

## Assistant principal returns

Todd Peppers

Mr. Jim Wilson, assistant principal, may be new to the job, but he is no stranger to Central. "I am well acquainted with Central since I am a 1963 graduate," Wilson said and expressed excitement in returning to Central as an administrator.

Mr. Wilson replaces Mr. A.A. LaGreca who, after 18 years of service to Central High School, left to become the principal at Beveridge Junior High School. Mr. Gerald Brown, physics teacher and science department head, also transferred to Beveridge. He will replace Mr. Wilson as assistant principal.

Mr. Wilson served as assistant principal at Beveridge for 11 years, after teaching English and history at Morton Junior High School. "I had mixed emotions about leaving Beveridge," said Wilson, "but I wanted one day to return to Central."

"Physically the building has really changed, it is really more pleasant," Wilson said. He added, "One thing that has not changed are the students, they are still very studious and responsible."

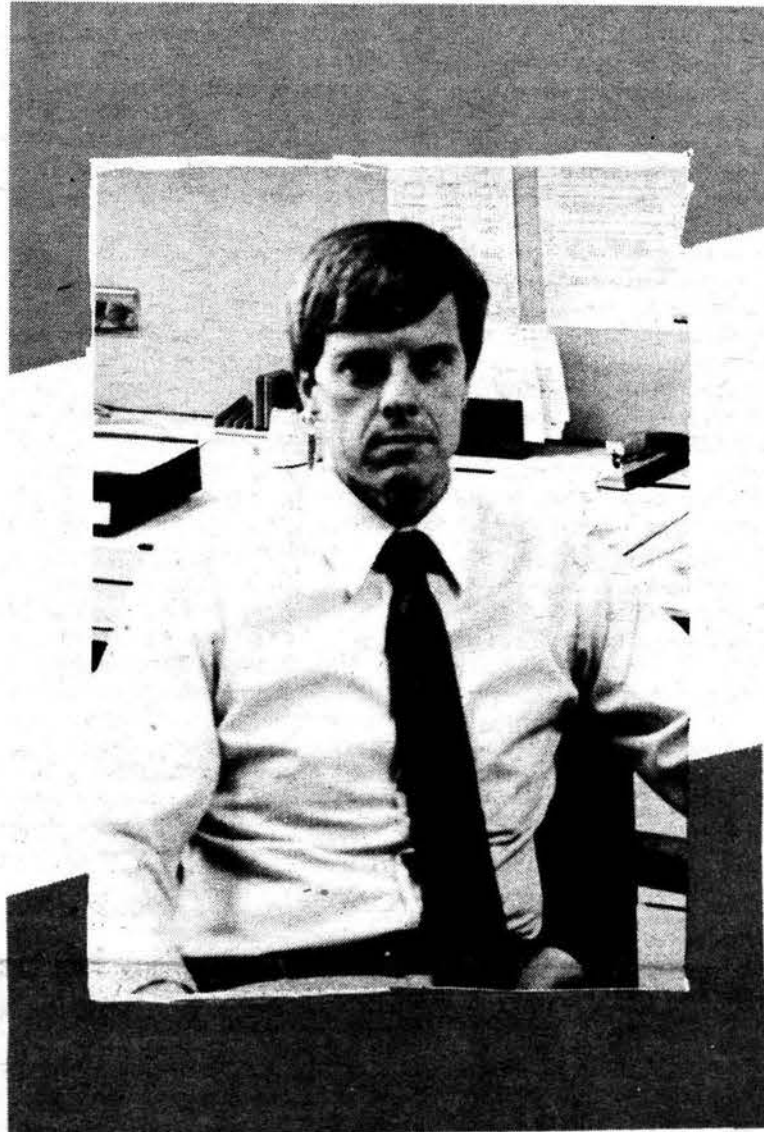


photo by Tim Combs

Mr. Wilson, Central assistant principal, reflects upon his days as Central High student.

## Central students work at WATS

Matt Pospisil

Quick money, easy work, flexible hours. Sounds like an interesting job, but what about rejections, negative attitudes, and burnout.

"The basic pitch of easy work and fast money was very appealing," said Pete Holmes, senior. Kurt Hubler, senior, also was impressed with the high wages and the flexible schedules. Bill Carmichael, senior, quit his job at McDonald's his sophomore year and applied at WATS Marketing of America because of the easy scheduling and because it was close to home.

WATS Marketing of America is one of many telemarketing services in the nation. One of the largest of its kind in the country, WATS is based in Omaha.

### Midwestern dialect

Telemarketing companies often are based in the Midwest because the Midwestern accent is so plain and easily understood and because this area is the center of the telecommunications network.

Kurt feels WATS is "good for people interested in sales and marketing." He also liked the great amount of responsibility involved with his job. "I was really impressed with the professional atmosphere," Kurt said.

When he started two years ago, Bill felt WATS was "first and foremost — people working together; however, more and more it is beginning to become a typical business because it's getting too big."

### Numerous supervisors

Bill said that with this expansion, changes are occurring. "I once knew all the supervisors, but now with the changes I may not even know my supervisor," said Bill.

Although reading the same story over and over again can be boring, Kurt is willing to accept this as part of his job. Kurt tries to deal with the rejection aspect of his job in a positive manner.

Bill recalls one instance in which he was talking to "a very polite lady." After talking for some time she finally said, "Well it's been nice talking to you, but I'm in labor and have to go."

However, Bill does have some problems with certain fund raisers. He feels bad accepting donations from people on fixed incomes whose donation is going towards defense projects rather than social programs.

Bill said, "I can't let personal feelings interfere with my sales, and I usually try harder on such sales."

Bill does run into occasional "dry streaks," but "sticks it out." He also says making sales is an "odds game."

Pete half jokingly said the best part of his job were his breaks. Actually during a six-hour shift Pete got two ten-minute breaks. Other than that he said, "The phone never left my ear."

"WATS treats kids lousy, if they like you, they keep you, if not, they can always hire more," Pete said.

### 'Ridiculously picky'

He also said that the supervisors who monitored his calls were "ridiculously picky." Feeling that the script was boring, Pete didn't like the idea of sticking to the script.

Pete finally quit because he said, "The aggravation of being on a phone for so long and sticking to a strict script and not being able to be yourself was too much."

Bill did quit for two months but could not find a place with as good pay or flexible schedules and return to WATS.

Kurt said, "Flexible hours are good because you can work when you want to."

Bill is not going to work at WATS for life. "It's just to get me by," he said.

Pete said, "You can make it if you can handle the aggravation."

Although WATS is definitely an expanding field, offering many employment opportunities for students, like any other career, it isn't for everyone.

## Seniors' last day looks unclear

Mike Mehann

Senior commencement is scheduled for Saturday, May 31, at 10:00 a.m. at the Civic Auditorium, but the date on which seniors are dismissed from school remains unclear. Dr. G.E. Moller, Central principal, said any changes from last year's schedule on the official dismissal of seniors must be made by Dr. Norbert Schuerman, Omaha Public School Superintendent, or a committee appointed by him. Dr. Moller said if there were any changes in the schedule it would be due to the Nebraska State Legislature ruling requiring more school days.

The amount of "Free days" seniors are released from school before commencement, is still undecided. Dr. Moller speculated that if the school year for seniors was lengthened, the 504 Central seniors would and

**"It is all right to be happy and high spirited as long as no one degrades or shows signs of disrespect for others during the ceremony."**

should be able to make use of their last few days productively.

Dr. Moller replied to the question of whether or not there will be any future mistakes in commencement following last year's misscheduling of Northwest and Central's commencement for the same day, by saying that the dates for the ceremonies are projected five years in advance and there should not be any future problems.

Commencement dates are decided by the superintendent and principals, depending on when civic facilities are available. Dates for commencement are also alternated among

seven Omaha schools so that the same school does not have the first or the last date every year.

Dr. Moller also discussed pranks and the appropriate attire for commencement ceremonies. He stated that "pranks have no place at commencement; however it is all right to be happy and high spirited as long as no one degrades or shows signs of disrespect for others during the ceremony. The dress code is basically left up to the tasteful choice of the individual except men are required to wear trousers and are also asked to wear a tie. Foot attire is also up to the individual with the exception of sandals."



## Viewpoints

Will the new law requiring seat belts affect your attitude about wearing seat belts?

**Warren Lynch, sophomore**

"Yes. It makes me not want to wear them even more. A friend of my mother's died because of injuries due to a seat belt."



**Kennette Allen, senior**

"Now that it is a law I'll wear them. I don't want to break the law."



photos by Shanda Brewer

**Arthur Batten, junior**

"I really don't think they should have the law. The law is a problem because many of the seat belts don't work. It is a problem remembering to wear them."



**Allen Klopfer, sophomore**

"It probably won't because I wore them before the law—especially when I drive."



photos by Phil Berman

# REGISTER

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## Record ratings defeat purpose

Picture this. A young person casually strolls into his favorite record store, not planning to buy anything, but willing to if a good record appears. Slowly ambling down the aisle of rock albums, he stops to thumb through a stack. About half way through a stack he stops when he notices a sticker displaying an "X" or "Parental guidance, explicit lyrics," on the cover of an album. His curiosity skyrockets. He might end up buying that album.

Picture this. A rebellious 14-year-old enters a record store just like the first one did. If he sees an album marked V (violence), or D/A (promotion of drugs or alcohol), he may buy that album simply because he knows that it will be an outlet for feelings penned up inside of him.

Picture this. According to "U.S. News and World Report," it has taken a small group of politician's wives in Washington D.C. only three months to convince 19 record firms, representing 80% of all records and tapes distributed in the United States, to "voluntarily" place these tags on some albums and tapes.

According to "Rolling Stone," albums containing explicit or profane lyrics would receive an X, those promoting drugs or alcohol a D/A, those glorifying violence a V, and those pertaining to the occult an O. These warnings, or similar ones, would appear on the protective plastic wrappings on albums, not on the actual covers, states an employee of Homer's Record Store.

While a problem with some lyrics does exist, displaying ratings on album covers is definitely not the answer.

The purpose of this organization, known as the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC), is to inform parents of what kind of lyrics their child is listening to. They have good intentions, but their solution is unrealistic for several reasons.

Consider the number of parents who are with their child when he or she buys an album. Also consider the number of young people who would buy an album simply because it had a provocative rating. The second group is likely to be much larger.

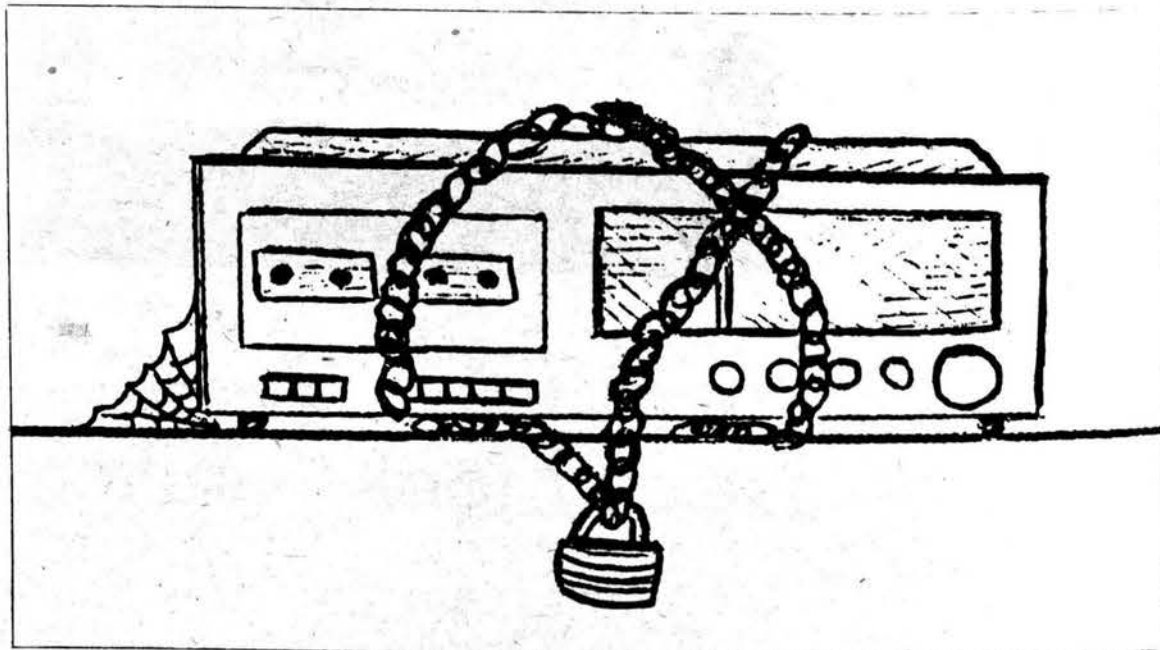
Another reason involves sheer numbers. According to "Rolling

Stone," 2500 records are released each year, each containing about ten songs. That's 25,000 songs — each one would have to be reviewed.

Look at what happened in the movie industry. Producers and directors discovered that an R rating meant almost assured success at the box office. Will this happen in the record industry?

Most importantly, where will the line be drawn? Judas Priest's "Eat Me Alive," Prince's "Darling Nikki," and Madonna's "Dress You Up," are all candidates for the X rating, states "Rolling Stone." In "Darling Nikki" and "Eat Me Alive," the explicit language is obvious, but in "Dress You Up" the language is not so obvious. When does a love song become a "sexually explicit" song? Whose guidelines will the record industry follow?

The PMRC is justifiable in its concerns over lyrics, but they are going about it in the wrong way. Groups such as Motley Crue, AC/DC, and performers such as Prince and Madonna thrive on "shock" lyrics. Giving them more attention won't make the situation any better.



## New belt law will save lives

Last summer, Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole announced an unprecedented measure stating that unless two-thirds of the United States passed a mandatory seat belt law by April 1989, every new automobile would have air bags or automatic seat belts installed.

The threat arrived in Nebraska in the form of Legislative Bill 496, effective since September 6. Although police officers must ticket for another traffic violation before the driver is fined \$25 for not complying with the ordinance, many Nebraskans are still searching for convincing reasons not to buckle up.

The most notorious reason given is "I'm a careful driver, I could never have an accident." But what happens when the "terrible" driver slams into you? Statistics from the February issue of "Science Digest" show that the average driver will have one accident every ten years. Of these accidents, a 50 percent chance of injury exists.

Many people cultivate the illusion that it is safer to be thrown from a car than trapped. Of this argument, "Science Digest" concludes, "Being thrown from a car is 25 times more lethal than being trapped."

One underlying reason for the

low use of seat belts is the masculine image. Each week television chase serials show Hollywood stuntmen surviving a rollover or collision without a seat belt. Many people have yet to understand that a ten-mile-an-hour crash is equal to catching two pounds of cement hurled from a second story window.

The facts should be eye opening. In 1984, 22,576 deaths resulted from automobile accidents. An estimated 9,900 deaths could have been prevented by wearing seat belts. How many lives can we afford to lose in 1985 because of ignorance?



## Memories remain at park

Standing back, the man smiled proudly at his work. A bright orange "SOLD" sign stood, not inconspicuously, in our frontyard.

I walked two blocks past the "SOLD" sign to Tomahawk Park. When I was a little kid people used to go there all the time — mothers with their hyper children, boys playing baseball, and teen-agers "hanging out". Now it's just a quiet old park with rusty swingsets and paths worn into the hard ground.

When I was in kindergarten the older kids showed me a shortcut to school through the park.

"It saves time, it saves energy, and it saves us from The Dog," they used to tell me.

I never did see The Dog.

"Mom, I'm bored," I complained endlessly. "There's nothing to do. It's the same old thing day after day after day."

In the same half enthusiastic, half mechanical tone, she always suggested that I go to the park.

With a renewed sense of adventure, my brother, my sister, and I started off on our "long journey" carrying a thermos of Kool-Aid and a plentiful supply of peanut butter sandwiches.

When I got my first baby-sitting job, I suggested going to the park the very minute I heard the familiar words, "I'm bored."

Positive that at the age of 12 I was the most mature person in the whole park, I watched the children climbing trees, swinging, and feasting on the familiar peanut butter picnics. I could not



Afterthought

— Vina Kay —

allow myself to take part in such juvenile activity.

I remember a cold, snowy February night when a very special person told me for the first time that he loved me. The world seemed to stand still and I heard only his warm voice in the dark quietness.

I would go back to the park several times after that night to relive that special moment. I would stand where we stood and try to remember the exact words he said to me.

It was then that I realized what Tomahawk Park really means to me. It isn't just any neighborhood park, it is my park. It is where I grew up and experienced all the changes in my life — from a timid little kindergartner to a young girl in love for the first time. It is where my memories are.

On Tuesday I'll face yet another change in my life. A change in address. It's funny in a way. The thing that I'll miss the most is not my home, but rather Tomahawk Park. It hurts to say good-bye, but maybe it's time I turn Tomahawk Park over to someone else.

## 'I want to be a sophomore'

Don't tell anyone, but I want to be a sophomore again. That's right, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you — I wanna be a good ole "scuffmore" one more time, to be young and innocent, to buy elevator passes, and to trip over doorstops.

Now listen up while I explain why, before members of the senior class shoot me for treason.

My friends, the simple truth is it's just too hard to be a senior in today's society. Forget all the propaganda you've heard about senior's "ruling the school." Sure we get little extras like our own parking lot and an occasional sophomore's lunch money, but the tradeoffs are rotten.

### Dangers await seniors

I can tell my eager little sophomore readers are drooling with delight as they read this, waiting for the dark secret to come out — so I will enlighten them on the dangers awaiting members of the senior class.

The DRAFT. That's right, the selective service. I'll give you three chances to guess who was the lucky guy registering for this a week ago. And let me tell all you television freaks — being in the Army isn't like "M\*A\*S\*H" or "Hogan's Heroes." We're talk-



Scattered Thoughts

— Todd Peppers —

'... Mommy doesn't let me stay out after dark.'

ing big time here, with live grenades, carrying a fifty pound pack on a ten mile march, and latrine ditch-digging.

I'm just hoping the Big Guy in the White House doesn't get mad and invade Canada or something because my Mommy doesn't let me stay out after dark. — Sorry, Ron.

And what is worse than war, bloodshed, and death? Only one thing to me, the ACT and SAT tests. Oh sure, as a sophomore they seem like a joke. Just connect the dots and make a picture of either Bozo the Clown or Spot the Wonder Dog. There is only

one problem, Buckeroos, colleges don't want you if these tests aren't passed with flying colors. Then you live with Mom and Dad for the rest of your life and paint street numbers on curbs for a living.

### Einstein look-alike

If you pass the tests with flying colors, it's even worse. Colleges start sending you colorful brochures by the ton. They all look the same, with pictures of happy blond cheerleaders, muddy macho football players, and a young Einstein look-alike who is bending over a bubbling beaker of what's probably cherry Kool-Aid. Then, instead of laying out in the backyard this summer and getting the perfect tan, you have to visit these colleges. Some guy named Don, Dan, or Dave gives you a tour of the campus and shows you things you've never seen before — places like classrooms, gymnasiums, and my favorite, a cafeteria that always smells like sauerkraut.

It's too late for me, but you sophomores still have time to act and postpone this terrible fate. Simply go to your counselor and demand to be put on Central's "Four-year Plan." You will be red-shirted for a season and given the rank of "junior-more." If your counselor gives you any flak about your change, just tell him Todd sent you. You better hurry, though, 'cause Uncle Sam wants YOU.



Becky Reynolds

## PRIDE:

(prīd), n. 1. a sense of one's own dignity or worth.; self-respect. 2. delight or satisfaction in one's achievements, possessions, etc. 3. the best of a class, group, society, etc. 4. A senior portrait from Regency Photo.

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# Foreign Affairs

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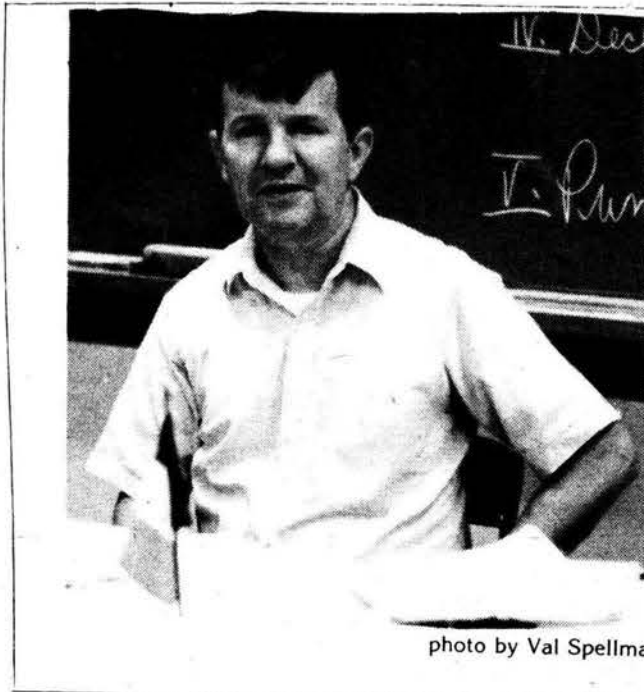


photo by Val Spellman



Mr. Keenan relaxes at his desk while he reminisces about his summer trip to Ireland.

## Student isolation

Don Benning

Paris, Bonn, Stockholm, and Madrid. Are these places you have only dreamed about? Well, last summer several students had the opportunity to visit these cities and many more.

The majority of the students traveling overseas went on the Jelarco international program. The French Jelarco program took students through various parts of France and French speaking Switzerland. Students included Jeff Burk, Mary Burnes, Pam Cupps, Kerry Flynn, Tracy Glass, Shanen Houston, Sandy Johnson, David Long, Danielle Miller, Kelly Penry, Jennifer Sampson, Beth Scott, Lisa Tubach, and Chris Bates.

Another Jelarco program took students through Spain. Centralites on the program included Brenda Barber, Jeff Palzer, Jenae Plourde, and Kris Ortmeier.

The German Jelarco students who traveled through West Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and East Berlin included: Gillian Coolidge, Tim Gashinshi, Heidi Graverholt, Pete Holmes, Joel Johnson, Toni Koob, Todd Schmidt, Joe Montequin, Caroline Nubel, Margi Shugrue, and John Krecek.

In the Jelarco program, the students toured the countries and then stayed with a family for one week. Tracey Webster and Sonna Voss went on the Nacel program to France and Germany where they stayed with a family for four weeks.

Mr. John Frakes, Central French and German teacher and also chaperon for the Jelarco program, said that for students traveling overseas for the first time, he prefers the Jelarco program because the students can see more of the country they are visiting. Mr. Frakes added that if you wish to have intense practice with the language, Nacel is a better program.

Some students from Central traveled to Israel with their youth groups this summer. The students included Phil Berman, Wendy Novicoff, Julie Weiner, and Steve Zabin. Sara Lundberg went to Sweden through Lions' Club International.

Even with the increased tourist activity, this did not affect most of the students traveling overseas. "Traveling overseas should be an enjoyable learning

experience, and for the most part it was. The main difficulty came from a feeling of isolation in a foreign country and inability to speak the language fluently," says Senior Pete Holmes, who traveled to Germany.

When asked if the growing amount of terrorism had a substantial effect on the trip, most students said no. Wendy Novicoff said most of the worrying came from family and friends, but she had no second thoughts on whether she would go to Israel, even after the TWA Hijacking.

Toni Koob, Senior stated that she wasn't aware of most of the terrorism acts being perpetrated and that because of that, she had little to worry about it. Toni expressed how sad she felt seeing the memorial at the Frankfurt Airport and then she began to feel uneasy.

Margi Shugrue said the only time she really felt uneasy is when they went to the Frankfurt Airport to leave Germany, which had been bombed two weeks earlier. "It was really weird seeing and being at the spot where the bomb went off," said Margi. "My main worry came from whether or not something mechanical would go wrong with the plane rather than it being hijacked," Margi added. Students and teachers expressed how different the airport security in Europe was compared to that of U.S. Airports. Mr. Frakes said he was really surprised when he stepped off the plane and saw guards carrying machine guns.

Wendy stated how thorough the security was at the Rome Airport. She said the luggage was checked, and very advanced metal detection devices were used at the airport.

Students said they felt secure overall, and safety precautions were taken to ensure their well-being.

Wendy said she felt safe because many world events and terrorist acts happening in Israel were kept from the students so they wouldn't worry or become upset. Margi Shugrue said she did not even learn of the TWA hijacking of U.S. citizens until she was back in the U.S.

Overall, Margi says that the trip was a valuable experience and she gained a lot from the people and the country.

## Mr. Keenan takes trip into the past

Gerry Huey

Mr. John Keenan, Central English teacher, spent 11 days in Ireland tracing his genealogy last summer.

Mr. Keenan followed his family back to his great-grandfather, who was a river boat pilot. Mr. Keenan learned that his family were mainly farmers. Though he was unable to see his family's farm or thatched-roof houses, he does have pictures of them in his house.

Mr. Keenan's mother, who was born in the southern Ireland city of Dundalk, came to the United States in 1927. His father, born in the northern city of Armagh, came to the United States in 1926. They met in New York while working for the same company. Mr. Keenan's father returned to Ireland many times, but this is Mr. Keenan's first trip to Ireland.

The tour group of 40 people made friends easily. A tour company prearranged hotels, food, and tourist attractions.

During his eight to ten hour flight on an Aer Lingus 747 plane, he was accompanied by four other Keenan families.

Mr. Keenan said northern Ireland was beautiful, but the feelings there were very tense; he enjoyed southern Ireland much more.

In southern Ireland he saw very few policemen, but when he went to northern Ireland, greater numbers of heavily armed policemen were present.

"They seemed to be prepared for something," said Mr. Keenan.

Overall, he felt that the people in Ireland were very nice. He gave an example of how a

grocery clerk in Cong, a small Irish city, ran after the tour bus to return a roll of dollar bills that a man from the tour had left behind in the store.

Mr. Keenan was surprised by the great pride the Irish have for the United States. He said that he saw more of the United States' flag than Ireland's flag.

During his tour, he visited coastal cities of Dublin, Cork, Waterfront, Shannon, Calariny, and Galway.

Mr. Keenan's trip was during the last two weeks in July, but his tour of Ireland lasted for eleven days.

Mr. Keenan said he would like to return to Ireland, but the next time he goes, he and his family would travel alone and not with a tour group.

## Exchange students visit Central

Sean McCann

This year Central again has foreign exchange students. Stephen Schaefer from West Germany, Helena M. Pardos from Spain, and Helene Sandberg from Sweden are visiting Central. Helen and Helena came on official exchange programs. Stephen came on his own and is staying with friends in the United States.

All three desired to learn about the people and way of life" as Stephen explained. Or, as Helena said, "I wanted to know other customs." Helene also felt "curious" to understand the United States. Stephen also

desired "to improve my English."

The three had not studied the United States much, except for "history and the wars" by Helena. Despite this, Stephen thought the United States would have "more people in less room" although he really "didn't think about it that much." Helene desired more time to understand this country but still thought the United States would be "different." Helena only remarked that the United States was "very different from Europe."

Why Central? None of the three had identical reasons for

choosing Central over the other high schools. Helene's host parents chose for her. Stephen thought Central would have "better teachers" because of its size. Helena chose Central because she decided it would be best to "go with my new sister" Central senior, Diane Perrigo.

Helene and Stephen both intend to join Central's soccer club later in the year, and Stephen also thought he might try tennis, even feeling that he might not be "good enough." Helena thought she had "no time...perhaps later with more time" as soon as she adjusts to the new school.



# Central support group celebrates tenth anniversary



photo by Shanda Brewer

Mrs. Zerse and Mr. Moran are founders of Central support group

"The support group has been transformed, but the needs are the same," said Central counselor Kevin Moran. "In 1984 the support group was added to the official school schedule for the first time and met twice a week during the school day instead of after school."

Moran feels a support group is an important activity for alcoholic students going to school while undergoing treatment.

"It was hard watching kids coming back to a situation that made it difficult for them to succeed. A school with high academic standards like Central teaches students to build for the future, and this places extreme pressure on kids who are only trying to take one day at a time," Mr Moran said.

Mrs. Geraldine Zerse, Central counselor, points out that not all the students who come to the support group are alcoholics.

### "Only one out of every 33 people get help"

"Last year one-fourth of the students coming to our meeting were kids affected by alcoholic family members." Mrs. Zerse also said, "What people don't understand is that alcoholism is not a weakness of character, it is a disease."

Mrs. Zerse estimated that ten percent of Central students are alcoholic and stated, "Only one out of 33 people ever get help; however, 75 percent of those people going for help are successful in staying sober."

### Drinking since 12

One of those people who has had success in staying sober is Mary, (not her real name) a Central junior. "Alcohol was an escape, an escape from myself," said Mary. "I began drinking when I was 12, and it wasn't until the age of 15 that I realized I had a problem."

Mary feels that the support group is helpful because "with the pressures in school it is really good to see some kids from the support group." She adds, "I don't have the craving for alcohol today, but I don't know about tomorrow. You just have to take it one day at a time."

Mary's friend, also a member of the support group, said, "It really scares me that some kids fall off the wagon." Mary added, "It motivates you to keep going."

Mrs. Zerse, when asked how it feels to have a member of the support group begin drinking again, said, "I don't take it personally. It's like a kid you know has potential drops out of an advance placement English class." Both Mrs. Zerse and Mr.

Moran stressed the fact that the support group is not a form of Alcoholic Anonymous. "The group is strictly for support, no advice is given," said Mr. Moran.

### Average Meetings

Mrs. Zerse explained an average meeting. "The kids sit in a circle and talk about problems, discuss goals, or just give advice."

### "Students from all walks of life"

The students are from all walks of life, not from only one group of students. They usually find out about the meeting from word of mouth or through an "alcoholic grapevine."

Mrs. Zerse is especially proud of the fact that the support group has a high success rate. "Out of the 12 seniors involved in our support group 11 graduated, and one girl transferred to another school"

Both Mrs. Zerse and Mr. Moran feel the support group fills a great need at Central and state in a paper written about the group that "we believe a support group is an answer for retaining students who might otherwise be lost in making the transition back to school when they choose to grow in sobriety."

### Odd Peppers

A special program at Central High School celebrated its tenth anniversary this fall, a program that many Central students do not know even exists.

A Support Group for chemically dependent high school students was founded in

1975 by Central counselors Geraldine Zerse and Kevin Moran. The main purpose of the group at that time was not to provide a substitute for Alcoholics Anonymous, but to provide a place where students could go for advice and support.

# Sophomore overcomes problems to conquer Central

### Vina Kay

He walks down the crowded hall, an overstuffed backpack slung over his shoulder, rushing to get to his next class on time. In one hand he carries a portable typewriter, and in the other a Braille and a cane.

John Miller, sophomore, is an honors student taking such classes as honors English, Honors Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus, and Chemistry. He has been playing the piano for five years and has a paper route. And he is blind.

"There really aren't any advantages to being blind," said John, except that sometimes I get to take my tests later."

All of John's tests are sent to the Omaha Public School's Instructional Media Center (IMC) to be translated into Braille. His textbooks are specially ordered in Braille. Braille is the universally accepted system of printing and writing for the blind, in which letters, numerals, and punctuation are made of raised dots distinguishable by the fingers.

"I don't understand Braille," said Mrs. Terry Saunders, John's honors English teacher, "but we haven't had any problems yet."

One corner of Mrs. Saunder's room is equipped with a typewriter, a tape recorder, and tapes in order for John to keep the

same pace as his classmates.

"One problem that we are having is with graphing," said Mrs. Delores Kovarik, John's Honors Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus teacher. "We haven't come up with a way for John to do the graphing involved in such topics as linear programming."

John agreed that he sometimes has a problem taking notes in his math class.

"It's hard for me to picture some of the examples on the board," he said.

Both Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Kovarik did agree that their teaching has changed a little to fit John.

"I try to read and describe problems as I write them on the board," said Mrs. Kovarik. "I've had to plan assignments and write out tests one week in advance," said Mrs. Saunders. "It takes three or four days to get things back from the IMC."

John has gone to regular schools all his life and doesn't feel any different about Central.

"I'm normal enough. This school's only problem is that it's the same on all sides and on every floor. I only have a few complaints about this building, but none about the people in it."

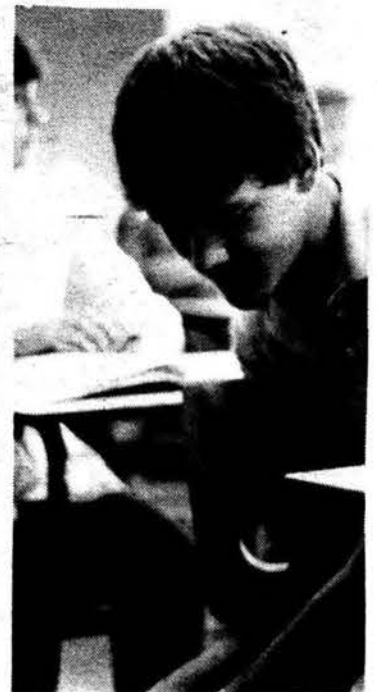



photo by Shanda Brewer

Central sophomore John Miller in trig class.



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## In Brief

Creighton University, Central's Partner in Excellence, is offering Central seniors the opportunity to take three college credit hours for \$20 a credit hour at Creighton. The class, psychology, is held every Wednesday for one semester, for three hours.

Seniors Don Benning, Mike Salerno, Jo Krell, and Jill Stommes attended Boys' and Girls' State at the UNL campus last summer. Jill was elected Senator, and Don and Mike received the Outstanding Citizen's Award from their towns.

Nebraska Scholar's Institute conducted a workshop at the UNL campus last summer. Seniors Eric Biggs, Sean McCann, Laura Murray, Matt Reynolds, and Debby Ziskovsky attended social science, math, science, and journalism classes.

Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Central Spanish teacher, protested apartheid by picketing the South African Embassy with 2200 other teachers in Washington D.C. last summer.

Central High A Cappella elected its officers: Pete Holmes, president; Wendy Novicoff, vice-president; Julie Howland, secretary; Heather Carpenter, treasurer; John Skoog, senior representative; John Pavell, and Joe Montequin, junior representatives; and sophomore representative Chris Steele.

Junior Classical League 1985-1986 officers are: Senior consul, John Argyrakis, Vince Carlson, Matt Pospisil; Junior consul, Travis Mood, David Weill; Treasurer, Dan Rock; Historians, Andy Carlson, Liz Lanphier; Photographers, Vina Kay, Lisa Jensen; Secretaries, Pat Bartmess, Dan Sitzman.

Spanish Club officers for the 1985-86 year are John Skoog, president; Laura Murray, vice-president; Mimi Sterett, secretary; Andrea Peterson, treasurer; John Pavell, sergeant-at-arms; and Val Spellman, photographer/historian.

Central's Homecoming Game will be against Creighton Prep on September 27, 7:30 p.m. at UNO. The Dance will be held in UNO Ballroom at 8:00 p.m.

O-Books for the 1985-86 school year will go on sale in early October. The cost is \$14 with an activity ticket and \$15 without. The cost includes the end-of-the-year supplement.

# Have no fear, George and Virgil are here

Mike Meehan

In the likeness of Batman and Robin, the Lone Ranger and Tonto, The Green Hornet and Kato, a new Dynamic Duo of George Taylor and Virgil Rohlff join the exalted group of heroes. George and Virgil are Central's security team who handle everything from making sure your locker opens to providing you with a secure and enjoyable atmosphere for your education.

### Former military sergeant

Both George Taylor and Virgil Rohlff come from experienced backgrounds in dealing with large numbers of people and in defusing difficult situations. George Taylor, who was formerly a military sergeant with a command of 200 men, has been on the job at Central since 1969. At this time, George was one of four security personnel consisting of two men and two women. The major reason for having such a

large security force was the racial conflict. "Fights in those days," said George, "were group against group, black vs. white, not like today, where a dispute is just between two individuals." George also stated that the cafeterias were segregated by the students even though both were open to all students.

### Individual Studies Center

George talked about The Individual Studies Center, which was introduced for the troubled students who couldn't get along in a normal school atmosphere during the turmoil times of the sixties. Here problematic students could be dealt with on a more personal level.

George stated that his stay at Central has been generally pretty good except for a few years ago when a girl armed with a box opener, which is a metal handle with a razor on the end, tried to settle a grudge with another girl. Fortunately some alert construc-



George and Virgil smile while checking that no one eats outside over the lunch hour.

tion workers were able to assist George by pinning the girl to the wall and disarming her.

"Girls are the worst fighters. Guys, you can stop, but girls will kick you in the shins," said George.

### New Partner

Until five years ago, George always had a security partner, and now this year, he again has

a partner. His new partner, Virgil Rohlff, is a 30-year veteran of the Omaha Police Department. Virgil has had experience with students by working at football games and teaching public safety in Omaha area schools.

George said things are going very well, and Virgil stated that these first few weeks of school have given him "a nice introduction to Central."

## Central teachers visit national battleground

Matt Pospisil

On a hot summer's day in 1876 General George Custer came upon the largest mass of Indians ever assembled in North America. Almost two thousand strong, the Indians quickly obliterated the soldiers.

With Custer and over two hundred men, also died in the final incidents of the battle. No man lived to tell the story. However, the mystery and interest surrounding the battle have not died. Over one hundred years after the battle, a prairie fire swept across the National Battlefield giving scientists the opportunity to conduct the first extensive excavations.

Mr. Gary Kubik and Mr. George Grillo, Central teachers, accompanied Dr. Scott from Lin-

### "Just to be there, walking the ground that Custard and his men scrambled over . . ."

coln, Nebraska, who was heading up the investigation, to the battlefield to participate in the investigation and increase their knowledge of Custer's Last Stand.

"I started all this back in 1970. At first my research on Custer was a hobby," said Mr. Kubik. Today, Mr. Kubik has compiled a "fairly large" library on the Plains Indians. He also said he has "a rich interest in the past." Mr. Kubik also said that he approached history as a hobby, rather than from an academic position.

Mr. Grillo's interest in the past

stems from the fact that he is a history teacher and enjoyed researching both colonial and Great Plains history. Two years ago, a friend asked him to go to the archaeological dig at Custer National Battlefield, but Mr. Grillo could not attend.

Mr. Grillo's friend became involved with the Custer excavation "to the maximum of his potential. He became a rabid fan of the dig," said Mr. Grillo.

Mr. Grillo attended the Annual Member Meeting of the Custer Battlefield Historical Society. Mr. Grillo found out that for

\$60.00 he could get on a three day tour of battle sites culminating in Custer Battlefield. Mr. Grillo said, "It sounds great."

Mr. Kubik and Mr. Grillo agreed that their tour was a fabulous experience. Mr. Grillo summed up the tour saying "Just being there, walking the ground that Custer and his men scrambled over and seeing the graves of the dead were very impressive."

Mr. Kubik said the excavations have uncovered many new answers to the many questions surrounding the battlesite. He added, "Some changes are going to be made in the historical account of the battle."

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## Senior nabs 410lb. marlin

Jan Rock

Even the guests on Billy Bob's Wide World of Fishing don't bring home a 400 pound fish. But, Thatcher Davis, senior, while vacationing in Bermuda, caught the third largest marlin in that area this year. The eleven foot long fish weighed 410 pounds. Thatcher "had to pull and fight for every inch" as he towed it for an hour and 15 minutes.

The day started out lucky as Thatcher and his family began their voyage on the guided deep sea fishing boat. Thatcher received two strikes from the marlin which he would catch later on in the day. However, the

family took turns sitting in the chair to which the large fishing pole was mounted.

Thatcher's next turn in the chair proved exciting when the marlin took the bait. The bait was a lure, one foot long with a hook one half that size. The marlin pulled the line out one fourth of a mile before Thatcher was harnessed to the pole and began the battle. "It was unbelievable to be tense for an hour and one-half with 400 pounds pulling against you," remarked Thatcher reflecting back. "I cringe, thinking about it."

When the fish was finally within 100 feet of the boat, it ran out one fourth of a mile again. By now Thatcher was extremely tired and discouraged because he thought he was fighting a three foot fish. "That's the hardest I've ever sweated," said Thatcher. To prove how hard he was sweating he wears the shiny brass bracelet he was wearing which turned gray from the salty sweat. Thatcher thought he was going to pass out under the noon-day sun, but his family cheered him on.

Then to Thatcher's relief the Captain yelled, "I see it." The marlin came in close and Thatcher was amazed to see a gigantic brown shadow. It took four men to bring what Thatcher thought was a three-foot fish into the boat.

After Thatcher had a nap, he and his family reached the decision to have the marlin mounted. The biggest problem facing Thatcher and his family now is where to display the enormous marlin when it arrives from Bermuda.



photo by Jannette Davis

Thatcher Davis pulls in marlin.

## Leodis 'leads with actions'



Extra Point

Travis Fezell

He has sprinter's speed, incredible size, and untapped potential as a football player. No, this is not former Central star and Nebraska standout Keith Jones. Nor is it Central graduate Larry Station, a sure pro football prospect. It is juniorLeodis Flowers, an outstanding football player in his own right.

At age 16,Leodis Flowers is touted as one of the best running backs to come out of Central High School. This may not sound like a mighty statement to many, but consider the list including Keith Jones, Bernard Jackson, last year's Metro rushing champion, and Gale Sayers, a long-time standout for the Chicago Bears. "He has the potential to be one of the best of all time at Central," says head Coach William Reed. "He has incredible athletic ability. He's a great runner, but he also catches the ball well and blocks well. And the thing is, he hasn't even reached his potential yet."

With the spotlight shining brightly onLeodis, one might think that all the fame may go to his head. Yet, it is the farthest thing from his mind. "Right now, I don't like all this attention I'm getting," voicesLeodis. "It's put on added pressure, and I have to live up to everyone's expectations."

Leodis is obviously mature beyond his years. As Kelly



photo by Tim Combs

'He has potential to be one of the best of all time at Central.'

Avery, his close friend, states, "He's a very nice individual and great person. He doesn't like the hype he's getting. But give him a year of maturity and see what he does."

Leodis is also a subdued individual, yet a team leader. "He's the quiet type, a real laid-back guy," says teammate Mike Salerno. "But he leads with his actions, not with his words."

Flowers began playing football for fun only five years ago at the Wesley House Boys' Club. Even at the beginning of his days as a football player,Leodis was a running back. "It was always my natural position," saysLeodis. He then moved on to a successful freshman football year at Martin Luther King Junior High School. After his freshman year he decided to join the ranks of the Eagle football team. "I chose Central because it had a good football program, and I thought Coach Reed could

help me. Sure, I had natural talent, but Coach Reed's advice and hard work have helped me become a better football player."

In the future,Leodis would like to make a career out of football. "I'd like to go on and play college football and then after that I have to wait and see what happens," saysLeodis. "But even with football, I still think my education is important."

As it stands, success seems imminent forLeodis. "He accepts things well and has an excellent attitude," states Coach Reed. "Already, colleges around the Midwest are contacting me about him." As a seniorLeodis will graduate a 195-200 pound running back with 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, both excellent attributes for any college running back. "He's a great kid, very mature for his age," says Coach Reed. "He will have great success."

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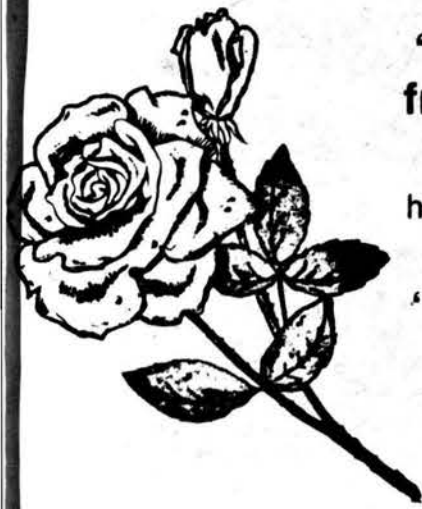
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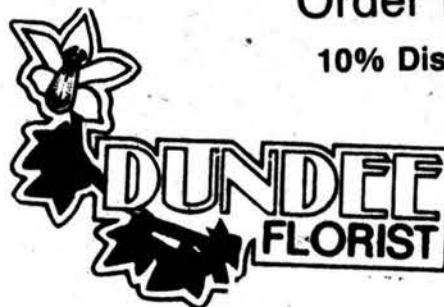
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# Boys cross country 'dedicated'

Travis Feezell

Imagine running 3.1 miles in under 25 minutes. To the average, unconditioned student of Central High School, it could be a major task. But to the 1985 version of the Central cross-country team, this is only a casual stroll or leisurely jog. Their actual pace would be closer to eighteen minutes.

Cross-country as a high school sport is highly individualized, yet somewhat team oriented. "In cross-country you take the top five runners and have them run a 3.1 mile course which includes challenging hills and rough terrain," explains senior runner Eric White.

"Then as the runners come in, they are given points for the place they finish," Eric said. This way you have an individualized sport with people running within themselves, and a team sport with points adding up for each team member. This way the number one runner is as important as the number five runner. You need five good runners to do well."

The cross-country team is a close-knit group of seven men including Eric White, Frank Nuno, Dan Sitzman, Matt Carpenter, Marc Lucas, Jim Martin, and Doug Stansberry. "They are a very cohesive group of people," explains cross-country coach Mr. Geringer. "They're all very good people and they listen to one another. Above all, though, they are incredibly dedicated. I have seven runners who know they can't miss practice."

Dedication is something Coach Geringer strives for. "Mr. Geringer is extremely dedicated, and it shows when he runs with us every day," explains Dan Sitzman. "He is the best kind of coach to have because he helps us to become better runners, helps us set goals, and actually knows how we feel when we run."

"Mr. Geringer is a great guy. You couldn't ask for more in a coach," says Eric White.

Recently Mr. Geringer has instituted a new training routine to help his runners become faster and stronger. It is a routine whereby the runners set a target time for the mile as a goal and use combinations of long and short distances at increasing paces to reach the goal. "As their mile times come down, so should their three mile times," explains Mr. Geringer. "I hope to have the runners reaching their goals and peaking by districts and state."

The goal for the team this year is to make it to the state meet, following a precedent set by the previous four teams. "If everyone does his job, we should do alright this year," voices Eric White. "Sure we'd love to make the state meet, but it isn't only that. Cross-country is such a satisfying sport. You get a great feeling of accomplishment from what you put in."



photo by Mary Turco

Eric White fights to hold lead.

# Athletes maintain successful vacations

Thatcher Davis

Many Central High School athletes took time out this summer to participate in various athletic camps and tournaments. Numerous camps and tournaments were held around the country enabling them to compete against other athletes of the same caliber.

Mike Beasley, Central senior, attended the B.C. All-stars basketball camp in Rennsalee, Indiana, which is labeled by some as the best basketball camp in the country. Mike was the only basketball player chosen from Omaha and one of

five selected from Nebraska to attend the camp. This year the 450 camp members included the number one collegiate prospect in America and many other nationally ranked players.

"It showed me how hard I had to work and what the college coaches will expect," said Mike. Approximately 450 college coaches and scouts passed through the camp during the week duration. Mike's intramural team went on to win the camp championship and Mike was chosen as one of 40 camp all stars.

Sophomore Joey Salerno attended the Missouri Valley Conference Tennis Tournament for the eighth consecutive summer. To be eligible for the competition, Joey had to be ranked either first or second in the state (Joey was the 1984 State High School Tennis Champion). Joey first played in preliminary tournaments in Oklahoma City and St. Louis where he finished fifth and second, respectively. He continued to the final tournament in Overland Park, Kansas, where he finished tenth of 60 competitors, giving him an overall tournament rank of sixth.

Joey felt he had a slow summer and due to this he did not attend national competition this year. In the past, Joey had won three Missouri Valley Tournaments.

Three Central students, seniors Travis Feezell and Tony Mancuso and former Central senior Maurice Gadbois, were chosen as three of 25 baseball players from their summer league to compete in an Omaha-Council Bluffs all-star baseball tournament at Rosenblatt Stadium last summer. The team including the Central athletes lost the first game by a score of 6-5 but returned to win the next two games by the scores of 12-5 and 6-3.



photo by Shanda Brewer

Mike Beasley, Joe Salerno, Travis Feezell enjoy athletic summer.

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