

McMeen moves to counseling, feels change is healthy

Amy Buckingham

"There is no reason why a person has to do the same thing for fifty years. Change in itself is healthy," said Mr. Robert McMeen, the newest Central High School guidance counselor. He is not, however, new to Central. Mr. McMeen has been the head of the vocal music department at Central for the past twenty years.

Dr. G.E. Moller, Central High School principal, found out about a possible opening in the counseling department when school started.

"Mrs. (Susan) Richards, (guidance counselor), came in and told me that she was going to have a baby the first of March," he said.

"I immediately notified the personnel department and they told me to look for a qualified substitute within the school," said Dr. Moller.

'Mr. McMeen was the perfect candidate.'

Dr. Moller then worked with Mr. Steve Nelson, guidance director, to find qualified and interested staff members for the job.

According to Mr. Nelson, "Mr. McMeen was the perfect

candidate. He has all of the qualifications to be a guidance counselor, and he has wanted to counsel for some years now."

Dr. Moller feels Mr. McMeen will "do a terrific job, because he has a touch with young people. He has good rapport with

'He's doing a super job. It will take awhile to get used to.'

young people, and he understands them."

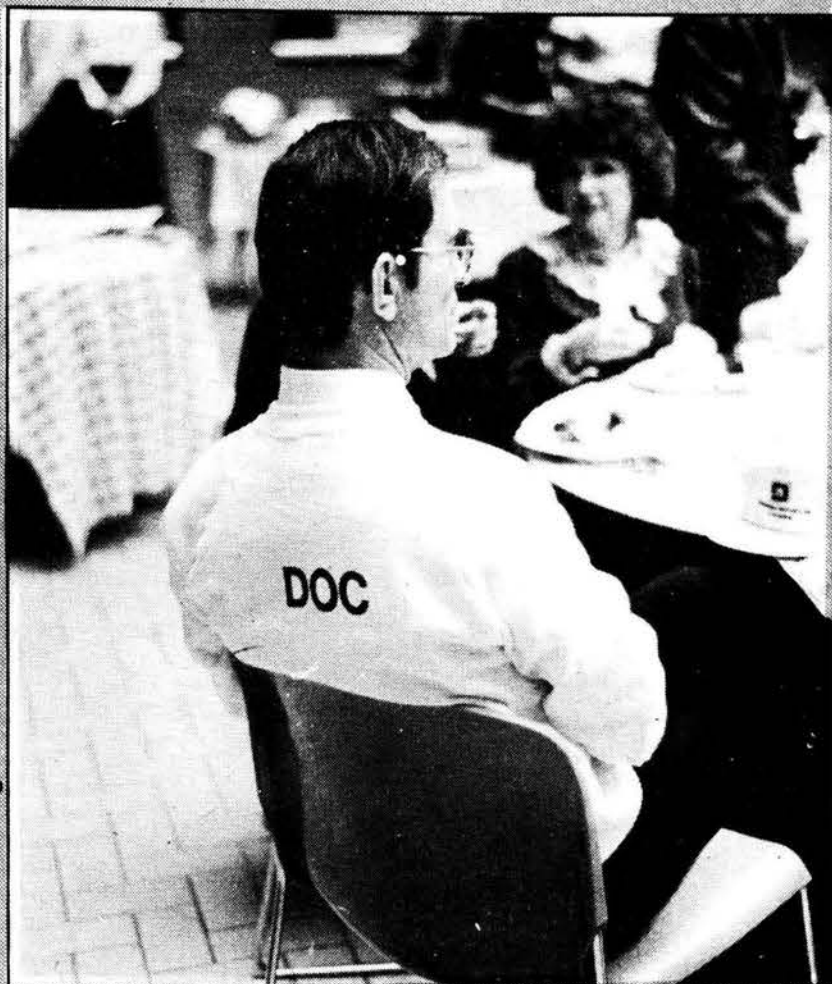
Mr. McMeen started working toward a Masters degree with an emphasis in counseling in 1979. "After I got my degree, I told the administration that I would like a job in counseling," said Mr. McMeen.

"I do have the background for the job, and I feel capable."

Mr. Nelson said that Mr. McMeen had to take the position "earlier than expected" and really did not get a chance to "go over some of the responsibilities and concerns" with Mrs. Richards. (Mrs. Richards gave birth to a baby boy on February 19.)

"He is doing a super job," he said. "Just like anything else

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Doctor G.E. Moller, principal, sports a personalized sweatshirt while relaxing in the courtyard during Teacher Appreciation Day, March 1. Guarantee Mutual took part in Teacher Appreciation Day for the first year. In the courtyard, the Adopt-A-School committee, comprised of teachers and Guarantee Mutual representatives, held the picnic lunch for teachers and presented Dr. Moller with the Guarantee Mutual sweatshirt and cap.

"A number of our own employees graduated from Central; they are proud of that. It's a lucky break that we got Central [because] it is viewed as a very significant institution," said Mr. Eugene A. Conley, president of Guarantee Mutual.

Good-bye Jobber's Canyon, hello ConAgra

Changes come to Omaha riverfront



The Jobber's Canyon area in downtown Omaha. The old buildings will be torn down to make way for ConAgra development including a business complex, a lake and a public park along the riverfront.

Justin Kerr

Major changes are coming to the Omaha riverfront or Jobbers' Canyon area.

Filled with aged warehouses, Jobbers' Canyon and the riverfront district will be transformed into a public park and a corporate center for such companies as ConAgra, Union Pacific, and Northwestern Bell.

According to Ms. Lynn Phares, vice-president in charge of public relations at ConAgra, "we expect to start construction sometime this summer."

Response to the proposed renovation has been varied, with opposition coming from groups claiming that Jobbers' Canyon, a National Register Historic District, is an important Omaha landmark.

"The demolition of Jobbers' Canyon will be the largest demolition of a National Register District since the creation of the program in 1966," said Mr. Clark Strickland in an Omaha World-Herald article.

Mr. Strickland is the director of the Denver office of the National Trust for Historic Places. "These are not big, ugly, red buildings but part and parcel of what made Omaha what it is today," he said.

Ms. Phares said, however, that to keep the warehouses would be impractical for ConAgra.

"The warehouses don't work for what we want to do," she stated. "The spaces aren't right; there's no way to adapt them to our use, and no one has come forward and offered to adapt them."

In addition to the business center, the renovation will include a 27-acre park with a 15-acre lake. The parkland will cover 25 percent of Central Park East.

The city and the corporations that want to develop on the riverfront will share the cost of construction going into the project.

According to Ms. Phares, ConAgra's investment

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Inside:

Chess masters, a sax maniac, young politicians, Sting, and a problem overcome.

Forum

Do you agree with the court ruling that allows girls to play football and to wrestle but does not allow boys to play volleyball?



Danita Stanfield, senior: "I disagree because the guys should be allowed to play volleyball, but I think that girls can play football and wrestle if they want to."



Jill Weaver, junior: "I agree because girls should be allowed to wrestle and play football; it's their choice. The guys shouldn't be able to play volleyball because the girls' net is considerably lower. Besides, the guys have plenty of other sports to play."



Nikki Fuxa, sophomore: "I don't agree because I think it's reverse sexism. I don't think that the height difference is a good enough reason to keep guys from playing volleyball."

Chelsea O'Hara

Pulse

Do you agree with the court rulings that allow girls to play football and to wrestle but do not allow boys to play volleyball?

Agree 11%

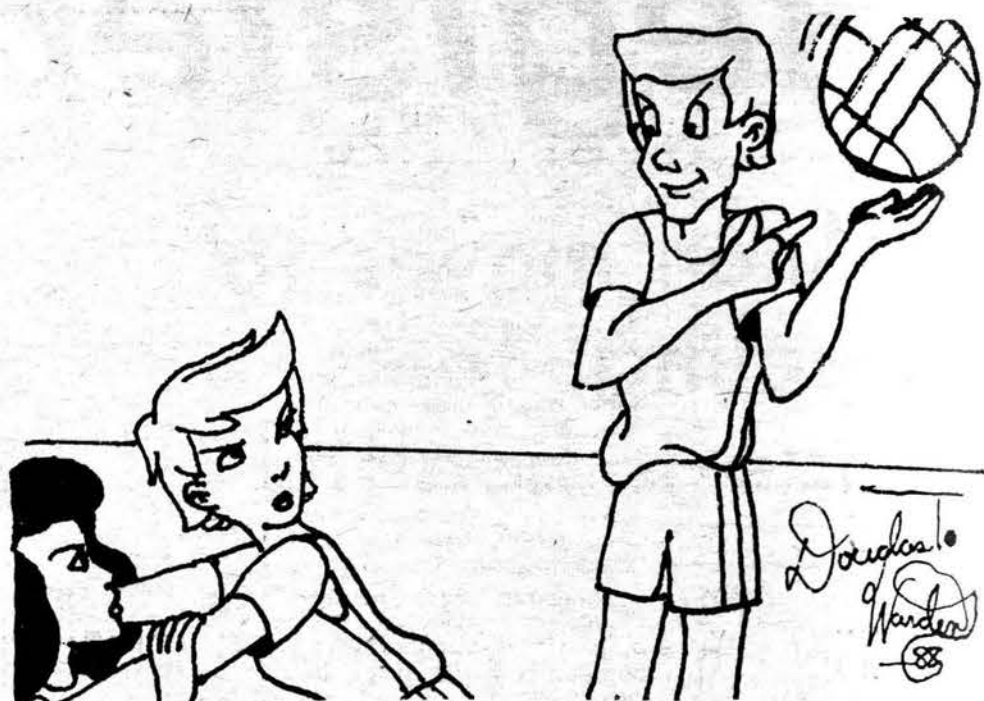
Disagree 89%

Total Questioned: 237 Students

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Sports ruling lacks uniformity

According to the United States Supreme Court, the Constitution does discriminate on the basis of race, religion, and most importantly, sex.

Nowhere is the idea of male and female equality more evident than in the recent court decisions allowing girls to play football and to wrestle, sports which were previously believed to be "male-only."

Last year, a judge ruled that girls could play football if they so desired.

And this year, federal court judge Lyle Strom struck down the Nebraska Schools' Athletic Association decision which prohibited girls from wrestling.

Judge Strom, in what appears to be a landmark decision, ruled that girls cannot be discriminated against and must be allowed to participate in wrestling, a move that the Register lauds.

Many people feel that the sports of football and wrestling, traditionally "male" sports, are too dangerous for girls to handle.

Others cite that there are numerous wrestling holds which could cause trouble. And still others feel that the concept of girl wrestlers is just plain wrong.

But according to Judge Strom, the Constitution does not just apply to men, but equally to women.

And if the girls are willing to assume the risks and adhere to the rules, no one should deny their right to participate.

Yet in the wake of the this feminine victory, one problem still remains that stands out like the proverbial sore thumb: men's volleyball.

Currently, OPS and the NSAA make no provisions or rule for the sport of male volleyball.

The few cases that have come before the respective boards have been rejected; the boards said that boys are ineligible for Nebraska high school volleyball because the girls' net is shorter than the boys' net.

But if there are no set rules for boys' volleyball in Ne-

braska, how can the girls' net be shorter? What is it shorter than?

How can someone be in violation of a hypothetical rule when such a rule does not exist? Obviously, one cannot.

Equal rights is an important issue, but it is far from being one-sided. Equality does indeed apply to women, but it also extends to men.

The ideal solution would be to sanction both a women's wrestling and a men's volleyball league. Soccer became an official high school sport last year, so it can be done.

But realistically, the small, out-state schools of western Nebraska would most likely oppose the move, and OPS might not be willing to fund another sport.

Thus, the most logical and feasible short term solution is to incorporate men into the women's volleyball league, creating a co-ed team.

And why not? Wrestling and football were for years men-only sports; volleyball should and must follow suit and modernize with the times.

Two languages is one too many

In a decade of international anti-American sentiment, the citizens of the U.S. can no longer afford to be divided among themselves, for sectionalism will most surely tear our nation asunder.

Instead of rising out of a Civil War dispute between the North and the South, the conflict stems from a racial problem, that certain cultures, both domestic and foreign, refuse to melt into one, harmonious "pot."

One of the most obvious disturbances is the blatant lack of communication that is running rampant throughout the United States.

In fact, there are more languages being spoken in the United States today than at any time in the history of our nation, and this is only separating us further.

In the early days of the U.S., immigrants from all parts of the world came to America, and with them they brought their cultures and customs.

Accompanying their ideals and values was their foreign language. As they slowly mastered the English language, the national language of the United States, America

gradually absorbed these foreign tongues; omelets and judo are hardly of U.S. origin. Thus, English entails the best of both worlds.

But as the saying goes, that was then, and this is now. Many of today's immigrants, both legal and illegal, are rejecting the English language and clinging to their native tongues.

Nowhere is the problem more evident than in the city of Miami, Florida. According to Time Magazine, Miami, which lately has been flooded with Hispanic immigrants, at least half of the inhabitants speak Spanish, and the numbers are steadily rising.

In light of the influx of Spanish speaking people, the mayor of Miami and other public leaders have been contemplating turning Miami into a bilingual city; an election is already in the works.

However many problems they think such measures will solve, turning Miami into a bi-lingual city will only create havoc.

Public officials will be required to speak both English and Spanish. Corporate employees would have to be profi-

cient in both languages, and teachers would have to teach all of their students in both languages.

The most likely result would be the continued separation of the two cultures, and we simply cannot allow such hatred to exist.

The solution is simple: if foreigners really desire U.S. independence, they must be willing to accept certain aspects of American life, namely, the English language.

Their beliefs and customs should be retained, for America prides itself on its diversity. But cooperation, above all, is what makes the United States "click."

Recollecting nationalities and traditions consumes a great amount of our time, and it should. Such events as St. Patrick's Day and the Santa Lucia Festival are examples of our devotion to the past.

But when two ideals lie in conflict with each other, like two languages, the Register staff feels that the more established and widely used language of English must take precedence over all others.

Only through one language can we truly call ourselves a united nation.

Changes 'right here in River City'

Continued from page 1
is "at least \$50 million," and, according to the *World-Herald*, the city is allocating \$6.3 million over the next 11 years with a total construction investment of around \$285 million.

One important factor of the redevelopment plan will be the revitalization of

'We're going to put the river back in the city.'

downtown Omaha, said Ms. Phares. "Right now, downtown Omaha is at a crossroads. We've seen some growth, but some of the retail businesses are having a little trouble."

She added that "the addition of new jobs, which will be in the thousands, will really turn the corner for downtown Omaha."

As for the appearance of the business district of Central Park East, Ms. Phares

stated that the buildings would be "low-rise, with one or two story buildings on the side facing the river and four stories on the side away from the river."

She added that "there will be a lot of green spaces." She stated that "this will make it blend well with the park along the riverfront."

Construction, to begin this summer, will continue, with "the early buildings being done in August of '89," said Ms. Phares, adding that the other buildings "will come sometime between now and 1992. We want the buildings ready for the employees when they come here in 1989."

What made ConAgra turn its head away from plans to relocate in a rural setting?

"When the city approached us with the idea of developing downtown, we recognized that it would be a great opportunity for Omaha," said Ms. Phares.

She went on to say that "it would be the first valid opportunity to get the riverfront developed. Omaha's supposed to be River City, and I think it's great that we're going to put the river back in the city."

Jeff Howard



Mr. McMeen works patiently with a student. The head of Central's vocal music department for 20 years, he recently took Mrs. Richards' place as guidance counselor when she temporarily vacated the position to have a baby.

McMeen changes tune

Continued from page 1

that you're doing that's new, it will take awhile to get used to doing it."

Mr. McMeen agreed, saying, "Everything is a new process, but everyone has been really helpful. They allow me to ask questions and make mistakes."

Next year the counseling center hopes to add another counselor to their staff to accommodate the in-coming ninth graders.

"We hope that Mr. McMeen will be that counselor, but we are not sure just yet," said Dr. Moller.

Mr. McMeen would "take a permanent counseling job, if offered. I hope that taking this temporary position will indicate to the personnel department and the administration that I really am interested in counseling."

Mr. McMeen will be back in the music department when Mrs. Richards returns from maternity leave. "I enjoy (counseling)," Mr. McMeen said. "The change is good for me."

Mr. Terry Theis will act as music department head until Mrs. Richards returns. And Mrs. Hammer will take over Mr. Theis' position as assistant vocal music teacher.

Dr. Moller feels that Mr. McMeen will be just as successful as a counselor as he is as a music teacher.

Eagles 'check' opponents Chess team strong at state

Joël McCulloh

Chess...no one really knows how the game developed. Some believe it originated in Egypt because pieces similar to those of modern chess were found in Tutankhamen's tomb, while others believe that chess developed in India, 500 A.D.

Nonetheless, it is a game of incredible skill, strategy and concentration.

Such was the atmosphere in the gymnasium of Brownell-Talbot, rows of tables laden with chess boards filled the large area. Groups of people stood together, talking or playing practice games, nervously waiting for the 9:00 a.m. round to begin.

Suddenly, there was a mad rush to the far wall of the gymnasium; the pairing for the first round was posted, and the players went silently to their assigned boards to play the first game of five in the Nebraska State Chess Tournament.

.....Dominated top boards.....

Central High School's chess team dominated the top boards at the state tournament on February 27 and 28, and the team walked away with the state title for the second consecutive time.

New member, sophomore Niv Palgi, held on to his rank of first board the entire tournament and ended the five rounds with a score of 5-0.

But for some strange reason he did not

receive the individual title. The trophy went to Tirell, the top player from Bryan, who also was 5-0.

.....Questionable judgement.....

According to Mr. Dale Montgomery, mathematics teacher and chess coach, the decision of who was to be the champion was determined by a coin toss.

"I didn't see the actual toss, so I have no idea if that is what really happened," he said.

Despite some questionable judgement and pairings, Central still came out at the top as a team, allowing them to compete in the national chess tournament.

.....Anticipating national tournament.....

The national tournament will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico where, according to team members, Central will play their best. Senior Don Shennum, Central's only returning player, will be defending his title of co-champion class B at the national tournament.

Central anticipates taking six or seven members to the national tournament, depending on the overall cost, which could be up to \$100 for each individual.

Don feels that Central has a chance of placing in the top 20, but his attitude is more than just winning. "The idea of the national tournament is not to win," he said, "but to have fun."

Chess members who participated in the state tournament are Niv Palgi, Don Shennum, Eric Troy, Steve O'Hara, Joël McCulloh, John Holtorff, Mike Lawler, Rob Hill, and Joe Schlesselman.



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School-Based Health Clinics

Controversial health care provides contraception

Amy Buckingham

Each year for the past decade one million teenage girls in the United States have become pregnant. 500,000 of those young women become mothers. The others either have miscarriages or abortions.

With the rising number of teenage pregnancies and reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases in teens, school systems across the nation have begun to provide care for their students' sexual health.

The statistics on the effects of the clinics on pregnancy rates are not yet available.

The clinics, serving some 50,000 students, claim to have provided only about 28 percent of the students that visited the clinic with counseling concerning contraceptives.

However, personnel do not administer anything without a parent's consent.

Although some Americans think that SBCs are a good idea, many parent groups and local clergy have beaten down SBC proposals in

for School-Based Health Clinics Ms. Sharon Lovick says that "health care for school children does not stop at the waist."

In Omaha, like many other communities across the nation, SBCs are a "sensitive issue" according to Mrs. Betty Rundlet, supervisor of Omaha Public Schools' Health Services.

When the Task Force for Human Growth and Development was discussing the new sex education program that will be instituted next year, they decided that the public schools in Omaha did not need School-Based Health Clinics.

"You have to look at the needs of the community," said Mrs. Rundlet. "There are many good health facilities that are already accessible to students (in Omaha)." She refused to comment on the moral implications of dispensing contraceptives in high schools.

Kimm Reitz, Central High School senior, said, "Some communities (that have a high pregnancy rate) need School-Based Clinics. Omaha is not one of those communities."

Another group that is actively fighting the growing number of teenage pregnancies in the United States is Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

These federally-funded health clinics offer pregnancy counseling, birth control at a reduced price, pregnancy tests and educators trained to teach the community about pregnancy, birth control and venereal disease.

In 1985 Nebraska made up 4,123 of the teen pregnancies in the United States. Ms. Betsy Kimball, community educator with

Planned Parenthood, claims that the pregnancy rate is not going up, but that "more teens are electing to remain single."



"In the 1940's and 50's there were more teenagers getting pregnant (than there are now), but those teens got married. Teenage women today are not choosing marriage. Society, therefore, views this as a problem," said Ms. Kimball.

Planned Parenthood talks to many teens about pregnancy options such as

Millard and District 66 schools frequently ask Community Educators to come and talk to their students about various aspects of sexual health.

Mr. Trey DeLoach, assistant principal for curriculum and instruction at Millard North Senior High School, said that an elective course called Adult Living is the class in which sex and sexuality are discussed "among many other things."

"We frequently have people from different organizations representing different points of view come in and talk to our students to inform them rather than to indoctrinate them," he said.

Mr. DeLoach feels that SBCs are "highly unlikely in the Millard School District."

Schools all over the country are implementing sex education programs. But the newest wave in providing sexual health care is what administrators call School-Based Health Clinics or SBCs.

Schools all over the country are implementing sex education programs. But the newest wave in providing sexual health care is what administrators call School-Based Health Clinics or SBCs.

These on-site centers offer birth control pills, condoms and family planning counseling as part of a comprehensive health care clinic for adolescents.

Their staffs consist of a full-time nurse practitioner, social worker and a medical assistant, in addition to a part-time staff of physicians and a health educator.

SBCs appear all over the nation. The first SBC that offered family planning services started in Dallas in the mid-1970's.

More than 118 such clinics are now in operation; 23 opened in the past six months. Both New Jersey and Virginia plan to open a total of 31 clinics.

Boston, Miami and San Diego.

Opponents believe that only a comprehensive health care program that excludes any form of contraceptive dispersal and family planning counseling is acceptable.

Secretary of Education Mr. William Bennett does not believe that dispensing contraceptives in high schools is an effective way to diminish the number of



teenage pregnancies. He feels that to give teens contraceptives "is to throw up one's hands and say, 'We give up.'"

SBC advocate and director of the Support Center

Mr. DeLoach feels that dispersing contraceptives in schools is 'outside the school's responsibility.' 'The school is here to do many things, but dispensing contraceptives is not one of them.'

adoption, maintaining the pregnancy or terminating the pregnancy. They also discuss birth control methods which include abstinence and all forms of contraception.


Ms. Kimball also stressed that, while abortion is a pregnancy option, "Planned Parenthood does not present abortion as a method of birth control."

Some school systems invite Community Educators into the schools to talk about the various aspects of sexual health. OPS is not one of those school systems.

He also feels that dispensing contraceptives in schools is "outside the school's responsibility."

"The school is here to do many things," he said, "but dispensing contraceptives is not one of them."

Ms. Kimball hopes that with "more freedom to advertise condoms, with more freedom to inform teens about the dangers and consequences of sex and with an increase in public awareness, we will see a decrease in pregnancies outside of marriage and in teenage girls."



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Sax maniac's music 'an infatuation'

Justin Kerr

Among the myriad facets of jazz lies the realm of instantaneous improvisation, where a musician can create spontaneously on his instrument, using technical musical knowledge, pre-practiced patterns, imprinted harmonic devices and a touch of soul to captivate an audience.

Alphonso Guillory, Central High School senior, has become an important force in the music program at Central through his ability on the

saxophone and through, as Mr. Chuck McAdam, Central instrumental music instructor, said, "Alphonso's way of communicating with the audience."

Alphonso started playing the clarinet in the fifth grade, but quit, he said, "because it was too hard."

His father, a former professional musician, encouraged him to keep playing, and in sixth grade Alphonso rejoined his grade-school band.

"My father started pushing and helping me in sixth

grade, teaching me a little bit at a time," said Alphonso. "He really inspired me."

On the clarinet, Alphonso was basically playing classical, "legit" music. This changed in eighth grade, when he picked up a saxophone and "started to learn jazz," participating in the Lewis and Clark Junior High School stage band.

"I had never played jazz until then," he stated.

In his freshman and sophomore years, respectively at Lewis and Clark and Burke, Alphonso's talent started to show in the musical honors and awards he brought home.

"I won quite a few [awards]: Peru State's outstanding soloist and some contests at Hastings College and UNO," he said. He attributed these successes to the amount of practice he put in.

This infatuation with his instruments has continued. Now, Alphonso practices 'about six hours a day.'

"I'd start playing at 2:15 when I got home from school and wouldn't put the thing down until 9:00. If I couldn't sleep, I'd pick it up at around 10:00 and practice until midnight or 1:00."

In ninth grade, however, he eased his schedule, practicing "only" from the end of school until seven.

This infatuation with his instruments has continued. Now, Alphonso practices "about six hours a day," doing approximately half of that in school.

These long hours paid off for Alphonso in the Missouri

Regional Jazz Contest that the CHS Jazz Band attended on February 13.

According to Mr. McAdam, "Alphonso was awarded [the honor of being] the most outstanding soloist in the entire festival."

Alphonso was very surprised when he received the award. "Even when Buddy Baker [one of the judges] was describing my jazz career, I didn't realize he was talking about me," said Alphonso. "Anyone else in the band could've just as easily gotten the award," he added.

Mr. McAdam said, however, "I expected [he would get the award] after he had played his solo. He has to be probably one of the finest alto players that I've heard."

Alphonso said that he was "surprised and proud" of the band. Mr. McAdam added, "I would pit the Central Jazz Band against about any other band that came along."

Referring to style, Mr. McAdam said that "Alphonso patterns himself after a gentleman from several years ago named Johnny Hodges," and Alphonso agrees.

"He [Mr. Hodges] is a very emotional player, performing on his instrument like he's talking to you," said Alphonso. Mr. Hodges stems from the late '30s and '40s, Mr. McAdam stated. "It's an old style, a large sound and not real bright," he added.

Alphonso also participated in the Central High School Road Show this year, amazing the crowd with his virtuosity in the act, "Anthony's Blues."

Surprisingly enough, Alphonso does not plan to make a full-time career in music, planning just to play "off and on. I wouldn't want it to be a permanent job." He sees himself involved with business in the future, but "that may change."

In briefs

Students of the Month

National Honor Society's March students of the Month are Janelle Thomas, senior; Kelly Yancy, junior; and Mary Reuting, sophomore.

Decathlon

The Central High Academic Decathlon team won the state competition at UNO on February 20. They won by approximately 1800 points over second place South. The National competition is April 30, May 1 and May 2 at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.

Boys' and Girls' State

Central's delegates for Boys' and Girls' State, a week of governmental sessions on state and local levels at UNL, are juniors Wyndle Young, Scott Easton, Pallavi Kumar, and Pari Smart. Alternates are juniors Johnny Musselman, Andy Timm, Holly Stommes, and Michelle White.

String 'Stravaganza

On Saturday, March 5, Central participated in the second annual performance of String 'Stravaganza. This involved over 60 elementary, junior high and senior high schools and was held at Bryan High School.

French Convention

On Saturday, March 5, the French Convention was held at Benson High School. This included contests in art, poetry, College bowl, posters, banners, costumes, and music. First place winners were: John Miller, senior; Dan Dorneanu, sophomore; Jenny Schaeffer, junior; and Kiri Soares, sophomore. Team first places were in name tags, banner, and College bowl.

State Legislature

The Nebraska State Legislature adopted a resolution on February 26 commending Central High School students who participated in Road Show 1988, A Stage Odyssey.



Alphonso Guillory, senior, spends some of his six hour practice time improvising his own jazz tunes.

Teachers evaluated Central involved in new program

Ann Kay

"Did you do something wrong?" asked the student, when the teacher began a second day of evaluation.

Central High School has participated in a special evaluation program for three years.

According to Central High School principal Dr. G.E. Moller, before, and with most other schools, teacher evaluation involved little paper work.

In addition, the evaluator did not spend a great deal of time with the teacher who was being evaluated.

The new evaluation program involves three classroom visits of at least 30 minutes each, three classroom visits of five to ten minutes each, and an evaluation of each teacher every three years.

New teachers are evaluated every year for the first three years that they teach.

Each year, approximately 50 teachers are under evaluation. The evaluator is

required to announce two of the three visits. Conferences between the evaluator and the teacher are required before and after evaluation.

"The post-conference is when I need to fill out the final four-page report that goes to the personnel office," said Dr. Moller.

When comparing the new program to the program Central used in the past, Dr. Moller said that "as an evaluator, [I am] required to be in the classroom more this way, and that's good. It benefits the teacher and my understanding of what's going on in the class."

Mr. Jack Blanke, Social Studies Department head, evaluates about nine teachers in his department every year.

"I think this new program requires more paper work than the other," he said. "I visit a class twice, along with having an assistant principal and Dr. Moller [visit]."

Mr. Dan Daly, English department head, evaluated seven teachers this year. He explained that this new "Teacher Appraisal" program

involves a number of steps.

"We see the teachers more often and in different manners," Mr. Daly explained. The teacher under evaluation lists three teaching goals and three learning goals, then the teacher explains how they will achieve these goals, and through what methods.

With the new program, there are a number of required visits, forms, and conferences commented Mr. Daly. "The pre-evaluation conference may be unnecessary, but the post-conference is excellent."

What the evaluator looks for in an evaluation, according to Dr. Moller, is "knowledge of the subject matter, control of students and good classroom management techniques."

Other things the evaluator looks for are a good disciplinary atmosphere, effective teaching, a sense of humor, sensitivity to the students, student involvement and efficient use of time.

"Overall," concluded Mr. Daly, "the program is much better."

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All in all, it was a strange affair

Valentine's Day 1988. . . cold and miserable. A time in which all the AOR (commercial) radio stations refuse to play anything but refuse and most bands are boring and dull to the point of mind staggering stupidity.

But, wait! There's a break in the monotony.

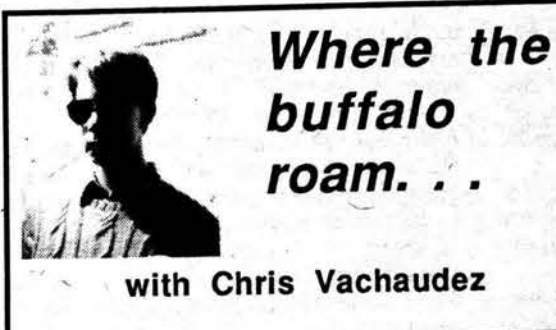
I speak of Guadalcanal Diary. "A little more meat and potatoes - a little less jangle," as Pat Patterson, Guadalcanal's guitar technician put it.

He's right, of course, and he put it rather well, to tell you the truth. What is called for is lots of guts and sound to go with the lyrics - and that's just what this Georgia band has got - in quantity.

Guadalcanal Diary does, however, have a few rather strange idiosyncrasies hidden underneath their strong stage performances - a little bit warped humor that even I have a certain amount of trouble finding the point in.

As they ended their national tour in Omaha on Valentine's Day, I got a chance to hear their concert and to interview them afterwards. All in all it was a strange affair - and a trifle mind bending - but ultimately constructive, I suppose. Now you have to dig deep, but there is something about them, in a silly sort of way, that really resembles moderate brain damage.

The band's dressing room - which I immediately established as my home base - that they were given at the Ranch Bowl (yes, a bowling



Where the buffalo roam. . .

with Chris Vachandez

alley) was, in essence, a nursery - complete with paintings on the wall of such Disney favorites as Bambi, the three pigs, Goofy, Pluto, etc., but none of that mattered - it just helped.

The big thing that you would notice and find amusing, if not bizarre, is their obsession with toys.

Their fascination with items such as black plastic bowling balls (which, ironically, was the theme for the evening) and little red fire engines was - for me anyway - genuinely interesting. What happens on the night of a show is that the crew members stash these little toys on top of amplifiers, inside drums, peering out over the beligerant crowd, or in other places that will amuse the band, keeping them interested so as they don't fall asleep on stage.

"The toys provide a distraction. It gives us

something to focus on when it gets too monotonous," was Murray Attaway's (guitar, lead singer) excuse.

Okay. I suppose that will work. I mean, you can't just very well fall asleep, now can you? No, no. Of course not.

Now that we have the obvious safely out of the way, we can get to the heart of the matter - which, naturally, hasn't made its way into the open, yet.

This sort of thing really worries me. There's always supposed to be a point to it all, isn't there? And there usually isn't one, right? Well there we are! This *must* mean something, or, perhaps not. Oh, no: better not get into that sort of thing - it could very well go on for pages of unintelligible slobber. Just ignore it; it's simply the little red devil of drain damage a knock-knock-knockin' at the door, again.

What I'm really supposed to do is impart some sort of wisdom to you on the general subject of music and, more specifically, on the topic of Guadalcanal Diary. However, that's impossible except to say that you should *definitely* steer clear of radio stations, and it wouldn't hurt to stock up on your own personal record/tape/CD collection. More specifically, I suggest investing in Guadalcanal Diary's new album, 2x4.

Why? No particular reason (actually I'm getting paid for all this garbage that you thought I actually enjoyed), suffice to say that I've got my reasons.

Acting career began at nine; talents, interest grew

Rob Glasser

"Oh, Master Thespian...."

"Brilliant!!"

"Thank you!"

These may be the words you would use should you happen into a conversation with Central High School senior Jennifer Gottschalk. You may remember Jennifer as Cha Cha in the last fall musical *Grease*.

A accomplished actor

Jennifer, at the tender age of seventeen, has accomplished herself as quite an actor ("actor" because she's played male roles). Her list of appearances is long and impressive, and her current endeavor will be her first professional appearance, starring as the Velveteen Rabbit in Margery Williams' *Velveteen Rabbit*, adapted to play form by James Still.

The Velveteen Rabbit differs from the other plays in which Jennifer has performed by the fact that she is being paid for her participation. Though she is not receiving great pay for her talents, she is still receiving recognition and will have another piece of experience to add to her repertoire.

Velveteen Rabbit

The show is being staged at the Upstairs Dinner theater every Saturday through April (it opens March fifth). She received the part in a rather peculiar way, not at all like the traditional audition.

"Belinda Acosta (the director), whom I acted with at Emmy Gifford, called me up and invited me to take the part," Jennifer said. She went on to say she was really excited about the part because she wanted to be in *Charlotte's Web*, another Emmy Gifford production, but missed the auditions. The *Velveteen Rabbit* would provide Jennifer with many new challenges and opportunities.

The cast of *The Velveteen Rabbit* is relatively young, ranging in age from ten to twenty-four, the majority



Shawn Coleman

Senior Jennifer Gottschalk practices walking with big feet at the Upstairs Dinner Theater where she stars in *The Velveteen Rabbit*.

being under twenty. However, this has not presented any problems because, according to Jennifer, "the cast gets along great."

Her only complaint of the play was that the set was too small and the costumes too big. This is understandable because her big, blue, bunny outfit could rival the "Incredible Hulk's" massive figure.

Acting becomes release

Jennifer also made a juxtaposition between herself and the play by saying "the story is about a toy becoming real; acting makes me real."

Jennifer's amateur career began with acting lessons at the Omaha

Community Playhouse when she was nine. After that, her interest and talents grew.

"I like acting because it gives me the chance to be someone else for a while," Jennifer said. "Acting is a release for me."

Jennifer appeared in her first play at fifteen when she was Wendy in the Emmy Gifford Theater's production of *Peter Pan*. "It was my favorite show. I was sorry when it was over," explained the reminiscing Jennifer.

After that, she had the pleasure of playing in *Pippin*, also an Emmy Gifford theater production, and dancing in both *Annie* and *Cinderella*. She can also boast of playing Cha Cha

in the Central fall musical *Grease*, and has performed in every fall musical since she first came to Central.

No stage fright

To some people, performing before a live audience sounds like good grounds for a heart attack (petrifying). To others it sounds like mass quantities of fun, but almost all of them would be a little fearful of something going wrong once they were on stage, should they ever be there.

Although Jennifer says she has not experienced stage fright in a long time, due to her many appearances on stage, things have gone wrong during her performance.

"One time during *Peter Pan*, I accidentally called 'Tinker Bell' 'Tiger Lily'"

(another character in the play), and in *Pippin*, I fell off a skateboard I had to ride," she said.

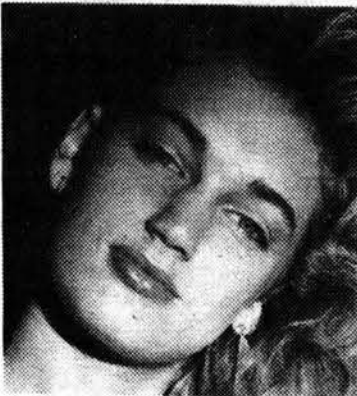
Jennifer is also a little nervous of someone "messing up their cue really bad" or, even worse, losing her voice in the middle of a show. "I'm more nervous at auditions than on stage," she said.

In the future Jennifer would like to act professionally, though she is very pessimistic of this happening, and, "no matter what," she will keep acting. "I plan to act for fun, but not as a vocation," she explained.

She is currently studying under James Larson, a published playwright who has had shows produced off Broadway. She will continue her studies of the theatrical arts in college, where she has hopes of being discovered.

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Explaining the unexplained: gravity - attacks

Oompadity mau

mau

with Rob Glasser

In this column I was going to voice an opinion on the PTL and its elite group of unorthodox leaders, but that would be unfair. That would be like attacking the any church for the misconduct of a few bad apples. Those guys have dug their own holes and crawled in. So, why should I bother throwing the dirt on them? They're doing a good enough job themselves. Complaining about the fallen televangelists would be flogging a dead horse.

Instead, I'm going to address a problem, a strange and light problem-possibly fictional, but it is still a problem...gravity.

Gravity can be a problem; the obvious problem would be lack of gravity. I'd say that's a worn-out subject because everyone knows what would happen; you would float. No gravity, no slam-dancing, it's as easy and horrifying as that.

Aye, here's the rub, here's the conflict (the problem), fluctuating gravity pulls. Have you ever noticed gravity increases and decreases according to what you're doing and how you feel. Case in point: you're sitting in a really comfortable chair. It's been a long day, and you can't get yourself up because gravity has increased ten-fold on your body.

right now. But the laugh is on them because it happens to them everyday, and even during their work day, and not one of them has taken the time to explore this phenomenon and win a (activate super divine like voice) NOBEL PRIZE. Nyuk, nyuk, nyuk.

Another example: you're sitting at your desk; you have been reading the text of *Morris' Travels Among The Agrarian Experts of Northern Idaho* for two hours, and you notice an increasing pull on your head, causing it to sink closer and closer to your chest. Tiredness? Well, that's a simple explanation, but the real cause is definitely something else. It is the result of a fluctuating gravity field. That's why some people are jerks. Increased gravity is pulling the essential blood away from their delicate gray matter, causing them to be nasty, grumpy, meatheads.

This guy was parking his car right behind my luxury mobile. Everything was looking good until I noticed his front bumper was practically inside my trunk. I said "Yo! Dude! Move your car so I can leave this afternoon." (And I had requested this in a serious and courteous manner).

He got out of his car. He walked towards me, and I noticed that his face was drooping down like a bulldog's. After I was finished screaming (with fear), I could see that he was in a gravitational deathgrip, and it was only a matter of time before he would be crushed, pulverized by the weight of many additional atmospheres..

His brain must have been completely starved of oxygen, and his etiquette was non-existent, for he walked up to me and released a thundering and sour belch right in my smiling face. Baaaad gravity man.

When is gravity strongest? That is easy. Gravity is at its strongest level of, uh..."gravitiness" in the morning. You stick to your bed; your head sticks to your pillow; your face sticks to the walls in the shower; you really feel like you're fighting about seven G's. More evidence? Alright, I have "loafs" of evidence.

When you fall asleep on your desk, does your bottom lip stretch all the way to the table surface? Does a fine line of slobber attach itself to the desk top from your drooping bottom lip? That is high power gravity acting on your face. For years people thought it was simple relaxation, but no it is the result of maxi-flucts-gravity.

Another fascinating aspect of traveling gravity fields is roving gravity whirlpools. These are unique since they only strike people who have consumed a fair amount of alcohol. Maybe you've seen this happen: a person (a grown-up person) has had a sufficient quantity of alcohol, leaves the party, and becomes the victim of these malicious vortexes.

They reel, they swerve, they stumble, they do strange dances, they make weird noises, they scream for help, they clutch at the air in hopes of finding a skyhook, in essence they do a lot of bizarre stuff. It's enjoyable to watch, but it's dangerous to try...experts only, avoid at all costs.

Pet owners, you should notice this phenomenon more than anyone else. Have you ever noticed dogs, cats, and other creatures walk into a room and flop down to the ground, not moving for another two hours? This is a gravity attack!

Yes, I have attempted to explain the unexplained, even though I will probably be ignored. I don't care (violin music nnnnow!) because I have seen the truth.

Central students campaign for office-seekers



Is it a battle of the sexes? No! It is the Young Republicans, left, and the Omaha Area Young Democrats, right, preparing to campaign for their parties' office-seekers. From left to right are Andy Carlson, Jim Kemp, John Musselman, Vicki Rabiola, Jenny Hendricks and Tracy Frame.

Emily Rasmuss

As election year charges and promises fill the air, many Central High School students are getting involved in politics.

High school Republican and Democratic clubs discuss issues, campaign for selected candidates, and encourage political involvement for future voters.

Central seniors Andy Carlson and Tracy Frame are leaders of two such clubs.

Andy recently started a high school Republican group. He tried to start a club last year, he said, but found that a teacher, because of Omaha Public School policy, could not sponsor such a club at school.

"The main concern is equal

time [for all political parties or all candidates]," said Mr. Jack Blanke, Central Social Studies Department chairman. He said OPS policy is very strict.

Andy has started meeting with a small group outside of school. They are looking into a national organization of Teenage Republicans but may not become affiliated with a larger organization.

The national organization includes levels for Teenage Republicans, College Republicans, and people just out of college, or Young Republicans. Bayard Closser is the state chairman of the Young Republicans. Bayard said that he is "not aware of any Teenage Republicans groups in Omaha, but there are a couple in

Nebraska."

Tracy is the president of the Omaha Area Young Democrats.

"Originally, it was the Omaha Young Democrats taken from the old Omaha High School charter [and was] about 95 percent Central students," Tracy said. Recently, the group has changed to include the Omaha area.

The Omaha Area Young Democrats is part of a national organization that branches into state, district and city chapters.

"Members can be 14 years old to 34 years old. The national president is about 32, but in Nebraska, most members are not over 25," Tracy said.

The High School Republicans and Omaha Area Democrats are

currently campaigning for congressional office-seekers.

"We are going to try to get some Nebraska Republicans in Congress," Andy said. Andy's club is campaigning for Jerry Schenken, a second district candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Young Democrats are working to elect Bob Kerrey to the U.S. Senate. "After the primaries, we're automatically committed to all [elected Democratic] candidates," Tracy said.

These high school students believe that political activity is important.

According to Andy, it's good to be politically active "to make sure our representatives are doing what's right for our country and the world."



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Behind the scenes

Projection: a new view of movies

Renee Besancon

In many movie theaters, there sometimes seems to be more action in the two seats three rows back than anywhere else in the room.

However, the average movie-goer is unaware of the behind the scenes activity that takes place at a movie theater. This is the world of two of the AMC Westroads Theater managers Mr. Gary Sherman and Mr. Randy Behmer and projectionist Mr. Don Plott.

According to Mr. Behmer, American Multi Cinema, whose home office is in Kansas City, Missouri, owns the theater. AMC is the second largest movie exhibitor in the world with theaters "all over the U.S., England, and Australia," he said.

'Usually about 70% [of the film's revenue] goes to the film company.'

He explained that his job is to "manage the operations of the movie theater." The general manager oversees the three managers, each of whom takes care of a different facet of the business: the concession stand, the box office, or the ushers.

"We have a projectionist; he's responsible for the build-up and tear-down of the films. And when he's not here, the managers are responsible," Mr. Behmer said.

Mr. Behmer explained how a theater gets the movies



Tess Fogarty

AMC manager, Mr. Randy Behmer, discusses the process of projection in the booth of the Westroads theater. The large platters of the projection machine can be seen feeding footage to the "brain."

that play. The theater's film buyer works out of Los Angeles, California, for the Omaha area. He bids on, buys, rents, or sets up contracts for films and "makes sure they don't have one movie showing here and (the same one) right down the road."

And the film buyer does not book films for the Westroads theater alone. Said Mr. Sherman, "He might book as many as 20 theaters."

On average, the theater pays 30 to 90 percent of the money that it takes in at

the box office back to the film company. "Usually about 70 percent [of a film's revenue] goes to the film company," said Mr. Sherman. "The longer [a film] runs, the less rental we have to pay."

Mr. Plott, the projectionist at AMC, is the man behind the scenes who receives the films when they come. "They come from the Omaha Film Depot for all theaters in this area-Nebraska and Des Moines."

"The shows are made up from the lab at the Film

Depot, put on 2,000-foot reels, shipped out and put in the respective theaters where they're booked," he said.

The films are finally broken down and connected on one big "platter." Each platter "usually consists of six or seven reels or 13,500 to 14,000 feet of film," said Mr. Plott.

In the projection room, the platters are stacked horizontally, and Mr. Plott threads the film from one platter [the pay-out platter] through a "brain" which is a

device that takes the film off of the platter at the same rate of speed at which it goes through the projector.

According to Mr. Plott, the film runs at a rate of 90 feet per minute or 24 frames per second.

From the "brain," he threads the film into the projector and out onto a second platter. He never has to rewind the film because he can take it from the center of one platter and wind it onto the center of the other, which acts as a take-up reel.

'Break downs are few...film breakage occurs very seldom anymore.'

"Break-downs are few and far between; film breakage occurs very seldom anymore," he said. This, according to Mr. Plott, is due to the fact that the entire system is completely automated.

Mr. Plott has worked at the theater since 1969 and has been a projectionist since 1939. With such a lengthy background, he reminisces about the past when the movies were "really strict with the things [actors] could say."

Although his hours are bad, he said, "I enjoy coming around here; I have a lot of fun. If I got away from this, I'd miss it."

And the American movie-goers, he feels, would miss a major form of recreation if he and others like him were not behind the scenes to make sure the shows run smoothly.

'The good ole days' A bite from the past

Joel McCulloh

Back in the days of the Big Bopper and Wolfman Jack, teens hung out at local eating establishments. I'm sure you've seen them in movies and television, the sort of "greasy spoon" type places with a definite atmosphere. Big booths for large groups or intimate sessions of "sucking face," black and white-checked floors, juke boxes, a cook named Joe, and the waitress named Vera.

Yep, those were the "good ole days." Ever wish you lived in them?

Well, return to the days of your parents. How? Grab a friend and "do lunch" at The Diner, one of those quaint out-of-the-way places that has caught those "good ole days" and frozen them.

The Diner, located in the Old Market on 12th and Harney, has it all. The big booths, juke box, a black and white-checked floor and also a few very interesting

customers from time to time can make for a very entertaining meal.

So how's the food? Whoa boy, be prepared for this. It's great! We aren't talking gourmet chefs who studied in Paris, I mean down-to-Earth good food and at a reasonable price.

Restaurant Review

A big beefy burger, fries, and a Coke will run you about four bucks, including tip and quarters for the juke box. No other place in Omaha is so original or fun.

If you enjoy eating, talking, and possibly rubbing shoulders with some out-of-the-ordinary clientele, stop by The Diner sometime for lunch or maybe after school with some of the guys and a listen to tunes of the past while drinking a pistol hot cup of "jo."

Roman Polanski was out to lunch

Joël McCulloh

Harrison Ford, well known as Han Solo, Indiana Jones, and myriads of other individuals, can also be labeled as family man, faithful hubby and vigilante, much thanks to the new movie *Frantic*.

Ford and Polanski

Ford stars in the film, directed by Roman Polanski, along with Emmanuelle Seigner, a new face to the world of cinema. Seigner plays the role of a sleazy Parisian who is forced to help Ford try and find his wife, who mysteriously disappeared from their motel room in the heart of Paris.

The impression that

Register Review

Ford and Seigner make is incredible. Each accents the other's fine acting talents and portrays the life of their characters.

No chemistry

The only problem is the script takes the chemistry the two cook up and throws it out the window. Poof, the whole audience is disappointed.

After so many box office hits, Harrison Ford finally got the bomb, except it wasn't his fault.

Feed your dog

I think Polanski was out to lunch for a third of the filming. There it is; go out to lunch, feed your dog, play with "Shrinky-Dinks," but please do not go to *Frantic*.

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Determination overcomes student's heart problem

Johnny Musselman

"It is usually hard enough to be competitive and excel in athletics without having a heart problem.

Brian Lee, Central High School junior, has had to battle a heart deficiency since he was born. When he was very young, Brian underwent severe testing related to his abnormal heart. His doctors then decided to perform open heart surgery when Brian was five years old.

The surgery obviously forced Brian to limit his physical and sporting activities. "I really worried about him because he always wanted to play sports," said Brian's mother, Mrs. Ruthie Lee. "We didn't want him to play anything."

Lee's doctors did set limits on what he could do. When he was young, he could not do many physical activities. Mrs. Lee said that she felt better when the doctor limited his activities.

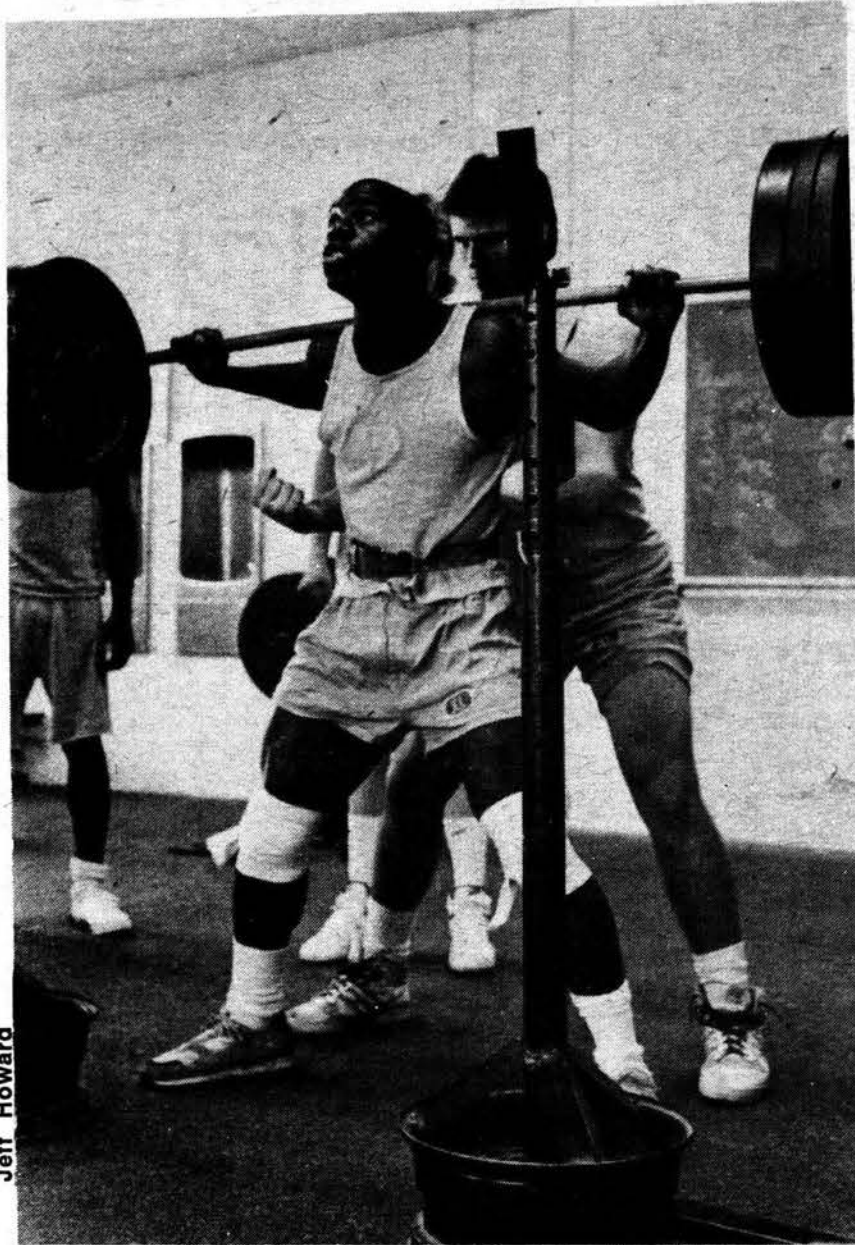
Brian, however, did not share the same feelings about his condition with his parents and doctors. "I always wanted to play football, and I couldn't," said Brian. "I eventually got over it, though."

During this time of battling doctor's orders and worrying parents, Brian received a lot of support from his immediate family. "My family took turns staying at the hospital overnight with me," he said.

When Brian was twelve, his doctors decided to put a pacemaker in him to keep his heart pumping correctly. "They told me I couldn't play any contact sports, like hockey and football," said Brian. Not only does Brian's pacemaker require a new battery every five years, but he must go in every year for an extensive check of his heart and must go to the hospital every three months for a twenty-four hour cardiograph.

This cardiograph, which has become second nature to Brian, records his heart's activity for twenty-four hours to make sure that his heart is not skipping a beat.

Brian has learned to battle his heart problem and become active in sports. Brian was in weight training last year and is this



Jeff Howard

Brian Lee, junior, trains for the state powerlifting meet in Central's weight room. Lee is also on the Eagles' track team, despite the fact that he has a pacemaker to regulate his heart's pumping.

year also. If weight training teacher, Mr. Joe McMennamin had not learned of Brian's heart problem from Brian's brother Terry, he would never have known. "He never brought up his heart condition and he never asked for any special favors," said Mr. McMennamin.

At first, Mr. McMennamin was "real cautious and real concerned with Brian's ability to withstand the physical stress of running and weight training." In time however, McMennamin realized that Brian did not want any special attention and recognized him as an "ideal worker." Coach McMennamin feels that Brian's "goal-oriented and dedicated personality" has led to his athletic success.

Brian also played sophomore basketball, and he ran track last year. His mother attributes Brian's activity in athletics to the fact that he has two brothers who ran track and one that played basketball. "He wants to do what they can do because he doesn't feel like he is handicapped," said Mrs. Lee.

Regarding Brian's future, Mr. McMennamin thinks that "his future looks bright, and I'm sure he can do anything he wants to do."

Mrs. Lee agrees that Brian has a "bright" future. She said that he has expressed some interest in becoming a doctor. "Maybe his problem has caused him to want to go into medicine," said Mrs. Lee.

Brian wants to continue his constant battle with his heart. He feels that the running and weight lifting he has done have strengthened and conditioned his heart. He is feeling very confident with his condition and "hopes one day to play football," which has been a desire for Brian since he was young.

Brian's strength and determination have allowed him to deal with his heart problem and meet goals that he has set. His determination often allows him to forget about his heart, and he said that he "frequently forgets it's there."

His will to succeed has obviously arisen from his heart problem, and "he has the potential to do whatever he wants," said his mother.

Young wrestlers gain experience, have 'outstanding season'

Lance Grush

Head wrestling coach Mr. Gary Kubik is very pleased with the past season's results. "I'm extremely happy and proud of our wrestlers this year," said Kubik.

"I think it was an outstanding season," he added. "The majority of the wrestlers worked really hard and were really dedicated."

The team was one of the youngest Coach Kubik has ever coached. "We had about eight sophomores on the team and three of them qualified for state," said Kubik.

He said it was the first time to his knowledge Central ever qualified that many sophomores.

"I feel the team as a whole had a good season," said Mike Warner, senior. Warner broke his collar bone in the second meet of the season. He barely recovered in time for districts.

"I was back about a week or so before districts," said Warner. He failed to qualify for state at districts. "I think I was a little out of shape," said Warner. "I couldn't condition very well while I was recovering."

Tyrone Turner, one of the sophomores who qualified for state, feels that the team made big strides this year. "We started kind of low but we ended up qualifying seven for state," said Turner.

Turner said he did not

expect to qualify for state as a sophomore. "I didn't expect that at all," he said. "After I made it I was very excited, I could hardly believe it."

The Eagles qualified seven total players for state which was the most ever by a Central wrestling team.

The team had some tough breaks, losing five consecutive one point matches at state. "We wrestled well," said Mr. Kubik. "When you lose a one point match you could have very well won the match."

Junior Dominic Phillips was the only wrestler on the team that placed at state. He finished with a sixth place ranking in the 119 pound weight class. Phillips was overall satisfied with his season.

"It was all right," said Phillips. "I probably would have been better if I could have started at the beginning of the year." Phillips was not eligible to participate during the first semester because it was his first semester at Central.

A rule states that a player must complete one semester of work before being eligible to participate in athletics.

Phillips won his weight division at districts to qualify for the state tournament. "I beat the number two guy in the state," commented Phillips. "We're pretty even but I was able to pull off the upset."

District competition was Phillips' first varsity tournament. After winning at districts he took a 3 - 0 record

into state. Phillips pinned his first opponent and won a decision over his second opponent that sent him to the semifinals.

"It was the semifinals that messed me up," said Phillips. "The referee's call should have been judged another way," he added. "I should've been in the finals."

Coach Kubik said that

the experience gained from going to state is very valuable to the wrestlers even if they don't place high. He said that next year "every one of them will be able to set their goals a little higher."

Mr. Kubik added that now the wrestlers "know what it takes (to get to state)."

Coach Kubik and the team have high hopes for next

season. "We have a pretty good bunch of juniors (to be seniors), a real good bunch of sophomores, and two really good heavyweights coming back next year," said Kubik. "The weakness of our team will again be in the lighter weights."

He said that it's like a lot of other things in life, "once you've been there it doesn't seem so unreachable."

TEENAGE PREGNANCY: WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?



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Remember the "good old days"? When the responsibility seemed to be all hers? Family planning was her job. Contraception was her worry. If she got pregnant unintentionally, she was "in trouble." Not him.

But somewhere between then and now, things changed.

Today, individuals aren't locked into "for women only/for men only" roles anymore. People have a lot more flexibility than ever before.

That goes for sexual relationships, too. Today's couples are partners, sharing what used to be "her" burdens, what used to be "his" obligations. They know that enjoying freedom from stereotyping means accepting a wider range of responsibilities.

That's why men who really care are sharing responsibility for the prevention of unwanted pregnancy.

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Calgary games leave bittersweet memories, high hopes for Seoul



Over
time

with Lance Grush

As the Winter Olympics came to a close on Sunday, February 28, I was left with sort of bittersweet memories about the games.

Boitano wins gold

The spirit and excitement of the games came to the United States when Brian Boitano won the first gold medal for our country. His performance brought back memories from 1984 when Scott Hamilton captured the gold in men's figure skating at the games in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

Then Bonnie Blair, who won the gold in the women's 500-meter speed skating race, seemed to capture the heart of America even more.

Blair, a twenty-three-

year-old from Champaign (Illinois), was a typical example of a hard working, typical American girl who had a dream and worked until she fulfilled that dream.

Blair's entire family was going wild after she defied the odds and broke the world record that was set only minutes earlier. You could feel the whole nation celebrating with them, as the U.S. had won only its fourth medal of the games.

Little to celebrate

Apart from Boitano's and Blair's performances, there was little in the winter games for the United States to shout about. In fact Calgary brought the American team the fewest medals it has had since 1932 (when they won only four medals).

The number of misfortunes the U.S.A. team suffered during the winter games was almost unbelievable.

Jansen falls twice

Dan Jansen, a favorite to win two medals in speed skating, found out his younger sister had died of cancer on the day of his first event (the 500 meter race). Jansen was skating a great race before he fell.

Then two days later, in the 1000-meter race, Jansen was on world record pace and on his way to a gold medal when he fell again, destroying all hopes of a medal at Calgary.

Another low point

Next to Jansen's story, the lowest point of the games for America was after Debi Thomas' long performance in figure skating. When Thomas had her first near-fall in her performance, I knew the gold had slipped away, and then, as I watched her second and third miscues, I knew the silver might be endangered.

Which it indeed was, as Thomas had to settle for the bronze. Never before did a bronze medal seem so insignificant. It seemed like a crime that the best (or second best) skater in the world had to settle for the bronze.

Last olympics

As she walked off the ice and I saw her saying to her coach, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry," my heart really went out to her. What made it even sadder was knowing this was her last olympics (although she's only 20), because she is heading into medical school.

The pressure and burden that she must have felt walking out onto the ice must

have been incredible, since only minutes earlier East Germany's Katarina Witt had a flawless performance (although less than spectacular).

Witt seemed to do only a performance that was good enough to hold on to the gold medal, since the judges had shown two nights before she would receive higher marks than Thomas with virtually equal (in difficulty and artistically) performances.

Kadavy gets flu

Another terrible occurrence was when Caryn Kadavy came down with the flu and was unable to perform in the long freestyle performance in women's figure skating. Fortunately, she wasn't really in medal contention and will be able to participate in the 1992 Winter Olympics.

On the last day of competition, the four-man bobsled event's final runs summed up how the olympics went for the U.S.A.

The number one American bobsled team appeared to be on their way to a bronze medal. The team had to wait at the bottom of the track and watch the remaining teams attempt to knock them out of third place.

With only one team left, the Soviet Union's top

team (who else?), the Americans were crossing their fingers and praying that they wouldn't be beaten. As the nation watched the Soviets come down the track, it was obviously going to be very close as they neared the finish.

Hundredth of a second

Then I sat there, stunned, as I saw the final time displayed on the screen. The Soviets had won by one-hundredth of a second! ONE-HUNDREDTH of a second! I was irate, and so was the bobsled team. That had to be one of the hardest losses of the games in any event.

The Soviets were as strong as ever at Calgary, finishing with twenty-nine medals to our six. But there will be an entirely different conclusion to the Summer Olympics in South Korea.

Summer games coming

Now the country waits patiently for the moment our basketball teams, volleyball teams, swimming team, gymnastics team, track and field team, boxing team, and other olympians begin competition in the summer games.

And to all those Soviet olympians, we'll see you in Seoul!

'Improvement' seen during Lady Eagles' basketball season

Lance Grush

The thing a coach looks for most in a season is "improvement," according to Central High School head girls' basketball coach Mr. Don Knauss.

"We certainly got that [this year]," said Knauss. "We were terrible free-throw shooters at the beginning of the year." Coach Knauss said the team really pulled together and played well at the end of the year, which resulted in the team's eight-game winning streak.

Mallery Ivy:
'I felt I had to do a lot better since it was my senior year.'

Mr. Knauss said that the team could have won a few more games if they had been able to pull together sooner. "I would much rather have us win at the end of the season and see improvement than start out winning and then get worse," he added.

Tamira Anderson, a sophomore who started most games, was a little

disappointed with the team's season. "I think we could have done a little bit better than we did," said Anderson. "We made a lot of mistakes that we shouldn't have made."

Mallery Ivy, senior, said that the team made a good comeback at the end of the year after a slow start. "We didn't play too well at the beginning of the year because we had a young team," said Ivy. "Once we got started, we got a lot better."

Coach Knauss said that the team had some outstanding individual statistics this year. Johnetta Haynes, senior, averaged 17.6 points a game to lead the team. Ivy averaged 13 points a game and shot 68.9 percent from the free-throw line.

Ivy said she was kind of surprised by her season. "I didn't expect to do that well," she said. "I felt I had to do a lot better [than last year] since it was my senior year."

Ivy added that she had to play up to her ability because a lot of the sophomores and juniors were looking up to her.

Anderson, the team's center, averaged a little over ten rebounds a game. Anderson said she never expected to make varsity her sophomore year. "I was so nervous at the beginning of the season," she said. "I couldn't believe I was playing with the varsity."

Mr. Knauss feels pretty good about next season. "We have some big shoes to fill," he said. The team loses its top two scorers from this year's squad.

"One thing that is pleasing is that we have some really good attitudes [among the returning players]," said Coach Knauss. "I think we will come along all right."

Tamira Anderson:
'We'll have a lot of talent on our team.'

He feels that the team should be able to "at least match this year's performance."

Anderson also feels the team can do just as well next year. "We'll have a lot of talent on our team," she commented.

Knauss feels the addition of freshmen in the school will help the team. "A lot of girls come into high school with absolutely no fundamentals," he said.

Coach Knauss added that they'll be able to help the girls mature and "teach them our type of defense. It can do nothing but help."



Senior Johnetta Haynes scores two of her nine points against Papillion in the Lady Eagles district game. The Monarchs defeated Central by two points eliminating their hopes of making state.

Register addition:

The following items were not included in the page one "Art students 'bring home the gold'" story in the February 19 issue of the Register.

Jennifer Roast received a Gold Key for pottery, and the Saint Mary's Award for the Best of Show Three-Dimensional Piece. This is the second year in a row that Central took the award according to Mr. Larry Hausman, art instructor. Four more Honorable Mentions went to Central students in pottery.

Tess Fogarty, senior, won a gold key for her portfolio in photography. She additionally won two Gold Keys and one Honorable Mention. Michelle Winther, junior, received three Gold Keys for her photography work.

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Runners participate in Junior Olympics

Bridget Buckley

Olympics...this word to many is a dream that may never come true. For thirteen members of the Central High School track team, it became reality in a way (well, almost).

They participated in the Third Annual AAU/USA Junior Olympic Indoor Championship for Track and Field.

Junior Olympics, that is not the Olympics, you say? On the contrary... When over five hundred athletes from all over the country gather in one small town to participate in an athletic contest, it is.

Athletes came from California, New York, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Michigan, and a many other states.

According to Mr. Joe McMenamin, head track coach, they first participated in this meet as an incentive to work hard in the winter conditioning program.

'It's nice to have something to work for. It's a reward.'

"It is nice to have something to work for," said McMenamin, "it is a reward for hard work."

To enter, the participants must be in either middle (junior high) or high school and meet at least one of the other three minimum requirements.

These requirements are: 1) Placed first, second, or third in a 1987 AAU Junior Olympic Association meet or competed in a 1988 AAU Junior Olympic meet at a level above the Association meet, 2) Placed in the top five in their state high school 1987 track meet or at the highest level available in middle school or junior high school competition and 3) Met the qualifying standards during 1987 and 1988.

Central's participants met standards to qualify for the meet in track meets from last year.

Runners that represented Central

and their events were: seniors Heather Jones, 60 yard high hurdles; April Morris, shot put; Carla Dailey, shot put and 60 yard dash; Tommy Smith, triple jump and 60 yard high hurdles; and David Chambers, 60 and 300 yard races.

Junior competitors were: Beth Lucas, 1000 yard and the mile; Marcie Reed, 300 and 600 yard races; Abe Hoskins, 300 and 600 yard races; Kelly Yancy, 60 yard; Brian Lee, 60 yard; Lester Ridley, 60 and 300 yard. The two sophomore team members were Angela Green, 300 and 600 yard and Doug Roper, shot put.

"(The meet) shows where the runner is in an event. Whether won or not it shows what the runner will do for the outdoor season," said McMenamin.

"I can see where I am and what I can work on for the outdoor season," said Tommy Smith.

"It is a good meet indoors. It helps the team prepare for the outdoor season," Heather Jones commented.

"I was pleased with the results of the competition. We did outstanding, and it is super to have received medals," said McMenamin.

The Central team won two medals in the meet. Heather Jones received the silver medal in the sixty yard high hurdles, and April Morris won the bronze in the shot put.

Along with these two medals, the team also finished with five fourth-place standings. Beth Lucas earned fourth place in both the 1000 yard and the mile races, Tommy Smith in the 60 yard high hurdles.

Kelly Yancy placed fourth in the 60 yard dash, and Doug Roper did the same in the shot put.

One major upset did occur in the games. Angie Green was leading her race by about 10 yards, but she tripped and fell in front of the finish line, losing the race.

McMenamin summed up his belief that the Junior Olympics are important for the track team. "This meet is a good nucleus for the team to build on," he said.



Laura Grillo

Heather Jones, senior, practices hurdles in preparation for the AAU/USA Junior Olympic Indoor Championship for Track and Field. The Central team came home from Kansas with two medals.

Sharp shooters hit @ bullseye

Chris Vachaudes

In the academic year of 1987-88, it seems kind of strange that the only varsity team to actually beat Benson was Central High School's own Rifle Team.

Not only did they beat Benson - who ended up dead last in their conference - but they beat just about everyone else on their way to the City League championship with a record of 6-0.

"This was the best year in a long time. A long time," were the comments of Sergeant William Middleton, ROTC professor and Rifle Team sponsor.

Indeed, it was a triumphant season for the whole team, starting with a win in the OPS meet, a third place finish in the Creighton Invitational behind Northwest and Burke, and ending in a rolling victory in the City League championships.

Despite the fact that the whole season held nothing lower than a third place finish in any competition, the champion squad still had some ups and downs. As Central's Sgt. Middleton said, "Sometimes we had some down times, but when the going got tough against tough teams, we got better."

Looking ahead to the 1988-89 season, Sgt. Middleton pointed out that since there were no seniors on this year's team, all of the team's current lettermen (and letterwomen) will hopefully be returning.

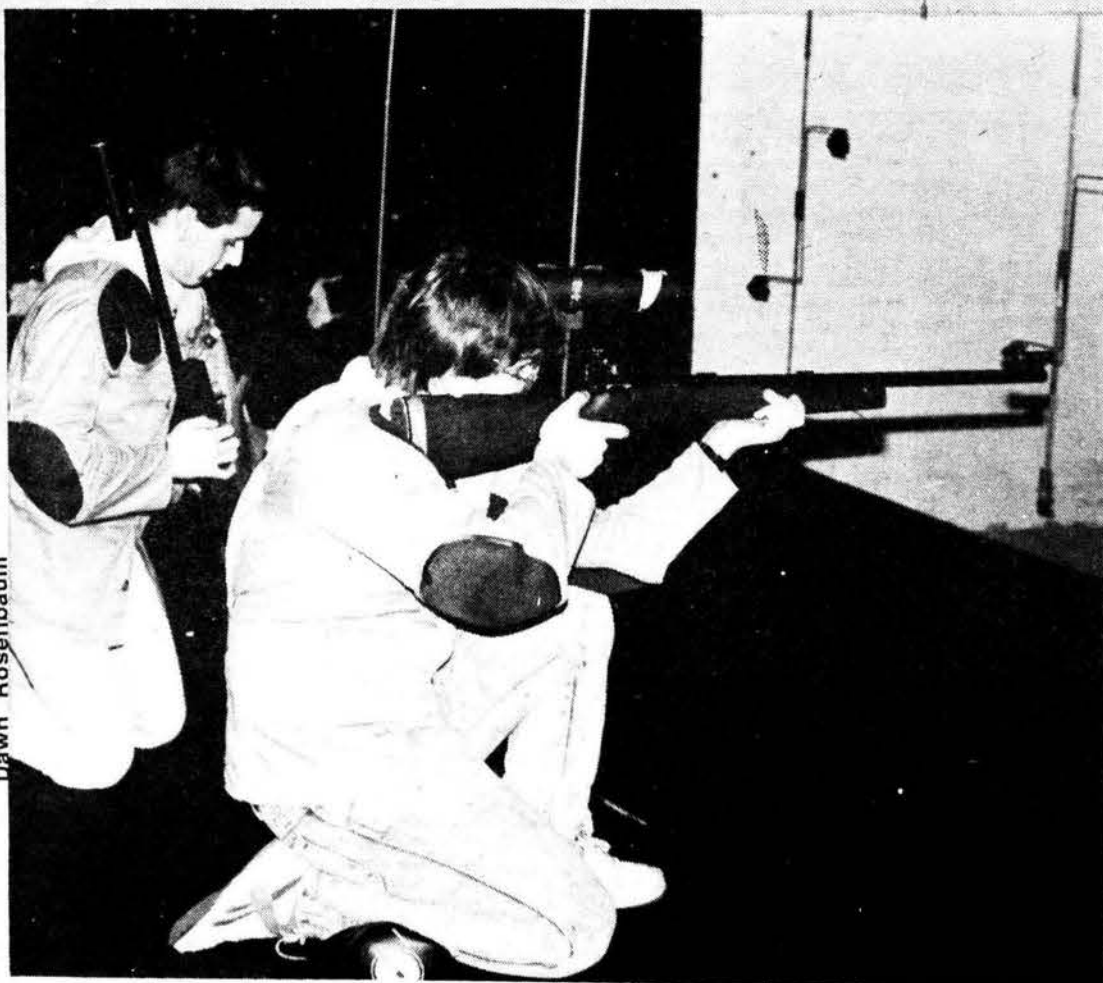
As a result of this combination of championship talent and elements of experience and poise, next year's team promises to have at least the same fine quality as this year's.

Of the returning team members, stand-out junior Tom Lehmann is perhaps the finest shooter on the team. Lehmann's sharp-shooting has played and will play a key role in the team and, hopefully, provide leadership to the already strong Rifle Team.

Central's Rifle Team, which is a varsity letter sport, is open to all students, ROTC and non-ROTC. Apparently all that is necessary is the ability to shoot straight and the desire to propel .22 caliber slugs (at high velocity) towards the respective target.

In competition, the Rifle Team shoots three different events: prone (or lying flat), on one knee and standing.

There is a maximum of 100 points for each event, ten targets with points ranging from one to ten. These three events are then added together for a maximum possible point total of 300.



Juniors Chris Crumbilss and Kevin Wise take practice shots to prepare for competition. The Central High Rifle team had a winning season with the credit going to experience, talent, and poise.