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'Carousel' revolves on characterization

"When we celebrate the character in the theater, we celebrate ourselves," relates the book *The Musical* by Richard Kislak.

"A real human being," "the personality of a bowl of oatmeal," "a geek but a nice guy," these are just a few of the insights cast members of the upcoming Central musical "Carousel" have discovered and developed in their characters.

The story of the musical begins realistically, turns to tragedy, and ends in a whirl of fantasy. Mr. Robert McMeen, one of the show's directors, calls the musical an "older type of show — typical Rogers and Hammerstein." With the rarity, in a high school situation, of being a musical tragedy, rather than comedy, the character roles become "more challenging, doing something with a dramatic depth," Mr. McMeen said.

Jill Anderson, junior, echoes this challenge in playing her lead role Carrie Pipperidge. "One of the hardest scenes is having to cry. I'm afraid it might look fake," she said. Jill cites no simple way to muster this emotion. "You just have to keep in mind the situation and what's going on — you have to think fast."

But before actually reacting as the character would in a given situation, the actor must develop a certain affinity, a oneness with the character. Mrs. Pegi Stommes, another of the musical's directors, shares a method with the cast of creating a character by character analysis, which helps to build the role by intensive and complete preparation. She suggests actually making a written outline of the character's mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical characteristics.

"It helps a lot, even though that information may not come out on stage. It helps you in becoming that person," said Ray Johnson, junior, who becomes the humorously sarcastic character Enoch Snow, "a romantic in a weird sort of way."

While discovering the character, actors may discover or incorporate bits of their own personality or life experiences in the overall development.

Matt McGuire, senior, is the lead Jigger Craigin, whom Matt characterizes as "a dirty guy — a lowlife who likes to get into trouble."

"Parts of myself come out in Jigger every day, like daring and confidence, although at times I'm not," Matt said.

Lessa Sundt, senior, is the lead Julie Jordan, egeue, who throughout the musical develops into "more of a person than a twinkie," according to Lessa. "I was really shy until about ninth grade. I draw on that experience a lot," said Lessa, who discovered shyness in her character.

Actually becoming the character on stage usually requires some type of preparation. "This depends on the individual. Sometimes it just takes some quiet time," Mrs. Stommes said.

"It takes a minute (to get into character). I sit by myself and read my lines over, but once I get into it, it's really easy," said Pete Holmes, sophomore, who enjoys his part of Billy Bigelow, who Pete said is "the barker who gets all the girls to come to the carousel and then takes their money. I have to hold my shoulders back and stick out my chest. I kind of laugh at myself," Pete said.

"The chorus has a tougher time than the principle characters," said Mrs. Stommes. She explains that the fewer the lines spoken or sung, the less that is outwardly known about the character.

Chris Kennebeck, junior and a tenor in the male chorus, said he has established his character as "an energetic and fun-loving sailor similar to Jigger." Because of the large involved scene he emphasizes, "The chorus makes the show."

Caerl Irey, senior, plays the part of Mrs. Bascomb, a character with "little or no lines." Caerl won a cameo award in last year's musical "Guys and Dolls" for her creative interpretation of her character. "With a small part you really have to go to extremes," Caerl said.

When a character is first assigned, apprehension as to appropriateness for that person arises. Ray, who played Linus in last year's "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," said, "I didn't think I'd like my character at first, being a small supporting lead, but he's kind of like Linus — he's me."

Showtimes will be December 9, and 10 at 8:00 and December 11 for a 3:00 matinee. Ticket prices are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students with activity tickets.



(right) Julie Jordan, played by Lessa Sundt, displays her affections for Billy Bigelow, portrayed by Pete Holmes.

(below) D.C. Pulliam, Steve Kosowsky, Mike Rheiner, Kurt Hubler, and Eric Hildreth, are watched over by the "Heavenly Friend," James Keene.



photos by Bryan Hildreth

Racism discussed: goal 'color-blindness'

by Sarah Thalling

With the crowning of the first black Miss America this fall, the presidential candidacy of Jesse Jackson, and the establishment of a national holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., the time seems appropriate to discuss problems as people in philosophy and practical matters concerning racism and how this affects lives at Central.

A discussion of such progress, or affirmative action as teacher Mrs. Carol Valdrighi called it, should include topics as Central's atmosphere, prejudices, interracial and friendships, and minority quotas and tokens.

In the past few decades, a view has grown in the liberal community that the prejudicial attitudes and actions of many were purely the result of ignorance and that anti-discrimination laws and education were slowly improving "according to Paul R. Ehrlich, author of *The Race* But Centralites tend to disagree.

"Central is not a utopia."

One Central student said that the majority of Americans are prejudiced against minorities; another said a common American mentality is that of "Minorities are nice people — I wouldn't want to be around them." However, Central is better than the rest of America's schools," according to one student. "Everyone gets along real good — there are never any complaints, no riots or anything," he said. "Central is a microcosm of the real world... with its mixture of people," Mrs. Valdrighi said.

But others are not so optimistic. Although sophomore English teacher Mrs. Terrie Saunders said her students "get along well — everything seems to blend," she said, "Central is not a utopia." Mrs. Saunders, who began teaching at Central in 1968, said, "The first few years there were some hostilities (between races), but that was when we went through its transitional period, in the late 60's."

One faculty member said, "We're not any better than elsewhere, sometimes worse because we've developed a caste system." This system has, for the main part,

whites taking AP and honors classes and blacks participating in sports like basketball and track, according to the faculty member.

Quotas and tokens

But if someone has a specific ability or talent, he should use it. This brings up the topic of tokenism, when a someone who is of a "minority" in a certain situation (the "type" of person there is least of) is included in an activity because he is of a minority.

Federal programs for minorities, such as scholarships for education and so on, "have tried to compensate for inequalities, provide opportunities," according to counselor Mr. Kevin Moran. Of so-called "reverse discrimination," when a person of a majority is not accepted in a program and a minority student is, Mr. Moran said, "In some cases maybe it's unfair. . . Sometimes it's hard (for minorities) ever to get ahead."

"Busing makes education equal," Mrs. Valdrighi said. But she added, "It's not enough to prohibit segregation — we have to promote integration."

"Idealistically, we'd like to have equal facilities for all," one student said. For the time being, however, she said, "There should be quotas and tokens. We should keep using it for a while, maybe for ten more years, until we get to a higher standard and don't need it. . . Nothing is equal for them (blacks) — we just started all these reforms (in education)."

Interracial dating

"Busing makes education equal," Mrs. Valdrighi said. But she added, "It's not enough to prohibit segregation — we have to promote integration." Part of this integration would be in the neighborhoods we live in, the history teacher said. And even today Omaha's ethnic areas are breaking up, Mr. Moran said. "Any segregation (in neighborhoods) is self-

imposed," he said.

People of different races (and religions) living together in perfect harmony seems to be the ultimate goal. "The goal is color-blindness," counselor Mrs. Gerry Zerse said, explaining that when a person looked at someone else he wouldn't automatically identify the other with a certain race. "You can't do that on an intellectual philosophical level, but only on an experiential level," Mr. Moran said.

"A lot of people won't accept other people if they're a certain color," Mrs. Zerse said. "Most blacks and whites get along well. . . They communicate well — there is no sense of hate," said one student of Central's atmosphere, adding that she disliked people who pretend to get along. "I just don't like people being so phony about it," she said.

When friendships form between people of different races, "it isn't a problem, but with couples you get a mixed reaction," said one Central student, "but I don't think people really care." "It was never wrong, it was just considered wrong," said another student. "Parents still don't accept it," he said.

"It's looked upon as putting them down," said one student. "A lot of blacks and whites keep it discreet who went out with who," she said. "I hear smart little comments," said another. "With an intermixed relationship you look at them and think about their kids," said a student.

A solution?

Many students said they would like to see an elimination of racism but know "You can't change the way people think." Most agreed with Mrs. Valdrighi's statement: "Solutions come only when you expose the problems." One student thought that "reform" should begin in the home, where biases form, and should continue with the media. "If you leave something alone, it will stay the same or get worse. It's better (to discuss racism) than letting it sit there unresolved," he said.

Even though, as Mrs. Zerse said, "Racism is a touchy issue," "You can't ignore reality," Mrs. Valdrighi said.

Happy 18th Birthday, love Uncle Sam

To every male in the United States, turning eighteen also means that Uncle Sam will be knocking at their doors delivering his personal birthday greeting — a registration notice for the draft. Many of these birthday boys will ignore the notice for the draft, throw it away and pray that their names will get lost in beaucroatic red tape. But its shadow will loom over them until finally they break down and register or wiggle out of it through one of the loop holes in the system, such as applying for and receiving a student deferment. But, for the eligible male who isn't able to slip through the government's fingers, not registering for the draft can have serious consequences: a five year sentence and or a 5,000 dollar fine.

The reaction to the draft system has been violent in past years, and with the recent U.S. military involvement in Grenada and Lebenon many people are raising questions about the possibility of reinstating the draft. At present, there is no draft, only the registration which compiles a pool of names in case the draft is restored.

Major Yost, head of Central's JROTC, said, "The draft system has too many loop holes. If we are going to have a draft they should do away with draft exemptions. Make the registering males eligible for one year, then if they don't get picked up they're free; it's not hanging over their heads, and they can plan for the future." If there is a situation in which restoring the draft seems probable, it would be the only realistic method for defending our country. Although it would be nice to have the choice of whether or not to fight, it is naive to assume that a volunteer army would suffice in a serious war situation. In his *Washington Post* column, William Raspberry said Ms. Christina Cowager, Executive Director of the Committee Against Registration and the Draft, "believes that it would have been impossible to sustain the Vietnam War without a draft, and that strikes her as a pretty good reason for opposing the draft." The problem with this view is that the Vietnam situation is over and done with. Granted it may have been a mistake, and we should try our utmost not to make the same mistake twice, but what about the defense of our nation?

Our foreign policy may be questionable at times, but there is no question that what we have in this country is unique and valuable, too valuable for us to sit back and let it get crushed by militaristic forces. We can not revert to an isolationist policy. The United States is a world power. Therefore, we are directly affected by international affairs. We must take a stand in the defense of ourselves and our country. The arms race isn't going to end just because we refuse to take part in it. We will merely be pushed aside and lose what we fought so hard to gain. Of course world peace should be our society's highest ideal, but until that is a realistic goal we can't ignore the fact that we, men and women, may be needed in the defense of this nation. The registration and draft system does need to be questioned and made more efficient. Improvements such as raising the age to twenty-three, tightening the system so every one is eligible for some type of military position, and opening the draft to females are possibilities well worth looking into. When and if revisions in the registration and the draft are made, then it will be fair and workable, and should be included in our defense program. As William Raspberry pointed out, "The more representative our armed forces are of the society at large, the less likely we are to wander into any ill-considered military action."

American Dream?

by Sarah Thailing

Since the Vietnam War, the prospect of fighting simply to preserve the honor of one's country has become less appealing, perhaps because America's "livingroom war" showed families across the country the less glorious side of battle — the actual fighting. (The honorable side of war — victory — was sadly non-existent in the Vietnam War.)

The image of the soldier as pawn is now prevalent, and today's aging seventeen-year-olds are increasingly wary of registering for the draft, and with due cause. Who today will readily sacrifice his life in Lebanon or anywhere else half-way around the world for such an abstract cause as fighting for the American Dream? Males faced with the requirement of registering for the draft may now realize that they will enter a war more or less as expendables more so than saviors of their homeland.

But options exist. A man can obtain a student deferment, maintain a Conscientious Objector (C.O.) status, or enter a military training program to achieve a less exhaustable position in wartime. Or he can simply not register for the draft — and face a \$5,000 fine and/or five years in jail as well as a future life, which might not be a possibility in battle.

Giving Thanks — today's celebration



Rocky Road

Linda Rock

Traditionally, Thanksgiving is a day of giving thanks for the bountiful harvest. On this day we all count our blessings: our family, our friends, our health. Even the word "Thanksgiving" conjurs up pleasant thoughts of Granny busily preparing a feast of stuffings, mashed potatoes, cranberries, pies, and of course, a big "Tom Turkey." All of these Hallmark-like visions seem so serene, but when the time comes for the Thanksgiving dinner guests to arrive - reality strikes.

Thanksgiving provides the perfect opportunity for relatives to get reacquainted. I wish I had a dime for every time I heard "My, haven't you grown! Last time I saw you, you were only this tall (making a gesture in-

dicating the height of a pygmy)." Smiling, I have to suppress the urge to say, "I was sitting down last time you saw me."

Then there's always the uncle who says, "Hey kid, haven't seen you for awhile." And then procedes to show his joy in seeing you again by punching you in the arm. "Rug-rats," more commonly known as cousins, thrive on holidays. Somehow, they have a tendency to multiply from season to season.

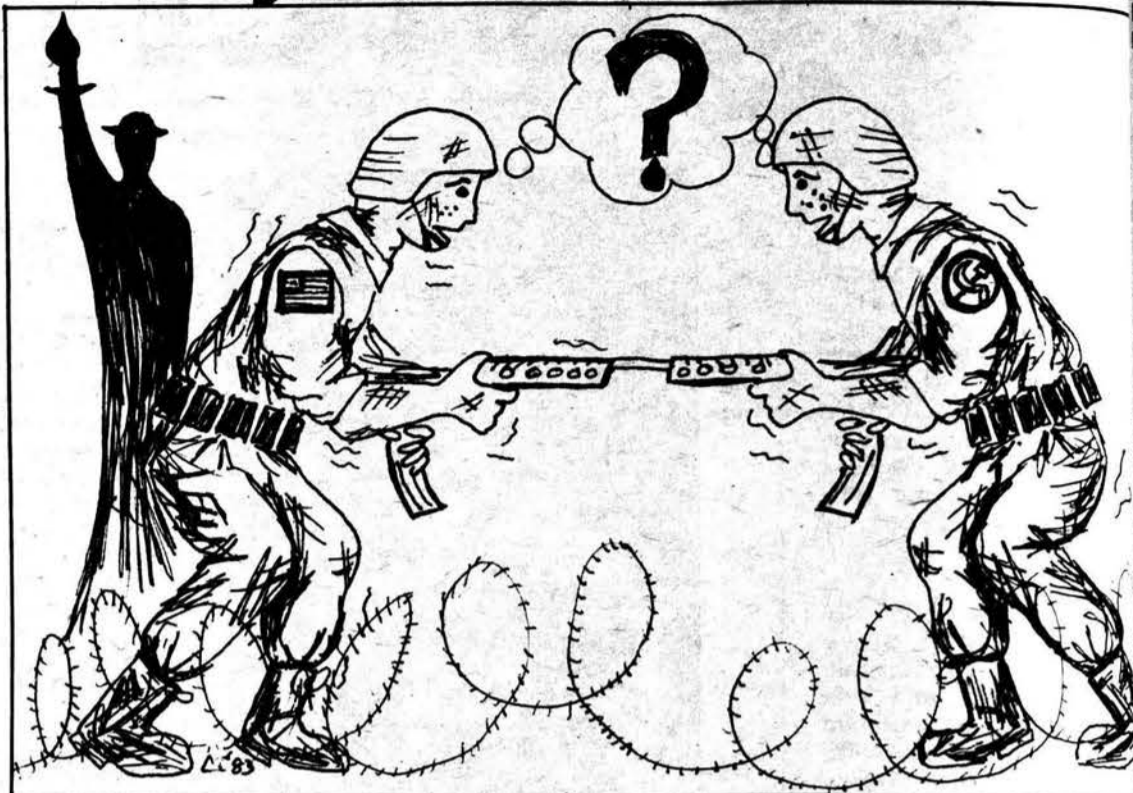
Since Thanksgiving is a celebration, it must therefore be a party, thus we must play games. Little "rug-rats" usually know how to start off the day's events by playing a friendly game of "it's mine" with the cat. Hopefully, the cat is in a holiday spirit. The next game of the day is "scrunch-a-bunch." The object of this game is simple — just cram as many people around the dining room table as possible. Remember, though, don't put a left-handed person on the right side of a right-handed person; it could get a little messy!

"simon-says-pass-to-the-right" is sometimes a necessary game to avoid colli-

sions. Afterall, who wants cranberried corn or pie ala potato? The "Guilt Trip" game is a favorite of mothers and grandmothers: "Eat some more lima beans. There are people starving in underdeveloped Third World countries." A twisted version of this game is the "we're-going-to-have-potatoes-for-a-month syndrome," otherwise known as the "Threat Method."

Dieters despise this time of year. I wonder if Weight Watchers has a 24-hour hotline for potential diet-breakers on Thanksgiving. For those who do break their diets "just once," don't worry. You can go back on your diets. . until Christmas cookie time! Afterall, where would we be now if the Pilgrims had decided to order out for pizza?!

The Register staff apologizes for omitting Barb Poore's name from the Nutcracker article in the last issue. We also offer our congratulations to Barb for being cast as Clara in the Nutcracker production along with Mia McSwain.



Registered Opinions Freedom of choice appealing

Students were asked the following question in this week's poll:
"Should registration for the draft be voluntary or mandatory?"

Jeff Ford - Senior

"I believe that people should have the choice whether or not to fight instead of being forced. The draft invades peoples' freedom."

Gunnar Guenette - Senior

"I think it's good that we have the draft for defending the country, but it shouldn't be used when wars are considered to be police acts like Vietnam, that's bad."

Jeni Sturek - Junior

"I think it should be volunteer because we have enough men in the army now to send people to fight."

Louis Parker - Senior

"I think we should have a choice - what good are people who are to scared to fight?"

Bill Carmichael - Sophomore

"The registration ought to be entirely volunteer. It's true if there was war there wouldn't be many volunteers, but that's good because there's no justification for any war."

Peggy Aufenkamp - Senior

"Registration should be voluntary - people would be more likely to believe in what they're fighting for they would be less likely to go, but a lot of people would fight for their beliefs."

Dave Aguilera - Junior

"I don't want the draft, but when it comes down to it we need a draft to make sure we have people to fight."

Ollie Holman - Senior

"People should be drafted, but the age for registration should be different, like 22 years on up."



Photos by Bryan Hildreth

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Friendly contests Departmental rivalry

In the first edition of the Central High Register this year, the Junior Classical League (JCL), placed an ad saying they were the best foreign language club and would beat all the other foreign language clubs in volleyball, soccer, bowling, and softball. These are competitions between clubs held each year.

Since that ad there has been friendly retaliations such as another ad for the French, German, and Spanish clubs to JCL. And French Club decorated Miss Rita Ryan's, JCL sponsor, classroom with a black wreath, signifying that Latin is dead.

Miss Ryan said that these retaliations and competitions are all for fun, and the sports competitions were started as a way to get clubs together.

Miss Ryan thinks the sponsors are more rivalry oriented than students because they, the sponsors, want to say they have the biggest and best club and are out to get the most publicity.

Mrs. Daryl Bayer, French Club sponsor, and Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Spanish Club sponsor, disagree with Miss Ryan. They feel students are more rivalry oriented. Mrs. Bayer feels that the competitions are more meaningful for the students because it shows their involvement in the club.

Mrs. Bayer said that soccer, French club sponsored, has the biggest turn-out while volleyball, JCL sponsored, bowling, Spanish sponsored, and softball, German sponsored, have about the same amount of students turn out for the games.



Central - 'Lites'

'Vast opportunities' in area parks

by Four's Company

Many people are not aware of the vast opportunities that await them at Nebraska's various parks and historic sites. The unique qualities of outdoor life provide young people and their families with an excellent experience to be together over the Thanksgiving vacation. The following are some examples of "the good life" that you and your family can explore in Nebraska and Iowa.

The De Soto National Wildlife Refuge is a perfect example of something fun to do during the extra time over the holiday. The refuge is located on the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa. Formed by a cut-off ox box of the Missouri River, the park is a vast landscape of fall colors.

The primary role of the refuge is to provide a resting spot for migratory birds. Up to 400,000 snow and blue geese nest and feed at De Soto. The fantastic experience of seeing up to one million ducks migrate can be something to remember for a long time.

Close to home there is also a fantastic place to experience outdoor life: Fontenelle Forest located in Bellevue. A guided tour along the trails in Fontenelle can provide you with some interesting facts. If you are the adventurous type, you can explore the trails

and wildlife on your own. This plentiful area in Nebraska has nature exhibits and a library also. Open daily, the forest is a fine example of the good life of Nebraska.

Another place for recreation during vacation is the Two Rivers State Recreation Area. This family retreat center is located one mile west and one mile south of Venice, and is about an hour's drive from Omaha. Camping spots and fishing areas abound. There are six lakes for fishing, trout, walleye, largemouth bass, blue gill, catfish, and bullheads. If fishing is not your sport, the area is open to hunting during the season from October 1-April 1.

Yet another area to visit this holiday is Fort Atkinson, one mile east of Fort Calhoun. The site is a historically prominent fort in Nebraska and it houses a museum which relates the history of action that took place at the fort as well as displaying many interesting artifacts. Besides visiting the site, you can hike along the bluffs that overlook the former location of the Missouri River channel.

These four areas in Nebraska are just a few of the many opportunities that are open to the public. This four-day vacation, make it a point to visit at least one of these fantastic places.

Doctor writes book

One of Central High School's teachers is now a published author. Mr. Jerry Doctor, chemistry teacher at Central, has composed a book of computer programs to be used by students in many cities across the country.

The book will be used by chemistry students along with their current text "Chemistry, A Modern Course." Mr. Doctor said that the book he published will be used along with the text already in use. The book consists of computer programs for lab use.

Richard Smith, chairman of the science

Mr. Doctor's book will be used by chemistry students along with their current text, "Chemistry, A Modern Course."

department in Bexley, Ohio, and one of the authors of "Chemistry, A Modern Course," launched the idea of Mr. Doctor's book. Mr. Doctor said a few years back Mr. Smith held a science workshop at Northwest High School with Northwest science teacher Roger Rae, and later Smith held a workshop at Central.

Mr. Smith contacted Merrill Publishing Company about the idea of putting together the idea of the lab programs, which would be designed by Mr. Doctor and Mr. Rae. Doctor said the book would be out for use sometime between the end of October and the beginning of November.

Musical Gift Ideas

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- Guitar Cases
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- Mike Stands
- Piano Lamps
- Ukuleles
- Violin Bows
- Violin Cases



under \$15

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- Drum Sticks
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Class of 1984 elects senior officers

Morale, school pride reinstated by 'quality group'



photo by Bryan Hildreth

Class officers Pavel, Lisa Morris, Terri Tesar, Pat Davis, Calvin Minor and Tom Zerse share enthusiastic smiles after being announced as the senior officers of the class of 1984.

The 1983-84 Central High School senior class officers were announced Monday, November 14, in the auditorium. They are M. Thomas Zerse, President; Calvin E. Minor, Vice President; Pat Davis, Secretary; Terri Tesar, Treasurer; David Pavel, Boys Sergeant-At-Arms; and Lisa Morris, Girls Sergeant-At-Arms.

"I can't believe I really made President," said Tom of his victory, "I really want to help out the school. Morale has been down, and I want to help raise it. It seems like there's a lack of school pride. I want to do my best to reinstate pride in Central High."

"Seniors should have confidence"

Commenting about the rest of the Senior Class Officers, Tom said, "I think we've got a very high quality group of people, and I think the seniors should have every confidence in them."

Vice President Calvin Minor commented about his moment of victory by saying, "I was shocked. I tried to keep a serious face, but everyone was yelling 'Smile, Calvin, smile!' I just started laughing."

Calvin ran for office because, "It was a

challenge I couldn't resist. It's also a challenge for me to have a say-so with the seniors."

"Exceptional things should be done"

Secretary Pat Davis said that he was very happy when his name was announced. "You can't not be," Pat said, "I'm given about the things we can do for the school this year. There's many things we can do in the time that's left this year. It's an unusual class, and some exceptional things should be done."

Terri Tesar, Secretary, said she was motivated for running, "I wanted to be a part of my class. I wanted to do it, not for the title, but I wanted to do it for the school, and I wanted to do it for me." "I'll speak my opinions," Terri said, "If I don't think something is right, I'll speak out. I won't just sit passively and let my mouth shut."

The responsibilities of the senior officers are to co-ordinate senior class activities and to plan reunions.

of Central importance

She will also be going to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to the Central Region Conference on Saturday, November 12, assisting with a presentation.

Miss Harris will be conducting a program on "the art of possibility" for the National Conference of Vocational Educators - American Vocational Conference. This will take place Monday, December 5, in Anaheim, California.

A Cappella shines

The Central High A Cappella Choir held its annual "A Night With A Cappella" on Saturday, November 12. "A Night With A Cappella" is a talent show of sorts where A Cappella members perform different acts ranging from vocal and instrumental acts to dramatic acts.

A Cappella Choir, directed by Central vocal music instructor Mr. Robert McMeen, held the annual event at the First Presbyterian Church on South 34th Street. Caerhlyrey, Central senior and choir

member, arranged to have the show there where she is a church member.

According to Sheila O'Hara, president of A Cappella Choir council, "There's really no stiff competition, like in Road Show auditions. It is just so people in the choir can be recognized for their talents." Sheila added, "It is a casual relaxed evening for the choir and audience to enjoy."

The audience at the show consisted of parents, relatives, and friends. Sheila, who was involved with the show last year also, said, "Usually we get a good crowd, but it is a shame more people don't attend because it is really entertaining."

The Saturday show started before the 7:00 p.m. curtain time for many choir members. Mr. McMeen and members started rehearsing around one in the afternoon. A bake sale was then put to gether to raise money for the choir.

English club rejuvenates

Central High School's new English Discussion Club had its first meeting on Thursday, November 17. Central has not had an English club in twenty years, and many students are excited for the commencement of this versatile organization.

Mr. David Martin, an English teacher at Central and the sponsor of the club, explained that there are many different interests that will be encouraged within the club. Some of the activities members will be

involved in are book discussions and trips. Members interested in teaching careers may be able to attend one of Martin's writing classes at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Members will be encouraged to write journals and other creative projects about anything that students are interested in that will improve English skills will be accepted into the club.

Club 'digs' past

Twenty-three Central High School students are members of the Anthropology Club. Most of the members' interests in the club originated from Central's Anthropology class which is taught by Mr. Gary Kubik. The club has been the sponsor of the club for the past four years.

The object of the club for one member is "to have fun while you learn." That goal is met by the club's many activities. Recently members traveled to Fremont to hear Dr. Michael R. Voories, a successful paleontologist and staff member at University of Nebraska at Lincoln, speak on the discoveries which were described in the *National Geographic*.

Several other trips are scheduled for the club. Some of these activities include visits to museums, the various sites of the Historical Society, and Schramm site. Schramm site the members plan to participate in their own "dig".

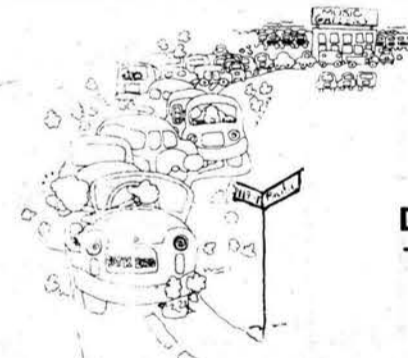
Teacher joins committee

Miss Jerrie L. Harris, marketing teacher, has been appointed to the National Marketing and Distributive Education American Vocational Association Committee (National MDE/AVA Legislative Committee). Appointment was made by AVA/MDE Division president, Mary Klarens.

The committee is made up of five members who serve for three years as representatives to the AVA to show the legislative viewpoint of Marketing and Distributive Education (MDE) across the United States.

Miss Harris said that one of the committee's activities is to propose legislation (to the AVA) that would affect MDE on the federal and state levels.

Having been on the committee since August, Miss Harris has already made trips for the committee. "I attended a two and a half day workshop in St. Louis to develop a five year plan for the committee," Miss Harris said.



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Making the grade

Teacher appraisal guided

Leslie Johnson

Just as many students struggle through rigors of academic pressure to "make the grade," so do approximately one-third of all teachers at Central in any one year. Though the terms of measurement are different, both the students and the teachers given a "grade" for their competency. While it is common knowledge that on a yearly basis students receive grades during their progress, the process of teacher appraisal is not a prominent fact in the minds of the general public. But, according to Central principal Dr. Moller, each year approximately one-third of all teachers at Central are appraised. If a teacher is not appraised, he or she receives a copy of the **Comprehensive Appraisals of Instructional Staff**, a handbook outlining the process of appraising teachers in the Omaha Public Schools.

Complicated appraisal process

The process of teacher appraisal, according to Dr. Moller, follows basically a four-step outline. The first step is a formula which categorizes the teachers to be appraised for a year.

When visiting a class of one of the teachers on his appraisal list, Mr. Daly, head of the English department, said, "I look for a purpose in what is going on in the classroom. I judge the degree of student involvement."

After the classroom observation, the next step is the filling out of observation logs, which are forms for written comments of the evaluator. A copy of the log is given to the teacher being appraised.

The fourth facet of teacher appraisal consists of those teachers who are to be appraised during a particular year completing appraisal sheets. The goals are kept on file and used to measure the success of a teacher. Also, at the end of the first semester, all teachers are required to complete a form indicating qualities that they possess which they feel make them better teachers.

Although a complicated duty to perform, Mr. Daly said, "Teacher appraisal is a very important part of an administrator's or department head's job." Also, as Dr. Moller said, "I think it really of vital importance that administrators get in and observe classes. It's good for administrators to get the feel of what's going on."

Central's flexible policies

To supplement the city-wide evaluation system, Central also employs its own yearly-revised "General Building Policies." A guideline of Central policies, the handbook covers topics that range from attendance-taking and gum chewing to issuing textbooks and study hall duties.

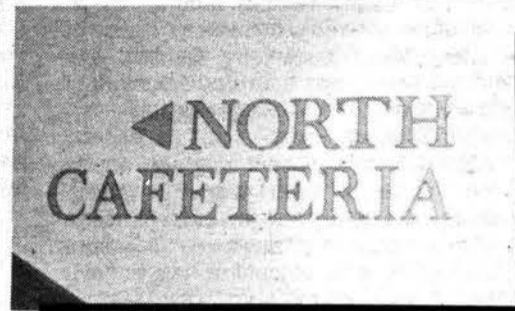
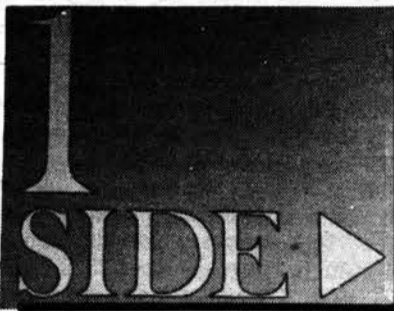
Although the "General Building Policies" contain detailed information on the procedures to be followed for a wide variety of items, yielding a strict interpretation of the guide, others are not as defined and are left up to the discretion of individual teachers.

Some complaints registered by students concerning this gray area of an individual teacher's interpretation of guidelines include those against different absence policies, weighting (or non-weighting) of homework, and restroom policies. Study halls, by many students' standards, are the chief offenders of inconsistencies.

Dr. Robert Wolff, Central physics teacher, has compiled a list of classroom rules for the past three years. The original rules were written by students for extra credit on a final exam. Dr. Wolff said that he revises his rules periodically to decrease redundancy.

"I think students should know the rules of the game in order to know how to act," said Dr. Wolff. He said also that his rules are more specific than the "General Building Policies," giving student the privilege of knowing where they stand and warning student ahead of time, before they "transgress."

Mr. Daly said that he thinks individual rules of teachers, although sometimes "petty," are an example of students learning to get along, which is an important trait for the college-bound student to possess.



photos by Roxanne Gryder

Betty Adams' graphics direct Central Students and faculty; above, eagles point onward.

Graphic artists contribute to 'aesthetic quality' of Central

The multi-million dollar project at Central has long been a subject of the media. But other aspects of the renovation than the cost and the courtyard have not been explored. Graphics and styles of letters have added an aesthetic quality in the school that all students, teachers, and visitors feel but may not notice.

Two of the participating graphic artists, that were contracted by the subcontracted Midlands Decorating and Painting Company who were in turn contracted by the architectural firm of Dana Larson Roubal and Associates, are Betty Adams of Adams Signs and Designs and Bill Shepherd, an independent.

Mrs. Adams said, "The architects showed me the blueprints as to what they wanted and I did a sample. They approved it, and then I went to work." The graphics that Mrs. Adams did took her two months. They were all of the side numbers and letters, the lettering up the stairwells, and the gender indicators on the restroom doorways. The letter style and colors were all chosen by Dana

Larson Roubal and Associates. The letter style is Old Baskerville.

The observant student, teacher, or visitor who might have seen a man on a ladder applying some goopy looking plastic on doors would have witnessed the work and art of Bill Shepherd. Mr. Shepherd remarked that though another artist was originally doing the job, he took over.

Mr. Shepherd applied decals on 250 odd doors. He said that it "took a whole month, and I still have the tail end still to do."

The decals were made through a silk screen process which sandwiches paint in layers of laquer. The letters, made by Paul Koch, each took Mr. Shepherd a "long time" according to him to "align and place in the middle of the area designated."

Mr. Shepherd said that he had recently been in the building and was angered by the writing on the walls and paint that was chipped off. He said, "Students should take care of the building and should show it some respect because of the effort that went into it."

Guidance Center offers scholarship files and reference books

to aid student search for financial assistance for future pursuits

The scholarships available to students in the school are numerous. Exactly what scholarships are available, and why don't they apply for them?

There are several aids to students available in the Central Guidance Center. According to Mrs. Linda Hazuka, more people could be using the services in the center. A scholarship file contains over forty different types of financial aids. "Students should check the scholarship file once a week and pay attention to the circular to find out what scholarships are in," said Mrs. Hazuka.

Some of the scholarships in the file include general scholarships like the Jostens and the Sproptimist. These scholarships are for students involved in civic activities and school and community programs. Some

scholarships come from large universities for minority students. Scholarships from military academies for students involved in ROTC or interested in going to places like West Point are also available. Various religious scholarships are located in the file. If the file does not contain what a student is looking for, there are several guides and books to look through.

"Students should check the file once a week and pay attention to the circular to find out what scholarships are in."

Mrs. Hazuka said some scholarships are not used because of the lack of interest. A scholarship to Philadelphia's College of Textiles requires a student to design a Tuxedo to

receive a \$2,500 award. "We probably won't have anyone apply for this scholarship," Mrs. Hazuka said.

Mr. Kevin Moran, counselor at Central, said that looking for scholarships takes a lot of time. The scholarships are unused because students don't apply for them. "It takes a lot of work to find the right scholarship. A student needs to ask his or her parents, employer, and teachers if they know of any scholarships available," Mr. Moran said. Mr. Moran stated some student depend on their counselors to find them scholarships, or they don't take the time to find one on their own.

Ken Ross, however, has visited the counseling center to look for scholarships. "Right now I am undecided on what I want to do, but I am still looking for a scholarship,"

Ken said.

Some students depend on their counselors to find them scholarships, or they don't take the time to find them on their own.

Mrs. Hazuka said many students come later in the year to look for aid. Mr. Moran said that sometimes students wait until it's too late. "Students say they want to go to Harvard, Yale, or Princeton but later in the year find out they have to go to Kearney or Wayne State. They could have applied for a presidential scholarship earlier for Kearney and had their whole tuition paid. But, they are too late," Mr. Moran said. Many scholarships are available but it is the student's responsibility to find out about them.

Industrial Arts program hurt by recession, 'professional realism' Thompson: enrollment cyclical

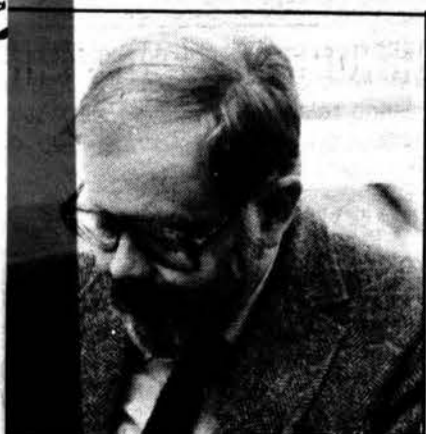


photo by Roxanne Gryder

time ISS supervisor, Industrial Arts instructor Mr. Gordon Thompson is working on a drafting project.

During the course of the day, Mr. Gordon Thompson teaches Industrial Arts two periods and then goes from room 030 to room 245, to In-School Suspension (ISS) for the remainder of the afternoon.

Though he had never been assigned to be the teacher in ISS before, Mr. Thompson spends more time in ISS than in teaching his specialty. He pointed to a couple of factors for the assignment. Where last year and in previous years the Industrial Arts department has had at least two advanced classes, this year there is only one. There are, according to Mr. Thompson, only about 35 students in the whole Industrial Arts program.

With increased total Central enrollment and decreased enrollment in Industrial Arts, something must have happened in the minds of students at registration time.

Mr. Thompson said, "Students have to fight for this course because there is such a science and academic push." Mr. Thompson

did admit that the general area of Industrial Arts is more of a specialty. "The general area of drafting is not traditionally college preparatory, but at Central we have tried to make Industrial Arts more college oriented."

Two sophomores, Randy Underwood and Bryan Douglas, attested to the quality of the program. Among their comments were phrases such as "excellent" and "the best in the city."

Decline in enrollment

A couple of reasons for the decline in enrollment that Mr. Thompson related were that "more people are getting out of school on a shortened day." Mr. Thompson also said that people drop out because there is a problem with turning in assignments. "Sophomores have a problem with this," he said. "and zeroes can be deadly."

Mr. Thompson also explained that "recession is awfully tough on architecture. Bryan explained that Industrial Arts

"helps in other classes." He said that it is good to know how to put things down on paper."

"Academic aspect" of program

Mr. Thompson also emphasized the academic aspect of Industrial Arts. "The actual drafting program has a research paper that the students write during the second year. In advanced courses, students come out of the course with a good knowledge of architecture which is good for college."

Just as the profession of Industrial Arts has a very high mortality rate, the classes of Industrial Arts at Central seem to share the professional realism. For this year, Mr. Thompson is in ISS for more time than he teaches Industrial Arts, but Mr. Thompson says that enrollment goes in a cycle and doesn't necessarily follow the recession. He added that Industrial Arts is one of the new things at Central that could lead people into a career right away.

Learning the system

by Dave Albrecht

Do Central students know what a referral actually is? One Centralite said that it was a sheet given to you when you are in trouble and have to go to the office.

According to Mrs. Udoxie Barbee, assistant administrator at Central High, it is a "notice" that is given to a student by a teacher, an administrator, a security aid, or any other official who witnesses a violation of the rules. Many students at Central have questioned how valid the referral system at Central actually is. Mrs. Barbee assured that it is a good system.

Many teachers give out progress reports at the middle of each quarter, notifying students and parents that the student needs to show improvement in work. Teachers allow students a fair amount of time to have the slips signed and returned to the building. If a student fails to bring the slip back to school he or she is usually referred to the office and not readmitted to class until it is returned. Mrs. Barbee said that she sits down with the students and asks them why they have failed to return the slips. She said that most of the time the slip is just lost and the student did not know that they can simply bring a note from their parents saying that they are aware of the problem. According to Mrs. Barbee, "You can reason with most high school students. By the time you reach high school age you are responsible. Reasoning is all you need to do with them."

Leslie Bowen, a Central senior, admits that she was referred to the office last year for eating candy in class. She said, "I was not the only one eating in the class, but I was the only one referred to the office." After Leslie was referred other students in the class said they quickly disposed of their candy. They didn't think the teacher would actually refer

someone. Leslie added, "They (the teachers) just give referrals to you to scare you and make an example for the class. I ended up just sitting in the office and the administrators seemed to busy to see me."

Mary Danielson, another Central senior, replied to Leslie's statement: "That's true if it's your first time, but if you get several referrals in one class it can be trouble. They'll suspend you or call your parents for a conference."

One Central sophomore who wished to remain nameless admits to be quite a talker in his tenth hour study hall. "I have been caught talking on several occasions and now my study hall teacher makes me go around the room picking up trash. Even though it is humiliating I deserve it, and it is a good punishment. It is better that a bad student clean study halls than a good custodian."

Another silent Centralite said that she dropped an orange from the top floor of the stairwell and a teacher was standing right next to her. She had to clean study halls for the next week.

Rea Boldan, Central senior, recalled that last year in Mr. Hausman's study hall he would make disruptive students clean up the stage after school.

Mrs. Barbee finally said that punishment basically depends of the nature of the offense. First-time offenders are usually reasoned with and dismissed from the office. Repeated offenders are usually required to have a parent conference. Mrs. Barbee feels that it is the parent's right to be aware of his child's actions in school. Mrs. Barbee stressed, however, that she treats students with respect and keeps in mind that they should be treated like adults.



photo by Bryan

Selection for the All-State title was rigorous, but sixteen Central students obtained the honor. Pictured are: (front row) Karina Lathrum, Natalie Brown, Jennifer Hazen, Natasha Brown; (back row) Jeanine Trim, Lessa Sundt, Peter

Lankford, Arthur Kosowsky, Lexau. Not pictured are Chris Kennebeck, Margie Klosner, Sheila O'Hara, Jacques Fason, Katherine Fritze, Dawn Hogan, Sarah Mason, and Valerie Sterck.

All-staters harmonize

Sixteen vocal and instrumental students qualified for positions on the Educators' All-State Choir and All-State Band and Orchestra.

Winners from Central include the following for choir: junior Chris Kennebeck, tenor II; senior Margie Klosner, soprano II; senior Sheila O'Hara, alto II; senior Pete Lankford, bass II; junior Michael Rheiner, baritone; senior Lessa Sundt, soprano I; junior Jeanine

Trim, soprano I. For the Orchestra: junior Natalie Brown, violin II, senior Arthur Kosowsky, violin I, junior Jacques Fason, cello, senior Katherine Fritze, viola and Dawn Hogan, violin. For the Band: senior Valerie Sterck, violin II, Lexau qualified with the violin and Karina Lathrum qualified on the clarinet.

THE CHEMICAL PEOPLE

'An effort to prevent school-age drug and alcohol use and abuse'

The "do-drug" and "quick-fix" society we live in today was emphasized through "The Chemical People" and its new effort to prevent school-age drug and alcohol use and abuse. Broadcasts on November 2 and November 9 on Channel 12, with First Lady Nancy Reagan and other personalities as hosts, launched a positive program to be aimed at kindergarten through twelfth grades.

The first program was a docu-drama that illustrated the problem as it is, an epidemic. It focused on "The Chemical People" equated with the chemical society and how it is accepted everyday.

The second program offered concrete guidelines to communities which wish to organize to combat the problem. This was followed by a local broadcast of what people have accomplished in Nebraska.

Mrs. Geraldine Zerse, counselor, is in charge of our own task force with Mr. Kevin Moran, counselor. Also parents, support groups, and police representation were involved, the police being involved because they don't like being just at the reprimand end; they want to be involved with the prevention part also.

The first problem that must be dealt with to even bring in hope of a solution is dealing with denial of the problem. "The Central People" program calls it a "wall of denial." "Not us, not here. There are no problems in our community. My kids are too bright," is an example of a common parent ignorance and avoidance statement the broadcast illustrated. Also, the kids who are chemically depen-

dent say, "It can't happen to me. I can control it." However, a drug user who is a senior admits that he knows he abuses drugs and alcohol, but asks, "Why stop?"

There are four main stages users and abusers of drugs go through according to the broadcast: 1) experimental, 2) regular use, 3) abuse, and 4) dependency.

"The first stage most high school students have past," said Mrs. Zerse. The second stage is characterized by the users looking for time and places and crowds to use the drug.

The third stage is characterized by strong preoccupation and mistrust of others. Times of fluxuation between overdose and staying straight to convince themselves they are capable of handling.

The fourth stage they will do anything for it, cheat and steal. Physical and mental pain occurs when without the drug. They have suicide wishes.

The drug user continued with his history by stating the fact that he started smoking marijuana in fourth grade because his friends started. Soon, he had tried, "everything, you name it, I tried it." He insists that he isn't dependent, that he could quit anytime, but it is just the environment he lives in every day.

However, having a problem that leads then to chemical dependency is only one of the many problems, physical and emotional, a dependant encounters.

Mrs. Zerse added with the fact, "The effects only get worse, they don't realize what they are doing or they would do something about their problem."

Visiting college

The fall of the year finds many students taking trips to visit prospective colleges.

Mr. Howard Bockman, Director of Admissions at Creighton University, says that the campus visit is a student's "most valuable tool." In opposition to course catalogs and college handbooks, a visit provides prospective students with all of the information involved in selecting a college: the attitude of the student body, the attitude of the faculty and counselors, the attitude of the surrounding community.

According to a pamphlet by Mr. Michael Reynolds, Director of Helene Reynolds Associates — Educational Consultants, the goal should be decided upon before the college visit. Whether it is to get specific information or just to experience campus life, Ms. Reynolds suggests that a purpose should be set as to the purpose of the trip.

Preparation before the visit is important, warns Ms. Reynolds. Kevin Moran, Central counselor, said the counseling center provides a vast supply of material for use, much of which would be helpful for the college visit. He said that the center even provides a list of questions to ask college representatives.

If a student is torn between two colleges, a visit may just be the deciding factor as to which college that student should attend. Thad Ware, senior, had thought of going to Rice University, but after he visited the campus, he was convinced he wanted to go there. "The visit is my decision heavily," he said.

As Mr. Bockman pointed out, college is a substantial investment; students and parents should make the most of their choice by making a college selection.

Photography by Schall

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Tryouts taken seriously

In athletics today at any level there is always some factor or procedure which the coach or coaches use to determine or to make up a team. The procedure most commonly used at Central High and other metro-area high schools is the tryout method.

As in other programs such as drama classes, acting classes, and other performing arts classes, athletic programs use the tryout procedure. Just as in the performing arts programs, some individuals tryout for an athletic team but don't really have the talent or attitude necessary to make the team.

According to Mr. Paul Pennington, Central J.V. basketball coach, "The basic purpose of tryouts is to see who can and will make the team." When entering a tryout session, it is evident who is serious about making the team and who is just out to have fun.

For some athletes, tryouts is a time when

be a showboat and to be fancy. Robert Johnson, senior basketball player, said "I take tryouts seriously because it is very important for a senior of my caliber and status to set an example for the younger ball players who don't know the system." Maurice Ivy, senior basketball player, said, "I take tryouts seriously because I don't consider myself different from anyone else. We're all out there to do a job." Some people feel that when you have performed like Johnson and Maurice you really don't have to be serious, but they feel that they have to show maturity and be serious.

Mr. Jim Martin, Central Boys' basketball coach, said that tryouts should be a serious time. He stated that it is also a nervous time for the young men who try out.

They can show the coaches their talents and abilities. For other athletes it can be a time to

Transportation readily available

Central athletic teams primarily use Chief buses

For some school systems it is tough to get transportation for their athletic programs. The Omaha Public School District is one which doesn't have to worry about the transportation problem. Central High is one of the schools which use both Harmon and Chief school bus companies.

Central has four winter sports in which the coaches have the option of either taking a bus or individual cars. Mrs. Carol Gebhard, Central swimming coach, said that the swim teams take a bus to Norris Junior High for practice but do not use a bus to return on. She stated that the team takes a bus to long distance meets. Mr. Gary Kubik, Central wrestling coach, said that the wrestling team hardly ever takes a bus to any meets because the wrestling team doesn't consist of the number of members which would require a bus. Mr. Paul Semrad, girls' basketball coach, said that the girls' team takes a bus to all away games. There is no need to use a bus for home games because they are held at Central.

This is not true of all sports, such as boys' basketball. The boys basketball home games are held at Norris Junior High. Mr. Jim Martin, boys' basketball coach, said even

though the boys' home games are held at Norris, the team does not use a bus for transportation. Martin said the only time the team takes a bus is when the game is fairly far away. He said that most of the J.V. players usually ride the bus because most of the varsity players drive. Martin said that as of recent years it seems that more guys are riding the bus whenever it is being used to get to a game. But for some of the away games the team doesn't even take a bus; it takes a private van which is driven by Mr. Ray Rogers, who transports the team to and from games simply out of generosity and his interest in Central High basketball. Martin said that the van is better than taking a bus because the van drops the players off at their houses.

According to Mr. Richard Jones, Central High Athletic Director, Central primarily uses Chief buses because it costs less to use than Harmon. Jones said that it can be expensive to use buses to transport the many different athletic teams which are competing at the same time during the year. Jones stated that the Central High Athletic Department paid over \$1200 in bus fees for the month of October.

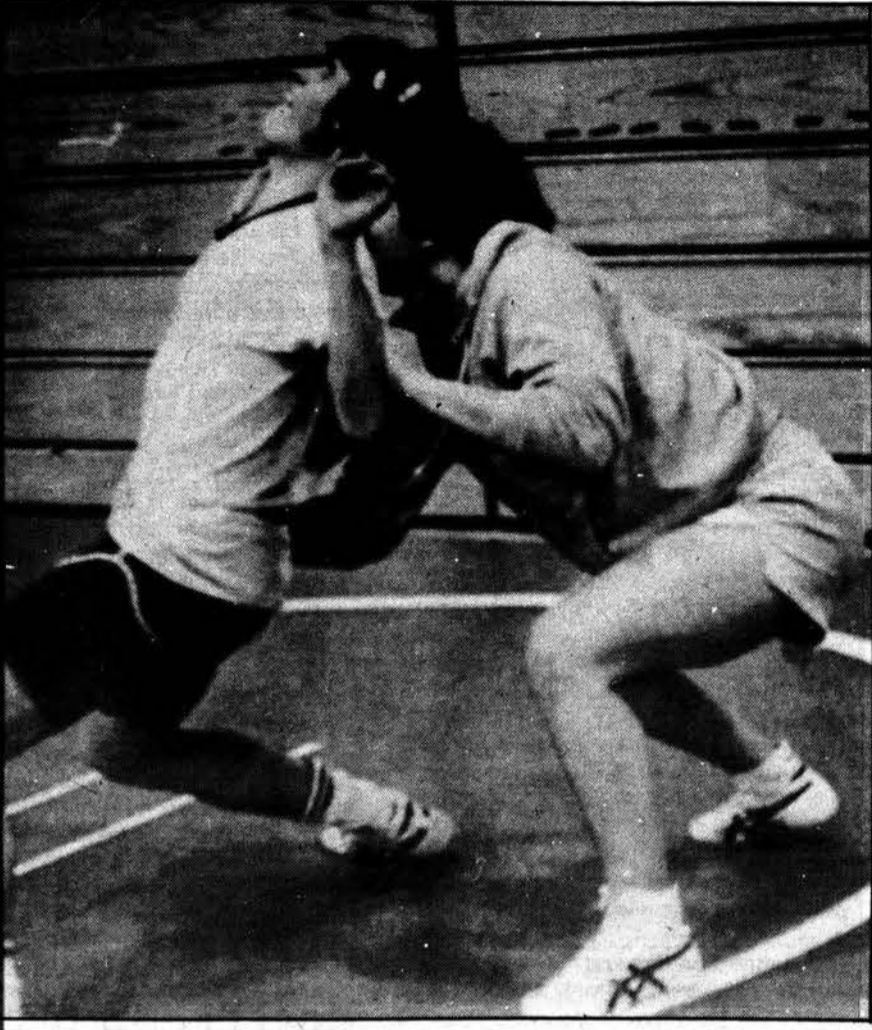


photo by Jackie Hynek

wrestlers practice takedowns. A half hour of every practice is spent on the mat.

Wrestlers to compete at North

Central's wrestling team opens its season with the Vern Ekfelt Invitational, November 1st at North High School. Originally called the North High Invitational, it is said to be the oldest wrestling meet in the state of Nebraska, and was recently renamed the Ekfelt in honor of a former wrestling coach. The wrestling team spends most of the metro area wrestling teams compete in the 3-day meet. "It should be a tough meet for Central, almost like a state meet," said Mr. Gary Kubik, wrestling coach. The wrestling team spends two hours conditioning after school in

preparation for the meet. "Essentially the first meet could set the mental mood for the season. It could make or break us," said David Hornstein, senior.

Each workout consists of approximately four miles of running for aerobic training and about an hour of mat time for anaerobic training. According to Kubik, wrestling is probably the most difficult sport around.

This year's team returns a total of six senior lettermen. "We already have a really strong team, but if we each put forth our 105 percent we'll really have a good team," said Matt McGuire, senior.

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Girls' basketball to take season one game at a time



photo by Roxanne Gryder

Sharon Deal, senior, shoots some practice throws before practice. The girls' basketball team has been practicing since November 7.

After watching last year's girls' basketball team win the state championship and end its season with an undefeated record of 25-0, many people would be disappointed with anything less this year, especially with the knowledge that four of last year's five starters are returning.

From
the
Grandstands
Lee Garver



Mr. Paul Semrad, Central's girls' basketball coach, hopes to lower some of these expectations. He said, "A lot of people will expect us to be better than last year, but we cannot afford to look ahead. We are going to take the season one game at a time."

To keep the season in perspective, he will make sure the team is well prepared for every game. One way to be prepared, being in the best possible physical condition, has paid off in the past. He said, "It may have been a definite edge last year. If our game wasn't going well, we could sometimes rely on our defense because of the shape we were in."

But, what was the key factor involved in allowing the team to do as well as it did last year?

Semrad believes that besides the individual talents of the players, most importantly the group "didn't have any bad feelings among its members" and was "team oriented." He complimented the unselfishness of the girls.

JoJo Mayhue, the only starting player not returning from last year's squad, will not represent a huge loss to the team. Semrad said, "I have a couple of players who are more than capable of taking her place."

Returning players from last year's team are junior Jessica Haynes and seniors Maur-

tice Ivy, Sarah Stohs and Sharon Deal. Physically they can dominate the field. Sarah stands 6'2", Jessica and Sharon are 5'11" and Maurice is 5'9".

Individually they have considerable talent, but according to Maurice, they work best as a team. She said, "Once the whistle blows we know exactly what we are supposed to do. Other teams have problems working as a unit."

Maurice, a **Street and Smith** preseason All-American, who according to Semrad is regarded by colleges to be among the top 20 players in the country, is an example of the talent present on the team. The state's leading scorer of the past three years, Maurice was praised by Semrad for her competitiveness, desire to excel and her ability to perform at her best while under pressure.

Yet, she is by no means the only reason for Central's success. Semrad said, "There is no way we would have won the championship without Sharon. She seldom gives a bad pass, and although capable of scoring in double figures in a game, she is content to play point guard." Semrad also expects Sarah, whose height is a real advantage, to improve on her rebounding and be an even more dominating player than last year.

players receive scholarship offers

Maurice, Sarah, and Sharon have all received scholarship offers, Maurice from most of the top 20 preseason colleges. All three are allowed five expense-paid trips to visit schools.

Jessica, because she is not a senior, can only receive letters, and due to NCAA rulings is not allowed to speak to any college recruiters.

Other players whom he thought likely to play key roles this year were Juniors Tanya Kelly, LaShawn Rollins and Sonya Clark. One of these three will more than likely replace JoJo.

With the guns that Central holds, they

are certain to be the team to bear additional pressure on the players well. Semrad emphasized the members prepare properly and games with the right attitude, win or lose, take care of itself.

Maurice said, "A lot of people expect a win for granted, but I think at the game everyone on the team will be serious. We are going to have to be serious."

Jessica believes the team will take to repeat what it did last year. "We already play as a team to work on running more and get our defense." Sarah, who believes the team's strength is its together, they have plenty of talent and speed, they must play with the same intensity year if they want to succeed.

Nothing will be taken for granted

Right now the team's only goal is to win each game as it is encountered. Semrad, nothing will be granted. He said, "I have not heard anything about the state tournament yet."

The lady Eagles' first test will be Benson December 1. Subsequently, the team's first goal for the season will be that game.

Eagle swim team goal is improved

Centrals swim team, which will be making some noticeable waves in the state by diving into their seasons by facing Marian December 6.

Carol Gebhart, Central's coach, said that although the boys' teams have slim chances of winning, they go into the meet with a competitive spirit. She said, "We are not a swimming team. Our goal for the meet will be to improve times of individual swimmers."

Basketball team to enter season weak in total experience

In recent years, Central High's boys' basketball teams have managed to end their season with winning percentages of only .500 or just below. The 1982-83 team broke that string by ending its season with a record of 10-9. According to Mr. James Martin, boys' basketball coach, "We are expected to do pretty well this year."

Martin said, "People around town seem to believe that we have good potential." But, he added, "We must be a little bit guarded in our optimism." He said this because defense might be the team's weakness early in the season. He said that the team will have to play good defense in order to do well. Because of this he said, "We might not come out until mid or late season."

On the offensive side of the court, Martin said that this year's team should be a faster one. He said that the team's rebounding and inside game should really be a strength. He also said that the team really should be able to run. Even though the team should be a running team, Martin said, "I'd like to have the team control the ball." He believes that good defenses can stop a running team. According to him, an additional asset to the team will be the fact that it will be a good shooting team.

Central has four returning lettermen: Herbert Johnson, Robert Johnson, Glenn Mathews, and Pat Salerno, all seniors. Even though the team has these returning players, Martin believes that the greatest weakness of the team will be experience. According to him, the biggest lack of experience rests with the larger players. He said that juniors David Moody and Bertrand Turnbo, two big players, are really skilled at their positions, but their lack of experience could hurt them. According to Martin, along with Moody and Turnbo, Shawn Starks, who is also a junior, could help the team in the rebounding department.

In comparing this year's team to recent teams, Martin said, "Skilled athletes with real height will be the biggest difference between this year's team and recent teams." And, because he feels that defense might be the early weakness in the team, Martin said, "We will use the guys who play good defense."

Versatile athlete

Mathews instrumental as two-way competitor

Glenn Mathews, senior, who initially participated in sports because he "wanted something to talk about," had no idea that when he went out for basketball in the fourth grade he would someday become an important member of Central High School's varsity football and basketball teams.



Glenn said that all kids talked about at that age was what team they were on. He said, "I just wanted to be part of the group. Back then I thought the uniform made you important."

According to him, he did not become seriously interested in sports until ninth grade. He said, "I had the ability before that; I just didn't show it."

Choosing what high school to attend proved to be a tough decision. He wanted a school with strong academics and a good sports program. Central and Creighton Prep both met these requirements, but it was ultimately the strength of Central's football program that made his decision.

As a sophomore at Central, Glenn managed to make the varsity football and basketball teams. In addition to seeing limited action on the varsity football team, Glenn played both running back and linebacker for the sophomore team. He was quite instrumental in leading the team to an undefeated record of 7-0.

Glenn played quarterback, a relatively new position for him, for much of this year's football season. He believes that at the

beginning of the year he did not completely comprehend the responsibility. He said, "The quarterback's job is to run the offense, and I needed to bear down and start concentrating."

He believes that he played fairly well this year, and except for a few mistakes which cost the team a shot at the state title, the season could be called a success.

Looking forward to this year's basketball season, he said, "If we put our heads together, I think this year's team can be better than last year's." Glenn and senior Robert Johnson are the only returning members of the team who started last year. Both he and Robert shared the position of guard. This year, however, both are likely to play every game.

Mr. Jim Martin, varsity basketball coach, said, "Glenn is extremely quick and has a good outside shot which complements his fine penetrating moves. His commitment is really solid, and he is willing to pay the price."

Glenn, who claims his parents are his most important influence, wished to say that everything he does is for them. He also described Central's coaches and teachers as being very influential. He said, "It helps when a coach or teacher talks to you and helps you work out your problems. It shows that they care."

Martin is a good example. Glenn, because of his quickness, often becomes needlessly pumped up and makes mistakes. He said, "Mr. Martin helped me relax; he told me there was a time to run and a time to slow down."

As a future goal, Glenn would like to be involved with sports broadcasting. He plans to major in journalism while in college and claims that "playing sports doesn't cross my mind that much." According to him, education is the most important thing to him.



photo by Roxanne Gryder

Glenn Mathews, senior, shoots shot during basketball tryouts. to play guard this year.

Central's gymnastics teams find success at state meet

Central's gymnastics teams finished their seasons with great success at both districts and state. At the state meet in Lincoln the girls finished fourth and the boys finished seventh.

Although the girls did not have an allround champion at the state meet, they did have one at the district meet. Kris Houlton, junior, captured every event and became a five-time medalist. She also collected three

medals at the State meet. "The first day wasn't very good, but after qualifying for the second day I did really well," said Kris.

Kris is the sister of Steve Houlton, Central's 1983 allround state gymnastics champion. "Hopefully I will follow in Steve's footsteps my senior year," said Kris.

Shanon Houston also received a medal at the state meet. She said, "This was the high point of my season."

Although Central's boys had no champion, Bryan Wine, senior, came within a hair's breadth of receiving one. "I worked hard all year to get a state medal, but I was unhappy with placing sixth."

According to Coach Kent Frick, Central's boy's team is predominantly young. "I think the boys are pretty satisfied with their performance at the state meet. It was a rewarding experience."