

Central High Register

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Committee seeking better ways of communication

By Rick Besancon

A district wide committee is looking into the possibility of changing the grading period. The committee is composed of students, parents, teachers and faculty members. Mr. Clyde Lincoln, social studies teacher, is a representative for Central and Omaha Education Association (OEA), and Mr. Jerry A. Doctor, head of the science department, is a representative for Central.

"The primary question is 'Is there a better way?'" stated Dr. Rick Werkheiser, Director of Secondary Education. "The committee was set up to provide further study of how to better communicate with the parents," Dr. Werkheiser said.

The committee is looking into changing the grading period from nine to six weeks. "The student would be informed more often as to how he or she is doing," stated Dr. Werkheiser. By cutting the grading period, one of the possibilities is the elimination of progress reports, but that is only a possibility," added Dr. Werkheiser.

Mr. Lincoln stated that there is no guarantee that down slips would be eliminated. If down slips were not eliminated, another grading period would be added, causing more work for teachers he said.

"Many of the committee members were sold on the idea that if more report cards were implemented, the down slips would be eliminated; we have received no written or verbal assurance of that," Mr. Lincoln said.

Mr. Lincoln stated that Central High School and OEA representatives don't feel that (the grade period change) is necessary." He also stated that "the expenses could be a problem; printing and computer expenses would be increased."

Mr. Lincoln said that "down slips give more accountability to the students and parents. With the down slips, the student has to get some type of signature, whether real or not; report cards we don't get back, so we don't know the reaction of the student or parent."

Parent conferences would also be a problem according to Mr. Lincoln. He stated that "when to have the conferences is a big question; should they be in the middle of the grading period or at the end? Asking (the parents) to come to conferences more often would be a large problem in my opinion. Getting the parents to come to conferences is hard enough now, let alone asking them to come more often."

"Students that are not doing well are notified eight times per year as to their progress; the new plan would cut the notification down to six times per year," Mr. Doctor stated. "The decrease in contact with the student could be very harmful," Mr. Doctor said.

Mr. Doctor stated that the economic factor is very important. "Money is very tight right now; the money can go to more important things. It is naturally going to cost more to produce report cards six times per year rather than four times," Mr.

Doctor stated.

In regard to parent teacher conferences, Mr. Doctor stated, "Every nine weeks would be the best option, but there would not be any report cards; it's very hard to get the parents that we need to talk to come down without the 'carrot' so to speak."

Mr. Doctor stated that "one argument in favor of the measure is that parents don't know a definite date to expect down slips. The problem with that is that we have problems making parents aware four times per year, how are we going to

(notify parents) six times a year."

"High schools and junior highs would be on a different report card schedule; parents with students in both schools would have two schedules to worry about," Mr. Doctor stated.

Mr. Doctor said that his main concern is that the new report cards would not have enough room to write his comments. "The comments would be limited to one comment and 44 characters per comment. I would be able to choose from one of 99 choices for a comment."

Continued on p. 6

Crudele calls 'culture backwards'

By Kate Lundholm

"If at least one person was affected [by John Crudele's anti-drug presentation], it was priceless," said Todd Djureen, junior.

Crudele, a national speaker from Minneapolis who gives presentations throughout the United States and Canada, spoke to Central students regarding saying no to drugs, alcohol, and sex in an all school assembly held November 28.

Youth to Youth, Central's anti-drug club, sponsored his appearance in Omaha. In order to have him come, they began raising money last spring to cover the \$1500 plus expenses. Through a car wash, bake sales, a garage sale, and "egggers," an event where they went from house to house collecting eggs, they raised the needed money.

Julie Schalley, senior and Youth to Youth president, introduced Crudele as the guy who "loves enough to care, cares enough to share."

During his presentation, he talked right to the students while moving around the stage and the front of the auditorium.

According to Crudele, one of the main flaws in society today is that of narcissism. He said that people live by a "me" attitude and believe, "if it feels good, do it."

Crudele said that people need to look inside themselves when confronted by problems and learn to answer, "No thank you. I appreciate your kindness, but I simply will not be talked into changing my mind."

He said that we are guilty of lying to ourselves when we make decisions against our better judgment. Peer pressure is not just our peers, but us not knowing what we stand for.

Our culture is backwards, Crudele said, because we feel the need to apologize for not using drugs. He said that we are affected by marketing techniques and, "Saying no will never hurt you."

"People cave in from a lack of what's on the inside," Crudele said. He added that the people who feel pressure are the ones who have not taken sides. "Act your age, not your urge," he said.

Crudele closed by saying, "Appreciate and don't take for granted... yourself."

Mr. Paul Semrad,

administrator, said that Crudele did a good job and, "Anyway we can make teenagers aware of the dangers of drugs is worth it."

According to Todd, "Just because of the speech, people are not going to quit doing things cold turkey [but] at least it was something to initiate a thought."

Julie also said, "The ones who don't listen are the ones who don't want to face reality."

"We have a responsibility to educate kids about the dangers of drugs, and it's a community responsibility," said Mr. Semrad.



John Crudele, a national speaker, talked about drug and alcohol abuse at an all-school assembly, November 28, 1990.

Inside



Feature:
Student faces
difficulty with
endurance.
Page 7.



Entertainment:
A fantastic
adventure right
next door.
Page 11.



Sports:
Boys' Basketball
leaps and bounds
its way to victory.
Page 15.

No more report cards

The Register staff feels that sending out report cards every six weeks is not the best solution to better communication between parents and teachers. If implemented, the new proposal made by a district wide committee will be stressful, expensive, and confusing.

As of now report cards are sent out every nine weeks and downslips or progress reports are sent out after the first half of each quarter.

The Register believes that downslips should be mailed out to those parents whose students have a four or five. By mailing downslips teachers would be better assured that parents are actually receiving them. This would also be a better guarantee that downslips are not forged.

Sending out report cards six times a year would be much more time consuming for teachers. As of now the proposal does not say that downslips will no longer be sent out. The sending out of downslips in addition to six report cards is just too much useless work

for teachers. Teachers do not need this extra hassle.

The new proposal would also be costly. New computer programs and the number of report cards would be expensive. By mailing the smaller number of downslips rather than all the extra report cards, money could be saved and communication between teachers and parents would improve.

The whole schedule for conferences would have to be rearranged and junior high schools would be on a different conference schedule than high schools. This causes conflicts for parents.

The system is not working too badly right now. Four report cards with the needed downslips are sufficient. Phone calls made by teachers also enhance parent-teacher communication.

Teachers do not need the extra work of sending out more report cards, and students do not need the extra pressure of anticipating a downslip or report card every three weeks.

Absence policy absurd

Now that the semester is approaching its final weeks, students are tallying up their sick days, wondering if they can spare a day to get caught up on some much-deserved sleep. Unfortunately, most of us feel as though we can't miss another day. Most of us are rapidly approaching the ten-day limit and can't afford to get sick, much less take a mental health day.

As a consequence to this ridiculous absence policy that came into being just this year, students are walking around Central High School ill. And not just with a little cough or a headache, but rather with illnesses such as mononucleosis and pneumonia.

Mononucleosis often requires an absence of more than ten days. In fact, often times, it demands an absence of four to six weeks. Likewise, pneumonia, if not properly treated, can cause a person to end up in the hospital for a lengthy stay. A ten-day absence is not going to cut it

in such cases.

The fact that students are coming to school when they are so obviously in need of rest and medical care, is absurd. The school board should recognize that not only is this not in the best interest of the sick student, but also, this jeopardizes the health of the rest of the school.

Last year's absence policy allowed a student to miss up to ten days with a note from a parent and then any days missed beyond the ten, had to be excused by a doctor's note. This gave the student the rest and care that was needed, protected other students from unnecessary illnesses, and generally kept everyone happy.

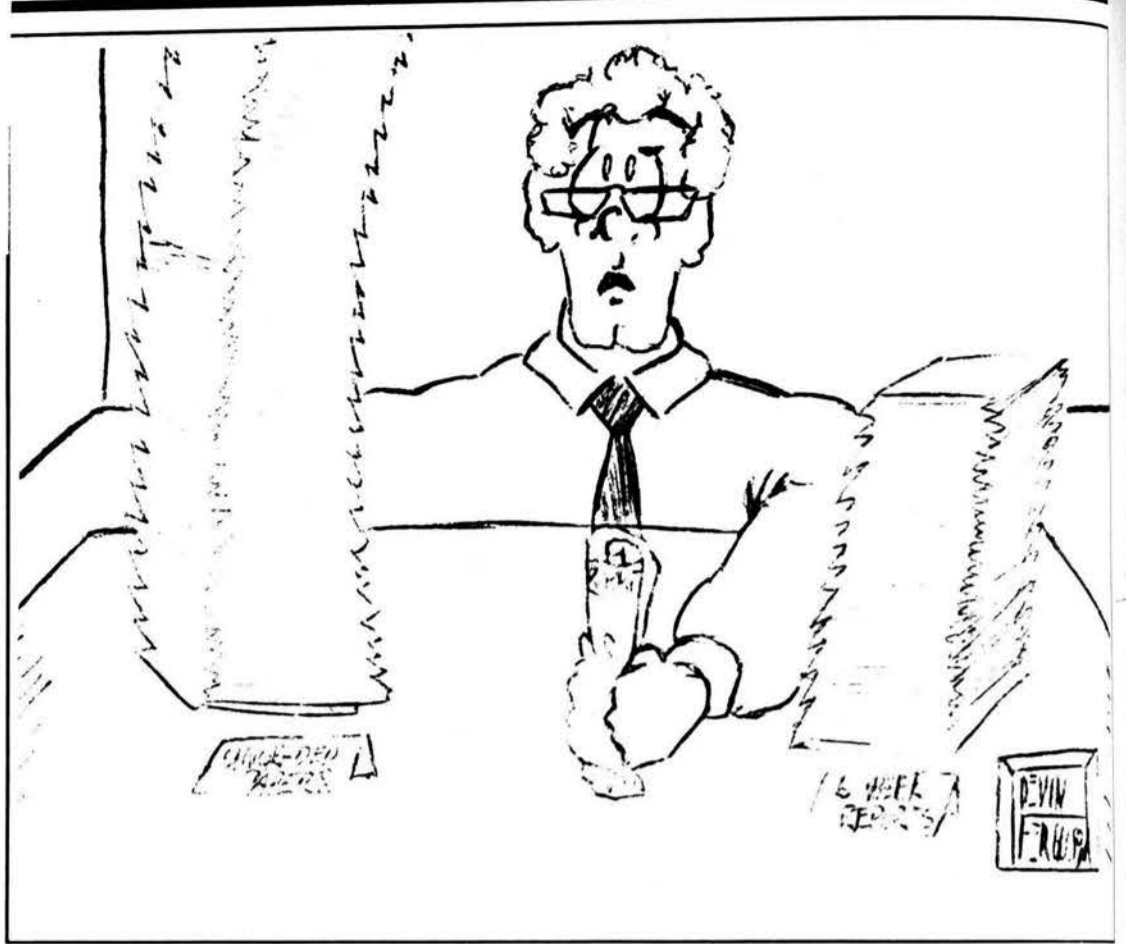
The students who need the rest should feel that they can take it without having to worry about failing because they may have missed too many days. The administration should base their decisions on the health needs of the students and not by the policies of other schools.

Cafeteria congestion corrected

The Central High Register wishes to commend the administration on the new lunch line that was recently added to the cafeteria. The third lunch line, which opened Monday, December 10, distributes the student population who eat in the cafeteria into three lines, making for a more

efficient lunch hour.

This reduces the terrible congestion and the long lines which were causing students a delay in getting their lunches until close to the end of their allotted lunch hour. The third line is a wise decision, one which will benefit everyone concerned.



Centralite Voices

Should report cards be sent out every six weeks in place of progress reports?

Yes 33 (17%) No 160 (83%) Total 193



Yes. It would be easier. You could keep better track of your grades.

-Tom Morrison
Senior



No. Because if we get them every six weeks, we won't have time to improve.

-Kim Teel
Junior



Yes. Because then you know what kind of grades you're getting. Some teachers don't ever send out progress reports.

-Carey Ishii
Sophomore



No. If we do badly on a couple of tests, you won't have time to raise your grades.

-Dragos Dorneanu
Freshman



No. Report cards should be given twice a year because we need more time to bring up our grades.

-Brian Bolden
Junior



No. With downslips more accountability is involved on all sides. Report cards don't have to be signed, progress reports do.

-Mr. Lincoln
Social Studies

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Photos/Sean Chapman



In a Manner of Speaking
Shelly Barkes

Looks can be deceiving

You never get a second chance to make a first impression. This, of course, is true. But someone recently made me question the importance of them.

I am sitting in American Government sophomore year, eagerly awaiting my placement in that ever-popular seating chart. Again, it's the second seat, first row. A moment later someone is placed next to me. I casually glance over at the person with whom I will be spending the next semester.

This individual obviously dresses to make impressions. He's decked out in black, ripped jeans, a concert T-shirt, and a leather jacket. He has carefully chosen the hair-cut to suit him. I ask him how often it is necessary for him to shave his head to get that attractive stubbly look. A glare from him tells me that it is really none of my business. The ensemble is adorned with an array of bracelets and an earring which dangles from his ear (the left one, of course). The tattoo on his forearm is very

interesting, also. I ask him if he realizes that he will have that for the rest of his life. Another glare. I guess he knew.

Two years later, I'm unemployed, and a

He's got one of the best personalities I've found, and I feel like I can tell him anything.

One day, Joe reminds me of a certain American Government class. He just happens to be that neighbor-o-mine. Could this be the hooligan I sat next to? He's changed a little, the hair has grown out and the manager won't let him wear the ripped jeans. I tell him of my first impression of him and he informs me that he thought I was a complete snob. We both get a laugh out of it. I guess we just got off to a bad start.

It just goes to show that, although important, first impressions can't reveal everything. Joe is one of my closest friends, even though we don't travel in the same social circles or like the same music. I think people should be a little more open-minded about that seating chart and about the people sitting next to them.

*Names have been changed to protect identities.

People should be a little more open about that seating chart and about the people sitting next to them.

friend tells me of an opening where she works. I apply and soon have a prestigious job serving pizza. All the employees are great, and I get along especially well with the oven-tender, Joe.* We become fast friends, chatting about everything under the sun.

Since the beginning of time man has punished his fellow man for wrongdoings. Even the Bible discusses punishment. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. But a life for a life? Are governments today justified in killing a convicted murderer?

Capital punishment should not be the sentence for a convicted murderer, no matter how heinous the crime.

Crime, especially vicious crime, seems to be on the rise. Murders seem to be occurring more frequently. And as juries continue to convict citizens of murder, the question of capital punishment has become even more important.

Human life as we know it is very valuable. The loss of a loved one is difficult to handle. But the loss of one life does not constitute the loss of another. We must not allow ourselves to resort to capital punishment as revenge for a death.

Because man is not inherently evil, we must strive to find the good in all

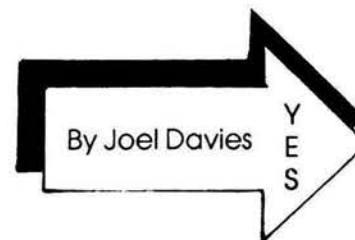
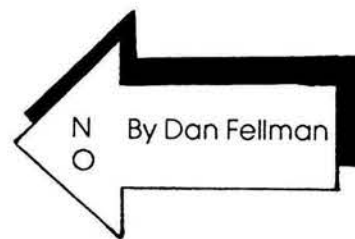
men. Those convicted of heinous crimes can be helped. Instead of killing these people we should counsel them and try to teach them the correct way to behave. Rehabilitation, not execution is the correct sentence for a murderer.

Today, in some states the harshest sentence one can receive is a life sentence with no opportunity for parole. This kind of punishment makes sense. Instead of just killing a criminal we should place our criminals in jail and try to rehabilitate them.

Man is not inherently evil. We as a society should continue to keep hope alive. We must not allow our governments the right to kill fellow citizens. We must continue to search for the good in all people.

Today, people have found it important to conserve the earth's natural resources. But what about man, Earth's most important resource? Why do people find it necessary to take the most drastic punishment available? Why not try to help these people who need help?

Capital Punishment



Should it be Permitted?

Picture yourself in a situation where one of your family members or friends has been brutally murdered. The murder was premeditated, meaning the murderer planned to commit the crime ahead of time. How would it make you feel to find out the murderer was given a jail sentence, for life or with a possibility for parole?

I believe that convicted first degree murderers should receive the death penalty, especially if they have killed more than one person.

Some judges do not give first degree murderers the death sentence. They will often be sentenced to life in prison with no possibility for parole. Not only does the criminal get off with a light sentence, but he costs taxpayers money to keep him alive. I don't want to give up any of my paycheck to support a convicted killer.

Convicted murderers that are not sentenced to death serve long, hard jail terms until they die, right? Wrong. Most prisoners can watch television, lift

weights, and engage in sports and activities during their imprisonment. Taxpayers pay for these felons to enjoy their so-called "punishments". It isn't fair to the taxpayer or the victim's family.

Some people argue that the death sentence is inhumane. They have proven that the electric chair will not always kill the prisoner on the first try. They do not state, however, that there are other alternatives to the chair. Death by injection is not only inexpensive and relatively quick, but also painless. The victim is literally put to sleep like a surgical patient, except that the criminal will never awaken. He (or she) is given a Euthanasia or a salt solution, which renders cells useless inside the body. When the solution reaches the heart or brain, it simply kills the tissue.

Some murders are so brutal that the public is never fully aware of the full extent of the damage done to the victim. If a criminal feels justified in killing a person, the state can feel justified in executing the killer.

Letters to the editor

"A pure disgrace to women"

The article which Aidan Soder wrote in the November 2 issue ("Tis the Season to be Shopping") was a pure disgrace to the name of women. If she has the gall to say such things, than she should not be writing for the Central High Register.

She should get her facts straight. Shopping for Christmas isn't all fun and games, especially for women. We are the ones that are highly relied on for this typical season.

Merry Christmas.

Donna Bogacz
Senior

Register must not waste paper

Throughout years people have tried to think of ways to save Earth. Some have come through. Unfortunately, the Central High School Register hasn't fallen to the point that wasting paper doesn't help. Turn through numbers of Registers and see where a lot of white where advertisements or small articles could go. I'm addressing to issue four, page six and seven. Maybe the article was good but there is too much paper not being used.

Please help out and organize carefully.
Mother Earth!!

Lesley Russell
Senior

Editor's note: The Register staff does recycle the large amount of white paper used during each layout, as well as extra newspapers and slips of paper used for poll questions.

A Once Upon a Mattress Thank You

OH.....I liked it! Working on *Once Upon a Mattress* with such talented people in the cast, orchestra, and on crews was delightful. Thank you for helping to create such a terrific production.

Mrs. Georgeson
Drama teacher

Send your opinion to the Register. Bring letters to room 315. We welcome any letters concerning local or school-related issues. Letters may be edited due to available space. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Central seniors work on Westinghouse project

By Kelly Ramsey

Central seniors Mike Hendricks and Radek Kosior have been working on math/science projects for the Westinghouse Talent Search.

The contest, which has been held yearly since 1941, will award 40 finalists up to \$105,000 in cash and scholarships. This year marks the 50th annual competition.

Mike's project is an analysis of a "feedback function," which has applications in population

biology and chaos theory. The project, which he has been working on since mid-October, examines where the equation has stable results and where it is unpredictable.

"By the time you're finished you have a good 300 hours [spent working on the project.]"

- Dr. John Waterman

good three hundred hours on it," he said. Competitors for the Westinghouse must submit an abstract and a completed research paper by December 10.

The selection of a topic and the abstract outline are the result of collaboration between sponsor and student at the beginning of the project. However, the final result, an analysis paper about 2000 words in length, is solely the work of the entrant.

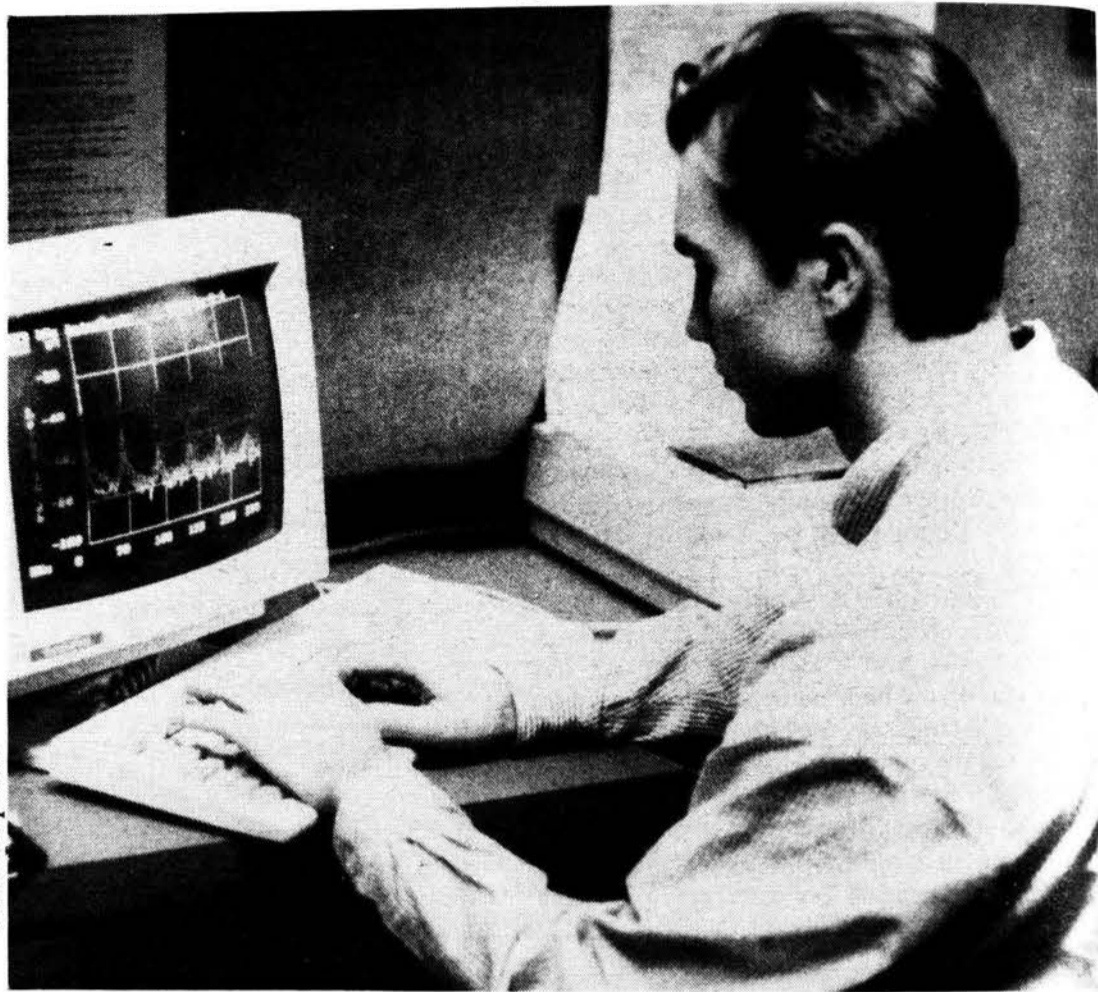
Entrants will probably find out in February whether or not they qualify for the finals, Mr. Waterman said. Those selected will then have about a month to revise their projects for the contest, which is held March 4 in Washington, D.C.

Radek is studying the effects of sound frequencies on samples of aluminum PZO film that have holes punched into them. A program known as a Fast Fourier Transform plots the results on graphs, which he is comparing to find a constant that relates frequency and hole size. Radek has been working on his entry since early September.

According to Mr. John Waterman, math department head, Mike and Radek both work "a couple of hours daily, and an hour and a half after school" on their projects. "By the time you're finished you have a

In addition to the Westinghouse, Mike and Radek plan to submit their projects to both the Metropolitan Science and Engineering Fair, held March 15-16, and the Greater Nebraska Science and Engineering Fair, held April 5-7.

Both of these competitions offer scholarships and cash awards to winners. However, two of the state winners will receive a chance to compete in the International Science and Engineering Fair, which this year will be held in Orlando,



Radek Kosher, senior, works on the computer for his Westinghouse project. Usually, he works on the project for at least three hours a day.

Florida.

According to Mr. Waterman, the fairs emphasize a display and the entrant's explanation rather than relying solely on a research paper. "The visual quality of your project is very important," he said.

According to Mr. Waterman, helping students prepare research projects can become expensive. "We couldn't do this without financial help from the school," he said. "It's possible

to do without big money, but not in the area where we're in."

Much of this expense comes from purchasing the advanced equipment necessary for high level math and science projects; computers take up a substantial part of the budget. For instance, this year Mike is using a system to perform complex calculations that a less recent model would take "years" to complete, and Radek's project requires an

IBM for sound analysis.

Recent science fair winners from Central include John Miller in 1988 and Tim Romberg last year. Tim also attended the International Science Fair.

Past Westinghouse winners from Central include Byron Blanchard and Emmanuel Papadakis, who competed in 1952, and Saul Kripke in 1958. Eric Troy, who now attends Princeton, placed in honorable mention in last year's competition.

Student/Administration Group forms

Walkout encourages new group creation

By Shelly Barkes

On October 2, the students who walked onto the football field did more than protest a dress code. They made a change. The walkout encouraged the formation of the Student/Administration Discussion Group.

After the majority of students left the football field, the remaining students discussed the problem of an impending dress code in the auditorium. It was there that an idea for a discussion group consisting of students and administrators was formed.

"I didn't respond to the idea immediately," said Dr. G. E. Moller, Central High principal. "I wanted to look into the idea." Several days later, Dr. Moller called down students whom he knew were at the protest. From them, he received names of other students who would like to participate in a discussion group.

"I did insist on including the Student Council because they are the communication link between students and administrators," Dr. Moller said.

The first meeting, held at 7:10 a.m. on

November 1, included 20 of the 38 members. The dress code was dismissed and subjects such as programs for at-risk students were addressed.

"There wasn't much discussion," Dr. Moller said, "only one or two questions." Nina Bozak, senior, explained that students "didn't know what

"I hope the group achieves better and broader communication between the students and the administration."

- Dr. G.E. Moller

to expect."

Many of the students who attended the meeting were pleased. "There were all different types of students at the meeting so different students were represented," said Kanika Williams, senior. "If we have a problem or question, we can discuss it openly with the administration."

Kanika also commended Dr. Moller for following up on the idea. "He's a great principal," she said. Chalawnda Kelley, senior, is pleased with the group because it "is a link between the younger and older generations."

Some students do not feel as strongly about the group. Student Council member Sean Foster, junior, felt that students should be able to go to the Student Council if they have a problem with the administration. "I don't think that there is a need for the group."

Dr. Moller expressed concerns over the group. "There will probably be a time when someone wants an answer that they won't get," he said, "because there could be a situation that involves an individual person, or a project in the planning stage that can't be discussed."

Dr. Moller went on to say that he would always try to be as honest as possible. "I hope the group achieves better and broader communication between the students and the

administration," he said.

The second meeting, which took place on December 5, 1990, was not as successful as expected. Only five non-Student Council members attended the meeting. Dr. Moller attributed this to the early time at which the meetings convene.

He is therefore looking into meetings that take place during the school day and at different periods each time. The list of students who may attend the meetings is not closed, but Dr. Moller felt that if the group gets too large, discussion will be difficult to accomplish anything.

The Central Scene . . .



CHS Singers, a group of 19 juniors and seniors, sing at the Western Heritage Museum. The singing group, directed by Mr. Terry Theis, has 16 holiday performances.

Speaker comes to class

Richard Kimbrough, a representative from the Young Entrepreneurs Seminars (YES) program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, spoke to business and marketing students on December 4, 1990.

He speaks annually to at least 100 high schools nationally and to many civic and business groups. His seminar series is funded through local corporations offered through the Business and Marketing Department.

"The students were deceived first and zero hour periods when Mr. Kimbrough portrayed a Russian economist being critical of capitalism, asking for rebuttals," Mrs. Wiles said.

She said it forced students to either "defend their economic system or realize its faults."

Drive collects 950 cans

Student Council sponsored a canned food drive for the holiday season. They collected a total of 950 cans of food from all homerooms in the school. The homerooms which collected the most cans were Mr. Harry Gaylor's and Mrs. Margaret Quinn's.

Road show to be held

Auditions for the 1991 Road Show will be held beginning after Christmas break.

A mandatory application form must be turned in to Mr. Chuck McAdam, Mrs. Pegi Georgeson or Mr. Terry Theis to audition for the show. The show will begin presenting in February.

Senior receives award

Emily Fitzsimmons, senior, received the Principal's Leadership Award, sponsored by the National Association of Principals.

The award recognizes one senior from every high school for involvement in activities, leadership and academic achievement. Emily will now compete nationally for one of the 150 \$1000 scholarships.

Languages have spirit

Central's Foreign Language Clubs are celebrating the holidays in a variety of ways.

French Club will hold a Progressive Dinner on December 16. They will go to four houses and sing carols in French between courses.

Spanish Club plans a Potluck Dinner on December 17. At the dinner they will break open a piniata and reveal Secret Santas.

Latin Club will celebrate "Saturnalia" which means Christmas in Latin and exchange gifts.

German Club will have a Progressive Dinner on December 21. They will have three courses, carol in Spanish, and exchange gifts.

Senior selected winner

Lisa Frey, senior, won the Shell Century III Leadership-Scholarship competition, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

She will now compete with other Nebraska winners for two \$1500 state scholarships and a trip to Virginia for a national competition.

Debater is top over-all

Chris Kunze, sophomore, was named top over-all novice debater in the Millard South Invitational Debate Tournament. Chris Erica Corwin placed 5th out of 52 teams.

Math team ranked 7th

The Central High math team ranks 7th out of 294 schools nationwide after the first of six American Scholarship Mathematics League contests.

Seniors Anya Lawler and Brad Gibson scored perfectly on the test. Other top-scorers were Byran Cambell, Oian Chen, Mike Hendricks, Kristen Steenburg and Amy Vosburg.

Students rap on KETV

Five Central students appeared on KETV Channel 7, Tuesday, November 27, for a promotional environmental commercial.

Carol Schrader, Channel 7 broadcaster, asked Mrs. Pegi Georgeson, drama teacher, if she had any students who could rap for the ad, according to Ed McCray, junior.

Other students besides Ed who participated were Arthur Thomas, junior, Elston Pittman, sophomore, Jessie Value, sophomore and Sherard Starks, junior.

The ad appeared on the 10:00 news and described the recycling project Omaha is beginning.

The project includes colored trash bags for different kinds of trash; a green one is for garbage; two separate blue ones are for recyclable materials such as glass, metal and paper products.

The bags will be picked up and sorted by the city at no cost to the recyclers.

Sophomore cast in play

Sophomore Jenny Priestman was cast in the Adult Ensemble of "A Christmas Carol" showing at the Omaha Community Playhouse. The show runs from November 21 to December 22. This is her sixth year performing in the show.

Close-up trip organized

Seventeen Central students are participating in Close-up, a week-long trip to Washington D. C. They are sophomores Meg Allen, Regina Anglim, Mary Cambell, Kristen Capellupo, Melinda Drake, Scarlett Fisher, Reid Howard, Tiffany Lehn, Melanie O'Day, Jason Slaughter, Daemon Stevenson and Cale Herman.

Central juniors participating in the trip are Jay Rezac, Clinton Richards, Mark Rosenquist, Matt Scanlan and Jeff Warden.

The trip is a "one week, in-depth, on-site study of American Government" according to Mr. Jack Blanke, social studies department head and coordinator of the group. The entire cost for the week is \$937; the school board will pay \$250 of that.

Senior appears in play

Sara Templeton, senior, plays the role of Polly Flanders in the musical *Babes in Toyland*.

The musical is at the Norton and runs Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from December 1 - December 22.

All-city prom to be held

Christmas Prom will be held on December 23 at Peony Park. Tickets will be sold at the door at \$15.00 a couple. The doors will open at eight o'clock and the band, High Heel and the Sneakers, will play from nine o'clock to midnight.

CHS sings with spirit

The CHS Singers, a group of 19 students who sing and perform around Omaha, plan 16 performances during the holiday season.

For ten of these performances they will miss part of the school day. In addition to performances at the Omaha Country Club, Joslyn Art Museum and Old Union Station, they will also perform at the Douglas County Hospital, Jackson School, and the Goodwill.

"It is a worthwhile way to spend our time because most people don't usually get to hear something like that," said Tristan Walker, junior.

Green Eagles sell paper

The Green Eagles, will be selling recycled paper in the courtyard, during lunch periods. Mike Stansbury, president, said that the paper will be sold in packets of 100 sheets. One packet will sell for close to \$1.50.

The Central Update . . .

OPS passes open enrollment plan

The Omaha Public School's board of education recently passed an open enrollment plan. The plan, which follows open enrollment plans of other districts, is meant to allow students the opportunity to choose their schools.

In order for a student to move to a new school or school district the racial balances must not be disturbed.

Cafeteria opens new lunch line

The cafeteria has opened a new lunch line to help ease the congestion in the cafeteria.

The new line is located in the North cafeteria and sells the same food as the other lines.

The congestion in the cafeteria has diminished due to the opening of the new line. The cafeteria is now able to handle more students in less time.

Holzappel suggests metal detectors

Mark Holzappel, OPS school board member, recently proposed to the school board the idea of putting metal detectors in schools. The purpose of the metal detectors would be to catch any weapons that students tried to bring into the building. Every student would have to pass through the metal detector upon entering the building.

Dr. G. E. Moller, Central Principal, stated that he felt it is an "absurd idea."

"(The metal detectors) are unnecessary and unneeded," Dr. Moller said.

He went on to say, "There are no problems to a great degree at this time; (the metal detectors) would be a waste of money." Dr. Moller stated that in a few years if the situation changed, the metal detectors might be needed. Dr. Moller said administrators "very infrequently" find students with weapons.

Sean Chapman

Volunteering brings opportunity

By Erika Gaylor

As many references of giving and receiving inundate the holiday season, so do many volunteer activities. People bake cookies and deliver them to retirement homes, churches renew their involvement in the community doing service work, and to a growing degree, high schools are getting in on the act.

Ms. Joan Jensen, Volunteer Specialist at the American Red Cross, said the job of a volunteer is "giving back to society what society gives to you." This is what colleges and companies are looking for in students. Colleges see students with volunteering on their applications as those who are willing to give of themselves and take what they learn and put it back into the community, said Mr. Harry Forehand, Director of the Counseling Center. He said, "Volunteering is a way for students to demonstrate this skill."

Deborah Uhl, senior, volunteered her time at Joslyn library once or twice a month. She said she enjoyed it, but agreed it was also a good

thing to put on college applications and resumes.

But what about the schools?

Making volunteer work and community service a requirement in a class or even as a graduation requirement is a "good idea," said Mr. Forehand. He said that parochial schools can implement volunteering into their theology classes; but, for public schools, it needs to be more structured.

In Millard High Schools, the seniors take the required Civics and Consumers Course which has a ten hour community service requirement.

"Because we had a large volunteer involvement, we started it about four years ago," said Mr. Dave Fitzekam, Assistant Principal of Millard North High School. "For the most part, they enjoy it because it teaches them the need for volunteer involvement; and it helps seniors require skills and perform as an involved, active citizen," he said.

Julie Schalley, senior and volunteer at the Child Saving Institute, said that, making volunteer work a requirement "won't help



Seniors Tammy Kohl and Carri Lundin sort toys donated by Central students. The box will be donated to the Toys for Tots project.

Geri Therkildsen

anyone if you don't want to be there. You have to enjoy it to do it and also have the time," she said.

Volunteering is providing students with a pathway to paid employment, said Ms. Stefanie Fryers, Volunteer Coordinator of Methodist Hospital. "It teaches students to be punctual, to do the work that needs to be done, and to interact with people with different ages," said Mrs. Jensen.

Around the city, students and their schools are getting involved.

A high school version of Rotary Club, the Interact Club of Westside High School is strictly geared to service.

Mr. Bob Klein, sponsor and Physics teacher at Westside, said, "The club has

no dues and does no fundraising; the club is solely for putting time, efforts, and energy into the community."

They have three major activities a month, and

the club recommends that each member do one activity a semester. The club is now one of the largest in the school, with 127 members according to Mr. Klein.

The kinds of activities vary from month to month. In October, the club was very involved in planning Home-coming events, organizing a Halloween party for Children's Square, and participating in

Honey Sunday.

For December, Interact is planning to have a party for the children at the Crisis Center. "We will also create a Christmas for a single mother with seven children; which includes Christmas dinner, presents, and a Christmas tree," explained Mr. Klein.

**M a k i n g
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t i m e ."**

**-Julie
Schalley,
senior**



Brian James

Bobby Franzese, junior, coaches the members of his 7-8th grade basketball team. He has been a volunteer coach with the YMCA for three years.

Communication

(Continued from p.1)

"A serious problem is usually a combination of things; with progress reports I am able to write much more. The computer comment is a ridiculous substitution for personal comments," Mr. Doctor stated.

Mr. Harry Forehand, Head Guidance Counselor, said, "The more information we can give to a parent on a more frequent basis is good." He went on to say that "I would only support (the grading period) if progress reports were eliminated."

Mrs. Judy Maniscalco, counselor, stated that she was "very in-favor of (the grading period changes), and that they hold a lot of promise."

When asked about the economic feasibility, Mr. Forehand stated that "I don't really worry about (the economics), as long as some kids are helped."

According to Mr. Lincoln, the Central High faculty voted against the measure by a margin of two to one.

Dr. Werkheiser stated that the committee is scheduled to finish its work on Tuesday, December 18. "Recommendations may be made at that meeting," said Dr. Werkheiser. Changing the grading period may not be a priority at this time, added Dr. Werkheiser.

"There is a significant amount of money involved in the change including new computer programs; money may not be available at this time," Werkheiser stated.

Dr. Werkheiser reiterated that no decision has been made yet, and the prospect may not be economically feasible. "At this time, we are just looking into the possibilities of better communication with the parents and students," Dr. Werkheiser said.

Volunteering

Bergan Mercy Hospital 398-6199
•Candy Striping

Nebraska Aids Project 342-6367
•Must be 19 years old
•Application required
•Interview required

Red Cross 341-2723
•Must be 18 years old
•Giving blood services
•Typing and telephoning
•Computers and filing

Omaha Parks and Recreation 559-5729
•Must be 16 years old
•Adaptive recreation program
•Coach Special Olympics

Humane Society 571-0501
•Comforting animals
•Bathing puppies
•Cleaning cages

Pride, Omaha Inc. 397-3309
•Must be 16 years old
•Office work available
•Speaking engagements with training

GOARC 345-5220
•Based on needs and interests
•Assist with special projects
•Paired with other teenagers

Wesley House/United Methodist Community Centers
•Tutoring ages K-12
•Aiding on student field trips

Richard Young Hospital 536-6599
•Must be 14 years old
•Therapy program
•Craft games

YWCA 345-6555
•Peer advocacy program
•Work on Crisis-line

4-H 444-7804
•Teen volunteers
•Typing and helping with classes

Methodist Hospital 390-4533
•Candy striping

Student drives and plays basketball with time, energy, patience

Normal activities require extra effort for student

By Emily Rennard

Getting dressed for school, driving and playing basketball are all things that most people take for granted. For Adam Hall, sophomore, these things take more time, energy and patience than for most Central students.

Adam was born with Cerebral Palsy, a disease caused by a dysfunction of the brain, usually early in childhood, which affects the muscles of limbs, head, neck, or trunk. For Adam, this was the result of a premature birth, ten weeks early.

"I just have to take a little more time in whatever I am doing," Adam explained. "I get up earlier than most people because it takes me a while to get ready for school." Adam's day usually starts around 5 am.

Adam does not let his disease stop him from getting around and having a good time. He drives to school in a Ford Escort, with special hand controls rather than foot pedals.

He came up to Central in the summer and spoke with Dr. G. E. Moller, principal, making arrangements to park in the handicapped parking space in the teacher's lot.

Adam is a trumpet player for

the Central High Band, having played the instrument since fifth grade. His handicap is not a problem on the band, he said, except that he can not march during marching season.

Adam feels welcomed by his fellow classmates. "Everyone

knows me and I have always been in the mainstream," he said. He has attended public schools for all of his life.

According to Ms. Clarena Eure, Developmental Research Center teacher, Adam does not have a learning disability; he just needs to "have someone with whom he can verbalize his feelings. He is a great kid," said Ms. Eure. "He is very open and just wants to be accepted as



Chris Thiigen

Adam Hall, sophomore, plays his trumpet in the band. He has played the trumpet since he was in fifth grade.

himself."

He is also a big sports fan, said Ms. Eure. "He loves Central's basketball team and he was devastated with the Nebraska loss to Colorado."

"Sometimes it is hard when I see other guys playing basketball or something," Adam said. But he added that he plays both wheelchair basketball and tennis.

Two years ago Adam was the Ambassador Poster Child for the city

for Cerebral Palsy. He was selected for this after attending Camp Easter Seal for six years. Their corresponding office is in Omaha and they "just picked me," he said.

The project included many "special appearances," being the representative for the telethon and visiting with the governor. "I got to make a poster with Senator Bob Kerrey, too," Adam said. Although he enjoyed working as the poster child, it was, at times, a "drag" because he was forced to miss too much school, he said.

Adam feels that Central is poorly equipped for handicapped people. He does not have a large problem because he "can handle stairs" but he said that for people in wheelchairs, there are too many stairs and only one elevator.

Adam said that his family is very supportive of him. "My mom is great," said Adam. "She believes that I can do anything and treats me just like other kids; I have to help out with laundry and all that other fun stuff!"

Adam's plans for the future include a college education and a major in broadcast journalism. He is still hopeful that a cure will be found. "Anything is possible," he added optimistically.

Girl prefers life in U.S. to life in S. Africa

By Emily Rennard

Moving to different places can greatly change the usual pattern of life. Moving around in the same country is hard enough, but one Central student, Lisa Hinder, freshman, moved halfway around the world after fifth grade.

Lisa spent over half of her life in Johannesburg, South Africa, moving to the United States in fifth grade. She lived in a completely white community as a result of apartheid, a program established by the South African government to separate the country completely between whites and blacks.

The public school that she attended, like all public schools in South Africa, was "co-ed and only one race." According to Lisa, the quality of education for whites was extremely superior to the education available in black schools, which also include Indians, Asians and all other races.

"Most of the books in the colored schools were in poor condition and they lacked a lot of the quality information that was in our books," Lisa said.

"It is a shame," she added, "to waste the education on a lot of white people who take it for granted, especially when the blacks are usually so eager to learn. They take any education they can get and really value it."

Lisa said that the white schools in Africa are much harder than in the United States. "A 40% is passing credit, because the material is so much more difficult. An 80% is considered excellent, and anything else is near impossible," she said.

The only history that Lisa was taught in Africa was that of white men. "I strongly disagree with that because black men were really here first. You can't deny the history of blacks, especially when the land was theirs first," Lisa said.

Unlike the choice of languages available in the United States, Lisa's school required Afrikaans, a Dutch dialect spoken by the whites. "Blacks had to

learn it too," Lisa said, "because they usually worked for white people. I don't think that is really fair because if blacks have to learn the language of the whites, then we should have to learn theirs too."

After living in the U.S. for a few years, Lisa's family returned to Africa for a visit. She felt that racial problems were greatly improved from when she lived there, primarily as a result of the change in the government.

W. DeKlerk, the new President of South Africa, replaced the extreme rightist president P. W. Botha. DeKlerk improved not only the treatment of the blacks but also their views of the whites.

According to Lisa, when she lived in Africa, it was impossible

for white people to travel in "black townships" because of the hatred of the blacks for the whites. "It was so dangerous that we never went there. Your car would be stoned," she said.

"When I went back, I was amazed and pleased to find that we could travel through with little difficulty."

The people in these townships live in extreme poverty. According to Lisa most of them do not even have houses, but live in "little shacks."

"It is incredible what we take for granted. I was impressed with the way the blacks handle their lives. They live in poverty with only the bare necessities, but are still happy. They are really fascinating this way," said Lisa.

According to Lisa, the prejudice goes both ways. "Black people have as much hatred for white people as the whites do for the blacks," she said. "It is more understandable though for blacks to feel hatred for whites," Lisa said, "with the way

they are treated, it is no wonder."

"Blacks are treated as inferior and they begin to believe it. Only recently with the new freedoms they have been receiving, blacks are beginning to realize that they are equal to whites," she added.

"I am really ashamed to realize that two races can not live together peacefully," Lisa said.

Lisa feels that although she lived in South Africa for most of her life, she did not get to know black people as well as she would have liked.

"I did not have the opportunity to have a single black friend my own age," she said. The only black person she got close to was their housekeeper. "She was like a second mother to me," Lisa said, "but there was still a worker-employer relationship."

One thing that Lisa misses about her old home is the wildlife. She said that there are public parks called game reserves, where 300-500 square miles are fenced in for wildlife to live naturally.

"There are camps called *rendavels* that are like primitive huts in places within the park. You can just go there and stay and see all kinds of animals." According to Lisa, common animals in the game parks are impala, zebras and many kinds of birds. "But if you are lucky, you can see leopards, cheetah and lions," she added.

"Really early in the morning you can see mothers feeding their babies; it is really special and unlike anything here," Lisa said.

Despite the things that Lisa misses about South Africa, she said that she would never move back. "The main difference in the United States is that blacks can hold good jobs in high positions. All people here get along so well; I am glad to have moved and I could not move back."

Lisa's feelings about Central are similar to those about moving to the U. S. "People at Central get along so well," she said, "I came here because of the strong academic standards, but I also think that Central is one of the best social schools."

The public school that [Lisa] attended, like all public schools in South Africa, was "co-ed and only one race."

Despite the things that Lisa misses about South Africa, she said that she would never go back.

Who decides . . . the part religion plays

Cartoon by Devin Ferguson

It's seven P.M. on Wednesday evening. While many Central students are home studying for an English quiz or doing their algebra, many more are busy participating in religious activities. Others, though, go on as if religion has no part in their lives.

Junior Tim Farkas finds his religious activity worthwhile. Tim attends church three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Sundays, at Westside Baptist Church. Though Tim used to be pressured into attending church by his parents, he now attends on his own. "I really enjoy going to church," Tim said.

Matt Auslander, junior, does not attend church. "I think it's a person's choice," Matt stated. "I don't have time to go to church," Matt added. Auslander also stated that his parents do not pressure him to attend church.

Area clergy agree that many students are active in their respective religions. According to Rev. John Besancon, of Westminster Presbyterian Church, a pretty good percentage of students are active in the church. For high-schoolers, the

amount of their religious activity is based "on their judgment," Besancon said.

Father Linn Harbour of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church said that many high-schoolers attend a weekly activity night at the church. "We meet on Wednesdays for games, programs, and prayer,"

Father Harbour stated. Students also work as greeters for Sunday Mass. Father Harbour feels that students do not feel a lot of pressure at home to attend church. "Students come on their own," Harbour added.

Freshman Alex Cooper said he feels some parental pressure to be religiously active. Cooper, who attends services about twice a month, is also active in two religious youth groups.

Rabbi Paul Drazen, of Beth El Synagogue, said that students are "quite active" at his synagogue. "Some really

want to be active, while others have parents who insist on it," Drazen added. "Generally speaking, I don't consider it (parental pressure) a problem," Drazen continued.

Sophomore Tena Gleason said that she does not have parental pressure to attend church. "I go to church on the holidays," Gleason stated. Julie Hill,

Freshman, stated that she also does not feel a lot of pressure to attend church. "I go to church about once a month," Hill stated.

Students also stated that they got their religion from their parents. "My parents are Lutheran, so I am Lutheran," Hill added. Both Cooper and Hill

inherited their religions from their parents.

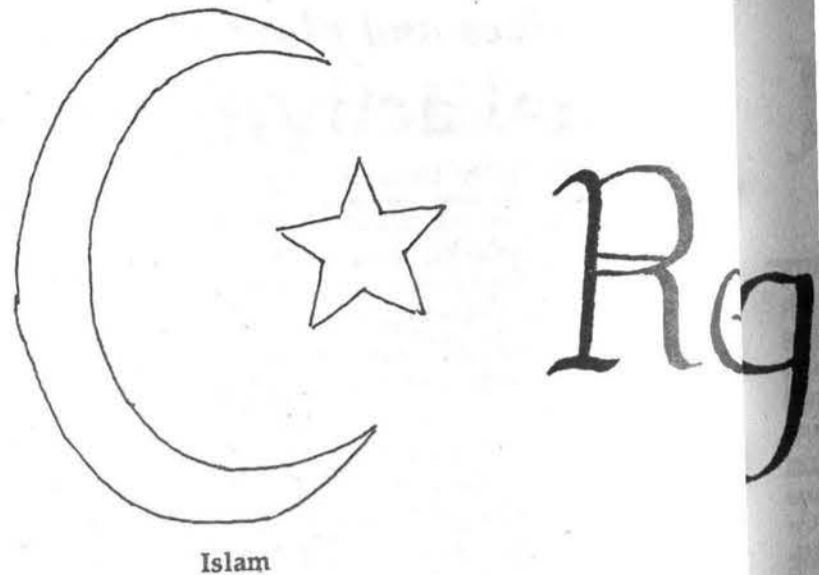
Central teachers who have school aged children comment that their children were active in churches.

Mr. Tim Larson, English teacher, said that he has an agreement with his son about religious activity. "He goes to church twice a month with the family," Larson commented.

According to Mrs. Daryl French, her son, a sophomore at Creighton Prep, goes to church on Sunday. "Going to church is a family tradition. It's a part of his upbringing," Bayer added.

Bayer also stated that he is religiously active at school. "I'm a member of 'Operation Others,' a group that helps feed about 700 families during Christmas time," said Bayer.

By Dan



Islam

Songs, clubs, and prior

Balancing religion

By Kelly M. Ramsey

It may seem that the institutes of school and religion are, with the exception of parochial academies, mutually exclusive. To some extent, this is true; the Bill of Rights guarantees separation of church and state, and public schools fall under this.

In practice, though, religion and education interact in a number of ways not directly related to the curriculum. Many of these, whether incidental or

significant, occur at Central.

The traditional winter vacation coincides with two major religious holidays, Christmas and Hanukkah. According to Dr. G. E. Moller, Central principal, students who wish to be absent for any reason, including religious holidays, must have written permission from a parent.

Absences of this type count toward the ten day limit, the same as any other. According to Dr. Moller, this is a "pretty generous policy."

Student preparations for the holiday season have had an incidental level of religious involvement. The displays in the courtyard, intended to celebrate the season, include a wreath, a Star of David, and a Christmas tree.

According to Heather Dunbar, Student Council president, the displays have been put up because Student Council "wanted to make things look more ready for the holidays."

Heather said that most people are satisfied that the two major religions having holidays at this time, Christianity and Judaism, are represented in the displays. However, she mentioned that Student Council has received no feedback.

Youth groups

By Tina Ray

There are many ways that religion fits into a student's life. One student may find solace in prayer. Another student could be forced by parents to go to church every Sunday morning. However, one religious activity that many students participate in is youth groups.

Youth groups are clubs sponsored by religious affiliations in which students are involved in numerous activities.

"Religious youth groups are great organizations to be in. It is a lot of fun to participate in youth groups because you meet a lot of people, and get to be in a lot of interesting activities," said Koborn Cha, senior.

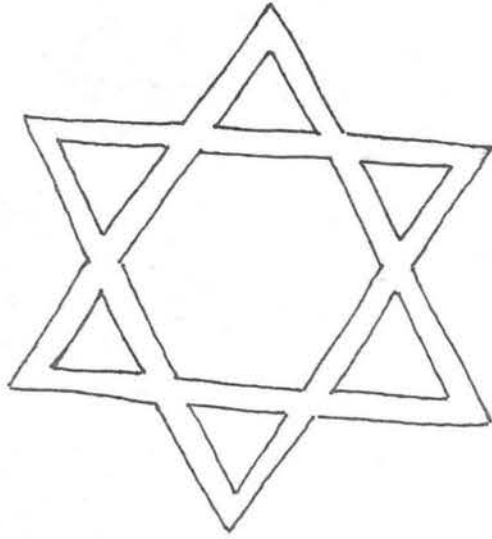
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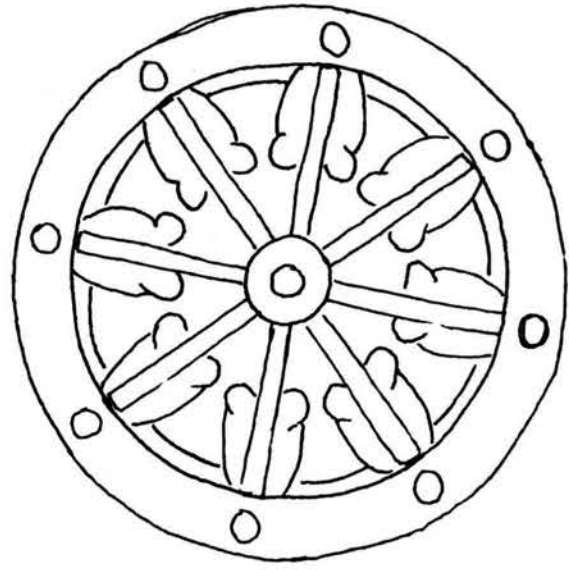
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Religion



Judaism



prisons

Religion in the schools

Some decorations have been given with few serious objections because it gets people into the spirit," said Joslyn Jones, senior. Mr. said, "It doesn't really bother me."

Rather than

Students in choral music give performances throughout the community at various places in the community. "I will not sing as a part of an organized church service," Mr. Theis said, though.

"I don't really think that an out-and-out religious service has any place in the classroom," he said, "but I think spiritual music does."

Though religion and school occasionally come into contact through academics and seasonal activities, the more direct incidents occur

voice any observations on the displays, students have even suggested they are not enough. "To be more festive," said Skinner, junior.

So activities and religion become intertwined throughout the year just during the holiday season of this involves music.

She A Cappella and singers voice study and singing inspired as a part of the course. According to Mr. Perry The music teacher, the purpose of the academic.

"I cannot study and perform music without singing into music, because religious music is the basis of vocal music," he said.

Mr. Theis

completely said take away "80-percent" of the music. "If you want to study music, you have to study music," he said, noting that he has consistently worked on his spiritual work.

with student organizations.

Mr. Jim Martin, math teacher and former basketball coach, has been involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for over 20 years.

"The stated purpose of FCA," he said, "is to provide the opportunity of coaches and athletes and those they influence to share faith."

"You don't get very much reinforcement for having moral values," he added. "I guess I thought that was needed."

Although OPS's open forum laws prevent student-led religious groups from having an official faculty sponsor, Mr. Martin attends the club's occasional meetings at students' homes. The FCA does not make use of school facilities because of athletic practices.

The FCA has occasional announcements in the circular concerning its outside meetings. "They've been pretty good to let us," Mr. Martin said, but he added that "I think a lot of teachers feel that church and state should be totally separate."

"Kids for the most part would just ignore us," Mr. Martin said. "For those that are [interested], he said, "it's the opportunity to share with those that have the same beliefs."

statewide culture for Centralites

from a range of religious beliefs since elementary school.

Lisa's youth group belongs to the Zealous Evangelical sect," said Lisa.

The groups belong to similar philosophies. Members have fun with the music and from trouble and drugs.

The philosophy is to have fun and fellowship with others,"

said Koborn. "We learn of the values of unity by spending time, getting to know, and being concerned with each other."

The philosophies of Lisa's youth group are "preaching the contents of the bible, Christianity and reliance upon the Savior, Jesus Christ as the lord of your life," she said.

Lisa's group meets every Wednesday with junior high, senior high, college students and young people occupied with full-time careers. "In these meetings, we welcome new members, sing hymns and perform services and skits," said Lisa.

In the summer, Lisa's youth group travels to volunteer their time to help the needy and

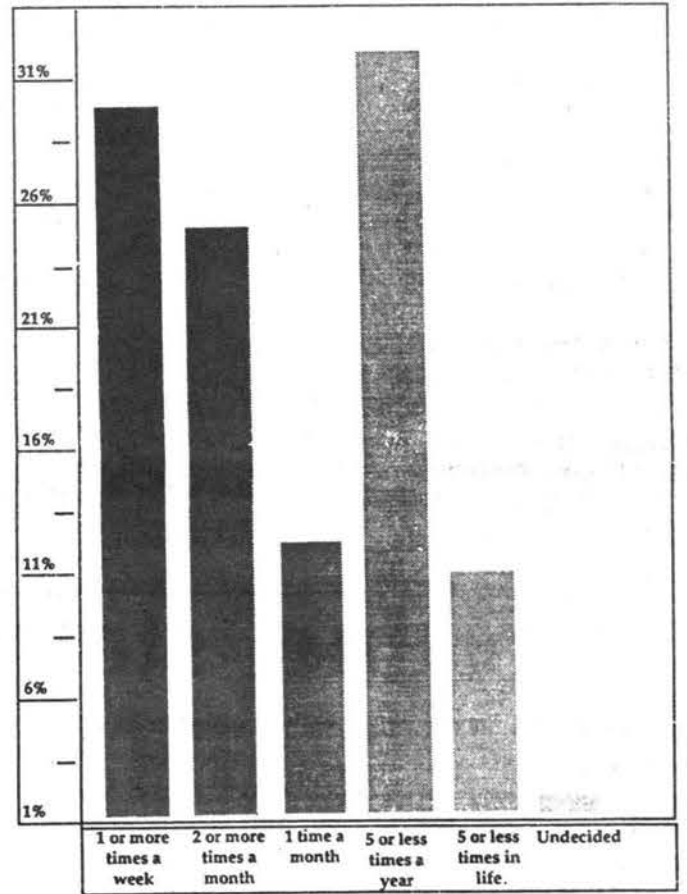
destitute. "Our youth group has gone to certain places to help build and remodel houses for people who are homeless or don't have any money to fix their homes," said Lisa.

In terms of this project, ZEROS are affiliated with "Youth with a Mission," which helps trains ZEROS in doing missionary work wherever they go.

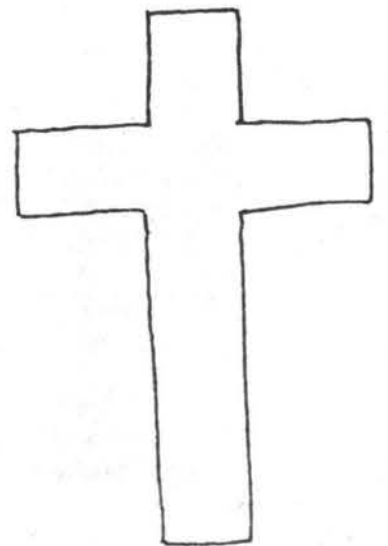
"ZEROS has traveled all over the world from Mexico to Europe. I went to New Mexico last year," said Lisa.

Koborn's youth group also believes in the spirit of charity. "During the holidays, my youth group always volunteers its time to worthy organizations," she said.

How often do students attend a religious institution?



*Total polled-150



Christianity

Minorities take Center Stage

By Seraphim Carlson

Many believe they may never achieve their dreams of fame because of discrimination. But the Center Stage Theater, located in the LaFern Williams Center, has a mission statement "to provide artistic opportunity for minorities and children."

The LaFern Williams Center is a community recreation center located in South Omaha which contains a small theater. The theater was not utilized until eleven seasons ago, when the Urban League of Omaha brought in the production, *For Colored*

Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf. The great success of this play led to the decision to start a real season.

The first artistic director, Bill Davis, worked with contemporary and minority theater work and the Center Stage took off from there.

Originally the Center Stage Theater was a part of the LaFern Williams Association, but in 1987 when the association dissolved, the Board decided to save the Center Stage Theater and it became a non-profit organization. "Now all we

do is lease; we're just tenants now," said Linda Runice, who is general manager of the theater and came to Center Stage a year ago in August. "When I took over, the theater had a large deficit, but now the financial picture is looking good."

Mrs. Runice and Kathy Wheeldon, Center Stage's administrative assistant, go through plays up to a year and a half before they are actually performed. "Kathy and I look for titles that are familiar, plays that look interesting and can lend to minorities, and that can work in an intimate theater."

The plays are then read by a play reading committee and finally sent to the Board of Directors.

Nina Bozak, Central senior, was a student director and played Lucy Van Pelt in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, a play with an all child cast. Nina started working with Center Stage because of her dance teacher, Kathy Wheeldon. Nina has also worked as a student director on *Blues in the Night*.

The International Association of Community Theaters has in the past given the theater the high honor of a first place award for *Ain't Misbehavin'*. The Center Stage has also won several state and regional awards. Because

Center Stage is a community theater, it uses all local talent.

Now playing at the theater is *Shooting Stars*, the story of a women's basketball team in the 1960's, which runs until December 22. *Fences* opens February 1 and runs through February 24. For *Fences* the theater is bringing in a guest director from Denver.

Prices for tickets to performances at Center Stage are nine dollars for non-musicals and ten dollars for musicals, with senior citizen and student rates running a dollar less. Performances usually run for three or four weekends with a Friday and Saturday night show and a Sunday matinee.

Top Ten Last Minute Gift Ideas

1. Chia Pet



2. New Kids on the Block tape



3. Silly Putty



4. UNO Sweatshirt



5. Furry animal slippers



6. Pet Rock



7. Lava Lamp



8. Christmas boxers



9. A tank of gas



10. A fruit cake



Billy Joel storms Ames

By Rick Besancon

Billy Joel's Storm Front Tour blew into Ames, Iowa Sunday December 2. This was not the only storm front in Ames Sunday night; a blizzard accompanied Billy Joel to the Midwest.

The concert started 20 minutes late because Billy Joel did not want anyone to miss his concert due to adverse weather conditions. In honor of the snow, Billy Joel played *Let It Snow*, *Frosty the Snowman*, and *White Christmas*.

The concert combined Billy Joel's old songs with the new releases from his Storm Front album. He started the concert with *Storm Front* followed by *Honesty*. He mixed favorites like *Uptown Girl*, *Pressure*, and *Allen Town*, with *We Didn't Start the Fire*, *I Go To Extremes*, and *The Downeaster "Alexa"*.

The concert entertained through Billy Joel's actions as much as the music. Billy Joel related stories from his childhood and adolescence while climbing on overhead wires and dancing on his piano.

Billy Joel thrilled the crowd with his impressions of Milli Vanilli. *Big Shot* had

Billy Joel imitating popular rap musicians. He also alluded to an incident in the Soviet Union where he flipped one of his pianos during a concert.

Billy Joel performed three encores, ending the concert with *Piano Man*, his biggest all-time hit. Audience participation was a major part of this concert. At several

points during the show, Billy Joel let the audience supply the chorus, turning the concert into a 40,000 person sing along.

The concert appealed to all ages, from children to senior citizens. No matter what the age, the crowd went home happy. The concert was well worth the price and the drive.

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Joslyn: Art Deco across the lawn

By Libby Duckworth

After jumping the fence, crossing the closely-clipped lawn, and dodging the sculpture garden, a Central student can gain access to Joslyn Art Museum.

This article contains opinions of the writer

But wait, is it reult? Sadly enough, it may as well be, due to the lack of Central students who actually take advantage of the facility. Granted, some classes have made "field trips" over to incorporate the multi-cultural art with current lessons. But how many classes and students do actually take time out to visit the museum?

The art classes, most obviously, have the most to gain on the surface from a jaunt to Joslyn. Mr. Larry Andrews, a Central Art teacher, feels that making those trips over are well worthwhile. He tries to get each class over to one of the nation's finest examples of Art Deco architecture at least four or five times a year. He added, "We try to get students to each of the major exhibitions plus the permanent collections." Once inside, students are given a study guide that contains questions and specific things to do. Mr. Andrews commented, "It gives a lot of credibility to the trip, and it gives students something to look for and think about."

Being in the museum is a great experience because artists are "learning to see what's in the work rather than just looking at it."

Nikki Gaspar, sophomore art student, expressed her feelings, "It's good that we have Joslyn right by us. Instead of just reading about a work, you can

experience more of what the artist was trying to express." In conclusion, Mr. Andrews added, "Central is the envy of all the schools in the metro area because of our convenient location near Joslyn, and we don't have to pay for hiring buses."

Humanities, a class that has been discontinued, went to Joslyn frequently last year, according to Mike Stansberry, senior. Mike Bratty, senior, commented that Dr. Rauchut's English classes went over to the museum about once a week, But

Dr. Rauchut is no longer at Central due to a National teaching award.

"Joslyn is a great resource for learning and we

don't take advantage of it," said Jason Case, junior photography student, and he hopes the class will make it over to the photo exhibits soon. Just imagine what seeing a Native American exhibit could do for early American History. Seeing the environment and their ways of life, and understanding how they were kicked out of their land might actually generate interest in learning.

Congratulations are in order for those classes and individuals who have chosen to culturally enrich their studies. But more classes like English, history, and foreign languages should take advantage of the only general fine arts museum in Nebraska. Going to a museum provides an alternate experience to just reading a textbook. One can see and feel the history and add another facet to learning. It is a spur in generating interest.

But students themselves, should take the initiative to go over on their

own time. Joslyn has a lot more to offer the individual than one might imagine.

They schedule about six major special exhibits each year, not to mention the numerous smaller ones. Throughout the year, Joslyn offers workshops for children, and also for age thirteen to adult. One can learn about art history, basic production techniques, and

explore themes in the exhibits through a professional instructor. One can attend lectures or the Joslyn Film Series designed to break down cultural stereotypes and social barriers of today's world. Bagels and Bach is also available to the connoisseur of fine classical music and cuisine on the first Sunday of every month. During the summer

months, one can kick back amid the sculptures and enjoy Jazz on the Green. But memories of summer are already collecting dust, and old man winter has just begun. So get off the sofa, turn off the Cosby Show reruns, or whatever suits your fancy, and become a little more culturally involved. Your better half will thank you!

"Central is the envy of all schools in the metro area because of our convenient location near Joslyn ..."
Mr. Larry Andrews
Art teacher



Heather Lower

View from the West Porch of Central, the scene reflects the short distance between Central and Joslyn. Because of the closeness, Central students have the opportunity to take advantage of the excellent facilities.

The men who missed their calling

Silly Milli Vanilli

By Bob Zielinski

Nobody could have been more shocked than I was that Milli Vanilli actually does nothing on their album, "Girl You Know It's True". Who would have guessed that these two fellows, who have barely mastered twenty words in the English language, do not sing all of those clear and beautiful messages of love?

This article contains opinions of the writer

Believe me, I would love to watch the Mop Top Duo dance around and touch themselves. But how does all of this tie in to music? Sure, they can really groove, but a Grammy Award for "best new

artist" was ridiculous.

Then the news that rocked the nation came. Milli Vanilli returned their Grammy. Millions of teens wept the sorrowful truth that Milli Vanilli are mere men with hair weaves.

The era of musical talent is gone. It has collided and lost to the video age. Every group needs a hot video to sell albums. These hot vidoes often replace any musical talent. Image is everything today. If looks were the only factor, think of all of that lost talent. Take Neil Young, great musician, but not much to look at.

The success of Milli Vanilli is indicative of how far good looks and no talent

can take you. I believe that these two gents have missed their calling. They would be great commercial actors. Think of Milli and his buddy Vanilli prancing around telling how they became famous in their BVD's.

It is discouraging to see this new facet in music making take over. The days of groups actually writing their own music and playing instruments are gone. Now they do not even sing the words, just an abundance of dancing.

Life may look bleak now for Milli Vanilli, but things will come around. I am quite sure there will always be underwear ads to be made.

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The Nutcracker: Ballet Omaha's success

Central students perform in ballet

By Shelly Barkes

Every girl has dreamt of it at one time in her life. Dancing across the stage and being whisked into the air by a handsome prince, as the audience is left spellbound. Three Central students, Jocelyn Swain, senior, Emily Knox, freshman, and Melissa Liem, sophomore, have lived this dream, but not without sacrifices.

The Nutcracker, a traditional Christmas-time ballet, was performed by Ballet Omaha. The

performances ran from December 13 to December 16 at the Orpheum Theater. All three girls are students at Ballet Omaha, a professional dance company, and had roles in the ballet.

To the audience, the ballerinas look as if they glide along the stage without effort. It is not, however, as easy as it looks. Training is tedious, and starts at a young age. Emily started when she was six, Jocelyn at age seven, and Melissa at age 3. They all had similar inspirations. Emily had older sisters who danced, and Jocelyn had a grandfather who danced her around the

house as a little girl. But there is a difference between a childhood wish and a possible career.

The typical week for the Ballet Omaha dance student involves classes five days a week, not including show rehearsals. "The week before *The Nutcracker* we were in the theater from after school

ahead of time." The company tours in addition to performing locally which causes the students to miss school. "Last year we were gone for an entire week," Jocelyn said. She went on to explain that, although teachers are usually understanding, "they don't like it when I have fifteen absences." Jocelyn has

decided to do more this year with ballet. "It is a lot easier, being my senior year, and I have decided to work really hard."

To the audience, the ballerinas look as if they glide along the stage without effort. It is not, however, as easy as it looks.

until 10:30," Jocelyn said. The amount of work involved is time-consuming and tiring. "You have to be disciplined," Emily said.

The amount of time devoted to success in the dance studio has to come from somewhere. "I have to miss out on a lot of social events because of ballet," Emily said. Jocelyn leaves school at 12:30 each day and feels that socially, she is "not even in school."

Grades are another conflict for the avid ballerina. "School is important, too," said Jocelyn, "so you have to keep organized and do things

Why all the hard work? For Jocelyn and Emily, ballet will possibly be a career. "I love ballet, and the only way to make a career of it is through hard work," Emily said. Both girls plan to join Ballet Omaha as professional dancers. There is one draw-back, though. Emily explained that ballet is not a high-paying occupation, and sometimes the dancers in the company do not get paid the first year of employment. "But if you're devoted, it is worth it," she said. Jocelyn plans to go to college on the side because "you can't dance forever."

For all three, this is not the

first *The Nutcracker* they have appeared in. This is the fourth year that Jocelyn and Emily have performed in the Ballet. "I think I have memorized it!" Jocelyn said. It may seem that doing the same ballet may be tiring, but it is not always the same. "Even though we have done it so many times, when we get to the Orpheum, it's a big deal," Jocelyn said. "We get real dressing rooms and the stage is bigger."

Both Jocelyn and Emily are cast as snowflakes and flowers in *The Nutcracker*. "They cast us together a lot because we look alike," Jocelyn said. The major roles are usually given to the professional dancers, so for her age, Jocelyn feels that it is a big part. "The show was good this year," said Emily, "because the company has grown and the director and ballet mistress were exceptional."

The Nutcracker tradition brings holiday cheer

By Shelly Barkes

There is nothing like it. The curtain is raised and for a short while you are taken from the world of hectic holiday hype into a world of festive fantasy. Ballet Omaha's production of *The Nutcracker* delighted audiences for four short days with its rendition of the timeless Christmas classic.

The Nutcracker, taken from a tale by ETA Hoffmann, is the story of a little girl named Clara who receives a nutcracker for Christmas. But this is just the beginning. This magical doll comes to life and leads Clara through adventures including a battle with giant mice and a trip to the Kingdom of the Sweets.

The ballet, which was first performed in 1892 in St. Petersburg, contains virtually none of the choreography by Ivanov. It is now performed around the world and the dances are different each time. Robert Vickery, Artistic Director of the Ballet Omaha and choreographer of *The Nutcracker*, brings his own creativity and style to this ballet.

The audience is whisked away almost instantly into a Land of the

Sugar Plum Fairy. The Snow Queen and her king, along with the snowflakes, dance in an enchanting world of glittering snow. The Kingdom of the Sweets entertains with an array of dances from every corner of the earth. But this wondrous ballet could not mystify without the immortal Tchaikovsky score.

The audience accompanies Clara on her two-hour journey. But time flies in the Land of the Sugar Plum Fairy. The curtain descends and the lights flicker on, and the audience is returned to the present time and place. A trip backstage reveals the dancers in a more every-day setting. It is hard to believe that these people who are sipping Cokes and changing into jeans and sweatshirts are the dancers who delighted and captivated just moments before.

The Nutcracker truly brings out the joy of the holiday season. If you were unlucky enough to have missed it this year, do not be too discouraged. Just be sure to get your tickets early for next year's performance and you, too, will experience this ballet's magic.

A Christmas Carol: No bah-humbug

By Becky Beerling

Walking into the theatre, a wreath is lit on the curtain. Every seat is full. Kids are laughing and whispering with anticipation to see their first viewing of a 15 year tradition, *A Christmas Carol*.

When the curtain opens, the set is magnificently cheery, and the costumes are bright and extremely Christmasy. The cast starts off by singing a Christmas carol. This starts the production off with the Christmas spirit.

The Omaha Community Playhouse has put on this event for 15 years now. They have seen many actors come and go, but one, Dick Boyd, who plays Ebenezer Scrooge, has been a faithful, 15-year cast member.

Most people have seen the Charles Dickens novel acted out in some form. Whether it is Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck or Reginald Owen and Jane Lockheart,

who starred in the 1931 movie version of *A Christmas Carol*.

The Playhouse's version of *A Christmas Carol* is a delightful experience. The actors have so much experience they know what will help the audience to laugh and have fun. With some of the actors having 10-14 years of experience the show is delightfully entertaining and fun.

Sitting in the theatre when Marley, Scrooge's deceased business partner,

comes out of the ground with smoke, dark lights, and Marley covered in chains could be understandably scary for those 2 year old viewers. Although this is true, all ages were there laughing and enjoying being put in the Christmas mood.

A Christmas Carol is a fun experience that is definitely worth seeing if ever having the opportunity. Hopefully the production will be done many years yet to come.

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Well, it's really that time of year again. We've had our first hard snow. Halloween and Thanksgiving are over and people are nearing the end of their countdown of how many days are left until Christmas. Only four more long, drawn-out days until you get to open up all of your wonderful presents for which you've worked hard at being a good girl (or boy) all year. It sure was worth it, eh? HAH! Who am I trying to kid? It's much more fun to be really bad up until about the last week before Christmas. After all, your parents won't remember the previous eleven months, anyway.

By the time Christmas morning rolls around, your parents will probably have forgotten the time you threw the cat down the clothes chute (you just wanted to see if cats really do always land on their feet), the time you came home a little late from homecoming (so you came home at seven the next morning—you probably just fell asleep watching a movie—didn't we all?), and the time you beat up your little sister and then gave your mother the sob story about how she got beaten up by some big thug on the street (well, she almost believed it).

Anyway, that's all in your past. You've turned over a new leaf. You're ready to be the perfect little angel that your parents have raised you

to be... for an entire month. I know it's hard, but you must admit, it's worth it. This Christmas may just be the Christmas to decide the rest of your life. Your fate may be in the hands of Santa Claus.

(Well, your parents' hands, anyway. I

You're ready to be that perfect little angel your parents have raised you to be... for an entire month. I know it's hard but you must admit, it's worth it.

shouldn't have ruined it for you, but now that it's out, I may as well tell you the whole truth. Santa Claus is NOT real. You've been lied to for years. Your parents are the culprit of this holiday season. That fat little man who comes to your door every year; it's probably just your mother in drag. Your mother tells you she has to run to the store to pick up a couple of things, when actually she's scamming a Santa suit off those poor little street guys).

The highlight of every Christmas is going to see Santa to tell him what you want him to bring you. While this was once thought to be a privilege only the wee ones received, we now know that as pseudo-adults, we can visit Santa any time we like.

We're probably nicer, too.

Anymore, the little kids run up to Santa, kick him in the shin, stick a gun (just because it's Fisher Price doesn't make it any less real) in his face and force him to write out, in blood (that's the only legit way—you can't trust anybody these days), that he promises to bring exactly what that particular little brat wants. It's a hell that every Santa has to live through.

Hopefully, we all will get what we want for Christmas: peace on earth and a nice new car sitting in the driveway would be nice. I mean, good will toward men. That's what we all hope for. Right?

Assuming you don't get that new car (it's a probability some of us are going to have to face), think of all the other wonderful things you might receive: underwear from Grandma and gold toe socks from Grandpa (they want to make sure you're properly dressed UNDER your real clothes—in case you're ever in an accident), and your favorite gift of all, pink bunny p. j.'s from Aunt Martha (that is, assuming you have an Aunt Martha). And this is all because we've been good little boys and girls all year! Is it really worth it in the hopes that maybe, just maybe, you'll get the car you've always wanted? Yeah.

The best book adapted movie in a long time: Latest King film, *Misery*, a success

By Chris Thilgen

Murder. Torture. Bloodthirsty beasts. These are the things Stephen King is known for. Capturing them in a film is difficult. People agree, most movies based on King's books are a waste of time. They are usually poorly made and poorly directed films.

What makes King a great writer is the way he can capture you and make you keep reading. You are afraid to read it, but you're more afraid to put it down.

No movie based on a King novel has ever been able to capture people in a way that the book could, until now.

Misery is the latest movie based on Stephen King's novel of the same name. It stars James Caan, as a romance novelist, and Kathy Bates, who is his

number one fan.

This movie is the best book-adapted movie in a long time. Unlike most films, it keeps almost all of the original material as presented in the book.

Paul Sheldon (Caan), romance novelist, has just ended a long series of books based on one character, *Misery* Chastain. He feels it is time to grow and put *Misery* behind him, so he kills off her character.

As he finishes his first non-*Misery* book, he is in a car accident. He is rescued by his number one fan, Annie Wilkes (Bates).

What could be better? Annie is not only his number one fan, but also a nurse. There is only one problem with this. She loved Paul's *Misery* novels, she doesn't like his new book.

Annie wants Paul to bring *Misery* back. In fact,

she wants Paul to write a new book especially for her.

Now Annie realizes that at times all writers have a small case of writer's block, but that's okay; she has a few ways to spur on Paul. One is an axe; another is a gun.

This movie is bound to please any Stephen King fan. As Annie Wilkes would say, "It's fair."

This is not a slasher-horror film. *Misery* is more of a realistic terror of the mind. You see, this movie doesn't deal with aliens or creatures from the deep. It deals with normal people in a normal situation. This could really happen.

If what you like to see is Freddy Krueger and Jason slicing and dicing, don't see it. You won't like it.

Books are always better than the movies.

This movie is no exception. To truly enjoy this movie, one should read the book first.

Go on. What will it hurt? Reading allows you to use your mind. Read it. It isn't going to kill you.

Edward Scissorhands Promotes creativity

By Becky Beerling

Creativity has been scarce in the cinema for the last year. This year *Edward Scissorhands* comes around as the most creative character since E. T.

That is exactly what the film is, a very creatively-thought-out show. Tim Burton, the director, has the set of the movie arranged with all the houses looking the same, and all the cars looking the same.

The women stay home cooking and gossiping while the men leave for work at the same time every morning. Burton displays their lives so normal it is absurd.

So there is this perfect little neighborhood, with these perfect little houses and in the background there is a mountain with an evil looking castle on the top.

In this castle Edward is discovered. His discovery is even done in a creative, unusual way. The Avon Lady, Diane Wiest, calls to sell him some cosmetics.

Diane Wiest then

takes Edward home to live with her family.

Edward is the talk of the neighborhood. No one quite knows who or what he is. But shortly after Edward is brought to live in town the neighborhood notices his many talents. He trims hedges into dinosaurs, he trims dog's fur, and even cuts women's hair.

The movie is fortunate to have a great cast, Winona Ryder, Diane Wiest, Anthony Michael Hall and Johnny Depp.

This movie was Johnny Depp's stepping stone out of being only a pretty boy and not really an actor. In this film he certainly doesn't have his looks to fall back on.

The rest of the cast was excellent as well. Diane Wiest was as hilarious as always.

Edward Scissorhands has something in it for everyone. It's a comedy, a tragedy, a love story, and even a little bit of violence. Most of all *Edward Scissorhands* is a creative movie that is a breath of fresh air.

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Late Innings with Brian James

A group of young kids sit around each other on the floor. Next to each of them lie boxes and albums containing what look to be small pieces of cardboard paper. With a calculator in one hand and a magazine in the other, one of the kids says, "I'll trade you that Montana there for your Brett rookie, and I'll throw in a couple of bucks plus some commons."

In a very short time, the kids, acting very similar to a group of stock brokers, have their "cardboard pieces" scattered all over the floor (which amazingly looks like a stock exchange floor) desperately trying to rid themselves of their seemingly unwanted items.

"Look, this is really my last offer," the kid says, sounding rather frustrated that nobody has liked his proposals. He pulls out his wallet. "The Montana, the commons, and twenty bucks." The money worked, they had a deal.

Sports cards, particularly baseball cards, have been around for quite some time. And the preceding situation I described involving kids trading cards has been around for just as long.

But kids today seem to be more

knowledgeable about their cards. Long gone are the days when kids commonly used baseball cards in the spokes of their bicycle wheels to produce that

Many adults, now realizing just how valuable those cards in their "motor bikes" were worth, are going back to collecting cards as a hobby.

"oh-so-real" motorcycle effect. And they certainly don't buy card packs anymore for the gum.

Today card collectors realize there is big money involved with cards.

Many adults, now realizing just how valuable those cards in their "motor bikes" were worth, are going back to collecting cards as a hobby. Many even find themselves buying back the cards they had as kids although paying slightly more for them now. The average price of the baseball cards most of our fathers had is now around \$25 to \$50 (depending on

the condition and player). Many are even more valuable.

The packs that cards come in (along with that crusty-old gum) have also risen in price from around a nickel in the 1950's to anywhere from 50 cents to \$2 each now.

Just as older sports collectors search for items that hold memories of their youth, many young collectors seek to find cards that will give them obscene amounts of cash.

One example (and there are hundreds more) is the Michael Jordan rookie (first year) card. In 1985 the card was worth a couple dollars. Now anyone who owns the card (in Mint condition) could sell it easily for around \$250 to \$500. Many people, both young and old, realize that cards are simply a good investment, not to mention a good way to keep up with the current teams and players.

So, at a time when you want to get something great for that special sports fan, but they already like they own Team Spirit, consider a set of sports cards. Whether it be of baseball, basketball, football or even hockey, you can bet it'll be worth more in a year than a lousy t-shirt.

Central students find curling fun, challenging

By Allison Atkinson

Although curling has few devotees in all of the United States, it is a popular sport in Scotland, Holland, Canada, and none other than Omaha. Three Central High students are of the few and the proud to participate in the sport so fondly called, "shuffleboard on ice."

In the game, curlers slide a large stone, fitted with a handle, toward a fixed target, using a slight twist in the delivery that causes it to rotate or "curl" as it moves.

As the stone leaves the curler's hand, a teammate, using a broom, sweeps the ice ahead of the stone to remove stray particles of ice. This adds to the distance that the stone will travel.

According to Michelle McCune, junior, "There are two types of brooms, one that looks like a kitchen broom, and then another that looks like a push broom."

The curler tries to avoid the stones of his teammates, but, says Festerson, "hopes to strike the other team's stone and drive it out of the target." The stones closest to the target receive points.

There is only one curling club in Nebraska, the Aksarben Curling Club. The club consists of approximately 200 to 300 members and is growing.

Festerson started curling when she was about three years old. Her parents have been doing it for about 20 years, and her entire family has been involved in it "ever since I can remember."

McCune, who has

grown up with Festerson, just started two years ago, after watching Else for years.

"I have always wanted to try it, but I had always been too scared. After Else's brother and sister went away to college, her family needed to have an extra player, so I finally decided to try it."

Both girls attended a curling camp at the beginning of November in Bemidji, Minnesota. At the camp, "we worked on our technique and on style and strategy," says McCune.

Festerson and McCune belong to the Nebraska Junior

"It is a very hard, very slow game. You have to keep your concentration and block out everything except your rock and target."

Michelle McCune

Women's National Curling Team.

Donald Buscher, freshman, belongs to the Nebraska Junior Men's National Curling Team.

The sport requires a lot of practice, patience, and concentration. McCune states, "It is a very hard, very slow game. You have to keep your concentration and block out everything except your rock and target. I have learned to keep my mind focused and not to be easily distracted."

The club plays their games at the Aksarben barn. The group establishes their "playing ground" in the second week of November and the last tournaments occur in the third week of March.

Games are played at the barn practically every day of the week and both girls try to practice everyday after school.

Else states, "It is a lot of fun. It is like a big social event. You can meet a lot of people."

Festerson went on to say, "A lot of people play the game competitively, but most of the people are just there to have fun."

Not a lot of equipment is necessary for curling. "You can do it in tennis shoes if you want," says Festerson. "If interest in the game grows, there are special curling shoes available."

The participants of the game vary from ages three to older men and women who have been playing "forever."

McCune says, "A lot of people, when they see it, think that it is just too weird and different. When someone asks what curling is, it is just too hard to describe. They laugh and say that it sounds just too easy and dumb."

But, both girls express the great difficulty and concentration that the game entails and say that "it just isn't pushing a rock with a broom, it's really hard."

Festerson says, "My sister was the skip (the director) of our team before she left for college, so I learned a lot from her about direction and strategy."

Both Festerson and McCune have set their goal to go to Nationals in February. Festerson says, "That is when I find out if I can really play

well. Besides, it is a lot of fun and we see the same people every year. It's something that everybody looks forward to."

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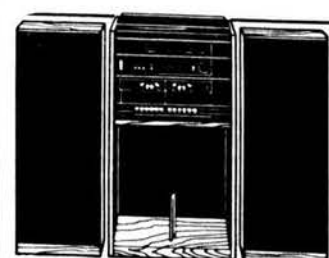
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Behrens continues coaching tradition at Central

By Brian James

Just as former Central basketball coaches Warren Marquiss, Jim Martin and current head coach Rick Behrens will tell you, the game of basketball has changed.

They should know. Coaching a span of over 40 years, the three coaches have had their own distinct style of play. And each devoted himself to carrying on Central's highly respectable basketball tradition.

In an interview with Warren Marquiss, head basketball coach from 1947 to 1968, he commented that the "general type" of player has changed from when he was coaching. "They're not necessarily any better, but they are so much bigger and quicker now," he said. "It's pretty hard for smaller guys to play anymore. The little guy seems

We never did win a state title, but we were in the finals about four times. For three years we were always 22-2 and ending up in the top three in state."

Warren Marquiss

to be getting pushed out." Marquiss, in describing the style of play he coached, remarked that his teams generally played a more up-tempo game than most other teams. "If we had the fast break, we ran it, but we'd work it in and slow it down if we really had to."

Although Marquiss said that, in his career, he probably ended up winning "somewhere around three-fourths of the games," he added that his first and last few years of coaching were "rough sledding."

"Before me, I think Central had one winning



Brian James

Donyelle Frazier attempts a shot against Burke. Central received their first loss of the season, falling 77-71.

season. When I took over in '47, it was tough getting the kids to take things seriously and to devote themselves to the team. Eventually, we got things turned around," he said. Marquiss did get Central basketball turned around, as most of his teams went on to enjoy successful seasons during his 21 year reign as head coach. "We never did win a state title but we were in the finals about four times. For three years there we were always 22-2 and ending up in the top three in state."

Although his teams continued to play well up to the end of his career, Marquiss said his last few years of coaching were quite difficult because of the extreme racial tension found throughout the community. "The hate was so bad at the time," he said. "As a coach, it was hard to keep the

team focused on what we had to do."

"I finally asked myself 'What is a guy my age doing here?' I was working 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day and I was exhausted," he said. He retired from coaching after the 1967-68 season but continued to

"... we've just been preparing for each game one at a time and saying 'lets go out and see what happens.'"

Coach Behrens

teach at Central into the 1970's. Jim Martin succeeded Marquiss as boys head basketball coach at Central in 1968.

Martin said that, in working with Marquiss as an assistant for two years, he had gained a lot of experience. "I learned so much. I probably used his offenses quite a few times for the first year or two, and then I gradually started using my own plays."

Coincidentally, the outcome of Martin's first season coaching at Central was exactly like Marquiss' last two seasons of coaching: Central

was the state runner-up. "We really played kind of an interesting bridesmaid role there for three years in a row," Mr. Martin said.

Martin said the style of basketball he coached included "set offenses with a structured and deliberate style. We also tried to go with the fast breaks when we had the

"I think Coach Behrens has done an excellent job...this year with the all-out press defense," Jim Martin said.

opportunities." Martin also said that a "coach should gear his offense and defense around the type of personnel he has on his team."

"I think Coach Behrens has done an excellent job of that this year with his all-out press defense," he commented. "I think it's ideally suited for the type of players he has."

Martin, who retired last season from coaching, felt that this year's varsity team (Behrens' first season) reminds him in some ways of the first Central team he coached in 1968 (state runner-up). "My kids weren't as talented as some of Marquiss' teams, but they got to the point where they were kind of like the kids playing this year: they played together and gave it all they had."

In an interview with Coach Behrens, he said he didn't set any goals for the team in general, but did have a specific style of play in mind for his team.

"We really want to get our game to where we're pushing constantly and setting as fast of a pace as we can."

"By concentrating on that, we've just been preparing for each game one at a time and saying 'Let's go out and see what happens,'" he said.

By creating a more up-tempo offense and defense, Coach Behrens said he hopes to wear down Central's opponents near the end of the games.

"We play a lot of guys and, if we really work hard and run hard, we'll be faster in the fourth quarter than guys (on the other team) who might be quicker but more tired."

Coach Behrens said he

obtained some game films from Loyola Marymount and stylized Central's running game around them. We went back and looked at some things they did and it's been very helpful."

The Eagles are 3-1 including wins over Northwest, Lincoln East, and North and a loss to Burke.

"I've been happy with what's happened so far. We'd like to get a few more points and get the ball more to shooters who are open. But we've hustled well and I think we'll improve more each game," he commented.

Both Warren Marquiss and Jim Martin agree that Coach Behrens has a team on the move.

As Marquiss said, "You can get booed right out of the gym now if you try to slow the game down. People get excited about the scoring. It's what wins games."

Calendar

Varsity Boys Basketball

- January 4, Millard South, Home
- January 10, Millard North, Home
- January 11, South, Home
- Metro Holiday Tournament
- December 22, 26, 27, 28, 29
- Omaha Civic Auditorium

Varsity Girls Basketball

- January 4, Millard South, Home
- January 10, Millard North, Home
- January 11, South, Home

Swimming

- January 8, North, Away
- January 15, Benson, Away

Wrestling

- January 8, Westside, Away
- January 15, A.L., Home

J. V. Boys Basketball

- January 5, Millard South, Home
- January 6, Millard North, Home
- January 11, North, Home
- January 12, South, Home
- January 17, Bryan, Home

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Wrestlers see success

The wrestling team's season started off busy this year. After two duals, the team participated in the North High Invitational, South High Wrestling Invitational at Norris Junior High, the Council Bluffs tournament, and the Ralston Tournament.

Among the team members, John Kolvek (5-2), John Tiemann (8-4) and Jason Blair (5-3) have winning records. John Tiemann placed third in the Council Bluffs tournament. Both Tiemann and Blair placed second in their respective divisions in the Ralston tournament.

Central wrestled in a dual against Millard South on December 4. Since then, Central participated in two duals; Papillion and Prep. "Most people do not understand wrestling is an individual sport," said Coach Gary Kubik.

Upcoming tournaments are the Prep invitational and Metro Championships. The Prep Invitational takes place during Holiday break, December 29. Metro Championships take place January 11 at Abraham Lincoln.



Sean Chapman

Swimmers on both Central's boys and girls teams practice for an upcoming meet. Central's next regular swim meet is on January 8th versus North at McMillan Jr. High.

Boys Basketball Soars

This year, Central's boys' basketball team is off and running. Ranked eighth in the Metro Conference, the team is now 3-1. Coach Behrens felt that the new offense allows a faster-paced and more exciting game with lots of shooting. The team has wins over Northwest, Lincoln East, and North, with a loss to Burke. The Eagles play December 22 to the 29th in the Holiday Tournament.

Swimmers train hard

The Central High swim team is making a great splash into a new season. The team, after only one meet, "has already had people qualify for state and others just seconds off," says Heather Dunbar, senior. The team has put in a lot of hours of hard work, but, "it seems to be paying off. We're looking forward to a winning season," says Matt Stonehouse, senior.

Lady Eagles improve

Although the girls basketball team is 2-3, Coach Stan Standifer looks to improve and finish the season with the team playing to the best of their abilities. The team opened the season with an impressive 54-24 win over Northwest. Coach Standifer feels that the strength of his team is the defense and looks for the team to improve as the season continues.

Standifer to serve in 'Desert Shield'

By Allison Atkinson

Next month, a situation that has been experienced mostly through shadowy descriptions in the local newspaper, will come home for Central High students and educators. Central High teacher and co-worker, Coach Stan Standifer, will leave for the Middle East January 2nd to "do my duty

"(Standifer's Family) are just hoping that I will come back alive..."

Coach Standifer

for my country." Coach Standifer stated, "I am apprehensive. Not because of the war, but because I have always been a teacher and educator first, not an officer."

Standifer, who teaches gym and is the girl's basketball coach relates that he will miss his family more than anything else.

"They are still very numb. They are just hoping that I will come back alive and in one piece," says Coach Standifer.

Standifer, a member of the Fleet Hospital, CSBTZ 22, a non-combatant hospital, says, "I will miss teaching, my team, and my co-workers

very much."

"War is never beautiful. The price of a life is not a good one to pay. I don't understand the political ramifications of the situation, but as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, I have a job to do. It is my duty to do my best for my country," says Standifer.

When asked how he thinks the girl's basketball team will do without him he says, "When I started with the team, I trained them to keep their winning attitude throughout the season. The girls will do great under the instruction of Coach Bryson and Coach Dominguez."

Coach Standifer will be gone for approximately six months after three days of training in Camp Pendleton, in San Diego, California.

Standifer says, "I will just be glad to come back home to my family, friends, and co-workers so I can get on with my life normally."

Daly starts 26th season

By Bill Thoms

Both announcers and sportscasters around the country, each carry a sense of tradition for their school.

Mr. Daniel Daly, Head of the Central High English Department and public address announcer for Central basketball games, is no exception.

Since 1964, Mr. Daly has announced Central High basketball games. The first and only public address announcer for Central has seen two championship teams (1974 and 1975) and three fine coaches: Warren Marquiss, Jim Martin, and Rick Behrens.

Mr. Daly was first approached for the job since he already announced Central football games. "I started announcing football in 1964 and was asked by the Athletic Director to announce basketball that same year [when Norris first started to use a public-address system.]"

"At first, we used a portable system. Then, in 1965, a public-address system

was installed at Norris."

Mr. Daly enjoys announcing and feels it "adds something positive to the atmosphere." He also felt that it helps the fans and players enjoy the game.

Mr. Daly no longer announces football due to poor night vision.

After seeing so much basketball, probably the one game that stands out in his mind is the 1975 loss to Creighton Prep.

"I remember we were undefeated and were going to play Prep in the City Auditorium. The one thing that made it so exciting was the hype before the game. The game was so

highly covered that during it, I kept getting calls from Chicago and Milwaukee newspapers who wanted to know the score. The game was played before a crowd of almost ten-thousand."

Central lost the game 42-40, but the game turned out to be the only loss that year for the eagles as they came back and won the state championship defeating Prep in the state final.

Mr. Daly concluded that he plans to continue announcing basketball. "I'll probably continue as long as they let me, or until someone comes after me," he laughed, "and [even that's] happen a few times."

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