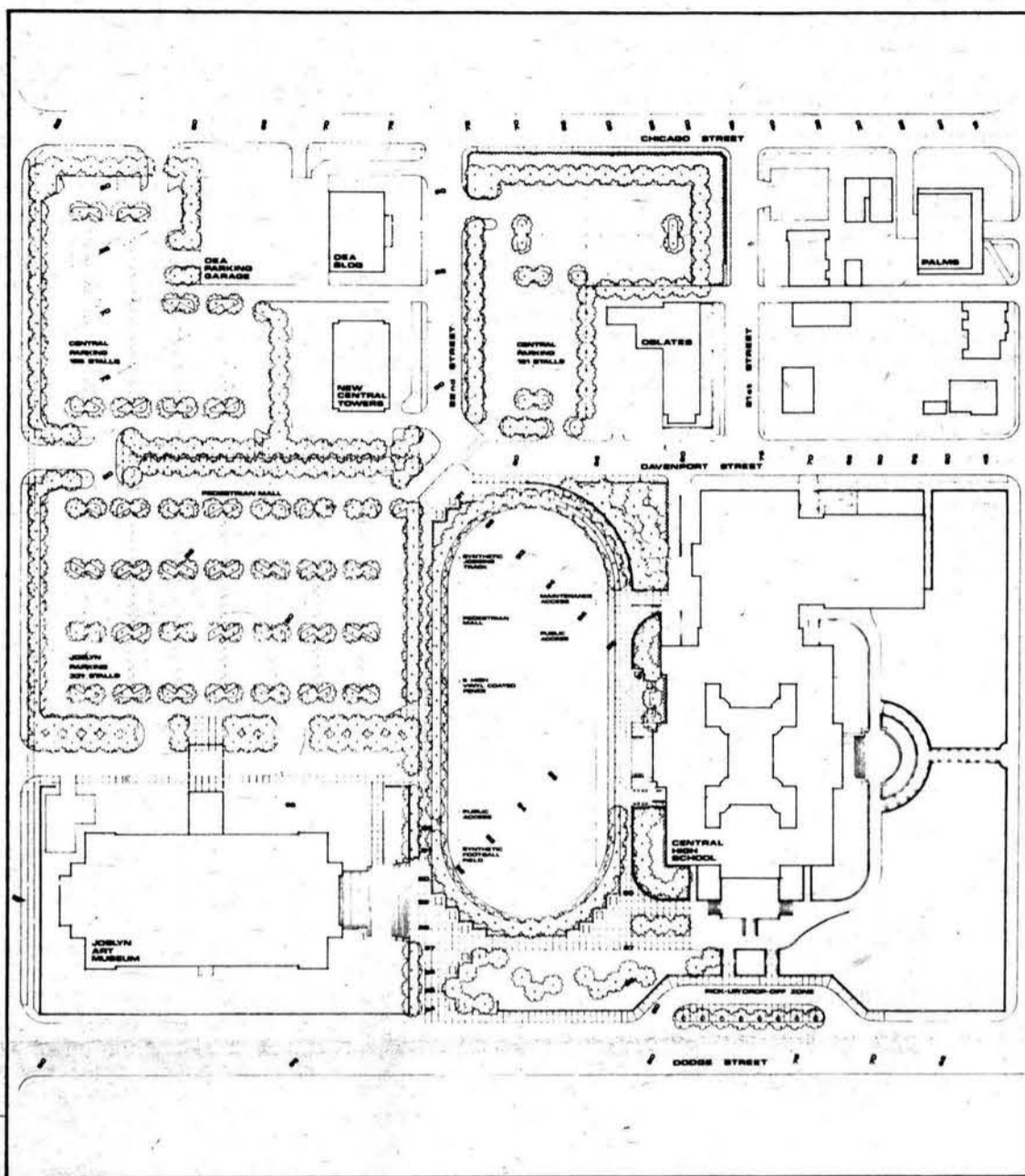
During the following two weeks, the FDA office received nearly 1,100 calls, including about 120 cases in which the caller actually had one of the potentially dangerous units.

Recently, Denenberg has been gaining more national attention as a consumer advocate for "Real People" and "Speak Up America" as well as the syndicated program "The Toni Tennille Show". He had some trouble with the "Real People" show at first since they would "bleep-out" the names of the products he attacked.

"I was naming products on that first show," he told journalist Alfred Klimcke. "I guess that's what they were worried about. In later shows I've been into doctors and hospitals and lawyers. But that stuff was just as hard hitting."

"I don't know what would happen if I went back to products," he says. "It's possible I'd get bleeped again. Maybe I'll try it and see what happens."

Try it again he did, and this time there were no bleeps.



Changes include the moving of his faculty parking lot, the closing of 22nd Street, and a new practice field on the west side. Graphic courtesy of Dana, Larson, Roubal, and Associates.

## Central campus to change despite some disagreement

A new plan concerning Central High School's proposed outdoor athletic facilities has been presented to school officials, faculty, students and parents as well as the public.

The new plan includes moving the proposed football practice field with artificial turf, surrounded by a two lane jogging track, from running north to south of the school to now running east and west which would cover the practice field used now for football practices and a good portion of the teachers' parking lot. The teachers' parking lot would be moved to parking facilities either northwest of the school or just west of the OEA (Omaha Education Association) building.

#### Main entrance moved

This would mean 22nd Street would have to be closed to make room for the practice field and track resulting in the blocking of the main west entrance of the school. The main entrance would then be changed to either the north or south entrances of Central. The architect in charge of the outside project for Central is Mr. Gerald Klein, from the firm of Dana, Larson, Roubal, and Associates.

The original plan, according

to Assistant Principal, Mr. Al LaGreca, called for the field to run west into the student parking lot, which Joslyn Art Museum owns and rents to Central on a yearly basis for one dollar and partially into the museum's parking facilities.

#### Original plans changed

The reason the plans were changed from the original plan came from Joslyn's board in charge of appropriating the extra property for the football practice field needed in the original plans. Joslyn's board decided they might need their property for any future expansion and development. With the field situated east and west, Joslyn's steps will end up about 30 feet away from a six foot fence surrounding the field and track.

On Wednesday, November 26, a special meeting of the school board and those interested was held concerning Central's outside changes. Statements expressing Central High's staff's worries about the new plan were first introduced. The statements included concern about a confusing traffic pattern around the school in the mornings resulting from an entrance change, the inadequacy of a six foot fence, a longer distance for people to walk to get to activities inside the school, plus other worries.

Mr. George Verret spoke to the school board suggesting an alternate plan to the new one proposed. Mr. Verret proposed a two level structure containing a lower parking garage with a football field on the second level. "This plan would cost about 4.5 million dollar," stated Mr. Verret. He feels the cost could be partially paid back with parking fee charges for activity attenders, faculty, and students.

#### New Ideas encouraged

Two other speakers were Mrs. Ann Newton and senior, Jay Sturek. Mrs. Newton expressed many of the same worries of the faculty plus some about vandalism to the field's artificial turf, which she feels will be easily susceptible to fire and tear with only a six foot fence protecting it. Jay Sturek spoke out against the plan calling it the "second best proposal" compared to an alternate plan which he felt could be established.

"Many other responses to the new proposal are expected and welcome," said Walter Calinger, school board president. He hopes some ground will be gained before another plan is introduced or before the project is dropped, leaving Central High School without any outside development whatsoever.

## Inside

Season's Greetings . . . . pg. 5

History in pictures . . . . . pgs. 6, 7

Sports . . . . . pgs. 10, 11, 12

# Accuracy of Honor Roll doubted

The Central Honor Roll was announced recently and many students were shocked at their being, or not being on the list.

One may achieve Honor Roll status by earning a minimum of 15 "honor" points. The number of points earned for each class varies depending on both the grade received and whether it is a "general," "regular," "Honors," or Advanced Placement course.

This system of honor points does not seem to be fair. Under certain circumstances, students who have received "4"'s or "5"'s on their report card may be honored. Are these people truly honor students?

## Editorial

In such cases, students may acquire the minimum requirement of points while doing poorly in many classes. If a student has many classes that student could acquire enough points.

It may be argued that it is perfectly understandable that a student taking six classes may receive lower grades than one who takes only three classes. The person with an unlimited number of classes does have a limited amount of time to devote to each class. This means they certainly could receive lower grades.

Now what is better? A situation where a person does less but does it well, or when he spreads himself too thin, and does a "half-way" job?

In short, it is possible for certain people receiving "3"'s, "4"'s, or "5"'s to make the honor roll, while there are some who receive only "1"'s and "2"'s but don't make it. How is it that one who has earned such high grades is not accepted?

For some cases, there should be a more satisfactory method for assigning a course its specific "weight". Right now, sciences, which may meet eight periods a week, receive the same weight as "regular" classes meeting only five times.

There are also half-credit classes, which demand as much or more work and time out of class, as full credit courses, yet only half of the honor points may be earned.

This year, the Honor Roll was posted after first quarter grades were given. It is a fact that only semester grades appear on a student's record. Quarter grades commonly serve as a report of progress, a sign of current standing. They serve as a warning as to what a student must do to achieve his desired goal by the end of the semester.

Because this is the case, is it right to choose whether or not a student is worthy of honor roll status by his quarter performance?

The idea behind Honor Roll is a good one. It creates an opportunity to commend students who have achieved academic success.

It seems, though, that to truly and accurately pin-point the honor students, a better perfected system must yet be devised.



## Letter:

I'd like to know what is all this commotion I hear about the tile floor going on the courtyard floor. I know many people are against the tile because they say it destroys the "tradition" of the courtyard, but the bricks have only been there around four years! How can the "tradition" be ruined when the bricks are only four years old? Before the bricks were there, there was nothing but a dirt floor that turned into a mud hole when it rained. If it came to a choice between sliding on tile and sliding on mud, I'd choose the tile.

Jesse Conyers

The Register encourages and welcomes all letters. Letters must be signed; however, requests to omit names will be honored. Letters should be delivered to room 317.

## My place

by

Sam Johnson



## Grinch speaks out

I hate Christmas! Call me a Scrooge, call me a Grinch, call me what you will, but I hate Christmas.

I guess all that "giving is better than receiving" stuff is O.K. for some folks, but not for me. I never get anything good!

I don't want to complain, but of all the people I know, I'm the most deserving. My Christmas budget tends to exceed the National Debt, but that makes no difference because, no matter how hard I try, no matter how much I spend, my sister invariably gets the best toys!

I remember one year when I pleaded, no, begged for just one gift: a super-sonic-hyper-charged laser gun with a projectile launcher. Did my parents buy me one? Nooooooo! They didn't want me to be "emotionally stunted by violence-oriented toys." My sister, probably just to spite me, put the same super-sonic-hyper-charged laser gun with a projectile launcher on her list, the bottom, mind you, and what happens? She gets the stupid thing because my parents "don't want her growing up under the misapprehension that only girls play with dolls and boys play with guns." I could have blasted them right there, or at least launched a projectile at them if I only had the gun.

My parents tell me that I'm at that "difficult age" where I'm too old for toys and too young for grown up things like cologne, ties, or electric drills. I've been at that "difficult age" for the past seven or eight years now and I'm getting a little tired of it.

My parents try to compromise every year by giving me underwear and tube socks. Some compromise.

However, after Christmas break, I'm usually the envy of the gym class because of my endless supply of clean tube socks and my blinding white briefs!

Even so, a lot of hardship has come from that compromise. For example, the day after Christmas on the first year that my parents deemed I had reached that "difficult age" was the most depressing day of my life. All of my friends ran around playing with their new sleds and their new electric trains while I played with my new underwear. By now, of course, I have become quite an authority on the hours of amusement one can find with underwear and tube socks.

I must confess that usually, right after Christmas, I sneak off and lock myself in the closet with my sister's toys and try to relive the hours of enjoyment I never had. It's always been a puzzlement to my family that the batteries to my sister's toys mysteriously run down after only a few minutes of use.

Unfortunately, my closet playground activities are on the decline because all of my sister's new toys blip and bleep so much that they're sure to give me away.

Despite these hardships, I haven't spent idle hours being bitter about my losses. I have, instead, devised plan after plan for retribution. The most likely one I will share with you. After I become filthy rich (I will undoubtedly make my fortune on used underwear and tube sock sales) I will buy the controlling stock in a humungus toy factory and make myself the official testor of the products we manufacture. No one will suspect that this mild-mannered financier will be living a childhood he never had during his routine inspections. A flawless plan if I do say so myself!

Sadly enough, my flawless plan won't become a reality for a while longer (I figure it will be at least three more years until I corner the used underwear market).

So, with only the satisfaction of knowing that every package under the tree is another building block to my future empire, I must face another dismal Christmas. I can only hope that your Christmas is merrier than mine, reader. Until next time, Happy holidays!

## Assembly alive and working

"Student Assembly, what's that?"

"I didn't even know Central had one."

According to some Central Students, the CHS Student Assembly is next to nonexistent. Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Student Assembly advisor estimated that only 15% of Central's population know about it.

Just what is Student Assembly, one might ask. According to Mrs. Anderson, Student Assembly was originally just a "social group" elected only by popularity which took care of the Spring Prom and various dances throughout the year. "However, about ten years ago, a group of students and teachers got to-

gether and rewrote the constitution to make the Assembly more of a student-government type organization."

The new constitution states that the Assembly is to be a liaison between students and faculty. Assembly member Scott Barker says that "very few people realize how much Student Assembly does and can do for the student body."

Mrs. Anderson contends that the Student Assembly can take care of grievances and problems that students might have concerning the faculty or school policy. She said it provides services and spirit for the school as well as gives a helping hand to various civic groups.

However, Mrs. Anderson added that right now, the Assembly is raising money for the Spring Prom and is having dances like the original Student Council.

"I don't know whether it's our fault or whether the students just don't know we exist," she said.

Despite the Assembly's apparent lack of recognition, it has been behind several school related activities and is planning more. Some of the projects have been: a pep rally in the auditorium, the painting of the tunnel on the west side, the student directories, a blood donor day, and just recently, a dance. Projected plans include a computer dating fund raiser, and of course, the Spring Prom.

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# Editorials

## Staff proposes suggestions

A most controversial topic, that of campus expansion which will satisfy and meet the needs of everyone, seems to be of great concern to many.

As the *Register* staff discussed the proposed plan, both negative and positive views were expressed. It was favored, by most, to follow through with the plans due to the fact that there is not an alternative plan. It is an all-or-nothing situation.

Through discussion, a few ideas which may enhance the proposed plan were suggested.

To begin with, it is fully understood that it will be necessary for the track and field area to be fenced. The acceptance of this fence, however, will vary, depending on the fashion in which it is done.

Its height and appearance are both important factors. If it is a chain-link fence, standing 12 feet high, many feel that a cold, "prison-like" atmosphere would be created directly outside the west entrance of the building.

Then again, if it were only six feet tall, and if it were of some material other than steel, perhaps redwood, the fence could prove to be a thing of beauty and warmth.

The idea of all parking being located off-campus is also disturbing. The plan calls for a green vista (a treed walking path) to be located south of the track. This area is presently the location for a portion of the faculty parking lot.

If this area could remain for parking and provide approximately 75 spaces, it would be very convenient. Those people coming to Central for fine arts performances, athletic activities, open house and conferences would have access to this parking. It seems a shame to waste this

land on trees and shrubbery when, in fact, it could supply some convenient and much-needed parking.

Because the majority of parking will be located northwest of the building, a widely used entrance will then be at the northwest corner of the building.

Presently, this entrance is very unattractive. If the drive which now exists could be eliminated, and a walk-way enhanced by trees and shrubbery could be designed, the entrance could be very inviting.

Changes, both inside and out, would help make this area more fit to be used as a major entrance, as it apparently will be.

Another main concern voiced by *Register* staff members deals with the usefulness of the new track and field. Of course it will supply facilities far greater and more extensive than what are now offered.

It is hoped that the vast amount of money going forth for these new changes will be used to produce facilities which will render excessive use.

It is feared, by some, that the new addition will end in a situation much like that of the new gymnasium. The new gym has provided a place for practice and also a place for some sports to compete, but then again, varsity basketball games are not held there. These will be the circumstances for track, also.

Again, given a choice of receiving the proposed plan or nothing at all, the *Register* staff firmly believes that the plans should be used. We also feel that there are some additional ideas which may be considered or applied to enhance the future changes.

## Reactions to Career Day

On Wednesday December 3, Career Day was held at Central High School for the first time in two years.

Response to the day between students and teachers brought out some interesting questions about the need for Career Day. Some students labeled the day as a "waste of time" or an "un-informative show". Others thought it was good and that it told them a lot, but almost all seemed to agree that more time is required to get a full view of their interested fields.

Dr. G.E. Moller, principal, responded to Career Day by stating he thought it was good and that he believed it would be better if it was allowed more time, but that more school time just cannot be taken up for such an activity. "Response from

parents and teachers about it (Career Day) has been nothing but positive," claimed Vice-Principal Al LaGreca, who added that he had heard no bad responses pertaining to Career Day from students at all.

Career Day has been put on a plan in which it is held every other year instead of every year. This plan is good for the day. It brings out more value and appreciation in the student body toward the activity. However, in the future, more time should be allotted for the day since it is held only every other year, in order for its full potential to have any effect on a student's plans and development after graduation. Either the above alternative should be done or there should be no Career Day at all in the future.

## Students importance superficial?

An incident which involved only one student, but actually concerns the entire student body, occurred last month.

An open PEP meeting of the Financial Aid Program at Central was announced. The meeting was primarily for faculty and board members; nevertheless it was a PEP meeting.

First of all, a reminder of what PEP represents is necessary. PEP, itself stands for, Parents, Educators, and Pupils, united and working for common causes.

A representative from the *Register* staff was to attend the meeting and take note of newsworthy discussion. Due to the fact that this meeting was to focus in on the controversial campus renovation plans, and the possibility of it being a very "hot" or emotional event, reporters for any form of media were not permitted to attend.

Understanding this, the *Register* representative then chose to attend the meeting as a legitimate member of PEP, with no intentions of reporting on the meeting.

Upon making this decision, the student was informed that he could not attend the meeting. He was denied, as a member of PEP, the right to participate in the meeting.

This incident surely exemplifies the feeling many students have concerning the actual part they play or voice they have in what is happening at Central. A feeling of superficiality or pseudo-importance.

Are students, sincerely, encouraged to voice their opinion? Supposedly, a student's thoughts are as worthy and as important as anyone else's.

What is questioned is whether or not sincere attempts to listen and possibly apply student's suggestions ever exist.

Students are given the opportunity to speak out and take part in some decisions of importance. Concerning subjects of real importance, it often seems as if it is an attempt to satisfy students while it is still just a situation of listening but not hearing, or perhaps listening and never really caring.

## Merry Christmas From 1980-81 Eaglettes

Diane Teri Renee Jackie S. Patti T. Peggy Beddy Jackie H. Patti P. Tracey

Vicki J. Vicki F. Carol Luanna Kate Lisa Mary Kay Courtney Gilneto Antoinette



LOMAX  
Rooles

Space Specs  
PUNX

We Buy  
Cap Guns for  
5 Sense

We buy femail slabs

13th and Howard Inside AAA

### Season's Greetings

From Your Student Assembly

Sam Eliot Johnson

Crystal Coleman

Brian Keenan  
Jeff Spencer  
Larry Station  
Kim Svoboda  
Wendy Franklin  
Monica Baker  
Lisa Benetz  
Julie Conine  
Scott Barker

Molly Carlson  
Charice Claxton  
Steve Coldwell  
Gwen Combs  
Diane Donaldson  
Mary Fisher  
Marty Johnson  
Johnny Triplett

Liz Faier  
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# Competent crew leads Sr. class



**Scott Barker**  
New Senior Class President, Scott Barker, claims his main goal for the rest of the 1980-81 school year is chiefly listening to his fellow senior class students.

Scott says he has plans of a senior picnic, a five year class reunion, and possibly a senior banquet. He attributes his plans to fellow seniors who have suggested the ideas to him in the past and appreciates the enthusiastic suggestions. "The only thing holding us back," Scott stated, "is the fact that we need at least one quarter of the senior class' backing in order to hold such an event." Overall, Scott believes the class of '81 will be a class to remember.

### Responsibilities of the Senior Class Treasurer

1. Handle and be responsible for all monies for the senior class.
2. Have the knowledge and ability to maintain a set of books accounting for all class transactions.
3. Carry out duties as assigned by the president.
4. Have your accounting books in order at all times so they may be audited by the administration.
5. Attend all meetings.



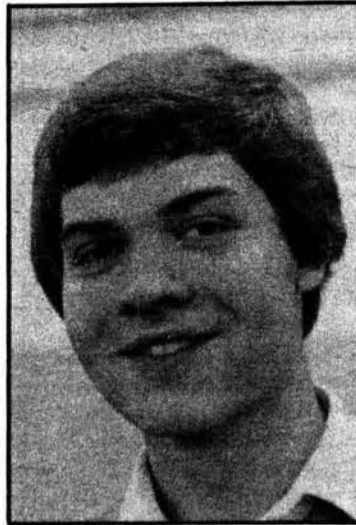
**Mark Conway**  
Senior Mark Conway is the recently elected Senior Class Boy's Sergeant-At-Arms.

Mark feels students should have a stronger say in some school activities and be able to give positive suggestions toward these activities. Mark also explained the reason he ran for Senior Boy's Sergeant-At-Arms was because he felt he could do a good job in representing other students and help pass on those suggestions.

Mark is an active student at Central and is in the top quarter of the senior class.

### Duties of the President

1. Preside over all class meetings.
2. Preside over all class officer meetings.
3. Master of ceremonies, and speech at commencement.
4. Organize and co-ordinate all class activities.
  - A. Cap and gown measurement and distribution.
  - B. Banquet
  - C. Picnic
  - D. Baccalaureate
  - E. Distribution and sale of commencement tickets
  - F. Check class meeting notes and treasurers report
5. Know the Robert's Rules of Order and conduct meetings following them.
6. Delegate responsibilities to the class officers.
7. Represent the senior class in a manner befitting your high office.
8. Use your time and knowledge to perform all of the duties as president of the senior class to the best of your ability.
9. Attend all meetings.



**Roger Olson**  
Roger Olson holds the office of the new reigning Senior Class Vice-President and holds it with a great deal of personal pride.

Roger expressed his victory and pride with this statement: "I am very humbled by my victory because of the outstanding competition I was forced to go up against. Both of the other two candidates were highly qualified, and the fact that my peers put their confidence in me is very important to me personally."

The reason Vice-President Olson ran was because he felt he could work well with the other senior class officers in carrying out the duties included with the job. Roger's other activities include Treasurer of Spanish Club, and honor student.



**Busy Schenken**  
The Senior Class Treasurer elected by the senior class for the 1980-81 year is Senior Busy Schenken.

Busy ran for Senior Class Treasurer because she wanted to be active in student government. She also claims to be very happy with her newly acquired office.

Other activities Miss Schenken is active in include President of French Club, a member of A-Cappella plus interest in photography, tennis, and horseback riding. Busy has also been nominated for a Regent's Scholarship and is in the top ten percent of the class.

### Responsibilities of the Senior Class Sergeant-At-Arms

1. Maintain order at all class and class officer meetings.
2. Carry out duties as assigned by the class president.
3. Attend all class meetings.



**Diane Donaldson**  
"I wanted to be in a senior class office," stated Senior Diane Donaldson, "and I felt I could do well as the Senior Class Girl's Sergeant-At-Arms."

Diane's interests in student government started in 9th grade when she was in student council. "Being elected Girl's Sergeant-At-Arms," Diane explained, "makes me very pleased."

Diane's other school involvements include co-captain of Eaglettes, participation on the O-Book staff, and being in the top quarter of her senior class while also being nominated for a Regent's Scholarship.

### Responsibilities of the Senior Class Vice-President

1. Assume the duties of the president in case of absence or resignation.
2. Assist the president in the execution of his duties.
3. Read duties of the president; they pertain to the office of the vice-president.
4. Attend all meetings.



**Monica Meehan**  
Newly elected Senior Class Secretary, Monica Meehan, claims her victory in the senior class elections is an honor.

The reason Monica ran for Senior Class Secretary was because she wanted to be "a leader of a successful senior class." Secretary Meehan believes this year's student officers are very good and feels they will do a more than adequate job to help promote and contribute to the student body at Central.

Monica is a varsity cheerleader, an O-Book staff member, and is active in Campus Life and the Explorer's Club.

### Responsibilities of the Senior Class Secretary

1. Record minutes of all class officer meetings.
2. Record minutes of all class meetings.
3. Record minutes of all committee meetings.
4. Keep minutes in order at all times so they may be read by the school administration.
5. Carry on all correspondence for the present class and for any class reunions.
6. Carry out duties as assigned by the class president.

## Mr. Throne to sing Messiah

Central language teacher, Kevin Throne performed as a member of the 1980 Voices of Omaha. The group, in its twelfth year, performs as its sole purpose Handel's Messiah. The Messiah is an oratorio about the life of Christ. An oratorio is, as Mr. Throne explains, "an opera without actions." The Messiah is usually performed during the Christmas season.

Mr. Throne has performed the Messiah ever since he was in high school at Sioux City, Nebraska. When coming to Omaha he involved himself with the group because he was searching for a musical outlet and wanted to stay musically active.

Mr. Throne finds the biggest thrill involved with the show performing under the direction of Dr. Thomas Brantigan, who has directed the oratorio for the last four or five years. According to Mr. Throne, Brantigan, who is music director at Dundee Presbyterian Church, somehow makes the six Sunday rehearsals fun and rewarding.

250 singers volunteered to sing in the chorus whose membership is open to anyone who is interested. Carol Giles, a Central graduate of 1980, also participated in the choir. The Voices presented the Messiah in two shows at the Orpheum on November 30th.

Though the music is only nominally difficult, Mr. Throne receives a real sense of satisfaction from performing the Messiah. Mr. Throne relates, "There is something about participating in a big performance like the Messiah that gives me a great feeling."

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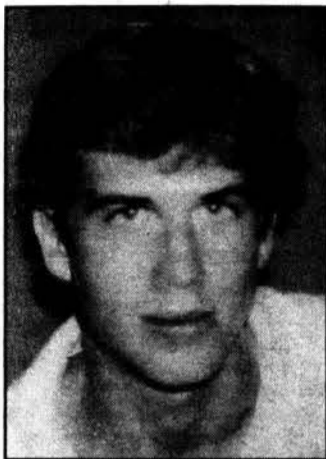
## Central's fame considered good

In a 1957 issue of Time magazine appeared a list of the top schools (senior high) in the United States. Central was the only school listed between Chicago and Denver.

Opinions at other Omaha area schools and at Central vary as to the ability and academic ability of Central's students (past and present)

What do Centralites think of Central scholastically? How do other school's students feel about the Eagles?

### Registered Opinions



Mark Jurek, Junior, Creighton Prep

"I really take Central seriously. It's not just good academically, but they also have a good athletic program. I know a lot of people at Central, and they are all really outgoing."



Oakley Gibbs, Junior

"I think Central is a great school. It has rich tradition, an excellent faculty and staff who try to help you, and gives me one of the most well-rounded educations I can receive. Central gives more varied opportunities for students."

Darci Lindell, Senior, Westside  
"I used to have a low opinion about Central until I met some people from Central. I think highly of those I've met. They have a friendly aura about them. I've been to the school once and thought the atmosphere was cold but appreciated the building, its size, and its history."



Katy Smith, Sophomore

It's a good school; I'm sure there are things that can be improved. There are more opportunities at Central than at other area high schools.



## Ten year olds are attending Central

Every day fifth graders stream into Central, but Why? Because Central hosts the Art Resource Center in which they are participants.

For over five years, Central has been the site of the center for fifth grade students and special education students who are interested in art. "The students attend Central to broaden their scope of art," according to teacher Laurie Russell.

She along with Connie Farmer head the program. They team with students and teachers from each prospective school to teach what has been called by one student, "a lot of work, but worth all the time."

Each class consists of nearly fifty children from schools from all over the public school system. The classes meet two hours each day. The center has two of these shifts daily.

"Fifth graders were chosen as the recipients of the special class opportunity because the school board thinks they deserve something to themselves and are easy to get along with," said Mrs. Russell.

The grade school principals decide whether the children attend the art center or the science center located at Burke. After the one-week session, Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Farmer give each student a

"certificate of accomplishment" for their efforts.

Mrs. Russell has been teaching for five years in this center, and three years previously at other locations. She feels Central is the ideal location for a center because it is so near Joslyn. Joslyn is used as an extra learning center. She said, "The students think it is fantastic here. They are especially impressed with the school's construction."

The students feel comfortable, partly because their teachers are present. Mrs. Russell said there are no problems with children not doing work because this is just a continuation of their classwork.

The fifth graders have mixed feelings about the center. A Dundee student said, "I wasn't there long enough to get used to it, it was pretty fun though." Another said, "You learn a lot in just a week, and the other kids are nice."

The future of the center has been discussed with Merle Rambo, architect of the Central reconstruction. "There is a chance that the center will expand," explained Mrs. Russell. "In five years the center has served double what it was first intended. If there is an expansion of our area, we will become permanent residents," said Mrs. Russell.

# Season's Greetings

To Champagne Dick. EMJ  
AALNBJP.

Lorraine Gruber, Merry Christmas. Better luck in my next life. Sincerely the scratched batch.

To Di and the rest of the sailors, Merry Christmas and say hi to Popeye. Ruth.

Merry Christmas, Kirsten. Thanks for all your help. Curly? Top

David, have the best Christmas ever. Love Princess.

Mark Day, Thanks to a certain junior I'm a little less confused and ready for great times. Annette

Tari A. Thanx for letting me cry on your shoulder. Merry Xmas, S

Merry Christmas to my favorite Rad Rat. Love Green eyes

Merry Christmas to everyone on the stairs. K.

To Michelle Forever. Love Brad

Heather, keep the fire burning over X-mas break, Love Ed Merry Christmas, Todd, Love Carol

Susan Erts, You are not my one close personal friend so, this is not for you!!!!!! Wiz

Happy Holidays to my party pals, love a lady with "great hands".

Vous, I missed you alot! Merry Christmas, Love you always, Moi

To varsity women & Mrs. Brown: Have a Merry X-mas & Happy New Year. Luv ya, Cindy  
Glenn, hope Santa brings you what you want. Luv ya, Cindy  
I Love You Linda from Master "G".

Hi Dave, How's Annapolis! Are you surprised? See ya, Erin

Merry Xmas to Lilibeth — Travis

Merry X-mas To Nancie, Donna, and Pearl from C.B.

To Andrew Frost I like you very much and I'd like to go out with you.

J.D. If you feel like jogging' over Xmas just call! Merry Xmas Luv M.V.

To Sir Knight's Honey Merry Christmas from a Jacobs Fan.

To Tony Bachmann — Have a Merry Christmas!

To Greg Rohn — Merry Christmas from a dimple lover.

To a Rick Everett Fan — Merry Christmas.

To Annette, Merry Christmas from a Bouza admirer.

To Bear: Merry X-mas. Thanks for being a friend.

Lynette, Merry Christmas and Happy one month and two days.

Terry, Welcome Home! I missed you very much! love ya, Holly

Merry Christmas to Jim from his Honor. Don't get caught!

The Quinn Happy Holidays The Hausmans

To my favorite Space kid Merry Xmas from Kel.

Dave, this is God speaking Merry Xmas. Love ya

Merry Christmas Marky, I Love You. Kay

Merry X-mas Aldo, love ya tod-tod

Dad, Mom, Jen, Merry Christmas! V.

Steve, Merry Xmas, don't jump! V.

Kirt T. Merry Christmas Love V and J.

Merry Christmas fellow Englishmen from Lori

Greetings to Mom Holt: from your two darling daughters.

Greetings to those on cushions. CRASH, K. Blabs, S.F., Lover, Gag me, R.L., and Rizzi. Love, the B.K. Queen.

Paul R. Have a super Christmas Love from a secret admirer.

Merry Noel Ernie, Bert, Grover, Big Bird, you know who, and his sidekick. Luv M.P.

Dan S. A Merry Christmas to my one and only. I love you! Patty T.

To all the Eaglettes, the very best Christmas ever! Love ya, Patty T.

To R, J, & P — Merry X-mas Pals! P.T.

Merry Christmas! Rocky Horror

Merry Christmas to my favorite seniors, M, L, B, K, V, C, B, T, N, S, S.

Wife, Merry Christmas! Hubby

Merry Xmas, lover of hot dogs on roller skates. Love EEEBA

Merry Christmas Beth. Love Peggy

Merry Christmas corn nut gang!

Diane, Kimbe, and Shelli, Merry Xmas Love ya Angie

H.C. Merry Xmas Lub ya A.M.

Merry Xmas Love (MLN) From RRR

Happy Holidays Twin (KLAN) RRR

Merry Christmas to Cara.

Merry X-mas Eagle Fans from Jose!

Merry Xmas to DT B-ball player K.R.

I love you, David, from Duck

To Tommy's love Merry Christmas from Jerk's Ex.

Merry Christmas P.P. from J.M.

Beth R. — Remember honors students don't get vacations! Have fun over X-mas anyway! Dini

Merry Xmas Julie M. from Chas.

Kelli; Next Christmas in Denver, OK? Charles

Merry Christmas Bo & Co from one of us.

Merry Christmas to all the cheerleaders. Love Monica

Flea & Brent, Happy Han-nuka! Love Mouse

Be there or be square. Merry Christmas C.L. from B.B.

Merry X-mas, Amy. Luv Bobbie ILT

Charles Heise-Hope Santa brings you many gifts on Christmas. Merry Xmas! your "Latin" lover.

Scott C. Hope this Christmas is the merriest ever! Your little "band" mouse.

Erin — we all urp in public now and then, happy batteries. — M.K.

Greetings to my pals; Sherie, Sue, Sherry, Sally, Sherrie, and Shannon. Love Cherie

Dot, Susan, Wiz, Mark, Steve, Keith, Kevin, Yvonne, Carol, Sherry, Kevin, Kirt; Merry Xmas!! Luv Val

Jackie, Merry Xmas Sweetie!! V.A.

Dot, MERRY CHRISTMAS!! Love Vel

Merry X-mas to a lady with "great hands". Thanx

M.HB MC ILU YAVSTM. Kate

Merry X-mas to my little brother. Love Carleen

To Kirsten, Merry Christmas BFB

Scott, Mary, big guy: Let's do that again sometime. Merry Christmas. Love Busy

Joe B. What's a Westsider among friends Ed.

Merry Christmas to all the mooseheads.

BAH HUMBUG from Stew and Steve

To FROG PLAYER Merry Christmas! S.L.

Tony Bachman — Have a beautiful Christmas — Jenny B.

To D.W. Merry Christmas Klingon. Love Shestin

To K Merry Christmas No wine, no women. Love B.F.B.'s four-year-old.

To Terry, Merry orange juice and happy nyquil. Love Duke

To Kelly, Merry X To all future P.P. people like us.

Merry X-mas Rad-Rats. Love Lisa P.

Merry X-mas Jackie O. Luv L.P.

To Larry Bouza, Merry Christmas. Love, the one who adores your tights.

Season's Greetings CFers!

Merry X-mas to muscles and curly from Big Bertha

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Capitol Beauty School.

Doc, Happy X-mas & Merry New Year Luv Doc!!.

Grizz & Katie — Happy X-mas Luv Hoy.

Merry Xmas; Sailors, may your boats flow over seas of purple passion. Popeye

Merry Xmas to all the gang on the one side. (RHPS). S.E.

To Magic, Rick, Superstar, Doug, Pick, and Andrew "Dog Action". from B.S.

Jeff Meehan WYLTSYDINC orAJ.

Clinton Hogjaws — Merry Christmas! P.S. you too mom!

Princess, Have a very Merry Snuggly Xmas! Love D. David

Mr. Eliot, as God-elect I feel you're adequate.

Varsity Women never have "nice" days.

To the paper "boy" you make me sick and so does your "friend".

Sue, Miss, Peg, Bubbles, Julie, Babe, Fox, Kim, Angie, Lisa, and Barfy . . . Happy Holidays. Luv Fish & Paige

IN MEMORY OF JOHN LENNON FROM HIS FANS!

Kel, Thanx! Mega Merry Xmas! Mom

Steve, thanx for "buying One" V.

Ratski Saski, Luv ya always? guess who

K.S. you're still the one for me K.!

Busy, have a wild time with that older man. love, Mary J or is it G, you're so silly!

Pablo Merry Christmas luv Yoda

Dear Lumpettes-thanks for lunch, watch where you eat sincerely M.K. and "the lump".

Merry Christmas to: Jill, Bo, Brenda C, Paul C, Mark — Jenn!

Merry Christmas to the 1 side gang! V.

Each of us on the Register staff wishes you

Cheer throughout the Holidays

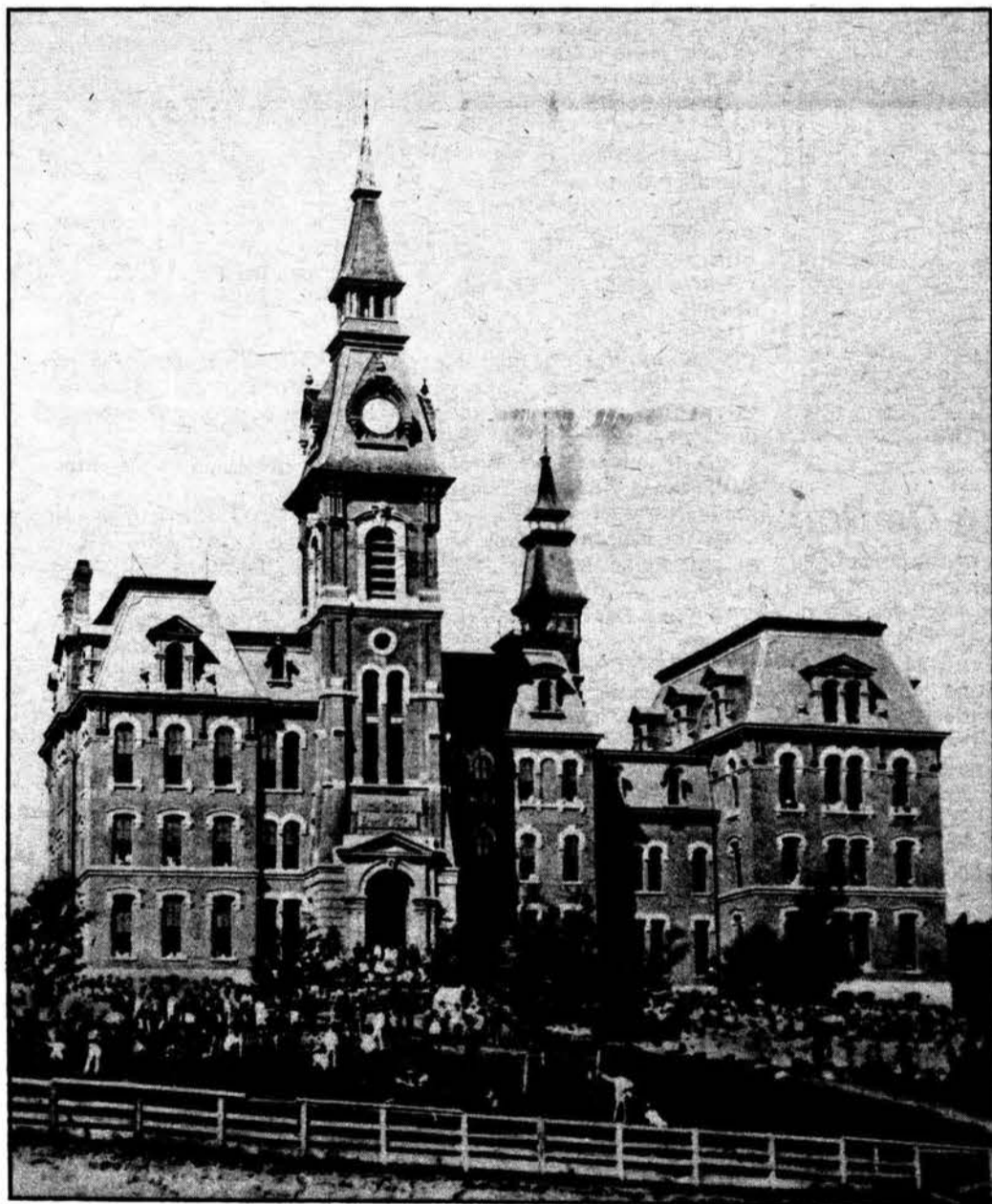
# History in pictures

# CHS improves with age



The first territorial Capitol Building (above) housed Omaha High School's first classes in 1859. In 1870 a more permanent school building was built on the same site (right).

Material compiled by:  
 Stew Magnuson  
 Photos courtesy of  
 Central High Office  
 Special thanks to  
 Mr. Al LaGreca



Central High is the city of Omaha's oldest and because of this, its history is very long. The school is over 110 years and continues to this day within the court yard.

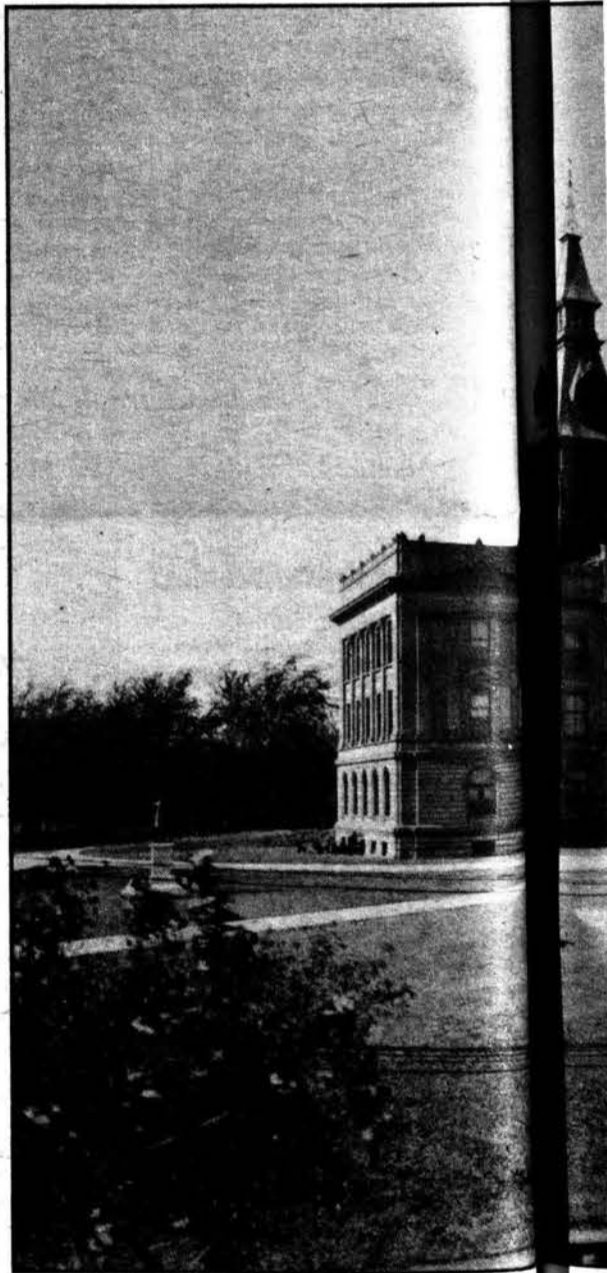
1859 — on November 10th, the first session of the High School took place in the old State House building on Farnam. However, this was only a temporary location. High was to have nine different locations until a permanent location was found.

1870 — The search for a permanent location was led by J. H. Kellom and S. D. Beal. Their search was in vain until the capitol was moved to Lincoln and the Capitol building in Omaha was left unoccupied. But the building was pronounced the best in the state. The Board of Regents decided to remove it and build a new one.

1872 — At this time the new building was built on the site of the old building. It was four stories and contained 18 rooms. The building was built on a hill which spired 390 feet above the Missouri River. It is a magnificent view of the present day Omaha.

1900-1912 — Soon Omaha High School was torn down and construction started on the East wing. The first part of the new building was completed on November 24, 1900; exactly 80 years ago.

Due to poor heating and ventilation, the building was torn down and new buildings were added and the old building was torn down as we know it today, not including the old gymnasiums.



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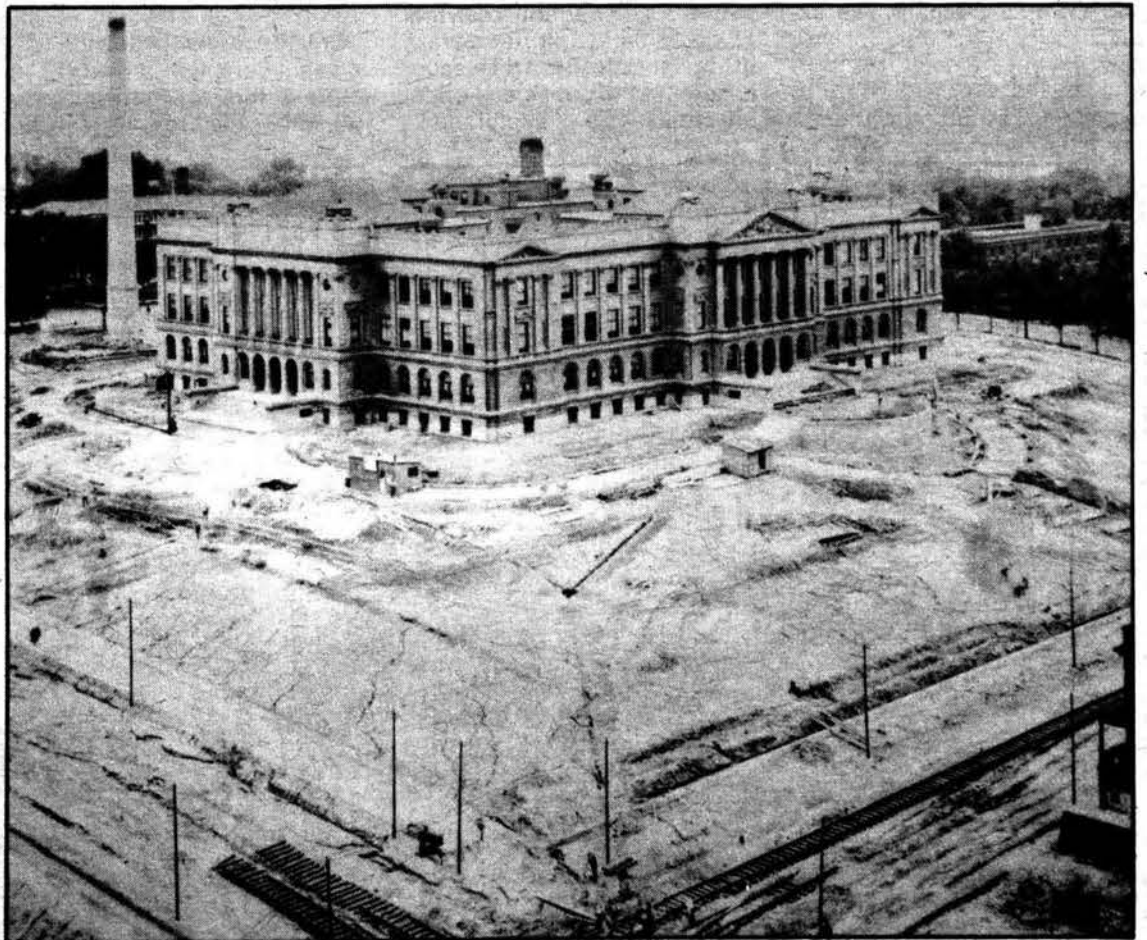
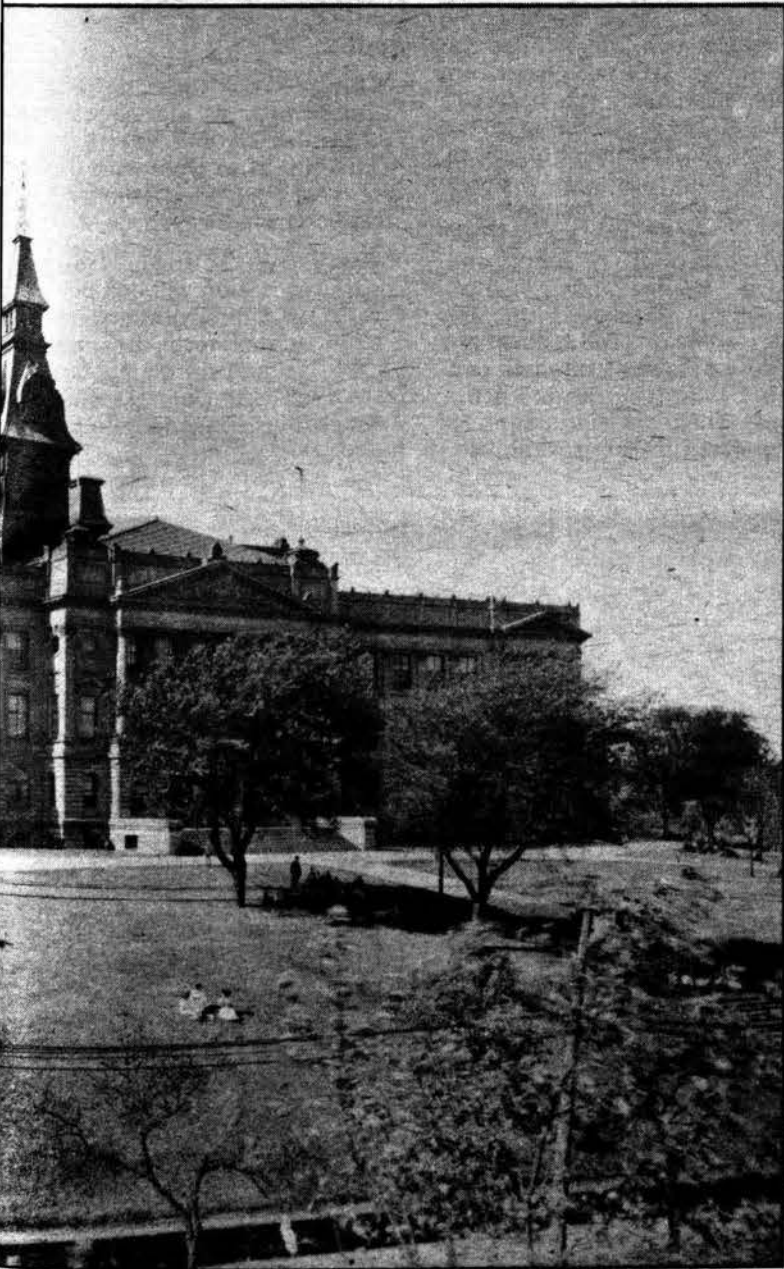
1930's — On February 3, 1930, the school board voted approval of the addition of a gymnasium and auditorium. Until this time the productions of shows were held at different places in the building. Separate acts would actually be in different rooms like, 215, 235,

325 and possibly 315 and 335. This explains the out of place arches in the study halls. The new auditorium and gym were completed around 1933 approximately the same time Joslyn Museum was completed. A 1935 picture shows a practice field where the present day teachers parking lot is located. This is ironic because the present plan for the new campus would put a practice field back in the same location.

1970's — For over 40 years the building itself underwent few changes although the city and terrain around it changed greatly. For a short time Central housed the Public Radio station, which is now at Technical High school, and the antenna still remains today. In 1977, the construction began for the new gymnasium which was completed in 1979. 1979 also saw the knocking over of the chimney stack, which was declared unsafe.

1980 — Construction began for the Dome over the courtyard. And plans are being discussed for a new campus.

The 1930's brought many changes including a new auditorium (above left). Later, in the 1970's a new gymnasium was built and the smokestack was demolished.



Additions to the old building were installed and Central began to take the appearance of today's Central (center). The old building was torn down except for the additions (above). Note the railroad tracks being installed were for streetcars.



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## Museum across the street rarely visited by any eagles

by Gretchen Vogel

Joslyn: A parking lot or a museum? The answer to that question differs from person to person. Many of Central's students have never ventured past the "social jungle" of Joslyn's parking lot to the expanse of learning, interest, and opportunity that lies inside the art museum.

How many students actually visit the museum? According to Diana Prewitt, the curator of education at Joslyn, "Not as many as we would like to see."

The use of Joslyn by Central students now is limited to special trips to the museum by the art classes to see unique exhibits. How could Central use Joslyn's resources in the form of art history or humanities courses so that all students might have a chance to benefit from them?

Principal, G.E. Moller noted, "There has to be a demand for any new classes. The courses that are offered are based on need." Dr. Moller also explained the limits on the school's budget. He pointed out that development of a program would require a cooperative effort by the two institutions. Representing the museum's view is Dave Dechant, in charge of public relations at Joslyn. He sees very exciting opportunities for learning in a relationship between Joslyn and Central. Dechant also expressed concern for Joslyn's budget, but he feels the staff at Joslyn is very geared up to expanding resources to attempt

many new ideas.

Both Dechant and Prewitt feel Central students could be utilized in the "Docent" program in the museum. This program brings in volunteers and trains them as guides to conduct tours for various groups.

Mrs. Quinn, a new teacher in the art department at Central, said she would also like to see more use of Joslyn. "Because the staff at Joslyn is new and I am new, it will take some time to develop a working relationship that will produce new ideas and programs." She sees a significant amount of interest in art history and appreciation among Central students. Quinn, who will be working on a board of O.P.S. teachers to improve art programs in Omaha Public Schools, intends to stress art history as a possibility of expansion.

One CHS student was very surprised that Joslyn wasn't used more by Central. "It's like having a swimming pool across the street, and no swim team."

Another student, who is not presently taking any art, expressed interest in a course applying art to things such as history, psychology, and civilization. He added, "It is an excellent opportunity to broaden Central's curriculum and reinforce the school's reputation."

Whatever the relationship between Central and Joslyn is or could be, it will not disrupt the fact that Joslyn Art Museum is open to the public and offers unlimited veins of exploration.

## Campus Life comes to CHS

On the East side hallway bulletin board, a sign is usually posted explaining the time and place of the next Campus Life meeting. Campus Life is an interdenominational youth organization which meets about once a week at the houses of Central High students. The group usually meets on Mondays.

A typical meeting starts off with singing and games, after which the group splits up and moves on to more serious discussions about life, drugs, and other teen-age problems. The group then comes back together and Barry Braun, the group director, then closes the meeting with a discussion or a film.

Campus Life is an international club affiliated with the Youth for Christ organization which is not connected with any particular church or directly

with Central High.

Barry Braun, who is also the Fellowship of Christian Athletes sponsor and the Campus Life Director for Burke High School, says, "the group is set up to help and encourage a high moral and a positive outlook on life for teen-agers."

This is Campus Life's first year at Central. The group started out early this fall with about 15 students but now has expanded to about 25 to 30 students per meeting.

Part of the interest for having a Campus Life group for Central was started by Senior Cecil Klosner. Cecil said, "I first got interested in Campus Life when I went to a summer camp in Colorado." Cecil then started going to meetings at other clubs and with a friend. When asked why she likes the group, Cecil said, "It's a good fellowship and you get to know

your school and people better."

Monica Meehan, also a senior, says she likes the group because "It's fun to be active with all other grades at Central and I enjoy the activities, games, and discussions." But Monica also added, "It's fun, but it can also be serious. The discussions help me to face every day problems when I see how other people react towards them."

The group has many other activities besides the weekly meetings. On Thursday, December 4, a Gym Night was held along with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The group has also held a skating party and is planning a ski trip to Colorado along with four-hundred other Campus Life members from the state of Nebraska during Christmas vacation.

## Problem solvers prep for season

How can future energy problems be solved? What are the main problems of space colonies? These questions can all be solved by the Creative Problem solving method.

Creative problem solving is a process by which a "fuzzy" situation (a problem with an unclear solution) is solved and a fit solution is arrived at. This process is used constantly in industry and other fields to solve complicated problems that arise.

Creative problem solving involves interaction between a group of three or four students to solve the problem. The

process involves four steps. First, the group brainstorms to find the root of the problem. The group then isolates the problem and brainstorms for solutions. The solutions are then evaluated, the best one singled out and refined, then it is sold to an audience of judges.

Central's creative problem solving team, sponsored by Dr. Robert Wolff, physics teacher, consists of Tony Bachmann, Steve Bouma, Larry Bouza, Yoichi Ii, Eric Johnson, and Sam Johnson. The team meets before school as often as possible to solve practice problems. The team is preparing for the state problem solving bowl

held in Kearney late in March, and if successful they will go on to compete in the national bowl held in Lincoln sometime in April.

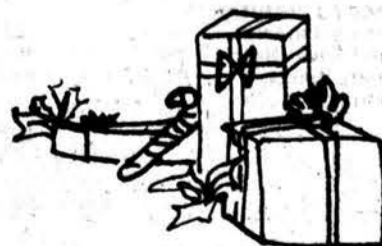
This is the sixth year the bowl has been held. All of the recent national bowls have been held in Lincoln. However, this is the first year that a preliminary state bowl will be held.

Forty-five schools from across the nation will compete in the bowl at three grade levels: a high school level, a junior high level, and an elementary level. Last year Central's team finished third nationally in the high school division.



# MERRY XMAS

from the  
*Writing Lab*





# Of central importance

## Club initiates

"It has the possibilities of becoming a great Central tradition," commented senior, Mica Wojcichowsky, about the Drama Club initiation ceremony.

Scott Barker, round table member (the club's officers are members of the round table), said the purpose of the initiation, "was to promote spirit within the club by sharing and making club secrets with the members".

Each of the approximately 50 members who were initiated went through a five part ceremony. The history of Drama Club, the secret password, and a lesson on

how members might leave their mark in *The Book* were some parts of the ceremony.

Mica said the thing she liked most about the initiation "was the dramatic sense created by the members of the round table, erie and memorable."

## Record broken

The newly formed Central High Wargaming Club is planning a Dungeons and Dragons Marathon to be held over the Christmas Vacation. The marathon will be held from December 27, to January 3rd.

The club plans to break the current record of 117 hours of straight Dungeons and Dragons playing. The

group plans to play 168 hours with only five minutes of rest every hour. The club is looking for sponsors to help fund the marathon and to help pay for a computer needed for the club.

The current records for playing D and D are approved by TSR Hobbies, but the group is trying to get The Guinness Book of World Records to approve the record. Approximately twelve members are planning to join the marathon. A sponsor sheet will be in the library for those who wish to sign up.

## Mall music

Interaction was the main idea of a concert on

December 17 at the Center Mall. The CHS Orchestra teamed with the Blair Orchestra to present a concert for Christmas shoppers.

Participants commented that they enjoyed playing and hope for another opportunity like this again next year.

Says Warren Ferrel, Central instrumental instructor, "This was coordinated with an idea and need for interaction between the groups. I feel that students enjoyed the experience and hopefully we'll be able to organize another one next year."

## Chess kings

With a record of 3-1 the Central High School Chess Team Challenges the defending Metro and State Champions, South High School, on December 9. Mr. Kevin Throne, Chess Team Sponsor, is confident Central can defeat South.

Central has been victorious over Lewis Central, Roncalli, and Papillion while their only defeat came against Northwest.

Juniors Alex Applegate and Darnell Williams are undefeated this season. The other team members records are: Eric Johnson 1-2, Ryan Megill 3-1, and Steve Nelle 2-2. Mr. Throne said, "the team is improving every match."

## Klein counsels

Journalism I students had a special guest. Steve Klein, sports editor for *The Omaha World Herald*, spoke to the class and answered questions they had about the coverage of sports news.

The points he stressed were that sports writers must, like other news writers, be accurate, concise, and clear. He said that sports stories must contain hard facts and perhaps "play up" the story to interest the reader.

He cautioned against hiding ideas. "This (hiding ideas) is the best way to lose a reader," Kline said.

He also pointed out the problem of too much precedence for certain sports stories. "At this time of year, the complaints are usually against football," Kline said. Kline admitted that football does get a lot of coverage from *The World Herald*, "but," Kline said, "the biggest news story is the football team; thus, it receives the most attention from our photographers and writers."

## Debate excels

At the Millard High School Debate Tournament, November 14-15, the debate team of Maurice Karpman and Lisa Schoning placed second. After the preliminary rounds they were undefeated and had the highest speaker points.

On November 21-22, the Ralston Speech and Debate tournament was held. In the tournament Lisa Schoning placed second in extemporaneous speaking. Again the team of Maurice Karpman and Lisa Schoning had the highest speaker points of the tournament but did not place.

## Party changes

"To teachers: There is to be no class time nor study-hall time taken for Christmas parties. This matter came too close to getting entirely out of hand last year." These were instructions in Tuesday, December 9, student bulletin from CHS Department Heads and principal G.E. Moller.

Why is such a firm rule being put into effect? According to Dr. Moller, "Ten years ago the rule as to any kind of party was very firm. However, over the years the rule has been allowed to slide to the point where it was last year. At Christmas especially, there seemed to be no academic purpose for the last day before vacation. Students and teachers began to celebrate the holidays in school with parties."

There have been questions and complaints to the administration about the rule, but various clubs are compromising. The Spanish Club will hold its Christmas festivities after school instead of during class time.

The Latin club, which celebrates the Latin holiday Saturnalia, will exchange gifts and turn the "party" into a learning experience. Miss Ryan will tell the students about Saturnalia, but no food will be served.

Justification of another type of party was explained by Moller. "Purple feather day is a very special occasion which happens once a year. It is for the people who have higher than average grades and not for everyone in the student body."

## X-mas Prom

On Monday, December 22, Peony Park is once again holding the city-wide high school Christmas Prom. The annual dance will take place in the Peony Park Ballroom from 9 to 12 midnight.

The band for the event is scheduled to be the Rumbles. The group, consisting of Steve Hough, Bud Phillips, Bob Ford, and Lance Hancock, started playing together back in the late 1960's but broke up in 1972. They rejoined to play a single show reunion. They stayed together and have since rejoined the party and bar circuit they originally toured. Their style includes many 60's pop songs by such groups as the Beach Boys and Creedence Clearwater Revival with the recent addition of many contemporary tunes.

Tickets are \$8.00 per couple in advance and will be \$8.50 at the door. This year's Christmas Prom King and Queen will be announced at the dance. Central High candidates are Rick Everett and Pam Palmer.

## Road Show

The school activity that employs over 225 Central students is approaching in February. Although Road Show, the CHS variety show, is two months away, people should begin to prepare acts now, according to Warren Ferrel, band and Road Show director.

"The acts are judged on variety, caliber of talent, and the overall outlook of the show," Mr. Ferrel said in describing how the 25 to 35 acts are selected.

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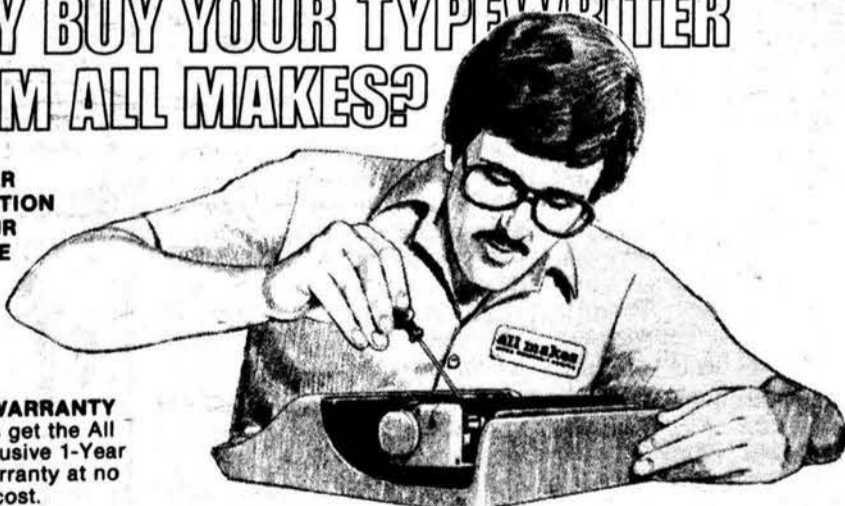
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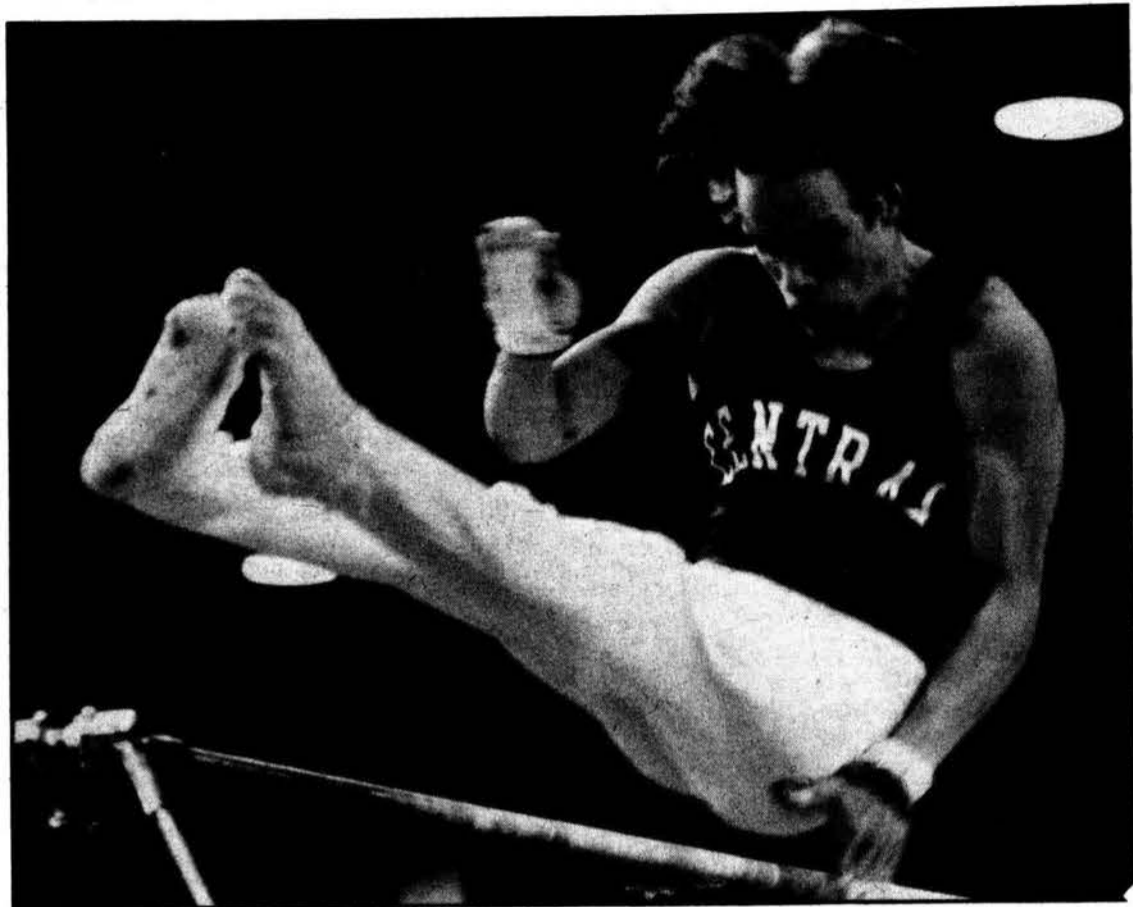


photo by John Gibson

Terry Houlton executes a release move on the high bar in the state meet.

## CHS Gymnasts place fifth

The Central boys' gymnastics concluded a successful season with a fifth place finish in the state meet on November 21-22 in Lincoln. Steve Coldwell, second in the vault, and Yoichi Ii, fourth in the parallel bars, were the top individual performers for Central and medaled in the events.

### Eagles make cut

According to head gymnastics coach Kent Friesen, the Central gymnasts narrowly made the cut following the opening session of the meet as the field was cut to five teams for the final day. "The first day was kind of funny," said Coach Friesen, "We missed a lot of sets early, but came on strong near the end. We were worried for awhile until a very solid performance on the vault got us

out of the hole."

The Eagles failed to move up in the standings on the second day, even though they turned in their best performance of the year with a 146.71 score. Mr. Friesen said he was very proud of the way the team performed in the session. The team went in with a sizable four-point deficit, which left it out of the race for the team championship. "I told them they could either give up or go prove themselves, and they went out and hit their routines; it was a super effort," said Mr. Friesen.

### Coach pleased

Overall, Coach Friesen was very happy with his team's performance in the meet. He stressed that the team had performed exceptionally on the vault on both days, making for

what he believed to be the best showing by any team in the meet on the apparatus. He said that his main regret was that the team did not come away with more individual honors. He was also disappointed that Yoichi Ii, sidelined for six weeks with a broken thumb, was never able to regain his original form.

### Districts 'fun'

The Central gymnasts qualified for the state meet by running away from an otherwise weak field in district competition on November 13 at Central. The Eagles proved to be inconsiderate hosts, taking 25 of the 35 medals awarded, including the top three in the all-around and the top five in the floor exercise. "That one was a lot of fun," Coach Friesen said.

## Larson ice skates with Blade and Edge Club

It's 8:30 A.M. at the Hitchcock Park ice skating arena. Out on the ice is a 15-year-old Central sophomore. While her classmates are going through the motions of another school day, she is going through some motions of her own; double axels, toe-loops, double salchows, and flying camels.

The figure out on the ice is that of Lisa Larson, who is a member of the Blade and Edge Figure Skating Club of Omaha. She was up at five o'clock this morning, just as any other morning, to meet her six o'clock starting time. A shortened day permits her to begin school with the start of second period.

Lisa says she became interested in ice skating seven years ago after seeing an ice show. She then began taking public lessons and has been skating "seriously" now for five years.

Early last month, Lisa and five other Omahans competed in the Southwestern Figure Skating Championships in Denver. In the competition she placed ninth out of a field of skaters representing a nine state region.

Although Lisa is not currently training for any competition, she continues to go through her morning regimens to work towards passing an upcoming skating test.

According to Lisa, ability in skating is classified by what testing level the skater is on. An individual is permitted to move on to the next level after she has executed all of the required moves and figures in a formal test. Lisa is currently working towards passing her fifth test.

Lisa says that the tests is "scary", for the skater is the only person out on the ice. During that time her every move is being watched by a panel of three judges. The test consists of a three-minute free-style routine set to music in which the required moves and jumps are performed. The skater must

then complete a set of figures, tracing over each several times for accuracy. Lisa says she is currently at a point when she can retrace a figure, or patch as



photo by Lisa Laviolette  
Lisa Larson

they are sometimes called, two to three times over with only slight deviation from the original.

Lisa's future goals in skating include passing the eighth testing level, the highest achievement level, and going on to greater success in competition. From there, she is unsure of which direction she will pursue in skating. But in the meantime, Lisa is enjoying skating too much to trouble with that question now.

## Teacher relaxes with paddle in hand

Most Central students probably believe that all teachers do is give long drawn out homework assignments and go home to devise different types of torture to inflict upon poor unfortunate students. Well, this may be true for some, but for journalism instructor Michael Gaherty his nights lie where the ball and paddle are.

According to Mr. Gaherty he spends at least three hours, one evening a week playing table tennis at the Omaha Table Tennis Association located in Pipal Park. Mr. Gaherty explained that he began playing table tennis in grade school, but kind of got away from it after college. He took up the game again about ten years ago, when he discovered a neighbor who was as interested in the game as he.

An "absolute nut" about the game is how Mr. Gaherty describes Mr. John Denny, neighbor and ping pong partner. Mr. Denny and Mr. Gaherty began playing ping pong in Mr. Gaherty's basement. According to Mr. Gaherty they got to the point where they were playing two to three hours, four nights a week.

Mr. Denny, according to Mr. Gaherty, heard about the O.T.T.A. and suggested they venture out to see what it was like. "We were really outclassed," explained Mr. Gaherty. "The people at the club were far

better than we."

After some visits to the O.T.T.A., Mr. Gaherty said he "learned a lot," including the rules. Mr. Gaherty explained that luckily he and his neighbor had made some advances at home before going to the O.T.T.A., such as the correct way to serve the ball.

Mr. Gaherty explained that the club annually hosts a tournament in which competition is open to all corners. According to Mr. Gaherty there are five main levels of competition: The first division, people who have never competed before, the novice division for fairly new competitors the "B" division, people with experience in competition, and the "A" and championship divisions, the old pros at the game.

Mr. Gaherty won the first and novice divisions about three years ago eliminating him from participating in those fields again. Mr. Gaherty says he attempted to take the "B" division title but was beaten in the second round. Regular play at the club is very informal, explained Mr. Gaherty, with all games being won by the best two out of three matches. Mr. Gaherty added that anyone at the club may challenge the winner of any table.

For all you people who enjoy the game of table tennis or ping pong there is a distinction

between the two which should be recognized. According to Mr. Gaherty, amateurs or people who just "dabble" are referred to as ping pong players while table tennis players put more emphasis on the competitive aspect of the game and the stroke and form applied.

Mr. Gaherty also added that table tennis is becoming more of a scientific type of game, so all ping pong or table tennis players get out the science texts and start studying!

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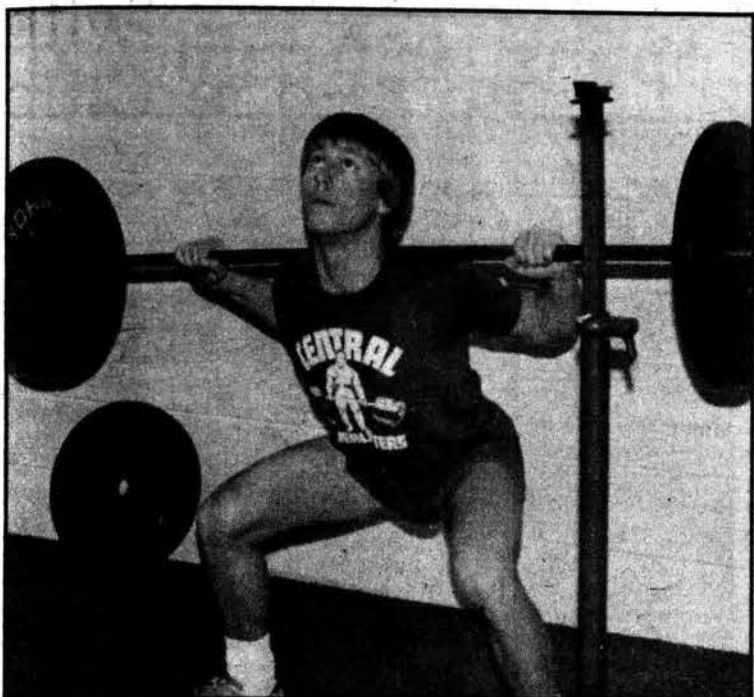


photo by Jay Sturek

Jeff Spencer works a set of squats in the weight room.

## Weights help athletes

The people of United States in recent years have been engulfed by an urge to become more physically fit. Included in this drive has been the increase of people using weights in their training. Not only have the benefits of weights been seen, but most athletic programs now use weights to increase speed and strength.

In 1978, along with the arrival of Joe McMEnamin to the staff at Central High School came a new and improved weight training program. With the improved program, the previous 14 hapless football team has emerged as one of the best teams in the state (ranked 6th in the World-Herald poll). Joe McMEnamin, assistant football coach, said, "Our weight program has made Central one of the strongest teams in the state."

The Central powerlifting team, made up predominantly of football players was second in state competition and are returning two state champions, Terry Evans and Larry Station. Coach McMEnamin said, "We will be very competitive if not the top powerlifting team in the state this year."

Coach McMEnamin, a weight-lifter himself, saw the need

for a weight training program at the high school level when he went to Colorado State University and witnessed how much stronger the other players were due to weightlifting in high school.

The football team works out nine months of the year, five days a week, stressing the bench press and squats. Coach McMEnamin said the average workout is an hour and a half.

Coach McMEnamin said everybody in the program has increased his speed and strength. He pointed out the following players: Terry Evans who, as a junior, ran a 5.1 seconds forty-yard dash. Weighttraining brought that time down to 4.6 seconds. Larry Station emerging as one of the states top discus throwers and Jim Van Metre who increased his bench press 200 pounds while increasing his weight 55 pounds.

Not only has the football team found the benefits of weighttraining, but now all of Central's athletic teams are using weighttraining as a form of exercise. All coaches praised the benefits of weighttraining. Stan Standifer, girls' volleyball coach, said, "I think weightlifting is the most beneficial exercise girls can do for either athletics or for self-improvement." David James, cross country and assistant girls' track Coach said, "Weightlifting gives a person an all around improved body strength, better posture, and increased speed."

An increase of Central students' use of weighttraining as a form of exercise has taken place. Although most of these students started training with weights to get in condition for a sport, they now lift weights for the fun of it. Some of the places students can go to train include Champion Charley's Muscle Palace, The European Health Spa, and The Omaha Athletic Club.

### Wrestling

Nine returning letterman make up a wrestling squad that may be young but has a very bright future. Leading the team are seniors Joe Mease and Mike Curry and junior Fred Harris.

The returning letterman include Dan Schnuettgen, Joe Mease, Shawn Agosta, Mike Curry, Tim Cordes, Fred Harris, Charles White, Doug Sortino, and Frank Peterkin.

Wrestling coach Gary Kubik said practice started November 10 and included running two miles, lifting weights, and doing mat drills.

Coach Kubik added he had an exceptional crew of sophomores. They are Michael Whitner, Songdok Sparks, Charles Marion, and Tim Chamberlain.

At the first meet of the year, the North High Invitational, Central did not fair well. Only two wrestlers made it through the first round of competition. Joe Mease placed second, and Fred Harris placed third.

Coach Kubik said, "With the seeding process, an inexperienced wrestler has to beat a seeded wrestler and our inexperienced wrestlers did not beat anybody."

Their first dual of the year was held Tuesday, December 9. Central was matched against a powerful Papillion team. Central was defeated 52-12 with their only win coming from Joe Mease.

Although the first two meets of the year were indictive of the team's inexperience, Coach Kubik said the future looks bright and the team is definitely going to improve.

### Girls' Basketball

Girls' Basketball got underway last week with a victory over Technical High School. Mr. Paul Semrad, head coach, has good vibes about this year's team and hopes to better last year's 11-9 record.

According to coach Semrad, this year's team is more experienced with guards Evelyn Davis and Wanda Hartso leading the team. Mr. Semrad said he has seen much improvement in junior Denise Hart and feels his forward and center players will be great assets to the team.

Mr. Semrad also said that freshman Maurice Ivy has "lots of ability," but needs experience. Maurice scored nine points last week in the girl's first game against Tech.

According to Mr. Semrad, in the game against Tech, the girls played very well in the first half but lost a little of their composure in the second half allowing Tech to make a comeback.

Three team members scored

in double figures to help to aid the Eagles in their victory over Tech. They were Evelyn Davis with 16 points, Wanda Hartso with 13, and Lisa Mayhue with 10 points.

### JV Basketball

The loss of the reserve basketball program at Central has left the team with an abundance of sophomores on the JV team. "They are inexperienced," said JV coach John Waterman. Of the five starting players on the team, four are sophomores.

The lack of preparation time (three weeks), inexperience, and poor bench support were all contributing factors in the loss to Tech High 74-49," Waterman said.

He added, "We showed a lack of composure and made too many fundamental errors. We played a style of basketball (run and gun) that must end."

The outstanding players were junior John Barna who scored 15 points, had six rebounds, and drew two charging fouls. Coach Waterman also complimented Ed Vinson who contributed 15 points.

"If we continue to work hard and improve on fundamentals we could have an excellent team," said Coach Waterman.

### Osborne Visits

University of Nebraska head football coach, Tom Osborn, paid a recruiting visit to Central earlier this month with the apparent design of having Terry Evans, the state rushing leader, in Lincoln next fall.

Central football coach William Reed, the recipient of Osborn's visit, confirms that the subject of their discourse was Evans. According to Mr. Reed, Coach Osborn said that the coaches at the University considered Terry the top recruit from the Omaha area and feel he can benefit the program.

The visit to Coach Reed was a reaffirmation of a scholarship offer extended to Terry a week earlier when Osborn had visited Terry at the Evans Home. The Nebraska Coach did not wish to see Evans on his visit to Central, for seeing Terry would have used up the second of the three visits a college coach recruiting a high school athlete is allotted by NCAA.

As yet, Terry has not yet committed himself to Nebraska or any of the other 26 schools which have contacted him. He says he is also interested in offers from Drake, Iowa, Okla-

homa, Iowa State, Michigan, and Nevada-Las Vegas.

Coach Reed refutes the contention that at 170 pounds, Evans lacks the size of a college running back. He points out that strength, not size, is what is important, and that Terry's upperbody and leg strength are comparable to that of a 250-pounder. Says Coach Reed, "I think Terry is ready to play big-time college football."

### Swim Team

After severe graduation losses from last year's 7-4 squad, the boys' swim team will be going through another rebuilding season. The girls' swimmers, however, are looking forward to having one of their best seasons in recent years.

According to swim team coach Steve Heck, the 15 boys out are not making up for what was lost from last year's team. The roster is basically made up of juniors, several of whom saw limited competition last year. Of the five Seniors, two are primarily divers, while two others are new to Central and swimming for the school for the first time.

The team was dealt a further blow when Don Rhodes, the best swimmer over the last two years, was declared ineligible for the first semester. "Let's face it," said Coach Heck, "Don is a very important part of the team." Coach Heck feels that Don has the potential of being a Metro champion in the 100-yd. freestyle.

The main bright spots on the boys' team are Senior divers Steve Coldwell and Flip Crummer. Flip is the defending Metro and state diving champion who has been defeated only twice in two years of high school competition. Over the summer, Flip was named an All-American, the highest honor a high school diver can attain. Steve placed fourth in the Metro meet last year and is expected by Coach Heck to improve on the finish this year. "Flip and Steve give us the best pair of divers in the state," said Coach Heck.

Although never having coached the girls before, Coach Heck says he is impressed by what he has seen thus far. He feels the 16 girls out make up a good young team. Despite having only three Seniors, there is great depth and experience in the junior and sophomore ranks, several of the girls having swum as freshmen.

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## Fall Scoreboard

| Team                 | Wins | Losses | Pct. |
|----------------------|------|--------|------|
| Boys' Cross Country  | 8    | 2      | .800 |
| Girls' Golf          | 7    | 2      | .778 |
| Reserve Football     | 6    | 2      | .750 |
| Girls' Cross Country | 5    | 2      | .714 |
| Boys' Gymnastics     | 4    | 2      | .667 |
| Varsity Football     | 6    | 4      | .600 |
| J.V. Football        | 4    | 3      | .571 |
| Boys' Tennis         | 4    | 5      | .444 |
| Girls' Gymnastics    | 1    | 4      | .200 |
| J.V. Volleyball      | 2    | 8      | .200 |
| Varsity Volleyball   | 3    | 14     | .176 |

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Inside  
Central  
Sports



by Henry Cordes

NSAA ruling sparks debate

Early last spring, a bill was passed by the general assembly of the Nebraska School Activities Association, the governing body for the states' high school athletics, which combined the boys' and girls' teams in three varsity sports: gymnastics, swimming, and track.

Though the ruling does not imply that the boys and girls are to compete against each other, it does mean that they must share the practice facility and coaching staff, and likewise have combined dual meets. Since its passage, the ruling has sparked much debate in the state high school athletic community.

The proposal, according to Jim Riley, executive-secretary of the NSAA, was first brought up in a meeting of high school athletic directors, coming mostly from OPS schools. He says it came in response to a plea from the NSAA that an effort be made for energy conservation in athletics. Central athletic director Doug Morrow termed the proposal of the athletic director's a "joining the bandwagon to save energy."

Transportation savings

According to Mr. Riley, a consensus of high schools believed that money would be saved in transportation cost and facility usage if the sports were made "co-ed," for they could then transport two teams, the boys' and the girls' for the price of one. Mr. Riley feels that the originators of the proposal were also influenced by the spending lid, which at the time, loomed over the athletic program and threatened severe cutbacks in funding.

Thus, Mr. Riley feels that the athletic directors were trying to show that they were willing to make sacrifices.

Mr. Riley feels that with the fear that these sports would be cut altogether, that the athletic directors decided combined boys' and girls' teams in these sports would be better than no teams at all.

System first test

The new system was first tested earlier this year during gymnastics season. Central gymnastics coach Kent Friesen feels that bringing the two teams together overall served to hinder the gymnastics program. With the coach's attentions divided between the boys and girls, he does not have as much time to devote to individuals as he would like. According to Mr. Riley, this opinion echoes that of most gymnastics coaches across the state.

Coach Friesen added that although he had been told that the format change would spark enthusiasm for what had been termed a "dying" sport, he saw no dramatic turnaround in interest in gymnastics this year. Central's savings in transportation costs during the gymnastics season under the new system totaled approximately \$400, said Mr. Morrow.

Problems in swimming

The swim team is also operating under the NSAA's ruling. Swim team coach Steve Heck noted only a short on by it. The team now must put twice as many swimmers in the same pool space, making for crowded conditions during practice. "I feel we can't get the proper workout needed to maximize each swimmer's potential under this system. There is overcrowding and too wide a variance in abilities, thus I might have to have two or three different workouts being run at the same time," Coach Heck said.

Further problems are posed in the swimming meets. "Each meet now has twice as many events as before, causing meets to run anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour and a half longer," Coach Heck said, "depending on the meet's organization and the arising of any unforeseen circumstances." Mr. Riley says that Coach Heck's objections are typical of the ones he has heard from many coaches across the state.

The projected transportation for Central in swimming under the boy-girl system is in the neighborhood of \$250, says Mr. Morrow.

Coaches want more say

Both Mr. Heck and Mr. Friesen feel that the coaches' opinions should have had more bearing on the proposal when it came up last spring. Coach Heck said that before the NSAA general assembly voted on the proposal, a questionnaire was sent out to the coaches to get some of their feedback. Although Coach Heck knows of no coaches that favored the proposal, the results of the questionnaire appear to have had little or no effect on the NSAA's decision. Coach Friesen said, "I don't really like the idea of people who don't even know what a backward roll is telling us (the gymnastics coaches) what to do."

What the dispute all comes down to is money. The consensus of coaches is that the few hundred dollars in costs saved in their sports are a "drop in the bucket" compared to the total athletic budget of a high school and feel that their sports are being "nickel and dimed" to death by the NSAA's "two for the price of one" bargain.

Evaluate system

According to Mr. Riley, the schools will have to evaluate the savings and decide whether they are worth all the problems brought on the change, and if they no longer favor the system, bring the issue back before the general assembly. He feels that if the subject were to come up in the general assembly again this spring, it might only stand a 50-50 chance of survival. Mr. Riley said, "With all the conflicting opinions of the parties involved, the issue could get very emotional."

Record stands at 2-1

Central five opens 1980 campaign

The Central varsity basketball team will put a very offensive-minded lineup on the court for the 1980 season, according to head coach Jim Martin.

The addition of speed this year, he says, will make for an improved offense. But a high scoring offense may very well be needed to make up for some severe defensive shortcomings. With no one over 6' 5" on the roster, Coach Martin fears rebounding could be a problem. However, he also feels that aggressive play could make up for the lack of stature. "Rebounding is all a matter of getting position and using intelligence," he said.

Summer basketball

If a team's summer league performance is any indication of its ability, Central could have a very good team this year. According to Coach Martin, Central's entrant in the A. V. Sorenson Summer League went undefeated in twelve regular season games and defeated Prep in the playoffs before falling to Benson in the semi-finals. Coach Martin feels that some of the league's results, however, could be deceiving for none of the teams were always at full strength.

Coach Martin says it is a little early to try to foretell how successful the season will be. He feels one must consider the quality of the opposition in the conference, which he feels is great this year. He does believe that the team could easily improve on the 8-11 mark tallied last year, a rare losing season for Central.

Season opener

Many of Coach Martin's doubts in his team's rebounding ability should have been alleviated in Central's 67-57 season-opening victory against Tech.

Senior Anthony Jones proved his rebounding ability by dominating the boards and in addition added 11 points to the Central attack. Rick Everett led all Central scorers with 23 points.

Afterwards, Coach Martin praised Everett's play as being strong. Rick's 11 of 17 shooting from the floor helped the Eagles hit a combined 58 percent of their shots, "a super performance for the first game of the year," said Coach Martin. Coach Martin also felt that

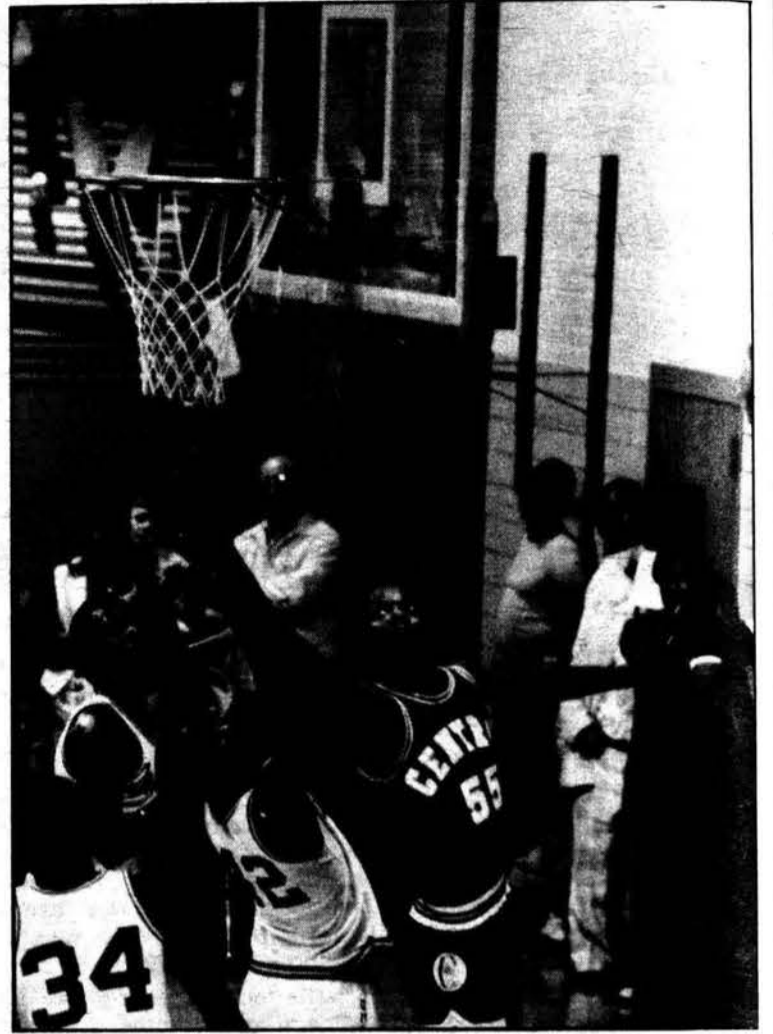


photo by John Gibson

Jones attempts a layup amid three Tech defenders.

Jones' game high 12 rebounds showed how much the senior has improved over last year.

The Eagles extended their mark to 2-0 with a 58-49 victory at Bellevue East last Friday. East, not felt to be a tough opponent, played even with Central for three quarters before being outscored by the Eagles 14-5 in the final frame.

Anthony Jones led the Central scorers with 16 points, while Senior Ricky Hampton added 14 of his own.

Centrals next contest, a trip to Lincoln to face East High ended in a convincing Spartan victory.

The full court press was instrumental in East's game plan as the Spartans went to it early and reaped a harvest of Central turnovers. The Spartans went into halftime with a commanding 15-point lead and extended their advantage to 28 points before the third quarter was spent.

Anthony Jones scored 13

while Rick Everett added 10 points to the humbled Central attack.

Over vacation, the Eagles will play in the annual Metro Conference Holiday Tournament. The single elimination tournament will begin on December 26 and extend through December 30 with the finals on January 2.



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(Continued on page 33)