

MARCH 20, 1987

Jo Newbold flies with a pilot's license

55 hours of instruction, numerous expenses, no driver's license make Jo a pilot

Niki Galiano
On January 29, senior Jo Newbold finally got her license, her pilot's license. It took her 10 months and exactly 1,999.82 dollars to get it, according to Jo.

Jo started ground school on April 1, 1986, after she became interested in piloting. "I was looking through career books, and piloting sounded interesting. Most people would have blown it off, but I went to the airport and got information on it," she said.

After ground school, Jo began her actual flying in June. "It takes at least 20 hours of flying solo and 20 hours of flying with an instructor to get your license," she said. "It took me 55 hours altogether."

The 1,999.82 dollars included all of Jo's books, lessons, her plotter, and flight computer. "I paid for everything myself working at Brother Sebastian's and Abercrombie's, busing tables and hosting," she said.

Two tests

According to Jo, there are two tests required in order to get a pilot's license. The written test, which she took in Council Bluffs, tests for skills such as airspace and light and weather conditions, she said. The second test, the flying test, must be taken with an instructor. "I had to fly to Fremont to pick up my test instructor that day," she said.

The only other requirement for getting a pilot's license, according to Jo, is that one must be at least sixteen to fly the plane, and seventeen to get your license. "I've even heard of people who are deaf getting pilot's licenses," she said.

Jo goes up flying about four times a week at Hangar One in Millard. Currently, the planes she is able to fly are the Cessna 150, a two seater, the Cessna 152, a three

seater, and the Cessna 172, a four seater. "Right now, I'm taking lessons in a Piper Comanche," she said.

Cost

The cost of renting a plane, according to Jo, varies with the type of plane being rented. For Jo, it costs 30 dollars to rent the Cessna 152, 42 dollars for the Cessna 172, and 44 dollars for the Comanche Piper. The cost goes up 13 dollars if an instructor is wanted on the plane with the pilot, she said. Jo hopes to buy her own plane someday. A used plane, according to Jo, costs about 20,000 dollars.

Although Jo's pilot's license allows her to fly a plane by herself and take up passengers, she said she is not allowed to fly for hire. However, she said, she would like a career that includes piloting. "I'd like to go into being a corporate pilot, or fly for the National Wildlife Protection Agency," she said.

Hardest part

According to Jo, the hardest part about flying is looking for other airplanes. "They are so hard to see. The scariest thing about it is that they blend into the background, so that you can't see them at all unless the sun flashes on them. The advantage of flying at night is that you can see the plane's strobe lights."

"It's easier to fly a plane than to drive a car," she said. "If you take your mind off flying for a second, you're not going to crash, like in a car." Jo said she still has not gotten her driver's license. "I'd probably be a lousy driver anyway. I'm used to looking at the scenery."

The easiest part about flying, she said, is the take-off and landing. "Every landing is different, which makes it really fun. Some people think landing is the hardest part. I think it is definitely the most fun."



Tess Fogarty

Senior Jo Newbold checks the fuel on her airplane. Jo got interested in piloting while looking through career books.

Jo said the best thing about flying is the fact that she knows how to do something that other people don't know how to do. "Anyone can drive a car, if they wanted to." Jo's advice to others who want to get their pilot's license is to start in the summer and dedicate five days a week to it. "You'll have it in three months. When you do start flying, take as much time as you can, and have plenty of money."

Pregnancy leaves; physician's advice determines limit

Elaine Williams

"How do I know that you won't have any more children?" was the question that Mrs. Ruth Barrett faced when she appeared before assistant superintendent Owen Knutzen in 1961 reapplying for the teaching job which she was forced to resign from at Central because of a pregnancy. At that time no maternity leave existed. Mrs. Bartlett bore three children, one an August arrival, the other two February arrivals, during her teaching career at Central. She said that she was asked to resign by the principal over Christmas vacation before she delivered her February babies. "The first time (after the December resignation) it was ironic. The man who took over for me hated it and they called me back into work four weeks after my baby was born," said Mrs. Barrett. "When I had to resign the se-

cond time, I was one semester away from five year tenure. When I came back, I had no job guarantee. I had to start from scratch. I offered to teach summer school, but they wouldn't accept it for tenure. I'm still making it up as I head toward retirement."

Illegal

According to David Pederson, attorney for the OPS school board, in 1978 Congress passed legislation which made it illegal for employers to treat pregnancy differently from other medical problems. The change makes the physician's advice rather than a set policy determine when a woman will leave and return to her job during a pregnancy related absence. The OPS policy today provides for maternity cases under the sick leave and leave of absence policies, said Karen Crawford, employee of the OPS personnel department.

Under sick leave the teacher stays out only as long as the physician authorizes. Teachers can use accumulated paid sick leave for the absence. Teachers begin in their first year with 14 paid sick leave days. If the teacher does not miss any school, one day for every working month gets added to the total. Up to 90 days of paid sick leave may be accumulated at any time by a single teacher, said Mrs. Crawford.

Teachers also have the option of applying for an unpaid leave of absence if they have worked for OPS five years or longer. Teachers stay out for one semester of school and are not guaranteed the same job when they return. They do have a guarantee of a job when they return, said Mrs. Crawford.

Mrs. Jean Nelson, Central High English teacher, recently left school to have a baby. She left school two weeks before her

child came under the sick leave policy. The only difficulties she experienced were "the stairs" and that she "couldn't fit in desks."

"I'm not coming back," said Mrs. Nelson, although she planned to return. According to her the standard amount of time teachers take for child birth is six weeks. Because she left two weeks prior to giving birth, her baby was four weeks old at the end of the period. "Most day care centers won't take babies until they are six weeks old."

Helpful

"OPS was real helpful. They were as fair as they could be, but I'd rather get paid to sit home and rock my baby," said Mrs. Nelson.

"My husband graduates from Creighton law school in the fall and we will be moving to Houston. I have a hard time leaving the kids. The first initial weeks are vital for bonding.

She's (the new born) just barely opening her eyes yet," said Mrs. Nelson.

"There is legislation before Congress that would make child rearing leaves, required time off without pay for one spouse, mandatory on employers," said Mr. Pederson.

Mrs. Susan Julius, professional babysitter, said that under the current system women spend most of their maternity leave, "worrying about where the kid's going to go when they return to work."

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Viewpoints

A recent proposal in congress suggests that all American men and women ages 18-25 must perform one year of voluntary civil service (military or approved civilian projects) before they can receive federal aid for college. What is your position on this proposal?

Dan Soukup-Senior

I think it's a bunch of bull. People get federal aid because they need help in some way or another. I don't think the problem would be solved by them having to help other people.



Julie Anderson -Sophomore

I think that would be fair if they (the government) were going to help pay for college. It's the least they could do. It could be the students way to repay them.



Mike Charlesworth-Junior

It's stupid because if kids went out and worked for a year, they would make more money than the government would ever give them.



Dustyn Fullerton-Senior

Seems pretty reasonable, but I don't think it should be a prerequisite for who gets federal aid and who doesn't.



Amy Hoffman-Junior

Most people want to go straight to college. They don't want to be forced to serve one year of civil service for federal aid.



Craig Haimler

Education, compassion are key factors in dealing with AIDS

The news is out: AIDS has reached epidemic proportions. Unlike sexually-transmitted diseases of the past, a bout with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome cannot be cured. The virus which causes AIDS is mutating too quickly for scientists to invent an effective vaccine. AIDS does not just inconvenience. AIDS kills.

The facts are frightening, even overwhelming, especially to teenagers for whom adult life is just beginning. It is easier not to think, to ignore reading about AIDS, to ignore the very real possibility that, as many scientists believe, high school students may soon become the next group at high risk of contracting AIDS. Nevertheless, refusing to face the staggering truth about AIDS will not make the disease go away. Ignorance and denial will only worsen the epidemic.

Some people, especially those who are uninformed about the nature of AIDS, blame the disease on "sin." Since AIDS has primarily spread through the U.S. among homosexual males and intravenous drug users, people have suggested that AIDS is intended by God to punish un-

"AIDS is not caused by sin. It is caused by a virus."

natural and immoral acts. AIDS victims have often been denied sympathy and public compassion because of these misconceptions about their illness.

As AIDS becomes more prevalent among heterosexuals and children, it is clear that such beliefs are without foundation. Did God intend to punish children inflicted with AIDS for the mistakes of their parents? AIDS victims are terminally-ill, suffering human beings. If they have sinned by society's standards, they are the few unfortunate sinners who will die, while thousands of other sinners live. Do we condemn lung cancer victims because they have smoked in the past and therefore "deserve everything they get"?

To pass off responsibility for AIDS on sin or deny AIDS victims human compassion is to ignore basic truths about the disease. AIDS is not caused by sin. It is caused by a virus. AIDS victims are human beings like the rest of us and deserve human compassion.

AIDS is not a divine punishment. It is a deadly and frightening disease which is a threat to public health and our American lifestyle. Uneducated surmising, hasty emotional judgments, and prejudice will only encourage the spread of AIDS through ignorance.

Tossing off the blame for a frightening epidemic on "immoral" people might soothe our fears, allow us to feel self-righteous and superior to AIDS victims, but it will not curb the AIDS plague. The AIDS epidemic does not demand prejudice; it demands action.

By carefully examining common practices and attitudes that lead to AIDS and making the changes necessary to guard against this disease, we may eventually manage to control the towering specter of AIDS. Only an educated and unbiased public can help stop the wildfire spread of AIDS. Logic, discretion, and information may help curb this menace, but emotionalism and finger-pointing divide the public rather than unite it.

REVIEW

"Some Kind of Wonderful" lacks insight

Elaine Williams

"Some Kind of Wonderful" originated as a comedy. Friday, February 27, the movie opened in Omaha billed as a drama where the teenagers learned to stand alone before they stood together. Unfortunately the audience never sees one of the most tragic moments of the movie, when John Hughes, the screenwriter, changed it to a drama.

The greatness of previous John Hughes' films was their uncanny portrayal of simple teenage dramas. "Some Kind of Wonderful" which covers many of the same roads as "Pretty in Pink," "Sixteen Candles," and the "Breakfast Club," is devoid of those little moments which made the audience wonder if Mr. Hughes peeked into their diary.

ing in a gas station. Although Amanda herself belongs to the middle class, her life revolves around fitting in with the wealthy kids at school. Her friend's biggest dilemma at this point seems to be whether they will spend spring break in Aspen or the Carribean.

Keith gets a date

The opportunity for Keith to get a date with Amanda presents itself when Keith runs into Amanda moments after she fought with her boyfriend, Hardy Jenns (Craig Sheffer), leader of the high school social scene.

Keith's state of bliss after he gets a date with Amanda suffers when his best friend, Drummer Girl (Mary Stuart Masterson) stops seeing him. She secretly loves him and is tired of hearing the drivel from Keith about Amanda. In her tearful explanation she tells Keith the only things she cares about since her home broke up are herself, drumming, and Keith. Her jealousy makes her annoying around Keith and she cannot stand to have someone so important to her thinking of her in a malicious way.

Good acting

The actors do a wonderful job in their assigned roles, but John Hughes never lets his characters, with the exception of Amanda, grow out of their stereotypes.

The Drummer Girl never gets a name. Throughout the movie she wears a leather jacket, leather fringed gloves and a boyish haircut.

The conflict which pits the rich that belong against the poor who don't think they belong, but actually belong more than they think, seems too much like a better John Hughes film I saw six months ago.

Scenes which are meant to be dramatic get rushed. Keith manages to explain to his dad how he blew all the money the family saved for his education on his date with Amanda and that he will not go to college in no more than 15 minutes. What's more is that they love and understand each other more than they have in 17 years of living together.

Despite all the flaws the movie does possess a unique sort of kinetic energy. When Keith's dad wonders about the amount of time and energy Keith expends on his relationship with Amanda, his little sister tells him that while any one can get into college, it is a precious few that get a date with Amanda Jones.

"Some Kind of Wonderful" successfully tells a nice little story about teenagers growing up. The disappointment results from the awareness that John Hughes knows how to do better.

"Despite all the flaws, the movie does have a sort of kinetic energy."

The movie centers around Keith Nelson's (Eric Stolz) quest for a date with Amanda Jones (Lea Thompson). Keith is an independent intrinsic individual who spends his time doing homework, painting, and work-

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Melba vs. a sea cow

Speaking

in
Tongues

Joe Fogarty



Melba: Yeah! And when the hordes of sea creatures come storming over the land, we and the rest of the human race will be ready!

Sea Cow: Hordes? Did you say "Hordes?" Don't I wish. There only were three of us. One's been stepped on, already. Anemonies just can't get the hang of rush hour traffic after years of being stuck to a rock by bodily secretions. So now, it's just me and him (Points to his shoulder).

Gordon: Who? I don't see anyone.
Algae Particle on Sea Cow's Shoulder: Look, I may be small, but I'm not totally insignificant! This was all my idea!

Melba: So this is the revolution. Well it's not exactly the conflagration we were expecting.

Gordon: Hey Melba! Can we use our super powers now? Can we? Can we? Huh? Please?

Melba: By all means, please do. (Gordon holds his breath, closes his eyes and clenches his fists. Within seconds long heavy vines spurt from his eyebrows and cascade to the floor, surrounding him like dozens of confused snakes.)

(His frantic struggling greatly confuses the algae, who slips off the sea cow screaming plant-equality slogans. Melba promptly covers it with an empty cup.)

Melba: Now, as for you (he faces the Sea Cow) prepare to bear the brunt of my wonderful power which was bestowed upon me by my clam-Uncle Raoul-last issue. (Melba performs some mystic gestures and says something totally unintelligible. The Sea Cow's eyes widen and he slumps into a chair.)

Gordon: Wow! What did you do?
Melba: He now believes that he is an overweight mechanic named Stan. Give the poor guy a beer.

Sea Cow: (In a harsh grating voice) Har! Har! Har! Yeah that's what I need. Hey! Ya got any pizza sitting around that you're not going to use? Hoo boy, ya should have seen the lemon I had in yesterday. Came in with a warped gyro pulminator, left with a new one but I also supplied it with a busted crank elevated incinerator and deviated bicordonial bouffant shaft. Har! Har! Har! Good one, huh?

Melba: Gordon, take him away. (Gordon exits with the Sea Cow in tow and the cup holding the Algae tightly lidded.)

Gordon: Hey Melba, pass the McKetchup.

Melba: Get it yourself, it's right next to the McNapkins. (Melba examines his food) Hey, what's in this burger anyway? What's going on out there? There's about 30 people laughing their heads off in the parking lot. They're looking at something

Melba: I wonder what it ... wait a minute, they're starting to move. They're parting and something is coming through. It's ... it's a Manati with legs?

Gordon: What? You mean a sea cow? But sea cows don't have ...

(Gordon and Melba exchange an extremely meaningful gape which would tell anyone who saw it that these two people know what the sea cow is doing on land and that they know how to stop it from doing what it thinks it's going to do.)

Melba and Gordon simultaneously: The revolution!

Sea Cow: Excuse me...excuse me please. No this is not a joke...I have to get through here- DON'T POKE MY JOWLS! Ok. Ok. Hello? Can I have everybody's attention? Ahem... Attention! Well, I suppose you are all wondering what I, a creature of the sea, am doing in this eating establishment.

Melba: You're here for the revolution, right?

Sea Cow: Very good! Let's give this young man a round of applause. (Smatter of confused applause). So. Why don't you stand up and tell us who you are?

Melba (Stands): My name is Melba...And you are?

Sea Cow: I am Fruit Grapple Exit Crunch the second. And, I've come to overthrow your species. So quiet down so I can go about this revolution effectively.

Gordon: But we have been told we're supposed to stop you. We have special powers, you know.

Necessity of solitude

A

Closer
Look

Kris Deffenbacher



The only reason that the daily grind of school and work have not driven me crazy yet is because I take the time I need to be alone.

Every day after I get out of school, I take a walk downtown. I try to do this every day before attempting to tackle work or, with spring coming on, track. When I tell people that I'm going for a walk down to Central Park Mall or to the Old Market, their first question is always, "Who are you going with?"

Although solitary confinement has been used as punishment and as a torturous device to drive people insane, a complete lack of solitude can drive you just as mad. Having time to yourself is that "apple-a-day" of mental health and personal well-being.

This society has a pathological fear of loneliness that it confuses with being alone. People tend to think that there's something wrong with you or that you're a loner if you want to spend time by yourself.

It's difficult to think and sort things out when surrounded by people, noise, and the causes of confusion. And living when and where we do, it's often almost impossible to find a time to be completely alone.

I can't go for long periods of time without a little solitude. I've always been that way. When I was younger, I used to escape the house, noise, and people by crawling out onto the garage roof where I could be completely alone and hidden, free to read, write, play my guitar, and think in peace.

Necessity

The necessity of solitude is always greatest for me during a crisis. After arguments with family or friends, a breakup with a boyfriend, a death or other personal tragedy I find that the resulting confusion and need to sort out thoughts and feelings can become choking if not worked out during time spent alone.

Even the every day world of confusion can become too much if you never take the time to stop and think about what's happening to you and the world around you.

When I give them the usual reply of "no one" they either give me that "poor loner" or "what a strange girl" look. What people don't understand is that I want that short amount of time in my usually insanely hectic day to simply think, to forget about the classes I'm behind in, the work

"She was never by herself during the day...she was always surrounded by the sources of her confusion."

schedule I can't handle, and everything I have to get done.

I had a friend who called me during a very rough period in her life. Her family, school, and overall situation were drowning her in a confusion that she couldn't sort out. After talking to her for awhile, I discovered that she was never by herself during the day, that she was always surrounded by the sources of her confusion.

I gave her the advice of finding a time and a place to get away from it all and sort it all out. She began to solve her problems when she was temporarily separated from home and school. All she needed was that time away from the world that was causing the confusion in her life.

Taking time out for yourself is such a simple cure for so many personal ailments. I recommend it to anyone who goes through each hectic, clock-work day without being able to pause and truly think for themselves.

Zorinsky death a great loss

STAFF OPINION

Tess Fogarty

I watched that Friday night as he walked on stage to do what would be his final song in the Press Club Show. He was a United States senator from Nebraska. He couldn't carry a "tune in a bucket" but he still sang and still made people laugh. He finished his song, took his final bow and left the stage. I knew as Edward Zorinsky walked past me that he was special. I had only met him once, at a party the year before, but, looking at him you could tell.

I continued watching the show until I turned to see that special person lying on the floor ten feet from me, not breathing. It hit then, as I watched doctors and

paramedics struggle to bring him back, that, more than a senator and a star, he was a man. A man who loved people and always said what he meant, and a man, who I believed, lived life to its fullest.

I stood with the other props people, my attention split between the cast performing, the efforts to save Zorinsky's life, and mostly feeling helpless and scared because a person was dying and there was nothing I could do.

The cast went on with the show and during the finale, Zorinsky was wheeled out. He was breathing and I thought he would be all right.

Some of the cast gathered and talked while others, journalists, went to report the story. Most of them knew Zorinsky better than I did and we were all shocked.

The dance following the show was cancelled early with the ar-

rival of the news that Zorinsky had died. Again the cast gathered but this time to decide whether the show Saturday night would go on. The overall consensus was Zorinsky would have wanted it to go on, and so it did.

Despite the somber mood, the show when well and when the song Zorinsky was due to sing came, Jeff Jordan, Master of Ceremonies, said of the celebrities, like Zorinsky, who each year join the cast, "We do not honor them, they honor us."

Honor Zorinsky did. He loved singing and entertaining the audience. He loved the encores, something he didn't take on Friday night. I, personally, am glad he sang in the Press Club Show that night because I saw a wonderful man and senator sing an off-key song and make people feel good, just before he silently dropped into the night and was gone.

LETTER

How many times in the past have you felt like standing up in the middle of class and screaming because the person behind you is pounding on his desk or talking? The fact that a person can be so rude and disruptive to a fellow student astonishes me. But, the teachers that let these students get away with disrupting class are the ones that are really to blame. Because many teachers don't take time to discipline the disruptive students and show interest in the class, many students are being deprived of the education which society expects them to get.

The teacher must take responsibility for creating a learning atmosphere in the classroom. Creating this atmosphere may often mean removing students from the classroom that are disruptive or

are uncooperative. Creating a learning atmosphere also means that a teacher should be prepared, that a teacher should show an interest in the subject being taught. When the teacher does not show an interest in his particular subject, how can he expect his students to show and sustain an interest in his subject?

The expectations our parents and peers have for us to perform in the classroom and score high on ACT and SAT tests are very great. These pressures alone make it hard to live up to these expectations. With the added disturbances in the classroom, it is practically impossible to perform at an appropriately high level. This comment has not been written by one with bitterness in his heart but rather by one with disappointment in his mind.

-Vince Pluhacek

In Brief

The American Cancer Society will sponsor the second annual **Jail House Rock Dance** in the Civic Auditorium April 24. Eighth to twelfth grade students from all Omaha High Schools are invited to attend. Central students on the dance committee include Kalen Anderson, Beth Christ, Sarah McWhorter and Alex Zinga. A picture by Tom Hazell will advertise the dance.

The **Central High Fashion Merchandising and Clothing Textiles Classes** sponsored a fashion show March 10. Clothes for the show came from Casual Corner, Clothing Textiles Courses at Central, Jeans West, Krug's, Landon's, Lawlor's Sporting Goods, Richman Gorman, Sir Knight Formal Wear, Susie's Casuals, and The Tailored Woman.

Dean Bussian, Anthony Clark, Ann Sitzman, and Wyndle Young received Outstanding Soloist awards in the **Bellevue East Jazz Festival**. Jazz solos differ from other solos because the instrumentalists think of the music as they play. Overall the CHS Jazz Band received a two rating.

Members of **Youth for Peace** went to Council Bluffs for Vice-president George Bush's appearance. Vice-president Bush sought support for his 1988 presidential campaign. Youth for Peace members wanted to show support for the new round of arms negotiations under way with the Soviet Union.

"The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch," **Central's spring play**, will take place April 25 and 26. The audition results are: Singer, Julie Kleiwer; Rockham, Jay Standifer; Meryn Vale, Kristi Plahn; Marion, Lori Pendleton; Sherriff Jack, Rob Holtorff; Doc Burch, Dave Fieldler; Rev Blackwood, Tom Davis; Mrs. Blackwood, Jeanna Orduna; Sneaky Fitch, Vince Orduna.

Marc Lucas is one of five Nebraskans and the only Central student who will enter the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Michigan on July one. He will attend the academy for four years and then serve a mandatory five years in the navy. He received nominations from Representative Hal Daub, the late Senator Ed Zorinsky, and Senator J.J. Exon.

Spanish club members will participate in the **Omaha Ole Saturday** March 14 from 8:00 to 2:00 PM. The event, designed to promote the use of Spanish outside the classroom, features a college bowl for first through third year students, intramural volleyball, poster contests and food demonstrations.

Sophomore Jennifer Drake is one of five Nebraska high school students who will spend a year in Germany with the **Congress Bundestag** exchange program. Her scholarship for the year-long program includes trips to Bonn and Berlin and placement with a German family during the school year.



Lisa Jensen

Chess team members show their trophies; Joe Schlesselman, David Havelka, Mike Buckner, Rob Holtorff, Don Shennum, DuWayne Backens, John Holtorff, Marc Lucas, and Rob Hill.

Chess team takes State

Kelly Penry

Central's Chess Team won the Nebraska State Championship Tournament held on Saturday, February 28th and Sunday, March 1, at Lincoln's Gateway Shopping Center. Central will now begin training for the national's competition to be held April 24-26, at Pulaski, Virginia.

Mr. Dale Montgomery, chess team sponsor, said that the chess team has been preparing for competitions since the beginning of the year. Practice consisted of once a week after school and on Tuesday nights during Metro League season.

The team consists of ten players who comprise both the varsity and junior varsity teams. The players are according to chairs and boards based on playing ability and ratings. State

championship required five varsity boards.

Players

Varsity players are Don Shennum, junior, first chair, seniors: Rob Holtorff, second chair, DuWayne Backens, third chair, Mark Lucas, fourth chair, Mike Buckner, fifth chair.

Junior varsity players are John Holtorff, sophomore, sixth board, Phil Hall, sophomore, seventh board, Rob Hill, sophomore, eighth board, and Joe Schlessman, junior, ninth board. David Havelka, senior, is also a player.

Twelve chess team participated in the Omaha Metro Tournament and ten Nebraskan teams participated in the State Tournament.

Rob Holtorff explained that the state chess tournament consisted of 48 players involved with

24 different games at the same time. Players could challenge any other player until wins or losses narrowed down the last sets of games.

"Great confidence"

"The games continued until the last game between Don Shennum and the second board Bryan player. We weren't worried entering State, because we had great confidence after winning Metro undefeated. But the last game between Bryan was alot closer than expected, especially since there's a twenty point maximum for each game and Central won by half a point," said Rob.

The score between Central and Bryan was 16-15. Don Shennum took the first place individual trophy, Rob Holtorff took second place trophy.

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False alarms cause problems in school

Niki Galiano

It is fourth period, and you're right in the middle of a test—an essay test. Suddenly, the fire alarm goes off when it is not supposed to, and it takes about a minute for the office staff to turn it off. Meanwhile, you've lost your train of thought, and the essay you are writing now makes no sense at all. This situation may be a familiar one for many students at Central, since the fire alarms have been set off numerous times so far this year.

According to Mrs. Udoxie Barbee, vice-principal, the fire alarms are set off by students smoking in the restrooms or setting fire to the toilet paper rolls. "There is a box in the office which tells which room the alarm was set off in," she said. "When we check, we usually find that it started in the restrooms."

The punishment for setting off fire alarms, said Mrs. Barbee, is stated in the Central student handbook. Students who are caught are punished, she said. "There is a parent conference for the first offense and ISS after that." However, she said, no one has been punished this year.

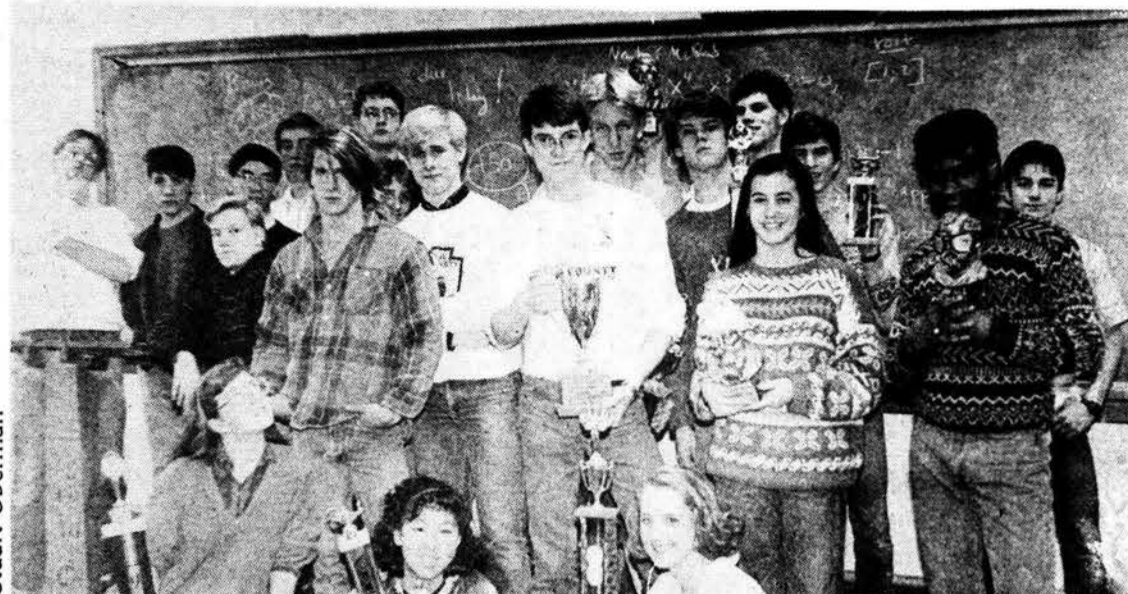
Safeguard

Mrs. Barbee said that the administration should not try to control the alarms from going off so often. "When they go off, that is an indication of smoke. We need that as a safeguard. They are controlled; it is the students that make them uncontrollable."

Mrs. Barbee also said if an alarm was set off in the event of a serious fire, there would be no danger of students and teachers thinking that it was only a mistake. "We try to get there (the fire alarm box) as soon as possible—Dr. Moller is usually the closest. If the alarm continued, the teachers would alert the students."

Nevertheless, some students said that they are getting fed up with the continuous fire alarms. Junior Sean Wilson said, "It's very annoying when you are trying to concentrate. And they scare me to death! Besides, if we really had a fire, 30 seconds is too long to wait for the announcement over the intercom."

Other students just said that they eventually get used to them. Senior Kristi Schiltz said, "When I first started going to Central they bothered me a lot, but now after three years, I hardly notice them. They should patrol the restrooms, though."



Stuart Oberman

The math team displays several of their trophies. They have won several competitions this year.

Math team dominates meets

Anthony Clark

The mathematics team recently won the American High School Math Exam (AHSME) for the state of Nebraska. Central's team has had the highest score in the state for the past five years.

Team members take the test individually and their combined scores make up the team's score. This year the team scored 331 points.

"Two years ago our team had 335 points and that qualified for 17th in the nation," said John Waterman, math team coach. "We are competing against close to 6,000 schools in the nation. We should finish in the top thirty this year."

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-sT}} \int_0^T e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

Kevin Yam had the high score for Central with 114 points, followed by Travis Mood with 109 and Doug Deden with 108.

"The team has done real well all year," said senior Brian Wanzenreid. "We have a stronger group than we had last year."

South contest

Earlier in the year, the team participated in the South High School Math Contest. All class 'A' schools in Nebraska participated. The competition consisted of teams of four competing against each other. Central teams placed first, second, fifth, and eighth out of 35 teams competing. The first place team consisted of seniors Travis Mood, Marc Lucas, Doug Deden, and Tim Stohs.

"It was impressive that our fifth place team was made up of all sophomores," said Mr. Waterman.

The team also placed first in the Creighton University Mathematics Field Day. Many class 'A' teams from Nebraska and Iowa competed. Students competed individually in three separate events which were divided into groups 'A' and 'B'.

The mad hatter competition was won by Marc Lucas and sophomore Karen Lee placed third in the 'B' class. Senior Chris Patterson won the computer steeple chase competition. Kevin Yam and Doug Deden placed second in the leap frog, a two person exam.

Actuarial contest

The next competition was the University of Nebraska at Lincoln Actuarial Club contest. This consisted of three events including written tests and a college-bowl competition. Junior Lisa Wolf and sophomore Mike Lawler placed first and second respectively in the Algebra

test. Doug Deden won the advanced math test, and Marc Lucas won the Calculus test. Central teams of four came in first and third in the college bowl competition.

The math team is made up of Mr. Waterman's sixth and seventh hour enrichment math class. "We go over old contests and learn new math for competitions," said Doug. "The class gives us an advantage over the other school's teams."

Kevin explained that the math team's reputation has drawn many good math students to Central. "We even try to encourage good junior high students to come to Central," said Doug.

"We have a kid moving into the OPS district just to go to Central for math," said Mr. Waterman.

Tradition

The math team has a long tradition of success at Central. "Central dominated math for nearly thirty years at one point," said Mr. Waterman. "We have won nearly every contest we've participated in in the last five years."

"We want to do as well as the teams in the past," said Kevin. "The pressure motivates us more than anything."

"The kids relieve the pressure by acting very casual at contests," said Mr. Waterman.

"We are serious about winning," said Doug, "but we put a lot of fun into it."

"The depth of our team is incredible," said Kevin. "We don't have any overachievers like we have had in the past, but we are strong all around."

The team will go to a contest at Northwest Missouri State University soon. "We plan on placing first there," said Doug.

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SEX: the change

Attitudes reflect

AIDS becomes epidemic

Joe Fogarty

"I'll do a lot for love," says the girl on the television commercial, "But I'm not ready to die for it." Commercials such as this one, which emphasizes the role of sex in AIDS, hotlines, support groups, information networks, and mass media coverage have focused on AIDS as one of humanity's greatest dangers. Around the world, hundreds of thousands of people are crying out for help and information and are beginning to find it.

AIDS first appeared in the United States in 1981. Since then it has grown to epidemic proportions. "It's a very deadly disease and it's rampant," said Marty Hopkinson, co-founder of the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP). Raymond Hoffman, president of the NAP, agrees. "A lot more people are at risk than realize it," he said, "There are a lot of people who are inappropriately non-chalant. There seems to be an unrealistic lack of alarm."

Hoffman felt that in order to combat the spread of AIDS, a top priority was an information program. So in the summer of 1985, Hoffman and Ms. Hopkinson, along with other volunteers, began to organize the NAP. Their goal, according to Hoffman, was to set up a program that would provide information

and referrals to appropriate sources. The NAP set up an AIDS Hotline in December of 1985. "The Hotline is our main tool at this time," said Hoffman.

Education

Hoffman said that education is one of the most important aspects of AIDS prevention. "Education is really the only defence against the disease," he said. Ann Lamb, MSW with the viral syndrome clinic at the University of Nebraska Medical Center said that she recognized the impact of education on "AIDS panic." She said that because of a fear of AIDS, "there's been a lot of societal rejection. With more education, this will decrease."

According to Hoffman, government support of education programs is "better than it was," but could be improved. The government still does not spend enough money for support and education," he said, but he recognized "a lot of obstacles" in excessive government support of AIDS education. He said that many officials fear the "political cost" of launching a program on such a sensitive issue. But, he said, "the government has a responsibility for public health education."

Concerned gays

Further steps are being taken by concerned gays—the highest risk group. "John", a NAP Hotline volunteer who wished

not to be identified, said that gay people in general are making a sincere effort to do something about the AIDS problem. "They have a good public education program going," he said. "There are gay publications, gay organizations, and gay gathering spots where information is readily available."

Another major aspect of the AIDS problem is support for persons directly affected by AIDS. "The isolation that a person with AIDS faces is incredible," said John. He said that the main reason for the societal fear and rejection was that "AIDS touches the most intimate fabric of our society—sex." Hoffman said that the fear is also because the virus is so new and our society has not yet begun to understand it. "People tend to fear things they don't know anything about."

Overall impact

Overall, John, Hoffman, Ms. Hopkins, and Ms. Lamb agree that the impact of AIDS on our society will be overwhelming.

"In the next four years," John said, "AIDS is going to kill over 40 percent of the entire gay male population."

"Questions of Civil Rights are going to be loudly debated," said Hoffman. "It's going to have a real big impact. And unless education gets out to stop the spread, the impact is going to grow greater and greater and greater."

"It's a very deadly disease and it's rampant. A lot more people are at risk than realize it. There are a lot of people who are inappropriately non-chalant, there appears to be an unrealistic lack of alarm."

Julie Ashley

Some of the names in this article have been changed

Sixty-one percent of males and fifty-three percent of females have had sex by the age of 17, according to a 1986 poll. The Louis Harris Poll, conducted nationwide in September and October of 1986, found that 28 percent of all children between the ages of 12 and 17 have at some time been sexually active.

More teenagers are sexually active today than ever before, according to Ms. Betsy Kimball of Planned Parenthood's education department. Sexual activity among teenagers, especially white females, has increased greatly since the sexual revolution of the sixties and seventies, Ms. Kimball said.

Sexual values and expectations have changed radically in the past three decades, according to many Central students.

"The sexual revolution changed us," said Anne, a Central senior. "The older generation's morals shifted and, in turn, that influenced our morals. People are more open about sex than they were in the fifties. There isn't really one 'right thing' to do now. We hear about both sides—abstinence and promiscuity—and choose for ourselves."

Conservative values

Samantha, a junior, said that people now are reconsidering the conservative values of past generations. "During the sexual revolution," Samantha said, "free sex was pretty much accepted. It was an open rebellion of society. What was once taboo suddenly became acceptable. People aren't rebelling as much now. You don't have to have a sexual relationship just because everyone else does."

Reverend Stanley R. Kessler, associate minister for Christian education at Dundee Presbyterian Church, said that there has been a swing back to conservatism primarily because of "fear. Because of increased awareness of sexually-transmitted diseases, promiscuity has become more dangerous. People are developing relationships out of self-preservation."

Despite this increase in activity, most students agreed that a double standard still exists. John, a senior, explained what he thinks is the prevailing attitude about teenage sex: "Guys who sleep around are studs; girls who sleep around are sluts. That's just how kids think, even if it is unfair."

Guys more accepted

"It's always been more accepted for guys to fool around," Samantha said, "and that's not right. It's better if you can experience things for the first time together. Then it's something shared just between the two of you."

Anne said that she considers the double standard obsolete. "Hopefully we've progressed," Anne said. "No one I know thinks that way anymore. Today's teenagers talk about sex with their friends—male and female. Girls and guys equally discuss sex with their friends; equally think about sex; equally have sex."

Ms. Kimball said that the double standard has risen in sex. She said that the stigma of sex is that if she is a Rev. Kessler said that the double standard is as a tool. He said that an attitude of human relationships to deal with. When teenagers' opinions vary.

Samantha said that it is acceptable within the Christian community in high schools. She said that away it's not. "I don't know if I'm sure that it's some people's pleasure of making a mistake about it. I judge what I also think about some

John said that people make mature sex. "It's okay," he said. "Rev. Kessler said that of relationships themselves evolved until the depth of their that you have before you said.

Lance said that it is acceptable. He said that the possibility for the Students are responsible. Anne estimated that sexually active people control. "People birth control," he said.

According to a percent of teenagers. He said that use birth control while 27 per-

Teenagers prevent pregnancies. He said that sometimes they get and haven't been to be prepared have sex.

Other research on contraception. He said that Polls are a lack of birth control. He said that buying or using it, and a belief work.

of the 80's generation

change of times

Ms. Kimball said that some teenagers think parental permission is necessary when buying birth control. "I think that there are people out there who don't have any idea where to go. They haven't been told that there are many methods of birth control that they can buy over the counter. Some teenagers I've spoken to are amazed that you don't have to be a certain age to buy birth control or have parental permission."

Parents

Some teenagers worry that their parents will find out that they are sexually active. "My mom would kill," said Andy, a senior. "She's always lecturing me. She says that I shouldn't be having sex unless I'm prepared to marry the girl I'm involved with. I'm not about to marry anybody at this age, but I'm not going to give up sex because of that."

Ms. Kimball said that, in general, parents finding out is less of a concern than it used to be. In 1978, Ms. Kimball said, 31 percent of teenagers said that fear of their parents discovering that they were sexually active was worry and a reason for not using birth control. Recently only 13 percent said that they worried about parents discovering their sex lives.

"I think parents are a little more open today," Ms. Kimball said. "There's been more emphasis on talking to children about their sexuality." Ms. Kimball said that many teenagers ignore the threat of pregnancy because they don't think it could happen to them. "There's a lot of denial," Ms. Kimball said. "Teenagers as a whole see the world in black and white. As a teenager, your life is really opening up and you don't believe that such a devastating thing can actually happen."

It does happen. In 1985, according to Ms. Kimball, 4,123 teens became pregnant in Nebraska alone. Across the nation 1.1 million teenagers gave birth in 1985. Ms. Kimball said that only 3 percent of teenage mothers give their children up for adoption.

"Definite goals"

"People to whom an unintended pregnancy would be devastating tend to engage in sexual intercourse at a later time. Those who have definite goals are more responsible about birth control as well," Ms. Kimball said.

Why have teenagers' sexual attitudes changed in recent years? The influence of the media may be partly responsible, students said.

Samantha said of the media: "They promote free sex. But sex isn't free. There are physical and mental consequences."

Ms. Kimball agreed. "We are absolutely inundated by sex at all times. Sex is on T.V. all the time, but contraceptives are never used. They never show the consequences. I'm not blaming teenaged sex or pregnancy on the media, but it does have an influence."

Rev. Kessler said he also believes that the media influences teenagers' values. "Kids are exposed to much more sexually graphic advertising, movies, and music. The advertising especially seems to target teenage insecurities."

Statistics vital to stopping the spread of AIDS virus

Joe Fogarty

The AIDS virus, technically known as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) attacks the immune system of an infected patient. This breakdown of biological defenses makes the patient highly susceptible to other viruses. When the HIV has advanced to AIDS, the patient displays "opportunistic infections."

The two main opportunistic infections are pneumocystis pneumonia—an advanced respiratory disorder, and a type of cancer known as Kaposi's Sarcoma—symptomized by bruise-like lesions on the skin. These diseases, rather than the actual HIV, cause the death of an AIDS patient. The virus merely depletes the human immune system which would normally combat these and other infections.

Although a person may be infected with the HIV, they do not necessarily have AIDS. AIDS is only the extremely severe, fatal manifestation of the HIV. Milder manifestations result in an AIDS-related complex (ARC) or an asymptomatic infection. ARC is not fatal but may progress to AIDS. ARC symptoms include lymph node swelling, night sweats, fever, and weight loss. An asymptomatic infection shows no symptoms of ARC or AIDS but may evolve into them in time.

The HIV is only spread through direct exchange of infected bodily fluids such as semen, blood, or cervical mucus. Sexual contact is the main cause of infection and is therefore the main target of prevention techniques. "Safe sex"—sex that does not exchange bodily fluids and avoids promiscuity, and abstinence are two main preventative measures. Also, intravenous (IV) drug users are encouraged to avoid needle sharing, using only disposable, single use needles.

There is no known cure for the HIV, but several antiviral drugs are presently being tested. Until now, these drugs, such as azidothymidine (AZT), serve only to stop the virus from replicating rather than kill it. They are generally used to prolong life rather than save.

Statistically, about 30,400 Americans have contracted AIDS. About 57 percent of these people have died. Seventy-three percent of all AIDS patients have contracted the disease through homosexual contact, 17 percent through IV drug use, 2 percent through blood transfusions, 1 percent through heterosexual contact, and about 7 percent in none of these categories. There is no evidence that the HIV is transmitted through casual contact—dry kissing, hugging, or day-to-day contact with infected persons.

(Sources: Food and Drug Administration Drug Bulletin—October 1985; Nebraska AIDS Project literature ("Guidelines for AIDS risk reduction," AIDS Hotline information booklet); Raymond Hoffman—President, Nebraska AIDS Project; John Weston—Douglas County Health Department.)



Tag means fun

Kelly Penry

It used to be that playground tag was the old childhood game of "catch me if you can" and escape the player who was "it." Before one could catch his breath, the game aroused angry words of "Tagged you!" "Did not!" "Did, too!"

In a new high-tech game called Lazer Tag, (players still run as fast as they can), but they shoot an infrared-light beam up to 100 feet to hit a photo sensitive Star-Sensor strapped to the opponent's chest. If the opponent is shot, his sensors will flash and beep to indicate defeat.

Lazer Tag is a marketed toy, as well as an organized game held at arenas for the public. Publicity for Lazer Tag began with its exposure on the front of the "Sharper Image" catalogue. The cost for lazer gadgets is usually \$39.95 for the gun belt, Lazer gun, and rigged receptor, according to catalogue pricing. Other retail stores, such as K-Mart, may sell units for as much as \$45.00.

Arenas

Organized game-playing at local arenas, such as the Lazer Arena in Omaha, allows two teams of six players each to play for seventy-five dollars an hour, or six dollars per person. Lazer Arena, however, requires reservations and a deposit made in advance due to busy weekends.

Sevrin Huff, junior, and Alex Zinga, junior, went with a group of friends to the arena for Alex's birthday. They said the experience was more different than anything they have ever done in games.

The arena consists of a big room with two forts for each team, explained Sevrin, and the team is distinguished by two colors, the red team and the yellow team. Helmets are distributed with an attached waist packet and an attached gun. She said

the guns are charged by inserting the gun in a power box in order to make the stream of light that occurs from shooting.

Always dark

"Everything is always dark, but you can usually see your opponents. The object is to hit as many as possible on the opposite team, and the first team to gain 21 points (one point per successful shot) wins that game. Score is kept by a man who sits on top of the fortress, and he keeps tabs on the tagging by determining the lights that go off on each team's helmets," explained Sevrin.

Alex said the room is also filled with barricades that look like trashbags on metal posts. The barricades enable the players to hide from one another and from the "bomb" which is planted in the middle of the arena. The bomb, she said, looks like a lightbulb with a lampshade, and if one of the players accidentally hits the target, the bomb will drop on you and let off bright rays.

Sevrin and Alex said the game of tag was really like playing with guns. Everytime the guns are triggered, a stream of light shoots out within seconds and there's a large beep.

Battery packs

Because the helmets are connected to battery packs, and the guns need periodic recharging, the players have to run behind the barricades or into the fortresses to catch their breath or hide from opponents. Alex said that sometimes people get very rough, especially when they run down the ramps to hide or recharge and collide with other players in all their lazer gear.

Music is also played during the game. Lazer Arena allows the people to play their own tapes if they want to, but they supply 'Metallica' music to fit the game-playing mood.

Teachers petition for new smoking policy in lounge

Doug Haven

Many non-smoking students are annoyed with the amount of smoking that occurs in Central's restrooms. This is also true with the non-smoking teachers that use the faculty room.

"There is no way for a non-smoker to go there (the faculty room)... without being subject to someone else's second-hand smoke," said Mrs. Marlene Bernstein, Central English teacher. Mrs. Bernstein has recently distributed a petition among the teachers to have something done about the smoking problem in the faculty room.

The main concern between smoking and non-smoking faculty members seems to be whether the faculty rooms are separate and equal. According to Ms. Joyce Morris, smoking and non-smoking rooms already exist at Central. It's an issue, however, concerning the fairness of the facilities that exist in each room.

"Smokers will be happy to smoke anywhere," said Mrs. Bernstein, "while the non-smokers need a place of their own." Mrs. Bernstein suggested several other places where the smokers could go to smoke. Such places included going outside or going out to their cars.

Ms. Morris explained that when before

Central was renovated, the school policies allowed separate but equal smoking and non-smoking faculty rooms. However, after the renovation, the two rooms no longer existed, but instead one large designated faculty lounge was created for the entire Central staff.

"It's a proven fact that smokers need somewhere to go, but the room available right now is located in a small area outside the courtyard, but isn't really a 'staff room.'

The main faculty lounge is more conducive to socializing...also pop machines, furniture and open windows give the room a 'lounge' atmosphere, whereas the smaller smoking room is more like a kitchen area," she said.

"One of the major problems," states Mrs. Bernstein, "is that there is a filtering effect. The students who smoke know that there is a faculty room for smokers and how can we expect them to go all day without a cigarette if some of their teachers can't."

Central Principal, Dr. G.E. Moller, does not know how the faculty room subject will be resolved. There was a faculty meeting dealing with this subject on March 9. At this meeting, states Dr. Moller, the faculty discussed the possibility of a committee, made up of 3 smokers and 3 non-smokers, that would discuss what to do with the problem.



John Hughes' movies reflect teenage lifestyle

Elaine Williams

"I was an egg then a fetus," said a frazzled John Hughes responding to a reporter who asked him for a brief outline of his life. The exchange took place during the last of a series of nation-wide conference calls with members of highschool newspapers which Mr. Hughes arranged to promote his new movie, "Some Kind of Wonderful."

John Hughes' screenwriting credits, which include "Weird Science," "The Breakfast Club," and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," have inspired some critics to call him the unofficial spokesman for teenagers. Larry Brennan who

handles publicity for Paramount Pictures in Omaha said that it was John's desire to communicate with his audience which made him schedule the press conferences.

Justifying his position as "unofficial spokesman for teenagers," John said "I was there. I remember what it was really like. All most adults remember is 'I was thin. My hair wasn't gray.'"

He expressed a solid commitment to the teen drama. "I'm going to be doing other things but they will not come at the cost of these things (teen movies)."

John acknowledged that "Some Kind of Wonderful"

with six movies about teenage life, "They will naturally overlap. I don't see them as the same thing."

The next John Hughes production will be "She's Having a Baby" starring Elizabeth McGovern and Kevin Bacon. He also wants to depict eighth grade boys who have just discovered they like girls but are afraid to tell their friends about it and women after 35 who want to marry but who most likely won't find a husband.

"Believe in yourself," were the words of advice which John offered to teenagers.

"He said if I didn't do it, he wouldn't love me anymore."



"AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I GOT angry. It was such a trashy thing to say. Like I was so desperate for him I'd jump off a cliff or something.

We didn't have any birth control. I started out saying it was just the wrong time.

Then I started thinking it was the wrong guy.

After he said that, he put on this big act about it. If he really cared, he'd have let it drop. He'd have given me time.

I mean, you don't have to be the brain of the world to know you don't have sex without protection.

And you sure don't make a baby with a guy who thinks he can threaten you."

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Millard North asks for more parking

Karyn Brower

Parking has recently become a problem for Omaha and metro area public high schools. Part of the problem is that more students drive to school than before and that school boards are finding it difficult to raise extra money for parking on an already tight budget, commented Dr. G.E. Moller, principal of Omaha Central. "Land around Central is very expensive and usually among the first to be cut in budget reviews."

Recently Millard North High School students decided to do something about their parking problem. Students planned a sit-in and called channel seven news to cover the protest. Millard North's parking lot has 500 spaces, but the school issued 700 parking permits. "Students had started to park on the grass around the school," said Tabatha Hiner of Millard North. The school thought of raising the cost of permits in hopes of a fund for the purchase of land for more parking.

Parking committee

School officials, however, were able to talk to the students and formed a parking committee with representatives from each grade level. The committee discussed the history of the problem and possible answers. The representatives then went to the school board meeting and presented what was wanted and what was needed for their school parking and possible suggestions. Though the board did not correct the problem immediately, they did promise to give it a definite commitment for next year's budget.

Most modern high schools have provided large parking lots in anticipation of such a problem, said Dr. Moller. Central has only 75 parking spaces while they give out 120 permits. The reason for this, Dr. Moller said, is "we do not expect students to drive to school every day; some might even carpool." At Central, seniors are given the first opportunity to buy parking permits as Dr. Moller said everyone eventually will become a senior.

No lot

Fifteen years ago Central had no student parking lot. What they used was some land rented out by Joslyn. During renovation students and parents argued for a student parking lot. Considering how expensive land is around Central, Dr. Moller feels Central is lucky to have what they have.

Vandalism and damage to cars in parking lots does not seem to be a major problem at Central, said Dr. Moller. A few students, though, have had their car bumped, hit, blocked, or have been unable to park because of cars double parked in the student parking lot. Over the years vandalism has been very small with some students losing batteries or stereos.

Vandalism and damage to cars is much greater at Millard North, pointed out Tabatha. Because of the lack of space, cars tend to get hit or bumped more often. And because of its location near Boys Town there are no residential streets on which to park.

Security

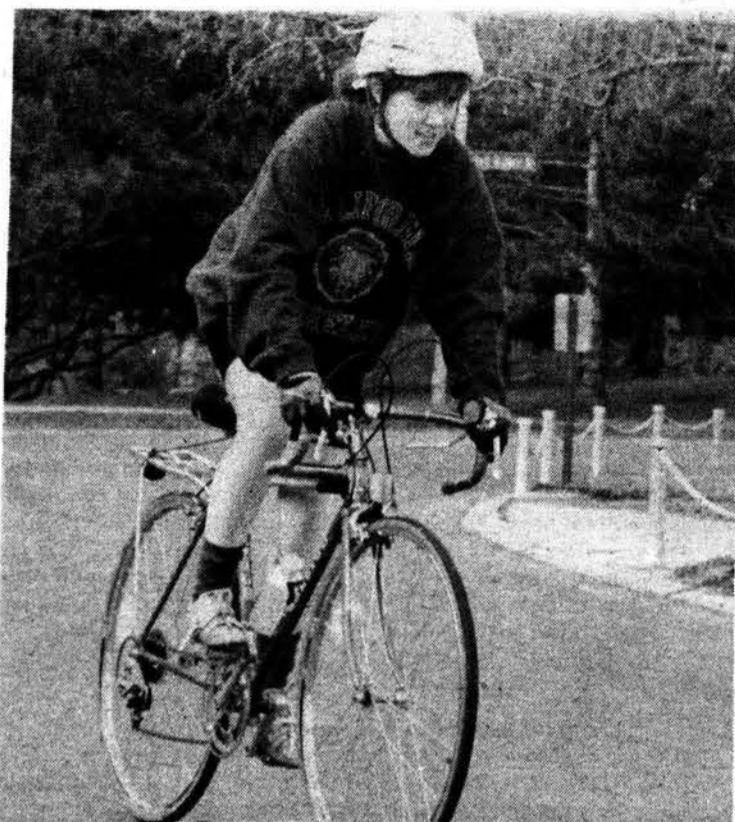
Security for both student and teacher lots has been patrolled by George Taylor, but as Dr. Moller said, the school does not have the money to hire a full time security guard for one or both parking lots.

Violations of either students' or teachers' parking lots are usually handled with a warning first with the idea of towing as a last resort because it is so costly to students.

Some students are allowed to use the teacher's parking lot for emergency occasions, for those who must come early and stay late, or by those with Dr. Moller's permission. The teacher's lot has about 152 marked spaces and about 152 staff employees, but as with students the school does not expect teachers and staff to drive every day. Extra room is also needed for visitors, advisors and for special events.

For students who did not receive a parking permit, parking is available on the residential streets around Central and by parking permits issued for the OEA parking lot. Joslyn once rented to students, but abuse and complaints from visitors to the museum resulted in the end of such renting. Once in a while, Central does receive complaints of students parking in Joslyn's lots but only when they are expecting a large number of visitors to the museum.

Teacher and students participate in bike races



Senior Kate Madigan rides her bike for exercise. She plans to ride in the Bike Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN)

Sarah Story

"People call it the party on wheels," said senior Kate Madigan. "Towns really show their hospitality; bands play in every town, and food is for sale everywhere."

Many students and teachers have been involved in the Bike Ride Across Nebraska and Ride Across Iowa. Kate became involved in the Bike Across Iowa last summer, covering 479 miles. "A friend of mine from Council Bluffs suggested it, so I decided to go." She said that she biked at least three times a week before the ride so her knees would not hurt.

The qualifications to enter the ride were simple; 20 dollars and

miles depended on if it was flat or hilly ground that they were covering. "The average pace was 20 mph, but we would speed up if we wanted to get to camp earlier to get a good place to sleep and eat."

The bike ride ran from river to river. "The tradition is to touch the Missouri River with your bike tire at the beginning of the ride and the Mississippi at the end," said Kate.

Kate plans to ride in the Bike Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN) the first week of June. She said that it is a more serious bike ride.

The Bike Across Nebraska only accepts 500-600 entries unlike the Iowa ride. The people who have ridden in many of the races have a slight advantage and are mailed an entry blank, while others must pick up entries at a bike shop.

Diversity of cyclists

Mr. Al Roeder, Central earth science and photography teacher, said that he participates annually in the Bike Ride Across Nebraska. He said that it started about seven or eight years ago.

Saddle sores

Mr. Roeder said that he was prepared for the ride because he rides his bike everyday. "The cyclist that does not ride very much or not at all should ride about 100 miles a week for a month before the ride," said Mr. Roeder. He also said that many of the first-timers expect to have their legs hurt, but it ends up being their rear ends. "They are not used to sitting on a little plastic seat all day. More people drop out because of saddle sores than

dropping out for leg cramps," said Mr. Roeder.

The ride begins with the cyclists taking their bikes apart and loading them in the semi trucks. Once they reach their starting point, there is a mad scramble to find the bikes and assemble them. The semi trucks then carry all of the tents and baggage of the cyclists.

Covering their quota

After the cyclists have covered their quota of miles for the day, they camp in a town for the night. They sleep in tents and usually camp near a high school. "There are usually 700 people who would like to take a shower and use the restroom facilities," said Mr. Roeder. He also said that the towns that they usually stay in have around 5,000-10,000 people. This year the cyclists will stay one night in Haljsey National Forest.

The Omaha Rotary Club sponsors the ride each year. John Wupper, better known as the "BRAN Man", is the chief organizer. Mr. Roeder said that a town will commit to having the cyclists stay. "Many of the towns enjoy the cyclers because it brings a lot of money into the town," said Mr. Roeder.

Hungry cyclers

The cyclers are dependent on individual towns for food. "The biggest problem is that the people underestimate how much 700 hungry cyclers can eat. Many times the towns will run specials on dinners, but they quickly run out of food. No one goes hungry, however," said Mr. Roeder.

One time, 300 hungry people

entered a cafe for breakfast. The cooks thought they would need more food so they went out and bought another loaf of bread for French toast. "One loaf of bread was not going to stretch that far," said Mr. Roeder.

Tornado warnings

The Nebraska weather can sometimes pose problems for the cyclists. In June there is either lots of sun or cold rains. But June is also the height of the year for storms. Mr. Roeder said that one year there was a tornado warning everyday. He said that it was also an uneasy feeling having tents blow away in the middle of the night. "The worst aspects of the ride are the headwinds and the saddle sores."

"People of all ages get involved; the youngest being a ten-year-old and the oldest a 70-year-old man from Japan," said Mr. Roeder. He said that it is just a fun ride not a race. Everyone rides at his own pace. Some people leave at 4:00 a.m. some 9:00 a.m. Some ride straight through, and others stop and take hikes along the way. All of the cyclists have one thing in common, though. They cover the same distance and stay in the same places at night.

Interesting people

Mr. Roeder said that he enjoys meeting interesting people in the towns and along the ride. He prefers the Ride Across Nebraska over the Ride Across Iowa because Iowa's ride has too many people. "There are more people than I want to ride with," said Mr. Roeder.


This summer he plans to take his nine-year-old daughter with him.



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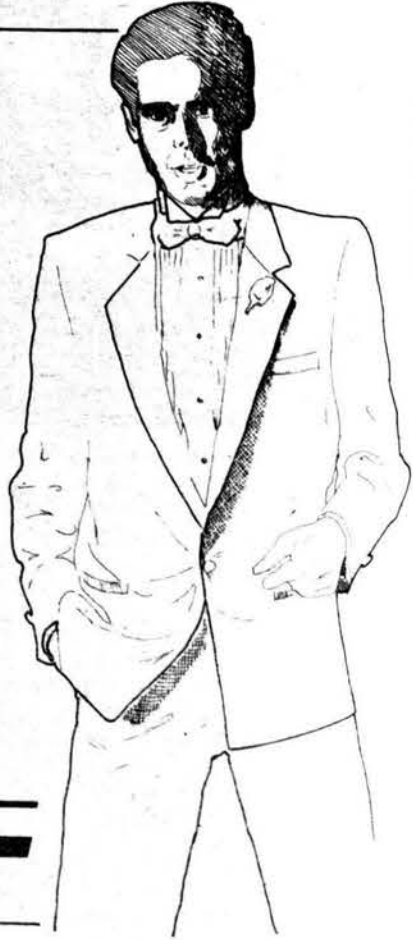
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Obnoxious crowd annihilates image



Sports Staff Says:

Tracy Edgerton

A wildly enthusiastic crowd surges with excitement as their team scores yet another point against their adversaries. Members of this same crowd, overcome with joy after their win, gloat victoriously as they filter out of the gymnasium, hurling obscenities at their mortified opponents.

Teenage reputations

Hey, don't get defensive with me. If this applies to you in any way, you know who you are. We all know that teenagers have a reputation to uphold as irresponsible, reckless members of society. Missing curfews occasionally and fibbing to the folks about what you really did last Saturday night (*Rocky Horror*!?, Right!!), is all an essential part of growing up in the hopping town of Omaha, Nebraska.

But a certain amount of respect should be shown to the players and fans of opposing teams, also. We may be the best school in the state, but we have occasionally experienced the agony of defeat ourselves. We should remember how it feels and sympathize with the poor losers. Come on, have a heart!

Peer pressure

The one perplexing question at the very depths of my soul is-why do we tend to become gloating barbarians in the face of competition. Through extensive

research and interviewing, I finally unearthed the answer to this monumentous teaser. It all evolves back to that inescapable and overemphasized fallacy, PEER PRESSURE.

Yes, it is true. The uncontrollable urge to impress our friends with our distastfully large mouths by uttering monosyllabic, sexually oriented flagrances overcomes even the most mild mannered person, and the damage is done.

Proper citizens

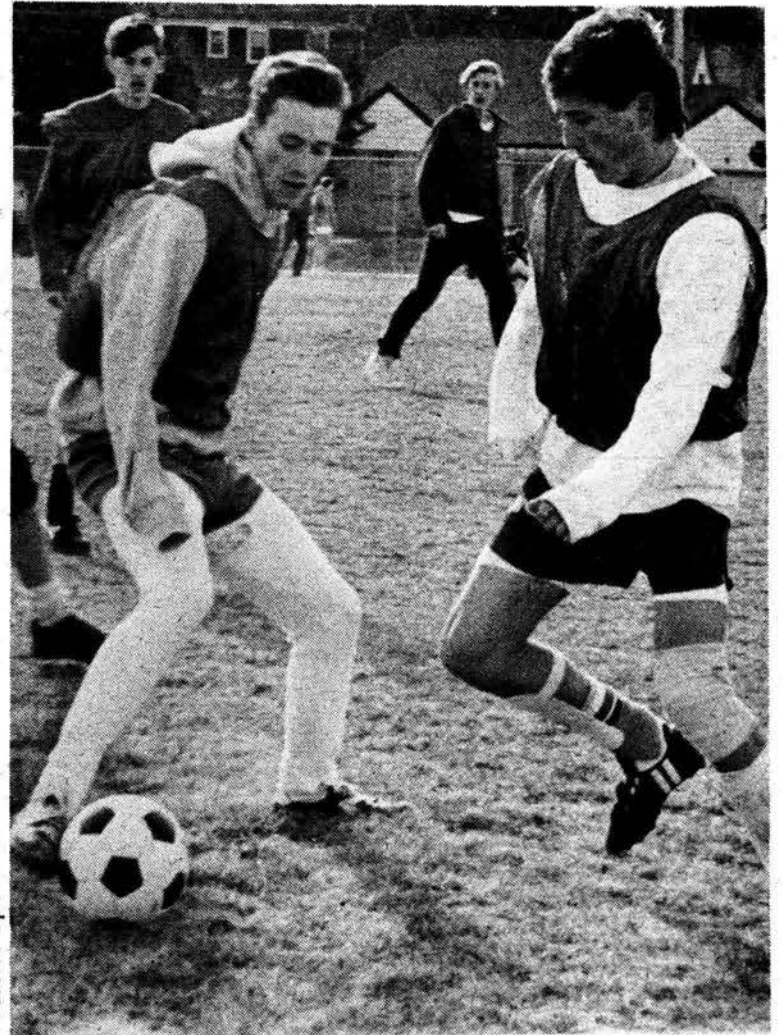
How can we overcome this obtuse obstacle and become the decent, uprighteous citizens our parents dream about? Hey, no problem. Just get new friends. Get rid of those obnoxious, oftentimes embarrassing pseudo-humans who you have spent every weekend with for the past three years. Friends are just an added luxury, not really necessary in the overall picture of life.

A simple solution

Calm down, I'm just kidding. But there must be some simple solution. Hey, I know what we could do. Maybe we could just eliminate all extra-curricular activities and make everyone go to the library for at least two hours every day after school. I love the library! It's a great place to meet people and share in common activities—procrastinating by watching members of the opposite sex walk out of the bathrooms. Of course, we will just take out our frustrations on the bathroom walls instead of the ears of any innocent bystanders. Brilliancy at its best!

Obviously, that is a slight exaggeration and maybe partially on the radical side, but the fact still remains that common courtesy should prevail on all social levels. The next time the inclination to assail an opponent with harsh adjectives, remember the consequences. Sure, behaving obnoxiously occasionally can annihilate the perpetual boredom that overhangs the lives of every teenager, but rudeness cannot be tolerated.

Sanctioning beneficial Boys soccer kicks off



Valerie Spellman

Juniors Tim Rickerl and David Heese struggle for control over the ball during a inter-squad scrimmage. The boy's soccer team began their season with conditioning in early March.

Jeff Palzer

Central boys' soccer started practicing two weeks ago in its first year of sanctioned play. The Board of Education recognized and sanctioned soccer last year, which is now funded by the school.

Senior Dan Carlson said that school funding will help the team in organization, transportation, and equipment cost. Junior Rob Glasser said it will be cheaper to play now that the school is supplying balls and jerseys. He added that with a coach from Central, the practices and games will be more organized.

Experienced coach

Mr. David Martin, Central English teacher, is the team's coach this year. He started coaching 10 years ago and has been a state licensed referee for the past four years. He said that now that soccer is sanctioned, there will be more interest in playing. "We had 150 students (boys and girls) initially sign up to play," he said.

"Soccer is the game of the future," he said. He said that soccer's popularity will grow because anybody can play, regardless of size. "The key factors are speed, quickness, and finesse, not size," he said. He also stressed that there are few injuries in soccer.

Becoming more popular

Rob said that soccer is becoming popular because it is easy to learn, and there is non-stop action. He also said that this year will also be the first a player can earn a varsity letter in soccer.

Conditioning started in early March, the team taking advantage of the unseasonable weather. According to senior Tom Hazell, the team is practicing as an entire unit but will soon divide into varsity and junior varsity squads. The varsity team has twelve games this season and junior varsity has nine.

Major competition

Coach Martin feels that the major competition will come from Westside, Creighton Prep, and Burke. Senior Dan Carlson agrees. "They have strong programs and always have strong teams," he said.

Sanctioning benefits

Sophomore Peter Festersen said that many of the players have been on the same team before and "know each other's style." He also stress the benefits of sanctioning. "Last year we paid for uniforms and couldn't use Central's practice field," he said.

According to Tom, students basically organized last year's team. With the sanctioning, "more people are trying out who haven't played much soccer," he said.

Sophomore Adam Sortino thinks next year's team will be even better after this soccer gets organized this season.

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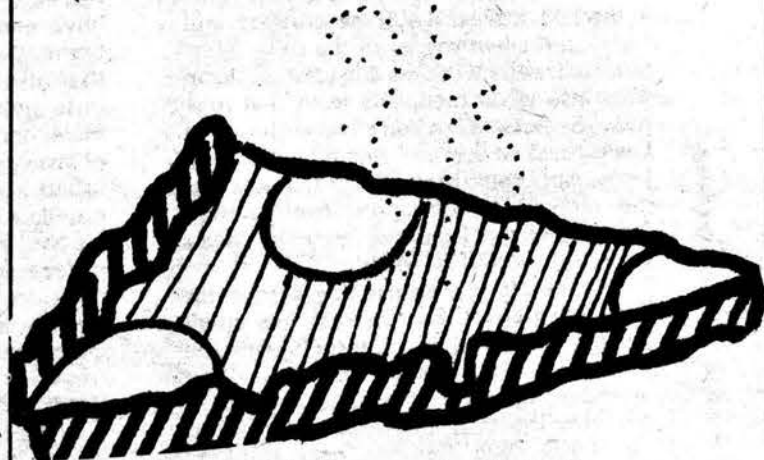
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Skateboarding:

Some Central students find it more than just a hobby

Michael Page

Not too many people know what a boneless or a hippie twist in a half-pipe is, let alone have the ability to do one. Well, it is skateboard lingo, and that just means performing skateboard tricks in a bowl-shaped ramp.

No one can really pinpoint the beginning of skateboarding. In the early sixties, a surf shop in North Hollywood, California, called Val Surf got together with a Chicago roller skating company to produce the first skateboards. Skateboarding became popular as a sport by the mid-sixties, and in a few years it spread all over the country. Skateboarding reached a peak in popularity in 1979 and went into a slump in the early 80's. It reached another peak last summer, and now it is decreasing again because of the weather.

"More than a hobby"

Larry Lamp, sophomore, said, "Skateboarding is more than just a hobby, it's more like a way of life for me and my friends."

Chris Raznick, junior, said, "I like skateboarding because it's fun to learn how to do those new tricks."

According to junior Ray Ojeda, most skaters range from twelve to seventeen years of age.

"Skateboarders have an image of just being punkers, but that's not true. All kinds of people skate," said Chris.

The price of a good skateboard can range from \$105 to \$150. Skateboard kneepads may cost up to \$35, and a helmet costs \$20. Many of the skaters buy their equipment at Drastic Plastics or the Bike Rack. "Many of the skaters wear a pair of shoes called 'vans'. They give us a better grip on the board," said Ray.

Skateboarding has also been the target of much criticism. Some believe that it is too dangerous. A few cities have established laws requiring proper equipment and staying off busy streets. The California Medical Association declared skateboarding unsafe. They said that skateboard accidents were now becoming the major cause of childhood injuries.

Popular on coast

Skateboard competitions are very popular on the west coast and in Texas, but very few are held in Omaha. Chris said, "The last competition in this area was The American Cancer Society Skateboard Competition last August." The judges look for

style, execution, and the difficulty of the stunt.

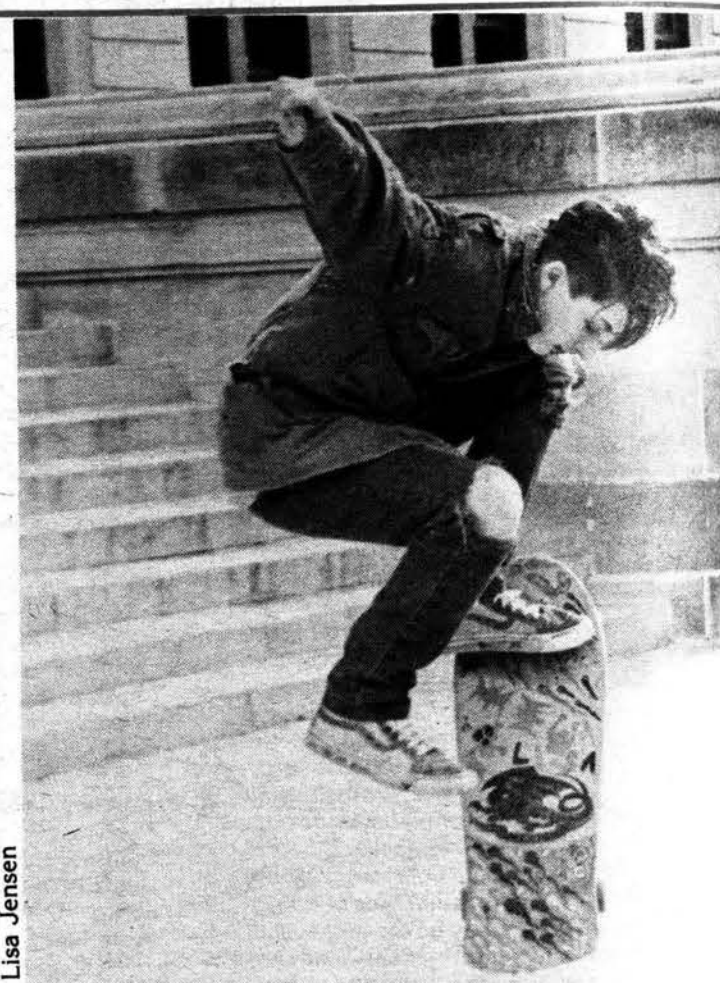
In order for a competition to take place, skaters must have it sanctioned through a major skating organization. A sanctioning of a competition just means that the skating organization will organize, run, and keep records of the competition. The two major organizations are the Pro/Am Skateboard Racers Association and the United States Skateboard Association.

Types of music

Chris said, "The majority of skaters listen to skaterock, which is similar to hard rock. Some of these bands are the Boneless Ones, Fishbone, and J.F.A. I like their music because it's fast paced, and it has energy. You can thrash to it."

Skaters can be found almost anywhere. They skate everywhere from the street to parking garages. Ray said, "One of the most popular hang-outs is the Old Market. Another popular place is Eldorado, which is the only half-pipe in Omaha."

Chris said, "Even though it's illegal, the best place to skate is in empty swimming pools, especially Elmwood Park. Another place is 'the wall' at 84th and Center."



Lisa Jensen

Junior Chris Raznick performs an "ollie" on his skateboard. Skateboarding has become increasingly popular as a past-time.

Lack of participants may hurt girls' track



Tess Fogarty

Junior, Heather Jones, and sophomore, Doris Williams, practice hurdling. They are preparing for an upcoming meet, the Burke relays, on March 21.

Michael Page

Last year, the girls' track team finished a strong second in the state meet. Junior, Mallery Ivy won three gold medals in the 100, 200, and 400 meter races, and she won a silver medal in the mile relay. Seniors Dwana Williams and Lynn Jackson were also silver medalists from that mile relay. Seniors Anika Patterson and Andrea Lewis finished first and second in the long jump. Anika also broke the 100 meter hurdle record. Anika, Lynn, Andrea, and junior, Delisha Edwards, won the silver medal in the 4x100 relay.

It sounds like an exciting season for the Lady Eagles, but there is one small change. Dick Jones, Central's Athletic director, and track coaches, Joe McMenemin and William Reed decided to combine the girls and boys track teams. Mr. Jones said, "We had been thinking about it for several months, and we like the idea of one unified team instead of two separate teams." "With the teams combined, we can utilize the coaches better," said Coach McMenemin. Instead of having a coach for the boys and another for the girls in the same event, only one coach will coach both boys and girls of the same event. Head Coach McMenemin is in charge of the shot putters and discus throwers. Coach Reed coaches the sprinters, and John Georgeson is in charge of the hurdlers. John Geringer, science teacher, coaches the long distance runners, and David James, also a science teacher, coaches the girls in long distance events.

The girls have been conditioning for

five weeks. Delicia said, "Currently, there are only twenty-five girls going out for track, compared to about forty from the year before. Three runners from one school can enter an event, and right now we don't have enough girls to fill up the varsity team." "With the sanctioning of soccer, that also might decrease the number of girls going out for track," said Coach McMenemin. Stacy White was a member of last year's state championship team, but found it impossible to fit it into her busy schedule. She said, "I would like to run, but it's hard to handle school, a job, college applications, and track on top of that. I'm sure there are other girls in similar situations." Mallery said, "There are so many talented girls right here at Central. Some haven't run track since junior high, but with a little work I know they could make a great contribution to the team." Andrea Lewis said, "I think the main reason for the drop off of participants is just laziness." Coach Reed said, "Some of the girls hear rumors that track practice is too strenuous, and that's a poor attitude to take. The types of running that we do are just certain things that the runners need to do to get ready for competition."

The girls are going to run in the Burke Relays on March 21. The following week, they are running in the Grand Island Relays, and the Ram Relays in Ralston the week after.

Other returning varsity members are Kris Deffenbacher, Deanna Tipler, Kate Madigan, seniors, Ann Sitzman, Heather Jones, juniors, and sophomore Marcy Reed.