

Central High School
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Omaha, NE 68102

Central High School REGISTER

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English teacher enjoys excitement of skydiving

— Hilary Foster —

When Mrs. Terrie Saunders, Central English teacher, jumped out of a plane a year ago in April, she was not reacting to stress inflicted by her students. In fact, she was jumping out of a plane for fun; skydiving is a recreational activity for her and her husband.

For Mr. Jim Saunders, who runs Skydivers of Omaha, jumping out of planes has been more than recreation, it is his business. He has been skydiving for about twenty years, and for the last fourteen years has been taking other people with him.

"I wanted to see what it was like," Mrs. Saunders said. Although she has been in planes several times, sometimes flying the divers, Mrs. Saunders had never jumped. She said that it was different than most people's impression of skydiving.

"I had a good time," she said. "You can't describe it; you have to do it. It's an unusual sensation."

Mr. Saunders' first experience with skydiving was more than twenty years ago. "I was working in a trucking line in the offices and I met a dispatcher who told me about skydiving," Mr. Saunders said. At first, he was skeptical. "I had gotten a new motorcycle and that was enough for me," he said.

According to Mr. Saunders, the man he met in the trucking office, who was also an instructor at the Omaha

Skydiver's club, bet him that he would go skydiving once, love it and eventually sell his motorcycle.

"He taught me at his home and then we went to the airfield [to jump]." According to Mr. Saunders, he was still apprehensive when he went to the airport with his instructor. "All the way to the airport I kept praying that the airplane wouldn't start."

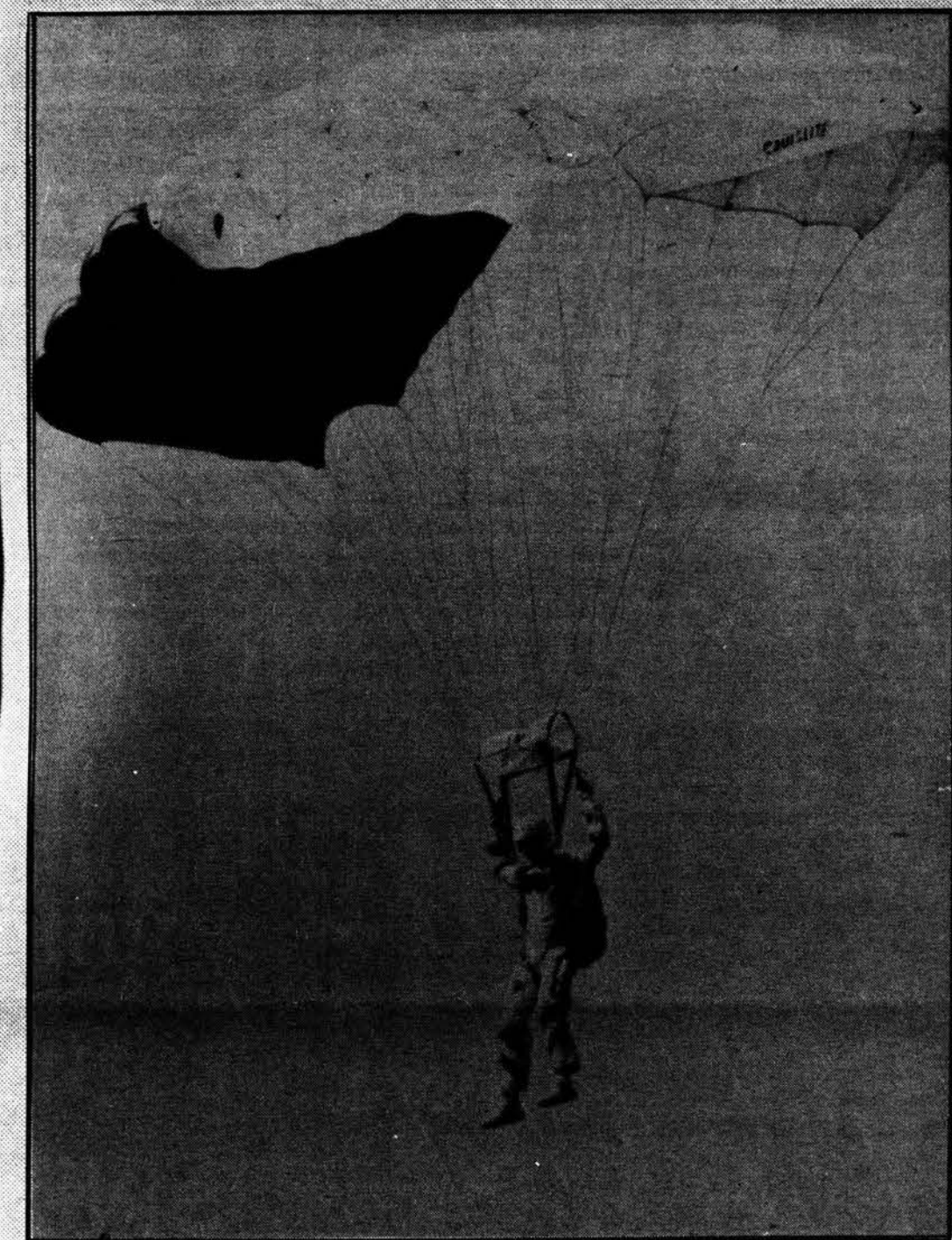
On the plane, he said he was excited and anxious. "You wonder how you are going to react. If something goes wrong, you wonder if you will do the right thing." Since that time, Mr. Saunders said he has made over 3,000 jumps and sold his motorcycle.

Fourteen years ago, Mr. Saunders and a friend decided to go into business doing "what they loved to do," he said. They bought a plane and a few parachutes and joined with Skydivers of Omaha. When that organization went out of business, Mr. Saunders took people skydiving by himself.

Approximately 150 people come out to jump each year, according to Mr. Saunders. "About eighty-five to ninety per cent of the people just come out to try it once," said Mr. Saunders. However, some people consider it a sport and come out often.

"In order to jump with us you must be in our training program or be certified," Mr. Saunders said. Skydiving

Continued on page 4...



"You can't describe it; you have to do it. It's an unusual sensation," said Mrs. Saunders, Central English teacher whose husband runs Skydivers of Omaha. Photo by Sean Chapman



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?

— Jennifer E. Murphy —

"Do you know where your children are?" Using this slogan as their theme, a neighborhood group called the 36th Avenue Task Force wants Omaha to have a set curfew, said Creola Woodall, a member of the group.

"Minors, kids under 17, would have to be off the streets between 12 am and 5 am. The parents must be certain not to let the kids out after the curfew unless it is because the kid has a job or must run an emergency errand," Miss Woodall said.

According to Miss Woodall, the curfew to which the Task Force is referring is written in a manner similar to that of the curfew law in Council Bluffs.

"A curfew would remove innocent kids from the street so that the police could deal with the bad kids," she said. "It would save them from the introduction to drugs and gang violence."

Miss Woodall went on to say that if a violation of the curfew occurred, the resulting penalty would involve the child as well as the parent.

"The parent is responsible for their child. That's why we are going after the parents," said Miss Woodall. "However, if a parent cannot control a child, the parent would not be penalized."

She also added that a parent could not "knowingly permit or allow" kids out after the designated curfew. The penalty for the parent would be a fine between 10 and 100 dollars, or confinement in jail for not more than 30 days.

"Parents need to be aware of their kids" Force petitions for Omaha curfew

"Our curfew has been in effect for two years," said Ralph O'Donnell of the Council Bluffs Police Department. "We had been having problems along Broadway, our main drag."

Mr. O'Donnell went on to say that there are not many violators of the curfew. "Kids 16 and under just are not on the streets, so [the curfew] is working."

He also thought a curfew would help Omaha and that the curfew restrictions are "fair because not many kids 16 and under are allowed out after 12 am."

"Parents need to be aware of their kids," said Miss Woodall. "Some parents let their kids stay out until 2 or 3 am, leaving the porch light on for them. The parents don't know what their kid has been doing. But parents have to know."

Papillion and La Vista joined Council Bluffs in enforcing a curfew. Papillion has a 12 am curfew for those under 18, and La Vista has their own curfew of 10 pm, according to Investigator R.D. Higgins of the Papillion Police Department.

"I've worked here 22 years and it's been in effect ever since then," he said. He also said the city council adopted it "not because of any one problem," but because the council wanted the kids to be at home and "ready for school the next day."

"If kids are coming or going to work, and can verify it, then they will not be in violation," Investigator Higgins said. "Curfew violators will be issued a citation for curfew. We contact their parents within 24 hours."

The citation is turned over to the juvenile court

"I opposed and still oppose a city wide curfew," he said, referring to the 1987 proposed curfew by Walt Calinger and Alan Dinzole. "It is not the right solution to a difficult problem."

Mr. Cleary said that a curfew "penalizes all kids, the majority of whom are good kids," and that "there are lots of reasons why kids are out past 12 am."

"The problem [the 36th Avenue Task Force] is trying to attack is the drug and gang problem," said Mr. Cleary. "But a lot of these things take place in the daylight—way before any curfew. I believe in a parental curfew."

He also commented that there would be a "severe enforcement problem for police," when asking them to make age judgments. It would cause "a lot of headaches," he added.

"While no one thing will solve the drug and gang problem, a curfew could do some good," said Assistant Police Chief of Omaha, Jack Swanson. "Enforcing a curfew identifies all teenagers as being bad, but for the good of the community, it would keep control over kids that are involved in drugs."

The enforcement of a curfew in Omaha would be "extremely hard," according to Mr. Swanson.

"With 106 square miles to cover, and about 50 cruisers, how can you completely enforce it?" he said. He added that it would help by "giving the police a hammer" when finding minors at Memorial Park or beer parties.

The 36th Avenue Task Force has a petition with signatures circulating Omaha, according to Miss Woodall. When they get more signatures, they will present it to the city council, she said.

Do you think that a curfew is necessary to fight drugs and gang violence in Omaha?

Yes 39(17%)

230 total polled

No 191(83%)



Joel Chamberlain, Freshman: Sure, kids don't like it, but it's probably better for them.



Chris Coquat, sophomore: Definitely, because people aren't monitoring the streets and parents don't know their kids are out.



Stephanie Sirois, junior: No, I think people are going to do what they want to do when they want.



Julie Williams, senior: No, I think if people want to go out late they're going to anyway.



Susan Richards, guidance counselor: No, I think it would be difficult to enforce.

Photos by Ingo Socha

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Curfew to control gangs and drugs in Omaha is unnecessary

Once again, concerned citizens of Omaha are trying to institute a city-wide curfew. Their plan this time is to make it illegal for anyone under 17 to be out between the hours of 5:00-12:00 a.m.

While the Register staff can appreciate the fact that some parents worry about their children, it feels that a curfew is not the answer.

First of all, a curfew would be extremely difficult to enforce. Many kids work past midnight and businesses cannot afford to release all their employees under

Imposing a curfew on all kids assumes all kids are committing crimes.

17 early. A possible solution would be for the kids to carry a note from their parents or employer, but that would be absurd. A policeman wouldn't be able to prove if the note was legitimate or not.

Also ridiculous is the idea that 50 cruisers have the ability to stop

every driver that looks like he might be under age. That would also mean that many people who are actually older would be stopped, too. The policemen need to be spending their time protecting citizens from those that are causing trouble, and not harassing the vast majority that are doing nothing wrong.

The basic reason that this plan will not work is because the people that the curfew is aimed at are not going to obey it anyway. They are already breaking the law by dealing drugs, so breaking curfew will not be any big deal to them.

Council Bluffs has had a curfew for a while now. Their police chief has said that they have not had many problems with violaters. But this is because all of the kids are coming to Omaha to cruise. One can see many Pottawatomie license plates going up and down Dodge Street.

Papillion and La Vista also have curfews. But the area that their policemen have to patrol is much smaller than what Omaha police are responsible for.

Earlier this summer, police established a curfew in some of the housing projects. But it was obviously not really effective because recently, an 18 year old girl was fatally shot. She would have been over the age limit of the

Policemen need to be spending their time protecting citizens.

proposed curfew anyway.

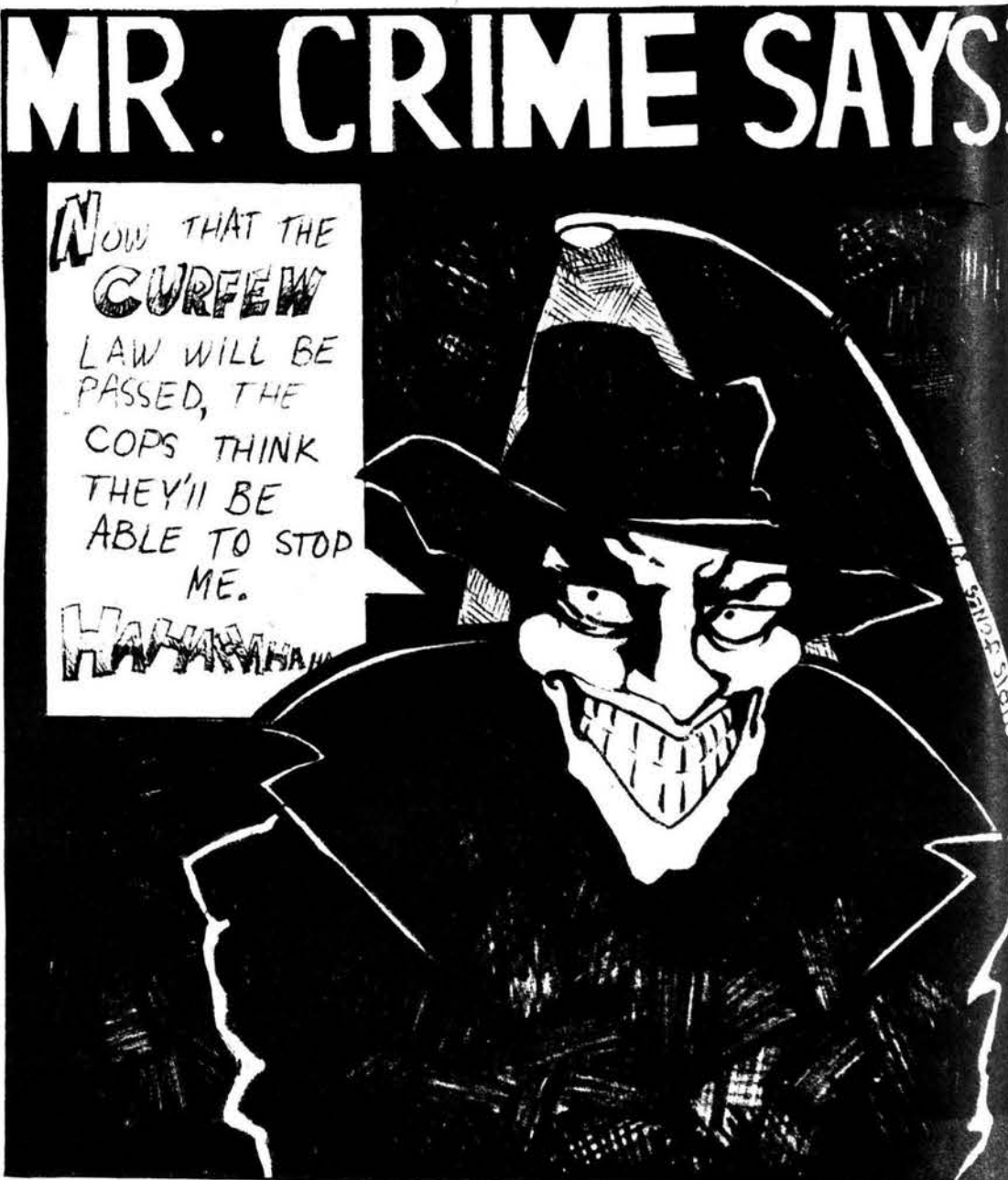
Besides, as most people have pointed out, if the dealers cannot conduct business during the early morning hours, they still have 15 other hours left. Already they deal downtown in broad daylight.

Imposing a curfew on all kids under 17 assumes that all kids are committing crimes. Not only is this drastically wrong, it violates First Amendment rights.

Punishing all for the deeds of the few is not fair. The city council has already voted once against a curfew, and they would be wise to do so again.

MR. CRIME SAYS:

NOW THAT THE CURFEW LAW WILL BE PASSED, THE COPS THINK THEY'LL BE ABLE TO STOP ME.



Teachers can support spirit

School spirit is a great commodity for any school to have. Everybody involved in the school atmosphere should take part in promoting this important characteristic. Teachers, especially, should play a major role in the spirit-raising process.

Most teachers would agree with this, but do not know how they can help.

A very significant way teachers can support students attending sporting events, specifically, Thursday-night football games, is by scheduling tests and themes that would normally be on the following Friday to instead be switched to the Monday after the football game. Therefore, students who would normally be home studying,

can attend the game and show their school spirit. In this way, teachers show that going to football games on school nights is not only allowed, but is encouraged.

The Register is asking all teachers to please consider this change of scheduling on the date of the Homecoming game, Thursday, October 12.



Spontaneous
Combustion
with
Stacy
Gottschalk

Omaha young people throw cow-chips and use cocaine?

If you have ever travelled outside of the Midwest, you might have noticed that few people know Omaha as it really is. In fact, not many people even know where Omaha is located. I have noticed that a great number of foreigners to Omaha have the tendency to associate us with cornfields, tractor pulls, and cow-pie throwing contests.

Granted, we do have farmers here in the heartland of America, but Omaha, Nebraska, is not a rural town where everyone wanders around in overalls and munches on hay. In fact, as a fairly well-travelled American, I believe that Omaha is actually quite a cosmopolitan city.

So when I hear the myths that constitute Omaha's reputation, I become defensive and even somewhat bitter. It also distresses me that the nation has accepted the false idea that Omaha has a major drug and gang problem. I

feel that this misconception is a result of the recent local and national attention that Omaha has been receiving lately.

I found it annoying, although somewhat humorous, that such an excessive number of police were at the Papillion/Central varsity-football game. And although I was slightly unnerved when I saw a drooling police dog snarling at me with flashing white teeth, I felt angry and resentful that Papillion seemingly thought of Central students as threatening enough to bring Cujo to greet us.

Actually, except for a brief outburst of foul language, I thought that the Central section behaved quite nicely. I cannot help but think that the attention focused on Central influenced Papillion to have such an excess of police in our stands.

I found the interview conducted by CBS Morning

News at Central High School rather interesting. My interest in this stemmed from the fact that I do not think of Central as having too great of a drug problem. The attention did, if anything, harm Central's reputation as a school with outstanding academic achievements.

I was equally annoyed by Kathleen Sullivan's choice of attire for the occasion. She wore jeans and cowboy boots, which shows that even she has succumbed to the idea that Omaha is a cow-town (and is now a drug-ridden cow-town).

But, as Kurt Vonnegut says in his novel, *Slaughterhouse-Five*: "So it goes." Perhaps Omaha will always have a misconceived reputation. But for now we will have to settle with the idea that every young citizen of Omaha wears overalls, throws cow chips at passing cars, and chews hay, all while smoking cocaine.

High school sports do not belong on national television

When the representatives from the SportsChannel approached Mr. Richard Jones, Central High Athletic Director, about nationally televising the September 29 Central-Creighton Prep matchup, he respectfully declined. For this, he should be commended.

Another View

Melissa Roberts

He recognized that, although the game could give Omaha Central national exposure, high school football games should not be on national telecasts. It is both inappropriate and unnecessary.

Players, who normally get psyched up for a big game such as the Prep-Central game, would probably be overly excited for a nationally televised game. While this nervousness could induce

excellent play, it could also backfire and make even the best players foul up.

While some may argue that some players could win scholarships from the exposure during a televised game, the reality is that a player who is not that good could play far over his head and win an undeserved scholarship, thereby taking away some very talented player's chance at college because his team was not fortunate enough to be on television.

On the other hand, if a pretty good no-name player does not play his best during the televised game many colleges could just write him off as a mediocre player.

Also, say young sophomore Joe Receiver drops the game-winning touchdown in the end-zone. Not only has he been humiliated in front of his school

and the opponents school, but he thinks the rest of the country has seen his error. This could leave little Joe emotionally scarred for the rest of the year, or in his mind, for the rest of his life. The pressure is too much for many college football players, let alone high school players.

Joe should not fear, however, because nobody outside of the

The pressure (of being on T.V.) is too much for many college players, let alone high school players.

stadium probably saw his mistake. Really, how many normal Americans are going to stay home on a Friday night to watch some other town's idea of the game of the year? They have their own Friday night schedules to follow and very few people outside of Omaha and the surrounding area really care if Central beats Prep.

Mr. Jones, thank you for standing up to those who you knew would disagree and making the right call.

Letter to the Editor

Students,

Do you want the courtyard closed during the lunch hours? For a long time at Central High, it has been a privilege for food to be brought and eaten in the courtyard. This privilege has been abused by a great number of students. Student Council and the *Register* staff have made several appeals, but the cooperation has not been responsive. Due to the lack of cooperation in keeping the courtyard clean, there is a serious possibility that the courtyard could be closed indefinitely. Please, let's all make a change and come together to keep our courtyard clean.

Thank you,
Central High Student Council

We Want You!

To send us your opinion

Did you disagree with something in this issue of the Central High *Register*? Send the staff your opinion. Just drop it off in room 315 to Mr. Gaherty. Make sure you spell everything correctly because we don't correct errors.

Memorial

The *Register* staff wishes to extend its sincerest sympathies to Ray's family and friends.

I write upon this desk today
To let one man know I really
Care for him
Though he isn't here anymore
I wish to say:
Ray Witt, you are cared for!

by
Lesley Russell
September 20, 1989



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Many are drinking bottled water to avoid the calories and caffeine found in much soda pop. Some prefer to drink it instead of regular water because it quenches the thirst better. Photo by Sean Chapman

Mineral water alternative to pop

Jodi Churma

Drinking mineral water is an alternative to drinking pop these days. According to registered dietician Ms. Susan Conradt, mineral water is popular because it contains no sugar, artificial sweeteners, coloring, caffeine or chemicals.

"The sugar in soda pop is 'empty calories'. It's like putting water in a gas tank. It just takes up space. We need fluids, but we don't need extra calories," said Ms. Conradt.

Diet pop may not have calories, but it has artificial sweeteners, according to Ms. Conradt. She said, "We still don't have proof that the sweeteners in [diet pop] are harmful, but they might be."

"A yuppie drink" is one way to describe mineral water, said Ms. Conradt. She said that many trendy, health conscious individuals drink it.

Ms. Julie Roan, office manager of Deep Rock Fontenelle water Company, said, "Carbonated water is a social water, like if you go to a bar and don't have a liquor at a bar, it's another option."

Mr. Fritz Hammans, president of Culligan Water, said, "Bottled water's popularity is growing faster than liquors, wines and sodas." Bottled water is the most sanitary way to drink water because it is like "a disposable cup," according to Mr. Hammans. People can avoid "social diseases," he said.

"It is also easy to make little kids drink mineral water.

It's a novelty for them because it makes bubbles," said Mr. Hammans. He said that bottled water is the best alternative to soda pop.

Certain soda pops exist that advertise a lack of caffeine, sugar and sodium, but Mrs. Nancy Braack, assistant manager of No Name Nutrition, said the chemicals used to process them may be harmful.

Mrs. Braack said, "Some people are going to drink mineral water just because it's 'in', but health conscious individuals are going to continue drinking it for life."

According to Mrs. Braack, some people drink bottled water just because of the way tap water is. "Pesticides and chemicals get in the water from farm drainoff," she said.

Sophomore Megan Weeks said that she drinks mineral water because it has no chemicals in it and it quenches her thirst. "It tastes great at first, but after a whole glass, it's disgusting," she said. Megan said that mixing mineral water with fruit juice is very refreshing, especially after exercise.

Sophomore Carri

Conway said that she drinks mineral water after exercise so that she doesn't get dehydrated. "It flushes through you," she said. "I don't drink pop."

Senior Shannan Cormaci said that she drank mineral water when she traveled to Germany. "They don't drink tap water there. I tasted it, expecting plain taste, but it was better. 'I'm not into that healthy stuff now,'" she said.

skydiving continued from page one

Saunders mixes business with pleasure

certification comes on four different levels, each requiring a certain number of jumps and other requirements such as landing accuracy. The reason that people attain skydiving licenses is to jump in other places, he explains.

In addition to traditional skydiving, Mr. Saunders added that novices may benefit from tandem skydiving, a method developed about five years ago. "It was started by some people who wanted to take their wives and daughters for parachute rides," he said.

According to Mr. Saunders, the tandem method

eliminates many people's fear of skydiving because it involves diving with an instructor. Mrs. Saunders used the tandem parachute when she jumped. "I was scared until I made the decision to go," she said. After she had decided, she said that she enjoyed her jump.

Tandem skydiving is required for the first five jumps at Skydivers of Omaha, and then the diver is permitted to go alone. Because of tandem jumping, the diver may have an extended freefall, a thirty second delay before opening the parachute, on the first jump.

The main advantage of the tandem system, according to Mr.

Saunders, is that the beginner does not have to worry about making mistakes because the instructor is present.

Although two people recently died while skydiving in Iowa, Mr. Saunders feels that the sport is safe. He pointed out that many people have lived through thousands of jumps and that tandem diving adds to the safety.

"It's too bad that a lot more people don't do this," Mr. Saunders said. "It's hard to explain the amount of adrenalin you get and the satisfaction you feel after the jump."

SPOTLIGHTS

Michelle Hickie

This year Central has nine National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists, the second most in the state. Lincoln East has ten. Central's semi-finalists are Jennifer M. Collins, Amy Edgren, Jennifer Gentle, Katherine Headen, Denvia Laugel, Duane Ludwig, Madeleine Mundt, Arin Stark, and Kirstine Terry.

Maynard Ferguson, a jazz performer, will give a workshop and a concert at Central on October 28. Concert tickets are ten dollars and may be purchased from any a cappella or band student.

Five issues of last year's Register were submitted to the Columbia Scholastic Press Association newspaper critique at Columbia University in New York. The Register received a medalist rating, the top rating that was given.

For the first time in its existence, Chemistry Club elected officers. Chemistry Club's officers are Jennifer M. Collins, president; Michelle Hickie, vice president; Tina Ray, secretary; Sean Chapman, treasurer; and Jessica Jalass, sergeant-at-arms.

This year's Math Club officers are Jennifer M. Collins, president; Anya Lawler, vice president; Luta Everitt, secretary; Brad Gibson, treasurer; and Duane Ludwig, sergeant-at-arms.

JROTC Cadet 2LT. Richard Pallat has been nominated for the second highest award that a JROTC Cadet can win: the Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement for the High School Division of the United States Army for the ROTC region.

Mr. James Harrington's wife gave birth to twins, Matthew and Michael, on September 28, 1989. The Harringtons already have a daughter, Beth, who is two and a half years old.

The Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange program is taking applications now until November 4, from students who like to spend a year living in Germany. The student does not have to be enrolled in foreign language, but there are other requirements. Applications and information may be obtained from the foreign language office, room 226.

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Chemist tries a new experiment

Mr. Williams designs, constructs jewelry

Kelly Schiltz

Mr. John Williams, chemistry teacher at Central, said that he has been designing and constructing his own jewelry for seventeen years. Mr. Williams said that he finds crafting his own jewelry challenging but rewarding.

"Neither the design nor the construction is easy."

He first gained an interest in jewelry in college, and in 1972 joined a workshop class with several Central art teachers. In this workshop Mr. Williams made his first ring. "It's one of my favorites, and I still wear it."

Mr. Williams' favorite type of jewelry is rings. He also makes pendants, pins, and earrings.

Making rings for other people is difficult due to the sizing. Pendants, pins and earrings are much easier to give as presents or to sell because there are no sizes involved, Mr. Williams said.

Along with making jewelry for himself and friends, Mr. Williams also does commission work.

That is, he is paid by an individual to custom design and construct an article of jewelry. The construction of a ring takes an average of sixteen to seventeen hours, according to

Mr. Williams.

The time it takes to design a ring varies greatly. "Sometimes it takes months to design something," Mr. Williams said.

The cost to make a ring without a stone ranges from \$100 to \$150, Mr. Williams said. According to Mr. Williams, a ring that includes a stone will cost a minimum of \$190.

The stones used for the rings can be anything from simple beads to diamonds. "I don't do a lot of stone settings. That's tough," said Mr. Williams.

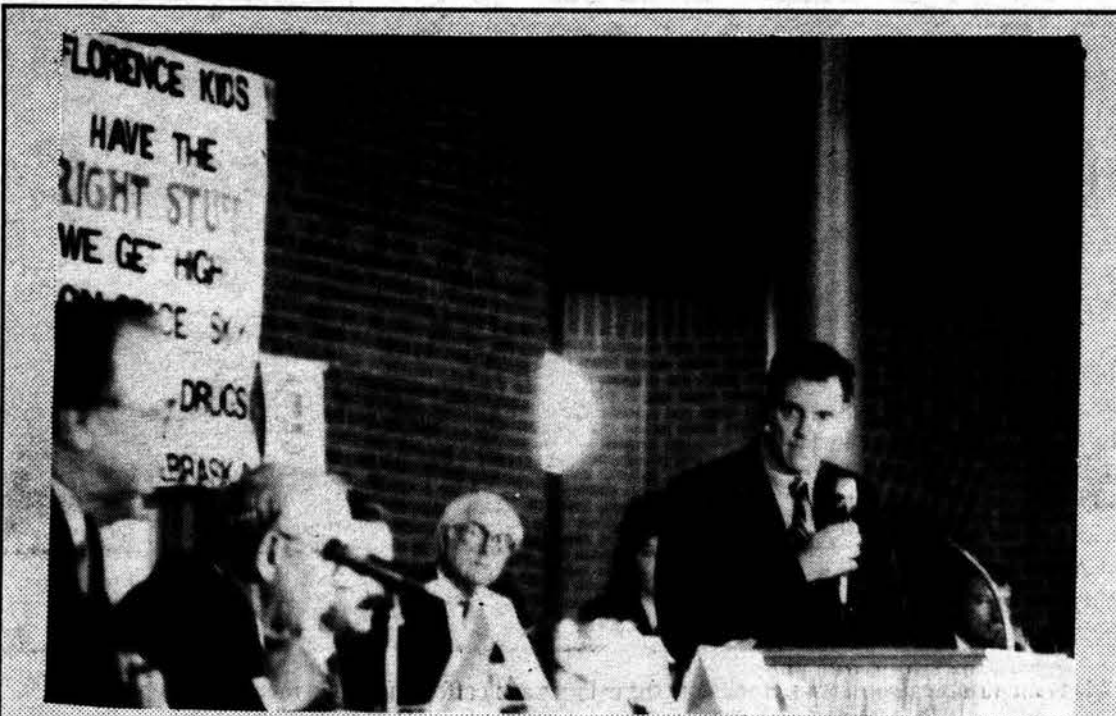
Due to its smoothness, Mr. Williams said he prefers gold rather than silver for his rings. Silver, although less expensive, tends to form small pits and is also harder to polish, said Mr. Williams.

"Sometimes it takes months to design something."

Every Friday for three to four hours Mr. Williams attends a workshop where he constructs his jewelry. In addition to the workshop he also works at home. "I do put in quite a few hours," he said.

"It isn't easy. Neither the design nor the constructing is easy," said Mr. Williams.

Although it is difficult, Mr. Williams believes that anyone can take up jewelry design and construction.



Congressman Peter Hoagland hosted a town hall meeting in Central's courtyard September 17. Some Central students attended the open forum where Mr. Hoagland and groups like Mad Dads gave ideas for the gang and drug problem. Photo by Sean Chapman.

Central seniors gain experience, fulfillment as apprentices to artists

Tim Pierce

Central students, Shelley Smith and Kate Krauss have become fine arts interns. This occupation entitles both a wage as well as a unique atmosphere in which to build upon their personal interests.

Shelley began as an apprentice to Isabella Threlkeld, an Omaha area professional artist, last summer and is working during the school year on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

She helps with classes held in Mrs. Threlkeld's basement studio by retrieving materials for classes and cleaning up after younger students.

When asked to comment on her below minimum wage, Shelley said, "It's fine with

me. I think the experience is well worth the difference in pay that I could receive from a higher paying job."

Shelley indicated that she actually participates in classes that are interesting to her. She suggested that the money is less important to her than the experience of working in an artistic environment.

Kate Krauss began working for the Emmy Gifford Children's Theater on the first day of school this year after many years of taking classes and volunteering at the theater.

On one such occasion, Kate played the part of a goose in Charlotte's Web. She is now working in the finance department where she prepares the theater's news letter, Footlights, for mailing.

In the future Kate plans to assistant direct Frankenstein the Real Story, as well as to help teach acting classes.

Kate implied that the theater usually gives internships to students that are already out of college.

"I was fortunate to find this job which gives me a feeling of self-fulfillment," said Kate.

In order to work from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm weekdays, she is able to leave school early due to her involvement with the marketing program at Central High School.

One downfall to Kate's job is that she has little time for other extracurricular activities. But she says,

"The theater is my haven. It's someplace where I'm productive, happy, and fulfilled."

Campaigns begin October 17

Senior officers represent Central, organize activities

Kelly Schiltz

"It's a tradition in every high school to have senior elections," said Mr. Moran, Central counselor and senior class sponsor.

Any senior with a grade average of three or better for all grades both semesters of junior year is eligible to file for a senior office, said Mrs. Zerse, Central counselor and head of senior elections.

The offices available are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, boys sergeant-at-arms, and girls sergeant-at-arms. Interested

seniors may file for one office only, Mrs. Zerse said.

October 11, 12, 13 are the dates scheduled for filing, which can be done in the counseling center.

On October 17 the candidates will be announced and campaigning for the primaries will begin. Candidates will have one week to campaign, according to Mrs. Zerse.

The primary elections will be held on October 25, and the top three candidates will be announced the following day. These top three candidates will then campaign November 1 through 6 until the final election

on November 7. The new senior officers will be announced either on the 8th or the 10th, said Mrs. Zerse.

"There have been some very, very positive campaigns in the past," Mrs. Zerse said. The campaigning process usually includes the hanging of posters in the building.

Students wear stickers with their favorite candidates name on them in support of that candidate.

Duties of the president include presiding over all meetings, checking class notes and treasurers records, and representing the senior class of Central in an appropriate manner. The president must also organize and co-ordinate all class activities. The vice president must assist the president wherever needed and carry out any orders given by the president.

The senior class secretary must record the minutes of all meetings. The secretary must also carry out any duties assigned by the class president.

The treasurer's duties include maintaining a set of books telling of all class transactions.

Also included in the treasurer's duties is the responsibility for all monies of the senior class and any activity assigned by the president.

The boys and girls sergeant-at-arms duties include maintaining order of all class meetings and other tasks assigned by the president.

All class officers help in the measuring of cap and gowns and "the senior class officers traditionally plan the class reunions," Mrs. Zerse said.

Duties of the officers start immediately following the final elections, said Mrs. Zerse.

Every class officer must attend all meetings. The meetings are held either before or after school, depending on the officers schedules.

The regularity of the meetings "varies from year to year, depending upon how responsible and active they are,"

said Mrs. Zerse.

Money raising activities and senior activities are discussed during the meetings. Money raising activities in the past have included selling T-shirts. The money raised helps pay for senior activities such as picnics, sport tournaments and scavenger hunts, said Mrs. Zerse.

Campaigning for a senior class office will certainly help students with elections in the future, Mrs. Zerse said.

"I think it kind of rounds them out and gives them a little more confidence than a kid whose never attempted something like that before," Mr. Moran said.

All senior class activities run smoothly if the officers in charge are responsible and willing to work, said Mr. Moran.

"It's a different system," said Mrs. Zerse, "and it's a Central tradition like many other things here that seem to work very well."

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National T.V. Features Central, Mad Dads

— Keri Babe —

As students approached the front doors of Central on the morning of September 20, some were amazed with the sights of television cameras, audio equipment, monitors and reporters. This was the setting of the CBS Morning Show at Central.

Central was chosen as the setting for the CBS Morning Show's program on drugs in high schools.

The live, nationally televised program was intended to demonstrate how drugs are affecting not only Omaha, but area high schools as well.

The five day tour included the cities of Philadelphia, Miami, Omaha, Phoenix, and San Diego. Each program portrayed a different drug-related angle aimed at high school students within that city.

CBS anchorwoman Kathleen Sullivan described it as a week for teaching children and parents to talk about drugs and what to do if the problem should ever occur.

According to John Mason, reporter/anchor for KETV 3, Central High School was chosen for the site of filming instead of other OPS high schools because of "Central's traditional older-looking appearance and its location down-



Kathleen Sullivan, host of the CBS Morning Show, interviewed Mayor P.J. Morgan, superintendent Norbert Schuerman, and students Monica White and Dean Wymer. Photo by Andre Gilmore

town. Many people do not believe that can happen in a city like Omaha, but it can happen anywhere," said Mr. Mason.

Mayor P.J. Morgan agreed with Mr. Mason, saying that Central was chosen for its location. Mayor Morgan said that the show reflected a positive image for Omaha and for Central.

"Omaha is taking a positive step in recognizing that there is a problem, and in order

to solve the problem we just have to recognize it. We're taking progressive instead of reactive measures," said Mayor Morgan.

When asked if there was anything he would have liked to emphasize more in the morning show, the mayor said, "I would have liked to project the spirit of Omaha which is very pro-active with everyone playing a part.

"The federal government and money alone will not

solve the problem. It takes everyone working together," he said.

According to a nationwide Wall Street Journal/NBC news poll, three out of four Americans feel they have been touched personally by drugs. A remarkable 43 percent say that drugs are the nation's single most important issue.

How do drugs influence a friendly midwestern city and what can be done to stop

them?

Omaha Housing director, Julia Parker, says, "Omaha has unwillingly let the drug problem creep up on us and it won't end over-night. It will take the community banding together to rid ourselves of drugs." Ms. Parker believes that it is up to parents to be responsible and to educate their children about drugs.

Both the mayor and Ms. Parker said that they feel the newly-introduced drug free zones are making tremendous progress.

Mad Dads member, Eddie Staton, who appeared on the CBS Morning Show, and Mayor Morgan both said that they felt that CBS was interested in Mad Dads because not often do a group of black males bond together and stand up against an entire city.

Mr. Staton said that he felt Central was a good choice because it is racially, socially, and economically mixed. He said, "Central has a reputation for good academics and athletics."

Mr. Staton also said the message that the CBS Morning show gave viewers was an important one, portraying Central as a leader. As Mr. Staton said, "The kids, the staff, and the school deserve it."

Fathers fight drug war, receive attention

— Alyson Adams —

What local organization is painting over graffiti, developing anti-drug programs, and shining bright helicopter lights on popular drug corners?

MAD DADS, a community group of concerned fathers, is trying to convince Omaha youths to stay away from drugs and gangs, according to one of the group's leaders, Eddie Staton.

MAD DADS was established last May, but it was not until June that it was announced, Mr. Staton said.

"We let the kids know we care as fathers and parents by actually going out on the streets and talking to them about their concerns. We develop programs according to what the kids want and what they want is a caring atmosphere."

Mr. John Nared, nephew of Central administrator Mrs. Bernice Nared, is a member of MAD DADS. Mrs. Nared said that the group has recently decided to have helicopters fly over the major drug dealing "hot spots" and shine a bright spotlight to prevent drug traffic.

After the drug dealers are exposed by the light, the police take over.

When asked what she thought of the MAD DADS group, Mrs. Nared said, "I think it's going to be good. I hope it gets more membership because the more fathers that get involved, the better our community will be."

Jennifer Collins, senior, has a step-father who is involved in MAD DADS.

"I think it's a good idea and I hope it spreads to more parents. I like the feeling that my little brother will grow up in a safe environment. I also thought MAD DADS was well represented on T.V.," Jennifer said.

Mr. Staton said that he believes that despite Omaha's drug problem, there are some solutions.

"Every man must make a commitment. The drug users need to seek help. If we can stop the demand, we can stop the drug problem," Mr. Staton said.

When asked if he thought MAD DADS had been successful so far, Mr. Staton replied, "Well, since we've gotten so much national press, we must

be doing something right."

He also indicated that one source of Omaha's drug problem is the prejudice still remaining against blacks. Mr. Staton said he understands that there is a lot of peer pressure and that it can be hard to say "no" to

Helicopters fly over the major drug "hot spots" and shine a bright spotlight to prevent drug traffic.

drugs sometimes. "It's tough being kids today," Staton said, but he said that he believes that with the right kind of support, Omaha can fight the problem and win.

Mr. Staton is the father of six children and has had no problems with drugs in his family. He said that this is a result of positive parenting and constant support through the years.

"We have to draw attention to the positive things kids are doing, not just the negative," said Mr. Staton.



MAD DADS is one of the groups trying to combat the spread of drugs, gangs, and violence in Omaha and create a positive atmosphere for today's youth. Photo by Allie Green



Mortimor's Dance with Benjamin Rouch

"Hey babe, got a name?" Bobo wooed to the new girl we discovered in our lunch hour. I bet him his tuna salad sandwich for my anchovy pretzels that he couldn't get this girl to go to Homecoming with him, and at the sight of her Mike Tyson impression, I am going to have a very well-balanced meal.

That's too bad for Bobo, he always considered himself to be a ladies man of sorts, Doctor Love if you will. This must have really dented the lady killer's ego.

I didn't care, I probably should have, but I didn't. Mortimor got me a date with some foreign exchange student so at least I was set. I didn't want to have to brave the "getting a date" scene. I'd seen too many buddies of mine come back with glazed looks pasted upon their faces after an unsuccessful "pick up" mission: crash and burn and no survivors. Thank God for Mortimor.

I was excited about my first Homecoming; they always looked good in the movies and apart from my not knowing my date, I figured what could go wrong? Hmph. I should've remembered all those glazed faces: crash and burn and no survivors. I turned out to be the first casualty.

Prince Charming and the Tie

Dressing was a chore: stiff shirt, stiff slacks, and a jacket of lead. I could barely breathe let alone move. And the itch! All nice clothes itched for some reason or another. The tie was the worst, though. It cut off the circulation to my head as the tie literally came alive and attacked me. Death by tie, and I haven't even seen my date.

Once it was all said and done, however, I did look rather "dandy." I felt almost majestic, in a way, proud and noble like a knight in shining armor.

But I was nervous now as I prepared to meet my

princess. I may have looked like a brave knight, but I didn't feel like one. Mortimor didn't help matters, either.

"Any last minute advice?" I asked.

"Remember the Alamo," was all he could muster.

"Thanks, Mort," I said wondering what all the talk about war was about. "You've been a big help."

A Clockwork Danger

I arrived at Nicolette's house over two hours late. Two hours, I thought, you're making a good impression. It wasn't my fault, though. She lived out in the suburbs where all the streets had minds of their own. The streets led to dead ends or circles or skipped or disappeared or did everything else to confuse the innocent driver.

Talk about being late. It wasn't my fault she lived out in this maze of the boon docks. She should be thankful I'm only two hours late; she should be thankful I came out this far in the first place! Talk about being late.

I got out of my car and started up her sidewalk, cursing. I was lean, I was mean, and she better not fuss about me being a little late! Straight up, I thought.

You know you're stressed when the time shows your manhood.

And then it hit me: I forgot to get her a corsage. I am in serious trouble, I thought. I reflected a moment to weigh my options, evaluate the situation. I am in serious trouble, I evaluated, SERIOUS TROUBLE. No longer was I lean or mean but scared for my miserable life.

I didn't want to die, so I did what any guy would do in this situation: I got back in my car and drove home. Just kidding! I picked a wilted carnation from the neighbor's flower bed and headed toward my date's door, patting myself on the back the whole time for being so quick on my feet.

Her mother opened the door, and once again I knew I was in trouble. She hadn't spoken a word yet, but I knew. I think it was the sudden rush of coldness which penetrated my soul and her icy stare in the fashion of

Medusa that tipped me off. Or maybe it was just a lucky guess.

"Is Nicolette here?" I asked brightly as I tried to cover up my remedial French pronunciation.

"SHE HAS BEEN WAITING FOR—" her mother began to screech before I interrupted her with numerous apologies, falling to her feet in an effort to be spared. It sort of worked because she went and got Nicolette.

But then there were pictures...pictures, pictures, pictures. I don't even want to discuss how many pictures Nicolette's mom took, and I for one, wasn't about to protest.

Dinner was worse than anything previously documented. It was during dinner that I first found out Nicolette didn't speak a word of English, not a word. I was going to kill Mortimor the next time I saw him.

We had gone to a French restaurant, thank God, and I let Nicolette order for the both of us. I was starving and I figured she would know what to get, besides, I couldn't read the menu. Big mistake on my part. Nicolette ordered us each a leaf of lettuce and a glass of ice, hold the water, please. I was stunned as well as starved: not even a lousy diet coke. I just smiled, trying to avoid friction, and chomped sinisterly on my ice.

All's Well That Ends Well

It was during my third helping of ice that I wanted to die. This night had been a disaster. My clothes were causing me the utmost pain, a mother wanted to lynch me, and my date couldn't speak to me—I can't wait till next year. Crash and burn and no survivors.

The dance was my salvation. Here, no words were needed, you simply were together. Before, I would have done anything to escape Mortimor's "war," but after that first dance with Nicolette, I would have done anything to stay with her, and that includes trying to tie another "killer" tie.

Remember the Alamo.

Students await festivities

Maria's warms appetite

—Alyssa McIntyre—

Homecoming 1989 is nearing quickly. Senior cheerleader Jen Collins warns, "People without a date should act fast. They do not want to miss out on any of the excitement."

One may ask, "What excitement?" According to Cheerleading and Pom Squad members, organizers of Spirit Week and the Homecoming dance, this year's festivities will be, as senior Pom Squad member Stacie Travis says, "unusual, interesting, and fun."

Therese Bender, Pom Squad sponsor said Spirit Week begins October ninth. Cheerleaders and Pom Squad have planned dress-up days and auditorium homerooms to rouse spirit. The administration has also

permitted an in-school pep rally to be held Thursday afternoon.

Juniors Alli Atkinson and Julianne Hill both expressed the need for everyone's participation to make Spirit Week valuable. Bob Zielinski, junior, said, "The events leading up to the game and dance should be a big deal because they are important to our high school spirit."

Many students expressed distaste with the Thursday night homecoming game. Senior Rachel Kopfle said, "I just don't believe we will have to go home right after the game, probably to do homework." Junior football player Dorrel Morrow said, "It's not good that the game is on a Thursday because we will all be very tired on Friday, but we will play hard anyway."

It also seemed strange to many students that the homecoming game was not being played at home, but Burke Stadium against Abraham Lincoln High School. Actually, the preceding two games have been home games, so in truth, the game is not a "homecoming."

Ms. Bender said that since the game is on a Thursday night, the dance will be held Friday the 13th at UNO's Milo Bail Student Center. The theme, Midnight Masquerade, is another interesting part of the homecoming festivities. Senior Heather Larimer said, "I find it

really odd that the theme is Midnight Masquerade, but the dance is neither a masquerade nor at midnight."

Even so, Ms. Bender assures that the dance will go as usual, with music by Mobile Music, tickets at the same price as last year (\$6 single, \$12 double) and coronation of king and queen.

With all the seemingly unusual circumstances of homecoming '89, students still look forward to it. Sophomore Justin Scott said, "Homecoming is a very memorable event and everyone should participate to make it more interesting."

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—Keri Babe—

To fight the cold-weather blahs, don't go South of the border, go South of Q Street to Maria's Mexican Restaurant in Ralston.

Maria's is located at 7630 Burlington Avenue in Ralston. As I walked in Maria's, I immediately noticed the Mexican decor. The sombreros on the walls and dim candle lighting made me feel as though I was right in the heart of Mexico.

Maria's is known for their authentic Mexican food. The menu is full of delicious appetizers, entrees, and desserts. The most commonly ordered meal is their soft shell tacos, enchilladas, and burritos, said owner, Pat Sanchez. Mr. Sanchez said, "Our restaurant is a family restaurant, we're not commercialized, and we use only quality products. Sanchez also stated that everything is home-cooked by his wife, Maria, or one of the other fine cooks.

I think Maria's is different from other Mexican restaurants because they use real Mexican ingredients and spices, not imitations.

Not only is Maria's tasty but inexpensive as well. They're open Monday, Thursday, and Saturday from 4:30 to 9:00 and Friday 11:00 to 9:00.

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Onionhead thrashes for party crowd

—Lena Gold—

Onionhead. It was only part of a line in a movie somewhere, sometime, but it stood out like a sore thumb, and Central Seniors Jim Haley, Brian Lynn, Brian Poloncic, and Burke Senior Matt Johnson made it the new name of their band, formerly Relapse. Why? "Because



Relapse was dumb," says Jim.

In the beginning there were Brian Poloncic and Jim. "In eighth grade, I had a friend who had a guitar," says Jim. Jim messed around with his friend's guitar and learned from there. And then he met Brian Poloncic who plays bass, and the rest is



history. Matt stepped in to play drums, Brian Lynn sings (and plays a very little bit of guitar), and the've been making beautiful music together for the past fourteen months.

They bought all their own equipment, and they

practice about twice a week in Jim's garage which is dusty and cluttered and basically, your typical garage except for the six-foot speakers on either side. "We get busted when we practice," says Jim. "The Neighbors think we're having a party."

Onionhead is distinctly

Poloncic and Jim actually do most of the work, Brian writing the lyrics, and Jim the music. The first song they played as a band was "Behind the Wall of Sleep" by the Smithereens, and their first original song was "Who We Are."

"We play whenever we

a stereo for a P.A. Onionhead's best show could almost have been considered a full-fledged concert. It was a frat party. "Four-hundred people!" the band reminisces, "and we played on a stage!"

The band makes money, charging anywhere from

objective is to open for the Replacements," says Jim. "But we should try to do something within reach," corrects Poloncic.

After this year, the future of Onionhead is uncertain.



but hopeful. "It depends on college," says Jim. "Right now, it kind of looks like we're all going to Lincoln," (Except Brian Lynn who says he probably won't). "I can see us getting together during the summer or after college to play," adds Jim.



So what do they like best about Onionhead? "Performing is the best," says Brian Lynn. And "practice is fun when we're in the mood," says the band. "Most of the time we're in the mood."

If Sweet-98 plays top 40 music, Onionhead plays "bottom 40."

"Most bands know where they're from and where they're going," says Jim, "but we have no idea."



Onionhead on the car, left to right: Matt Johnson, Jim Haley, Brian Poloncic, and Brian Lynn
Photo by Stacy Gottschalk

Onionhead, but their influences have been many. Husker Du, Fugazi, The Cult, and the Stones are all among their favorites. They also like some locals such as Sidekick and Fifth of May, but "the Replacements are our main influence," says Jim.

However, the band does write a lot of its own music. The "Thrash Song," for example, is an original piece. Brian

can," says Jim, and so far the band has done twelve shows, mostly high school and college parties. "Mostly for drunk people," adds Jim rousing a chorus of laughter from the group.

Their first and funniest gig was at a party at Jim's sister's house in Lincoln. "It was so chaotic!" Jim remembers. The band played in the kitchen with

\$50 to \$100 a show but is basically non-profit. "Most of the money we make goes back into the band," explains Jim, "to buy more equipment."

And Onionhead has aspirations. "To have fun all the time," says Brian Poloncic. Jim wants to have fun too but also would like to maybe make a good demo and then, eventually, an album. "Of course, our ultimate

Movies rule over stage alternative

—Ingo Socha—

Central High students may say live theater has more value than cinema, but even when given the opportunity to attend a live theatrical performance for a dramatically reduced price, almost all turned it down. This is one of the results of a Register survey about students' entertainment preferences.

Polled were 25 members of the Central Drama Club and 15 pupils picked at random. The results may seem surprising.

If you think Drama Club students are crazy about attending a live show, which is a logical conclusion, you are wrong. 21 of the Drama Club members attended a movie more than twice during the last eight weeks. Other than the performance which the entire club attended, only four went to see a live play. In an apparent contradiction, 21 said they would attend a play rather than a movie, if given the chance. Were there reasons for that?

Well, most of them just checked the reasons provided on the poll sheet. They all liked the atmosphere and enjoyed the spontaneity of plays. Only two added reasons for their preference of a live play. Sophomore Lizabet Arellano,

Drama Club member, said, "When I see a live play, I know that the people worked real hard to entertain me."

"I don't get many chances to see a live play," said sophomore Molly Jarboe, another Drama Club member.

The Club members agreed that the average price of \$4 was satisfactory for a movie and \$8.75 was a fair price to see a live performance. Provided the possibility to attend a show at the Omaha Community Playhouse for a reduced price of \$6.50, which is \$1.50 below normal student price, most still would not go. Sixteen of the club members indicated in the poll that they wanted to go; one actually made a reservation.

Non-members of the Drama Club seemed more open about how they spend their spare time: All of them went to a cinema two times or more in the last two months. The main reason they gave is that the subject matter of a movie is more appealing than that of a play. Ten of them had voluntarily seen a play recently. If given their choice, all said they would prefer a movie to a live theater.

The average price these students are willing to pay is \$2.60 for a movie and \$5.40 for a play. Three of the students polled wouldn't even pay at all to see live theater.

Motorplex alternative to Dodge Hey you, wanna drag?

—Keith Klanderud—

If racing cars is your thing, and Dodge is too crowded and police infested to hit 80 m.p.h., take your hot rod on out to Nebraska MotorPlex in Scribner, Nebraska.

There are many racing divisions, including The High School Challenge. This division offers free entry and admission to high school competitors and their cars and reduced pit pass admission for crew and spectators with high school activity cards.

The Free Wheelin' High School Challenge races October 8, 15, and 27 at the drag strip in Scribner and provides a controlled environment for young people who have the habit of racing their cars on unsafe streets. Scribner added the high school level as a plan to get kids to race at an organized track legally and safely.

"I encourage racing only if they race here, where it is safe," says Mr. Rod Wolter, manager of the Nebraska MotorPlex. "Scribner and other race tracks were pressured to open their tracks to high school students by the National Hot Rod Association as part of a program to try to get kids off the street," said Mr. Wolter.

According to senior John Seglines, "a lot of people used to race their cars on Abbott Drive by the airport, but the police

came and closed it down."

John mentioned that he began going there as an alternative to places like Abbott Drive and Dodge Street.

"I like going to Scribner," said John, "you can build up your car and test your engines against other people's."

The racing at Scribner "exposes kids to pros; they will get to pit next to the pros and talk to them," said Mr. Wolter. The Motorplex in Scribner also holds many records. These include the District 5 record for the most number of entries at a single points meet.

At a points meet, drivers compete to collect points for the championships at the end of the year. The championships this year will be held in Denver. If a student wins this championship, he will receive a trophy and miscellaneous car-related items. A \$1,000 check will also go to the winning student's school's shop department.

"Racers from Scribner won both the 1987 and 1988 championships," said Mr. Wolter, "but this year the top racer from Scribner will not be able to compete because of health problems." Mr. Wolter also expects the championships to be held at Scribner next year rather than in Denver. He also mentioned, "Five national records have also been set at Scribner this year, including a fueled motorcycle record."

The races are safe and there is a rescue squad on duty all day during the races. Before a student can race, he or she must first acquire a minor release form which requires the signature of a parent, but that hasn't stopped students from driving out to Scribner to race. Scribner is only about an hour drive from Omaha and as John said, "It's worth the drive."

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Our neighbor to the west

Adventures at Joslyn

— Keith Klanderud —

Joslyn Art Museum is only a hop, skip, and a jump from Central's west porch and offers a good time for anyone who appreciates art or is just looking for something interesting to do.

Joslyn is only separated from Central by a beautiful stone and grass court

Joslyn is to examine an Egyptian stone head from the twenty-fifth dynasty or a polychromed wood statue of St. Catherine of Alexandria, the artwork keeps people wandering through the marble halls of Joslyn for hours.

The museum has three floors of exhibits which basically run around a central courtyard where the Storz fountain is located.



Intricate artwork in Joslyn's interior
Photo by Heidi Rosenbaum

and provides a more educational alternative to those sneaky lunch hour trips to Burger King.

Joslyn offers thousands of brilliant works of art and pieces of history, not to mention the brilliant architecture of the building itself.

Whether a trip to

The main floor includes alternating contemporary exhibits, Renaissance and Baroque art, along with the Witherspoon Concert Hall.

The ground floor has a lot of cultural displays such as American Indian, African, and Pre-Colombian art.

The lower level also has an art reference library, a lecture

hall, and a museum shop where Renoir postcards and many other artistic items can be purchased.

The most recent temporary exhibition on display at Joslyn was Photographs by Karsh. Karsh is noted for his photographs of those he called "people of consequence."

Photographs in this exhibit include those of Pablo Picasso, Jacqueline Kennedy, Ernest Hemingway, and the one his success is identified with, Winston Churchill.

Coming to Joslyn October 14 is a display by J.G. Brown called Country Paths and Sea Sidewalks. This exhibition includes paintings of New York city streets and "city dweller" art.

Joslyn also has art on display for sales and rental which include modern paintings and other interesting works of art.

This service could prove worthwhile for filling up white space on a wall for a big party or any other occasion where an artistic masterpiece would be impressive.

If a person thinks of not going to Joslyn because of a lack of interest in art, there are other options.

Bagels and Bach might be an event to consider. It runs on the first Sunday of each month and includes a light brunch and classical music. The concerts run from October to May, and this season will include performances by the Omaha Symphony String Quartet, The Ensemble of Opera/Omaha, The Ravnan Two and much more.

Museums probably don't rank in the top ten places where teenagers today spend their spare time, but Joslyn does offer a somewhat refined form of entertainment for someone in the mood for something classy, fun, and educational.

Parade highlights Central High Band

— Jodi Chruma —

Lawn chairs and spectators lined some downtown Omaha streets as Central band and pom squad members participated in the River City Roundup Parade recently.

The parade, broadcast live on KMTV-Channel 3, was part of a celebration of western heritage. According to Parade Trail Boss Mr. Roger Lewis, a committee of "about ten people" began planning the parade in the early spring. "They sent out letters inviting units to apply," he said.

Mr. Lewis said that sixteen high school bands participated in the parade, plus the University of Nebraska at Omaha's band.

Mr. Chuck McAdam, band instructor, said that he stayed around the crowd and listened to their reactions. "It

was nice. One thing I noticed is that people enjoy seeing Central. I don't know if it's because we're downtown or what, but people would [say things like] 'Oh neat, there's Central.'"

According to Mr. McAdam, the parade was part of a band competition. Three judges from out-of-state colleges gave Central a "superior" rating, although Central did not place in the competition.

"I pick music that we can play and play well," Mr. McAdam said. The personalities of the students are a factor, also, he said. The "Mickey Mouse March" and "Chopsticks" were the songs that Central band and pom squad members marched and danced to in the River City Roundup Parade, according to sophomore trombone section leader Nikki Gasper.

Junior drum major Jill Quigley said, "I like [the Mickey Mouse music.] I'm a freak."

It was a coincidence that the honorary River City Roundup parade marshalls were Mickey and Minnie Mouse, according to Mr. McAdam. He said that he found out about their appearance in the parade only about a week before it.

Senior drum major Larry Rock said that the band had been preparing for the parade long before that. "We must have practiced at least 70 hours, plus four hours per week [for about two months] in the summer."

Pom squad members followed the band in the parade. Pom squad sponsor Ms. Therese Bender said, "Pom squad is really considered part of the band for [matters like] parades."

According to Ms. Bender, the pom squad also spent time preparing for the parade, but she said that "they also improvise as they go along."

Sophomore pom squad member Elizabeth Leben said, "Our captains have taken a lot of dance [lessons]. They make up new moves to dance to as they go along."

Sophomore pom squad member Elizabeth Leben said, "Our captains have taken a lot of dance [lessons]. They make up new moves to dance to as they go along."

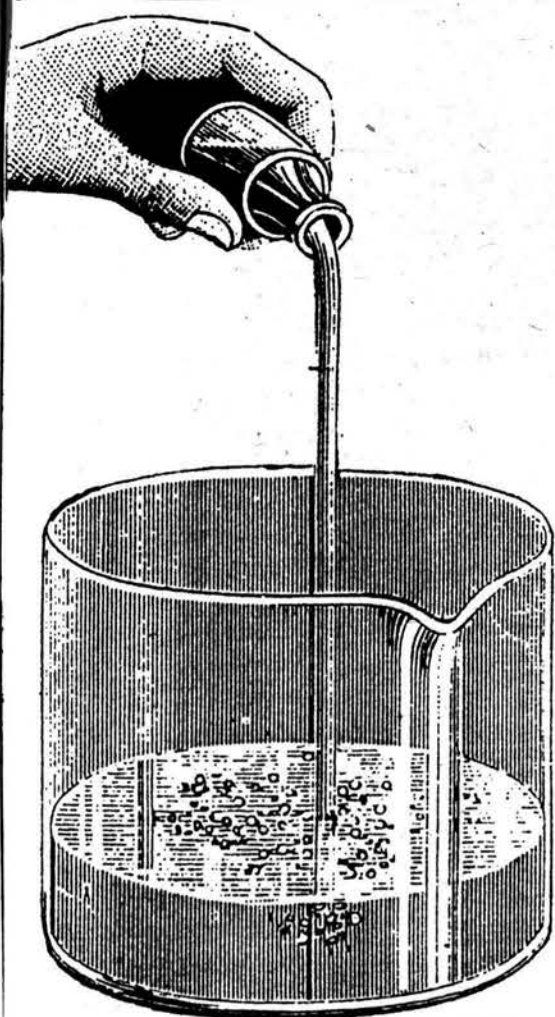
Bands and pom squad members weren't the only participants in the River City Roundup Parade, however. Handlers steered seven large helium balloons through downtown Omaha streets. One such balloon was called "Deputy Dan," sponsored by Commercial Federal.

Ms. Vicki Hunzeker, Commercial Federal marketing department secretary, said, "You don't realize how a little wind can blow [a huge] balloon around. We had to learn simple things, like how to turn corners and to walk in unison," she said.

Other units in the parade included riders on horseback, horse-drawn carriages, floats and covered wagons.

Rock on the Roll

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Music Hall- \$13.00
- Oct. 11...Red Hot Chili
Peppers
Ranch Bowl- \$11.50
- Oct. 11...Kenny Rodgers
civic- \$17.50
- Oct. 15...Mickey Gilley
Peony- \$10.00
- Oct. 20...L.A. Guns
Music Hall- \$10.92
- Oct. 20...Mojo Nixon &
Skid Roper
UNO- \$9.75
- Nov. 1...Gordon Lightfoot
Music Hall- \$17.50
- Nov. 12...Billy Squier
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- Jan. 17...New Kids on the
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Cycling Safety

Precautions May Reduce Accident Risk

Renee Grush

The place: Dodge Street. The time: rush hour. The action: careless driver injures unprepared cyclist.

Many Central Students enjoy the freedom of coasting with the wind in their hair as they cycle downhill. However, dangers in the field of biking have left some riders in the dust.

Senior,

Chad Ahlvers, collided with another biker during a training ride for BRAN (Bike Ride Across Nebraska) two years ago. According to Chad, he was riding in a pace line when the rider in front of him hit a chuckhole.

"I fell over him and everyone hit us from behind," said Chad. Chad came away with only minor injuries on his forearms, hands and face. He credits his good fortune to the protection of his helmet.

"I would have had a lot of head injuries without it," Chad said.

Junior, Matt Stonehouse, suffered more serious injuries from his cycling accident this summer.

According to Matt, a car pulled out in front of him, leaving him no time to stop.

"I hit [the car] with my

"After the accident, Matt underwent surgery on his arm and has been in a cast for three months."

chest and arm, but luckily I missed my head," Matt said. "If I would have been going any faster, I'd have been killed."

After the accident, Matt underwent surgery on his arm, and has been in a cast for three months. He will also undergo surgery next summer to remove the plates and pins from his arm.

According to Lannie Kemtnich, an employee at the Bike Rack, accidents are very common. She said that although safety when riding can not always be guaranteed, there are some tips to help insure safe riding.

"Basically, following the rules of the street and watching traffic will reduce the risk of accidents," said Lannie. "It's important to be alert and aware at all times."

According to Lannie, special equipment is also available in biking stores to protect cyclists. Some available items are helmets, gloves, reflective vests, lights and mirrors.

Seniors

Jennifer Collins, participant in BRAN, and Jenny Conn, recreational rider, are both accident victims, and they agree that helmets are the best protection.

Brian Lynn, senior, agrees.

During a biking collision with a turning car two years ago, Brian sprained his wrist. Although he wasn't wearing a helmet, he avoided head injuries.

"I would advise everyone to wear a helmet," Brian said. "It's like wearing a seat belt. You don't do it, but you should."

Sports Calendar

Oct. 13-14: Volleyball Northwest Invitational

Oct. 14: Girls Gymnastics Millard North Invitational

Oct. 17: Boys Gymnastics Millard North Invitational

Oct. 19: Volleyball Benson (A)

Oct. 20: V Football Benson (A)

Oct. 21: JV Volleyball Roncalli Invitational

Oct. 23-27: District Gymnastics

Oct. 24: Volleyball Bellevue West (H)

Oct. 26: V Football Bellevue West (A)

Oct. 30-31: Volleyball Districts

Cross country starts year with new coaches

Mara Taylor

In their first year as coaches, both Mr. David Martin and Mr. James Martin have high expectations for this year's cross country team.

Together, they are replacing Mr. James who coached cross country at Central for seven years.

"We're trying to do our best to replace him, but that would be impossible," Mr. David Martin said; "he was a dynamic coach."

Together, both teachers coach forty-seven Central runners.

"In previous years there were few runners, now we have more students coming out for cross country, many of whom are first time runners," Mr. David Martin said.

According to Mr. David Martin, this year's key runners include seniors Sabra Bull, Amy Edgren, Jade Williams, Sarah Townley, Brian Black, Paul Galus, and Jeremy Kershaw.

Other promising runners include Matt Stonehouse, junior, and George Russel, sophomore.

"We preconditioned by doing some long, slow, distance running which gradually builds up our endurance and speed," said Sabra Bull.

Outlaw plays the "Big Man" in Vegas

Mara Taylor

Vegas Tournament

One six-foot-eight-and-a-half inch Central High School senior spent his summer in Las Vegas, Nevada.

He wasn't gambling, seeing a nightclub act, or sunbathing.

Walter Outlaw, senior, was one of the twelve people chosen to represent Nebraska in a basketball tournament that was hosted in Las Vegas.

According to Walter there were 450 players possible to choose from and only 12 were picked to represent Nebraska in the tournament.

"A close friend of mine encouraged me to go out for the team and showed me the skills I would need to know to make it," he said.

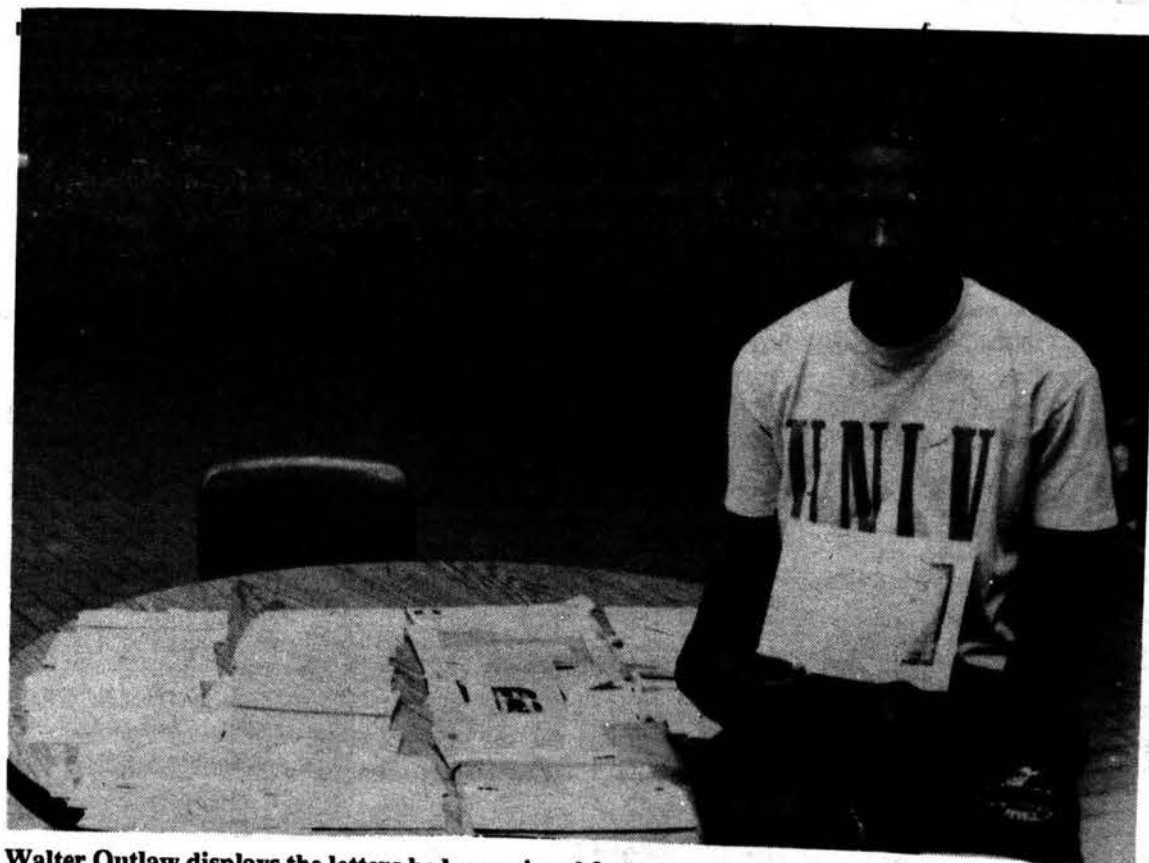
"His encouragement really helped me for I averaged 18 points and 13 rebounds a game throughout the tournament."

Team Competition

Overall the team placed 16th out of 60 teams.

Walter said, "We did really good as a team, and individually I had the chance to improve my inside game."

The Nebraska representatives played teams



Walter Outlaw displays the letters he has received from many universities. Photo by Andre Gilmore

from states such as Virginia, California, and South Dakota.

"The competition was pretty tough, but we played well together and gave them a good game."

According to Walter there were also some impressive big name coaches at the tournament, such as the Georgetown coach, John Thompson.

Future Plans

"I plan to play basketball in college and I think

that playing in this tournament gave me a better chance for scholarships," he said.

Walter has three colleges in mind: California at Sacramento, the University of Las Vegas, and Bradley.

Walter said, "I have

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received a lot of letters from the University of Las Vegas.

I think that I'm really getting good exposure from this tournament."

"We're trying to do our best to replace [Mr. James], but that would be impossible."

The diets of most runners, according to Paul Galus, consist mainly of fruits and vegetables, and many of the runners are vegetarians who avoid the protein contained in meat.

Paul added that "the goal for the team as a whole is to have the majority of the runners on the team make it to state."

"Our stiffest competition in the metro area comes from Burke, Millard North, and Gross," Sabra said.

Coach David Martin added that "cross country as a sport is very unique, very individualized."

We need more girls to come out for the team to maintain this individuality."

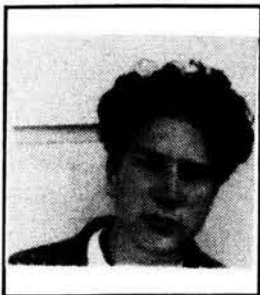
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Offsides by Justin McWhorter

Simple cheers ARE best !!

Cheerleaders, I like 'em!

These veritable vixens of the sideline are an intricate part of any sporting event that is fortunate enough to have a crew of these purple and white clad cheer initiators present.

Central cheerleaders are not the common stereotype that is often associated with the cheerleading crowd. Central's cheerleaders are smart, goodlooking and only a handful of them are blonde (and of those, only their mothers know the true color of their hair).

But there is one drawback to the Central squad of these cheer regurgitating young women of the sideline. They don't cheer loud enough!

Many times I have been present at a football game and the only cheers that I can hear are coming from the freshmen who insist that yelling something vile and having to do with bovine excrement will change a bad call made by the referee.

As a cheerleader I would think that you would jump upon the chance to give the Eagles a jolt of spirit after such a horrible call. Instead, I have often observed the cheerleaders passively look on as brainless and classless fans scream about cattle and their call to nature.

I think that the root of the entire problem lies in the nature of the cheers that are being spewed by these pony-tailed preachers of good spirit. The cheers that I am referring to are the ones that have the intricate hand motions and many multi-syllable lines that rhyme OH SO NICELY at the end.

The only merit I see in these cheers is that the

cheerleaders obviously took the whole forty-one minutes they are allotted everyday to learn such complex cheers. Cheers, I might add, that could only be memorized by the average Central fan who had an extra forty-one minutes a day to practice these cheers. I don't want to sound unappreciative for their time and effort, but I think that these cheers are much too complicated.

Cheers that are easy to remember and that do not require hand motions and strange verbal sounds would probably be the best type of cheers for an action-packed game.

A cheer that meets this criteria would be that old

FENSE!! and so on. You can also repeat this cheer many times to increase the intensity.

Now cheerleaders, I know that you are saying, "But those cheers are boring and they don't show any creativity." I agree with you completely. You have to understand that these are the only cheers that the "Joe Average" fan will be able to understand and repeat with vigor.

Many times I have sat in the stands straining every ear muscle I have just so I would be able to repeat one of those long and not very well enunciated cheers that are often screamed at inaudible levels.

I hope that you will take my advice to heart and try to please the average fan with simple and well known cheers.

These cheers will keep the crowd of football junkies and gridiron patriots quiet and off your backs for a majority of the game. Well, atleast until the die-hard fans have lost their voices due to

explicite and demanding requests of the other team, referees and sometimes even you. I wish for you my best and I hope that maybe sometime I will be able to come to a game and leave with a smile on my face and the taste of a cherry flavored Sucret in my mouth. You ask, "Why a cherry flavored Sucret?", because I will have been cheering so loudly with you and not against you for once and my throat would be sore.

Until next time remember:

CENTRAL!!! (pause) EAGLES !!! and
DEFENSE !!! (clap, clap or stomp, stomp,
depending on a few factors) DEFENSE !!!

"Central's cheerleaders are not the common stereotype that is often associated with the cheerleading crowd. Central's cheerleaders are smart, goodlooking and only a handful are blonde."

stand-by, CENTRAL!! (pause) EAGLES!!

As you can see, this cheer consists of two easy to understand words that are identifiable at distances up to forty feet. I also like this cheer because it can be used for either offense or defense and it can be repeated many times to increase emphasis.

Another suggestion of mine is strictly for the defensive end of the game. It is a one word cheer that goes a little something like this;

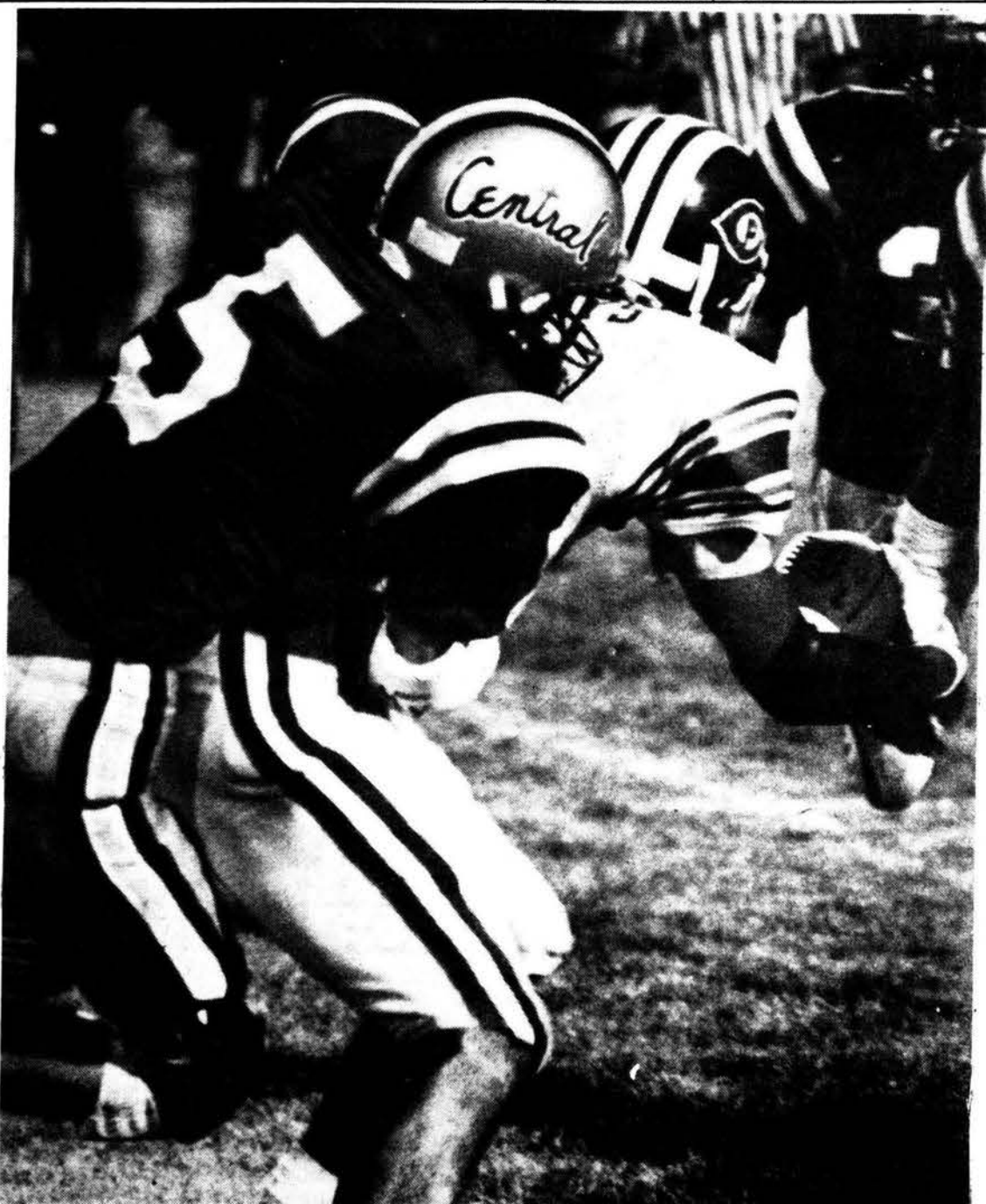
DEFENSE!! (Clap clap or stomp stomp depending on the type of material the stadium is made of. Use stomp stomp on either metal or fiberglass stands and use clap clap on either concrete or wooden stands.) DE-

Senior, strong safety, Steve Manhart tackles Prep's Jason Williams for a loss.

Despite this good effort Central still lost the game 24-10 before an estimated crowd of over 12,000 people.

This was the largest crowd to watch a high school football game since the 1984 state championship game between Central and Burke.

Central's record is now 4-1. The next game is tonight against Westside at Berquist Stadium. Photo by Andre Gilmore.



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