

# Register

Omaha, Nebraska, January 20, 1983 Vol. 98

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### Withdrawal syndrome

## Many CHS students not absence minded

Deila Monen  
Executive Editor

A typical scene — a girl walks up to the attendance officer with note from parents and says "Ah, excuse me, I have this from home, but now what do I do?" This is a sad case, but the girl, and many students school-wide, are suffering from I've-been-going-to-this-school-for-quite-a-while-and-I-still-don't-know-how-to-go-to-handling-my-absences syndrome. Many Central High students are suffering from this "syndrome," or lack of knowledge, they are not just sophomores, by any means! Juniors, seniors, and even graduates of Central, mutually agree that the process through which one must go upon absence is confusing and a process about which little information is available.

The attendance office clerks at Central High specifically wish to be referred to as "attendants" (that) are very willing to help the confused student. They broke down absences into categories, the first of which is the pre-meditated absence.

The pre-meditated absences are cases in which a student knows he will be absent before that student has actually gone anywhere. (These do not include cases with doctor's notes, which will be covered later). First of all, if a student is going to be absent for several days, he should bring a note home the day before his absences, and take it to the attendance office clerks, "just in case the office knows he's going to be gone."

and then that student should let all his teachers know that he is going to be absent.

Then, when that student returns from the balmy beaches of Bermuda, or wherever he may have been, he should get to school before 8:15 a.m., go to his counselor who will sign the note from home, and then head to class with note in hand.

Secondly, if a student's absence is pre-meditated, but only a few hours of a school day are to be missed, a completely different process is to be followed.

First, the student should take his note from home to an administrator for approval. This should be done before school, "but they do it all day," confessed one of the attendance office clerks.

Then, right before a student leaves the building he should go to the attendance office and sign out on the "sign-out sheet." When the student returns, unless it is the next day, he should sign in, and "immediately return to classes." For the student returning the next day, signing in is not necessary, and that student should simply return to classes, with yesterday's note handy.

A third type of absence is arriving to school late, or missing the first few hours of a day. For this, a student should bring a note from home, have it stamped in the attendance office, and then return to class. With this type of absence, there is no need to have a counselor or an administrator sign anything.

The attendance office clerks revealed that if a student misses only 1st, 2nd, and 3rd hours of a day, this student will be

counted as tardy on his official records, but starting with fourth hour, the student is marked absent.

The last category of absences are those which will not be counted towards a student's 10-day absence limit.

"The only type of absences which do not count on a student's ten days, are those with doctor's or dentist's notes," said school nurse Geraldine Thomas.

Contrary to popular confusion, activities such as visiting college or attending state championship games are still counted on the ten-day absence limit.

The first type of the "doctor's note" category are those in which a student comes to school late from an appointment. For this type of situation, upon returning to school, a student must bring a note signed by his doctor to the school nurse. The nurse will then take the doctor's note and put it in the student's file and then issue a blue nurse's note to the student. Then, the student should sign in at the attendance office and subsequently return to class.

The second doctor's note type are those when a student leaves early from school or only leaves the building for a few hours.

For these, a student should go to the nurse before school on the day of the appointment and obtain a doctor's card, which is filled out by the school nurse and later signed by the student's doctor. Then, before the student leaves the building, he should sign out at the attendance office.

(continued on p. 5)

## 'Quarters' and 'keggers' become favorite pastime

### Underage drinking common place in teenage society

Jo Gibson  
Associate Editor

The names of all students in this article have been changed. Adults' given names and positions are unaltered.

A typical Friday night. City wide, students celebrate the last day of the week and the first hours of the week-end by gathering in small groups, friendly get-togethers, and parties. While some of those attending these functions are merely enjoying themselves, others are blatantly breaking the

They are under-age. And they are drink-

When you go to a party, you know there'll be beer — or you know you'll be able to go someplace and find it," said John, a senior who tasted his first alcohol at a sophomore-party.

It's like you can't get anybody to come without having beer and stuff around," said Susan, a junior who "quickly learned" that

### Drinking encouraged

One credits the opinions of most high school students, one finds that society accepts and even encourages such social drinking.

Games such as "quarters" and "caps," which require proficiency at downing liquor as well as at bouncing objects into cups, are standards at parties where alcoholic beverages appear. "The specific purpose of these games is to get certain people drunk. Most people know by their junior year that they indulge like the males do," senior Ann

The most conspicuous type of drinking is the kegger. As Paul, a senior explained, "Somebody who can do it buys a couple kegs (of beer) and brings 'em back. Then anybody who comes to the party has to pay a dollar, and they can drink as much as they want."

The Police Department is aware of the alcoholic consumption at these parties. "If

we know there's going to be a kegger, we'll send out cruisers to watch the area. If it's in a parking lot or behind a building, we'll break it up and confiscate the beer," Sergeant Edward Haley, of the vice and narcotics division, said.

Stopping one party will not stop the drinking; the availability of alcohol is just too great, Haley said. Although the force recognizes certain establishments as places where minors can obtain alcoholic beverages without age verification, it cannot guard the sites constantly, he said.

"If we know the place has been dealing, we'll watch it; we'll warn them," Haley said. Penalties for stores supplying minors can reach \$1000 and the suspension of the store's liquor license.

Students, though, have learned how to fool even stores which ask for age proof. Joe, a senior, said he produced his fake I.D. card by a common method — altering his driver's license.

### Fake ID's commonplace

Many teen-agers don't realize that if caught using a false birth certificate or an altered driver's license, they are subject to a \$500 fine for misrepresenting their ages, Sgt. Haley said.

Most students, indeed, do not think of social drinking as dangerous. "You don't even think about it," said David, a senior. If he drank alone or couldn't control his consumption, he would consider it a problem,

the senior said. "I never drink during the week — except sometimes after work. But on weekends, I have a six-pack every night."

Other students share the opinion that as long as they can regulate their alcoholic intake, they are safe. Pre-athletic event drinks are off limits to some, as are binges before shows to some musicians and other performers, many students said.

For some students, however, drinking becomes a "challenge." "It makes them feel grown-up," said one junior.

"It's the pressure of being popular," Ann said. She has seen friends try to prove themselves by drinking and succeed temporarily in rising in popularity, only to plummet just as rapidly when the reputations bestowed on them backfire, she said.

"Drinking is very much a peer pressure. It's something the teenager is expected to do," said Mrs. Jan Joos, a volunteer for Omaha PRIDE, Inc. The Parent Resources Information Drug Education program is "trying to diminish alcoholism by giving information to parents," Mrs. Joos said.

Most parents are "denying the drinking problem; they feel helpless," she said. PRIDE's goal is to equip these parents with enough understanding of the problem that they can help their children cope. The group is also "trying to incorporate students into the program." At least one Centralite and a few Central parents were at PRIDE's November 3 meeting, Mrs. Joos said.

### Alcoholism unintentional

The volunteer refuted the feeling among students that they were safe as long as they controlled their drinking. "No one starts drinking intending to be an alcoholic," she said, adding that most students don't realize "alcohol is a drug."

A Central parent who attended a meeting similar to PRIDE's related a happening which reinforced Mrs. Joos' belief. At the session a "very sharp-looking kid" told the gathered group that he had been through the "most horrendous" experiences with alcohol and drugs. "And it all started with keggers," repeated the parent.

"The availability (of liquor) is there. That's where it starts. Then there's peer pressure, goading, and then — on to harder stuff," the Central father said.

Is this the path the typical social drinker will follow? Only the individual himself can decide.

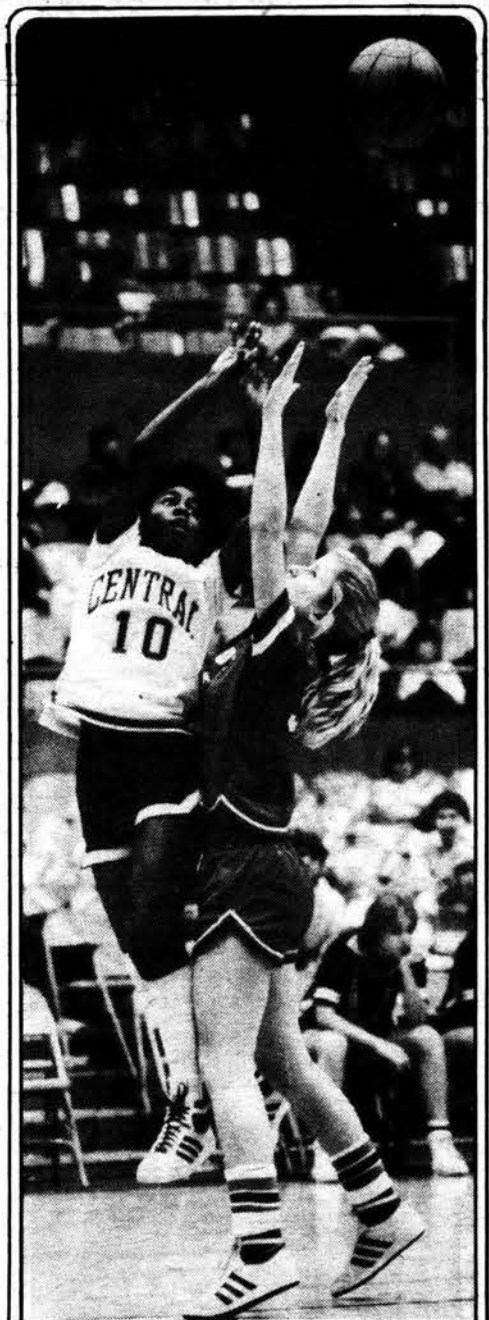


Photo by Dan Kuhns

## Up and Away . . .

Jo Jo Mayhue puts up a shot against a Westside defender in the championship game of the Holiday Tourney. The 2nd ranked Eagles won the game, and upped their season mark to 12-0 after defeating Millard South 54-40 on January 13. For tournament detail, see page 8.

## Explorers provides career awareness

Explorer Scouts, an organization that helps junior high and senior high school students explore various career interests has become a more active group.

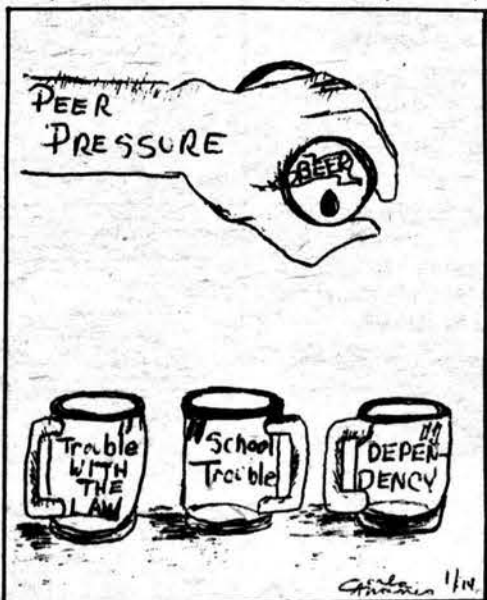
Mr. Bob Meese, Exploring commissioner, said, "Explorers really began in the 1960's as a separate part of the Boy Scouts." He said that in the past five to six years it has grown considerably. He added that there are over 250 traditional groups in the metropolitan Omaha area.

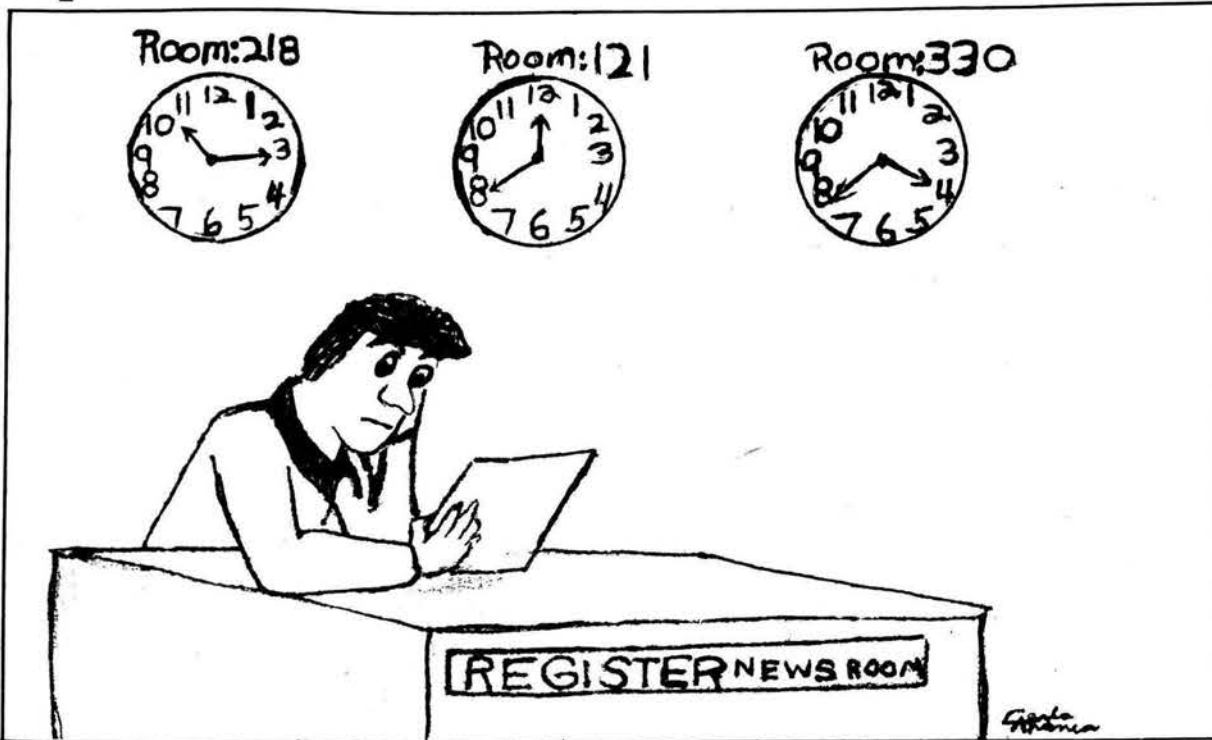
The groups vary greatly. There are groups in computers, modeling, advertising, television, and medicine to name a few. Mr. George Behringer, Exploring chairman, said, "There are 130 different career awareness posts." Mr. Meese said the explorers conduct career interest surveys in the spring where students list their first and second career choices. From there they are placed in the group which they showed interest in.

One of these groups is television Explorer post #526. Brian Olson, senior, is president of the post. He said they produced a public service announcement that aired on all three Omaha stations. Seniors Bernie Tobin and Chris Adamson are involved in the group also. Brian said, "Explorers helped me figure out what I wanted to do." He said he now knows he wants to go into television.

According to Mr. Behringer this is what Explorers is all about. He said the goal is to get high school students acquainted with careers and possibly find one they like. He said that based on conversations with the members it seems they like it very much. The reason for these groups is to give students a better understanding of what it takes to build a career in a specific area.

But there are also recreational groups. They range from camping and backpacking to astronomy and archery. Mr. Behringer said that there is a wide variety of recreational involvements. These provide students with a chance to meet other students who share the same interests.





*A hitch in time?*

**Clocks to remain inaccurate, irritating**

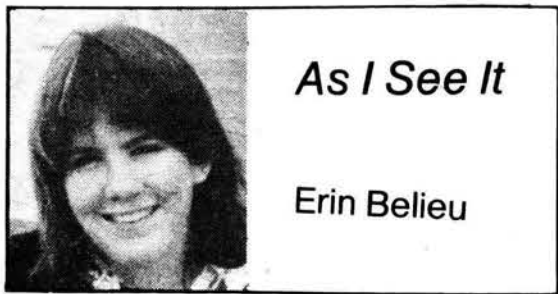
For students wondering when they will be able to live by the clock again, the news is grim. Since returning to school last fall, students have been bogged by the incorrect time readings on clocks all over school.

The problem, according to Dr. G.E. Moller, Central high principal, lies in the construction work being

done about school. There is electrical and wire replacement being done and because the clocks are all connected in one system, it is not possible to adjust the clocks yet.

The worst news lies in the projected date for the adjustment of the clocks; next fall.

**Writer's travel troubles revealed**



*As I See It*

Erin Belieu

Dear Readers & Register Staff,

Well, here I am in "sunny" Florida. I've realized there has to be more to life than warmth alone. I've also realized that my "wonderful editor" sent me down here with a one way ticket. (I suppose you think that's very funny, Register Staff.) I am writing from the El Sleazo Motor Lodge infirmary, where I am recovering after receiving a nasty bite from the reportedly biggest jelly fish ever sighted in the Atlantic Ocean. I am penniless, destitute, lonely and wounded. Wish you were here.

Grovellingly Yours,  
Your soon to be ex-columnist,  
Erin

Day 1 - I am here! Eager, pale and ready to sunburn! Spent most of first day talking to the airlines who have mistakenly flown all of my luggage to Zimbabwe. Airline promises to send me my bags tomorrow. I realize Editor Steve has gotten me a one way ticket. . .

Day 2 - My first visit to the ocean. Suitcases still haven't arrived. I make do and buy paper bathing suit from El Sleazo Hotel complimentary vending machine. Not the best idea I've ever had. Spend the rest of day in water, waiting for sun to go down. Eventually sneak up beach and steal towel from old lady. Police come. Difficult explanation required.

Day 3 - Wake up. Find body still wrinkled and pruny from yesterday. Go back to sleep. Luggage has still not arrived.

Day 4 - Make another attempt at visiting the beach. Find two friendly little boys who help me build giant sand castle. Play volleyball. Eat five hotdogs (onion, mustard and relish variety). Fall asleep in sun. Two friendly little boys bury me up to neck in sand. Promise them \$20.00 to dig me out. Go back to Hotel. Luggage still has not arrived. Airline calls to let me know bags have been sighted flying somewhere over Arctic Ocean. Spend rest of evening contemplating suicide.

**Lockers become issue**

**Student privacy at stake**

The school locker; is it a private sanctuary to be regarded with respect, or a piece of public property to be used solely for the convenient storage space? Some students feel that it is an invasion of privacy to have lockers searched for illegal substances, weapons, or other objects harmful to students.

**Editorial**

It is true that at the beginning of each school year, students pay a fee for the annual use of a locker, yet the idea behind this is not to provide a home away from home for students into which they may put anything at all. Lockers are provided because, obviously, students need a place to put books, coats, etc. There is no ownership involved because students only rent lockers.

Dr. G.E. Moller, Central High principal, said "it is in violation of school policy," for students to have drugs, weapons, etc. in their lockers. The administrators have a responsibility to "take action" if something is found, he said.

The main problem, however, is the policy for searching lockers. Students need to be informed of this policy, if it exists. When asked, Dr. Moller said that the student is not always notified before the locker is searched. This is perhaps the most offensive part of the process to the students. It is an uneasy feeling to open a locker and find it looking for someone has gone through it. The student should be taken to the locker at the time of investigation. Dr. Moller said that the action against the student "depends on the circumstance." It would also be helpful to students to have a definite policy concerning action to be taken. It is obvious that illegal substances do not belong in school lockers. Vague policies are annoying to go by.

A policy definitely needs to be instated concerning the locker searching process. However, students should not assume that administrators enjoy randomly going through lockers, and students should also realize that if he/she is worried about something in a locker, it's better left at home.

**Procedure for transfer of failing students explained**

In the January 3rd morning circular, an announcement to teachers and students appeared concerning the procedure for a student changing teachers after failing the first semester in a certain class. The announcement stated that a change may be made but that there is no procedure to follow. The procedure involves more than just a counselor's visit, and the announcement did not explain it.

**Editorial**

A firm procedure has been established concerning students who fail. The procedure involves, first of all, student/counselor discussion to decide if a change of teachers would be best. If the student decides that a change is necessary, the counselor must call a parent and emphasize that a change may not be helpful. If the parent agrees with the counselor, further discussion is stopped. If however, the parent sides with a student's wish for a change, meetings with teachers, department heads, and possibly Dr. Moller will be initiated to decide the final outcome; either a transfer or no transfer decision will be made.

**Editorials are the majority opinion of the Register staff. Signed letters to the Editor are welcome and encouraged. Anonymous letters to the Editor will not be printed.**

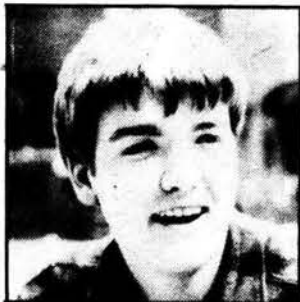
**Students question locker searching process**

Concerning the recent questions raised by students involving the policies for searching through

lockers, the Register sought out students to get their feelings on the issue. Students responded to

a question asking if they felt that locker searching is an invasion of privacy, or whether administra-

tors should have the right to investigate a locker whenever necessary.



**Chris Adamson, senior.** (At left)  
Personally, I never worry about it. I guess they're justified in doing it. They're responsible for maintaining a certain standard at Central and if that entails searching lockers, they should be able to do it.

**Kristin Klein, sophomore.** (At right)  
It is an invasion of privacy. They should at least tell the people before they go through the locker.



**Shawn Murphy, sophomore.** (At left)  
It is an invasion of privacy. You pay for your locker at school, and it's yours for the time that you use it. It's just as if someone went through your house or your room.

**Heidi Shoemaker, senior.**  
I think it is an invasion of privacy. For weapons, maybe they should be able to search because that is dangerous to other people.



**Linda Rock, junior.**  
I think it's an invasion of privacy. I really don't think they have the right to see what's in our lockers.

**Mark Buckner, sophomore.** (At right)  
Lockers are school property. They are on loan. It is the administrators' prerogative to go through lockers if they think there might be something illegal inside.



**Joe Snipp, junior.** (At left)  
If they have a reason to search a locker, then they should be able to. I don't think administrators should arbitrarily search through lockers, though.

**Todd Starkey, senior.** (At right)  
If they have enough suspicion of certain people, I believe they have the right to search their lockers. They should have a reasonable amount of suspicion, though.

photos by Brian Olson

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## Artists sell Faust to choir audience

Another in a series of opera workshops held November 29 at Central High include the opera **Faust**, to be performed February 8, 11, and 13.

According to Mrs. Carol Schaefer, Opera Omaha chairman of education, the presentations started in the fall of 1981 as part of an overall presentation. She said, "The purpose is to enrich high school students and develop future audiences from these students."

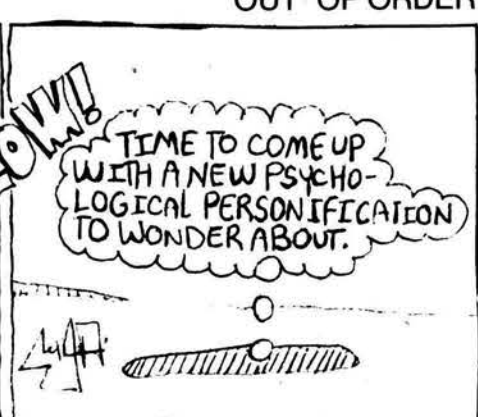
Junior and senior choir members took part in a production concerned with concept of music theory where they sang pieces of the opera with the presenters. Michael Reilly, bass; Thomas Tomasiewicz, tenor; and Richard Cowan, baritone, who sang in the **Pasquale** touring company, also held a similar workshop for German students. She said it was important to get young singers to work well with young audiences. A general demonstration was held for foreign language, drama, and music students. This demonstration dealt with the background of the opera and included pieces of **Faust**.

## Lyons Club step aside

# Central students learn European life with programs' help

Does gaining college credit by spending three weeks in Europe seem great? Central's Foreign Language department head Mrs. Gretchen Schutte, said the answer is "yes." Each year, many Central students visit Europe on various programs, the foremost of which are the Lyons Club, NACEL, and, current to this year, the Wayne State program.

"I receive, as department head, information for all of the travel institutions, and I choose which plans sound the best," said Mrs. Schutte. Lyons Club was her first choice, but recently the Lyons Club trip has begun to include guided tours and group



## Despite controversy, licenses are now in profile

On January 3, 1983, the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles enacted a policy whereby all persons between the ages of 16 and 19 must have their driver's license picture taken at a profile angle.

Originally, the concept, which is already being used in several other states, was presented as a bill to the Nebraska Legislature by Senator Stoney of Omaha. The bill was eventually withdrawn, but the un-

satisfied Senator then took the idea to the directors of the Motor Vehicle Department.

Mr. Bill Edwards, head of the Lincoln-based bureau said, "I do not feel it is a particularly helpful idea," citing that a person's birthdate is on a license and that it should be sufficient.

Edwards pointed out that when a person's picture is taken profile it distorts their appearance which could interfere with a

license's main purpose, to identify the operator of an automobile.

Edwards also stated "Licenses really should not be accepted as I.D. except for driving."

Despite Edwards' doubts, the plan is already in effect and is just one of the Legislature's many promised crackdowns on drunk-driving and minors in possession of illegal substances.

traveling, upping the price of the trip considerably to roughly \$1,500.

"That's when I began checking out other programs," said Mrs. Schutte. The Wayne State program was a new one and one never before used at Central. The Wayne travel opportunity is available not only to high school seniors but to adults, college students, and teachers and does not involve staying with a family in Europe. Central students travelling to Germany on the Wayne program will stay in Bingen, Germany, on the Rhine river in the south. Mrs. Schutte says that about ten students will go on the Germany tour this summer, and all of them on the Wayne pro-

gram. Wayne costs approximately the same amount as the Lyons Club program but is more of a study-based trip

The NACEL program (the letters stand for North Atlantic Cultural Exchange League) is another family-based exchange service to France, Germany, and Spain. Mrs. Daryl Bayer, Central French teacher, has several students planning to go to France on the NACEL program. "The Lyons Club does not have trips going specifically to France," said Mrs. Bayer. The NACEL program has traditionally been the one used by students going to France. Each trip lasts approximately one month and students may choose ahead of

time where they wish to stay in France and with which family they will live.

Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Central Spanish teacher, also has students going overseas but not in as great a number as the other foreign language areas. "It's harder for students to go to Spain because there are not that many wealthy Spaniards or people that can afford to host somebody for a month," explained Mrs. Andersen. Although there is a new program designed to send students to Mexico, it is not available yet at Central. The students going to Spain will stay together in Valencia, and are going on the Wayne State program, also.

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## Of Central importance

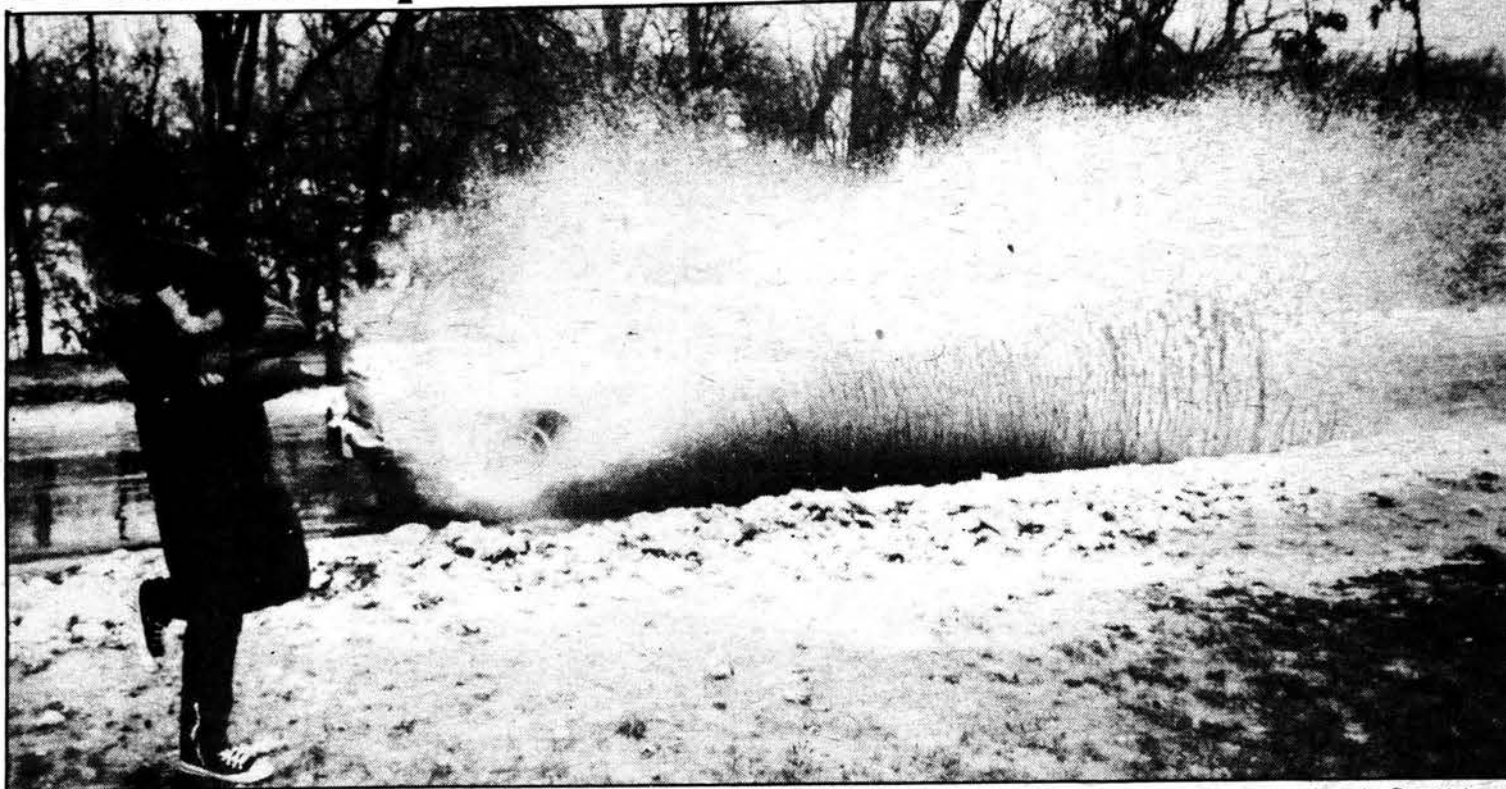


photo by Dan Kuhns

Suddenly surprised during a seasonable stroll, Senior Rick Hagberg dodges a deluge of winter's troublesome slush.

### 'Primary concern is students' safety'

## Enough snow may keep school doors closed

Winter, and the storms that come along with it, causes many problems, especially in the area of transportation.

Cancellation of school is often the result of a day when transportation is difficult. Ralph Bradley, director of public information for Omaha Public Schools said that the superintendent of schools, or someone he has appointed, will make the decision to call off school.

"The primary concern is safety of students," said Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley said that if the buses can

make it around to safely pick up students, then school will not be called off.

"Parents have the ultimate responsibility to decide if their child should go to school or not," said Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley also said that the OPS Board has planned for 179 school days this year and the state requires at least 175 days. However, if school was called off more than five times and therefore was not meeting state requirements, the State Department of Education may grant a waiver for the making up of the missed days, he ad-

ded.

In addition, winter can slow down the Metro Area Transportation buses. Daniel Ponavan, Customer Service Operator with M.A.T., said that although a storm may slow down and get buses off schedule, the buses generally "get around pretty well."

With air transportation, "six inches of snow usually won't slow us down," said Mr. M.R. Wuerth, Director of Operations at Epply airfield. Delays are usually caused by visibility problems, said Mr. Wuerth.

## Colorful Apple enhances course

Math Club, once again, has taken a "bite" of the Apple II computer. The new computer, purchased before Christmas vacation, is hooked up to a color television set which enables students to view programs as they are keyed in.

Since the whole system is on wheels, the computer can be transferred to different classes.

Despite an element of distortion in the conversion from black and white to color television, the new Apple will enhance an already "fruitful" computer course.

## New law tightens driver's seatbelt

The end of 1982 has come to a close with a drop in alcohol-related deaths. A new law passed by the State Legislature last year has tightened the belt for Nebraska's licensed drivers.

Last year, one out of every ten drivers on the road was drunk on the average weeknight. One out of every two Americans was involved in an alcohol-related accident. With the new law, the promise of safer roads seems to have arrived.

However, there is controversy about the alleged harshness of the consequences for drunken-driving. Arguments have been made on whether or not they are constitutional. Currently, the Legislature is investigating the situation.

## Mice enrolled in night school

When the lights dim and the doors are locked for the night, Central's six-inch occupants begin their apex of activity. The unwelcome rodents don't necessarily stop for human activity to cease, as numerous staff members, construction workers, and students have reportedly encountered throughout the building.

"This has been a good year for mice," said Mr. Elza Tabor, Central's head engineer. He cited the construction activity and unusually mild autumn weather as major factors for the influx of mice in existence at Central. He said the rodents have easy access to the building through the numerous holes created during construction.

These rodents thrive on the various edible debris available from students' littering: lunch leftovers, candy, and soda. Mr. Tabor pointed out that mice have collapsible skulls which enable them to crawl through small spaces such as vents and in walls and lockers in search of candy and other foodstuffs. They are particularly fond of pop, and they can sniff out the sweetest even if the cans are in trash receptacles. Mr. Tabor said he uses insecticide, repellent, and mouse traps to combat the bugs and rodents.

One can find mice on all of the floors, although they seem to prefer the lower levels — as any band member can tell you.

Mr. Tabor said that the workmen chase the mice away from the construction area and the mice go to other sections of the school. The cafeteria doesn't attract scavengers, since it is kept under sanitary conditions.

When asked how he copes with working around the beady-eyed vermin, a band member jokingly replied, "I feed them!"

## Scouts explore art for art's sake

Sixteen students are currently participating in Joslyn Museum's Brownie Month. The program is geared for first and second grade Girl Scout Brownies to help introduce them to the museum.

Central students from art and other classes volunteered their time to take the children through the museum. As they tour through the museum, they play a kind of "guess-where-you-can-find-the-art-piece" game which keeps the youngsters from boredom.

"I feel that we've been fortunate to have

been able to participate in Brownie month. I'm really excited about it," said Mrs. Margaret Quinn, art teacher. She and others also hope that in the future, Central will continue to have more of a working relationship with Joslyn.

Participants are Dalene Adams, Carla Anania, Adam Bourne, Dawn Bruckner, Catherine Clarke, Steve Hinsley, Carol Irey, Karen Kalkowski, Shelley King, Ann Lee, Patty Mallory, Tiffany Rennie, Frank Rizzuto, Denise Mancuso, Bob Taylor, and Julie Woodhouse.

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common and potentially frightening prob-  
lems is the youth hostel. Youth hostels  
(sometimes known as student hostels) exist  
in America and countries all across  
and are operated exclusively for  
travellers who need a place to stay for very  
little money.  
Usually, they are in the small towns and  
places such as old castles converted  
into "dormitories," said Mr. Kevin  
Cain, a Central French teacher who has  
been in the hostels in West Germany. In  
fact, old houses, schools, and other  
buildings new and old are used for  
hostels, the greatest majority of which are  
located along the East coast. Although the  
hostels are mainly for teenagers and young  
adults up to the age of twenty-five, Mr.  
Cain says that adult travellers can stay in  
hostels at a much higher price. All of the  
hostels must have a hostel  
ticket into any youth hostel, which  
can be obtained by contacting the AYH  
(American Youth Hostel Association) directly  
through any travel organization.

“It was really  
something I’ll never  
forget” —  
Tricia McCormick

There is little offered at these hostels in  
terms of entertainment since most of the  
occupying the hostels are on vaca-  
tion and sight-seeing most of the time.  
The time limit of a stay in a youth  
hostel is a maximum of three nights and four  
days according to Mr. Throne. The reason  
for this rule is that the hostels are in great  
demand of the time, and long-term stays  
are not practical for the hostel owners.  
Central senior Tricia McCormick stayed  
in a youth hostel in Munich that consisted of  
a tent. It was co-ed, and all you were  
given was a mat and a blanket to sleep on.”  
Tricia says that to get into the hostel, she had  
to show her passport, which was returned to  
her when she returned the mat and blanket,  
and to pay two dollars. “It was really  
something I’ll never forget. It was so ir-  
ritating,” said Tricia, despite the crowded  
nature of the tent.  
There are youth hostels in almost every  
town in America, as well as in many  
foreign towns. Hostel passes may be obtain-  
ed by contacting the AYH or any travel agen-

‘Labor of love’. Life-long hobby inspires Cain to  
write up-to-date strategy manual

Mr. Robert Cain, Central High English  
teacher, began pursuit of a most unusual  
hobby at the age of eight. The hobby is the  
game of checkers and Mr. Cain has become  
so intrigued by the game that he and his son  
Dave have decided to write a book on the  
subject.

Mr. Cain first began playing checkers in  
neighborhood tournaments. In 1950 he won  
his first trophy in a tournament held at Omaha  
University, now UNO. Mr. Cain’s greatest  
checkers thrill occurred in 1952 when he  
played in an exhibition held at the Omaha  
YMCA against the 1951 national checkers  
champion. The tournament was set up in a  
circle with the champ playing ten games at a  
time surrounded by his opponents. Mr. Cain  
played him to a draw. “However,” he says.  
“the champ could have beaten me if he  
wanted to.”

While the difficulty level of chess is much  
more publicized than that of checkers, Mr.  
Cain maintains that checkers offers a greater  
challenge. “Chess is difficult to learn but  
simple to master while checkers is simple to  
learn and difficult to master,” he recalls the  
1951 checkers champion saying.

Mr. Cain is not the only member of his  
family who is interested in checkers. His son  
Dave, a 1969 graduate of Central and past  
student council president, shares his father’s  
love for the game. After doing some research  
at libraries and some checking around at  
bookstores, they found that there has not  
been a book published on checkers since  
1939. For this reason they have decided to  
write an up-to-date book on advanced  
checker technique and strategy. The book  
will include a chapter on how to beat com-  
puterized checkers, a relatively new game.

According to Mr. Cain, computerized  
checkers on advanced levels requires much  
concentration and patience. Because of the  
intricacy and strategy involved, it sometimes  
takes the computer between 15 and 25  
minutes to make a move. Mr. Cain himself  
has beaten the eighth level and is looking for-  
ward to challenging levels nine and ten.  
However, level ten requires extreme pa-  
tience as there is sometimes an hour delay  
between computer moves.

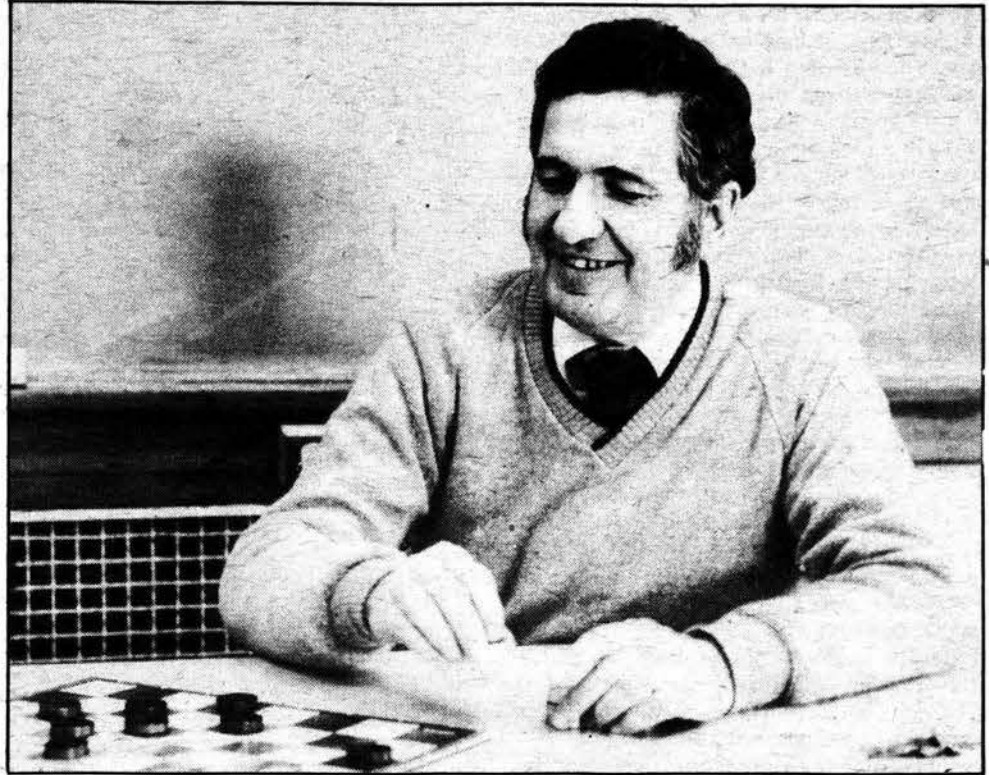


photo by Brian Olson

A strategic move during an intriguing game of checkers puts a smile on the face of English teacher Mr. Robert Cain. He and his son plan to compile a book about the game they love.

Mr. Cain doesn’t believe that computer  
checkers will ever override regular checkers  
in popularity. “Checkers should be a social  
game, and playing with a computer takes all  
the sociability out of it,” he said.

As there is not a great demand for a book  
on the subject of checkers, the Cains’ book  
is to be done more as a “labor of love” than  
anything else. While the book is not down on  
paper yet, Mr. Cain signals saying, “It’s all  
been written up here.” For those interested  
in checker strategy, Mr. Cain says that, as in  
the military, to divide and conquer is the best  
plan.

Besides Dave, Mr. Cain has three other

sons, Michael, Larry, and John, all Central  
graduates, and one daughter, Nancy, who  
recently graduated from Northwest. Dave is  
currently an elementary teacher at Ralston.  
He spends his spare time after school  
teaching students interesting games as his  
father did him such as checkers, chess, and  
tennis.

Hardly new to Central, Mr. Cain taught  
here for 11 years before going to Northwest  
in 1971. He returned to Central last fall. Mr.  
Cain has no problem keeping occupied. His  
other hobbies include writing ballads, similar  
to those popular in the 1940’s, and ballroom  
dancing.

Centralites explore ends of winter spectrum

When winter hits the Midlands, snow  
shrouds the earth, animals burrow into  
underground shelters, and man seeks refuge  
in his insulated houses. Centralites,  
however, do not hibernate for the season’s  
duration. Many take advantage of available  
methods to entertain, instruct, or better  
themselves.

Physics instructor Dr. Robert Wolff, for  
example, travels to the University of  
Nebraska at Omaha’s Health, Physical  
Education, and Recreation Building each  
morning to participate in the “delightful” early  
morning swim there, he said.

“Open swimming starts at five o’clock. I  
go swimming in the morning, shower, and I  
still get to school on time. Then I feel good,  
so I usually have a better day,” Dr. Wolff  
said.

The HPER building’s facilities include  
tennis, raquetball, and handball courts, a  
gymnastics area, a basketball court, and  
elevated jogging tracks, as well as the  
Olympic-sized pool, according to the teacher  
and to a UNO informational hand-out.

To use the complex, a student or teacher  
must either have UNO identification, or he  
must go as a member’s paying guest. Dr.

Wolff obtained his recreation card when he  
began teaching class at the school, while  
other Centralites gain access to the grounds  
through parents who work for the university,  
the physics teacher said.

“The facilities are well-used, but not  
over-crowded,” he said, urging students  
who can to take advantage of the building. “If  
you’re not active physically, add twelve  
years to your current age,” warns Dr. Wolff.

Sophomore Daniel Mirvish needs no  
such warning. He and senior Harry Berman  
currently participate in a year-long judo  
course at Boys’ Town.

“We start off with warm-up exercises,”  
led by instructor Miss Temple, “and then we  
go at each other,” Daniel said.

The free weekly class, held Monday  
from 6 to 7 o’clock, is open to all who wish to  
join. “We learn to choke people to death and  
throw them. It’s self-defense — that’s the  
principle,” the sophomore said.

Both self-defense and self-improvement  
were Daniel’s motives in attending the class.  
“Harry threatened me,” the 16 year-old jok-  
ed.

Some individuals use less physical  
methods to stir up winter days. Junior  
Samantha Jones, who works at an area  
clothing store for girls and women, lets her  
wardrobe brighten the season.

Samantha favors gold and red tones ac-  
centing basic black instead of the blue and  
white garments which she sees on too many  
students, she said.

At the store, “spring clothes are coming  
in,” which means “bright colors — pinks,  
yellows, and baby blues,” according to  
Samantha. Like several other area shops, the  
one which employs the sophomore features  
summer fashions for shoppers who plan  
ahead. “There has been a lot of layaway,”  
she said.

Samantha foresees several trends in spr-  
ing styles. Miniskirts, she feels, will continue  
to sell well, as will the dyed-over jeans which  
are “very popular in the store,” she said.

Thus, while other Midlands inhabitants  
are settling down for long winter’s naps, Cen-  
tral’s students are exploring various fields of  
interest. But their attempts to melt away the  
season will soon give way to the sun’s  
historical success in achieving that goal.

Confusing’ policies find explanation for absent, tardy students

(Continued from page 1)  
On returning to school, the student  
takes his doctor-signed note to the  
attendance office and exchanges it for a blue nurse-  
signed note. Then the student should  
go to the attendance office, if he returns  
the day as the appointment; otherwise  
the nurse won’t bother signing in.  
Of course, tardiness is a whole new ball  
game. When a student is tardy for  
class, he should go to the attendance  
office to sign in and obtain a pink tardy slip,  
which will admit him to class.  
If a student is late for a class, the  
teacher should handle the situation, unless the  
tardiness exceeds ten minutes whereupon a  
note is sent to an administrator.

Excuses require notes  
If a student misses more than 20  
minutes of a class, he is then counted absent  
and must go to the attendance office for a  
pink absence card, or if that student has a  
note from home, a white excused absence  
card.  
When a student has a blue absence  
card in a teacher’s record, any work made  
during that time cannot be counted by the teacher. A stu-  
dent should bring a note from home to  
the attendance office, so that made-  
up work can be counted.

These notes from parents, said the at-  
tendance office clerks, “there is no need to  
bring a note from home as it is signed by a parent, we’ll  
accept it. One year we had a kid sign out ‘to  
go to feed my boa constrictor’ and it  
was accepted. As long as the parents sign it,

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PLEASE EXCUSE \_\_\_\_\_  
FILL IN NAME

HE/SHE WAS \_\_\_\_\_  
(PICK ONE ↓)

A.) SICK.

B.) KIDNAPPED BY  
TERRORISTS.

C.) ATTENDING PET  
ROCK’S FUNERAL.

THANK YOU,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
’S MOTHER

FILL IN NAME

graphic by Erin Belieu

THE ALL-PURPOSE EXCUSE NOTE may  
not prove useful at Central’s attendance  
office. Students who do not understand  
the offices policies may also benefit  
from reading the above article.

there’s no problem.”

The attendance office clerks reported  
that Central has around 1460 students, and  
on the average day, 120 of these students  
are absent.

“Our most confusing days,” said one of  
the clerks, “are days like the state basketball  
tournament or a snow storm . . . or both, like  
we had last year.”

School nurse Mrs. Thomas said that  
often times she’ll call a doctor or doctor’s  
clinic to make sure a student has been there.

“One year I got a note from a girl who’d  
signed a name of a doctor I knew had  
been dead for several years,” said Mrs.  
Thomas.

Record keeping important

Mrs. Thomas, who graduated from the  
Mercy School of Nursing in Council Bluffs,  
Iowa, said that “they really pounded into my  
skull about record-keeping during nurse’s  
training,” and keep records she does!

Mrs. Thomas has every doctor’s note  
ever given to her on file in her office. She has  
also kept track of every student who has  
been in her office because of sickness since  
day one of this school year.

Often times, Mrs. Thomas said, teachers  
will call in and want a verification of a  
student’s claim to having been in the nurse’s  
office “and I’ll know.”

Although Central may have a confusing  
absence process, with all the blue slips,  
white cards, and notes, this process makes it  
almost impossible for a student to suc-  
cessfully “skip” anything.

# Grade pressure leads to cheating

It is only natural for any person to strive for success. Human nature, however, often tends to seek out the easiest and quickest possible methods of achieving.

Oftentimes, this means dishonestly tapping a resource other than one's own brain for the correct answers — cheating. A recent poll of two-hundred Central students proves that this school is no exception to the cheating influx. Sixty-three percent of those who responded admitted to cheating at one time during their enrollment at Central.

In recent years, national academic dishonesty has reached new heights. Cheating on major examinations has become highly sophisticated, and the production and distribution of plagiarized term papers is now a multi-million dollar business.

Modern cheaters are not content with the old-fashioned methods like peeking at a neighbor's paper, so they have adopted more sophisticated techniques. One University of Maryland student obtained the university's computer cards and changed forty fraternity brothers' grades from B's to A's. He received a complete ski outfit from his grateful friends — and an expulsion notice from a not so appreciative dean.

Given enough pressure, research suggests that almost anyone will cheat.

A. Recent data shows that cheating cannot be confined to students with poor study habits, like motivation, and low grades. Competition for college scholarships and admissions places enormous stress upon high school students. The pressure to make better marks is there. "The gentlemen's 'C' is no longer acceptable," Larry Clark, assistant at the University of Missouri at Columbia, recently remarked.

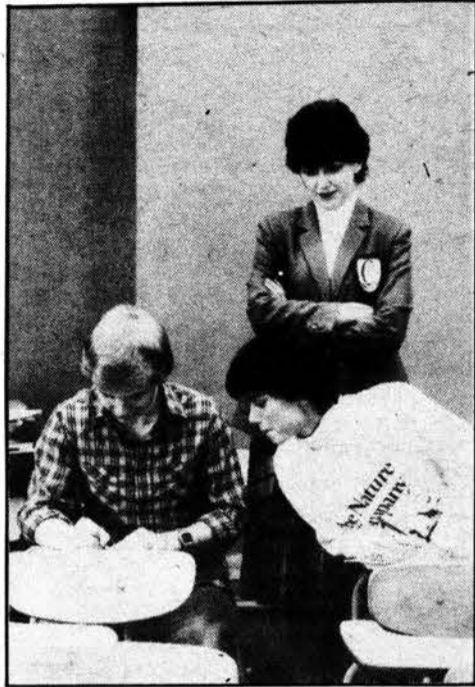
B. Self Analysis: Most students change answers from incorrect to correct when allowed the grade their own papers.

C. Multiple test forms: The type of test administered seems to affect the student's inclination to cheat. Students taking single form applications are more likely to cheat than students taking alternate form examinations. When only one form is used, copying occurs primarily between the offender and the two persons on either side. Alternate forms would make this type of cheating difficult.

D. Attitude of teachers: Numerous teachers refuse to address the problem of academic dishonesty. The problem is often dealt with by:

1. Minimizing the problem for fear of a negative reflection on their teaching ability. New teachers may avoid drawing attention to cheating in their classroom, fearing it would reveal to their department head that they lack the requisite skills or experience to avert such actions. The biggest problem is the teacher's denial that such problems exist. Such "naivete" not only encourages dishonesty but is entirely out of touch with reality.

E. Intense competition for talented



Lisa Benetz, senior, (right) demonstrates for Mrs. Anderson suspicious actions in looking at the paper of Todd Swartz, junior.

athletes. Given the extreme pressure to do well in their sport, some athletes find it necessary to cheat just to stay academically eligible. When asked why they cheat, these otherwise intelligent students replied that they didn't have time to study since their courses coincided with their sport.

## Students are not deceiving teachers, but cheating themselves.

English teacher Mrs. Marlene Bernstein recalled an incident in one of her previous English classes where she had discovered that several students were cheating on daily quizzes. "I informed the students that I was aware of their dishonesty. I said that that day's quiz wouldn't be graded and it would only be used to inform me of their knowledge of the assignment. The first question I asked was the name of the author of 'Moby Dick.' I saw students leaning over the sides of their desks trying to catch a glimpse of their book below. I asked them if they realized they were only cheating themselves, not deceiving me."

In the majority of schools, lenient consequences aggravate the problem of academic dishonesty. Most cheaters who are caught only receive a lowered course grade or a call to home from an administrator. Only 13 percent of the Central students who admitted to cheating have been caught. Consequences ranged from merely embarrassment to near suspension. Most of these students reported failing the test or assignment as the punishment.

about to support us in any way."

Also changing over the years has been the method of admitting students into the Lab — each new method with the purpose of getting the maximum number of students remediated as quickly as possible. So far none of these programs, including the one in progress (where students must reserve a period in the Lab several weeks ahead of time) have achieved this.

At present, Mr. Daly is working on a tentative program in which the same group of students would utilize the Lab for a three to four week time interval. This system would be more efficient in two ways. One, by remediating all skills within a month, students would not forget Writing Lab procedures nor skills they must remediate. Two, with the same students using the Lab for several weeks, the Lab administrators would be more knowledgeable of each student and could thus more efficiently meet their needs.

Another, bigger change may also occur in the Lab's misty future. If Central adds a freshman class, it is probable that the Writing Lab, in its form today, will not exist.

Instead of being in a Central location, the Writing Lab would be distributed to teachers in the form of skill sheets. Mr. Daly does not believe this would mar the Lab's effectiveness, however.

## Overseas communication

# Students correspond with Pen Pals

Although some people concede that "no news is good news," some Central students look forward to the post man's daily arrival. These students have "Pen Pals," people usually of the same age who correspond, sometimes across the country, sometimes cross continent.

A pen pal is relatively easy to obtain. The foreign language teachers here at Central periodically send lists from different organizations offering, for a small fee, to find a compatible pen pal.

These organizations ask one to fill out a form listing hobbies, favorite foods, etc. The student is then matched up with someone, usually a person whose language that student is studying, or someone who speaks English, the language that is spoken almost universally.

This is not the only way to meet someone from a foreign country. "I got my pen pal from the Big Blue Marble Show," said

Central sophomore Kristi Rudd. Her pen pal is from Zimbabwe, Africa. "We have a lot in common. We both like to write and sometimes we trade post cards." Kristi responds with her friend Cheryl about once a month.

Central senior Bob Brutan met his pen pal while he attended Wentworth Academy in Missouri. He has several pen pals from various parts of Venezuela. "I just write once in a while. I write in Spanish, and they write in broken English. It's tough, but we have a good time," said Bob.

Central junior Cheryl Shlagenhaut has several pen pals. One from Sweden whom she has had since she was in grade, and one in Germany. Cheryl writes her letters on as obscure subjects as possible. "Once, I was in this diner while vacationing with my family, so I wrote up a napkin and wrote her letter on it."

# Phone calls help recruitment

Despite declining enrollment which has plagued the Omaha Public School System in recent years, the number of entering Sophomores continuing an education at Central High has steadily increased. The school administration credits its own students for at least a part of this successful recruitment.

Beginning the first part of February, student volunteers will begin participation in a phone-calling campaign, which was originated six years ago, in an effort to convince freshmen of the opportunities which await them at Central.

"I definitely believe students make the best recruiters," said Dr. G.E. Moller, principal. "If you can get someone who honestly likes the school to talk to a perspective stu-

dent on the other end of the line, the student may put more stock in the school than on Central."

Dr. Moller said that he has never had a problem obtaining enough enthusiastic recruiters from the student body. "I've always had more volunteers than expected." He admits that many of the junior high students called have chosen the school they wish to attend. But for those who are still in the midst of making up their minds, a simple phone call may help.

Other recruitment activities, including tours and interviews, are currently being conducted, but, in the long run, the student who makes the most effective

# Graduates interviewed College is what you make it

Sheila Monen  
Executive Editor

It is that time of year when many students are making the big decision of where to go to school next year. Seniors everywhere are receiving letters of acceptance or rejection from colleges and universities. A few Central graduates of the class of '82 shared their advice and philosophies of college and life away from home while back for their winter breaks.

Todd Schuerman is a freshman at the University of South Carolina at Columbia. Todd said that in college there is no time to waste. "You must keep up with the material, no one's going to tell you to do your homework. Some people," Todd adds, "are there for fun, and they have fun, but others are there to learn, and they learn."

Todd also said that students shouldn't be afraid to get involved.

"You're paying for the hours," Todd said, "so you should make the most of it."

Todd also advises new students to go and introduce themselves to the professor, so they are "not just another face."

Todd also suggests taking an "off the wall class," unrelated to your major to "get a break from the same old thing, you know, studying for math and chem. all the time."

## Involvement in college may be important in later life

Marty Johnson, a freshman at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, agrees with Todd and believes "getting involved in college is important, not just for fun," the eighteen year old added, "but for jobs, and contacts later in life."

Marty said that leaving home was "almost a relief after a summer of waiting to go. But now, sometimes I think I'm too close to home — coming home isn't as special."

"People waste so much time at college," Marty recalls. "Learning how to manage your time is one thing that everyone learns at school. People think 'I'm going to go out and party' but you've got to make the decision to stay home and study."

To seniors and college applicants everywhere, Marty gives this advice, "If you are thinking about a school and have the money for the application fee — apply. Even apply early. After the first semester of your junior year is certainly not too early to begin

applying." College isn't harder than high school, Marty reveals. "There is just more responsibility and it takes more effort to do things off."

Tracey Benning, class president of Central's class of '82, began the academy at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, but has decided to take a semester off and begin school next fall at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

## Many students begin to miss comforts of home

"I guess the main reason I decided to go back," Tracey said, "was that I didn't want to be away from home. I missed home, and because of the way the Academy works, I would be able to be home for three weeks in the summer."

Tracey said that there was a difference between teachers at the Academy and high school teachers.

"Teachers took more of an interest in us (at the Academy). Students could talk to teachers anytime, and they would be glad to be home for three weeks in the summer."

"I'm glad I went to Central," Tracey revealed. "I had an advantage over the kids who didn't know how to write a paper. I had bad study habits."

Lucy Duncan is a freshman at Santa Fe College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Central grad seems happy at St. John's and she was lucky to have found the college. Lucy said that college should "allow you to find out about yourself and make you a better person."

"There are very little boundaries of social activities, at St. John's. Getting involved with other activities besides work is very important for material, and results of what you've done," Lucy said.

When asked about her teachers at St. John's, Lucy said "all of my teachers are great. Mrs. Bernstein, (Central English teacher) is very good. There are modest about what they are and are trying to learn right along with students."

All of the college students agreed, if possible, visiting a prospective college is highly recommended. Lucy added that deciding on a school, however, shouldn't limit themselves into making a career choice too soon. You shouldn't make your college choice on a career choice

# Writing lab's new program effectiveness being tested

Because the Emergency School Assistance Act has withdrawn support from Central's Writing Laboratory, the English Department no longer is requiring students to remediate deficient English skills. Head of Central's English Department, Mr. Daniel Daly, said that since 1981, the E.S.S.A. "has not seen fit" to allocate funds from federal sources to Central's mini-magnet program of which the Laboratory is a part.

The laws were enacted to provide money for voluntary desegregation in schools. Since the laboratory is part of Central's mini-magnet program to attract majority students from Burke, Northwest, Benson, and South attendance areas to Central, the E.S.S.A. has given money for the lab in the past. Mr. Daly believes the lab will get no further support from E.S.S.A.

Without the E.S.S.A. money, the lab can be staffed only six, rather than ten, hours a day. Because of this, teachers can offer a reward (such as "free" 100 percent to count as a unit test grade) for remediation; however, they cannot require remediation.

Though the lab was established at Central in 1978 as a means for students to remediate skills, the English Department had hoped that ultimately, with enough personnel and support, it would also become an enrichment facility. However, Mr. Daly sees this as far in the future, since, he said, "OPS isn't

# ad to college gridgers' success t peachy for Hawkeye Station

er completing his freshman season as a Hawkeye, Central graduate Larry is being tabbed one of the finest linebackers in college football. Though he was injured in the fourth of the season, Station was instrumen-



Olson  
wa's successful 8-4 campaign. He led Hawkeye defense with 80 tackles, his me consisting of 15 against Indiana. Station missed only one game despite in- to his shoulder, neck, ankle, and January 10 Station had a shoulder to repair torn cartilage in his shoulder. en without his injuries, Station's suc- s not come easily.

or to stepping foot on the practice st summer, Station had troubling s about his lack of height. Station, stands 5-11, says most college kers are 6-1 or 6-2. However, the ounder says his disadvantage in makes him work harder. e Iowa grider says he was never in- ed by his fellow players. "During photo lot of freshmen were trying to in- e people with mean looks," Station d with a laugh.

e computer programming major said se Iowa and Coach Hayden Fry over ka for college not because he didn't, but because he liked Iowa better.

felt more comfortable with Fry than e. I have a lot of respect for him (Fry) treats everyone fairly," Station said. addition to liking the football program at Iowa, Station says he favors the onal facilities over any other schools ed.

ying football on the college level also s advantages in later life, according to

otball offers benefits in looking for a er you're out of school," he said.

Station says preparation for games is just rous as in high school. He noted, er, that college players must watch

films of upcoming opponents, an aspect that is not required at Central.

Station said the adjustment to being away from home for school was a problem he faced early in the year.

"I was never really homesick although after three weeks I kind of longed to come home," he said.

Some of his homesickness may have been alleviated because being a football player makes one apt to make friends, according to Station.

"People like to be associated with people that are successful," he said modestly.

Station says there is no discipline code on the team because Fry believes it should be understood among players how they should act.

"Guys on the team know they shouldn't drink too much, run around with girls, and get into trouble," he said.

Much of Station's social life is cut out because of his commitment to football. In addition to his studying, the linebacker must also practice with the team and spend a good amount of time in the weight room.

Station's dedication, along with the team's, paid off as the Hawkeyes earned a trip to the Peach Bowl. He saw only limited action in Iowa's 28-22 win over Tennessee because of his injuries.

Station says the fans in Iowa City are supportive of the team and do not get down on them after a loss. He believes the hype for college football is as great in Iowa as it is in Nebraska.

As for next season, Station will have to contend with Junior Kevin Spitzig for the starting linebacker position. Station took the job early in the season after Spitzig was hobbled by a knee injury.

The future looks bright for the Central graduate, and barring a catastrophe, he will have to ponder the opportunity to play pro football.

Station says his choice now would be to get into the much gentler computer field. But as for going pro, "I would consider it if they offered me a couple bucks," he said with a smile.

## proved JV girls hurt by vacation

According to Ms. Cheryl Brown, girls' JV ball coach, with half the season over, basketball team's main concern is to enough experience to benefit future teams.

Brown referred to the season by enting it will be interesting to see how son turns out.

ve shown tremendous improve- both defensively and offensively," she

ophomores Tanya Kelly, Sonja Clark, Hucklebee, and Junior Essie Mitchell

have all played well and Leonetta Threata, sophomore, has displayed improvement, she said.

Riding on a 2-3 record, the squad interrupted their winning streak by a defeat at the hands of the Gross Cougars, January 6.

"The vacation definitely hurt us, there were too many mental mistakes," said Ms. Brown of the game. Tanya Kelly, top scorer of the game, was only allowed to play two quarters since she also plays varsity.

Tonight the girls will square-off against the Westside Warriors at home.

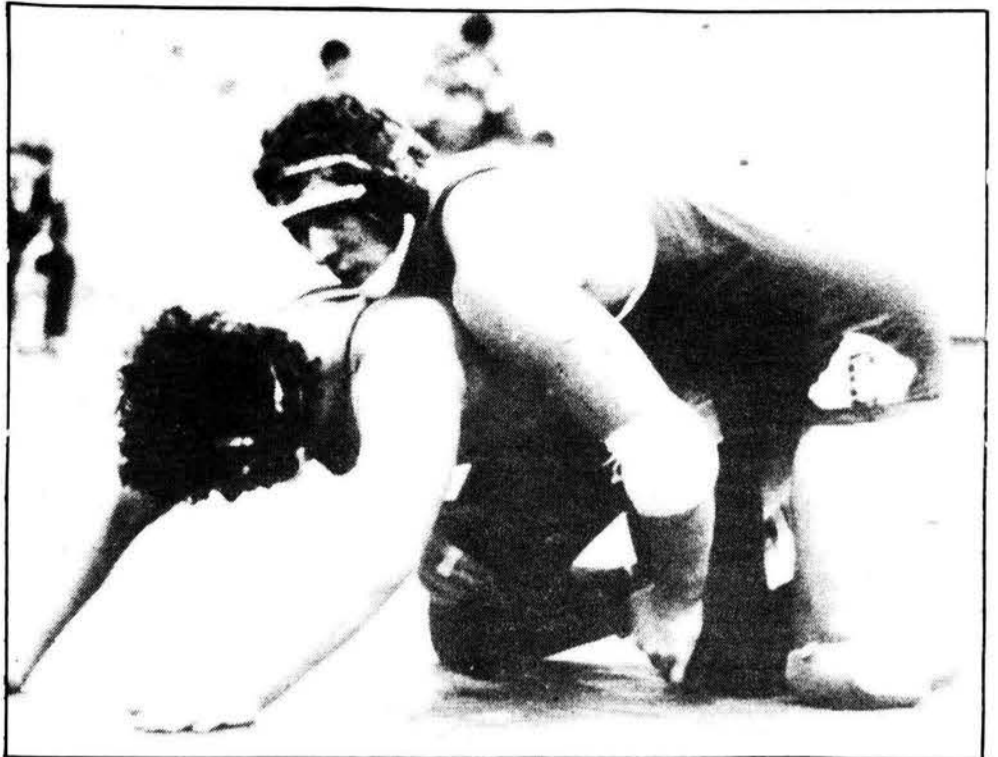


photo by Brian Olson

Central's Tom Stawniak has the up position against Prep's Tom Ewin in a dual match on January 11. Stawniak is ranked number one among Nebraska high school wrestlers.

## 1-3 Eagles lose important grappler; Stawniak No.1 heavyweight in state

Records can sometimes be deceiving. One might look at a 1-3 record and groan. Yet, the growth of the team is more important than the performance.

"I'm real happy — most of the JV wrestlers are shaping up. Only a few of the varsity wrestlers have shown lack of maturity to word hard," coach Gary Kubik said.

The most noteworthy achievement came from heavyweight Tom Stawniak, who defeated John McCormick from Gross. Stawniak has gained a number one ranking for heavyweights in Nebraska.

Dual meets included Bellevue East, Council Bluffs T.J., Papillion, and Millard South.

Tim Chamberlain also gained success as he placed second at the Prep invitational.

A first place finish at an Underwood tournament was welcomed by Kubik. The team competed against three other high schools from Iowa.

Concerning the record, Kubik said he is not really disappointed — most of the effort

has been outstanding.

Yet, he said you need 12 people for a good wrestling team, and you need 8 consistent wrestlers.

"We have only three or four," Kubik said.

Other reasons for not being at full strength are the injury of Richard Bass, the failure of some wrestlers to "make weight," and the skipping of meets by some wrestlers.

In addition Linnell Walker, who was a vital part of the team, moved to St. Louis. This took away another weight spot for the team.

Metro is coming up, and Central is among twenty teams competing.

"We've suffered through just half of the season, we'll have to take some lumps," Kubik said.

Kubik added that some wrestlers don't have the motivation for being a good wrestler here — it is not a wrestling school. He added that they need the crowds and support of the people.

## Calendar

### Boys' Basketball

Jan. 21 — Millard South at Norris Jr. High, 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 22 — Westside at Westside, 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 28 — North at Norris Jr. High, 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 29 — T.J. at Norris Jr. High, 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 4 — Roncalli at Roncalli, 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 11 — Prep at Prep, 8:00 p.m.

### Girls' Basketball

Jan. 20 — Westside at Central, 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 25 — North at North, 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 1 — Northwest at Central, 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 3 — Roncalli at Roncalli, 8:00 p.m.

Feb. 10 — Marian at Central, 8:00 p.m.

### Wrestling

Jan. 21 — Burke at Burke, 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 22 — Burke Invitational

Jan. 25 — Roncalli at Roncalli, 4:00 p.m.

Bryan at Central, 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 29 — Bellevue West JV Invitational

Feb. 7-11 — DISTRICTS

### Swimming

Jan. 25 — Millard South at Millard South, 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 1 — Burke at Burke, 4:00 p.m.

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## Sports

# Centralites get kicks from karate

**Tom Backer**  
Ass't. Sports Editor

A unique kind of sport - if you can call it that - is slowly making its way into the life of the high school student. The sport is Karate, which means to strike with hand and foot, according to senior Dave Salzer.

Dave is just one of many Central students who partake in this extracurricular activity.

"It was a spur of the moment suggestion - off the wall. I looked into it (karate), and I gave it a roll," Dave said.

Another senior, who wished to remain unknown, said he got started because a few friends of his were involved and it looked interesting. He noted that it is a break from school, and it allows him to look forward to something during the week.

"I enjoy Master Kim (his instructor). It's amazing some of the things he can do," he said.

To clear up a few misconceptions, it should be known that those who take karate should not be regarded as walking death machines; rather, they are athletes trying to perfect an age-old art form.

"It's a challenge. It's fun and it helps you to protect yourself by self-defense," Darrell McElderry said.

Darrell also mentioned that karate is very strict and disciplined.

In the world of karate and martial arts, there exist many different forms, including, judo, kung fu, and karate.

Dave said the older art forms are more concerned with style and execution. According to him, it is a sport in that it is a coordination of the mind and body.

"I am amazed at the way the body can move," he said.

However, a person can not instantly achieve mastery of this sport. According to Darrell, a person progresses from a white belt to yellow to green, purple, brown, and black (of which there are nine degrees).

Tests are given covering certain skills and knowledge of certain facts. He also said there is no age limit although those of similar abilities are grouped together.

"There is a pee wee class for four and five year olds," Darrell said.

A final aspect to karate is the tournament, where one goes to test his abilities against others.

According to another junior, tournaments include sparring, where points are scored for making body contact with your opponent, and forms.

Forms are similar to gymnastics because the athlete performs by himself and is awarded points based on style, balance, and technique.

"It is a highly respectable hobby or past-time, and it can provide many opportunities and self-satisfaction," a student said.

## Defense key to championship

# Lady cagers win tourney crown

School activity does not end with Christmas recess; athletics continues. In contrast to the winter season, the 10-0 lady Eagles plunged hotly into the Holiday Metro Tournament held during the last week in December.

Central started the tournament by beating Burke relatively easily 57-31.

Next step was a game against Gross, whom Central defeated 71-40.

"We had a tough game with Marian in the semi-final," Mr. Paul Semrad said. The Crusaders tried to slow down the game but were unsuccessful as Central went on to win 45-37.

The stage was set for the final as the lady Eagles took on the 6-1 Westside Warriors. Central, thanks to its tenacious defense was able to win the game and the Holiday Tournament. The Eagles triumphed over the Warriors, 44-28.

"I contribute the win to our defense," Semrad said. "Throughout the tournament we played excellent defense."

Semrad also felt the girls have a superior mental attitude about games. "Our dedication and teamwork is very good," Semrad said. "The team takes pride in its work and especially in defense," he added.

"I really feel that defense is such an important part of a game, and if often times goes unnoticed," he said.

As the tournaments end, both Maurice Ivy and Jessica Haynes were selected as all-tournament players.

"I feel both Maurice and Jessica deserve the honor," Semrad said.

Both Ivy and Haynes scored 18 points in the final against Westside.

"Although both girls are very deserving, it does take five good people to win the tournament," he added.

Following the tournament, the World Herald published the state's rating, placing the lady Eagles second to 4-0 Kearney. Mr. Semrad said that he has mixed feelings about the

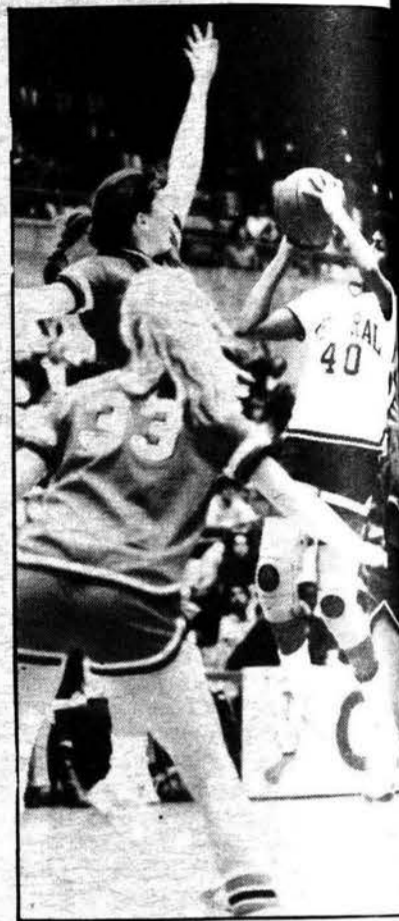


photo by Dan

Sharon Deal shoots over a Westside defender in the title game of the Holiday Metro Tournament.

rating, but also felt the ratings not to be important.

Semrad thinks Central is one of the best teams in the state.

But state is not won yet as Central has 10 more regular season games to play. "Whatever team takes state, I am sure defense will play a major part," Semrad said.

"The better defense will win," he concluded.

## JV Eagles on 5 game losing skid; defense needs improvement

Good fortune appears to come in tides, as in the case of the JV basketball team. After winning two straight pre-holiday games, the squad has failed to post a victory in five outings.

Benson, Lincoln East, Millard North, Burke, and South have all contributed to blemishes on the JV's record.

Yet, several losses hold some merit as the JV almost upended Benson. The final score found Central only three points behind.

The next game found Central, 2-5, trailing by 18 points in the first half, yet the team managed to come back to make the final score 66-60. Another high output of offense came against Millard North, but the effort wasn't enough as they lost 69-62.

Several factors have been involved in the performance of the team. For instance, the team was able to practice only twice over the winter break. In addition, some players have suited up for varsity.

"I think they'll benefit from the tougher competition," Pennington said.

Free throw shooting hasn't been a strong point in their game, as they are shooting near 40 percent. Another concern of Pennington's was the lack of good defense.

"I would like the defense to improve eyesight," Pennington said.

He meant that peripheral vision must be maintained when guarding an opponent on defense.

## First rating in 4 years

# Central five ranks 6th after upsetting South

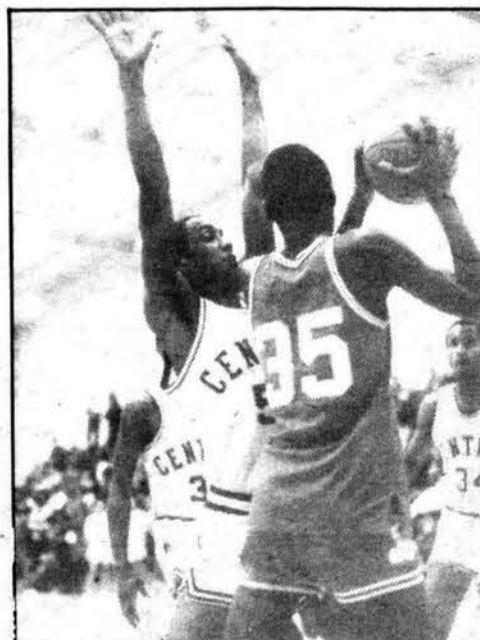


photo by Dan Kuhns

Central's Mike Hart applies heavy pressure to a South player. The Eagles upended the number 4 Packers 54-48.

## Swimmers 3rd, 5th in OPS Holiday meet

The Central swim teams finished well at the O.P.S. Holiday Swim meet over vacation.

The girls' team, with its 2-1 dual meet record finished the meet in 3rd. Placing high with a third place finish were juniors Monica Murray, Sabrina Curto, Anna Kurtz and Lewis and Clark freshman Shelly Sitzman in the girls' medley relay.

The boys' team finished fifth all around with seniors Ken Dutch placing sixth in both the 100 butterfly and 200 individual medley and Tom Lehr, senior, placing 6th in the 100 breast.

## Weightlifter Gresham finds sport 'challenging'

**Cherie Thompson**  
Ass't. Sports Editor

"Girls are becoming more involved with weight lifting now that it's known that the mystic of girls getting muscle-bound is not true," said Stan Standifer, kinesiology teacher.

This is especially true for girls' state record dead lifter Crystal Gresham.

Crystal, a senior, first became interested after Mr. Standifer recommended her to start lifting. She began by taking a kinesiology class last year.

According to Crystal, she then attended a weight lifting meeting and really became

hooked.

"It's a challenge. A lot of girls don't like lifting, and I want to be different," said Crystal.

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Crystal works-out for an hour and a half. Not only does she lift for Central's team, but she also is a member of the Sorenson Center team. This allows her to compete year-around.

Last year Crystal received a medal in state for Outstanding Female Lifter, and surpassed it this year by winning the women's division and setting a record of 305 pounds for the dead lift.

According to Crystal, the girls lift the same as the guys except the boys are classed according to weight. The lifter then receives a total for all three lifts and highest

total wins.

Crystal also is a member of the volleyball team and track team, but she lifting better. "It's a sport I can shine in. you're not covered up by a whole team."

Being female in a male dominated sport hasn't affected Crystal. "I don't get special treatment, and I don't expect it."

Crystal also commented that "a lot of guys shy away from girls that display strength. It's a threat to their ego. I don't mind being a threat. You get attention and recognition."

As a career, Crystal would like to go into nursing. When asked where weightlifting fit in, she said, "I would like to keep it as a hobby. It's something I really love doing."

5-4 Central earned its first state rating in four years, ranked 6th by The World-Herald during the week of January 10. However, the Eagles could not maintain their ranking as they dropped a game to Tech that same week, 50-48.

The team will start work on their most difficult weekend of the regular season tomorrow, as they face Nebraska's number one and three rated teams on successive nights.

The cagers face Millard South on Friday night and Westside on Saturday night.

Coach Jim Martin says the team will have to contain the Indian's and Warriors' outside shooting to win. Martin will install the man-to-man defense to hinder their perimeter shooting.

According to the coach, a rivalry has developed between Central and Millard South in recent years.

"Millard South has stolen quite a few games from us in the past," Martin said.

Whatever the situation, he believes the Eagles will have to force mistakes because of the two teams' execution and defense.

Central's climb to the state rating started off with difficulty in the Holiday Tournament.

A winless Burke squad dealt the Eagles a 66-65 loss in the opening round.

Nine days later Central avenged the tourney loss, defeating the Bulldogs 62-54.

Senior guard Deon Alexander scored 14 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter to boost Central. The six-footer hit 9 free throws down the stretch.

Alexander also protected the lead with a dribbling exhibition in the final quarter. Martin had instructed the guard not to dribble through Burke's press, but to pass the ball.

Martin explained Alexander's actions by saying, "A good player can get by with that."

Mike Hart scored 16 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to dominate the board play.

The sharpest Eagle game of the season came against South the next night, January 8. Central handed the 4th rated Packers a 54-48 loss.

Alexander paced Central's attack, scoring 12 points in the first half. Several dazzling drives for lay-ups by the transfer player early in the game propelled the team.

After leading 27-13 at halftime, Central let its lead dwindle to within 10 in the third quarter. However, two long range shots by

Alexander and solid inside play by Harted off a South rally.

Martin attributed the win to the defense, installed late in the first quarter. The containment of the Packers' offense. Alexander again led the Eagles, shooting 50 percent from the field to tally 22 points for the game.

Central appeared flat at times in an upset loss to Tech, January 14. The Eagles shot 33 percent free throw shooting, compared to the Trojans' 74 percent was the difference.

Tech's Shawn Cotton hit three free throws in the final 15 seconds, as the Eagles overcame a 13 point second half deficit. Dave Stennis led Central scorers with 15 points.

Martin said before the Tech game that the rating would give the team more confidence and poise on the court. Apparently that was wrong as Central lost its second game after holding the lead with under 2 minutes to go.

Senior forward Gardine Wilson said he thinks the rating will make us work harder to be number one.

This weekend will show what Central is made of.