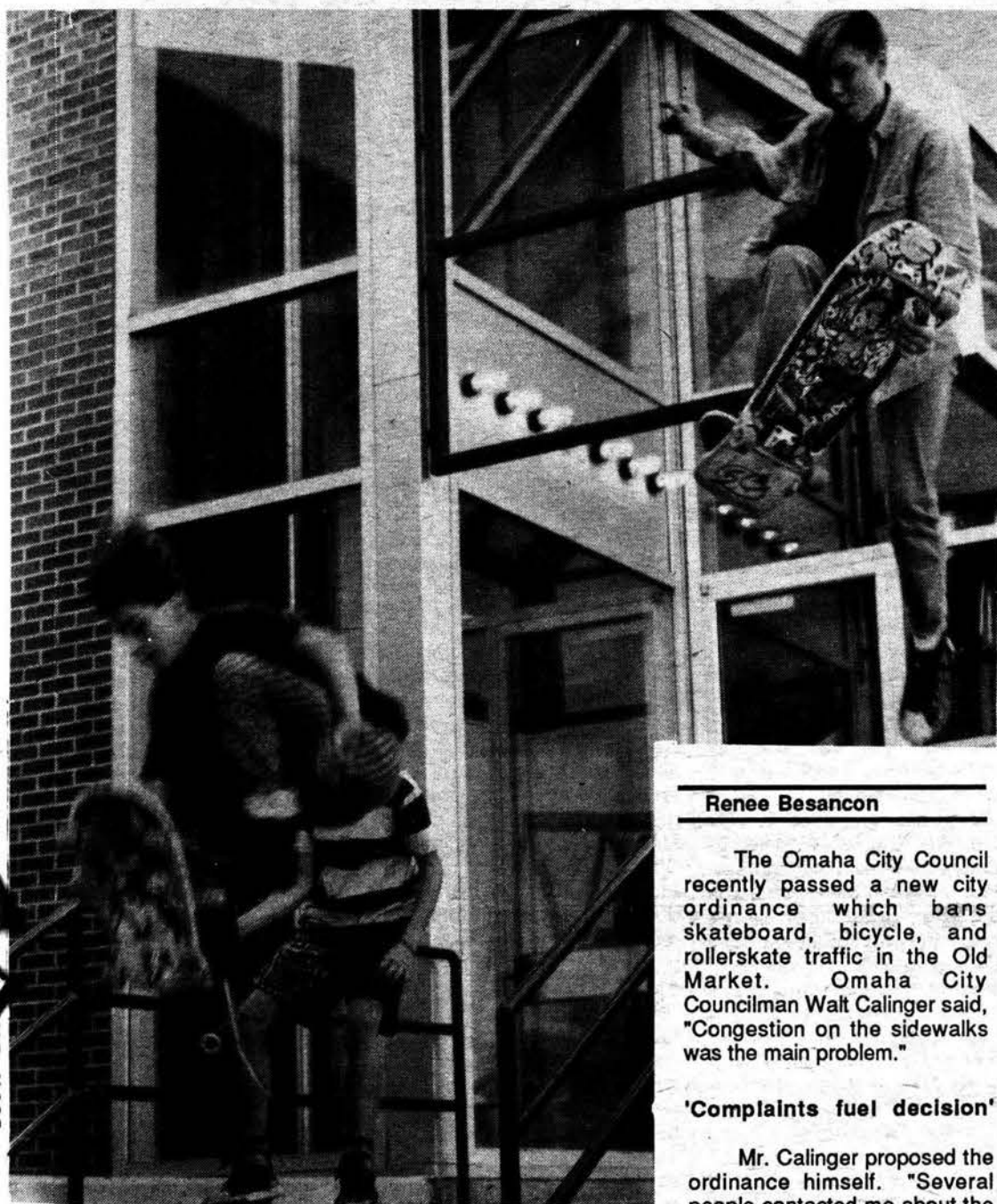


Council bans 'Market' skateboards



and observe the situation for himself. He said that through these observations, he decided that the problem was one of "sufficient magnitude." The City Council, he added, had to "decide who has priority (on the sidewalks)."

'Lack of communication'

Jennifer Leu, a Central High School junior, attended the City Council meetings concerning the ordinance. She and two other Central students, sophomores Dave Propp and Chris Runyan, are members of a student committee on the ban.

According to Jennifer, Councilman Jim Cleary and Councilman Joe Friend were responsible for getting the committee together. Mr. Cleary said that he and Mr. Friend "wanted to find some other alternative (places to skateboard)."

Jennifer said that the committee was able to speak out at the meetings. "There's a serious lack of communication among merchants, students, and council members," she said. "We talked to (the council members) on their level to explain to them that we have rights too."

'Good group of kids'

Mr. Cleary said that the committee is "a good group of kids." He thought their participation was "great," adding, "I admire them for standing up for what they believe in."

Mr. Calinger said that the City Council has given consideration to closing the Old Market area to automobile traffic during certain times of

the day. However, he stressed the fact that it is a consideration only.

The City Council did not outlaw other forms of transportation such as wheelchairs and strollers. The reason, Mr. Calinger said, is that "wheelchairs and strollers are not aggressive vehicles relative to competing for space." He added, "I think it would be a little ridiculous to outlaw wheelchairs and even strollers."

'Out of trouble'

Jennifer said that the Old Market is attractive to skateboarders because "that's where the people are. It's somewhere to meet, a place to get together." Of the skateboarding itself, she remarked, "It's keeping them out of trouble. They're staying out of the drugs and the stealing and what not."

The new ordinance, Jennifer said is "just ridiculous. Usually the guys are really careful because they know they can get in trouble." She said that the student committee is proposing that the City Council set up a special time when people may skateboard in the Old Market.

Jennifer said that the next City Council meeting for addressing the ordinance is set for November 17. At this time, members plan to try to issue a ban on bicycles and skateboards in the area of Leavenworth to Cuming and 26th street to the Missouri River. She said that finding a place to skateboard is now the problem. "If they don't do something," she commented, "it's just going to get worse."

Renee Besancon

The Omaha City Council recently passed a new city ordinance which bans skateboard, bicycle, and rollerskate traffic in the Old Market. Omaha City Councilman Walt Calinger said, "Congestion on the sidewalks was the main problem."

'Complaints fuel decision'

Mr. Calinger proposed the ordinance himself. "Several people contacted me about the problem," he said. These complaints fueled his decision, he said, to go to the Old Market

Central students skateboard near the Old Market. The area was recently closed to skateboard and bike traffic.

Decathlon hopefuls prepare for team

Amy Buckingham

This year Central High School chose its Academic Decathlon Team by a qualifying test given to 50 students on October 8, 1987, ninth and tenth hours in the cafeteria.

Last year the team was chosen solely on whether or not they were semi-finalists for the National Merit Scholarship. The change in format, according to Mrs. Marlene Bernstein, Decathlon team co-coordinator, took place because "there was not a clear cut choice as to who the team members ought to be."

In previous years the team consisted of only 12 members, six members who would actually compete in the competition and six members who would be considered as alternates. There are three levels of competition, the Honors or "A" category, the Scholastic or "B" category, and the Varsity or "C" category. Four students are chosen from each category. This year Mrs. Bernstein hopes to have more than the "traditional twelve" participate because "there is so much useful information, so much to learn."

A group of junior and senior hopefuls started a study group to prepare for the tests. Study group members were Senior Nicky Bach, and juniors Jenny Hendricks, Rob Hill, Mike Lawler, Karen Lee, and Reggie Renard. Each person took one of the seven areas to be tested, gathered information on their topic, and presented that information to the rest of the group.

Mrs. Bernstein said "You want committed kids. Kids at Central are committed to academics. This year's team has potential."



Courtyard reopens

The Central courtyard, closed for lunch since school began, reopened Monday, September 28 after an agreement was reached by the Student Council and Central principal Dr. G.E. Moller. Stipulations of the agreement include clean-up by the Student Council and members of all four foreign languages. Sarah McWhorter, senior Student Council member, said "Dr. Moller was really apprehensive about the whole thing, but it seems to be going well so far."

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Forum

Do you agree with the Omaha City Council's ban of skateboards from the Old Market?



Ted Vatnsdal, senior:
"Yes, I agree with the ban. Skateboarders are basically rude, and they have no respect for those who walk in the Old Market."



Gina Weberg, junior: "I think that it is a good idea to get rid of them; they get in the way, sometimes."



Tim Fuglel, sophomore:
"No, I don't approve of the ban. I don't feel that they are a major cause of anxiety to the pedestrians."

Karen Smith

Pulse

Do you agree with the Omaha City Council's decision to ban skateboards from the Old Market?

Yes 42% No 58%

Total Questioned: 110 students

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Omaha City Council's ban on skateboards may be hasty

Skateboards, like all forms of recreation, are vehicles for appeasing the dangerous and impulsive desires in all of us. Skateboarding is also a convenient sport for the only "court" needed is a sidewalk or a street or a parking lot.

As of late, one such avenue has been the sidewalks of Omaha's Old Market Square. Together with the jugglers, the musicians, and the break dancers, the skateboarders have added yet another dimension to an already colorful area. Today's Old Market appears to offer a little something for everyone.

Recently, however, a controversy has arisen surrounding the skateboarders' use of the Old Market. More specifically, merchants and pedestrians alike have charged that the skateboarders have taken over the area and pose a potential health hazard to all in the Market, even to the skateboarders themselves. The Omaha City Council intervened on behalf of the merchants and the pedestrians, and this intervention resulted in a complete ban of all skateboards

from the Old Market.

Omaha City Councilman Walter Calinger, the originator of the ordinance, cited several reasons which necessitated the ban. Certain people felt that the skateboarders gave the district an air of unruliness. Others said that they feared going to the Market for fear of a confrontation. Still others believed that they blocked the entrances to business establishments, thus restricting commerce.

Most importantly, it is the general feeling that the Old Market is just too crowded, a feeling shared by the Register staff. Too many people fear that, sooner or later, someone is going to be injured because of careless actions. Many cite the recent case in Bellevue in which a car struck a Bellevue boy, resulting in his death. The City Council's ban was designed to act as preventive medicine, hoping to decrease the chance of a fatality from occurring.

The most prominent flaw with the ordinance is that the skateboarders are the ones who lose out. Already facing a shortage of "boardable" space,

the ban forbids the use of what many consider a valuable area. The real problem is that Omaha, in contrast with such cities as Denver and Minneapolis, does not have a "skateboard park" which would accommodate their needs.

The ideal situation would be to build such a facility, thus all would be happy. The City Council approves of such a measure, but as of right now, the Council would not support the plan. They would welcome a park owned by the private sector, but the high cost of insurance would probably be too great to support the park.

So to answer the question, "Who came first: the pedestrian or the skateboarder?" current trends dictate that it must be the pedestrian. The Old Market suffers from congestion, and if the safety of the public lies in conflict with enjoyment of a few, the public must take precedence. Yet in this society of majority rule with minority rights, the Omaha City Council must eventually address the rights of the skateboarders with perhaps their own park, thus achieving a happy medium.

Courtyard privilege means responsibility

The bestowing of a gift is something that requires little explanation other than a personal reason; gifts are fairly whimsical. A privilege, on the other hand, must be earned and is only awarded when someone is deemed worthy of the honor. Above all, a privilege must never be taken lightly else its suspension is imminent, often never to return.

Central recently lost one of our most sacred honors: the use of the courtyard as a commonplace for eating and socializing. Central Principal Dr. Moller closed the courtyard as a lunchroom after certain students who felt that eating in the courtyard was an inalienable right failed to

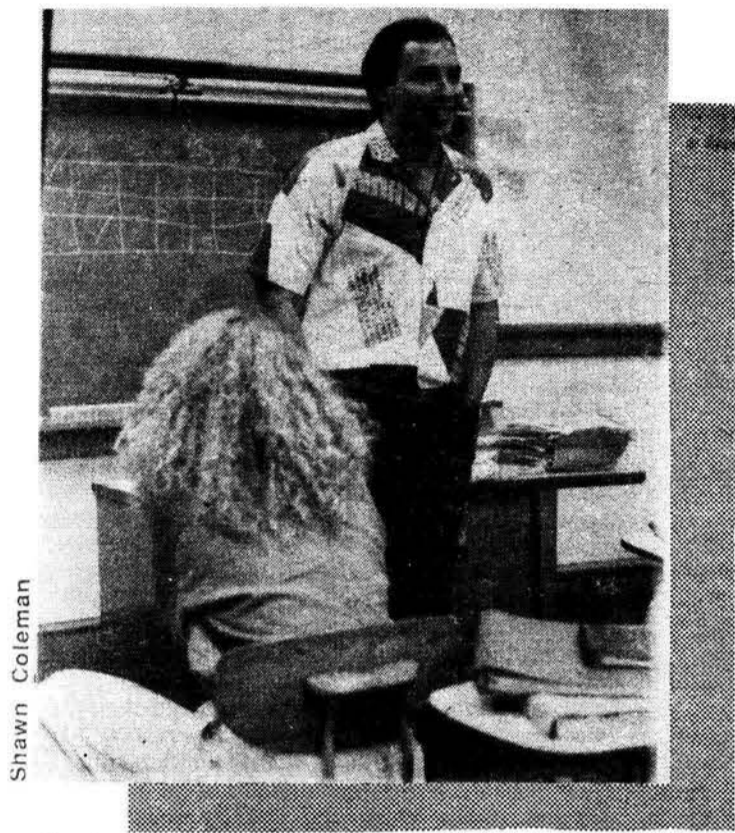
uphold their end of the "bargain." Dr. Moller has reinstated this privilege, yet it has been given probationary status. It is fourth down for Central, and we cannot afford another failure.

Under the direction of President Bruce Lovgren and Advisor Mr. Semrad, the Student Council has taken the initiative to try and solve the problem. After meeting with Dr. Moller on three separate occasions, they convinced him to reopen the courtyard, but they had to make certain promises. Members are currently volunteering their time and efforts to pick up trash and are preparing a number of promotions to encourage a cleaner courtyard. The Student

Council deserves praise for their actions, but instead of thanking them personally, filled trash cans would be worth a thousand words, sending a message to all that Central students are worthy of this privilege.

The Student Council, or any group at Central, should not or cannot be expected to be responsible for 1900 students. As Mr. Semrad said, "It's not just a Student Council problem, but a problem for the whole school." If students think that the problem will just go disappear by looking the other way, Dr. Moller has a few surprises in mind. Namely, the return of the two cramped cafeterias as the only sites for lunch.

Dominguez begins year at Central



Shawn Coleman

Mr. Dominguez teaches Mrs. Anderson's class.

Jonas Batt

Mr. Elvis Dominguez began his first full year of teaching this fall in cooperation with Mrs. Vicky Anderson, Spanish teacher, under the teacher-partner program. Mr. Dominguez teaches Mrs. Anderson's classes when she is absent from school due to Omaha Education Association involvement.

But Mr. Dominguez brings more than teacher training and fluent Spanish to the classroom. He carries the experience of living in a Communist country.

Mr. Dominguez came to the United States with his family on a so-called Freedom Flight from Cuba in 1971. At that time the country was somewhat open. Prior to their departure, Mr. Dominguez's father was taken from his job as an air traffic controller, and forced to work

on a government farm for three and a half years. His family's turn to leave the country finally came. Mr. Dominguez said that his family left the country primarily because they had "no belief in Communism." His family came to the U.S. and settled in Miami which had a growing Cuban community.

Mr. Dominguez:

Freedom is largely "taken for granted" in the United States.

He completed high school in Miami and then came to Omaha's Creighton University on a baseball scholarship. Studying at Creighton to become a teacher, he had his first taste of Central as a teacher's aide in 1982 and 1983. He became "really convinced" that he wanted to teach after working with Mrs. Anderson.

Mr. Dominguez enjoys "involvement with kids" and feels he has much to offer students. He believes freedom is largely "taken for granted" in the United States and wants students to know how good life is in the U.S.

His knowledge of Latin American culture comes from "real life experience," and he believes "there is only so much you can learn from a book. If any teacher can enhance it, kids should get that exposure."

Central cheerleaders get new sponsor

Jenny Andersen

This year Central High School has a new cheerleading sponsor, Mrs. Geraldine Zerse, counselor. She replaced Mr. Clyde Lincoln, social studies teacher.

Mrs. Zerse was chosen because of her past experience as a cheerleading sponsor at a junior college in Illinois.



Mrs. Zerse

Being a sponsor takes one period of her day away from counseling, but she feels she is available most of the time.

Mrs. Zerse said that she is very fortunate to be the

sponsor. "I'm working with a great bunch of girls, and the cooperation of the administrators and teachers is great," she said.

Her responsibilities are to make sure the cheerleaders attend activities, encourage school spirit, act as good representatives of the school, and publicize Central tradition.

"We try to follow the cheerleading constitution as closely as possible, especially if we are not sure about something," Mrs. Zerse said. Mr. Lincoln and Central principal Dr. G.E. Moller created the constitution.

Jenny Holmes, varsity cheerleader, said, "I'm really impressed with Mrs. Zerse." She added, "She attends every activity and event, making sure we perform up to standards."

DECA project "in bag"

Ann Kay

The Central High DECA club and Central's baseball team are currently involved with the Bag Lady Project. Approximately 88 students and various business teachers met Sunday, Sept. 27, at the UNO fieldhouse to stuff bags with numerous advertisements.

"Every store or business which has a promotional or coupon in the bag paid WOWT (channel 6). Then WOWT paid us a fee for filling and passing out the bags," said Mickey Gomez, Jr.

Jason Lips, DECA District IV vice-president, said, "We get \$0.05 for each bag stuffed and \$0.05 for each bag passed out." This money then goes to the DECA fund and DECA students' personal accounts.

"We're learning a lot; even though we're making money, it's more for the experience we're gaining. We plan to enter this project in the Pepsi Management competition to defend our state and national title," said Mr. Harry Gaylor, DECA sponsor. This project is a trial for Bag Lady Incorporated which plans to do a similar project in San Francisco if it works out in Omaha.

There are 17 different companies advertising through the Bag Lady promotion. "We stuffed about 3,000 bags an hour in a competitive atmosphere. We had prizes, pop, and music to inspire the students," said Mrs. Roxanne Knight, business teacher.

The goal was to complete 11,500 bags. These bags will be distributed on October 17 to the Omaha, Lincoln, and Council Bluffs areas from 6 to 9 a.m.

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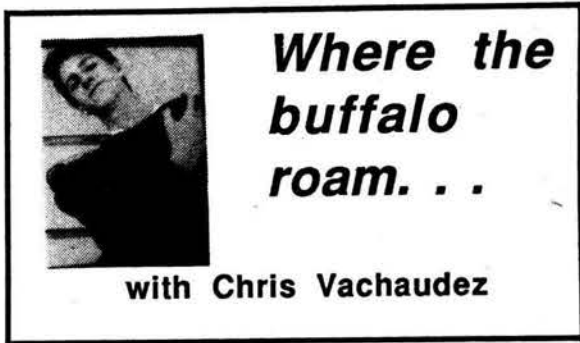
Truantomaniac-(n.) a person who feels uncontrollably compelled to run, screaming, from school in order to avoid class and/or study hall in search of lunch or those wonderful things not offered in the school curriculum.
(Plural- truantomaniei)

Not surprisingly, one of the more prominent aspects of school is truancy. For some it's a way of life, and to others it's a dark, unwholesome pit of hell. You wouldn't even believe they were from the same species sometimes, but everybody knows what skipping class is, even if they don't consider it a hobby, like some very strange people I know.

Security aides

Anyway, one important aspect of the whole ritual is knowing who the "security aides" are. George and Virgil are the very nemeses of those who often find themselves someplace other than school. If you happen to see three or four people running at top speed and then, at a hallway intersection, break formation to rocket off in different directions, most likely they are not highly trained members of the glorious Eagle football team practicing the big play and you'll most likely find either George or Virgil behind them somewhere - probably way behind them somewhere. This, by the way, is where the young outlaw brethren have a distinct advantage. The last time I checked, neither George nor Virgil could turn in a 40-yard dash in under 7.5 seconds. Again, I could be wrong. . .

Last year, my junior year, I encountered this problem, or at least what I considered a problem, nearly every day during tenth hour. Having a tenth hour study hall, as I did, was somehow unacceptable to me - so, naturally, I'd leave. I think the "security aides" must have thought I was simply a very paranoid senior with an overactive thyroid gland and an early release, so they ignored the heavy sweating and the strange wave of psychosis that would



Where the buffalo roam. . .

with Chris Vachandez

obviously sweep over me when I was in any danger of being confronted, which, of course, would mean almost certain mistreatment.

As I would walk out of the building Virgil and I would eye each other nervously: me thinking of a good direction to flee, if it came down to it, and him wondering if I was really worth it. We both knew what the story would be if he stopped me: naturally my early release form was in my car and, why yes, of course I'm a senior! (followed by a nervous laugh) During this time several small sleezeballs, seizing the moment, would slither out of school and make a break for the student parking lot, with me watching and pondering the existence of God as I desperately tried to bargain my way out of certain jeopardy.

Demented breed

It takes a special, demented breed to be able to skip and cut the selected classes and study halls, so hated by truantomaniacs. You must have that all important perfect combination of black market talents: attendance office procedural knowledge, the all important ability to evade the security, a feel for the "blue card" system, some sort of frequent flier program with your administrator, and that certain warped and deranged animal instinct that will tell you

whether to hold back or go for the jackpot. Needless to say, you can't learn all this over night and you can't go buy a paperback giving 101 ways to blow off class, work, and your future. It just isn't done. Fine tuning your talents to skipping school, if this is your goal, takes time and plenty of guts/stupidity, because no matter how you look at it, getting away with this most unwholesome deed and getting "busted" are two totally different concepts.

Big trouble

One time in particular that I remember was last spring when my friends and I slipped out of school for an afternoon and headed for Memorial Park for a day of soccer, frisbee, and just basically good, clean fun. Everything was just wonderful until I took a good look around us and caught sight of my mother making a tight bee-line towards our group which, I discovered, was quite vulnerable to attack - a veritable smorgasbord for any truant officer, if there really is such a thing. Anyway, all I could do was watch as she made her way up the hill and informed us that we were all in big trouble (which I always thought was at least a slight exaggeration). It seems the school had called everyone's parents, who were, undoubtedly, oiling and loading the shotguns right at that very moment. . . and there was a general panic as mom cheerfully ran off a memorized list of names that were targeted for the kill. Very unnerving.

Lots of people skip their classes and are caught; many more than that are not, and I know Dr. Moller must realize this problem by now. It's a tough thing to regulate, I know, especially with a bunch of frustrated, sleepy adolescents denied their sleep in study halls - and hungry for revenge. But the whole truancy thing will always be there, haunting him. The concept of an open campus, undoubtedly, incites fear and panic in the hearts of teachers everywhere, so it is, therefore, quite unrealistic. It would, however, make people on both sides of the law happy, and it would be quite interesting, to say the least.

Student musicians play in Youth Symphony

Joel McCulloh

Omaha has its own symphony, but it also has a symphony set up especially for youths in the surrounding area. The Omaha Youth Symphony (OYS) has been a part of Omaha for twenty-nine years

now, and more groups are being added every year.

Director Stephen Hobson has been with the symphony for five years. According to Mr. Hobson, the Omaha Symphony's Woman's Guild started the OYS in 1958, and the first director was Joseph Levine. OYS is now funded by

the Omaha Symphony's Woman's Guild and other organizations including United Artists of Omaha, Nebraska Choral Arts Society and various school districts.

"The purpose of the symphony is to develop the skills of a good consumer of music," stated Mr. Hobson. He went on to say that, together, the group helps to establish a commitment for a common cause. "Everyone has to work together, like on a sports team. We are all working together for the same thing," he said.

To be a member of the OYS, one must audition first. Auditions consist of playing a prepared piece, various scales and sight-reading. The group of musicians that plays for OYS is carefully chosen, and members must be in grades 7-12. He said that, most importantly, "they must have the willingness and enthusiasm to play."

Central students who are members of the OYS are: Hilary Foster, Lisa Hobson, Kiri Soares, sophomores; Adam Nelson, Matt Nelson, Jenny Schaeffer, Jeff Wiegrefe, juniors; and Christmas Reed, senior.

Christmas explained the advantages of playing in an organized symphony while still in high school. "It's a good foundation for a musical background, and to play for such a group before entering college opens many opportunities," she said.

'More important than trig'

Symphony members tend to practice on the average of two to three hours a day and also do their homework for classes the next day. Jenny said that

she gives homework and practice about the same amount of time, "but when it comes down to it, my music is first." Christmas seemed to feel the same way. "To me, this is my homework. It's more important to me than trig."

'It's worth it'

Not only are the week days full of rehearsal time, but every Saturday, the OYS meets for a three-hour rehearsal, and the amount of practice time increases as the concert dates

approach. Two members stated their reasons for committing themselves to the symphony. "It's a lot of fun and I enjoy playing," Jeff said. "The symphony is a lot of hard work and long rehearsals, but it's all worth it," Jenny stated.

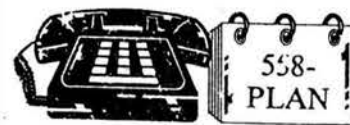
The Youth Symphony's next concert is November 8, and they will be playing a premiere piece that was commissioned for the group. The composer will be attending the concert. Also on the repertoire is Beethoven's "Egmond Overture."



Jill Ogden

Central members of OYS: Lisa Hobso, Jeff Wiegrefe, Kiri Soaves, Hilary Foster, and Jenny Schaeffer, prepare for next concert.

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 - 219 Drugs, Sex, Rock n' Roll
 - 220 Does My Teen Have A Drug Problem?
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 - 114 AIDS



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**Oompadity
mau
mau**

with Rob Glasser

There was a song we used to sing when we were kids, "Ride of the Valkyries" by Robert Wagner. We would bellow this song as we pounded through fields and bush chasing each other. "Ride of the Valkyries" is classical music, I know that, but as children we didn't think of the music as adult or boring classical stuff. This particular tune was the one that heroes would use when they swooped down out of the sky and foil any villain in a 25 mile radius. It was like the William Tell Overture which most people will know as the Lone Ranger theme.

"Dat da da Da Da..." we would raise quite a squalor, lunging here and dashing there. Hopping around to this sophisticated music did not mature us a bit, we were still very young and acted...well...like cavemen.

Dangerous

We chased animals (rarely catching them), we searched ceaselessly for a cave or pit in which we could dwell, we had the danger of four wheeled predators, and we found the power of fire an utterly fascinating phenomena. We were dangerous, three kids under nine with every pocket and palm filled with matches.

There was a huge field behind my house, perfect for a fire testing range. We had a small pit, surrounded with trees and we could ignite most anything within its confines. We would place the victim in the bottom, light him up, and wait until it was bearily uncontrolable before we would all jump on it, smothering it with our Keds.

"Die in the fire!"

As anyone can see, we were toying with Fate. It was so obvious we were going to get in trouble that we didn't care, we just burned.

Well one day Fate stepped in and decided to give us a little burn. One of the members in the fire club decided to try a little gasoline with our usual dried grass. Sounded perfect to me. We gathered up a satisfactory amount of grass, poured half a gallon of gas on it, and created a bonfire that would have made Satan proud. The hair on my right arm was gone(I was the lucky lighter), all of our shoes were melted from trying to stomp it out, but it didn't go out. We were definetely in big trouble.

The uncontrolable inferno raged on as we stood there huddled, trying to figure out what to do. "Die in the fire" was going through my head. It would be better to snuff out here than face the authorities,i.e.; parents.

Needless to say we were scared senseless. Smoke was stinging our eyes and making them water; we were crying anyway, so it didn't much matter. Okay, stomping's not going to help,I thought, so it's time to run. We turned around screaming and ran wildly (for about 15 feet), that's when we saw the fire truck.

Burned

It was just our luck that a firetruck happened to be driving by and saw our mess. A fireman jumped from the truck and ran over to us. It was to see if we were injured, but we thought he was catching us so he could put us in jail. We froze there while he asked us questions and looked at our skin. The rest of the firmen jumped out with fire extinguishers and put out the blaze.

With all the commotion it didn't take long for the parents to arrive on the scene. We thought up a quick story, a meteor had crashed there and started the fire. We were merely trying to stamp it out. Our parents were disgusted with our lies, but the firemen humored us and gave us a fire lecture that included meteorites.

The commotion and people drifted away with the smoke. My parents didn't ground me or beat me, I had been so scared I wouldn't leave my room anyway, but they did scold me...bad.

The other culprits got beatings, I found this out in a few weeks when we had the guts to visit each other again. We took a vow never to play with fire again. Until the fourth of July that is.

In-briefs

Homecoming festivities

The 1987 Homecoming festivities were held last Oct. 2 -3. The parade was held Friday Oct. 2 before the game against the Benson Bunnies. The homecoming dance was held Oct. 3 at the Milo Bail Student Center on the UNO campus from 8:00-12:00 p.m.

Homecoming royalty

Congratulations to 1987 Homecoming King, Melvin Jones and Queen Mallery Ivy.

Open house

The Omaha Central High School Open House was held September 30 from 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Latin Club officers

1987/88 Latin Club officers are Senior Consul; Robin Leavitt, Alex Zinga, and Andy Carlson. Junior Consul; Charlie Tomlinson, Carl Yeck, and Alex Haecker. Secretary, Heather Nash; Treasurer Reggie Renard; Historians Krissy Burns, Khea Newby. Class representatives are Alicia Petersen, Bridget Buckley, Natasha Kraft, Billy Rodgers, and Michelle Lukowski

Marching Band

The Central High Marching Band participated in this year's River City Roundup Parade on Saturday, Sept. 27.

National Merit semi-finalists

Six Central students have qualified for the semi-finals of the National Merit Scholarships. The students are Robert Fuglei, John Miller, Stuart Oberman, Lisa Wolff, Joe Schlesselman, and Erica Wenke.

Students of the Month

The September Students of the Month are Chip King, senior; Heidi Sharp, junior; and Kate Krauss, sophomore. Students of the month were chosen by National Society Officers.



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James Belushi is *The Principal*

Joël McCulloh

Rick Latimer has everything it takes to go wrong. His wife is divorcing him, barroom fights have become a daily workout and as for teaching school, he's worse than his students.

Just when another life crisis is the last thing Rick needs, Murphy's Law takes hold, and he's "promoted" to a principal position at Brandel High.

Brandel High's claim to fame is the highest crime and drug rate in the district. It's the school board's dumping ground, and as the students say, the garbage never leaves. No one gets expelled from Brandel.

James Belushi stars in the new release from Tri-Star Pictures, *The Principal*, a story about tough breaks, second chances, and not giving up, no matter how down the situation is. Director Chris Cain explains, "This film is a reflection of reality. If there's a statement to be made, perhaps it is that there's more than one chance in life; that everyone has a possibility, regardless of their socio-economic background."

The title role of Rick Latimer offered James Belushi his first chance to prove his talents in a serious light. "I've always considered myself an actor first, not a comedian," he says. "I wanted to balance my career by doing a little of both."

This role shows clearly that Belushi is not just a comedian. His portrayal of Rick Latimer is sensitive, spontaneous, and mixed with the serious caring side is that sharp sarcasm that gives him an edge when dealing with delinquent students with language worse than a football coach's.

Register Review

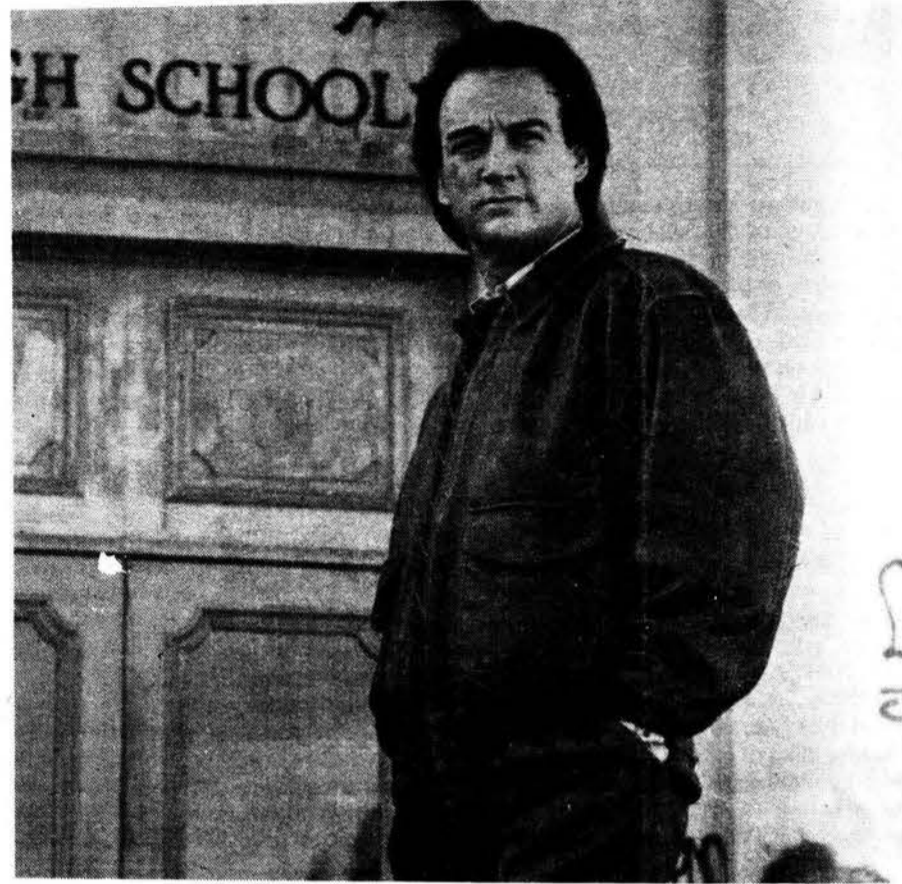
"Early in the film, Rick is a loose cannon reacting to his situation, but by the end he starts to do things for the right reasons," says Belushi.

With the support of the head security guard, played by Louis Gossett, (*An Officer and a Gentleman*), he and Latimer begin to say no more to the violence in the school. Gang leader Victor Duncan (Michael Wright) doesn't relish the idea of someone moving in on his drug dealing territory and he is determined to stop the principal.

The one thing that makes *The Principal* such a powerful movie is the way it was filmed and the added cast of characters. The major portion of the filming took place in Oakland, California. The school chosen to be Brandel was the old Merrit College campus, which closed in 1978, because of the surrounding neighborhood and the gritty look of the building.

"We used hundreds of local kids and a few local gangs. The kids wore their own clothes in the film and we found them very theatrical. They already have an attitude about them, something which if we had to try to teach them, we'd have been there two or three years," says director Cain.

A local group of artists, D.O.A. (Def on Arrival), were hired to paint graffiti on the walls of Brandel to add a charisma to the building.



Rick Latimer (James Belushi) is faced with the toughest challenge in his life in the new movie *The Principal*.

Members of the local chapter of Hell's Angels in Oakland were also hired to help with the production crew and they also helped to control the students and cast members.

The Principal is real. It stirs emotions that have long been forgotten by filmmakers and it gives a message of inspiration along with a lot of good

laughs.

When Latimer realizes that Brandel is all he has, he faces death to make it work. Why does he do it? He said it fine at the close of the movie, kicked back on his motorcycle, sporting a leather jacket and with a look of sudden realization, "I'm the principal, man!"

Grease: Behind the scenes

Amy Buckingham

Central High School's fall musical production is "Grease." It will be performed November 12, 13, and 14, 1987.

Mr. Robert McMeen, music department head, and Mrs. Pegi Stommes, drama teacher, meet once or twice during the summer to discuss possible shows to perform the following fall.

Choices

Mr. McMeen said, "There are many factors we take into consideration when choosing a musical, such as: Can we afford it? Do we have the talent? Do we have the voice categories covered? Does this particular show appeal to both adult and student audiences? Are the parts racially restrictive? Are we doing a variety of different kinds of shows?"

The two biggest problems in choosing a musical are, according to Mrs. Stommes, "choosing one that is affordable, and choosing one that has sets and costumes that are not only affordable, but look good and are easy to store."

"Musicals are expected to pay for themselves with their ticket sales," said Mr. McMeen. "But I have a hard time justifying doing



any show strictly from the money stand point. I want

Great expense

The expense comes with the sets, the costumes, and according to Mrs. Stommes, "particularly the permission for the reproduction of the copyrighted musical." "Grease" will cost approximately \$3000 less than last year's, "The Sound of Music." Both teachers are hoping that "Grease" will pay for its own bills.

"Grease" is a musical of teenagers playing teenagers, which is definitely easier for the students. The music is appealing to all audiences, it's familiar to everyone, the costumes are accessible, and the sets are fairly inexpensive."



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NFL's striking players are poor 'role models'



Over
time

with Lance Grush

Why do high school students get involved in sports? Well, it's because they love the competition, they love the game, and, of course, deep down inside, they like to win. But mainly students compete merely for the pleasure and excitement of the game.

In comparison to the total number of high school football players in the country, the number of football scholarships given by colleges is few. The number of players who excel in college football is even fewer.

Now we reach the most elite group of football players, those who make it to professional football in the NFL. There are only 28 NFL teams compared to hundreds of colleges. NFL teams are limited to 45 players compared to an average 100 players on many college teams.

You might think that this elite group of players would be satisfied and grateful just for the opportunity to continue to play.

Who would ever guess that these players would form a union and make unreasonable demands on their teams' ownership.

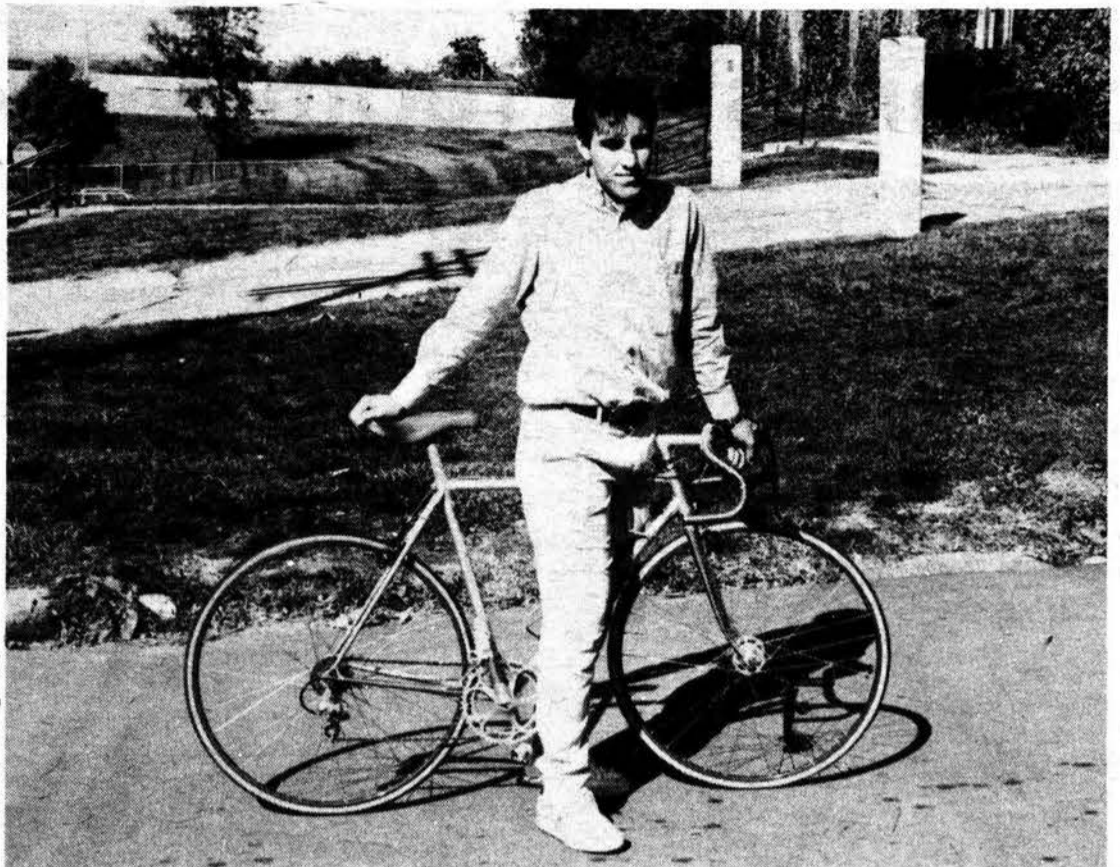
These players are being paid to participate in a sport that they love. They only work six months out of the year and yet make more money in a three or four year career than many people do in a lifetime. The average NFL salary in 1986 was nearly \$200,000 (which doesn't even include large bonuses for playoff appearances).

This player union is so set on having their demands met that they have gone on strike for the second time in the past six seasons. In addition to the walkout, strikers are cruelly mistreating the free agents (players hired as replacements) and the players that cross the picket line.

In many of the cities, rocks and eggs have been thrown at replacements during practice. In Washington, strikers broke the windows out of a busload of free agents. Kansas City's striking players even harassed a season ticket holder who just wanted to talk to them.

Many loyal NFL fans are enraged by the strike, but even common sports fans have to be disappointed in the behavior of these "role models." These players aren't nobodys, they are people in the public eye with an influence on the lives of many young people. It's a shame that so much of the influence turns out to be negative.

This whole ordeal really caused me to lose a lot of respect for the NFL players. It also made me appreciate, even more, high school and college athletics. Where the players are out there for the fun and personal enjoyment that comes with participation.



Tess Fogarty

Senior Chris Bashus, still in his school clothes, prepares to ride his bike. Bashus is one of the students at Central that frequently competes in cycling events.

Students cycle competitively

Andy Haggart

The sport of cycling has increased by 74 per cent over last year in the USCF (United States Cycling Federation) in Nebraska. Many Central students compete in the many cycling events open to them. Seniors Chris Bashus, Robin Leavitt, and Mark Austin all race competitively.

All three of them raced in the Capitol Classic road race this summer. The race is 62 miles long, beginning in Bellevue and ending in Lincoln. "I didn't do so well," said Leavitt. "It was a challenge and I really enjoyed it."

Bashus also entered the Junior National Team Trials in Burlington Iowa's Snake Alley

Criterion, and the Districts in Lincoln. "The riders at the National Team trials were great," said Bashus. "This is one of the toughest regions in the country as far as cycling goes. California and the eastern seaboard are the only other regions that compare with us," he added. Chris also competed in the Nebraska State Games, in which he won the time trials and placed second in the road race.

Bashus rides for the Bicycle Specialties and Rockbrook Schwinn. His team has entered many competitions together. "In the district my teammate was in better shape than me, so I helped him, which enabled him to go to nationals,"

said Bashus. "Cycling is more of a team sport than an individual one," said Bashus. "Without a team you can't win the big race."

For the spring season Mark, Robin and Chris all plan to train hard and compete. Mark and Chris are going to train together. Their schedule includes a 3 hour a day workout made up of weight training and other aerobic sports. "We plan to put in 200 miles a week in January and February, and then increase as the season moves closer," Bashus said.

The Spring season holds competitions for all three of the riders. I hope to win the District competition and go to Nationals," said Bashus.

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Soccer players compete year round

Andy Haggart

With the edition of the Indoor Soccer Center, soccer has become one of the only organized sports that continues year round. Three Central students, seniors David Bushey and John Williams, and junior Adam Sortino, take advantage of the

opportunity and play year round.

Spring soccer

All three of the players agree that the spring soccer season is the most fun. "I like playing in the spring because of the Zennon Cup (the high school championship) and the state championship (the league

championship)," said Bushey. The Central season allows the players to come off their club teams and come together for a shot at the Zennon Cup Championship. "I like to play for Central because it brings me back together with the players that I used to play with," said Williams. The Central season lasts about 5 weeks, then the players again head to their club teams.

After the players return to their club teams they immediately start the challenge for the state championship. "Winning the state championship is our main goal each year," said Bushey, "because, if you win you get to travel to the regional competitions and represent your state." All of the players feel their teams have a good shot at winning the title.

Summer tournaments

During the summer, the club teams travel to a variety of tournaments. Last summer Sortino played in the Pikes Peak Invitational, and the Nebraska Invitational. Sortino said that the tournaments give you good exposure to college coaches and a chance to see what kind of competition you are up against. Bushey agrees that traveling is important and

also a lot of fun.

After the summer tournaments the club teams begin league play, which consists of games against other teams from throughout the state. "The fall season is mainly just competition between in-state teams, and ends up with a tournament over Thanksgiving," said Bushey. "The fall season is just to stay together as a team, and to keep playing with each other," said Sortino. "The spring and summer seasons are the ones that really matter," he added.

Indoor season

When the fall season ends the players move indoors for the winter. "The indoor season is helpful because it keeps me in shape and gives me a great opportunity to enhance my skill," said Williams. "The indoor season is just to keep you in shape and help you keep a good touch on the ball," said Bushey.

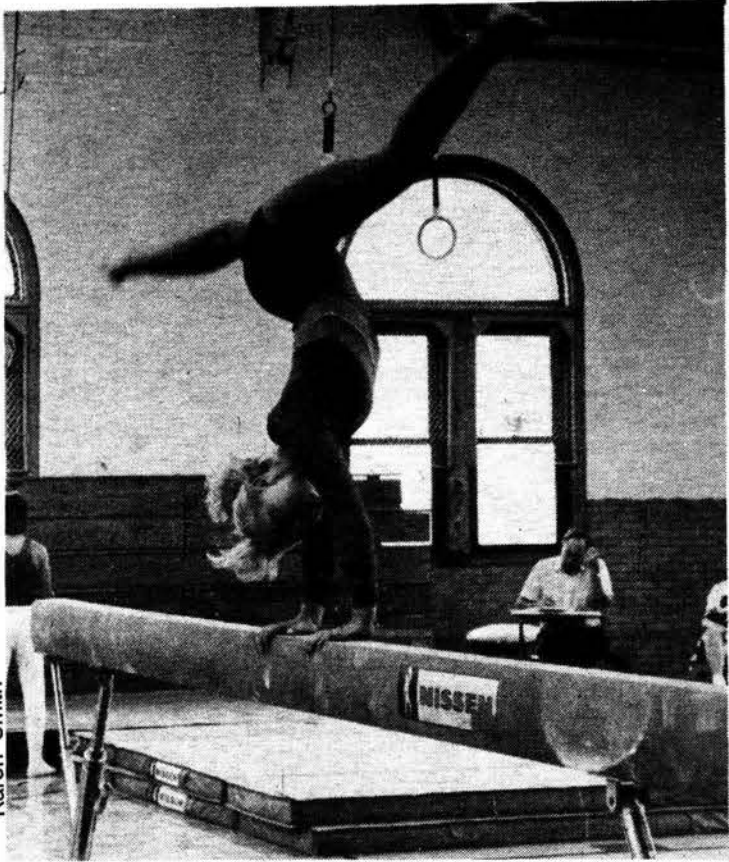
The players all agree that the addition of the Indoor Soccer Center was a good and necessary one. "The Indoor Center is good for soccer because it is a good fan sport, and allows the players to keep in touch with each other and the game."



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Gymnastics team works to perfection



Karen Smith

Amy Hoffman, senior, concentrates while performing her beam routine during a meet. Amy believes that gymnastics is a sport of concentration and self discipline.

Bridget Buckley

Gymnastics is a sport that takes lots of time to perfect. Some of the best gymnasts in the world have been training for nine to fifteen years or longer.

Many of Central's girls gymnastics team members have been active in the sport since they were five to eight years old.

Senior, Brecke Houston started to get involved in gymnastics when she was in kindergarten. Her first class was an acrobatics class, which involved cartwheels, handstands, and somersaults. It was just a basic gymnastics class. Amy Hoffman, senior, began taking gymnastics at Sokol when she was six years old. Senior Lisa Macafee started taking gymnastics at Cahoy's when she was eight-years-old.

Brecke's parents insisted that she continue in gymnastics until she was in second grade. She really didn't like it much at first, but later she liked it and went on her own. She is now grateful that her parents encouraged her to go.

When Brecke was in fourth grade, a judge at a meet told her parents about a gymnastics club called TNT, which was at one time one of the best clubs in Omaha. TNT stands for Trans Nebraska Twisters. Brecke used to go to the gym four or five times a week for four hours to work out.

Jamie Strauss, junior, also attended TNT. When she was in fifth and sixth grade, she worked out five to six hours a day and only went half days to school. Jamie worked her way up to being an elite which is the highest level before training for the Olympics. "Jamie is very consistent on the beam," said Amy Hoffman.

Two other Central team members who train at TNT are freshmen Shani Sellman and Miki Tomes.

"Club competitions are more serious than high school. High school gymnastics is more fun and less stressful," said Amy. Clubs are based on individual success, but high school gymnastics is based on team success.

There is a big difference in the coaching between high school and club gymnastics. A

Some teams also have an experienced gymnastics coach come in. "A high school coach is mainly there for support, because most of the team members know what they are doing," said Amy.

Club coaches are there to do just that, coach. At a club, a coach will make you do a stunt again and again until you do it perfectly.

"Club coaches are more influential because they are there when you are young," said Amy.

Everyone who competes in gymnastics has a favorite and least favorite event. Amy likes the vault because it's fast paced so it isn't as hard as a longer event. Lisa Macafee said that she likes the uneven bars because it seems to go fast when she is competing. She also said that her least favorite event is the beam because she gets too nervous in competition.

Both Amy and Lisa agreed that they like noise and music when they do beam because it makes them less nervous than when it is quiet.

Teachers fish for relaxation

Lance Grush

Several Central teachers enjoy spending their summers and free time fishing. Mr. Donald Knauss, social studies teacher and girls basketball coach, said that he fishes whenever he gets a chance to go. "I don't fish as much as I would like to fish," said Mr. Knauss.

Mr. George Grillo, social studies teacher and assistant football and soccer coach, said he tries to get out at least once a week during the summer. "I also like to take a major fishing trip at least once a summer," said Mr. Grillo. "This year I was fortunate enough to take two."

This past summer, Mr. Grillo took his first fishing trip to Fort Randal Dam in South Dakota. His other trip was to Park Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. Grillo went on both fishing trips with Mr. John Georgeson, gym teacher and assistant football coach, and another former teacher.

Mr. Grillo's favorite place to fish is at Rodney's Pond in Iowa. Several times last spring, Mr. Knauss, Mr. Grillo, and Mr. Georgeson, went fishing together at Rodney's Pond. "The fishing is so great," Mr. Grillo said, "you have to give them (the fish) numbers to wait for the hook." He said that the pond is loaded with bluegills and croppies.

Mr. Grillo said that they'll go in rain, sleet, sunshine, or snow, just like the mailman. "One weekend it poured so

hard you couldn't see fifteen yards ahead," said Mr. Grillo. They still fished from early in the morning to about four in the afternoon. "We caught about 25 fish a piece that day," said Mr. Grillo.

Mr. Knauss said there isn't really one place he usually goes. "I used to fish quite a bit around Valentine Nebraska," said Mr. Knauss. "Every time I go to visit my in-laws we go fishing. My father-in-law is an avid fisherman." Mr. Knauss said when he used to live in western Nebraska he did quite a bit of trout fishing at Willow and Pumpkin Creeks.

Mr. Grillo said that they eat all of the fish that they catch. "We fillet them and put them in a special breading," said Mr. Grillo. "We pan fry them and they are out of this world."

Mr. Knauss enjoys fishing mainly for relaxation. "If you go trout fishing, you go for actual fishing," said Mr. Knauss. He also said that some days he could sit for hours and not mind if he didn't catch a thing. "It's just great therapy and great relaxation." Mr. Knauss said he hopes to do a lot more fishing some day.

Mr. Grillo also fishes mainly to relax and get away to enjoy the peace and quiet. He said, "When we go up to Minnesota, I don't take it lightly, we want to catch walleye. Walleye," said Mr. Grillo, "are excellent eating fish." He said that other times he didn't mind not catching anything. "It's relaxing, you get away from the fast pace of life," said Mr. Grillo.

Unity strengthens volleyball team

Bridget Buckley

Communication and unity help in the drive for a successful varsity volleyball season.

The varsity volleyball team captains are Kirsten Glesne, junior, and senior Carla Dailey. These two girls help to unify the team with cheers and encouragement. They also try to give helpful hints to the other players when they make mistakes.

The varsity team uses team shirts and fun sophomore initiations to create a sense of unity on the team.

"Yes, it (unity) is present, the team works well together on the floor and during a game," said Mrs. Susan Paar, varsity volleyball coach and science teacher. Mrs. Paar also encourages stretching as a team so they can identify themselves as one unit.

"We all get along exceptionally well, both on the court and off," said Mara Taylor, sophomore.

Communication and practice

"Mrs. Paar always makes you talk when you are on the court," said Carla.

"Talking is vital on the court," said Mrs. Paar. "Communication is needed on the court so players can work together on strategies."

The volleyball team uses a 6-2 offense, which means that everyone is a spiker and two setters are used. Three of the team's setters are Debbie Van Ackeren, senior, Sonya Nixon, junior, and sophomore Susan Mac Dissi.

Practice is used to work on improving individual skills and team offensive and defensive skills. The team also utilizes mental practice by imagining doing a skill correctly. "The technique of using the imagination to practice has been proven to improve performance," said Mrs. Paar. "The drills we do in practice help us a lot in games," said Amy Albertson, junior.

Loss of seven seniors

"With the loss of seven seniors last year, we lost some experience, but what was lost in experience was gained in skill. The skill will need to be built into experience through the season," said Mrs. Paar.

"This season is more of a learning experience for the younger players because we only have three seniors," said Debbie.

Kirsten Glesne would like to beat Burke this year. "They have the metro's best spiker and most teams are intimidated by her. If we play well we have a good chance of beating them," said Kirsten.

Mrs. Paar said, "I want to develop talents to their utmost potential and get the kids to work together."



Laura Grillo

Amy Alberson, junior, prepares to spike the ball over the net. Communication on the court was used in the set up of the play.

"Although our record (2 - 7) doesn't reflect the way we have been playing," said Debbie, "our season has been good and we are optimistic about the future."

Other team members are senior Shonda Rohn, and juniors, Cindy Carpenter and Teresa Alvarez.