

Organizations contribute to charities

Omaha needy receive helpful holiday support

Renee Besancon

During the holiday season, especially due to the practice of selfless giving which both Hanukah and Christmas tend to promote, some people choose to donate something of themselves to charities.

The faculty and students of Central High School are no exception. Each year many teachers and students donate time, money, food or clothing to organizations in Omaha.

[The] holiday tree was one example of the opportunities available for students and teachers alike to contribute

In the past the Student Council's holiday tree was one example of the opportunities available for students and teachers alike to contribute.

During past holiday seasons, Student Council members urged those who could to give money for lights for the tree. According to Council spokesperson Sarah McWhorter, senior, the purpose of the tree was to raise money for the needy.

"Last year we made over 200 dollars, so the Student Council donated the money to make it an even 300," said Sarah. Enron matched that 300 dollars, she explained, and the Council "donated (the money) to pay for heating bills for the needy."

This year, however, the Student Council put up a holiday wreath rather than a tree. The reasoning behind the wreath, Sarah explained, is threefold.

"There are a lot of requirements concerning trees," she said. The tree must be treated so that it is "fireproofed," and the Council would only be able to leave it up for one week. Also, "a teacher was supposed to watch the tree every period because it's a fire hazard," she said.

"I think everybody likes to have the tree," Sarah said. She admitted, however, that, although the Student Council members referred to it as the "Holiday Tree," it was still a symbol of the Christian

religion. "We thought we were solving a lot of problems by getting the wreath," she said.

According to Sarah, the Student Council plans to donate the money they raise this year to a charity in Scott Schultz's name. "We hope to at least match last year's amount," she said.

Central's DECA chapter also takes part in charitable activities throughout the holiday season.

According to Mrs. Alice Bunz, business teacher, the club has four missions: vocational awareness, leadership development, civic consciousness and social intelligence.

For at least as long as she has been at Central (the past four years), DECA has taken part in Target Night. Emphasizing the club's civic consciousness, the activity, Mrs. Bunz explained, is part of Target's public relations program.

"Every year," she said, "Target buses in elderly citizens from homes for two to three hours of shopping. They provide dessert and presents (for the shoppers). They also line up singing groups from surrounding schools," she said.

According to Mrs. Bunz, 23 DECA members participated in Target Night on December 6. The students helped, she said, by reading tags or pushing carts because many of the elderly persons are physically incapacitated.

"It made our students feel good,... and some of the people got attached to their student helpers."

The activity, Mrs. Bunz said, is in some ways an extension of the classroom. Marketing classes study population, and at this time, she said, the greatest percentage of the population is senior citizens.

In effect, "the students are dealing with the new market," she said, adding, "(Target Night) increases their awareness. It's also a good way to be in on a company's public relations."

In the past DECA held fundraisers, the proceeds of which went to the *Omaha World-Herald* Good Fellows fund. This year the group concentrated on senior citizens.

Continued on page 12



Tess Fogarty

Winter and the holiday season come to the Midlands. The Central Park Mall in Downtown Omaha is illuminated in the wintery mist of a December night. The Park lies only a block away from the disputed Jobber's Canyon area, which is this issue's editorial focus.

New program aids learning

Ann Kay

"What's the outcome?" This question is part of a new program Central teachers are using called the Omaha Instructional Process.

OIP presents an outcome that the subject matter should teach.

"The program is an effort to standardize what we teach, to make as sure as possible that students reach certain levels of schooling and have learned certain things," said Dr. G.E. Moller, Central High School principal.

OIP is a way to let the Board of Education and the public know that the teachers are teaching the essentials of the material, explained Dr. Moller.

A committee of teachers, parents, and administrators writes the outcomes for each subject and for each course

taught in the OPS school system, Mr. Jack Blanke, social studies department head, explained.

The Omaha Instructional Process is combined in a large book for each subject and comes with a computer disk that follows the outlined course.

"I'm non-committal towards it," Mr. Blanke said of the program. "The teachers are supposed to aim at giving two tests a week, a pre-test to find out what the students don't know and a post-test to find out what they have learned."

Social studies teacher Mr. Jerome Gillogly is using the "mastery learning technique," the OIP program that involves pre-tests and post-tests.

"When we have enough time, the program works fairly well, but whenever the week is shortened for conferences or

the school play, it's horrible," Mr. Gillogly said. He added that the program helps keep students from procrastinating.

"It's a good system because the students know what will be happening each day in class," said Mr. Gillogly.

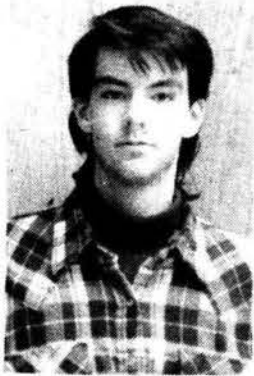
"The Omaha Instructional Process keeps the various public high schools academically together, timewise. Other schools are studying the same subjects at the same time (along) with Central," Mr. Blanke concluded.

Inside:

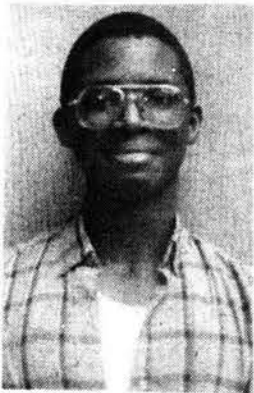
term papers, ballet, holiday traditions, days of youth, and Chanukah.

Forum

Do you think that Jobbers' Canyon, the warehouse district in downtown Omaha, should be leveled in order for ConAgra to build a new headquarters?



Drew Weiss, senior: "No, I don't think they should tear them down because they are a piece of architectural heritage that must be preserved for the benefit of future generations."



Lamar Greene, senior: "No, I don't think they should tear them down; they should remodel them and even use them for business, but they should keep the historic look."



Tyler McLeod, junior: "No, Jobbers' Canyon should be saved because we should preserve Omaha's beautiful buildings that make our downtown unique."



Tina Meyer, junior: "No, they shouldn't tear down the buildings because they've been there forever; they are important to our city's history."

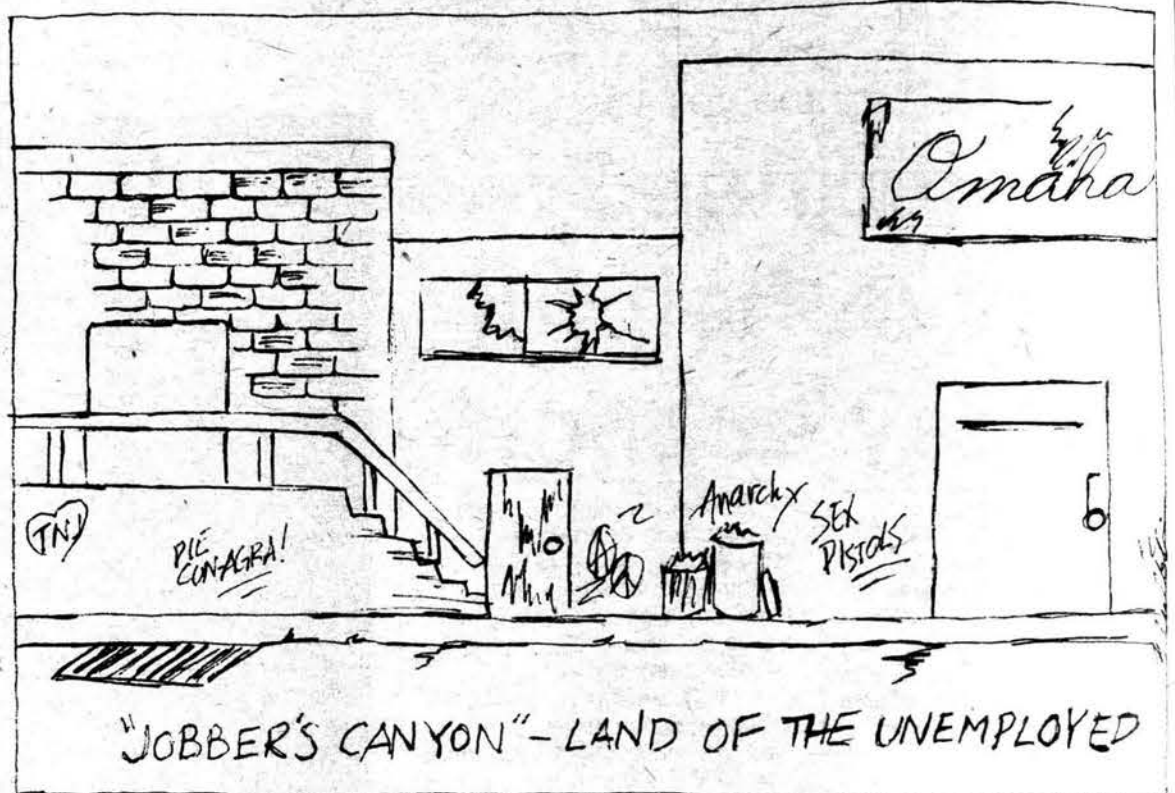


Tia Browder, sophomore: "I don't think they should be torn down, but it's okay if businesses want to use them the way they are."



Nikki Lee, sophomore: "No, they shouldn't be torn down because they've been down there a long time, and they give our city character."

Laura Grillo



Progress takes precedence

When Legislative Bill 775, the Economic Growth Act for Nebraska, was enacted this past summer, one of the driving forces behind the proposal was Omaha-based ConAgra.

Chairman Mike Harper wanted his company to expand in Omaha, but he felt that Nebraska's then-corporate tax structure would hinder ConAgra to the point that it would be more profitable to relocate to another state. The state legislature passed the bill, and Harper agreed to stay and to expand in Nebraska.

Now, when ConAgra is about to forge ahead with its development of a new headquarters and a new research center, they are finding opposition standing in their way. Many prominent people from both the private and public sector, including Mayor Bernie Simon, feel that Central Park East would be an ideal site for both ConAgra and Omaha.

However, Central Park East already has a "tenant," Jobbers' Canyon. Directly east of the Old Market, the Canyon is a series of 20-some turn-of-the-century warehouses and buildings, most of which are vacant today.

In its prime, Jobbers' Canyon was a testament to the architectural genius of the era. Now, many years past its prime, the district in general is in a state of decay and is an eyesore in downtown Omaha.

True, a few of the warehouses are still in use, most have been empty for years, and perhaps the time has come for a change.

The supporters of Jobbers' Canyon agree that its primary redeeming factors are its designers and intactness.

Omaha is only one of a handful of cities with a complete warehouse district, they contend, and should be preserved.

They also state that two of the buildings were designed by William Latenser, the architect of the Douglas County Courthouse and Central High School. However noble this notion sounds, these warehouses pale in comparison to the latter two buildings and should not be saved due to such reasoning.

While they wish to leave Jobbers' Canyon in its original state, the critics of Central Park East feel that if ConAgra intends to develop by the river, the Canyon should be

renovated for their use.

However, Mr. Harper has made it clear that ConAgra will build a new facility; renovation is out of the question. And, practically speaking, why would they want to throw good money after bad?

Mayor Simon, in an effort to revitalize downtown Omaha, has asked the Omaha City Council to declare the district a "blighted" area. An affirmative decision by the Council would clear the area of the warehouses and would clear the way for ConAgra's expansion. The *Register* staff presses the Council for a swift answer.

Mr. Harper has set January 4, 1988, as his announcement date for the location of the complex, and he has given Omaha until then to oblige him by tearing down Jobbers' Canyon.

Is this blackmail on Mr. Harper's part? A little, but since he has taken the bull by the horns and is willing to give Omaha an economic shot in the arm, we must prove ourselves deserving of the boon and condemn the warehouse district.

Can we really afford to lose another Enron?

Hype detracts from Christmas

When is Christmas not Christmas? When you see decorations up at Bloomingdales on the Fourth of July.

The Beach Boys sang that "Christmas comes but once a year," but each year, the Christmas season begins earlier than the last, and its commercialization rises steadily.

The simple truth is that Christmas, or the Christmas Shopping Season, has been promoted and exploited to the point where "Christmas" has strayed from its original meaning.

It began as a religious holiday; though this fact

escapes many. Traditionally, it is a time for families to unite and to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Over the years, however, certain capitalists and entrepreneurs realized that a fast buck could be made off of Christmas. They saw that gifts and frivolous items would enthrall the masses, and thus the commercialization of Christmas began.

Despite their good intentions, or lack thereof, Christmas does not deserve such attention. Being primarily a religious holiday, it is almost sacrilegious to associate Christmas with lights and cards and dollar signs.

Apparently, it is no longer the gift that counts, but the price tag that is attached to it. If it doesn't have a horse or an alligator on it, general consensus seems to indicate, there is no point in giving it.

With no end in the foreseeable future, the commercialization of Christmas will only continue to build. Perhaps one of these years we will no longer have a Christmas season. Rather, the whole year will be Christmas; December 26 will simply be the first day of the holiday shopping season.

Gee, maybe now we should keep our Christmas lights up all year long.

Drive-in sparks memories

When you couldn't think of anywhere to go during the summer months, where is the one place you could count on going to?

The drive-in, that's where. You remember; it was one of those experiences which was a must on the summer activity list: a sort of rite of summer.

Well, you can count out this fifty-four year old form of entertainment in Omaha anymore for Omaha's last drive-in, the Q-Twin, will most likely be torn down and converted into a housing development.

Neighbors adjacent to the Q-Twin have voiced complaints of litter and noise, and they prompted the developers to proceed with their housing expansion plans.

However, the closing of the Q-Twin will create more problems than it will solve.

Many Omahans already complain about the teenage congestion that occurs at certain sites around the city, most notably 72 street and Dodge street. With the Q-Twin's destruction, an overflow of adolescents will be turned loose on the streets.

Most importantly, the drive-in brings back memories for both young and old alike, and sadly, memories are all that will be left.

Memories of warm nights turning cold, of millions of blankets to keep warm, of wearing down the car battery because the speaker next to you is broken (again), of socializing at the concession stand, of coming back from the restroom only to get lost in a sea of cars, of dancing hotdog and penguin commercials during the intermission, and special dates with a boy or girl. Just when the drive-in

seemed to be making a comeback, it appears that we will not be allowed to enjoy it. Maybe the owners of the new houses will still let these impressionable teenagers congregate in their yards.

If an enterprising businessperson who had the same sentimental feelings could buy a vacant lot in the suburbs and change it into a drive-in, the problem would be solved. But just how many white knights are really out there?

Some people suggest that people go to the Council Bluffs drive-in, but who wants to be in Iowa? Who's that desperate for entertainment?

Think of it, the last drive-in in Omaha permanently closed.

What will you do on a lazy, summer evening next year? Our choices will be limited, for the drive-in is dead.



Wreath just not the same

Past Decembers have brought Central High School many presents: cold weather, snow, basketball games and the holiday tree. This year appeared to be no different except for one notable exception: the holiday tree. Central did not have a tree, but rather a holiday wreath.

In past years, the Student Council purchased a tree with hopes of collecting money for charities. Last year alone, they donated \$300 over the holiday season; Enron matched the \$300.

This year, the courtyard was conspicuously

empty because of certain bureaucratic and infringing regulations impressed upon Omaha high schools by the Omaha Board of Education and the superintendent. In order to have a tree for charity, schools must spend from \$70 to \$100 to fireproof the tree. Then the tree must be supervised at all times by a teacher. And finally, it can only be up for a week, or so.

Since their goal was to make money and not spend it, the Student Council chose to avoid a confrontation with the school board and purchased a wreath. Sure, the wreath is nice, but it pales in comparison to a real tree.

The superintendent's policy may have been intended to protect the schools, but it sorely missed the mark. Yes, fire codes must be observed, but to require a non-profit organization such as a student council to pay to raise money for a good cause is absurd. And the rule of constant supervision for the tree is as impossible as total nuclear disarmament.

The holiday season has lost one of its oldest traditions with the ban on the tree, a ban that appears to have been created without much thought. Hopefully future generations will be spared such nonsense.

Holiday Letters

The delightful holiday season is upon us again. The next milestone is the end of the semester followed very shortly by our "student recruitment season."

Central continues to be an "open enrollment" school for the sophomore year. We can and MUST recruit students from nearly everywhere in the district with the exception of the North High School attendance area. We need students who want a superior education beyond high school. The more such students we have, the better our total program can be for everyone.

If you like Central, are proud of YOUR school, and want to help keep its programs strong for your own benefit and for future students, USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE TO "SELL" CHS TO YOUR YOUNG RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AND ACQUAINTANCES.

You can do more this way to insure an excellent education for yourselves and for those to come than anything else you can do. Talk. Sell. Explain. Phone. Visit. Contact. Show. Do whatever you can to get present ninth graders to choose Central for next fall.

We'll all benefit!

Dr. G.E. Moller

The Student Council has been very busy during the months of November and December. After the Omaha City Council members came to speak with Central students concerning the curfew issue, Student Council began looking towards holiday efforts. This year we opted for a holiday wreath instead of a tree because of the Omaha Public Schools' regulations and other school conflicts.

In addition to the holiday wreath, the Student Council provided a Secret Santa Fundraiser to raise money for a donation that was made to the *World-Herald* Good Fellows in memory of Scott Schultz.

On Friday, December 4, the Student Council spoke with the sophomores about Student Council elections in an auditorium homeroom. Sophomores elected their Council members on December 16, and results will be announced after vacation.

Finally, the Student Council is continuing their efforts to keep the courtyard clean. Many thanks to the students for their help, but we ask for further support in keeping the courtyard available for student use.

The Student Council extends their wishes for a safe and happy holiday break.

The Student Council

Pulse

Do you think that Jobbers' Canyon, the warehouse district in downtown Omaha, should be leveled in order for ConAgra to build a new headquarters?

Yes 38% No 62%

Total Questioned: 204 Students

Register

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Dear Santa:

FORGET THE SWEATER! I want 2 weeks of tanning sessions for only \$10.00 at Jags! That's 6 visits! Just send cash. The offer only goes from Dec. 16-24, so step on it! Oh...while you're at it, throw in that blond guy in my morning study hall.

Meg

Jags
120 Regency Parkway
397-7132

Research papers: students' approaches vary

Ann Kay

Writing a research paper is an experience. By this time, most all seniors have dealt with research papers in various classes. One of the major problems, according to most Central High School students, is procrastination.

Mr. Jack Blanke, AP History teacher, requires a research paper each semester of his class. He gives the assignment approximately a month and a half in advance. Mr. Blanke also spends two days going over the mechanics of a term paper.

"You can't always tell whether a student procrastinates or not. I know they do, but I think they talk a better game than they play. They don't put it off as much as they say they do," said Mr. Blanke.

Mr. Blanke believes that a grade of a 'one' on his paper is sufficient preparation for a college paper. "In college a professor assigns a paper and says it is due on 'x-day.' He doesn't go over how to write a paper; he expects you to know."

Jim Kemp, senior,

procrastinated on his latest paper. "It ended up that I turned in a work I wasn't happy with, because I waited 'til two nights before it was due. As a result, grades are bad, and I'm not pleased with it," he said. Most students don't plan to procrastinate, but end up doing so, explained Jim.

"I tend to procrastinate and it can affect my grade. I make more careless errors," said Rich Vogel, senior. "On my AP History paper I had a lot of mechanical and grammar errors that I should have caught, but I was up late working on it," he said.

"I feel better about myself if I get the paper done. Plus, I have time to do other things."

Rich recently turned in a paper for Mr. Blanke, the requirements were eight pages, use of approximately ten sources, and it must be typed.

"There was no problem with not having enough information for this particular paper. You don't need ten sources for an eight-page paper; I probably used about five," said Rich.

Senior Joan Jorgensen, has written several research papers. "I don't put off the work 'til the last weekend. I feel better about myself if I get the paper done. Plus, I have time to do other things," she said.

"I don't work well under pressure, I don't think, and I don't care to find out," explained Joan.

Joan feels that her grades are reflected in her work. She has more time to spend working on her papers if she doesn't wait until the last minute to do them. "This way I don't do a sloppy job; it's a feeling of satisfaction when my term papers are done ahead of time. I knew I had other papers and tests coming up, so I had my AP History paper done about two weeks ahead of time."

Juniors enrolled in Mr. Semrad's Honors World History class, have just completed their research papers for the class. Hilary Fenner, junior,

said, "This is the first paper I've had to work hard on. I procrastinated. But when I finally got around to doing it, I spent a lot of time on it." She added, "I hope it won't affect my grade."

The next step after procrastination, students said, is plagiarism. Rich commented that it's hard to differentiate between plagiarism and paraphrasing. "Sometimes it's hard to find words that mean the same thing, and you have to use the key words," he said.

Hilary also agrees that it's hard to decide whether she has paraphrased or plagiarized. "I tried not to plagiarize, and I hope I didn't," she said.

"I think that Mrs. Bernstein and Mr. Daly's papers were right on key with writing a paper for college."

Central graduate, Sean Kershaw, now attends

Haverford College in Pennsylvania. Sean was enrolled in AP English and AP History, both of which required

term papers. "I think that Mrs. Bernstein's and Mr. Daly's papers were right on key with writing a paper for college. The format is exactly the same," Sean explained. "The AP History paper helped improve my research skills."

Sean never really procrastinated. "I kept a pretty steady pace. At Central, teachers like Mr. Daly had you turn in outlines or rough drafts, (and) that really helped to get the paper done," he said. Teachers can't take a drastic measure against someone who procrastinates, commented Sean.

Joan concluded, "Don't get into the habit of procrastinating; it affects your grade."

Students develop very individual methods to complete research papers. Each works for the student who created it. In general, Central students feel that every research paper they turn in is a great accomplishment and a new learning experience.



Jill Ogden

Niv Palgi [left], sophomore, contemplates his next move against his adversary as Mr. Dale Montgomery, chess sponsor and math teacher, observes the match.

Chess addition

Palgi here from Israel

Ann Kay

Niv Palgi is a sophomore this year at Central High School. He came to Omaha from Israel at the beginning of July to stay with his mother and his stepfather. His mother came to America two and a half years ago.

"I like the freeness and the people in America, Israel is also free so it's not much different there," said Niv.

Religious figures play a major role in Israeli politics, so Niv likes the idea that in America the government and religion are kept separate.

According to Niv, the schools in Israel are

completely different than Central or other American schools. "In Israel it is a much higher level of education. You learn more, and must work harder to graduate," explained Niv. "The schools here are much larger; that's something I don't like here."

Niv graces the ranks of the Central Chess Club. "My father taught me how to play. I read some books and played computer chess," Niv said. "I wasn't able to play in any tournaments in Israel; they just don't have things like that." In addition, Niv has been playing the piano for five years and shares his talent with Central's orchestra.

Of the holiday season, Niv commented, "I think the Christmas season is too commercial." However, he admitted, "I've never been involved with the Christmas season before so I don't know much about it."

Niv, like all sophomores, is enrolled in an English class at Central. "I find English class extremely difficult because of the vocabulary," he said. He also takes American Government, algebra, PE, and Reading. Most of the classes Niv takes this year will satisfy some of the graduation credits he needs to graduate when he returns to Israel next year.

Engineering explored MACESA aids minorities

Jennifer Andersen

James Harrington, math teacher, is the head of Central High School's 22-member MACESA, the Mid-America Consortium for Engineering and Science Achievement.

"The main purpose is to try to get minorities, including Black, Hispanic, and American Indian youth, interested in different fields of engineering," said Mr. Harrington.

He added, "We hope that MACESA will begin assisting students in their college goals.

In addition to being a minority, you also have to take both a science and math course, and have a minimum 2.5 GPA.

"They are required to take these courses to keep their interest in engineering," said Mr. Harrington.

Some activities MACESA students participate in are preparation for SAT and ACT

tests, projects, contests and field trips. MACESA's \$300 budget funds these activities.

Engineering Symposium Day in February at Kansas State University and a visit to University of Nebraska at Lincoln are just some of the planned field trips.

Cherrese Washington, junior, has been a member for two years.

"I joined because I was interested in engineering and it's great experience for jobs," she said.

Galen Anding, sophomore, also finds interest in engineering.

"I want to go into engineering, and it[MACESA] looks good on your record for college and future jobs," he said.

"There are not many minorities in the field of engineering, and with this program we are trying to increase the number," said Mr. Harrington.

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Applications serve diverse purposes

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After rummaging through the barrage of literature that has been sent to you and reading all the the different books, you've narrowed your choices down to a select few, and you are ready to apply for admission.

You pull out the application that you either received in the mail or requested from the specific college and prepare to dive right in. You open to page one and draw a blank on the first question: your name.

Don't despair; college applications hardly signify the end of the universe, and they are designed for a purpose: to provide a college with some information about you.

Before you even start, brace yourself for a little slice of reality; college applications cost money.

Before you even start, brace yourself for a little slice of reality; college applications cost money. Sure, there are a few schools that waive the fee, but on the average, most institutions charge about \$25 just to decide whether or not they want you. Ivy League schools charge up to \$50, and even the University of Nebraska requires that a \$10 check accompany their application.

Various types of applications exist out there, each serving its own purpose. UNL has its own form called the "Red-y-ap" which sends you on your way towards application to

UNL if you just sign your name by the "X." Regardless of the form, all applications require the same information: your name, your address, your social security number, your number of dependents in Cuba, etc.

It is in their person information section that college applications begin to differ. Some schools may want to know your career plans. Others may want to know why you are choosing their school. And still others may ask you to list three adjectives that describe you and why they do. The personal information merely provides the school with

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In briefs

CHS Broadcast

The CHS Choirs, directed by Mr. Robert McMeen, will appear on the fourth annual Nebraska High School Caroling Choirs series. The concert will air on Monday, December 21, at 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The performance, produced by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Television, will be broadcasted on the Nebraska ETV Network.

College Information

Remember that counselors are now processing college applications. Students should check to make sure all applications are in order. The counselors need at least 15 days to complete applications.

Registration material for the ACT and SAT is available in the counseling center. Most colleges require one or both of these tests for admission.

Close-Up Scholarship

Laura Greenlee, sophomore, received the Enron-Student Council scholarship for the Close-Up trip to Washington, D.C. The trip to Washington, D.C. will be next spring.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid Forms are currently available in the counseling center. Students may send them out anytime after January 1, 1988.

Roman Banquet

JCL sponsored the All-City Roman Banquet in Central's courtyard on Wednesday, December 2. Ten other Omaha schools attended. Greek Islands catered the dinner. The guest speaker was Dr. Katherine Thomas whosen presentation detailed "What the Romans Looked Like."

Central grad excels in writing and art

Rob Glasser

Many students wonder what will happen after they graduate. Is there a job out there that will make them happy? Is there a job out there they can live with? Is there anything out there?

One Central graduate, J. Ruth Gendler, Class of '72, has attained success with her writing and also teaches intuitive art classes.

Fame and recognition

The Book of Qualities, a collection of short poems based on Ms. Gendler's insights of human emotional characteristics, has earned an amount of fame and recognition that is quite astounding for a volume of poetry in this day and age.

She published the book herself through Turquoise Mountain Publishers and later sold it to Harper and Row. The book has now sold about thirty-five thousand copies and is being translated into German. "I'm amazed and touched," said Ms. Gendler.

Transformed into play

Recently, the book was transformed into play format and performed at the Community Playhouse, by

creating some characters and attributing to them the qualities described in the volume.

Ms. Gendler had always wanted the work to be performed as a play, and she was pleased with its final outcome. It was "amazing to watch it as a play," Ms. Gendler said, satisfied with both her book and the play.

Why would anyone want to write, especially when writers are predominantly underpaid for their work?

Ms. Gendler said she writes because it "helps make sense of life and world". Ms. Gendler also said that writing gives her companionship and insight.

'Success like byproduct'

"Success is like a by-product, you write because you have to or want to," she added. Ms. Gendler has had the idea of writing about peoples' qualities since childhood.

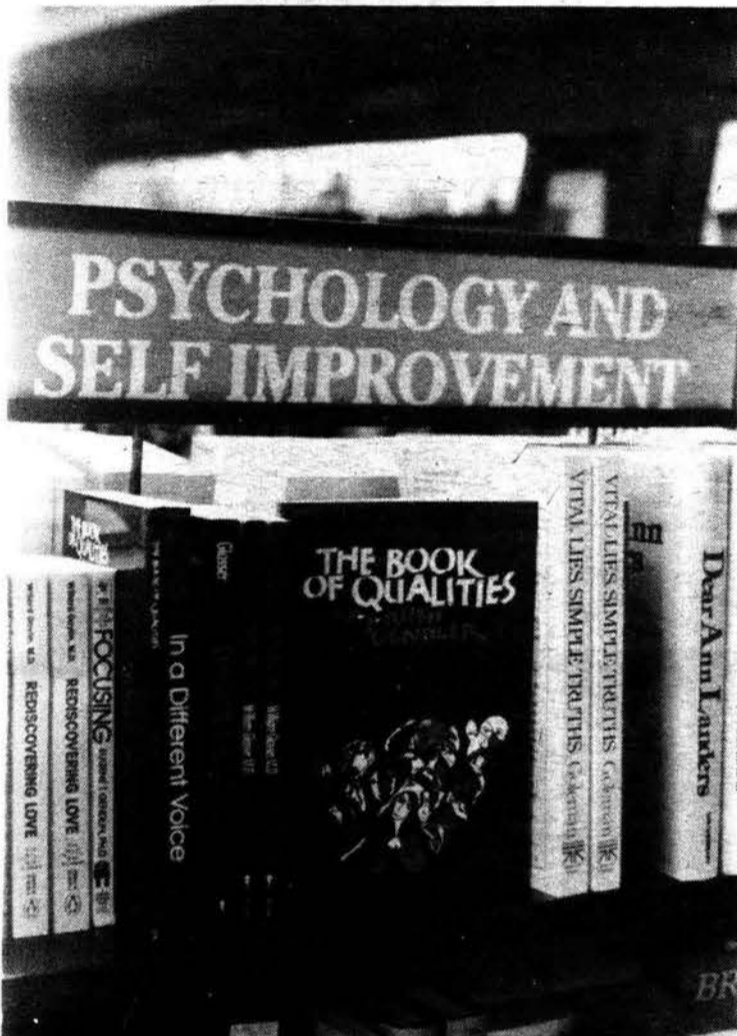
She said that as a child she wanted to be able to go to the store and buy qualities. Her book makes that possible. She hopes her book will make people think about people and what they are and why they feel the way they do.

'I learned a lot at Central'

Graduating from Central in 1972, Ms. Gendler spoke favorably of her high school career. "I learned a lot at Central; it was helpful." Ms. Gendler took some honors classes including A.P. History and English. "I always put lots of work into everything," she said.

After graduation Ms. Gendler went on to Stanford University in California to earn Bachelors Degrees in both English and Communications, she received these in 1977.

Ms. Gendler is currently residing in Berkeley, California where she is continuing her writing, teaching a course on creativity to educators and teaching techniques of poetry to local junior high school students.



Jeff Howard

Ruth Gendler's 'The Book of Qualities' is now available in bookstores. She graduated from Central in 1972.

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Strange dash towards a revolution?

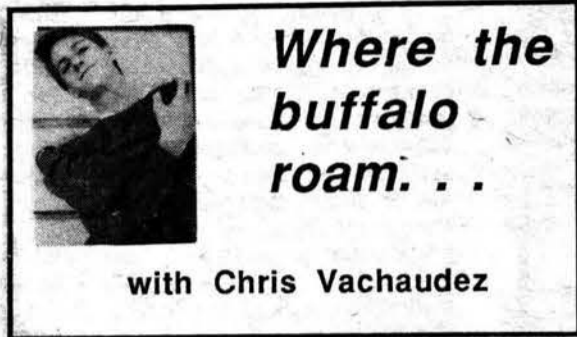
"O.K. you snobs, the picnic's over."

- G.B. Trudeau, from a Doonesbury comic strip fictionally quoting Spiro Agnew

Perhaps nobody should be taking this thought more seriously than the white people of South Africa. In my own humble opinion, their beloved Apartheid is long over-due for a complete collapse, and their neo-fascist government, including that treacherous brain-damaged old vulture President Botha, are, shall we say, *definitely* locking their doors at night.

But who's to say? Certainly not the South African police or the government. Things are awfully nice for *them* these days - direct control, in a marshall sort of way, over a staggeringly large mass of black people, a moderate economy, and the inalienable right to free speech and democracy. . .but they do have to be feeling a little uneasy seeing their neighbors grabbed by angry black vigilante mobs and burnt to a crisp under a molten mass of burning tire-rubber and gasoline. These sort of things tend to make long-lasting, very nasty impressions.

For centuries now, Apartheid has worked out nicely for the whites, but it seems to be giving way lately to chaos. Black townships are getting so utterly disgusting that even the term "rural slum," an affectionate term used by the whites to describe "those places," is fast becoming a glorification, and



Where the buffalo roam. . .

with Chris Vachaudes

violence is becoming all too common. Why? Because The Old System is getting too old.

Any gathering of blacks warrants immediate "dispersal" by The Law. "Dispersal" includes any number of vicious riot-control methods, such as gunning down crowds of helpless, unarmed blacks, multiple arrests (which is par for the course on even a normal, non-riot day), and brutal chain-whippings - a favorite of the National Guard who will gyrate into a frenzy, letting loose on "The Black Animal."

Meanwhile, the latter-day Hitlers with The Orders just shrug and return to their daily sunbathing or to a game of shuffleboard with an old friend - an old *white* friend, of course. And the pro-government whites - the brain-trust of the society, if

you will - continue on their merry, however ignorant way. Great.

But they'll get a return on their investment, sooner or later. And I wouldn't mind going down there to watch, first hand, when the Stomping finally does go down, but the *Register* won't spring for the air-fare and deluxe hotel accommodations. So all I can do, at this point, is comment, in a broad sort of way, on the whole superiority trip/mass revolution from afar. Come to think of it, this approach will probably work out better in the long run, anyway. . .

Taking this into consideration, perhaps I can make some vague suggestions for a better plan. I think they should just make South Africa into an all-white, all-nazi slime-strip of casinos, hotels, parking garages, and used Porche dealerships on a hundred-mile long stretch of beachfront property - and leave the rest to the blacks, who *should* be there in the first place. Or maybe just give every man, woman and child - white and black - a high-powered shark speargun and watch with amusement as The Justice is served.

But that's just an idea. The *real* revolution, which will eventually come down, will be far more violent, I'm sure. And in the end the people will get what's coming to them - for good or ill. So for now all we can and should do is sit back in our reclining chairs, relax and take bets on what percentage of the South African whites will actually be slaughtered.

Kids send letters to Kris Kringle

Students play Santa

Joël McCulloh

It's that time of year when the post office gets more letters than one might imagine, and, at the Omaha branch, approximately 1,000 of those letters are addressed to the big man at the North Pole. Yep, that's right, Santa Claus himself.

Imagine all those sweet little kids who write faithfully to the Jolly Red Man and they never receive letters. Well, no longer. All the little children will have their hearts warmed with personal letters from the Claus.

Central High School creative writing students, under the direction of Mr. T.M. Gaherty, Journalism and Creative Writing teacher, are involved in a program in which students in various O.P.S. schools personally answer the Santa letters themselves.

Dr. Salerno, O.P.S. Coordinator of English explained. "The original plan began with the U.S. Postal Service," he said. "Now over 600 letters are answered by students in six Omaha high schools."

The mind behind the

whole idea is Ms. Elizabeth Nash, U.S. Postal service employee. "When I first came to work here, I was told that the Santa letters were my responsibility."

According to Ms. Nash, they originally used form letters to answer the Santa letters. The form letters, she said, were mimio-graphed responses on "pink paper with a picture of Santa."

Mrs. Nash felt the community needed to become involved and things were turned over to the schools

Ms. Nash said, "I asked myself, 'How do the kids feel?'" Ms. Nash felt the community needed to become involved and things were turned over to the schools.

Now Mrs. Nash has moved to another department and Mr. Francis Richter is in charge

of the Santa letters. "I'm proud to be a part of it," he said.

Mr. Gaherty has been involving his creative writing students in the project for three years, and he feels that it "provides the students with a real problem."

He explained, "sticky situations come up with the children, such as a child asking for a whole list of things." When the students finished their letters, some shared them with the other students.

How do the students feel about this whole idea? Senior Don Shennum "really enjoyed it. One letter was from a girl in the hospital, and it was very hard to write a response."

Central graduate Joe Fogarty answered letters in creative writing last year. "It was very nice," Joe commented. "I got to spout off a lot of idealistic ideas like 'be good.'"

So when your little brother or sister receives a personal note from Santa, don't be surprised. In fact, it could be from the guy who sits next to you in study hall.



Jeff Howard

Harmony Howard has visions of Santa dancing in her head as she writes her requests for this Christmas season.

Holiday traditions include food, family

Ann Kay

The holiday season involves many different traditions.

This year, many Central High School students are celebrating Christmas in America for the first time. Even more students have brought over holiday traditions from their native countries.

Aradhana (Dolly) Firoz, senior, has been in the United States for ten years now. Her family has adapted to most of the Christmas traditions of America.

Dolly's family does not have a tree, but they do have

the traditional dinner. Most of the desserts her family makes are recipes from India.

"My mother starts preparing for the holidays about four weeks ahead because of all the food. Before, when we lived in Florida, all my relatives came over for every holiday, and we cooked all Indian food," she said. "Now, we've adapted to the American traditions."

Simone Wehbe, sophomore, celebrates the holiday with her Lebanese relatives. "On Christmas Eve we all attend church 'til midnight," she said. "In the

morning we open presents and then have a big lunch."

Simone's family places a traditional Lebanese "star" on top of the tree every year. "It's really an angel, but we call it the star," she said.

The Whebe family spends the day together talking, and, on occasion, they visit the graves of their ancestors to pay their respects.

Although many students celebrate the holiday season in various ways, the joy of the holiday season, according to most Central students, is universal.

To: Members of the Breakfast Club
From: Ed

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Thanks for helping make it a great year of recovery.
PEACE

It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas



Oompadity mau mau
with Rob Glasser

Thump, thump, thump... this is the sound of a broken toe, or at least the sound one would perceive a broken toe would make. The toe is big, purple and mean (I've been calling him Eagle Scout) and he is very angry. Why is he angry you ask? He is angry because I am taking him shopping, and he finds this agitating.

One should keep wounded digits clear of the chaotic mall areas, especially during the holiday season, for the frantic shoppers that dwell inside this free enterprise den of panic and frenzy are in a total state of anarchy. These aggravated patrons are extremely contemptuous towards wounded people slowing down their insane dashes for the checkout lanes. Therefore, they don't take many precautions to avoid contact with the injured.

Thump, thump, thump...as already stated, it is the perceived sound of a broken toe. This small parade of noise must be combined with the verbal expressions used by people in extreme pain (since there are sensitive ears, or should I say eyes, that may come in contact with this column I will use !@\$ for my profanity).

Thump, !@#\$, thump, !@#\$, thump,

!@\$...that is the sound of me walking in the mall with my broken toe. It is necessary to expand on this further, for where there are mass quantities of bipeds there are twice the number of peds. It is inevitable that one of those peds will place itself squarely, most painfully, upon my swollen toe. Thus I must add the utterance EYOW to punctuate my string of verble garble.

Thump, !@#\$, thump, EYOW, thump, !@#\$, EYOW. You might find this strange, but multitudes of shoppers are watching me with eyebrows raised as if to say, "How odd?" I am not amused.

A word of advice, never take your broken toe shopping, especially if you shop with a person who has no will power. This is the person who can't say "No" to a sale.

I, the walking wounded, am walking on a wound and am heavily laden with enough packages to buckle a pack mule's knees. Imagine me (Close your eyes and imagine. That makes it tough to read this, doesn't it?) walking hunched over like Quasimodo and limping like Captain Ahab. Where is the white whale I want to harpoon?

SHE JUST STEPPED ON MY FOOT!!!!
EEEEYOWWWW!! A nine foot three inch, four hundred and seventy-five pound nurse is grinding her heel into my toe, laughing the evil laugh. Bwooh ah ah ah ahhhh. I pulled a three-year-old chunk of Christmas peanut brittle from my pocket, waved it under her nose, and then threw it over her shoulder, nearly having my hand snapped off. Now it went like this: Thump, !@#\$, thump, EYOW, thump, Bwooh ah ah ah ahhh, thump and was incredible to hear. When the beast had removed herself from my toe, I collapsed to the sticky mall floor in

excruciating pain.

This was a situation I had not foreseen. The mall floor was so covered with holiday candy, cookies, ice cream, soda pop and other disgusting remnants of sugar coated bits that I had become the floor's captive. It was like a maximum strength sheet of fly paper, and I was fused to it. There was no escape; I would be trampled to death, and no elf, no reindeer, no Santa, no anything could save me from this hideous fate. "What a disgraceful way to die," I thought to myself, "glued to the bottom floor of a shopping mall, left for dead by my companions." This situation created a very special and unique noise, it was of me trying to escape the ooze on the floor as it continually sucked me back down. It went like this, (inhale when you make this sound) ffffft, ffffft, ffffft.

So there I was lying helpless and squirming around in the glucose-based mire vainly. My toe has reached a new level of pain, one never before reached by a single digit, and I have become unbelievably perturbed and significantly terrified. It was hopeless, it was futile, it was to be my final resting place, and I was scared. Thump, !@#\$, thump, EYOW, thump, Bwooh ah ah ah ahhh, thump, HELP!, thump, ffffft ffffft ffffft...this is the sound of me screaming for help with a perceived toe ache, it being stepped on, the fat lady's wicked laugh, and being stuck to the floor of a shopping mall.

Editors' note: We found our verbose columnist, Rob Glasser, in the exact situation he described. We have placed him in an intensive care unit at St. Joseph's hospital where he is recovering nicely. Let's wish him the best of luck and a speedy recovery.

Dancing takes time, dedication, practice

Emily Rasmuss

Not a *pas de deux*, but a *pas de trois*; three Central students are in the most elite class at the Omaha Ballet Company.

Junior Monica McSwain and sophomores Rachel Vickery and Elena Fasan attend two and a half-hour classes every day after school and a three and a half-hour class on Saturdays. During school holidays, the girls dance with the company members from nine to five.

Rachel, Elena, and Monica have the opportunity to perform with the company members in some company productions. The girls are

currently working on "The Nutcracker," a seasonal classic that the company performs eight times in Omaha and twelve times out of town.

Rehearsals and performances tend interfere with school activities and homework, according to Monica. "I really wanted to be in cheerleading, but dancing conflicted with that," she said.

Rachel feels her schedule creates some problems concerning friendships. "Sometimes I'm too tired to go out on the weekends, especially during 'The Nutcracker,'" said Rachel. "Sometimes I feel like I have really close school friends; other times I don't." Monica does not believe ballet is detrimental to her social life. "I make a lot of friends at the studio; so that really helps," she said.

Rachel started with the Omaha Ballet three years ago when her father became Artistic Director and her mother Associate Director.

Rachel is considering an independent studies

program instead of school for next year so she can dance with the company full-time as a paid, second-year apprentice. She plans to attend summer classes at the School of American Ballet in New York City.

Elena began lessons at the Omaha Ballet when she was eight or nine. She wants to do something with her dance experience after high school and may hold off on college to dance in Omaha for a while.

This summer, Monica has a scholarship to attend Dance Theater of Harlem where she will study not only ballet, but also ethnic and modern dance. Monica's goal is to be a performer. She is interested in acting and singing as well as in dancing. She plans to attend college and look for a career in New York.

In spite of the calluses, exhaustion and hectic schedules, Monica, Elena and Rachel plan to devote more time and energy to dance.



Jill Ogden

Junior Monica McSwain and Sophomores Elena Fasan and Rachel Vickery practice at the Omaha Ballet studio for the 1987 performance of "The Nutcracker."

Adoptee serves on panels

Amy Buckingham

How does it feel to be torn from your homeland at age six and thrown into a new culture with new people and a language that you do not understand?

Jodi Worden knows. The Central High School junior is just one of the thousands of Korean children brought to the United States to be adopted.

She is now working to help prepare the future parents of these children to deal with the many problems that may occur.

For the past six years, Jodi has volunteered her time to six adoption agencies in Nebraska, Iowa and Oregon to answer the many questions of couples wishing to adopt.

"I like to help the parents try to understand that these kids are different," she said. "They come from a different society

and culture. Sooner or later those kids are going to want to know about their heritage, and the parents need to know how to deal with it."

She added, "The parents appreciate going into a situation like that knowing something rather than knowing nothing."

Jodi first got started participating on the panels through her mother's adoption agency here in Omaha called KESIL (Kids Each Served in Love).

Diane Baumgartner, Administrative Director at KESIL, feels that these panels (or pre-adoption workshops) are an "important part of preparing parents to accept adopted children into their families."

"Adopting a child from a foreign country expands our

family tree all over the world," Ms. Baumgartner said.

"If a family helps their child to have great pride in themselves and in their culture," said Ms. Baumgartner, "then that child will be able to roll with the punches of the prejudices that they will come into contact with."

Jodi now has a great curiosity about her homeland and hopes to go back there someday. She relies all of this information openly to adoptive parents so that they will know that her culture and her past are important to her.

"I think if anything I hope that I am an encouragement to parents wishing to adopt," said Jodi, "that they have a better understanding of what it is like to be adopted."

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Where have all the

Modern toys controversial

Rob Glasser

Toys, objects of childhood, the love and dreams of millions of children, the material objects that only the innocent could adore with such ardor.

It is amazing that the colorful metal and plastic objects can occupy such a significant space in the hearts of both young and old.

What exactly do they represent? The answer to that is as obvious as an M/X missile in your back pocket...fantasy.

Technology has metamorphosed the toy industry, and big business has changed the creative aspects of toyland fantasy. Children have the capacity to turn a lump of mushy oatmeal into "Super Slimo masked marauder of open space" or a shoe box into lavish tropical forest.

"All toys are taken from cartoons or visa versa. They are a big money-making sham."

But now imagination has become the responsibility of the manufacturer and the syndicated cartoonist.

"All toys are taken from cartoons or vice versa. They are a big money-making sham with 300 figures to a particular group," said senior Mike Charlesworth, whose favorite toys were the giant Tonka trucks.

Mike went on to add that toys are much more realistic now and a lot of fun.

At times imagination for a child and his modern toys consists of mixing differently scaled matchbox cars together or introducing He-Man to the Thundercats. Of course, this is not always true.

The new and highly competitive toy industry has advantages such as variety and lower prices for more advanced electronic toys.

Junior Perry Fox, whose favorite toy was his Green Machine, said that he would love to be young again so he could play with the toys that kids have now.

This is understandable, for the toys of today are extremely interesting and sometimes, as in the case of those shape-changing Transformers, quite puzzling.

Do the modern icons of fantasy neglect such things as creativity, imagination or physical exercise?

Senior Lisa Macafee, whose favorite toy was her Raggedy Ann doll said that the toys "may not do as much" for creativity, imagination or physical exercise, but added that the toys are better as far as quality goes because they are so advanced.

"Old toys promoted more imagination and creativity than the new ones do."

Senior Drew Weiss, who sincerely loved his Tonka trash truck, said that toys are "too technical. Less imagination is needed to make them enjoyable." Many Central students also view modern toys as not requiring as much participation from the child.

Junior Debbie Dubes, who loved her Inch Worm riding toy, believes that "old toys promoted more imagination and creativity than the new ones do."

Modern toys may be controversial for their technological advances, but a new breed of toys avoids this controversy. These are the "educational" toys. Toys exist that teach toddlers to write, spell, count, draw and talk.

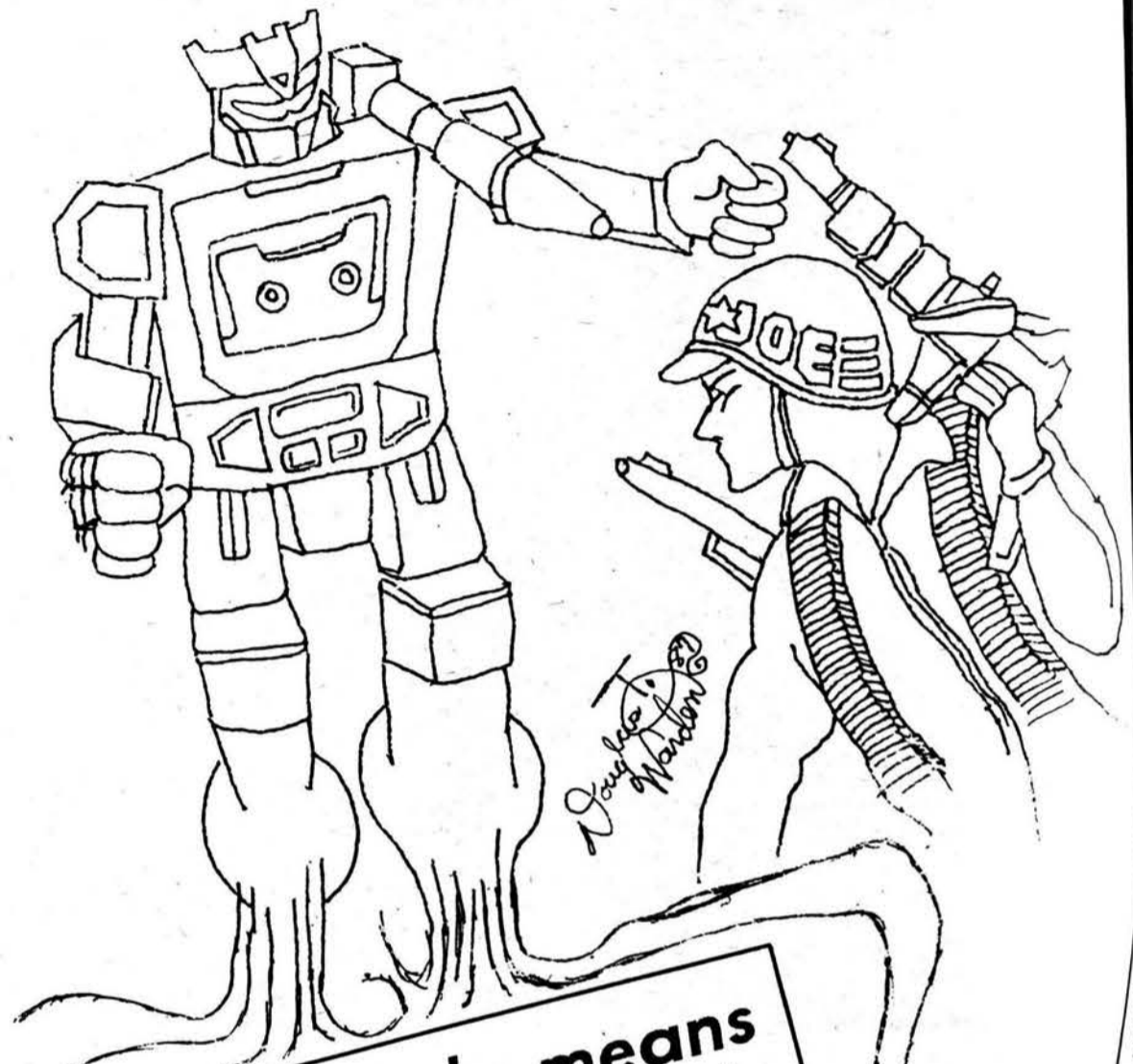
Built to resemble computers or built as computers themselves, these toys have become extremely popular with the parents and guardians of many a tot.

Many people believe the new toys are more violent or promote more violence. Citizen groups are trying to place restrictions on toy gun-making such as identifying marks or other characteristics that would make them look less like real guns.

This is a logical response to the increase of accidents such as a police officer accidentally shooting dead a youth that was playing with a Lazer Tag pistol.

[Toys] haven't changed. There has always been G.I. Joe, cowboys and cops and robbers

Ms. Vicky Deniston, Central student teacher whose favorite toy was a jungle gym, said, "They haven't changed. There has always been G.I. Joe, cowboys, and cops and robbers."



Mooncrunch means taste of childhood

Amy Buckingham

What ever happened to the culinary delights of youth, peanut butter and pickle sandwiches, a plate full of food in your face, Mooncrunch cereal, food fights with the babysitters, Goober Grape, hiding the "icky" food under the plate, graham crackers with marshmallows and the like?

Some Central High School students still enjoy their eating habits of yesteryear, while others have developed more creative and interesting eating habits.

Favorite foods

Stephan Dietrich, junior, still devours his favorite after-school snack from his childhood days, graham crackers with marshmallows.

"I have eaten it ever since I can remember," he said, "It is really good. You should try it some time."

Senior Kye Andersen fondly recalls eating Mooncrunch cereal "right out of the box."

"But my favorite snack," he said, "was Cool Whip straight from the container. I ate it by the pound."

Mary Welty, junior, was not so easy to please as a youngster. "I was the pickiest eater. My mom used to make

me sit at the table until my plate was clean. And when I refused to eat, she sent me to my room for the rest of the night."

Food on the windowsill

Senior Koren Mann was also a picky eater, but avoided her food in a different way. "I put the food I did not like on the windowsill. Mom was not too happy when she finally figured out where all of my hamburger was going."

Mary remembers the many food fights she and her siblings had with their babysitter. "We threw baked beans on the ceiling and noodles on the wall and prayed that Mom would not find out until much, much later."

'Messy eater'

Michele Favero, senior, recalls being a messy eater. "I would smear chocolate pudding on my face, mash bananas on the table, and throw my vegetables on the floor," she said.

Michele admits that, at times, she still gets the urge to smear chocolate pudding all over her face, but states that she has "much neater eating habits now."

Although eating habits have changed, according to Sara Fitzimmons, senior, one thing remains the same, "I eat, therefore I am."

The good times gone?

Scooby Doo, where are you?

Jennifer Andersen

Do you often have fond memories of Superfriends, the Flintstones and the Jetsons, or are you excited by He-man, the Smurfs and Thundercats?

These past and present cartoons offer much amusement to many Central High School students. "The new ones have too much violence," he said. "They show a settlement by fighting."

Jenny Holmes, senior, agrees, "when little kids watch cartoons, how are they supposed to view the real world?" She added, "Before, cartoon characters were indestructible; now they are quite vulnerable."

Another problem students consider in today's cartoons is the commercialization.

"Now cartoons are for commercial use. They always be promoting a product, especially toys," said Tanya n, senior. She added that this tends to make them superficial.

"When the cartoons of a product don't make it, they breakfast cereals," said Rod.

Senior Bruce Lovgren feels that today's cartoons are soap-operas," he said.

"The new cartoons have 5,000 characters though students find much wrong with the new some still have their favorites.

win and the Chipmunks is entertaining and fun, being violent," said Jenny.

Smurfs, they use the word 'Smurf' in everything, the crazy."

Central senior Melvin Jones likes Transformer cartoons. "They have more exciting to watch." However, he added, "I like more exciting to watch."

Students enjoy the older cartoons, including out Scrappy, Bugs Bunny and Friends, Hong Kong Super Jaws, Pink Panther, and Grape Ape.

Chocolate or white milk?

Return to the days of yesteryear

Jonas Batt

High school is a time when many students find themselves thinking back on their educational careers, back to a time when things weren't as difficult and demanding.

Seniors are often the most reminiscent, but juniors and sophomores alike join in the reverie.

Seniors are often the most reminiscent, but juniors and sophomores alike join in the reverie.

The days of Kindergarten and elementary school are long past, but for many, the memories are as fresh as the days in which they were formed.

Snacks and naps are among the most vivid memories that students can recall from Kindergarten. "It was graham-crackers and a choice of chocolate or white milk," said Amy Meyer, Central High School senior.

Most remember the nap times spent acting like they were asleep. Sophomore Justin McWhorter said, "A fairy came around and tapped us when it was time to wake up, even though we were already awake."

Recess, of course, was the best period of the day in elementary school. For Senior Eric Skeen recess was "a time to get away from the teacher... a time to get outside."

For junior Jeff Markise, recess was simply "running around after lunch," but for others it meant much more.

Sophomore Mary LaFayette remembered that she could not wait to go "play and jump rope," adding "we chased each other around."

Chasing was a favorite pastime for the carefree recess periods. Amy explained that she participated in "boys chase the girls days and girls chase the boys days."

Justin added that in the extreme case that a boy was caught by a vicious female, the infected victim

might rid himself of "girl germs" through use of an invisible can of spray.

Dawn Larmon, sophomore, feels that high school students should have recess. "You need a break during the day, lunch isn't enough," she said.

"We should have recess in high school to get rid of anxieties."

Amy agrees. "We should have recess in high school to get rid of anxieties," she said.

Students also retain fond memories of the elementary school holiday musicals and plays. Justin admits he played Father Time once in a sixth grade play. "I had to wear a really long, white beard, stuck to my face with Spirit Gum."

Like many others, Eric played a smaller part, thinking of himself more as a "team player."

Along with all of the memories, students are apt to make some comparisons between their educational pasts and presents.

On Amy is the "obvious pressure of being older." Eric agreed about the added pressure of high school, realized that "you actually have to do assignments," and remembered things being easier because teachers gave students more slack.

Mary added that people rarely worried about the clothes they wore or were jealous of others.

Amy was convinced things had changed. She felt that "social pressures increase" in high school. Mary agreed that things like clothes were "a big deal."

Eric compared the size of the classes and said that, in high school, he had a smaller group of friends. In general, he said, the groups were "more pronounced."

The teachers seem to have changed too. They are not always the friendly mentors of yesterday.

Eric's career plans in elementary school were admittedly "far-fetched and glamorous." He wanted to be a cowboy or an astronaut.

Like Eric, we all hold the secret desire to be a cowboy, and return to the days of our youth.

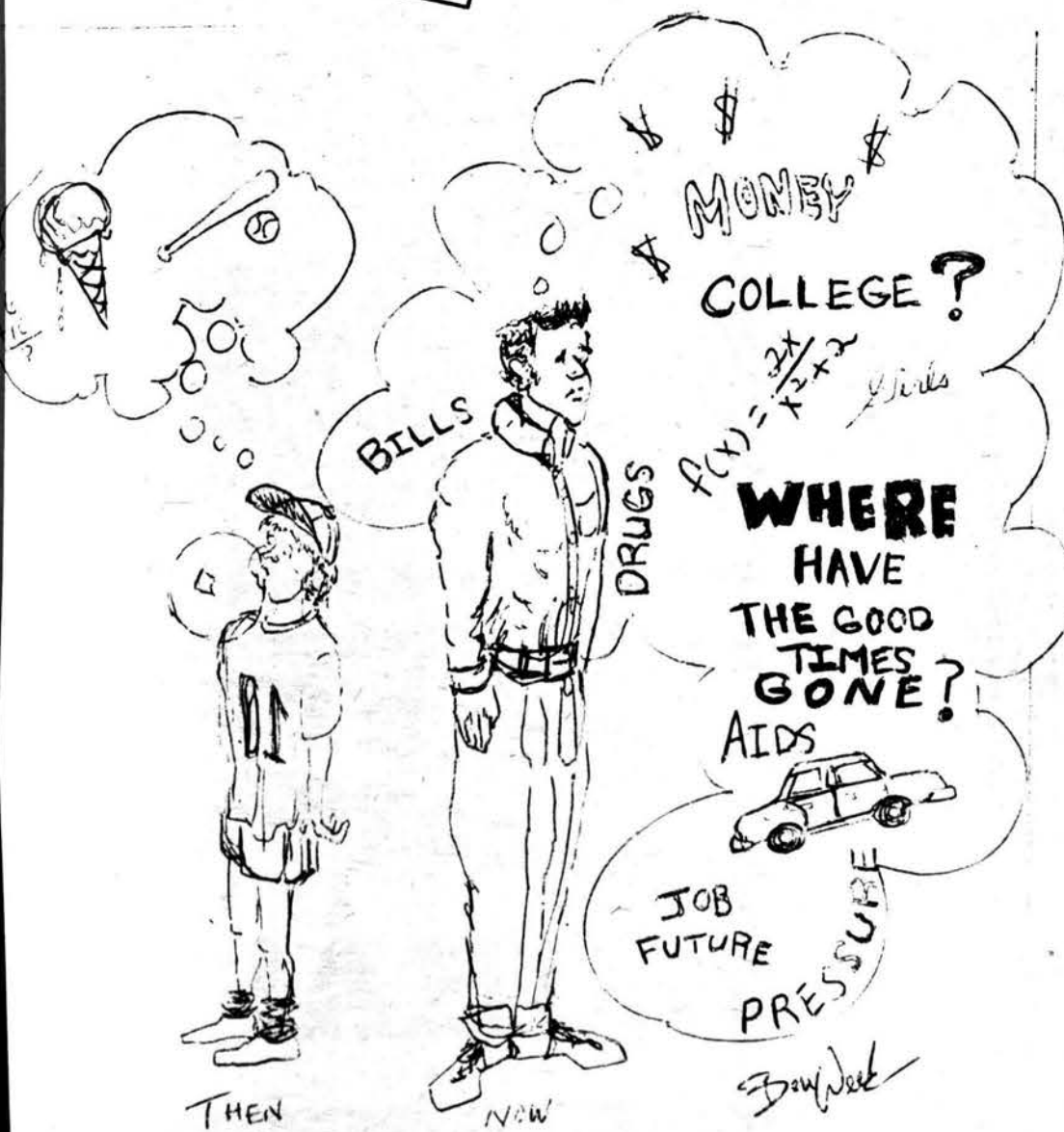
Amy thought she was more diligent in elementary school. She felt that, forced to be "more selective" with her work, she had to let things go in high school.

The teachers seem to have changed too. They are not always the friendly mentors of yesterday.

"Teachers are teachers," said Eric, but Mary disagreed, saying, "teachers aren't as nice."

One major difference students point to is the social atmosphere in school.

Justin remembered that in elementary school an invitation for a slumber party meant you were "in." Eric said "you either hated or liked people...[there was] no in between."





Various means of transportation lead to a great time

Jonas Batt

If you want a good laugh, see *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*. The movie started playing a few weeks ago and stars John Candy and Steve Martin, who are not only good comedians but fine actors.

Quest for turkey

The hilarious situation pits the buckled-down Martin against free and easy Candy in a battle of patience and wit during a seemingly mutual quest to return home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The title describes the different modes of transportation by which the travelers try to make their way home, by no means including them all.

Register Review

The scenes in *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles* are most reminiscent of movies like *National Lampoon's Vacation* and *Airplane*. Candy and Martin perform hilariously in extremely improbable situations.

We're in Kansas, Toto

At one point, the two men find themselves in Wichita, Kansas. They are picked up by the son of one of Candy's business partners.

The traveling partners proceed to lift Candy's huge footlocker into the back of the

pick-up truck when they are interrupted by the tobacco-spitting country bumpkin. He proceeds to order his small-framed wife to lift the heavy case by herself, incurring the immediate objections of Candy and Martin.

He replies, naturally, with the story of his wife bearing their child sideways, his spouse nodding in accordance.

Some parts in the movie are sad, including Steve Martin's attack of John Candy, and, later, the happy/sad arrival home.

John Candy and Steve Martin make a good comedy pair and should work together in the future; they make the movie.

A sure thing from Santa

This is a very funny movie, make sure you put this one on your holiday gift list and hope Santa likes the off-the-wall humor of *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)... Beware the science labs, for while you are enjoying your vacation the local mad scientists club is creating a creature of such abomination, such terror, that even Godzilla would faint if he saw it. The worst part of this creation is that (this is what the stars told me) it craves Sagittarius blood by the light of the winter moon.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)...A giant, elf-beatin', candy-stealin', toy-breakin', eggnog-drinkin', snow man will attempt to destroy your holidays by snatching up your family and sending them COO to Ho Chi Minh City. If you spot him, he can be repulsed with an ordinary, everyday, average, plunger.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)...There is an unknown ninth reindeer, Rajhneesh, that Santa doesn't allow to fly with his regular group of eight, because he is an orthodox Buddhist. Rajhneesh became quite disconcerted over his omission from the 12/25 tradition and takes his revenge on the innocent recipients of the season's good cheer. In particular, those born under the sign of Aquarius...beware.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20)...You are a fish. Yes, you are a fish; I looked it up! A fish a fish a fish a fish a fishy ooh. Because you are a fish, you must beware wandering packs of pink penguins and purple polar bears. That's right, pink penguins and purple polar bears. To ignore my warning would be suicide.



Aries (March 21 - April 20) Oh yeah, your forecast. Well, if you hadn't guessed already, it's pretty bleak. In fact it is down right vicious. It is so bad, in fact, that I will not subject my readers to such gruesome profanity. So there.



Taurus (Apr. 21 - May 20)...If you are planning to have any wild holiday parties this vacation, forget it now. There is a large group of home-wrecking noels who are very intent on destroying the homes of Tauruses.



WHAMOSCOPES!

Rob Glasser

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)...Kiss it good-bye Gemini, the stars are very upset with your behavior. In fact, the cosmos is so dissatisfied with you that it has decreed that all Geminis be hung by their ankles in local drinking establishments and be used as pinatas by a renegade motorcycle gang.



Cancer (June 21 - July 20)...Just by the sound of your name, I'd say you're...doomed. It will be on a moonlight night sometime during this winter recess that you will meet a short man named Russel. Russel will ask directions to the nearest fire-plug, and, if you can't give them to him, Russel will give you 30 million empty Hershey Kisses wrappers and force you to chew them.



Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)... Hey tiger, your forecast looks good. No mutant icemen, no terrible noels, no strange men, and it looks as if even Santa Claus or whomever you wish is going to visit your house before anyone else's. This may sound condemning, but if you just take it easy and hide yourself until the next issue's predictions are published, you should be fine.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept. 22)...I've been saving something special for you, Virgo. It's my world famous, priceless collection of "Timeless Ageless Brainless Tooth-Baring Cave Fish Club" trading cards. A great way to ensure that such things will happen is to chant the "may all my good wishes come true" chant for two days. If you don't happen to know the chant it goes like this "Chicka boomy, chicka boomy."



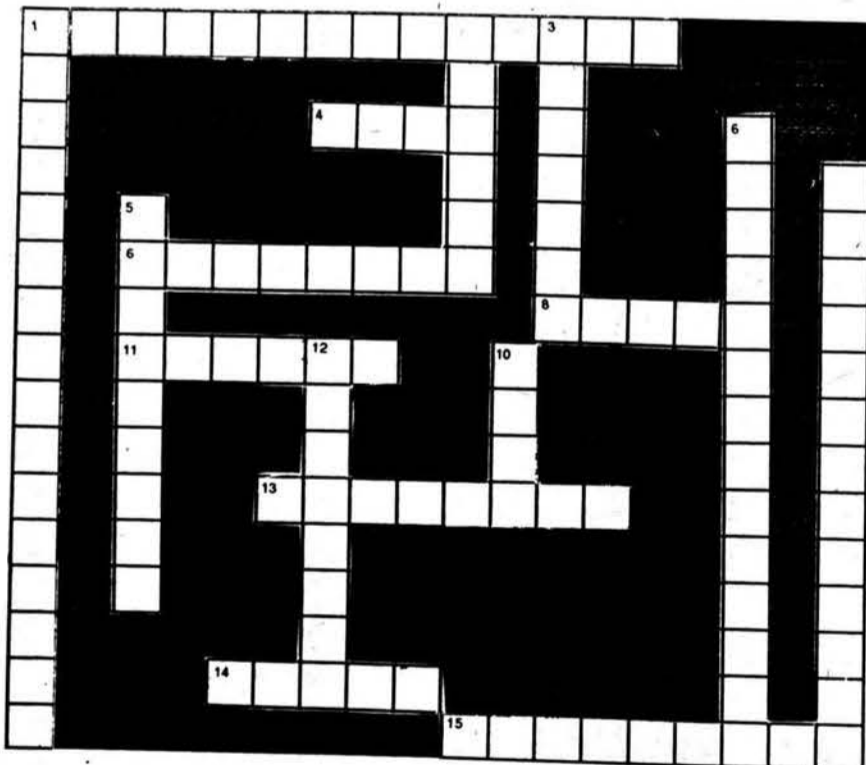
Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)...You will be zapped into the Christmas Zone to be Perry Como's microphone holder. Yes, the sweet sound of Musak as you do your shopping Will ring distinctly in your ears. The only way you can escape this fate is to spray-paint yourself silver and imitate the bumper of a 1959 Cadillac.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)...A mysterious limousine will unexpectedly pull into your life. A man dressed as Gomer Pyle will step out and scream "Boulderdash." You will have exactly twenty seconds to reply with the correct code word or you will be disintegrated. On the lighter side, you may be transported to a land of love, peace, harmony, and utter bliss...but I doubt it.



Carol of the Bells



- Across
1. Irving Berlin's famous carol.
 4. The first _____
 6. "Grandma got run over by a _____"
 8. Deck the halls with boughs of _____
 11. And heaven and _____ sing
 13. Oh what fun it is to ride in a _____ open sleigh
 14. Wrote The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)
 15. Good King _____
- Down
1. Walking in a _____
 2. _____ Bells
 3. Famous chorus by G.F. Handel
 5. All I want for Christmas is my _____
 6. English translation of Adeste Fideles
 7. Elvis Presley's Christmas tune
 10. The MacKenzie Brothers got a _____
 12. What kind of games did Rudolph want to play?

"Must" movies for Winter Break:

- Wallstreet
- Leonard Part VI
- Throw Mamma From the Train
- Cry Freedom
- Batteries Not Included

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Melba Toast: From another gravity

...Melba grinned, the grin became a smile, the smile turned into a giggle and then a chortle, then a laugh, then a guffaw and soon he rolled hysterically around the porch, clutched his sides and made much more noise than befitted a young man.

Melba: He, ha, ha! You remember what I said about something horrible and unforeseen happening? Hee, ha, ha! Well, watch this!

Melba exploded into a billion tiny bits.

Tess Fogarty



Pausing thoughtfully, Joe Fogarty reveals Melba's deepest whims.

"Melba was many things," said Joe thoughtfully. "He was a lover, he was a player. He was a child and an adult."

Joe breathed deeply and continued with emotion, "He was the kind of guy who would drool things on linoleum tables in fancy patterns, even words, and he would look up at you and grin and say, Pretty neat, huh?"

According to Joe, that was the exact situation when he met Melba. "I first met him at a truck stop between Lincoln and Grand Island," Joe revealed. "He drooled 'what' on the table, and I was fascinated."

Relating one of his many fun stories of his times with Melba, Joe said, "Melba really didn't know a whole lot about sports, but he thought they were kind of fun," Joe said, remembering.

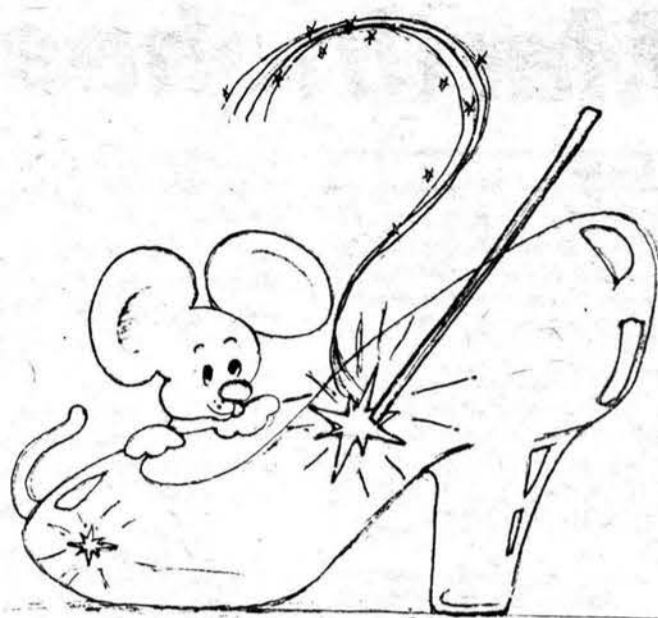
"Once Melba went out and played soccer with a football, only to find that it was much more interesting when the ball did not go where he wanted it to go."

"Melba was that person I could never be."

Joe spent two years of his life with Melba, and their relationship was something very unique. "Melba was my soul in a different gravity," he said. "Like my soul on Venus. Melba was that person I could never be."

Joe looked up and said sullenly, "But most of all, he could take an everyday normal thing and twist it just a little and make it into something abnormal and fun."

"Did I mourn for Melba when he left us?" Joe looked thoughtful for a long moment. "No, not really. Because...he lives," Joe grinned manically. "And how has yet to be revealed."



Cinderella Holiday magic hits Omaha stage

Ann Kay

The magic of the holidays can be seen in the malls, on street corners and all over the Omaha area. Hearts are warmed with season's smiles, and families engage in holiday entertainment. A show that can fill eyes with sparkles of that holiday magic is the Emmy Gifford Theater's production of the Rogers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*.

The musical is different from the Walt Disney movie, naturally, as a movie and a stage-production are two different means of entertainment. Despite the handicap of not being able to use Hollywood's tricks, it does include various special effects that promote that feeling of wonder.

One weakness in the musical is the audience; the performance lacked enthusiasm. The casting of two males for the step-sisters parts were unusual, and lost the real effect of the original and well known *Cinderella* story.

Central students participate

There were numerous good solos and duets, as well as chorus performances: Some tended to be repetitive, but in general, the music was flowing and brought life to the characters.

Two Central students have spent many hours of practice in helping to put together the performance, seniors Jennifer Gottschalk and Kris Siders. Jennifer enjoys working in the play, and explained that the play usually is sold out.

Competition with the movie

The costumes were colorful and the scenery is also very lively. But, when the musical is being performed the same time as Walt Disney's *Cinderella*, people will tend to go to the movie and find it more enjoyable, especially for younger children.

Melba Toast, the name that rang through the halls of Central last year, was a strange person (?) who entertained *Register* readers through the hand of 1986-87 graduate Joe Fogarty.

Many mourned when the Toast scattered his molecules across the universe, and many more sat wondering what Melba

was all about. Surely he was about something, wasn't he? Maybe just a little? Who would know better about Melba's innards than creator, Joe himself.



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Joel McCulloh

Imagine this- James Belushi playing the part of James Bond in a new 007 flick. Sounds too hard to believe? Well, believe it and weep.

James Belushi stars in *Real Men*, a poorly attempted spoof on Bond movies. CIA agent Nick, James Belushi's character, is sent on a wild and crazy mission with his newly acquired partner Bob Wilson, played by "Threes Company's" John Ritter.

Basic American

The only problem is that Bob is a basically average, American, family guy who doesn't know the end of a gun from his garden hose. Guess who gets to

Register Review

teach him all the wonderful and exciting things about being a spy?

The film reels you into a race across America as this hopelessly mis-matched team attempts to make a rendezvous with aliens "from far away" so the world will be saved from a drastic chemical waste accident.

In the meantime our heroes meet with the basic Bond cliches of Russians who are armed with massive sub-machine guns and still miss their target,

funky pens and sex, of course. What would a Bond movie be without the women?

It's obvious that it is going to take a lot more than women and Russians to make a good spy spoof, but this one just doesn't cut it. It tends to be very boring in places, but the humor is there, you only have to look for it.

Stick with Janet

With such a bad plot and weak lines, one might think that a couple of no-names would jump for the part. So why do we have a very talented James Belushi throwing himself into a worthless role? Good question. As for John Ritter, well, it's hard to see him without Janet and Chrissy.

Martin heads teachers' group

Ann Kay

For the third year in a row, Mr. David Martin, Central High School English teacher, is the president of the Nebraska Council of Teachers of English.

This means Mr. Martin is the president of all English teachers in the state including those in universities, high schools, junior high schools and elementary schools.

Mr. Martin became involved with the Council because he wanted to continue developing professionally, he explained. He attends meetings in the state and nation that help in writing and teaching.

associate with teachers throughout the country and Canada."

Two weeks ago, Mr. Martin attended the National Convention in Los Angeles, California.

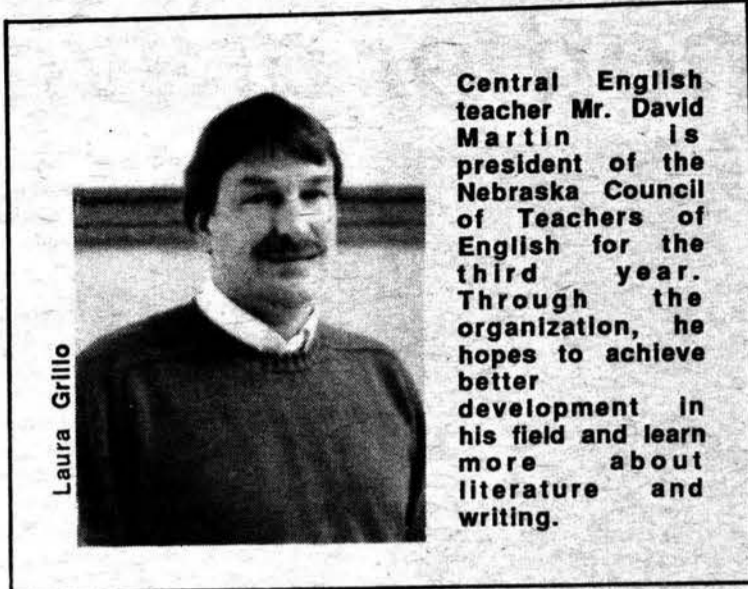
"It was a very meaningful experience...I met teachers from the Virgin Islands to Alaska and every point in between.

"It's interesting to see and hear how teachers have the same problems and differences, like small schools in the desert to large schools in New York City," he said.

Mr. Martin joined the Council to learn more about literature and writing. Some of his exceptional students use the text book that he is currently working on for colleges.

"I try to get my students to learn about writing through journals. They write on current events, life and aspects that they hadn't thought about before," said Mr. Martin.

When the teachers' organization meets, members discuss how to teach English better, books that students enjoy, how to improve literacy



Laura Grillo

Central English teacher Mr. David Martin is president of the Nebraska Council of Teachers of English for the third year. Through the organization, he hopes to achieve better development in his field and learn more about literature and writing.

The Nebraska Council of Teachers of English publishes a journal with writings from teachers and students four times a year.

Last month the group held a two-day seminar for teachers on cultural literacy. The group discussed the book entitled *Cultural Literacy: What Every American Should Know* by E.D. Hirsch.

The organization works with the State Board of Education to develop position papers on writing. These position papers are distributed to every school in the state.

Currently, the Intellectual Freedom Coalition is composing a position paper on the issue of censorship.

and how the teachers may become better writers.

At the convention in Los Angeles, the group devoted a day to book censorship; in several places books have been taken out or banned from schools because of religious reasons. Some teachers are concerned with forcing religious beliefs on students.

The censorship issue has prompted the formation of a new group in which Mr. Martin is involved.

Called The Intellectual Freedom Coalition of Nebraska,

the group consists of businessmen, teachers, various churches in the area, parents and administrators who are against banning books.

"This group wants to maintain separation of the church and state," explained Mr. Martin.

"The group began because people are trying to tell teachers what they can and can't teach. There is every type of religion in schools-Christian, Jewish, Fundamentalist-it's impossible to cut out every book that deals with religion."

"You can never learn enough."

Mr. Martin concluded. "The purpose (of the Nebraska Council of Teachers of English) is that English teachers are uniting to develop and improve ourselves as teachers and to continue learning as students. You can never learn enough."

"I associate with teachers throughout the country and Canada."

"It's a very good program," said Mr. Martin. "I

Clubs donate time

Continued from page 1

"It made our students feel good," Mrs. Bunz said of the assistance they gave. "We took pictures, and some of the people got attached to their student helpers."

Some gave the students hugs and "many insisted on tipping our students." The response to their donation of time let them know, she said, that "it's really worthwhile."

The foreign language clubs, as well, are involved with several charity-oriented activities. This year the German Club sponsored a food drive in which all the foreign languages took part.

According to Latin instructor Miss Rita Ryan, last year only the state branch of the Junior Classical League (Latin Club) participated in the food drive. "This is the first year that all the languages did it together in the form of a contest," she said.

Said Mrs. Gretchen Schutte, German teacher, "All together, the students donated over 550 items." The food that students gave went to the Omaha Food Bank.

Club members were not the only participants, Miss Ryan said. "Out of my 140 Latin students, more than 70 contributed something," she said. Most, she commented, were very eager and willing to donate.

Her own opinion about the project was positive. "I think it was great (that) over half of the Latin students turned in something," she said.

The German National Honor Society gave their time to sing Christmas carols at the Lutheran Home on December 15. The members of the club also made homemade Christmas cards for the aged people at the home. However, Mrs. Schutte said, "It's the visits that (the residents) really need."

The students, Mrs. Schutte explained, are "very eager to do it. Many have never been around very elderly and sick people, and it's quite an emotional experience."

After Christmas the group plans to hold a clothing drive. According to Mrs. Schutte, they started doing a drive last year, taking coats, hats, scarves and mittens to Francis House.

She said that this year she is going to suggest donating all the clothing except coats to the Open-Door Mission. The Mission doesn't need coats, so they will go to Francis House. The shelters, she said, work together so that people get what they need.

The need itself, Mrs. Schutte believes, has increased during the past few years, although, "as to the reason, I never really thought about it."

"Those needing assistance seem to be getting younger," she said, "and the numbers (of people who live in shelters) are increasing."

Festival of Lights begins Students celebrate Chanukah

Amy Buckingham

Chanukah, Hanuka, Hannukah, or Hanukkah, their spellings may be different, but their meanings are the same. This some 2,000-year-old, eight-day, Jewish celebration is one of the holidays of the religion.

Chanukah, according to Rabbi Paul Drazen of Beth El Synagogue, is a celebration of the rededication of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.

Thousands of years ago, the Syrians and Greeks captured the Israelites, took over the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, and dedicated it to the worship of pagan gods. The house of Macabees, a prominent Jewish family of the time, fought the Greeks and

gained control of the temple once again.

After the Macabees rededicated the temple to the worship of God and the practice of the Jewish religion, the people placed an oil lamp over the altar. It contained enough oil to burn continuously for one full day. However, the oil burned not just for one day, but for eight days.

In the present-day celebration, its length and the eight candles of the menorah represent the eight days that the oil in the lamp continued to burn. Families light a candle each day, and family members exchange gifts.

"It is much a home celebration," Rabbi Drazen said. "The families get together to light the candles and to exchange gifts. There are

services they can go to at the synagogue, but they are not mandatory."

Senior Jori Berger enjoys the Chanukah season. "All of my family gets together, and we have a big dinner on the first day of the holiday."

Junior Reggie Rennard feels that the holiday brings family and friends closer together. "It is a time to remember the dedication of our forefathers to their religion and beliefs."

Chanukah, The Jewish Festival of Lights, began on December 15 and will end December 23.



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J.C.L.-LATIN CLUB

The Register staff would like to extend its season's greetings to the faculty and students

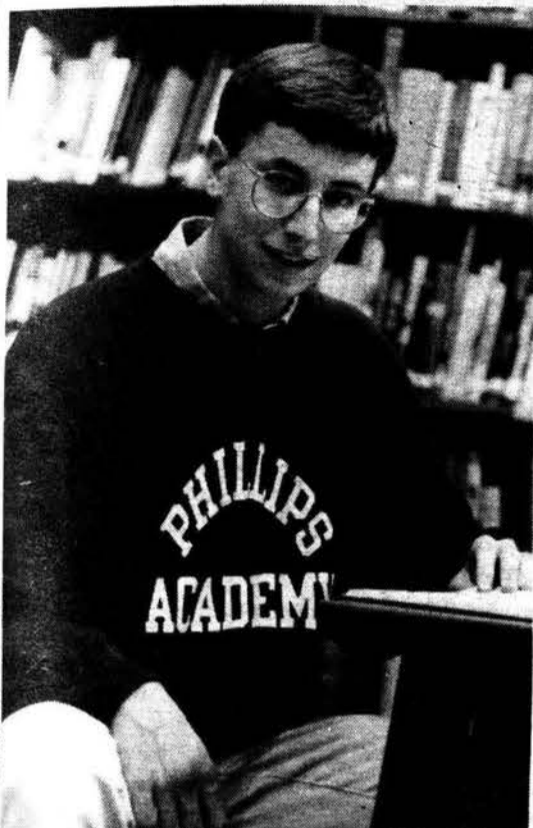
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Academy student returns to Central



Jim Kemp spent his junior year at Phillip's Academy. Phillip's is a premier boarding school in Andover, Massachusetts.

Johnny Musselman

"I didn't fit in."
This was Jim Kemp's response when asked why he left Omaha to go to an eastern boarding school.

Jim, a Central High School senior, decided in April of his sophomore year at Central to attend Phillips Academy for his junior year.

Jim has lived in Omaha all his life and, with the exception of the year in Andover, Massachusetts, has gone to school in Omaha all his life. When asked if he had any complaints about the school system in Omaha, Jim replied, "No, the schools here in Omaha are very good."

He went on to say that the reason for his leaving was the people. "I didn't feel comfortable around most of the people, and I didn't seem to fit in."

Another reason for Jim's leaving was family pressure. His father and three of his brothers went to the Eastern school and Jim felt the pressure of having to keep the family tradition going.

Jim left Omaha on September 15, realizing that the late starting date was similar to that of colleges. "It basically was a college," he said.

According to Jim, in addition to school hours and vacations like that of many colleges, Phillips' campus was "about the size of two UNO's." Jim said there were around 150 buildings along with several large athletic facilities. Students sleep in dorms ranging in size from seven to sixty occupants.

"Some days I never had classes, and other days, I had three or four."

College-like class schedules and class difficulty added with the physical aspect of Phillips makes it "very similar to a college atmosphere," as Jim put it. Classes were very small with larger lecture groups. They were scheduled at different times of the day according to the day of the week on which they were held.

"Some days I never had class, and other days, I had three or

four," Jim said.

Jim thinks that Phillips "could prepare a person much better for college than most schools." However, he said that Central's education was not far behind that of Phillips.

Jim also feels that Phillips, because of its college atmosphere, offers many different activities that would be "hard to find or get going in a place you are at for only eight hours a day."

Activities that Jim was involved in were a school-supported rock band and trips to Boston where students learned first-hand about the city and American culture.

Another activity that Jim said was unique to Phillips was a student exchange with the Soviet Union. Phillips is the first school in the United States to exchange students with Russia," Jim boasted.

Jim decided to come back to Central for his senior year not because he didn't like Phillips Academy, but because he missed his friends and his home.

Jim concluded by saying that "Phillips and Central are very different but in the long run, I would imagine that they are fairly equal."

"Although you'll have to make new friends and meet new challenges," Jim said, "never give up the chance to go away to school."

Select few participate in Academy of Finance

Rob Glasser

Executive desks and swivel chairs, name plaques and paperweights, boardrooms and satellite reception of the stock market--these articles are generally associated with the world of big business.

Strangely enough, however, all of these items may be found in a classroom, along with computers, high school students, and a teacher.

The Academy of Finance recently began its first year in Omaha at the Tech High School Career Center. Omaha is the eighth city in the country to initiate the program.

Because they could not find the talented people they required, Wall Street businesses inspired the Academy.

The New York Public School System and the American Express Company designed the two-year course to provide better training and a more extensive education for business students.

The space is very limited, and, therefore, only a select few from each school may attend the Academy.

Students from the Omaha Public School District are eligible for the class if a teacher or counselor nominates them and if they have taken one business class. Students may also take the course if they have passed or are currently enrolled in accounting.

A panel from the Joslyn Castle must interview each student before he or she may enroll in the class.

"I've never been interviewed for a class before," said Central High School junior Ryan Gaughn.

Junior Mark Klipsch said that, due to the limited amount of space and time, the interviewing process and prerequisites are necessary to insure that the most qualified and interested people are accepted into the class.

The class encompasses learning about economic

terms, corporations, companies, and the economic system. "(Students) are learning about the business world by simulating the business world," said Mrs. Wanda Utecht, Business Department head.

The course they are taking, entitled the "World of Finance," starts off with "Stock Market Operation" in which the students play the Stock Market Game.

The Stock Market Game is a statewide competition involving 260 teams. Employees of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln operate and judge the competition.

Each team consists of four or five members. The teams are given an imaginary \$100,000 and make transactions through the university. After ten weeks, the team that has the most money wins the game.

During this time the students also view films and, with the instruction of a teacher, explore other aspects of the business world. The second portion

of the class is devoted to finance in the context of banking, management, and other financial institutions.

The classroom consists of two rooms. One room is set up more like a class room, but executive-style desks and swivel chairs replace the ordinary school desks.

The second room is a boardroom with a large table, plush chairs, artwork on the walls, and air-conditioning for that final touch.

Other additions to enhance the course are six IBM computers and satellite reception of the stock market as it is broadcast. "I feel like I have all these advantages at my fingertips," said junior Lisa Williams.

The students take part in a mandatory internship with local businesses. During this time, they work at an entry level job, generally middle management. Students

work for a minimum of eight weeks, receiving pay and experience at the same time.

According to the students, the course is also very impressive on college applications. "If you're going into business, it's the best thing you can do," said Mark.

Students and teachers are not the only individuals involved with the class. Parents of the students and members of local businesses may serve on an advisory board that assists the class by offering speeches, advice, and instruction.

Career Center head Mr. Dusty Decker, said, "Though the course is in its first year in Omaha, we are the head of the class in terms of curriculum and quality of students."

The class is partially funded by a \$25,000 grant from the American Express Company. As long as the class seems to be a success, said Mr. Decker, hopefully the funding will continue.

Fröhliche Weihnachten und Ein Glückliches Neues Jahr!

from Central High School Deutschverein.

New members are welcome. See Frau Brabec or Frau Stafford in room 130.



College applications important step

Continued from page 5

some additional information about you.

Another part of the application that certain selective schools require is an essay. Though many students view essays as cruel and unusual punishment, they present to the college another side of your personality. Topics vary; some ask for a general essay about how a person or event has affected your life, while others may ask you to comment on how you

plan to survive in the computer generation.

Some care should be paid to the essays, however, for a committee actually does read them, and, good or bad, they reflect upon you. If possible, try to write them out early enough to have friends and relatives critique them for errors; it helps.

For some applicants, the final step is to have an interview with an admissions officer and / or a campus visit. Some selective schools strongly suggest that you interview with at least an

alumnus, but few schools consider it a "must." Similar to the essay, the interview provides the admissions office with a view of another side of you.

If you are planning on attending a college or university, prepare to do some work. Just like filling out the ACT registration form, applications cannot be done in five minutes. But with some effort and creativity, you can effectively demonstrate to your school why you would be an outstanding choice for admission.



Jill Ogden

Jennifer Mayer, junior, displays her skiing gear. Skiing is one of the winter sports that is popular among Centralites.

'A lot harder' than skateboarding Snowboarding becomes popular

Chris Vachaudes

There's something very different and exciting catching the eyes of the modern, well-dressed skier, these days. Its enthusiasts are increasing in numbers, and snowboarding, which until just recently has wallowed in the dark, has now blossomed into popularity.

Sometimes compared to surfing on snow, snowboarding has caught a growing number of people in its rising tide. Some Central students are part of this movement from two skis to one.

Central Sophomore, Paul Galus, explained the added difficulty of snowboarding: "It's really hard. You have to have good balance and ski all year round to become very good. But it's fun once you get the hang of it."

Back around 1984, the time of skateboarding's return to popularity, snowboarding slowly started the uphill climb into the spotlight.

Snowboarding, however, is not skateboarding and senior

Scott Drickey disliked the two sports by saying, "People think that if you skate that you can snowboard, but it's really different. It's a lot harder."

Snowboarding has not only made a jump in popularity and snowboard sales, but has become big-time business. The

manufacturers, such as Burton and Simms, sponsor teams for professional competition, much like national sponsors support professional snow skiing.

Professional snowboarders compete for cash and/or token prizes just like major competition in any sport.

The snowboard itself, which is made of a variety of flexible materials such as wood, is much like a conventional snow ski. It must be waxed and taken care of properly, just like a normal ski, but there is only one of them.

The cost for one good snowboard, however, is about the same as the cost of two good snow skis (excluding bindings): about \$350 in all, but can be rented from many ski rental shops for those not inclined towards the cost of owning.

Whether or not it's for you, those who snowboard swear by it and are quick to express their love for the sport. As Scott Drickey said, "It's really a great feeling, the only problem is that it's hard to get good air."

Scott Drickey on snowboarding: "It's a really great feeling.."

eye-catching Mountain Dew commercial that includes flashy snowboard tricks illustrates this point well.

Snowboarding has also become a very competitive professional sport. Certain snowboard

Sports brief

Seniors Dan Stillmock and Ronnie Barfield were both named to the *Omaha World-Herald's* second team All-Class All-State football team. Barfield was the only Eagle named to the Class A All-State football team. Senior Jody Sharpe and juniors Abe Hoskins and Lester Ridley all received honorable mention for the Class A team.

Head football coach William Reed was named the head coach of the South Team for this year's Shrine Bowl to be held on August sixth. Coach Reed was an assistant for the south team in 1984.

Central's girls' swimming team won its first meet of the year by defeating Ralston 88 - 76. Nicole Gerhard, sophomore, led the team by winning three events.

Last Friday the Lady Eagles raised their record to 1 - 2 after defeating Ralston 54 - 43. The team was led by senior Mallery Ivy, who scored 18 points, and senior Johnetta Haynes, who added 14 points.

Central nearly defeated Ralston for its first victory by scoring three three-point shots in the final 45 seconds. Central, which lost 66 - 64, was led by senior Jim Martin's 25 points and junior James Maloney's 12 points.

The Lady Eagles lost a heartbreaker to Marian 64 - 61 last Saturday. Marian rallied for the win by scoring 14 points in the last three minutes. Senior Mallery Ivy led the team with 20 points.

The boys' basketball team lost 78 to 56 to an outstanding Creighton Prep team last Saturday. Junior James Maloney led the team with 15 points. Gary Wilson, senior, scored 14 points.

Students ice skate competitively and just for fun

Robin Leavitt

As the seasons change, Central High School students adjust their habits and activities, to accommodate the new ice and snow of winter.

For many, favored activities change from football and frisbee on a warm day, to skating and falling on the ice on a cold frosty day.

Ice skating, an indoor and outdoor pastime, ranges from the imperfect ice of frozen lakes to the smooth ice of the indoor skating rinks. Here one will find Central seniors Kalen Andersen and Sarah McWhorter, among others, skating for pleasure.

"Skating on rinks is fun, but skating outdoors is great," said McWhorter. "Skating outside is beautiful, not like watching the gray walls of the rink," added Kalen Andersen.

McWhorter went on to say

that sometimes air bubbles break beneath the ice, and it sounds like the ice is going to give way underneath her skates, which is "really scary."

McWhorter and Andersen skate after school once or twice a week at Lake Cunningham or Aksarben.

Senior Cathy Easton still skates once in a while at Benson Ice Rink, but she misses skating on the pond at her grandparents' house.

"Ice skating is very relaxing, but since I started high school, I haven't had much time to skate," said Easton.

Senior Tess Fogarty finds skating a bit more of a challenge. "I have fun, but I fall a lot, and my ankles and feet cramp after a while," she said. Fogarty usually skates with her family at her aunt's cabin or at the Central Park Mall, when it's cold enough.

For seniors Ann Kay and

Wendy Allen, skating is more serious. Ann Kay began skating when she was five years old, and by the fourth grade was competing for ribbons and medals.

Sometimes Kay skated before and after school. She continued to skate competitively for five years.

Although Kay still skates, she no longer competes. Kay discontinued competing when she realized that she couldn't make a career out of skating.

"For awhile I put skating in front of school, then I decided that school was more important. Skating, or any sport, costs a great deal of money, and my parents have to put three kids through college," Ann continued.

"I still try to skate about once a week, but I miss the competitive atmosphere incredibly. Competing was exciting and a great

experience. I'll never regret putting all my elementary and junior high school years into skating."

Kay worries that she will have to give up skating completely when she goes off to college.

Senior Wendy Allen also skated competitively for many years. Competing became too much for her, as well as time consuming, and Allen also stopped competing.

Allen, too, still skates for pleasure when she gets the chance. Allen also teaches skating at Aksarben once a week to children between the ages of eight and thirteen.

Whether for pleasure or for competition, ice skating is popular among many Central students. Part of the attraction of ice skating, according to many students, stems from the fact that they find relaxation on the ice.

Christmas CHECK LIST

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Oklahoma not so bad after watching Miami



Over time

with Lance Grush

After watching and reading about the Miami - South Carolina game (on December 7), I changed my mind as to who I will pull for in the Orange Bowl.

Unsportsman-like

For the second year in a row, a big college football game has shown signs of extreme unsportsman-like conduct.

Last year in the Clemson - Maryland game near the end of the game a Maryland player ended up on Clemson's sideline.

Player surrounded

The player was harassed, punched, and mauled by surrounding Clemson players, prompting the NCAA to suspend several Clemson players from the Maryland game scheduled for the following year.

Key game

The Miami - South Carolina game was a key game in determining the National Champion. If South Carolina had won, the Orange Bowl might not have determined the National Champion.

Miami, which defeated South Carolina 20 - 16, threw several cheap shots and taunted South Carolina players throughout most of the game.

No personal foul

The worst part of the whole thing was that a personal foul was never called when Miami defensive end Daniel Stubbs slammed quarterback Todd Ellis to the ground. The play had already been blown dead because an offensive linemen

was offside.

Both benches cleared after the incident, which resulted in off-setting personal fouls. During the brawl Miami safety Bennie Blades elbowed Ellis in the head.

The very next play Ellis threw an interception. The South Carolina coach said that Ellis was "woozy" on the play because of the blow to the head.

Won't schedule Miami

After the game the Athletic Director of South Carolina said they will never schedule Miami again because some of the incidents that took place.

The overall conduct of Miami this year has been terrible. They've thrown cheap shots all year and are all-around poor sports.

Reflects on coach

A team as undisciplined on the field as Miami is reflects the attitude of the coach. A coach that lets his players do what they want will have a team like Miami's.

When a coach is in control and emphasizes discipline, the team will always play clean and respect their opponents. (like Nebraska, Penn St., and Florida St.)

Hatred put aside

This game really made me think about the Nebraska-Oklahoma rivalry.

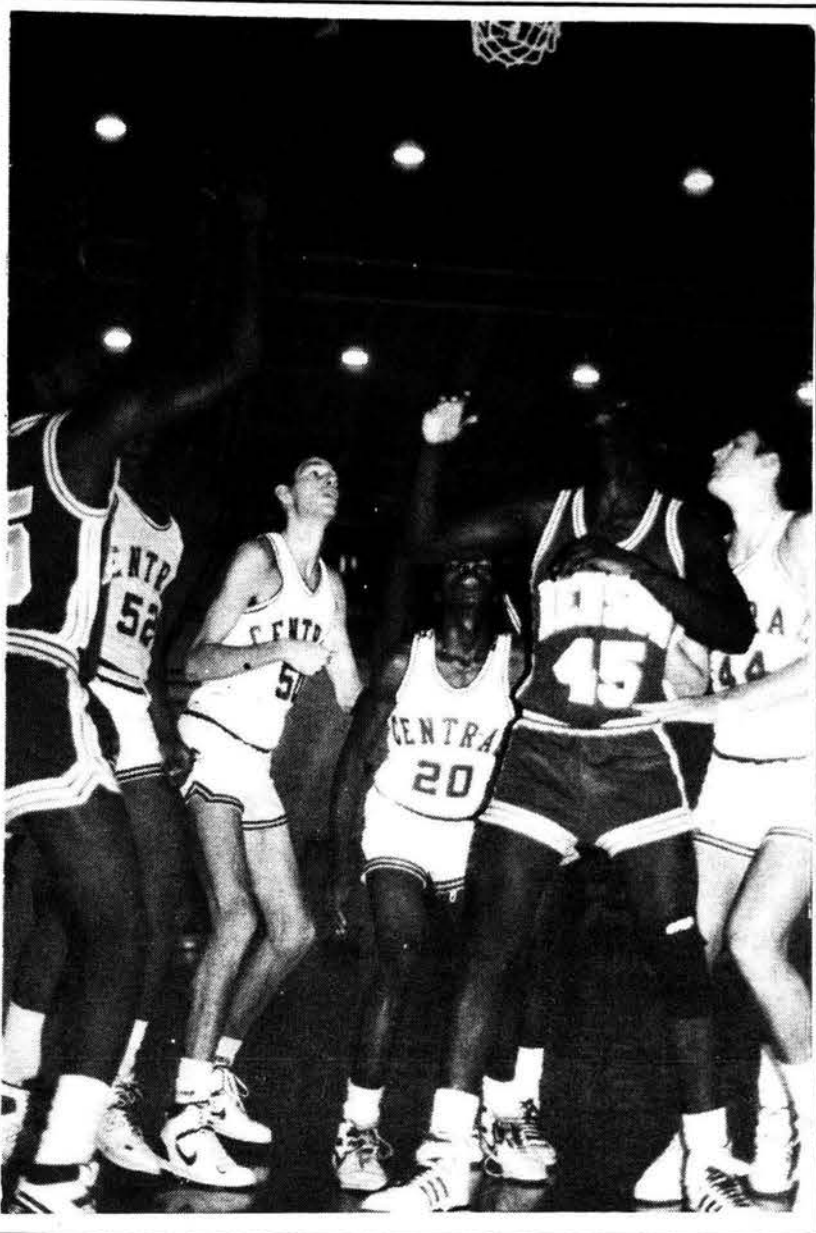
Although my hatred for Oklahoma runs deep, I realized that it's mostly because they are in our conference and we usually play them every year for the Big-Eight title.

Respect each other

Nebraska and Oklahoma players may not like each other but they respect each other. Our rivalry has always been good clean hard-nosed football.

For this very reason as difficult as it may be, I will be cheering for the Sooners on New Year's Day against the cheap shot artists of Miami.

Eagles move in for a defensive rebound in their opening against Benson. From the left: junior Scott English, seniors Jim Martin and Gary Wilson, and junior James Maloney. Central lost the game to Benson 69 to 59.



Tess Fogarty

Eagles hope to learn from losses

Bridget Buckley

Central's losses to Benson and Lincoln showed areas where improvement is needed.

Coach James Martin said that in the Benson game the team had many turnovers, poor shot selection and low quality free throw shooting. He also said that the team had a tough time keeping possession of the ball.

"We are a little unsure of the changing of our point guards right now. Joe Salerno (senior) and Eli Collins (junior) are our choices, but we are still unsure who will fit in the best," said Martin.

"Joe was the best overall against Benson so he started Saturday against Lincoln," he said. "There is a lot of pressure on guards to set up the offense, so the best person is needed."

"Some positive discoveries were also found in the Benson game. Scott English (junior) and James Maloney (junior) had excellent scoring, rebounding, and were effective overall," said Coach Martin.

"We did very well in the Lincoln game. We were ahead by ten points going into the second quarter. After Scott English and James Maloney received their third fouls I took them out to protect them," said Mr. Martin.

After English and Maloney had been taken out, Lincoln took advantage of the team inside. Maloney later fouled out in the fourth quarter.

"James Maloney could not move around the court without being fouled," said Coach Martin.

Jim Martin, senior, played a wing position like a third guard or a small forward from the outside.

"Jim's shots were good but his selection was poor," said Coach Martin.

Coach Martin is considering moving English to the outside and Martin to the inside.

"English is a good passer and scores well underneath," said Martin. "We may have to give up some of that talent to move him outside."

Coach Martin feels that the loss to Benson was the best loss of the season to have and that it will make it easier to get up for districts.

The team this year is composed of many individuals who have never played together before. Maloney is a transfer from Prep and Salerno, Collins, Martin, and Barfield played for Central last year. Jim Kemp played for Central his sophomore year, but last year he went to school on the east coast.

"The boys need to feel good with each other before they will play well together," said Coach Martin.

"Everybody is worried about themselves as individuals instead of the team. We will be good as soon as we play as a team and everyone does what they are supposed to do," said senior Jim Martin.

Thanks to the faculty and staff of Central High School for their continued commitment to excellence.

Lawrence I. Batt
Batt and Brodkey

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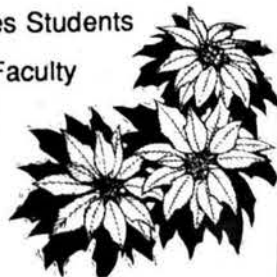
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Inadequate facilities slow teams' progress

Bridget Buckley

Central is one of the biggest and best high schools in the state of Nebraska, yet we don't have the facilities to play our home games, in most sports, at home. We must use Norris Junior High for our home games.

Central's boys and girls varsity home basketball games are played at Norris Junior High. Some students find it degrading that Central must go to a lower level school to play high school games. Norris was chosen as our home court because it has been a primary feeder school for Central for a long time according to Mr. Richard Jones, assistant principal.

Sports Opinion

Mr. Jones said that games were not held in the gym because it was too small and did not have a lobby. Many students ask why the gym was not made larger and with a lobby when it was first made. Didn't the school system think of that?

Mr. Jones said that lots of things were in the original plans; one such design was to make it with balconies like the Northwest gymnasium so wrestling could be held on one side of it. This and other designs were cancelled due to a lack of funds.

Contract denies

Our football team must also play at Norris. Why was the practice field made into a stadium? The fact is that the idea of only a practice field was not up to Central or the Omaha Public Schools.

It was decided in the contract between Joslyn Art Museum and OPS when land between the two buildings was traded during the summer of 1982.

The contract stated that Central would not hold spectator sports on the field because of possible interference with evening events at the museum.

Travel for practice

Tennis, swimming, soccer, and baseball teams all have to travel to get to practice and their games.

Tennis teams not only have to travel to practice, but are limited in the amount of time they have to practice. This is because Dewey Park, Central's home court, is also a tennis center that holds leagues for paying customers.

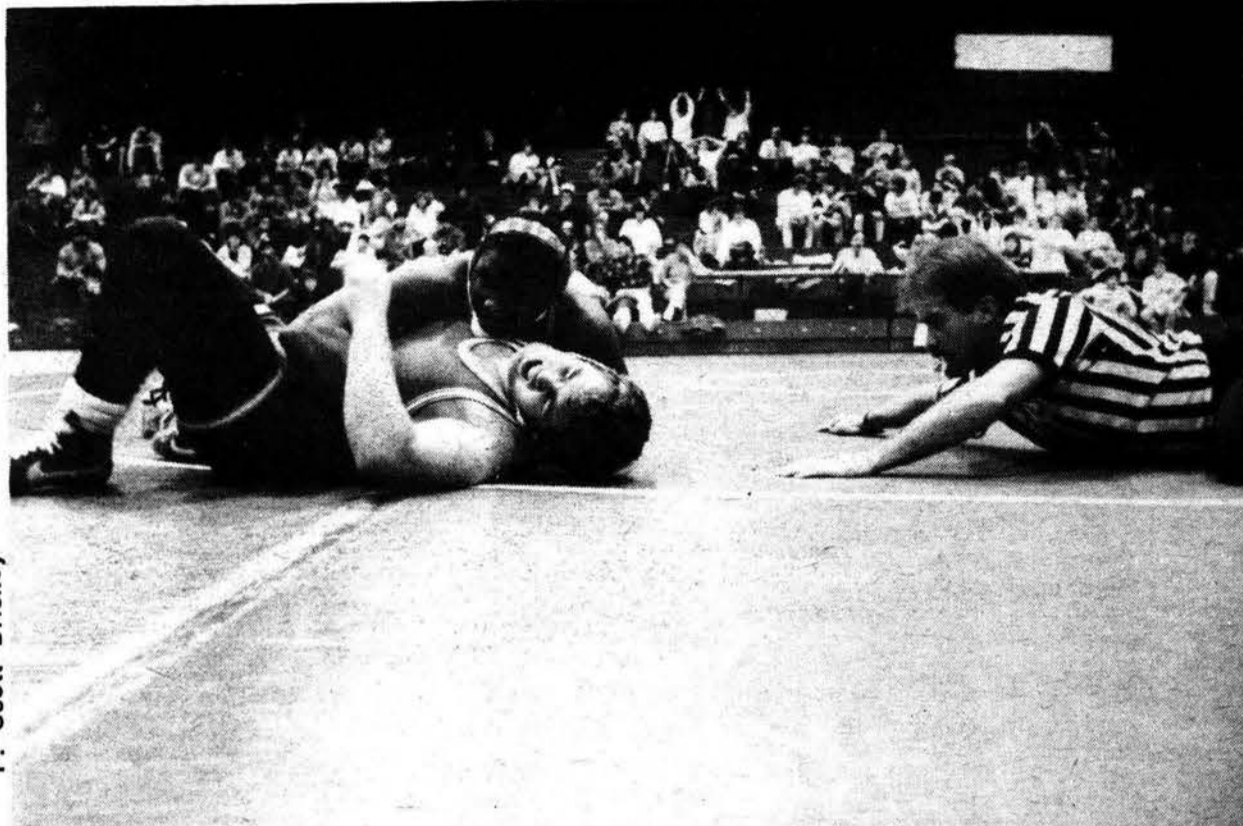
Therefore, Central can have the courts reserved for only 5:00, and are then pushed off the courts. At the time the leagues use the courts. This is an extreme burden on the success of the team.

The soccer team must go to Lewis and Clark Junior High for its practices and games. Time spent driving to practice could be used before a game as practice time. Having the team go to Lewis and Clark for practice also deters many talented players from playing soccer because it is out of their way to go there.

The baseball team must also travel for their games and practices. There is no doubt that this must take away much of the practice time they could be using to improve batting, pitching, and fielding.

There is no doubt that not having the home court advantage takes away from our team's success. If we had more facilities some of our minor sports would no longer be minor and may be as prosperous as our basketball and football teams.

Due to a lack of space in the downtown area and a lack of funds there is no way anything can be done about the lack of facilities at Central High. We at Central must learn that even though we are limited we are still the best.



P. Scott Drickey

Tony Finch, senior, pins an Abraham Lincoln wrestler during a match. Finch is one of the seniors who will lead the young team to victory.

Young team depends on seniors

Lance Grush

The Central High School wrestling team is trying to overcome inexperience and a shortage of lower weight wrestlers this season.

"This is probably the most sophomores I've ever had on a team," said Mr. Gary Kubik, head wrestling coach.

"We're a real young team," said sophomore Keith Tooley. "We might be the youngest team in the state."

Senior Tony Finch agreed. "Most of the team is just starting to get into it," he said.

Coach Kubik said there are six sophomores on the team and all of them are "really beginning to wrestle quite well." Keith Tooley and Jarvis Duncan, both in the heavyweight division in Nebraska (between 188 and 275 pounds), are two of the continually improving sophomores.

"Keith and Jarvis are two really good-looking prospects," said Kubik.

Duncan won a match against Abraham Lincoln at the super-heavyweight level. "Jarvis defeated a really fine wrestler from A.L.," said Mr. Kubik.

In Iowa heavyweights are between 188 and 230 pounds and super-heavyweights are 231 to 275 pounds.

"Both Tooley and Duncan weigh around 230 pounds," said Kubik, "so when we're going to compete in Iowa, we have one gain a few pounds and one lose a few. That way we have a wrestler in the heavyweight and super-

heavyweight divisions," added Coach Kubik.

According to Mr. Kubik, three other sophomores are also showing great promise. "Gordon Taylor, Tyrone Turner and Larry Littlejohn have done real well," said Kubik.

The team's success is heavily dependent upon the success of seniors Travis Sallis, Mike Warner, and Tony Finch.

Sallis has a 4-1 record and won a third-place medal in the A.L. meet. "He's probably our leading wrestler at this point," said Kubik.

"Tony Finch is probably our unsung hero," commented Kubik. At the North High Invitational, Finch had to wrestle the second seed. "He was beating the kid bad," said Coach Kubik. Finch was ahead 12-4 when, somehow, the kid from Westside recovered and pinned Finch.

"My record is 2 and 3," said Finch, "but I feel that I can do better." He hopes to be one of the top wrestlers in the state by the end of the year.

Finch's main goal for the year is improvement. "I mainly want to accomplish more than I did my sophomore year," said Finch. He did not wrestle during his junior year.

Kubik is pleased with the team's attitude so far. "The overall attitude of the wrestlers and the team effort have been super," he said.

"I think that once the younger

wrestlers get experience, we'll have a real good team," said Finch. "All the teammates help each other get better," said Tooley. "We really push each other."

"Also, the seniors on the team help us stay calm before a meet," added Tooley.

"The only thing I'm disappointed in is that we don't have a larger number of people in the lower-weight divisions," said Kubik. "We would have a real good team if we had more people at the lower weights."

Coach Kubik said they have had a shortage of light wrestlers ever since he's been the coach at Central. "We tried to draw more interest by having announcements in the circular this year," he added.

In the meet with Abraham Lincoln, which Central lost 48 to 17, they "gave" the Lynx 28 points because they had no wrestlers for some of the low weight divisions.

Mr. Kubik said that assistant coach Mr. Wilcox, a teacher at the career center and head wrestling coach at Norris Junior High, "has really helped a lot." Mr. Wilcox was a national champ as a Greco-Roman wrestler.

"We're right about where I thought we would be now," said Kubik. He added that Sallis, Warner and Finch should all be among the top four in the state by the end of the month.

He added, "I think if the other guys keep their attitudes up and keep working hard, they will definitely see improvement."

Martin: many sports, many talents

Bridget Buckley

FT-T6 Jim Martin, senior, participates in three sports at Central; basketball, cross country, and track.

Martin said that he used to shoot baskets outside his house when he was younger. He said that since his dad was a basketball coach he would come out and give him pointers.

When Jim was in about second grade he joined a YMCA team. Around this age he was on all-star teams that traveled to Las Vegas and South Dakota.

Jim started to play varsity basketball for Central his sophomore year.

Dad is coach

The coach of the basketball was his dad, James Martin.

"He is much harder on me than he is on other players, but the other players expect that," said Martin.

When he was a sophomore he used to worry about what people thought of him because he was the coach's son. He said that he is not worried about that anymore because he has improved.

Jim got involved in cross country his sophomore year to

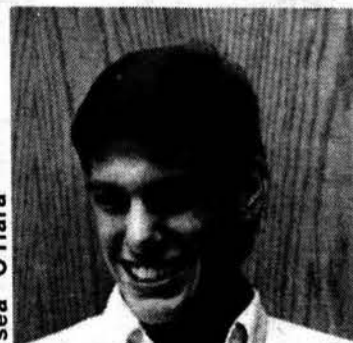
get in shape for basketball.

He said that when he first got involved it was to get into shape, but after working out for the season he realized he was really good at it.

Mr. Geringer influences

Mr. Geringer, cross country coach, helped him to improve his running.

"Lots of people don't like their coaches because they push too hard and aren't very friendly. Geringer is a kind of best friend to me. Although he was a friend he would still tell me to get it together if I sluffed off," said Martin.



Chelsea O'Hara

Jim Martin: basketball, cross country and track.

"Mr. Geringer told me to go into track in the spring of my sophomore year because I was such a good runner," said Martin.

Jim thinks that he is a little better at track than he is in cross country.

Martin plans to try to beat the school and state records in the mile and two mile races which were set in 1969.

He said that he would like to use his running and basketball talents to get scholarships to either Colorado State or the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.