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Central High School  
124 N. 20th St.  
Omaha, NE 68102  
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# REGISTER

O'Neal, Hammans crowned

## 'Enchantment Under Sea' lures 500 upperclassmen

— Karen Lee  
— Chris Chapman

Over 500 people attended Central's spring prom on Saturday, May 6. The dance, sponsored by the student council, was themed Enchantment Under the Sea.

"I liked the decorations," said senior Stephan Dietrich. He said the colors of ocean blue, the wave-like streamers above the dance floor, the sand and seashells on the tables, and the multitude of colorful fish suspended from the ceiling, captured the theme "quite well."

The Student council spent about \$2,000 on decorations and worked most of the week before prom, including Friday night until 10:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 to 1 a.m., setting up the courtyard for the dance.

The DJ Company supplied music for this year's prom. Sophomore Jennifer Voorhees liked the DJ, saying, "He tried to play a variety. It was great music to dance to." But some felt as senior Beth Lucas, who stated, "I wish he would have played more classics."

Robbie Hudson, junior, had different complaints about

the prom music. "To be truthfully honest, the black music that was played was top 40 music, not the kind that we like." "If they would have had a band," Robbie added, "I think it would have been worse."

Seniors Lamar O'Neal and Meredith Hammans were chosen prom king and queen. Other royalty were seniors Rebecca Barnes, Rod Bennar, Cindy Carpenter, Chris Gatzemeyer, Andy Huff, Simon Joyner, Joanna Kosowsky, and Marcie Reed.

"I didn't think I'd get it," said Meredith, "but it just totally tops your senior year."

She said that she was glad that the other crown went to Lamar. "Lamar was the only one I didn't know, so I was really excited," she said.

Junior Barb Ivis, Student Council member, said that the Council will probably keep the same format for prom next year - upperclassmen only, located in the courtyard, and probably a DJ for music.

"Overall," said junior Duane Ludwig, "I feel that the student council did a great job in organizing a very enchanting evening under the sea."



Michele Winther

Dancin' the night away, Prom King Lamar O'Neal and Queen Meredith Hammans enjoy a dance after the announcement of the winners. Prom attracted approximately 500 Central students to the courtyard on May 6. "Enchantment Under the Sea" was the theme and decorations included streamers, an underwater castle, and a mermaid-bedecked stage. Entertainment was provided by the DJ company.

Rob Hill captures first place in national division

## Decathlon team captures third at Nationals

— Kate Leuschen

Piles of note cards, torn photocopies of World Book articles, mangled magazines, and strewn bodies in rapid decay—remnants of the final day of competition at the United States Academic Decathlon (USAD) in Providence, Rhode Island. Nebraska's representative for the sixth year in a row, Central High, took third with 42,980 points, their highest ranking ever.

The four-day competition began on April 29 with the first two events, speech and interview, given at the downtown Marriott where teams stayed.

Teams from 38 states and two foreign countries, Northern Ireland and Brazil, participated.

Mrs. Marlene Bernstein, English teacher and coach, said that "a mutual respect between adults and students" existed that she had not seen in previous competitions. "I think the adults were just in awe." She

added that the competition was very well run.

Senior Mike Lawler said he had been studying between two and four hours a night since March in preparation.

**"We had to work for the team . . . ; whatever we got for ourselves was added bonus"**

Though each member had individual goals, according to senior Steve Dare, "We had to work for the team not for ourselves; whatever we got for ourselves was just an added bonus."

According to Mrs. Bernstein, the team decided after regionals to work seriously for a high national ranking. "Its strength is in the fact that it has members that know the material

and share it with others, even when they could be working for themselves on their own medals."

Mike and senior Rob Hill typed out notes and lectured team members over this year's topics, which included: Social Science, geography and cultural geography; Fine Arts, the Impressionists; Economics, the relationship between capitalism and socialism; Mathematics; Language and Literature, American poetry and short stories; And Science, lasers and communication.

Numerous Central teachers also lectured the twelve members (nine members and three alternates) over specific topics.

At 7:15 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, teams boarded buses for the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) which hosted the six tests, essay, and super quiz.

After individual testing, the teams marched into the

CCRI's gymnasium for the super quiz, where each team member answered five questions over this year's topic, the U.S. Presidency.

For the first year, the super quiz was nationally televised over the Public Broadcasting System (PBS). Nebraska PBS stations did not broadcast it live but may pick it up at a later date.

**The difference between second and third place was the equivalent of one test question**

Though each team member answers questions, only the top two scores of the three Decathlon levels (determined by grade point average) counted toward the final score. Central tied for fifth with 19 of the 30 questions, behind California's first place 25.

Mike said that the team's goal was to answer 25 questions correctly. The difference between second and third was only 170 points, the equivalent of less than one super quiz question.

On Sunday, April 30, the teams took a ferry to Newport, Rhode Island, where they toured the area's historical mansions. A banquet was held that evening with the Governor of Rhode Island.

Mrs. Bernstein took team members to New Bedford, Massachusetts, on Sunday morning for a tour of the historical Whaling Chapel and Museum associated with Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*, a book Mrs. Bernstein teaches in her junior honors English classes.

Johnson and Wales College hosted the awards ceremony on Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Bernstein said that she knew the team would place third, but she

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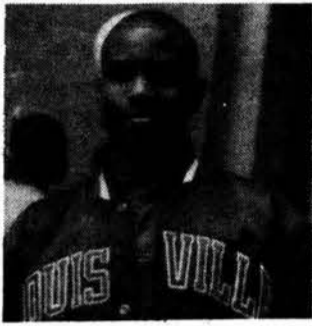
Registered opinion

POLL QUESTION:

Do you think the Supreme Court should reverse the 1973 decision in Roe v. Wade which legalized abortion?

Yes: 19% No: 78% Doesn't matter: 3%

Total questioned: 181



Greg Mercer, Sophomore: "No, it's up to the individual to make the decision."



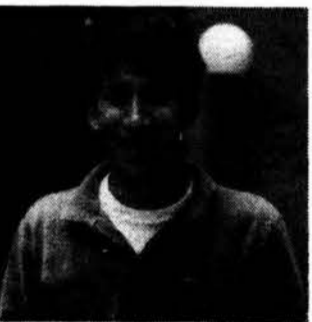
Amy Noveski, Junior: "Yes, I just don't think it's right to take the life of another person like that."



Laurie Anderson, Junior: "No, I don't think they have the right to tell people to have unwanted kids; there are enough people in the world. Some men may not understand some situations. What if a woman was raped?"



Hope Walker, Junior: "No, because if a woman gets pregnant, she should make the decision what to do with her life instead of the Court making the decision for her."



Tzari Christon, Senior: "I don't agree with abortion. I think it's killing. Who can distinguish when a child becomes a child?"

D. L. Kowalski and Andre Gilmore

Central should not rule out air conditioning

Installing air conditioning may seem an impossibility in a large, old building such as Central. Some may not realize, however, that Central already has ducts throughout the building from when the building had a boiler for heating. Although air conditioning would still be a costly addition, the already existing ducts make it more plausible. Central becomes unbearably hot and nearly impossible to study in when the outside temperature reaches 85 degrees. Considering this, raising money for air conditioning should be a long-term project for Central.



Letters to the Editor

HOLY CABOOSES!!!

I would like to thank the cast and crews of The Matchmaker for an excellent production and "Adventure" on April 27, 28, and 29. The eight weeks of rehearsals paid off, and like the tornado, you "blew" the audience away. Thank you also to the Parents Production Group for the "goodies" they provided and their help during intermission. I love my musical "Dolly," but most of all I love working with such talent - both on stage and behind the scenes. PUD-DING! PUDDING! PUDDING!

Pegi Georgeson Director

tattoos are done by machines, not utensils or pens as stated in the article.

I am usually pleased with articles in the Register, but I thought this one was extremely poor.

Dave Brown, Senior

Dear Editor,

I have a few things to say about this institution that we so affectionately call Central High School.

High School is the place where one builds one's chances of becoming the man or woman that he/she wants to be.

Central High is one of the best (if not the best) schools in the state of Nebraska. What does that mean to all of the students that go here? To some students it makes them proud to be going to Central.

On the other hand, others just don't realize the magnitude of this school's reputation. This school is great! Open your eyes and see that high school is a major step in your life. If you miss the step, the only result will be for you to fall. Life is not a game, and high school is part of life.

Sincerely, Steve Johnson, Senior

Dear Editor,

There is a problem at our school which some realize and others don't. Is there ever going to be a time a person can do as they please, without hurting anyone, just express themselves?

The "racist" problem is just that. You can walk down the street and see a man or woman coming towards you, what's the first thing that comes to your mind? It's usually not a racist. Why is it that when some see a man walking down the street that doesn't have much hair they say - "skinhead," "white supremacists," or "Nazi?"

Probably because of the press, rumors, or anything else that influences them. It's time for people to realize that just because people decide to go with the "butch" cut that doesn't mean that they are racists.

We just want it to stop. When we see a person wearing red we don't automatically think -- BLOOD and when we see a person wearing blue we don't automatically think -- CRIP. So when you see a person with a shaved head, don't automatically think -- racist, Nazi skin. Most of the time it's just not true.

Signed, Chris Archer, Chantelle Smith

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**For  
What  
It's  
Worth**

with Seth Kotok

*This land was my land  
This land was your land  
from Alaska to gang rapes on New York Island  
From the toxic waters to the oily beaches  
This land was wrecked for you and me.*

--Seth Kotok with his sincerest apologies to Woody Guthrie.

*A bird in hand is better than two in the bush.*  
--Old proverb

After the Exxon Valdez spilled millions of gallons of oil into the Prince William Sound in Alaska, the biggest spill in history. The Exxon corporation published an "An Open Letter To The Public" in all the major publications around the country. They assured us that "the accident has been receiving our full attention and will continue to do so." Just a couple of days later an Exxon river barge spilled waste.

# 'Exxon secretly dedicated to extermination of wildlife'

Of course Exxon is putting on this big front. But I have it from inside sources ( actually I overheard an Exxon tanker captain talking about it in a bar one night), that Exxon is a secret society dedicated to the extermination of the world's wildlife. They have a wild plan that if they destroy animals, especially sea otters, the carcasses will decompose and Exxon will have a monopoly on oil.

Skipper Hazelwood, really L. G. Rawl, Exxon's chairman, went aboard the Valdez to oversee the biggest operation to date. Everyone at Exxon is overjoyed with the results, and especially with the added satisfaction that President Bush had to call out the army, who have nothing better to do than scrub rocks on a beach. There is some wildlife that Exxon has seemed to overlook.

I am of course speaking of the "wildings" that took place in New York recently. For those of you who have not seen the movie *A Clockwork Orange*, all you need to do is turn on your evening news and it is basically the same plot.

It seems a group of kids some as young as 14 decided to go torment people in Central Park. A group of about six of them broke away and beat and gang raped a jogger who now lays in a coma. Ah, the joys of youth. These kids are having so much more fun than those old fuddy-duddys in China who are trying to enact positive change in their communist ruled nation.

There has been alot of talk about President Bush's first hundred days. Well I won't beat around the Bush about my opinions (nice pun, huh). I really haven't noticed him at all. Quayle on the other hand has had an amazing first hundred days. Not only has he visited Singapore but also Latin America. He regretted his school days while there. He said he was upset that he had not studied his Latin harder so he would be able to understand them better. Yes, he really did say that.

He also called the people in these impoverished war torn nations "happy campers." But hey I guess a Quayle in hand is better than two in the Bush, or any in the Prince William sound. I have no idea what that means, I just wanted to say it.

'Haven't we forgotten someone?'

## Abortion issue continues to ignore life of innocent child

A few weeks ago there was an article in the *Omaha World-Herald* about a baby abandoned in a shopping center and about a lady named Rose who found her. The baby captured the hearts of Rose and the police officers by gripping tight to their fingers and holding on.

The last paragraph of the article states, "That night, Officer Smith called Rose to reassure her of the baby's safety. Then he called his wife to the phone and asked Rose to tell her about the warm and beautiful baby and how good it felt to give love to someone who asked nothing more."

Haven't we forgotten that someone? Each day you hear more and more tales of those who would suffer without legal abortion—teenagers who don't want to bring fatherless children into the world, young women who feel they should finish their education, or couples who don't feel they are ready to start families.

### A Different Perspective

Chris Chapman

Few think to ask if the baby is better off dead than fatherless. Few ask if sacrificing one's education is preferable to snuffing out a human life. And more importantly, few ask or wonder why couples who take the risks involved with having sex shouldn't be obliged to accept the consequences of their actions.

Abortion does simplify the lives of those who don't want the children they have conceived, but can we justify the destruction of 23 million unborn babies in this country over the last 16 years?

At the end of the first month of pregnancy, the baby is about one-fourth of an inch in length, but the primary brain is present and the

eyes, ears, and nasal organs have started to form. Although the heart is still incomplete, it is beating regularly.

By the end of the second month, the baby's face has become distinctly, yet uniquely, human and his/her eyes are dark and wide. The brain is functioning well enough to control and direct the muscles. The baby's heartbeat is growing stronger and closely resembles that of an adult. If we could watch the child as he/she grows, seeing his/her breathing and moving, would there be any argument that this child has the right to live?

In the Soviet Union, because of the lack of contraceptives and sex education, abortion is used as the main means of birth control, and it is estimated that the average Soviet woman has nine abortions during her child-bearing years. In this country, with all kinds of birth control devices and educational material readily available, there is no imaginable excuse for 23 million abortions being performed.

It is a question of responsibility. With the prevalence of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, sexually active people take the risk of contracting something each time they have sex. Why shouldn't conception be a part of that responsibility? If someone doesn't want a child, they should not have sex or they should take precautions against getting pregnant.

All I'm trying to say is that, in the abortion issue, we have forgotten about the child. If science allowed women to place their unwanted babies in an artificial incubator, at no hazard to the child, who would disagree?

But, unfortunately, this is not the case. Sure the stories of the burdens of child birth, back-alley operations, blobs of matter, fetal tissue—make good rhetoric, but all refuse to confront the humanity of the unborn child. And possibly a good reason for this is that if an unborn child represents a human life, its rights have to take priority over the needs of the mother, or anyone else.

"Bless the beasts and the children, for in this world they have no voice, no choice."—sung by Karen Carpenter

## Court threatens right

The United States Supreme Court decides on the case of *William L. Webster v. the Reproductive Health Services* this summer. The result of this decision may weaken or reverse *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 case which legalized abortion in the United States.

If the members of the Supreme Court decide to reverse the case or place restrictions on legalized abortion they are working against the majority of the people.

Nearly 70 percent of the population agrees that the decision of abortion must be left to the individual. Government regulation on abortion is an infringement on women's rights.

The Supreme Court has significantly changed since the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision. The present members are primarily conservatives, who tend to side with the "pro-lifers," who adamantly fight against the legalization of abortion. These judges will determine the future of a woman's choice for abortion.

The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* will not completely legalize abortion. If it is overturned, regulations on abortion lie in the hands of the state.

Some states will maintain the present choice for abortion. Many states will place strict regulations on funding for abortion, making the accessibility for those most in need of abortion nearly impossible.

The poorer and younger women who rely on public funds and facilities for health care can not afford the expenses to travel to other states for an abortion. The result is more women forced to carry out unwanted pregnancies and more neglected children in the poor communities.

Despite the Bush administration's campaign of 'Adoption, not Abortion,' many young and poor women who carry their babies to term will choose

to raise their children instead of giving them up for adoption. The adoption campaign has not taken active steps to find solutions.

Thirty percent of the women who seek abortions are of a racial minority. Many adoption agencies do not cross racial barriers when offering children to the predominantly white population of those who wish to adopt a child. Therefore, many minority children will be left without parents.

Many poor, young, and uneducated women are not taught the importance of birth control. Therefore, a large portion of these women get pregnant.

The fact can not be denied that women will get pregnant and have abortions whether it is legal or not. As a result, women will seek illegal abortions by unsanitary and life threatening means. Many women died or were unable to have children when abortion was illegal.

Ultimately, abortion is a moral or religious decision. It is a difficult decision for anyone to make. The responsibility in raising a child is also difficult and many people are not capable of nurturing a child.

Circumstances for every pregnant woman differ. Abortion should be a possible choice, depending on the individual's personal circumstances. Government regulation of the fate of the individual threatens a person's freedom in a Democratic nation.

Because opinions about abortion come from strong religious or moral feelings, abortion will always be a controversy which cannot be proven right or wrong.

The Supreme Court should not allow states to make the abortion decision. The Court should uphold *Roe v. Wade* and protect the individual's right to choose.



# Seniors volley in the sand

Seth Kotok

Tom Cruise, wearing only jeans, jumps high in the air and spikes the ball. He falls back to earth and lands softly in the sand. Millions of girls screamed during this scene in Top Gun.

The scene at Box Car Volleyball courts, on Saturday, April 22, was not quite the same thing. However, fun

did prevail at the senior class volleyball tournament.

Six teams participated in the tournament, with about forty seniors attending, according to Kurt Goeser, senior class president. Kurt was disappointed that more people did not participate. He said it demonstrates a lack of class spirit, something he wants to change.

The tournament

to have fun. Jamie Strauss, senior, claimed, "The weather was great. It was a blast to just get out on a nice day and play around in the sand."

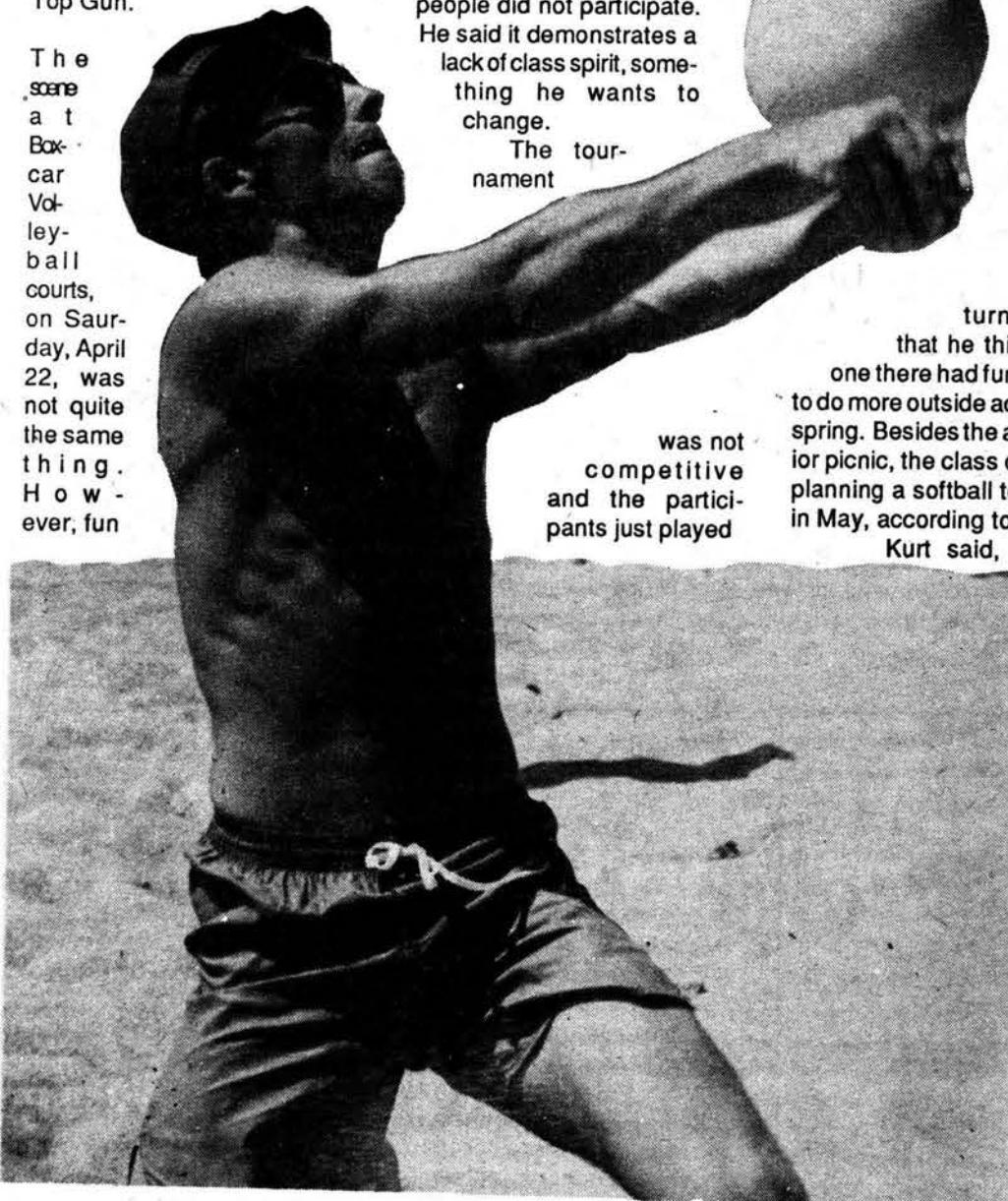
Jamie's favorite part: "when the water fight started and they hosed me down."

Kurt, although upset with the

turnout, said that he thinks everyone there had fun and plans to do more outside activities this spring. Besides the annual senior picnic, the class officers are planning a softball tournament in May, according to Kurt.

was not competitive and the participants just played

Kurt said, he thinks more people will sign up for a softball tournament and come out to play. "It would really be a boost to the class spirit," Kurt said.



D. L. Kowalski

Kurt Goeser, Senior Class President, digs his feet into the sand and prepares to bump the ball. The senior volleyball tournament was held on Saturday, April 22, at Box Car Volleyball courts.

# DECA attends nationals

Chris Chapman

On April 25, nine Central students flew to Orlando, Florida for the DECA National Competition. They stayed for five days and competed with about 8,000 others from all fifty states, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Three seniors, Mark Klipsch, Jennifer Schaeffer, and Pam Jewell, wrote 40-page manuals on different aspects of marketing and business.

Junior, Kiri Soares, was selected at the State Conference for the National Leadership Academy, where she trained in leadership skills like public speaking, management, an motivation.

Juniors, Jennifer Collins, Madeleine Mundt, and Lisa Hobson, competed in a series of merchandise and marketing contests, with Jennifer and Madeleine receiving certificates of excellence.

Two seniors, Todd Beam and John Kozak, received finalist medals through the tests they took in food marketing (Todd) and general marketing (John).

Mr. Harry Gaylor, marketing instructor, said that they were very pleased with the results. He added that OPS received five awards. Four of these went to Central.

In between competitions, the students had time to tour Epcot, tan on Daytona Beach, and sightsee.

# Students get close-up

Michelle Hickle

Every spring Close-up sponsors a week long trip to Washington, D.C. This year 16 students from Central attended. They were chaperoned by Mr. Brian Watson, social studies teacher; Mr. Donald Knauss, social studies teacher; and Dr. G. E. Moller, principal; and their wives.

The students visited the highlights of Washington, D.C.: the memorials, museums, archives. They also attended seminars.

"The seminars were really informative. Edgar Mayal stood out among the speakers," Ben Rouch, junior, said.

During the small amount of free time they had, some students went shopping

in Georgetown. Some visited Adams Morgan, the ethnic part of Washington, D. C. Others tried the various restaurants in town.

Elizabeth Thonen, junior, said, "My favorite part was sitting in the park with Aaron [Kerr] and doing nothing but watching the squirrels frolicking around us."

"Having time off," Jenny Hennig, junior, said, "and being able to relax was my favorite part."

Joining in the rally for abortion at the Supreme Court was Karen Eastlack's, junior, favorite part "because we participated in democracy," she said.

"We got to meet a lot of new people from across the nation. At the end of the week we weren't just friends," Ben said, "we were family."

# Omahans elect P. J. Morgan Mayor

Seth Kotok

On Tuesday, May 9, Omaha voters turned out in record numbers to elect P.J. Morgan, by an 8% margin, as the city's mayor. Morgan beat former Mayor Mike Boyle by 8,600 votes.

This was the first time in a city election more than 100,000 voters turned out. The official count was more than 107,000 voters or 54.6 percent of the city's registered voters, about 200,000 people.

The race between Morgan, a real estate manager and chairman of the Omaha Airport Authority, and Mike Boyle, who was recalled from the mayor's office in 1987, began when those two emerged as the winner of the April 4 primary election.

Boyle was first elected mayor in 1981 and reelected in 1985. After the recall election, Bernie Simon was appointed Mayor.

Simon later died of cancer, and Walt Calinger was appointed in his place. Morgan will officially replace Calinger as mayor after the June 4, inaugural.

One reason for the recall drive was Boyle's firing of police chief Robert Wadman for insubordination. During the recent campaign the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that Chief Wadman's firing should hold. Many people speculated on how this would affect Boyle's chances.

In his victory speech, Mayor-elect Morgan said, "We are now ready to put the past behind us." He claimed, "My friends, we've turned the corner, and tonight is the beginning of a new era."

Boyle, in his concession speech, lent his support to Morgan, and asked his supporters to "get behind" Morgan and to show no bitterness about the election.

This was also the first time some seventeen-year-olds were able to vote in a city election. An amendment to Nebraska's constitution gave seventeen-year-olds the right to vote in the primary on the condition that they would be eighteen by the general election day.

However, the amendment characterizes election day as "the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November." Because of this definition, many seventeen-year-olds were able to vote in the recent mayoral election.

According to a non-scientific opinion poll in the last issue of the Central High Register, Boyle was favored more than two to one over Morgan at Central.



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# In Brief

## Journalism contest winners

Simon Joyner, senior, won first place in the column category of the Nebraska Press Women Journalism contest. He was honored at a banquet last Saturday, and his entries will be submitted for national competition.

Freshman Sean Chapman placed second in the feature photo division, and senior Karen Lee won third place in the feature story category.

This year's contest drew 166 entries from 15 Nebraska high schools throughout the state.

The entries were judged by professionals in the state. Simon's entry has been forwarded to the National Federation of Press Women High School Communications Contest.

## Kotok column takes first

Seth Kotok, senior, won first place for his column writing at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Journalism contest.

The Register also won several runner-up awards, including best newspaper.

## State Journalism Contest

Journalism students won second place in the sweepstakes round of the state journalism contest, sponsored by the Nebraska High School Press Association.

Senior David Kowalski placed first in the photography competition. Senior Adrian Ferguson won third in the entertainment writing category, and senior Karen Lee placed second for feature writing.

Other state finalists were seniors Jason Auslander, sports writing; Rebecca Barnes, yearbook theme development; Tina Foxhoven, editorial cartooning; Kerry Holeman, photography; Justin Kerr, news layout; Emily Rasmuss, editorial writing; Nancy Sempeck, yearbook copywriting; and junior Jodi Churma, sports features.

## Speakers chosen

A panel of judges headed by counselor Ms. Judy Maniscalco chose seniors Scott Easton and Joanna Kosowsky to give this year's commencement speeches at Central's graduation ceremony on June 1.

## History Day Winner

Jennie Hurley, junior, was the first student from Central to participate in History Day competitions. Locally, Jennie's research paper placed second. Statewide, her paper placed first.

Her paper focused on the role that Prince Sihanouk's choice of economic policy had on Cambodia's history. Her paper is going on to the national competition in Washington D.C.

## Pacesetter awards scholarships

Angela Martin and John Kozak received a four year Pacesetter scholarship from the Pacesetter Corporation. Seven scholarships were given out from a twelve-person finalist list.

Scholarships given were based on leadership abilities, academic status and a personal interview.

The scholarships will cover nine credit hours a semester at University of Nebraska at Omaha amounting to about nine hundred dollars a semester.

# Decathlon breaks state records at Nationals

continued from page 1

"hadn't expected it to be so close between second and third." Central's record was five medals at nationals; this year they won ten.

Rob, whose six medals included division overall winner, said, "realistically, I only expected a Fine Arts medal." He said his only surprise was the mix-up in Mike Lawler's Fine Arts score.

The team officially appealed Mike's score because it seemed low. According to Rob, six other teams also appealed scores. If changes occur, the individual and team rankings may change, depending on the decision of USAD national officials.

The Nebraska Academic Decathlon is unique since

the Optimist Clubs of Nebraska sponsor it rather than school systems. Mrs. Bernstein said the Optimists "have been supportive financially and emotionally."

She especially thanked Mr. John Anstey, State Director of the Academic Decathlon and State Governor of the Optimists. Mr. Jerry Hoffman, Lt. Governor,

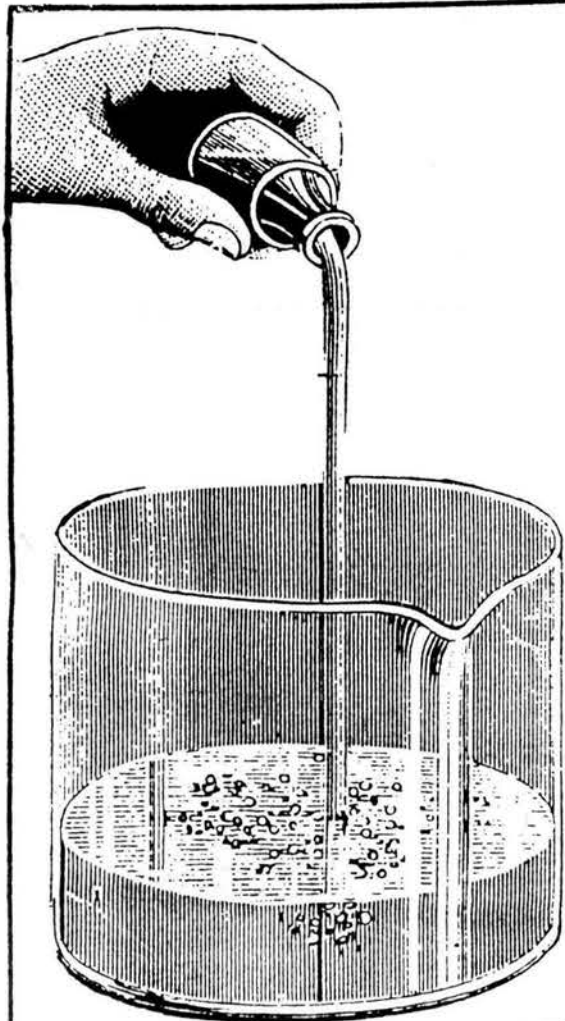
accompanied the team to nationals as acting State Director.

The Optimists, parents, friends, WOWT television, and KFAB radio greeted the team as they arrived home late May 1.

The only school representative was School Board member Mr. Mark Hozapfel who arrived late. Ms. Nancy Schwes

of the Omaha Convention Bureau was helpful in creating this year's publicity attention.

Other team members are: juniors, Keith Lucas, Jennifer Gentle, Jennifer Hurley, and Liz Thonen, and seniors Jennifer Hendricks, Mimi McVane, Beth Lucas, Pat Williams, and Reggie Rennard.



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## Grapho-analysis aids employers

## Handwriting reveals personality traits

Jodi Chruma

Loops, i dots, t bars, and handwriting slants may reveal personality traits according to Mrs. Sylvia Kessler, grapho-analyst.

Grapho-analysis, the study of handwriting, can be used as a "personality assessment for pre-employment screening," said Mr. Tim Gilbert, handwriting analyst.

If a company is looking for employees with specific personalities, Mr. Gilbert said that handwriting experts can review applicants' handwriting samples to "let businesses know a little about the personalities of the people they want to hire."

Mr. Gilbert stated, for example, that if a person's handwriting strokes are far apart and slanted slightly to the right,

the person is probably outgoing.

"Companies are now using [grapho-analysis] instead of lie detector tests for pre-employment screening since [lie detector tests] have been outlawed," explained Mr. Gilbert.

Handwriting tests are fair, according to Mr. Gilbert, because they are non-discriminatory.

"I think [handwriting analysis] tests will be even more present in the future." Mr. Gilbert believed that about 5,000 companies presently use such tests.

Fees for handwriting analyses start at \$25, according to Mr. Gilbert.

Mrs. Silvia Kessler, owner of United Service and grapho-analyst, said that families who want to understand each other better often have their handwritings analyzed.

For example, Mrs. Kessler explained that if a person's i dots are nice and round, that person is loyal. Jagged i dots indicate a dislike for standing in lines according to Mrs. Kessler. "[Grapho-analysis] is 98 per cent accurate," she said.

Mr. Joel Engel, author of Handwriting Analysis Self-Taught, wrote that, "years ago, graphologists used to look for a common denominator in the handwriting of groups of people known to display a certain character trait."

"If, among 500 people, the majority wrote a t bar flung to the right and had violent personalities, then it was assumed that every writer of a t bar flung rightward had a violent personality," Mr. Engle wrote.

Senior Karen Farkas said, "There really is no truth in the idea that a person can figure out

your personality by your handwriting. That is in the same rank as fortune telling or palm reading."

According to Karen, people have handwriting patterns that are "as different as fingerprints."

Such distinctive handwriting patterns can be used in a field of study called questioned document examination.

Forged wills, insurance policies, and other written contracts that can be analyzed make up the work of questioned document examiners like Mr. Partick J. Bolan.

Mr. Bolan stressed the difference between analyzing handwriting for personality traits and analyzing documents.

"We study paper, pulp, who made it, when it was made, the ink and the chemicals of the paper," said Mr. Bolan, who worked in a crime lab for 26 years. According to him, scientific proof backs the work

of a questioned document examiner.

"There's a big demand for questioned document analysts due to the absence of training available [in the field]," said Mr. Bolan.

According to Mr. Bolan, "the money's good and the job security is excellent." The study of questioned documents, Mr. Bolan explained, can be detailed and there are very few books about it, so the best way to learn it is through an apprenticeship program.

Ms. Karen Amend and Ms. Mary S. Ruiz, authors of Handwriting Analysis, wrote that "famous trial cases have involved the services of a handwriting expert to determine guilt or innocence of the defendant, just as such trials have involved psychologists and psychiatrists."

## Nelson takes oboe seriously



Sean Chapman

Adam Nelson practices playing the oboe. Adam has been an oboe player for ten years and hopes to continue in college.

Ellen Caban

For many, playing a musical instrument is merely a passing fancy or a part-time hobby quickly abandoned for fun and friends. But there are others who take their music very seriously and have allowed it to become a time consuming yet rewarding part of their life.

Senior Adam Nelson is one of those people. Adam has been playing the oboe for over ten years since he was seven years old, and though it's been a lot of hard work, he does not regret a single minute of it.

"Because the oboe is a somewhat unique instrument, there are a lot of opportunities for me to play with organizations other than Central's orchestra," Adam said.

Adam recently had the opportunity to perform with the orchestra at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Another event that Adam was particularly excited about was playing with the Omaha Symphony while they were on strike.

Adam recently won the Omaha Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition. He auditioned early in December and had a solo performance with the orchestra in February.

"The competition was very fierce; I was kind of surprised when I found out I won," he said.

Adam has recently formed an instrumental quartet with three friends from Westside High School. The group, consisting of a violin, a cello, a clarinet, and Adam's oboe, calls itself Cantabile, which means "sweetly" in Latin.

The quartet offers its musical talents for private and public gatherings, such as weddings and parties. They have even played inside of a shop window during Christmas. In February, the group performed at Creighton University's Registered Nurse's graduation ceremony.

"We get all of our music at Westside's music library," said Adam, "which is a really big help." Adam said that one of the hardest parts of playing in an ensemble is building an appropriate repertoire.

The quartet finds it difficult to make time for adequate rehearsals, but they try to spend as much time practicing as possible.

"We usually get together for a few hours before Youth Symphony," said Adam, "or whenever we can make time."

In addition to playing with his quartet, Adam is also one half of a duet called the Sigma Duet. Adam and his friend Kara Giddings, who is also in the quartet, play at different local functions. The duet, made up of a violin and an oboe, recently played at an Operation Bridge benefit last January.

Adam says he rarely gets nervous before a performance, but he does get concerned with the impression he makes on his audience.

"When the duet and quartet play for an audience, we have to 'sell' ourselves to them. If we impress them, then they will hire us," he said.

Adam is fairly sure that he will not major in music in college. "There is too much competition," he said. However, Adam is positive that he would like to play in the orchestra at Saint Olaf College where he will attend school next year.

"Saint Olaf has an incredible orchestra," said Adam. "It travels all over the world." Adam hopes to continue playing the oboe for many more years to come.

Adam has recently started playing the violin but does not seem to think he will take to it as well as the oboe.

## Summer camps offer jobs and recreation

Jodi Chruma

Waking up at 6:00 a.m. every day during the summer, bailing hay, and mowing fields has its benefits, according to senior Kate Brower. Many area camps offer opportunities for high school students such as Kate to work during the summer.

Mrs. Karen Krantz, former treasurer of a camp near Grand Island, said students would probably find camp employment to be "a

fun thing." She said that people who work at camps can usually go swimming or do other recreational activities upon completion of their daily work.

The hours are long, usually much longer than a regular eight hour day, according to Mrs. Krantz. She added that many jobs are voluntary, depending on which camp one works for. Jobs that are not volunteer are "salaried rather than paid at an hourly rate," said Mrs. Krantz.

Mr. Phil Weimer, Outdoor Program Director with the

Great Plains Girl Scout Council, said that "80% of the staff we hire to work at camps must be legal adults." That does leave room for high school students, however, he explained.

If a student is interested in summer camp employment, Mr. Weimer suggested that he or she set up an appointment with a director for a "face-to-face interview."

High school grades are not a consideration in the application process for getting a job at a Great Plains camp, he explained. "We look for personality and a

sense of commitment," he said. Previous camping experiences are a consideration also, according to Mr. Weimer.

Kate said she worked at a camp near Ashland, Nebraska last summer. A "camp hand" is the term she uses to describe her former position.

"We [camp hands] had to show up early and get meals ready. We dealt with groups of 100-150 kids each week," she said.

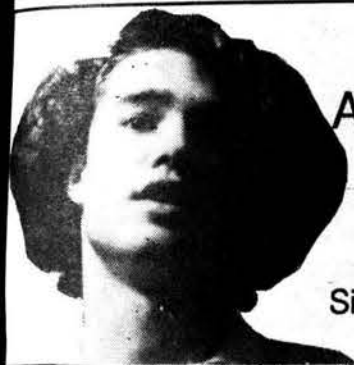
The pay for camp hands is not much, according to Kate. "I probably made \$350 for the entire summer," she said.

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Another Illusion  
with Simon Joyner

# Hazelwood's intoxicated by art of oil evaporation

They are numbering my days now. It will soon be all over and done with, these high school memories, and they will have to join the ranks of Creature Feature with Dr. Sanguinary, Flavor-ice, 3-2-1 Contact, and other bookmarks. Maybe college is a great bucket of liquid nitrogen in which you dunk everything familiar and begin anew by shattering it all against a brick wall.

I apologize, but I can't help but be bleak as I watch the days slip like sense into collections of shapelessness and abstractions they call the future. High school is a simple routine, a legal necessity that doesn't seem to be more than a place to hang your potential on a nail of fundamentals which may or may not be being hit by the hammer of public relations in the hands of a Wertherian castle dweller. But, it's easy and comfortable, and so I like it.

College, on the other hand, is death. This I know. Last night I dreamt, and it approached me, reaper in hand, calling me to a higher learning facility. "Simon," he said, "are you ready to pass?"

"Pass?" I said.  
"Yes, to a completely new routine where you sleep in snatches and live a syncopated but enlightening existence. Come. Just remember to bring what I requested of you."

"What else could you possibly want? You've got my life already."

"Fifty thousand dollars. Now hurry and fill out your senior wills because you're coming with me." I loaded my electric water pistol with Chaps cologne and fought him off temporarily. He dripped away, angry and stinking of a sneekdraw smirk and sixteen ounces of a shelved Christmas present. I promised myself I'd fight him to the death. He heard me.

"I'll come back for you soon enough! Next on my list is your beloved friend Drool. We'll see

how he enjoys a visit from the grim reaper!" I wondered if any of my friends were experiencing the same visit from Dr. Death. When I woke, I quickly phoned Erin and Ami and Chrissy and Melinda and Lisa, a few of my closest companions, and asked them if they were feeling the lurking of the masqued death called college.

It was true they knew of this stalking beast, but for some odd, unknown reason, they were all excited about the physical passing of high school and the transmigration to colleges and the like. It seems they had "senioritis" as they explained. I tried to remind them that all of these joyous terms are death related, and so it was obvious that the only real objective of high school is to prepare you for death, college. "They give us a happy name like "senioritis" which is full of connotation of spring-green colors, warmth and expectancy, and no one thinks about the fact that senioritis has a name like a disease. Then they offer us the opportunity to fill out a senior will, and everyone loves it without realizing that the wills basically portray us as a dying people who need to will away our possessions. To top it off, at the ceremony they give us an empty leather case containing absolutely nothing, not even a pseudo-diploma.

We can't even receive the true end peacefully while a crowd of thousands clap and cheer in our honor. No, just a leather case, an empty casket if you will, to make the crowd of thousands happy. It's their ceremony. It's like a blood ritual without blood. The actual diploma isn't received until the monochromatic evening gown is returned, and then there is no crowd of claps, no flashing of Polaroids, no ceremony hosted by the public relations hammer!" Nearly needless to say, they got fed up with my cerebral meandering and had Drool call me promptly. He was a wealth of revelation as he expectorated the expected.

"Simon, stop being so cynical or your youth will get lonely. You're supposed to be young, ambitious, idealistic and susceptible. If you dive too deep into these reality trips where you supposedly see the world the way it really is, where everything is motivated by bureaucratic evils and personal expeditions of money venders for favor lenders, then you may force yourself into isolation and insanity. I, Drool, alone can tell when you're losing touch of something greater. So just remember that when you're walking down that road of college, whether it be a welter or a womb, not to forget to stop and occasionally have a red Flavor-Ice, okay?"

"Sounds like famous last words, Drool. Are you another excited college bound student sent to dissect the phrase Carpe Diem before my very eyes, or what?"

"Wait a second, Simon. My doorbell just rang. I'll be right back. (Time collapses, about three minutes before he comes back to the phone) Simon?"

"Yeah?"  
"Weird. Some kid just came to the door and asked if he could mow the lawn. I said sure."  
"Nothing weird about that, you never mow the lawn."

"No. The weird thing was, he wanted a whole lot more than ten bucks to do it. When I asked him why he wanted so much money, he showed me his lawn tool, and it was an old swing blade for goodness sakes!

I figured it would take him awhile, but as long as he was willing he could go ahead and cut it, I'd pay him. He had the strangest smirk on his face, a bit like Captain Hazelwood. It was as if he were entertaining some inside joke or something. Isn't that really strange?"

"Yeah, imagine that."

# Students cut classes and 'frustration'

—Jennifer Smith—

The sun is shining. A Central student decides to skip class. The student heads for the back door. Only a few feet left to go before they get to the car.

Suddenly, a voice comes out of nowhere.

"If I catch them as they [skippers] are leaving the building, I tell them to go straight back

into the building if they don't have permission to be out of the school," said George Taylor, Central security aid. Mr. Taylor went on to explain that the crime is not in leaving the building, but going somewhere and then returning.

"The best way to find them is to stand outside of the building where they can't see me, and they will come running out of the building and run right

into me," he said. According to Mr. Taylor, the common skip-pers are not doing well in classes.

"They mostly skip when the weather's nice and at all times of the day," Mr. Taylor stated.

He said that they like to hide under the steps of the apartment building next to the student parking lot.

"I have known these places for twenty years," Mr. Taylor said.

Jennifer Hausman, senior, admits that she skips if she is "not prepared to go to class" or if her friends are planning to do something.

"I never miss out [in class] because I always catch up," Jennifer said. According to her, she only skips with friends and they usually go to Perkins, go shopping, or go to the movies.

She explains that she usually comes late or leaves early. "Half the time, teachers don't even ask for admits," Jennifer replied. Jennifer said that she's never been caught.

"I'm frustrated with going to school for such a long

time. I guess I just have 'senioritis'," senior Adrian Villalobos said. According to him, the best places to go are the counseling center, courtyard, or the library.

"Sometimes I'll go to the library and sneak out. They don't do well with checking the counseling center or courtyard," Adrian explained. Adrian said that the best method is to find a friend that works in the attendance office.

"I'll have them sign me out. The next day when my teachers ask for an admit I'll say I forgot it and go get another one," he said.

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## 'An excellent role model'

### Volunteering provides senior's headstart for career in special ed

—Aaron Dennison—

"Well, I started out because I wanted to know what special education was like. I've become really attached to these kids, and it's become hard to switch classrooms because it is like saying good-bye," said senior Jean Meister about her experience with mentally handicapped children.

"I've known since first grade that I wanted to be a teacher. I decided on the area of special ed because of the books I read by Mary McCracken," said Jean.

She explained that Mary McCracken wrote about her own experiences teaching mentally handicapped children.

Jean said her work in the various classrooms is "strictly volunteer." She also explained that she works with different age groups ranging from first and second graders to fifth graders and that they vary in the severity of their handicap.

However, all her students are educable mentally handicapped. According to Jean, she spends about two to two and a half hours a day or 10 to 15 hours a week working with them.

Jean said that her most memorable experience "was trying to teach [a student] to tie his shoes. He always said he knew how to do it but he'd always tie them in knots . . . I spent the whole time untying his knots . . ."

"The most touching experience was the first day I walked into the classroom. I noticed this girl who was angry at the world, but on the last day in the classroom, she gave me a hug, and I just cried," said Jean.

Mrs. Sue Paar, biology teacher, Ms. Mary Jane Holcomb,

Human Community Services Center (HCSC) volunteer coordinator, and Ms. Dianne Sedlacek, special education teacher, were involved with starting a program for Jean to be exposed to special education students at various OPS schools.

Ms. Sedlacek said that Mrs. Paar asked her if anyway exists to get a student involved in teaching by working with children in special education. Ms. Sedlacek then called Ms. Holcomb who felt that having a student teach was a great idea.

She also called Dave Pavlik and Joyce Crammer, two supervisors in OPS, who agreed it was a great idea and said they wanted to find a responsible, eager, self-disciplined person who would set a good precedent for similar programs in the future.

She said that after she had an OK from the volunteer offices, "we had to clear everything at the building level, checking with Ms. Littlejohn about Jean's credit situation."

Ms. Littlejohn and Mrs. Susan Richards, counselor, also had to "vouch for [Jean's] ability to deal with people and that her academic standards were acceptable."

"Jean has been an excellent role model. [The people at the HCSC] tell me all the time that we could not have chosen a better person," she said.

Ms. Sedlacek added that Jean "gets along well with other people. She has excellent perception of situations, hard-working, motivated, positive, and compassionate."

Jean is currently teaching at Jefferson, Western Hills, and J. P. Lord. Jean said that by teaching, "I got a real good idea of what I was getting into."



Chris Deden

Senior Jean Meister helps special education students with classwork. She teaches at Jefferson Western Hills, and J.P. Lords. "I've known since first grade that I wanted to be a teacher," Jean said.

## OUTBOUND

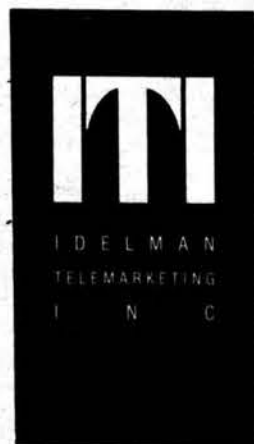
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## Teachers travel, work, build houses during summer vacation

—Jason Auslander—

What exactly do teachers do in the summer? Do they drop off the face of the planet and visit "the land of no teenagers"? Many teachers probably spend the summer hanging out at home trying to recuperate from what one Central teacher called "an intense job."

Some teachers use this as a time to make extra money and to do the things they might not have the chance to do during the school year.

Mr. Larry Hausman, art teacher, spends his summer building and remodeling houses. "It's rewarding to see the results of your work and the money is adequate," said Mr. Hausman.

He also bails hay, and in the past years, he has shown horses, gone to Germany, and worked on a Masters degree in art education.

Coach Stan Standifer has planned a productive summer. "I'm going to be a teller at AK-SAR-BEN, spend two weeks on active duty in the Navy, and I'm building a home," he said.

Mrs. Daryl Bayer, French teacher, and Miss Rita Ryan, Latin teacher, are taking a group of 15 students on a trip through France and Italy in June. It is not a school sponsored trip, rather, one in which the two teachers design their own tours.

Other teachers traveling this summer include Mrs. Glauca Hansen, French teacher, who, with her husband, is going to Brazil to visit her family. Also, Mrs. Vickie Andersen, Spanish teacher, plans to go to the NEA convention in Washington D.C.

Guidance counselors Mr. Steve Nelson, and Mr. Kevin Moran sell real estate. Mr. Nelson works for CBS Realty, and Mr. Moran is with NP Dodge.

"This summer I plan to make money," said Mr. Nelson. Mr. Moran sold a house and plans to move in soon.

Mr. John Keenan, English teacher, teaches in a program called Upward Bound through Creighton University.

"The program is for potential college students from financially underprivileged families," said Mr. Keenan.



Edie Brickell and the band performs at Peony Park :

# New Bohemians put on energetic show



Register  
Review

Holly Stommes

I was a little apprehensive about seeing Edie Brickell and the New Bohemians live in concert. Although I have been an avid fan of the New Bohemians before Sweet 98 even started to play "What I Am" (and therefore they had a chance of becoming "trendy"), I wasn't sure if the concert would actually be any fun since *Shooting Rubberbands at the Stars* is a fairly mellow album.

Despite its being held in Peony Park's ballroom, the concert was not even sold out. Many Omahans missed out on an excellent concert.

The crowd was totally unique, older people looking like they were back in the Sixties and attending Woodstock. Steve Forbert opened up, play-

ing his guitar alone on the stage.

The lights went down, cigarette smoke hazed the air, and the theme song to Charlie Brown accompanied Edie and her buddies on the stage. It was so appropriate. There was Edie with her long, wavy hair and her soft melodic voice.

The music was perfect, better than the CD. They opened up with "She," a little mellow but definitely great tune.

The concert was laid-back until Edie spoke and told the audience a story about macaroni and turtle shells, a



little bizarre, but it lightened the atmosphere.

Edie's voice and stage presence were entrancing. She basically just stood

there, but there's something about the way she sings into the microphone and stands which is really hypnotic.

They played every song from their LP excluding the last one on the tape which isn't listed anyway. One of the best songs was "Keep Coming Back." The bongodrummer John Bush played an incredible bongo prelude which

was perfect for this song.

was perfect for this song. The New Bohemians really did "rock" and it was the furthest thing from being mellow and boring. They played the tune that made them famous, "What I Am." It was live, energetic, and stimulating and really roused the crowd.

Probably the best part of the concert were the new songs that they sang, they were fantastic. Normally unheard tunes at a concert are pretty boring because you can't sing along or really get into them. But I enjoyed their new songs as much, even more than, their known material. They were creative, totally original, and unlike anything I've ever heard before.

Edie talked to the audience a lot which made me feel part of the concert. It really added to the mood of the songs.

After two encores, they finally left the stage, but not before slapping hands with everyone up front.

The band is really unified and that oneness rubs off on the crowd. If ever you have a chance to see the New Bohemians, go! It's worth the seventeen dollars.

# Theater-buffs ushered into culture

Holly Stommes

Care to see the ballet, the symphony, or any number of theatrical productions for free?

Well perhaps you should pay attention to your homeroom teacher more, and you will get the opportunity.

According to Mrs. Pegi Georgeson, drama teacher, students can usher at the Orpheum and the Civic Auditorium and see numerous productions.

The only requirements are that the students be present an hour and a half before the curtain, learn how to seat people politely, and enjoy the show. Of course ushering is voluntary, but the free show is definitely worth the time said Mrs. Georgeson.

Mrs. Georgeson said, "I started ushering a long time ago. I had friends in the theater world who were in charge, and they asked me if I wanted

to usher as well as my students."

Mr. John Gibson, a drama teacher at Thomas Jefferson, was in charge of ushering for Dick Walters Productions, and he asked Mrs. Georgeson if she was interested in ushering, she said.

Mrs. Georgeson also had another friend, Mr. Joe Schick, who was in charge of all of the other Orpheum events.

"I would get students to usher back then, but then I started bartending at the Orpheum because I needed money, and the students stopped ushering," she said.

However, Mrs. Georgeson has started ushering again and encouraging Central students to as well. "Central is the only school that gets to usher. It's because of the people I know," said Mrs. Georgeson.

For most productions, Mrs. Georgeson places announcements in the circular and

posts a sign-up sheet. However, not many students are taking advantage of the free shows.

"I got kind of discouraged. I put it in the circular, but no one took up on it. But I'll keep at it," she said.

"You get to see great shows for free. It's a great opportunity for people at Central who don't have much money to see some of Omaha's performing arts," she said.

Kevin McCann, senior, has ushered for numerous productions such as the *Nutcracker*, Mannheim Steamroller, and Kenny G. at the Orpheum and the Civic Auditorium.

He said, "I absolutely would do again. I could have gotten into REM for free." Kevin said he's had opportunities to usher for concerts, wrestling, and also for the college world series.

Kevin learned about ushering through Mrs.

Georgeson. The fact that he got to see free shows attracted him, but also he wanted to "learn the Orpheum."

Ushering is not difficult according to Kevin. He said, "It's fun. Most of the people were pretty nice. They weren't rude to me because I am younger."

Junior Tina Richardson also ushered at the Orpheum. "I wanted to see *Dreamgirls*, and the free admission helped," she said.

Tina was not nervous to usher because everyone "taught me how to usher," said Tina. According to Tina, she never put someone in the wrong place. Tina ushered on the main floor, and she said that the people were very friendly.

"Ushering gives me something to do. I met nice people," she said. Tina plans on ushering in the future.

Brian Brownrigg, senior, was planning on taking his girlfriend to see the *Nutcracker*, and when he discovered that he could see it for free, both he and his girlfriend ushered.

"The show was good, but ushering was a waste of time," Brian said.

He ushered way up on the third balcony, and it was not very crowded.

"I had to be polite. Once I put a man in the wrong

seat, but he was really understanding. It was kind of embarrassing," Brian said.

Brian said ushering was good because he got to see something for free, and he also got some culture.

Joe Giesling, freshmen, found out about ushering through Mr. McAdam.

"I thought it would be a neat experience to see the different cultures of dance, drama, and music," Joe explained.

Mannheim Steamroller was his favorite, but he also ushered for the opera *Rigoletto*, Sid Caesar, and a few other events.

"I really enjoyed it. I even went backstage and met the members of Mannheim Steamroller," he said.

At first Joe had a little difficulty with the sections.

He said, "I was constantly putting people in the wrong places. Some people weren't very friendly."

Joe said that he met a lot of people through ushering and has made at least two "friendly acquaintances."

According to Joe, he is waiting for the next opportunity to usher.

He explained that he wants to encourage other students to participate in the experience.

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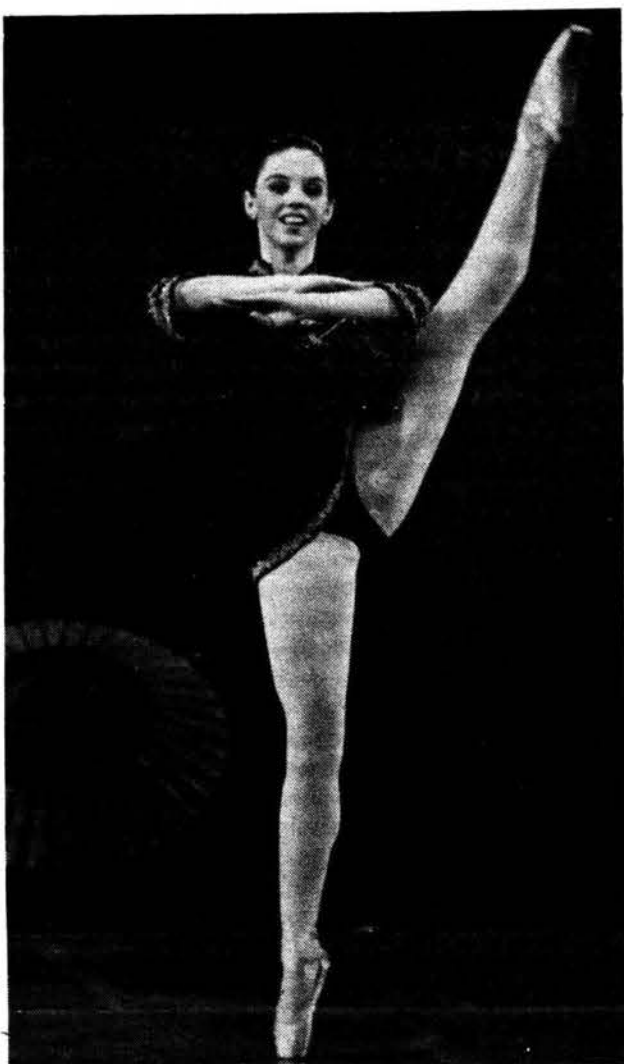
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Rachel Vickery trains with the Omaha Ballet Company:

## Student studies 'on her toes'



Junior Rachel Vickery dances in the Omaha Ballet Company's production of the Nutcracker

—Stephanie Kurtzuba—

The overture begins and the audience suddenly gets quiet. As the curtains part slowly, the crowd delights at the sight of a graceful ballerina poised to begin her dance.

This figure on stage could very well be Central High School junior Rachel Vickery. Rachel is a professional dancer with the Omaha Ballet at the tender age of 17.

### Preparation for career

Rachel attends school first hour every day, then spends the rest of her day training for what she hopes someday will be her full time career.

"Most kids go away to college to prepare for a career, and some people don't realize that this is like college for me. It's the training ground for what I want to be."

Rachel admits that leaving school to dance as a company member was a difficult decision.

### A difficult decision

"It was hard at the beginning of the year trying to keep social contacts with friends at school, and it took me awhile to put it all together and get back into things socially."

Although she hates having to leave Central after first hour, just when the rest of the school begins to wake up, Rachel says that she believes she made the right choice.

### Training for acceptance

And she hopes that the training she is receiving now will prepare her for acceptance into a famous dance company later.

"In the dance world you have to get serious at a young age and that's what I'm doing. I hope that by

beginning my career now, someday I'll be able to dance with ABT [the American Ballet Theater under the direction of Mikhail Barishnikov]."

Beginning her day at 7:45 a.m., Rachel attends a first hour French class at Central, then heads for the Omaha Ballet Studio where class starts at 9:00. At 10:45 rehearsals for upcoming productions begin and besides the five minute breaks every hour, Rachel literally stays on her toes until 4:30 in the afternoon.

### Worthwhile difficulties

"Sometimes we even have to come back at 6:00 to rehearse more if there are kids in the ballet that go to school and can only practice at night."

This is often the case during the Ballet's annual Christmas production of The Nutcracker.

But Rachel feels that all the hours of practice, the days of sore muscles, and the weeks of blistered feet pay off at showtime.

### Justifiable sacrifices

"Once I'm on stage nothing else matters. That's when I realize how much I love to dance and I see that it's worth everything I sacrifice."

And sacrifice is what Rachel seems to have had to do a lot of this year. Leaving school and her friends was a time of adaptation but, "My friends were all very supportive."

### Possible regrets

Rachel's mother, principle dancer for the Omaha Ballet, also backed her decision but Rachel said that she had some doubts.

"As a parent she was hesitant because she moved to New York to dance when she was 14, and I think she regrets missing out on her high school years. She doesn't want me to lose out," Rachel explained.

## Upstairs brings upbeat production to Omaha



Register  
Review

—Jennifer Smith—

Imagine going to see a Broadway play in Omaha. The lights dim, suddenly a spotlight shines upon one singing girl accompanied by four singing female impersonators.

The song is "We Are What We Are". The play is the French musical, *La Cage Aux Folles*. The place is the Upstairs Dinner Theatre.

Overall, the production was quite impressive. The highlight being the performance of Jim Boggess, who portrayed Albin, the transvestite.

The storyline is simple-yet universal. A boy wants to marry a girl. Her parents are morality fiends, his are quite different. *La Cage Aux Folles* twists the story a bit. Along with his lover, the father, Georges, raised the boy.

Jim Boggess's portrayal of a transvestite is remarkable. At times, his performance is so penetrating he seems to be a woman. The peak of the show, as well as his singing and acting, occurs when Albin is performing, along with the impersonators, then stops singing "We Are What We Are".

He then breaks into his own version entitled "I Am What I Am". Albin replaces

words like "transvestite" and "high heels" with sappy meaningful phrases directed to Georges. Jim Boggess's singing and acting deserve applause.

Central graduate, Ray Johnson, plays the son, Jean-Michael. The performance required a great deal of ironic humor. In such musical ballads as "With Anne On My Arm" and "Look Over There", Mr. Johnson hits the heights of the music scale. He attacked his part with great feeling and zest. He also is a waiter and appears in the preshow.

The honor for the most comic role belongs to Arthur Jones, who portrays the transvestite butler, but he prefers the term maid. His outbursts are carefully sprinkled throughout the production.

Whenever Mr. Jones appears on stage, the audience cannot help but to laugh at everything he says and does. His character is the stereotypical transvestite.

The common storyline makes *La Cage Aux Folles* enjoyable for audiences of all ages. The production lacks the usual slumps that often make other plays drag.

Just when a slump appears inevitable, the play surprises the audience with a transvestite singing, an introduction of a new character, or simply a joke.

*La Cage Aux Folles* runs now through June tenth. Tickets can be purchased with or without the dinner.

## 'Hey mon,' reggae is back

—Lena Gold—

Get up stand up and rock with the Rastaman. The reggae revival is upon us.

Reggae, a Jamaican-based combination of calypso, soul, and rock, got its first real boost into recognition by Bob Marley and the Wailers with their first release, *Catch a Fire*, in 1973. The beat caught on and new artists began popping up all around.

In the late 1970's, the strong politically directed "rebel music" gained world wide attention and did a fade as most popular forms of music do from time to time.

With the deaths of Bob Marley in 1981 and of Peter Tosh in 1988, reggae has made a forceful re-entrance on the scene with popular groups such as UB40 and Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers.

Although much of the new reggae has moved away from the intense leftist Rastafarian ideal, some groups such

as Steel Pulse, which opened up for INXS last summer in Omaha, has retained their political strength.

"It's an overall music revival," said Kelly Powell of Homer's record store. Powell said that many kinds of music

"Reggae's always been there in some shape or form," said Chad Stevens from radio station KRCK.

He added that there has been and increased interest in it lately which he believes is due, in good part, to the influence of Ziggy Marley's recent popular hits.

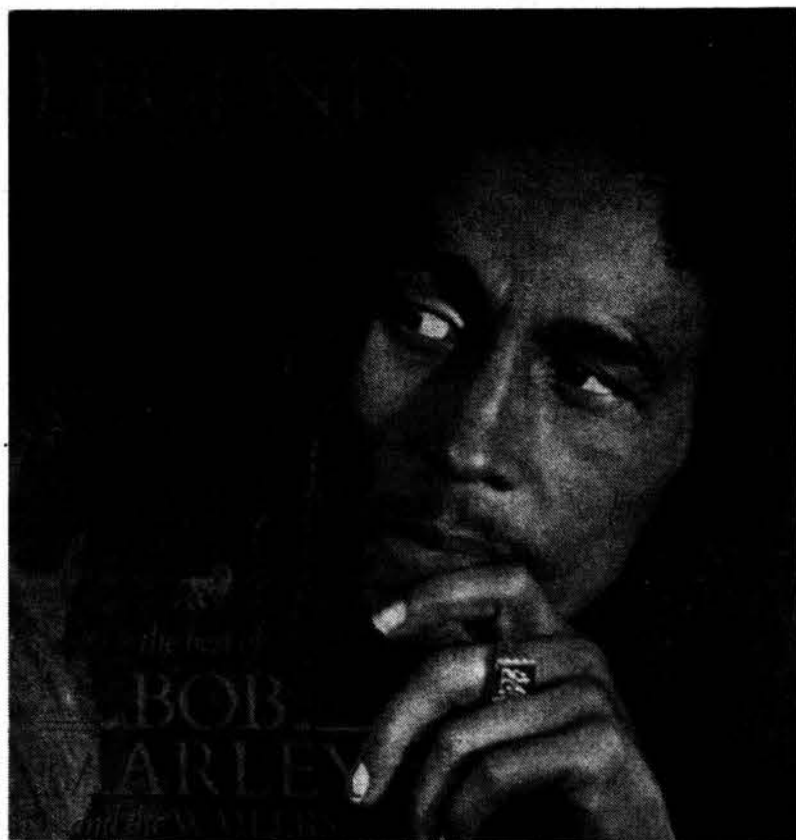
"The show on the station is very popular," said Stevens in reference to KRCK's Sunday reggae show.

Omaha itself does not have much of a reggae scene, as far as local groups are concerned, but a few places such as the Howard Street Tavern in the Old Market have a number of reggae shows.

They feature groups like the Regulators from Kansas City, Little Women from Denver, and the Sun Dogs from Iowa.

Reggae has returned.

As the sun gets brighter and the days get hotter, the fitting island music is bound to be around as a part of summer just like iced tea and sunglasses.







**Personal Foul with Dan Pansing**

# Olympics not the place for professional competition

Did you happen to notice who won the gold medals in the 1988 Summer Olympics for the sport of tennis?

Well, I didn't, but I know one thing, it was a professional tennis player, who you can also see at Wimbledon or any other pro tournament. Yea, I know what you're thinking, half of you didn't notice that tennis was again added to the Summer Games, the other half is wondering how the pros got into the Olympics and why it matters.

I could never understand why the pros weren't allowed to be in the Olympics. After awhile, I grew to accept the fact that the pros don't play. I think keeping the pros out of the Olympics is and was important for keeping the Olympics the way they were. Sure, you could let the pros join the boxing competition and watch Mike Tyson knock out a string of foreign competitors.

I suppose you could allow the pros into Olympic Basketball, and watch Air Jordan whirly-bird dunk with

a half twist over each of his Russian opponents, but that would spoil the games . . . oh, my fault - - They have allowed the pros onto the Olympic basketball courts. I guess the countries who participate got together and voted, and the proposition passed. Why would any country vote for a proposal which basically gives the United States the ability to walk over them?

The eligibility of the pros in basketball and tennis can only mean one thing; more and more sports in the Olympics are headed for pros in their competitions. Why wouldn't Canada and the United States want their professionals in the Games? They can play their pro hockey and baseball players. I really don't see why any smaller country would want pros in the Olympics. I thought the fact that the Olympics were an amateur event, helped some of the smaller countries to stay semi-competitive.

Yes, the Soviet Union does have an advantage in paying its teams to play. It has always bothered me

that the USSR's teams earn a living for playing, but I'm not ready to compromise the history and tradition of the Olympics just so the United States can use our pros. I think part of the reason the Olympics are or were special was that they gave young, not-so-experienced athletes the chance to compete at a high level and win not just for money (although lately it seems that if someone wins a gold medal, they are going to make millions by doing commercials and endorsements). The athletes in the Olympics should compete for fame, for recognition and often times an opening into a professional career in their sport, and for their country, not for money.

Maybe all Olympic sports won't go the way basketball went. I hope not, but it seems they have an opportunity to open up to professionals. If they do, they could change the Olympics forever. Allowing pros would break traditions hundreds of years old, and in my opinion that would be a change for the worse.

## Grades, tests both vital

# Proposition 42 faces widespread opposition

— Karen Lee

*(Some of the quotes in the following story were obtained from previously published material.)*

Shelby Metcalf, Texas A&M University basketball coach, once told a player who had four F's and one D, "Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

Just as a child violin prodigy can bring tears to a maestro's eyes, a young athlete with a mean slam dunk can attract the unwavering attention of a college sports coach.

For many high school students, an athletic scholarship can be the ticket out of an unexciting future. But one wonders whether college athletes are getting an education along with a string of national championships for their school. Are academics taking a back seat to athletics?

The National College Athletic Association (NCAA) attempted to solve that problem by passing Proposition 48 in 1986. Through 48, they hoped to weed out high school athletes with low potential for academic success in college.

Proposition 48 requires high school seniors to score a 15

on the ACT or a combined score of 700 on the SAT or have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in 11 core classes in order to play sports in colleges.

Although schools can keep players who meet only one of the requirements on athletic scholarships, the athletes automatically lose one year of eligibility.

According to Sherman Williams, senior running back and defensive back, 48 is not too harsh on high school seniors. "I had the 2.0, but I had to take the ACT twice before I made the grade," he said. He said that 48 motivates high school athletes to do better in their classes.

The NCAA recently announced Proposition 42, an expansion of 48. Forty-two states that a player can no longer qualify for athletic financial aid under just one of the requirements, but instead he must have one of the test scores and GPA. If he fails to meet both standards, then he is ineligible to play or practice his sport during his freshman year in college and cannot receive any athletic scholarships for the year.

Proposal 42, introduced by the Southeastern Conference, goes into effect in August 1990. According to Chancellor Joe B. Wyatt of Vanderbilt, the new rule

would send "a clear and unambiguous message" to high school athletes "that there is no substitute for diligence and study."

The proposal failed to pass on January 10, 1989, with a ballot count of 151-159 but passed in a re-vote the next day with a 163-154 margin.

"I am confused at how we can be so uncaring toward youngsters who really need help," Mr. Leonard Hamilton, Oklahoma State basketball coach said. "Our society gives criminals a second chance. Now, we're not going to even give these kids a first chance to get financial aid and prove they can do college work."

Many schools cannot afford to keep ineligible athletes at school on a free ride. Mr. Chris Corteg, Eastern Michigan soccer coach, said, "There is no way I can have a player getting a scholarship who isn't contributing on the field."

"Athletics has been a vehicle and a way out, and in a lot of instances, it's the only hope a young person has had," said Georgetown basketball coach John Thompson who walked off the court in a game January 14 to protest 42.

"I'm in support of core curriculum. I'm in support of 2.0. But I'm not in support of SAT

scores which have been proven to be culturally biased," said Mr. Thompson. After the NCAA promised a "sincere commitment" to re-evaluate 42, Mr. Thompson returned to his team January 22.

On the two requirements, test scores and GPAs, most students have problems with the SATs and ACTs. In January, eight of 21 football players who said they were going to UNL fell short of the SAT requirement.

According to Mr. Freeman Hrabowski, vice-provost at University of Maryland, "The higher the student's family income, the better the student's score on the exam."

Senior Abe Hoskins, varsity quarterback and split end, said that "the grade requirement is easy," but added, "the majority of blacks are hurt by [the ACT]. The ACT is supposed to be about stuff you have learned. If I went to a white elementary school, maybe I would have."

"Say Abe and I made a test with our background, slang, and heritage. Blacks would pass, not whites," said junior Jonathan Culliver, varsity tight end and defensive end.

Senior Kelly Yancy, varsity I-back, said, "48-I can deal with, but 42 is going to hurt a lot of athletes in 1991. If [those

athletes] are not fortunate enough to get funds to go to college, [42] is going to hold a lot of minorities back."

"A lot of people can't deal with [the ACT]," said Kelly. "If you go back to [their] background, they don't use the proper language," he said.

"A blind man can see that the educational process in Detroit or Chicago isn't the same as at Lincoln East," said Nebraska basketball coach Danny Nee. "Hey, these inner-city kids don't ask for the system they are in. When Johnny can't read in the second grade, do you think it's by choice?"

The 1988 average SAT score nationally for white students was 935, and the average for blacks was 737.

"How can anyone look at that difference and say there isn't some fault in our educational system?" asked Seton Hall athletic director Larry Keating.

"I am violently opposed to Proposal 42 as a coach, an administrator, and a black person," said Mr. William Moultrie, athletic director for Howard University. Of 600 athletes who would have been "Proposition 42 casualties" this year, 90% are black.

"There does seem to be a body of informed opinion that the tests are culturally biased . . . against those in a lower economic class," said NCAA president Albert Witte.

"Maybe Thompson's ultimate message—that we should rethink the pros and cons of using standard tests in this way—deserves long-range analysis."

Mr. Witte recommended postponing the enactment of 42 until the NCAA did a five-year study/evaluation of 48. The NCAA Council and NCAA Presidents' Commission will decide in April whether to bring Proposal 42 to the January 1990 conference for a repeal or delay vote.

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# Boys' and girls' track teams win Metro

Hilary Foster

After a rather unsuccessful regular season, the boys' track team came back to win the Metro track meet. "It may have been one of the best track meets that Central has had since I have been here," said Coach Joe McMenemy.

This meet was especially spectacular, he said, because at the end of the first day of the two day track meet, Central had not scored any points. On the second day, the team scored eighty points to win the meet.

"The kids were just real determined that they didn't want to lose," said Mr. McMenemy. "[The meet] really showed us what we're capable of doing."

Calvin Jones, junior, said that Central probably won Metro because more teams attend that meet than regular meets. "Having more teams there helps us because we are a small team and we don't have many players. The players we have are good, but we don't have many of them."

Personally, Calvin placed second in the 100 meter race and first in the 200 meter race. "I felt pretty good," he said, "I thought I had won the 100 but I came

back to win the 200." Calvin hopes to qualify in districts and also wants to sweep the 100 and 200 at state.

Abe Hoskins, senior, said that he felt good about winning Metro. "We finally pulled together as a team," he said. According to Abe, the track coaches had given the team a pep talk before the meet that helped morale.

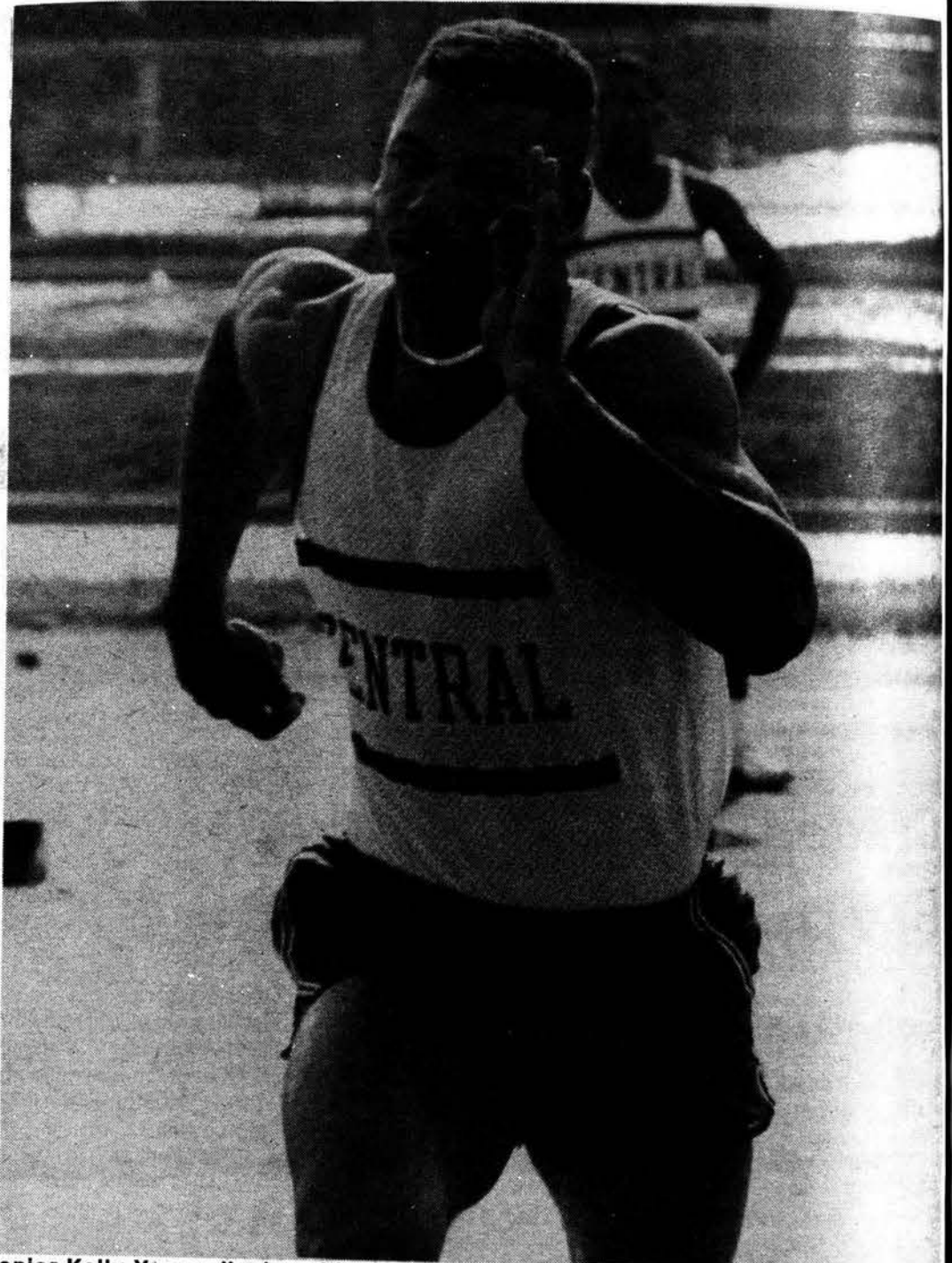
"[The coaches] told us to run as a team. Before, we had run as individuals." Abe thinks that if the team works together they can place in the top three in the state.

April Morris, a senior on the girls' track team, said "I think it was good that the boys and girls both won the meet. They really had their hearts in it."

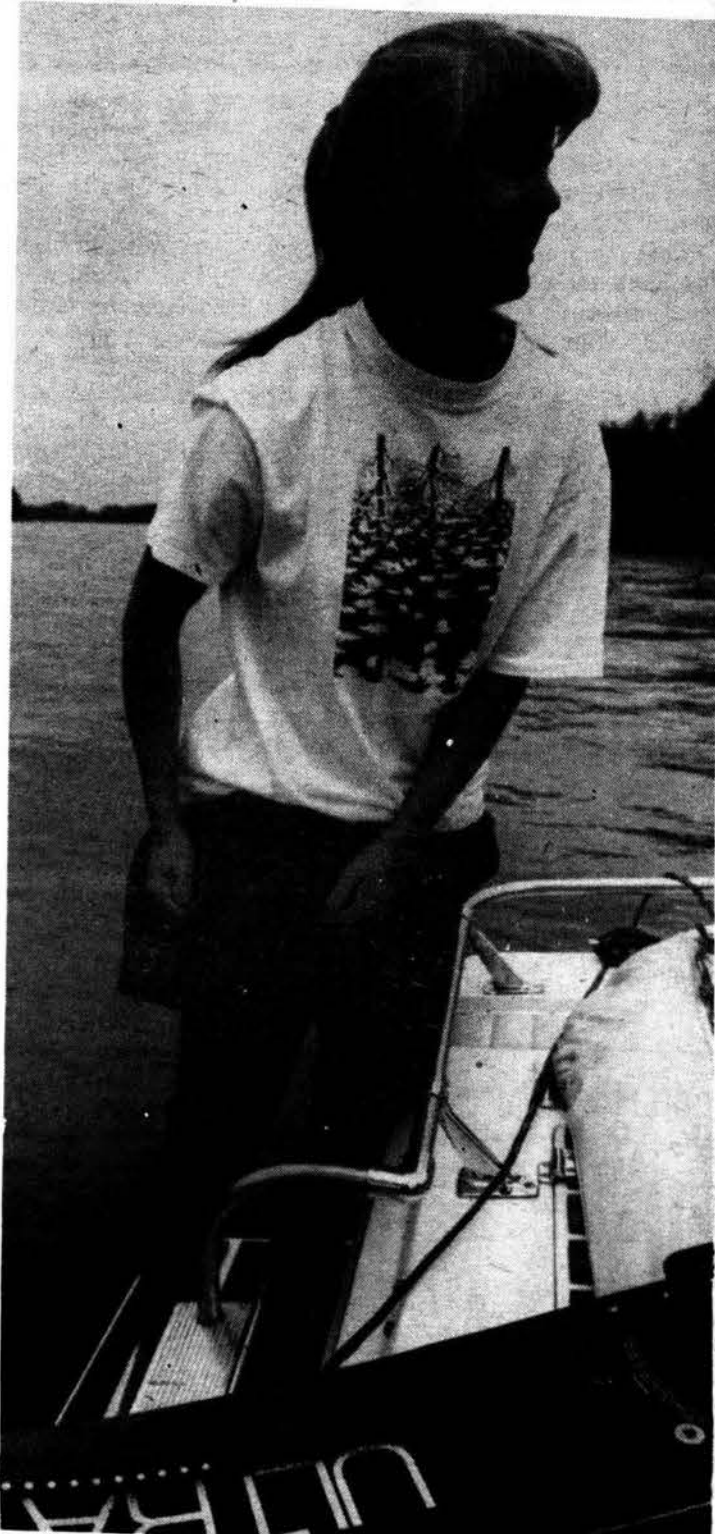
"We're really healthy for state; [injuries] can be a real problem with sprinters and we depend heavily on our sprint core," said Coach McMenemy.

"This is the best group of sprinters I've had at Central since I've been here."

Mr. McMenemy said that because the sprinters have "done a lot of speed work and the field events have worked a lot on technique," the team has a good chance at districts and state.



Senior Kelly Yancy displays his form in a sprint during a recent Central Track Meet. Both the boys' and girls' teams took Metro and look forward to the State Meet this month.



Senior Debbie Tyler puts on her wet suit in preparation for a late April swim on the Missouri River. Many Centralites water-ski for rest and relaxation during the summer months on area lakes. Debbie said, "I can't think of anything I'd rather do on a hot summer day than spend an afternoon on a lake skiing and catching rays."