

## Ban proposal to limit teen cigarette smoking

By Rick Besançon

Lawmakers are considering a new law, Legislative Bill 130, which would ban cigarette vending machines in Nebraska by 1993. Senators Schimek, Nelson, and Dierks are sponsoring the bill.

The bill states: "It is now illegal for youth under the age of 18 to purchase tobacco products in Nebraska. Yet many teenagers are procuring tobacco illegally from these vending machines."

### Bill makes it 'tougher'

"This bill will not only make it tougher for young people to obtain tobacco products, but it will also send the message that the state wants to discourage young people from smoking."

"Any person violating this law shall be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor. In addition, upon conviction for a second offense, the court shall order a six-month suspension of the offender's license to sell tobacco . . ."

Janet Anderson, assistant to Senator Schimek, stated that "the Lung Association approached Dianna [Schimek] about the problem."

"Cigarette vending machines cannot discern age, and they provide easy access for youth under 18," Mrs.

Anderson stated.

According to Senator Schimek's office, "Eighty-seven percent of youth who smoke report having purchased tobacco from a vending machine."

"More than one-half of tenth grade students who smoke named vending machines as a primary source of cigarettes. More people start smoking at age 13 than any other age."

The American Lung Association stated that "today any child can take a fist full of coins and start a deadly habit that kills more people annually in the United States than cocaine, alcohol, fires, suicide, AIDS and automobile accidents combined."

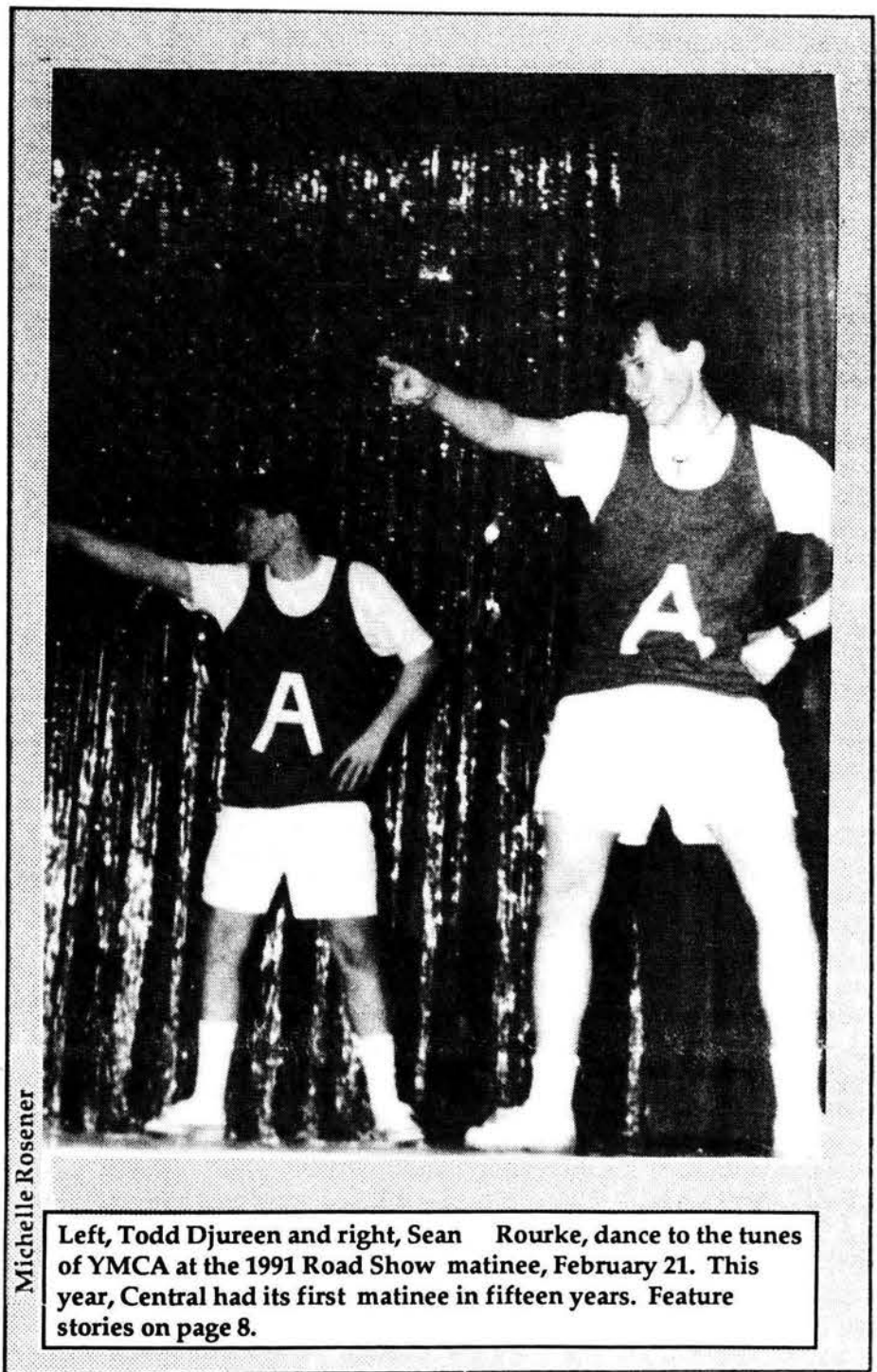
### 'Long overdue'

Mike Wadum, Communications Director for The American Lung Association, stated that the bill is "long overdue."

Wadum went on to say "most people start smoking at the age of 13, and the primary source of cigarettes is from vending machines." Mr. Wadum stated "at vending machines, no one is there to enforce the law."

According to Senator Schimek's office, "Almost 60 percent of all smokers start by age 14 and 90 percent begin smoking by age 19."

(Continued on p. 6)



Michelle Rosener

Left, Todd Djureen and right, Sean Rourke, dance to the tunes of YMCA at the 1991 Road Show matinee, February 21. This year, Central had its first matinee in fifteen years. Feature stories on page 8.

## Teacher, administrators criticize cuts

By Kelly Ramsey

Although controversy over limits on state spending has passed on with last year's election, the provisions of already existing legislation continue to have an effect on many state agencies. Among these is the school system.

Schools within the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) district are currently experiencing a general reduction in available funding, resulting in cutbacks to a number of programs. One such institution is Central High School.

Dr. Gary Bennett, assistant superintendent and budget director for OPS, attributes these cuts to recent expansion within the district. "Growth seems to be as high as it's been in the last 20 years," he said.

According to Dr. Bennett, budget planning is based on three major factors: improvement planning, student enrollment, and the number and types of programs to be offered at the school in question.

The administration must have a rationale for

each request in its annual proposal, Dr. Bennett said.

If yearly requests for funds in a particular year exceed the amount of money available, he said, cuts have to be made either by the principal and staff, by the school board, or by the budget office directly.

Some of the funding for OPS is the domain of the state legislature. The bill which addresses state funds for school budgets, LB1059, directs revenue from sales and income taxes to provide for public education.

One aspect of LB1059 is a 4% annual lid on expansion of the state budget. According to Dr. Bennett, this lid, coupled with the recent growth, has resulted in fewer funds available for each school.

Despite the constraints of the current situation, Dr. Bennett said, expansion and development are positive signs within the system. "Omaha Public Schools is alive and well and growing," he said.

However, Dr. G.E. Moller, Central principal, does not meet this situation with the same optimism.

"We can't even pay inflationary costs with the 4% limit," Dr. Moller said. "When I sent the necessary information to the department heads . . . the total amount for the building was \$12,000 less," he said.

The reduction in funding has not impacted Central uniformly. Departments with large equipment demands, such as physical education and science, are feeling the effects of a smaller overall budget the most.

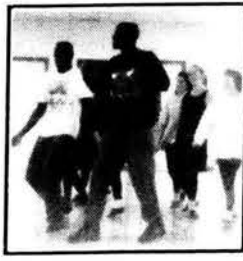
Mr. Jerry Doctor, science department head, noted that the cuts have drastically affected his ability to replace exhausted materials. "Compared to last year," he said, "the budget for supplies and equipment was cut 30% in science."

Mr. Doctor attributed some of the difficulty to the expense of adding a new lab room and seven sections of physical science to the curriculum. Also, science enrollment (Continued on p. 11)

### Inside



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# Editorials

Unsigned articles are the opinion of the Register

## Abortion: a woman's choice

### Notification an invasion

Again this year, the Nebraska Legislature is wasting time debating bills concerning restrictions on abortion. This year alone, several bills aimed at restricting abortions in Nebraska have been proposed.

One of those bills, LB 425, is both counter-productive and harmful.

LB425 would require a parent or guardian to be notified before a minor could receive an abortion. The abortion could not be performed until at least 48 hours after the notice.

A minor, 19 and under, could bypass the notification procedure by appearing in court. A judge could waive the notice requirement if he determined the woman was mature and capable of an informed decision, or that it was in the best interest of the woman that the parent not be notified.

The Register strongly opposes this bill. The bill contains many flaws, though it may appear to have a good intention.

In fact, this bill places a roadblock in a woman's constitutional right to choose to have an abortion.

A young, pregnant woman should be allowed to make this private decision without having to be forced to consult her parents.

Ideally, parents would like to be aware of their daughter's intention to have an abortion. In some instances, however, parental notification can be detrimental, especially in a

dysfunctional family.

Many pregnant adolescents fear that their parents will become very upset or disappointed upon learning of a pregnancy.

Physical abuse is the price some teens have had to pay because they were forced to tell their parents.

Some young women are so afraid to tell a parent about a pregnancy that they seek an abortion outside of the health care system. These "backalley" abortions are medically unsafe and lead to grave health care problems or even death.

Because some young women are so frightened to tell their parents of a pregnancy, they may deny that they are pregnant.

By denying this pregnancy, they may not receive the needed prenatal care that should accompany all pregnancies.

If a young woman chooses not to tell her parents then, according to the bill, she can appear in front of a judge. Try to imagine a pregnant 15 or 16 year-old asking a judge, a complete stranger, if she can have an abortion.

LB425 is one more attempt to interfere with a woman's constitutional right to have an abortion. Bills regarding family communication on such sensitive issues have no place in the legislature.

## Machine ban for minors?

### Cigarette sales need control

Legislative Bill 130, a bill to ban the use of cigarette vending machines by minors, is a bill that the Register staff feels is long overdue.

Not only will this bill, if passed, restrict the purchasing of cigarettes from vending machines, but will also cut down on cigarette consumption by teens.

The reason for this bill is to convey the message that society will not promote or encourage the use of tobacco by teenagers. Since many students buy their cigarettes from vending machines, this will hopefully cut down on the overall

number of minors smoking.

Smoking is a habit that is detrimental to one's health and simply isn't a pleasant habit—both to participate in and be around. If a person can be kept from smoking during their adolescence, chances are, they won't ever take up the habit.

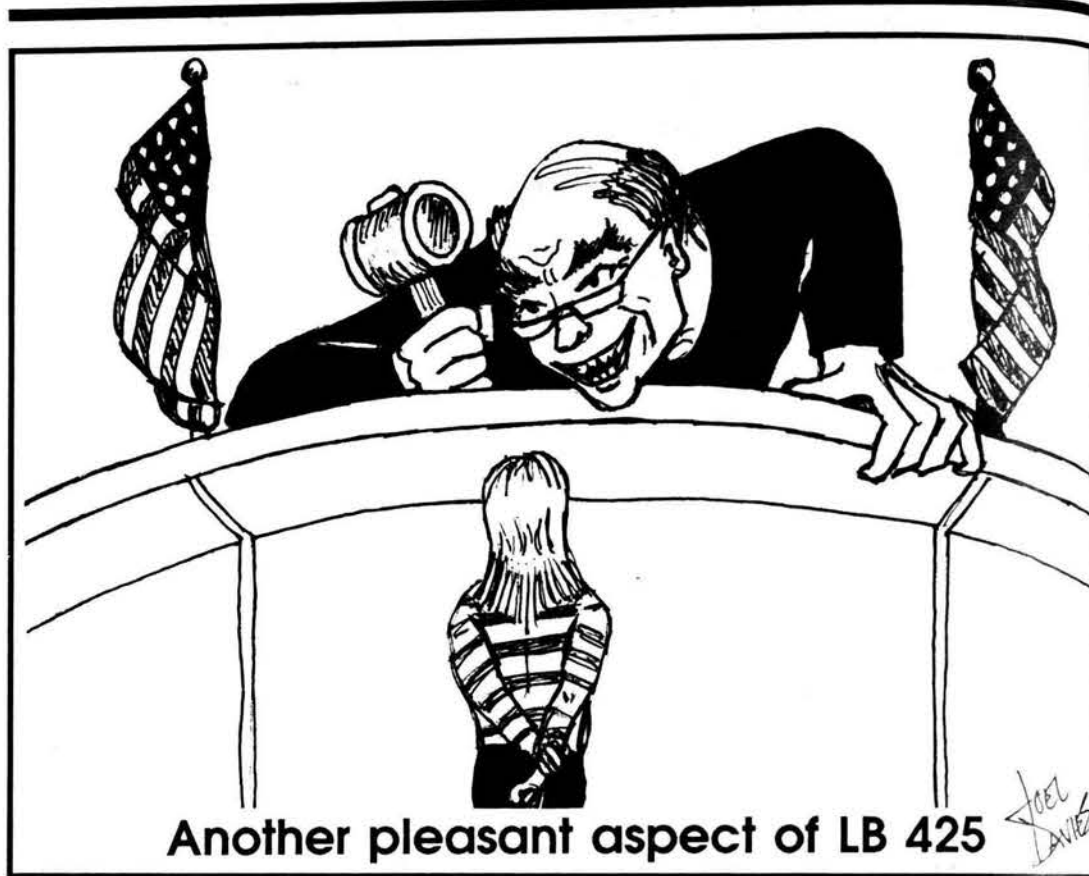
This bill is aimed at decreasing the number of adolescent smokers. It is one that is worthy of the legislature's time and energy and will prove to be beneficial to everyone involved.

## Road Show: a success

For once, it seems as though Central carried off an assembly-type event with ease. In the past, Central has not been the best audience for speakers, in-school assemblies and the like, but the matinee audience for the Road Show was exceptionally well-behaved.

The Register would

like to thank the student body for their behavior during the matinee performance. Road Show has not had a matinee for fifteen years, and this year, the students proved themselves quite capable of sitting through road show with some class and maturity.



## Centralite Voices

Should Nebraska law require that a parent or guardian be notified before a minor, 19 and under, could receive an abortion?

Yes 72 (33%) No 141 (67%) Total 213



No. Some people can't tell their parents. If they become desperate enough, they might get an illegal abortion. They could get hurt.

-Sarah Rennard  
Sophomore



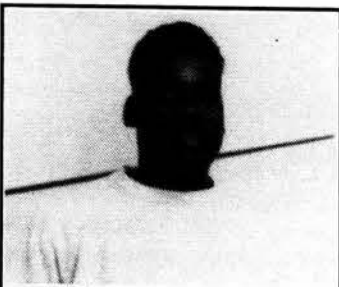
No. Some girls don't want to lose their parents' trust. Parents might not trust their daughters anymore.

-Jeff Casady  
Freshman



No. The decision should be up to the female. Even though they have made a mistake they should try to get out of it themselves.

-Sheritha Smith  
Junior



Yes. Because the parents should know about their children. It's the parents' responsibility, too, since their daughters live with them.

-Victor Evans  
Senior



No. It's the girls' private business. The notification could result in child abuse. Some kids may get kicked out of their homes.

-Burrell Williams  
Junior



No. Some girls feel they can't tell their parents. That may result in attempting a medically unsafe means of abortion.

-Mr. Rick Behrens  
Social Studies

Photos by Sean Chapman

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**In a Manner of Speaking**  
Shelly Barkes

*Downtown difference doesn't mean drugs*

# The "Central" misconception

It's a given. Every time I visit my grandparents house, my grandmother asks the same old question: "So do people offer you drugs, like in the bathrooms?" Heck no, Grams! They're not going to share with me. Drugs are expensive these days. I love the reaction that answer always gets.

Misconceptions are everywhere. Central is viewed by West Omaha students, and some adults, as the drug and gang capital of Omaha. They truly envision passing periods with poor, innocent kids diving behind trashcans to escape a shower of bullets. How many gang-related incidents have we had at Central? Not many, to my knowledge.

I actually heard (now this is a true story) that a West Omaha student had a nightmare about being a Central student. In the dream, she was on the Pom Squad, surrounded by people of a different race, and when the music started, she was left standing as everyone else began to dance in a manner to which she was not accustomed.

Is this how Central is really viewed? Do people not take into account that we are nationally ranked as a high school of superior educational standards? I do not believe that this would be possible if we were being tormented by gang activities. Decathlon State champs and gang

war zone? I don't think so.

What West Omaha students fail to realize is that going to a school where everyone is the same does not help you. It does not make you superior to us "inner city" students. It just makes you closed-minded and oblivious to what the world is really all about. And that is learning about other types of

**Central is viewed by West Omaha students and some adults as the drug and gang capital of Omaha.**

people and how to get along with them. Judgments, especially those made in ignorance, will only hurt you in the long run.

Now I am not up for two controversial issues in a row, so I will just talk about misconceptions in general. Lord only knows I don't want to be stereotypical.

Another misconception due to media is that whole peer pressure thing. They show some poor sap, usually in a new school or environment,

out with new friends, when low and behold, someone whips out drugs and the innocent bystander is bombarded with "C'mon, everybody does it" and "Don't you want to be cool?" I don't know about you, but I have never been approached with this. It is usually a simple "Do you want some?" and a simple "No" does the trick. If this sort of peer pressure does exist, I think that one could spot, and pretty easily, the sort of person who would shove hallucinagens down your throat.

Now I am not calling peer pressure a cop-out. But I believe that if someone really doesn't want to do drugs, then they won't. I believe that simply making a decision, then taking steps to stick with this decision, such as choosing friends that don't do drugs, will reduce the risk of peer pressure. I think that if someone gets involved in drugs, or alcohol for that matter, and gets caught, the only person that they have to blame is themselves.

So it makes me angry when I hear teenagers blame their own weaknesses on their peers. And it makes me angry when I hear how ignorant people are of what Central High School is really like. Maybe if West Omaha students were brave enough to venture east of 72nd Street (yes, past Crossroads even) they would realize this.

## Should teachers be able to smoke in Central?

The Omaha Public Schools' Student Code of Conduct states that a student will receive a suspension for the use of tobacco in the school building. The more often a student is caught with tobacco, the longer the suspension will last.

O.P.S. is justified in enforcing this rule. They are trying to prevent students from coming to harm. I just have one question. "Does O.P.S. care about the health of their teachers?"

What I mean by this, is that teachers are allowed to smoke at Central. Smoke, at Central? Yes, that's right. Teachers have a special lounge adjacent to the courtyard that is referred to as the smoking teacher's lounge. This area is the only one of its kind at Central. It is the only place where smoking is allowed.

Teachers are special people, and I think that they

are as important as students. Why then, does O.P.S. allow teachers to smoke in the building?

This in itself may not be such a bad thing, but what if that smoke is harming others?

According to the 1986 Surgeon General's Report on The Health Consequences of Involuntary Smoking, "Involuntary smoke is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers."

Airlines have banned smoking because it endangers the lives of other passengers. Movie theaters have banned smoking because it endangers

the lives of their patrons. Besides the obvious health risks, smoking leaves an odor on a person that is somewhat disagreeable.

Nothing is more disgusting than asking a teacher a question and smelling the layers of smoke seeping out of his/her clothing.

For years I have seen students come stumbling out of the bathroom enveloped in a cloud of smoke and have just shaken my head in disgust. I thought teachers were in our lives as a positive influence until I saw a teacher come out of this lounge enveloped in that same cloud

of smoke. I don't see a positive message being sent to me by teachers at Central who smoke.

So this is the problem. Smoking is bad, and it will kill you. Students are not allowed to smoke in the building, and teachers are. This smoke could be endangering the lives of students.

Teachers, if you want to smoke, do what students have to do. Wait until after school and do it at home.

If this doesn't change, I may have to go to the movies to study, it may not be quiet; but at least there is no smoking allowed.

**Another Point of View by Christopher Thilgen**

Smoking is a life-threatening habit. It has killed in the past and it will continue to kill.

## Letters to the editor

**Audience divided racially by speaker**

Dear Editor,

It is my opinion that we should have an African American History Class, and I also support the African American History Month we now celebrate. I felt the speaker's (George Garrison) presentation on February 26 divided the audience racially, and I was offended. If this is the method to be used in any class, I feel it would only make Central's racial prejudice problems worse.

Chris Coquat  
Junior

**Your Opinion**

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.

**'Maybe turn our heads and cough?'**

Dear Editor,

I strongly disagree with the last Register's editorial regarding the revision of our beloved Senior Wills. The Register staff suggests that we cut out all the cruelty in the Senior Wills, and make them nice and warm and sweet. How boring! What's wrong with a few back-slashing insults about people's looks, habits, or unfortunate sexual incidents? These type of wills are what gives this fine publication its pizzazz.

The Register staff suggests that a faculty member be involved in the supervision of OUR Senior Wills. That's insane! I'll tell you what. Why don't we also throw a team of parents on the committee. Maybe Gandhi! Would he make the wills nice enough for you?

It was also suggested that all wills should be signed by the true author and he/she must show identification. What else do we need to do? Give our fingerprints? Maybe turn our heads and cough?

I simply suggest that we leave the Senior Wills as they are, and let us seniors have a little fun in our final year.

Rob Likes  
Senior

**'Register entertaining, well-written'**

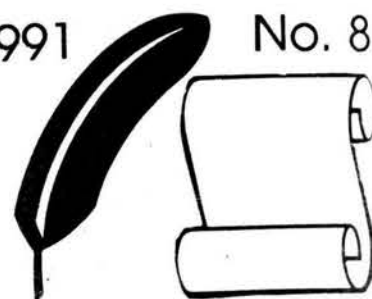
Dear Editor,

I want to commend and congratulate the 1990-1991 Register staff on an entertaining, intelligent, and well-written newspaper. During the winter break I had the opportunity to read and review the Register's issues up to date, and for the most part, I have nothing but praise for this year's staff. I am amazed at the fact that each year Mr. Gaherty can take on a new batch of students and mold them into a staff which can consistently put out a quality product to their readers. Their hard work and effort have definitely paid off.

However, the staff must continue to grow and prosper. The Register is an asset to the students, faculty, and supporters of Central High School. The staff has a responsibility as the "eyes, ears, and voice" of the school. People are counting on their diligence and professionalism. Do not let the people down by relaxing and allowing Mr. Gaherty's dreaded "senioritis" to take over. I know each and every one of you is capable of greatness. Push onward and continue the Register's excellence until the very last issue.

Good Luck,  
Benjamin Rouch  
New York University

# Letters to the editor



## Every act in Road Show was enjoyable

Dear Editor,

Last weekend our family had the pleasure of attending the Central High Road Show and wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed seeing the outstanding performance. Every act was enjoyable and we were all proud to see such talented young people representing our school. I wish more people in the Omaha community could have had the opportunity to see the students of Central, a great group of kids. My thanks to the faculty for their extra time and efforts working with these students. As parents we truly appreciate your efforts.

A Proud Central Parent

## 'Many reasons to oppose the Gulf War'

Dear Editor,

As a graduate of Central High and former reporter for the Central High Register, I hope that Central High School students will take the lead in speaking out against the Gulf war. There are many reasons to oppose the current war and why it should be stopped now.

Unfortunately, the American public is ignorant. According to a survey commissioned by *National Geographic*, at the height of the Iran/Iraq war, 75% of the American public could not even locate the Persian Gulf! Is it no wonder why we are at war?

The facts about the current war are not being told. The Bush administration intends to leave Saddam Hussein in power for regional stability, and because taking Hussein out would go beyond the U.N. resolutions. In other words, we are fighting for the rich oil King of Kuwait.

The Emir of Kuwait abolished parliament, and banned freedom of the press. He even provoked the invasion of his country by violating OPEC quotas on oil production and oil pricing.

We have treated the Arab and Islamic world unfairly. We gave the Soviet Union 40 years of sanctions to leave six nations in Eastern Europe, we are allowing sanctions to work in South Africa but we only gave 5 months of sanctions for Iraq to leave Kuwait. This is not fair treatment.

The U.S. is only one country out of over 150 countries and only represents 5% of the world's population. The Islamic world is nearly 20% of the world's population and according to Islamic law, a monarchy, like Kuwait's, is illegal in an Islamic country. An attempt to re-install the Emir is likely to be perceived as an attack on Islam. Now do you understand why people in Islamic countries like Morocco, Pakistan and Indonesia, are naming their children "Scud" and "Saddam"? (Are we going to name our children "Patriot" and "George"? We will never see the end of terrorism! Now do you know why we should stop this war?

Andrew Sullivan  
Central Graduate-1984

## YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

Due to the overwhelming response from our readers, the Register devoted over an entire page for letters to the Editor.

This response shows that Central students truly care about issues that affect them.

If you have an opinion you wish to make public send it to the Register.

## 'Joubert and others like him should fry'

Dear Editor,

Hooray Josh Cooper!

I agreed with every line of your "Point of View" ("John Joubert: still alive, still well, still appealing") in the last issue of the Register. Joubert and others like him should fry! This sounds harsh but is necessary. If there was a question of guilt or innocence then stop and let him speak. But there's no question! He just wants to live his life out, although he ended so many others and at an early age. Kill him! This is not barbaric. This is justice!

Robert C. Rouch  
Junior

## 'Hippies' ask for justice, equality, and true awareness from Americans'

Dear Editor,

I'd like to personally thank Shelly Barkes for writing her column and making me aware of the stereotypical, hypocritical point of view she harbors. My work would be meaningless without writers like her to keep me motivated.

Apparently, Shelly has never taken the time to talk to one of these so-called "hippies". Otherwise she would have realized that, first of all, the majority of them, are just as anti-drug as, let's say, her for instance, and, second of all, all they are asking for is justice, equality, and true awareness from the general majority of Americans, especially the media. Most importantly, they hate being called hippies because of these narrow-minded prejudices. If one of them were to stoop to her level, I'm sure that the word "cheerleader" would come up. I can agree with her on one thing, though. I resent the "pseudo-hippies" as much as anyone, like the people that recycle and plant trees because it's the "thing to do".

I'd like to make Shelly aware of the numerous times that the United States has stood idly by and watched as other countries, usually American allies, invade a neighboring land, entirely unprovoked, such as China and Tibet, South Africa and Mozambique, Turkey and Cyprus, Britain and Northern Ireland, and, of course, Israel and the occupied territories. Is she aware of the mass murders of innocent women and children in Central America that, to this day, our tax money pays for? I never heard Hussein called a madman or a Hitler while we supplied him with weapons to battle against Iran and when he gassed thousands of innocent Kurdish people over ten years ago. I cannot be convinced that nothing else is going on here. Did we have to resort to war? Not when the Iraqis were reportedly down to one month's supply of food as a result of the U.N. sanctions. They would have had to surrender soon.

Besides, what makes the United States the world's police officer? Saudi Arabia has thousands of troops that, to my knowledge, have done extremely little to help us thus far. Where's the UN. when we need 'em? With all of this information at hand, I see that the youth of America needs to band together and "be all we can be"; struggle against hypocrisy in a greedy society, which, to me means demonstrating, writing letters, and educating myself and others, and working for peace.

I'd like to condone the reporters and the writers on their job on this last issue of the Register, especially the spread on the Middle East. They did several excellent, objective works, and presented the issue well. I'm looking forward to the next issue.

Elissa Mendenhall  
Sophomore

## Peace protestors must allow all to speak

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the outcry of disgust proclaimed by a few individuals concerning Shelly Barkes' column ("The Holocaust, Hippies, and Hussein".) How dare these peace protestors cry and complain. How hypocritical! They have been doing the same to others' ideas since the 1960's.

If they have the right to show their displeasure (as they rightfully do), so should everyone else. "Peace protestors" have been complaining for years, and now, once someone shows displeasure with them, they cry and complain. Miss. Barkes' article was well-written and I, along with the majority of others, agree with every single line.

Joe Maginn  
Junior

## Reader is upset by condescending attitude towards peace protestors

Dear Editor,

I was very upset by Shelley Barkes' column "In a Manner of Speaking" in the February 8 Register.

In the first place, your choice of song lyrics is appalling. You quoted that song completely out of context. The song is called "Death of a Disco Dancer" by the Smiths. It discusses the problems of violence in today's society and how little people care about what happens around them. You took the lyrics, warped the meaning, and then used them to justify a war.

I was also upset by your extremely condescending attitude towards peace protestors. Apparently you think it is morally acceptable to blow up the citizens of Iraq. They have done us no harm, yet we force them to live in terror, 24 hours a day, entirely because of the actions of Saddam Hussein. Maybe you would feel different if your friends, family, and even you faced death because of the actions of your leader.

Michelle Bobo  
Sophomore

## 'Yes, even John Joubert has rights'

Dear Editor,

I very much disagree with Josh Cooper's "Another Point of View", concerning John Joubert, in the last Register. First, I would like to inform Mr. Cooper (and any others who are interested) that it costs the state and the taxpayers a good deal more money to put people like Joubert in the electric chair than it does to confine them for life. If the money being spent on Joubert now is 'beyond your belief', I would like to see your reaction when you were presented with the figures on what it would cost to put this man in the chair.

Secondly, Mr. Cooper's article presented the idea that those sentenced to the death penalty should be killed immediately, without appeals. Doing this would violate Joubert's right (yes, even he has rights) to exhaust all possible appeals before being put in the chair. I would guess that were the author in Joubert's position, he would view the number of court appeals he is entitled to in a different light.

We are talking about a man's life here. One day is not enough to decide his future or lack thereof.

Michelle Dowd  
Sophomore

Editor's note: Nowhere in "John Joubert still alive, still well, still appealing," did the author say that those sentenced to death should be killed immediately without appeals.

# The Central Scene . . .

## Latin teams compete in Certamen Bowl

The 1991 Latin Certamen College Bowl was held on Tuesday, February 12. In this year's competition Central's third and fifth year teams won first-place trophies, the second and fourth year teams won second-place trophies, and the two first year teams third- and fourth-place.

The team members were: fifth year- Kelly Ramsey, senior; Amy Vosburg, senior; Teresa Clark, senior; Jerry Smith, senior; fourth year- Libby Kreck, junior; Bill Thoms, senior; Rachel Tomlinson, junior; Jeff Pospisil, junior; third year- Duncan Joyner, junior; Todd Reiser, sophomore; Rick Fenton, sophomore; Ben Fenner, sophomore.

Other competitors included: second year- Michelle Bobo, sophomore; Debbie Spencer, sophomore; Jenny Wolf, junior; Shoshann Johnson, senior; first year team A- Adam Yale, sophomore; Jenny Coleman, sophomore; Jennifer Beal, sophomore; Bridget Oliveto, sophomore; first year team B- Shawn Ahmed, freshman; Mike Ferro, junior; Debbie Hubbell, junior; and Rosetta Sclar, junior.

## Seniors win awards at fifth annual art show

Central swept the awards at the fifth annual Bellevue College Art Gallery show for metro seniors.

Joel Davies won the best of show award for a self-portrait aquatint print. Julie Torpy won first place in the painting category for a landscape in oil. Kit Bartmess, senior, took first in printmaking; Dave Johnson and Ann Ort took second and third in the same category. Kristine Terry, 1990 June graduate, took first in ceramics.

## Math team busy with contests, competitions

The Central High math team competed in three contests. The math team hosted a contest on February 16 for junior high students as well.

On February 23, ten students participated in a math contest at Creighton University. Those who participated included Brad Gibson, senior; Bryan Campbell, junior; Qian Chen, junior; Michelle Dowd, sophomore; Scott Fullerton, senior; Mindy Drake, sophomore; Kim Scofield, junior; Kristen Steenberg, junior; Pete Thorson, junior; and Radek Kosior, senior.

The math team will also participate in a contest at Northwest Missouri State University on March 28. Over 100 math students will take the American High School Math Exam on February 26.

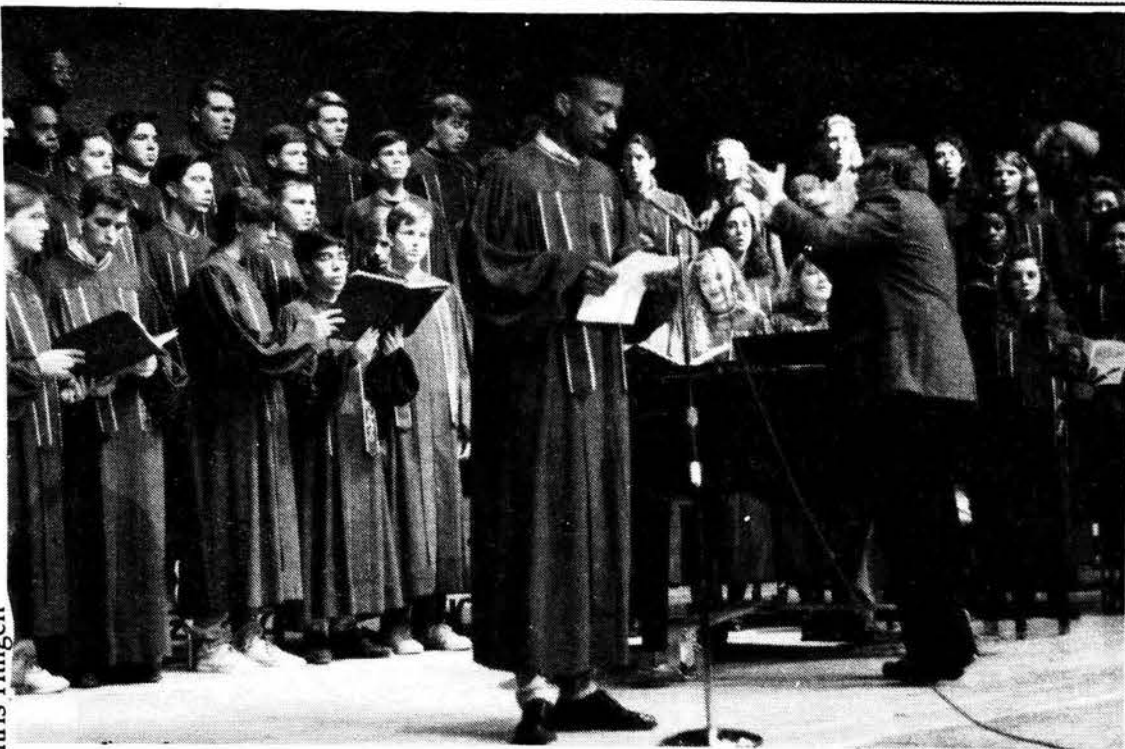
## Photography students excel in Scholastics

Career Center photography students from Central excelled in the Scholastic Art Competition.

Seniors Geri Therkildsen and Michelle Rosener were each selected to submit entire portfolios of eight pieces to a national competition in New York. They have two out of only three portfolios sent from Nebraska. Gold Keys were awarded for individual work of Geri, Michelle, and Matt Worm, senior. Special Dean's awards went to Geri and Michelle.

## Opera Omaha group works with students

The Opera Omaha ensemble came to Central the week of February 11-15. The six member ensemble plus their accompanist performed and worked with both foreign language and vocal music classes. The ensemble performed a variety of songs and arias from different operas, and spoke of their place in music history. They also worked individually with voice students.



Chris Thilgen

Tony Jones, senior, reads about Martin Luther King, Jr. while A Cappella sings, "I Have Been To the Mountain." In addition to A Cappella, many other students were involved in the Black History program which was held on February 26.

## Junior's photo printed in national magazine

Sean Chapman, junior, recently had a photograph published in the magazine *National Lampoon*. Sam Johnson, 1981 Central graduate and former editor-in-chief of the *Register*, is the co-editor of *National Lampoon*.

Johnson was interested in doing a story on the Upstairs Dinner Theatre, and contacted Sean to take a picture of it. Sean was paid for taking the photo which appeared in the February issue of *National Lampoon*.

## Art, foreign languages come together for fair

Two departments at Central High are coming together to promote cultural awareness. The foreign language and art departments sponsored an art/foreign language fair held on February 28 at Central High School.

The fair, which included works by Central students, will also have street scenes from foreign countries and living paintings. It replaced the International Banquet held in previous years.

## New Singers selected

CHS Singers have been selected for the 1991-92 school year.

Sopranos will be: Sarah Collins, junior; Heidi Hausman, junior; Alexis Richards, junior; Marie Runyon, sophomore; and Ann Weber, junior. Altos will be: Jess Wenke, junior; Jessi Haubrich, junior; Emily Moore, sophomore; Ann Pelan, junior; and Wendy Revers, sophomore.

Tenors will be: Bryan Campbell, junior; Kevin Custard, junior; Matt Hovde, junior; and Josh Kollman, junior. Bass will be: Kevin Cody, sophomore; Gary Combs, junior; Dan O'Dell, junior; Tom Rose, junior; Tristian Walker, junior; and Shawn White, junior.

For the February 26 tryouts, the students sang a madrigal for Mr. Terry Theis, vocal music instructor.

## Army recruiter brings trailer, advice to CHS

On February 7, a traveling trailer equipped with a large-screen T.V. accompanied the local Army recruiter to Central.

The trailer was used to show students a film which emphasized the importance of staying in school, and demonstrated how the classes that they are taking now are also useful in the Army. It emphasized three main goals: staying in school, staying off drugs, and high technology.

Sergeant First Class Berndt, local Army recruiter, said that the trailer was not there to recruit students, but to make them more aware of what the Army has to offer. Berndt said that the jobs in the military are the same as non-military jobs and that students tend to think that "the Army is all infantry," which, he said, is not true.

## The Central Update . . .

### Minority scholarship rulings to be reevaluated

In the confirmation hearing for Mr. Lamar Alexander, President Bush's designee to be the new Secretary of Education, Alexander announced that his first act in office will be to suspend and reevaluate the Department of Education's recent rulings on minority scholarships.

Recently, controversy has arisen over whether scholarships for minority students are constitutional.

While scholarship cuts have not actually taken effect, the Department of Education will allow four years for colleges and universities to review their minority scholarship programs.

"Colleges receiving federal funds may administer minority scholarships created by private gifts in which the donor has restricted the use of the money to minority scholarships. But colleges may not use their own money to create such scholarships," said a spokesman for the Department of Education.

"I am pleased by the indications of Mr. Alexander's statements. I am committed to increasing opportunities for minority students in higher education, not limiting them," said Senator Bob Kerrey, Nebraska Democrat.

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# Centralite red-hot as Lancer flame girl

By Dan Fellman

Childhood dreams. While nearly all children dream about the future, few are actually able to fulfill those dreams. But for Julia Skinner, freshman, a childhood dream has come true.

Julia became interested in the Flames after hearing about tryouts on a newscast. And after four auditions, Julia became a member of the squad. Julia chose to try out for the Flames because the other Flames are also young. "It's fun because we also go to parties together," Julia added.

The Flames dance between periods on a stage at one end of Aksarben's arena. Because her knees get cold in the ice arena, Julia spends at least ten minutes warming up before each performance.

Not only did Julia dream about being a dancer, she plans on pursuing a career in the performing arts. "I would like to be a voice performer or a choreographer," Julia commented.

Julia also added that her involvement with the Flames has had an effect on her family. "It's work for them, too," Julia stated. Julia also added that her eleven year-old brother "brags about being around the Lancers."

As a Flame for the

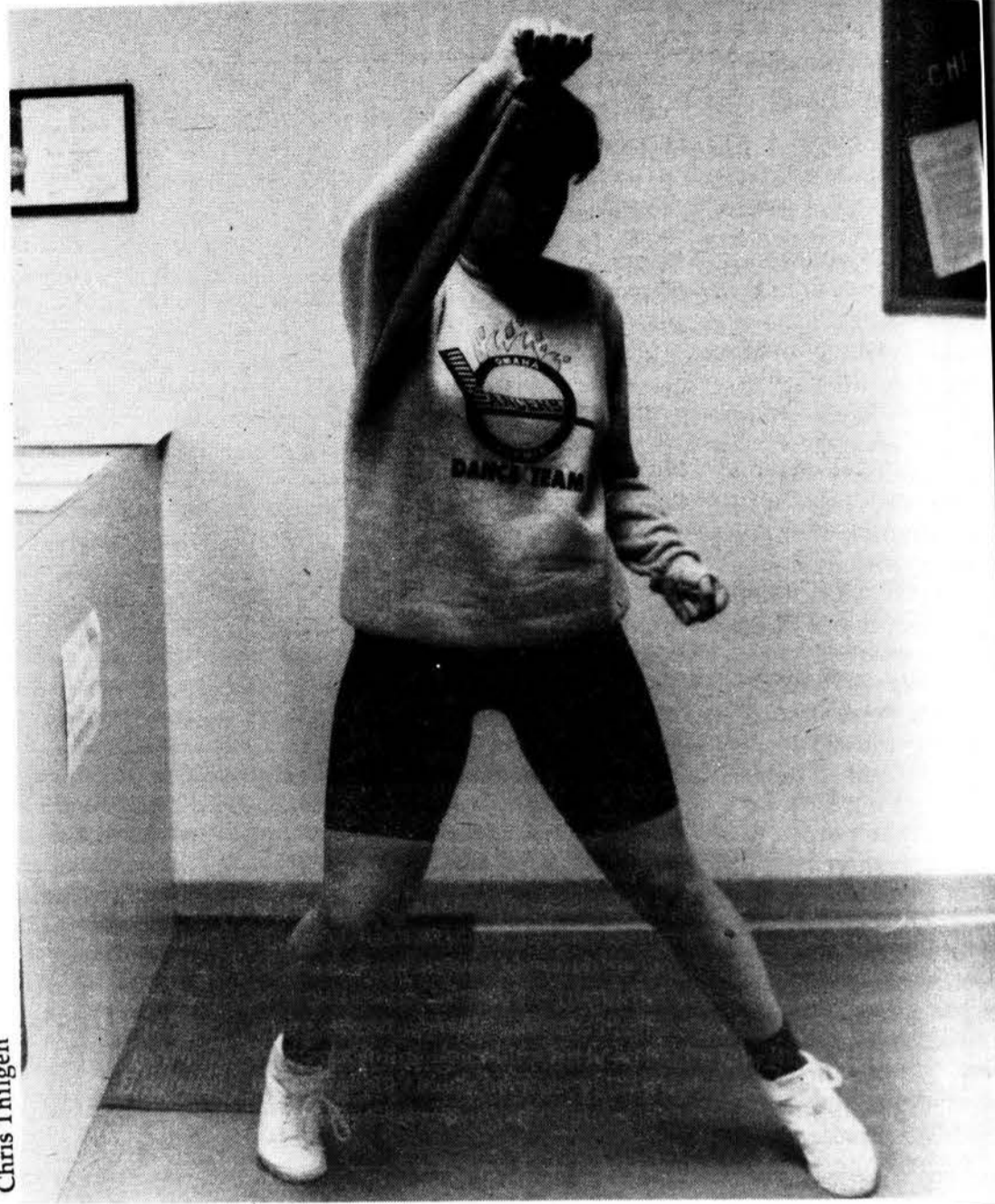
Omaha Lancers hockey team, Julia spends at least three afternoons a week practicing. Although the Flames take up a lot of her time, Julia says it's worth it. "I had to quit everything except debate. It takes a lot of time," Julia commented.

Julia has many duties as a Flame. "We sign autographs, hand out suckers to little kids, and hang out with the Lancer Rooster," said Julia. She also stated that the Flames do a lot of "joking around." "I am the loud one on the team," Julia added.

Julia said that her role has been reversed from her childhood. "When I was younger I always watched the big girls and got my picture taken with them. Now, the little girls come up to me to get my autograph and take a picture with me," Julia commented.

The Flames also hang out with the Lancers. "At first, the hockey players were not used to having a dancing squad, but now we are friends," Julia added. "Fraternization is not allowed, but sometimes we hang out together at Sortino's," Julia commented.

Julia said that she enjoys being a Flame. Although the crowds are friendly, she said that she wished people "would know her by name rather than just a Flame."



Chris Thilgen

Julia Skinner, freshman, practices her routine at The Upbeat Aerobics Center. She performs for the Omaha Lancer's Flames Dance group at Lancer home games.

## Central: home to just a few friendly vermin

By Tom Rose

While dressing in the locker room have you ever noticed a mouse scurry across the floor? Or perhaps a bat fly overhead while you walk through the courtyard? Well, more than a few students at Central have had the experience to answer "yes" to these questions.

At first one might think "OOO!! Mice, cockroaches. How unsanitary," but it is only fair that you take everything into consideration before making these accusations.

People have seen mice in the gym. They have seen cockroaches in the courtyard. And, they have seen bats in both. Luke Wilwerding a junior said, "I've seen bats flying around the ceiling of the courtyard all the time."

"We've caught a bat in the gym and let it go outside," stated Mr. John Georgeson a gym teacher at Central. Now seriously, bats in the gym and courtyard. Can this be true?

Louis Sanders, the head engineer at Central said, "At night, when the janitors clean the building, they open the windows. There's always the chance that a bat might fly in through an open window." Since there are these chances, an exterminator comes to Central every month. With this exterminator comes sprays, glue traps, and poisons (of course these poisons are only used where it is safe).

The custodians, faculty, and a few students claim that these

poisons, traps, and sprays take care of the problem. "I've seen a dead bat behind the vending machines in the courtyard," said Herb Shropshire, a senior.

Branden Bowlby, a sophomore said, "I've seen a few dead bats in the new gym."

Todd Reiser, another sophomore said, "You can always find dead roaches somewhere in the locker

room."

There are also students who complain and say the problem hasn't been taken care of one bit. Kim Kurtzuba, a senior said, "I was in the washing room near the boys locker room and a mouse ran right by my feet. It was at least 6 inches long, not to mention that it was a chunky old thing."

Vonna Taylor, a junior said,

"I see mice in the courtyard on a regular basis."

The facts are there and the opinions differ. Dr. G. E. Moller, the principal at Central, said, "I suspect that in an older building it is just natural that a mouse will get in, but we keep it within acceptable perimeters. It's not serious."

Well, is there a problem? You be the judge!

## Curbing youths' nicotine habit

When asked about the cooperation of local retailers with the current law, he stated "to the best of our knowledge they have been."

Mr. Wadum said that according to the American Lung Association's testing procedures, the retailers have been "quite cooperative." According to Mr. Wadum, "LB130 is long overdue."

Carol Simon, Kwik Shop representative, stated that those people purchasing tobacco or tobacco products in a Kwik Shop store must be over 18. She said that daily problems arise but that the manager "asks for identification. Sometimes they [the youth] are kind of mad," Ms. Simon added.

Convenient Food Mart has the same policy as Kwik Shop. Larry Hoelting, Convenient Foods representative, said their chain experiences many of the problems Kwik shop does, but they have signs

up expressing their policies.

Vern Nemitz, manager of Western Bowl, stated that they have a cigarette vending machine and experience many problems. "Every time they try to buy, we chase them off," Nemitz related. Nemitz stated that he does not think LB130 will make a difference. "If they want cigarettes, they'll still buy them somewhere," Nemitz said.

Harold Newbanks of Harold's Bar and Package stated that he has no problem with teens trying to buy cigarettes because "I don't let anyone in who isn't accompanied by a parent. When I first opened, there used to be a bunch of kids who came in to play pool, but they tried to buy cigarettes, so I kicked them out," Mr. Newbanks stated.

John Tatreau, Director of Grocery Marketing and Consumer Affairs for Bakers Supermarkets, stated that Bakers takes an "aggressive

(Continued from page 1)

approach on the [tobacco] issue. Our policy is [that] we try to enforce the 18 years or older law. The law is posted in every store and checkers are instructed to card people who look too young."

Tatreau said, "If the checkers abuse [the law], the first time it's a warning; the second time, stronger action is taken." He continued, "Having cigarette vending machines makes our efforts seem not worthwhile."

Michael Stansberry, senior, said, "I think [LB130] will help. It's not going to stop it, but it will help." Jeremy Herman, sophomore, stated that LB130 "is not really worth a ban."

When asked if LB130 would do any good, Shannon Wyldes, sophomore, said, "No, I don't think it would."

He went on to say "Everybody will just go to Kwik Shop that's where I get mine."

# Teacher follows in the foot steps of the late human rights activist

By Erika Gaylor

Dr. Marguerita Washington, Central's own career support services teacher, is now filling her aunt's shoes as editor of the *Omaha Star*.

Dr. Washington talks highly of her late aunt, Mildred Brown, who "singlehandedly" started her own paper. Ms. Brown came to Omaha and worked for a weekly black paper called the *Galloway*.

The advertising she did there went so well that she decided to start her own paper. Dr. Washington recognizes advertising as Ms. Brown's most successful endeavor. The *Omaha Star* now has a subscription list of over 30,000.

In the mid-sixties, Ms. Brown was responsible for "getting blacks opportunities for employment." The paper served this purpose by helping blacks gain experience.

According to Dr. Washington, Ms. Brown was the "instigator" for increasing the number of teachers at the secondary level, by using the paper as a tool.

She would recruit for

Omaha Public Schools by going to southern colleges and universities and hiring teachers. She was also instrumental in placing black employees at general public places, restaurants, and hotels.

Ms. Brown not only accomplished much in the way of general civil rights, but the *Omaha Star* is also the only newspaper owned and operated by a female. The staff has approximately twenty volunteers and associates.

Dr. Washington explained, "The purpose of the paper was to serve the community as a means of communication."

"It has always been positive on what people are doing. We don't carry any negative or 'crime' news." Dr. Washington continues Ms. Brown's policies; the *Omaha Star* still has a strong emphasis on education and health matters.

Dr. Washington graduated from high school at age sixteen as a result of accelerated class work and summer school. Because both her parents were teachers, she planned on joining them in their profession.



Geri Therkildsen

Dr. Washington uses the phone at the *Omaha Star*. Part of her job entails visiting people and making important calls while overseeing the final version of the paper.

Similarly, Ms. Brown started out as a teacher, but according to Dr. Washington, "it was not for her." Dr. Washington attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha for her bachelors and her masters degrees; she then went to Lincoln to earn her doctorate.

"Mildred always wanted me to major in journalism and go into a

partnership with her," said Dr. Washington.

However, once again, their lives took parallel lines. Like her aunt, Dr. Washington received her degrees in education and had "many hours in journalism."

According to Dr. Washington, it is "not easy" getting up at 5:00 a.m. every morning and going to the store before and after school

to check on things.

But she feels this is where she gets her "real education." She enjoys the "variety of activities" in her life and "meeting all the interesting people."

As the editor and publisher (owner) of the *Omaha Star*, Dr. Washington exemplifies the "leader and organizer qualities" which she boasted of her aunt

## Traumatic experiences brought student to America

By Emily Rennard

Linh Nguyen, junior, left Vietnam, her place of birth, at age eight, to seek a new and better life, but she hardly knew what she was getting into. In fact, Linh did not even know the destination she sought.

"I had a feeling it had something to do with America, but my dad just told me I was going to my grandmother's," Linh said. "I left alone and without even saying good-bye to my mother."

Linh tried to leave Vietnam two times before successfully reaching the unknown destination. The second time, late in 1981, involved a capture by the communists and Linh was jailed at age seven for two months. "If I had been an adult, they probably would have killed me."

To get out of prison, Linh had to tell the details of her trip. Truthfully she said that she was travelling alone, but she lied to the guards about other aspects.

"They asked me who the captain was and I lied and pointed to a communist commander. They

looked surprised and asked me if I was sure, but I insisted. I did not want to get the real captain killed," she said.

"They also wanted to know who my parents were, but if they found out they might have killed them, so I said I was an orphan," Linh added.

"If you get caught, you don't get your money back from the trip," Linh said. According to Linh, it usually costs around \$1000 to flee from the country, but "we pay in gold so it is hard to say."

In 1982, Linh made her third and final attempt to leave. Her father did not tell her where she was going because she "might tell other kids or something," Linh said.

Once embarked on the small fishing boat,

Linh found herself among 29 strangers, all adults except one baby, one toddler, and herself.

"The trip went smoothly until the fourth day or so. Then one night we were chased by communists and other boats were caught. We escaped, but we could hear bullets in the silent night," Linh recalled. "The baby cried, and the mother had to cover his face to save us."

Linh's boat had a near encounter with a Russian tanker. "On the fourth day, we saw an oil tanker and thought it was American; everything on our minds was American. But then a flag came up and it had a hammer and sickle on it. Luckily, they did not see us," Linh said.

The food and water supply was slim and by the sixth or seventh day, they had only one or two tablespoons of water to drink, according to Linh.

On the seventh day the boat was surrounded by sharks. "They hit the boat and cracked it, so the men had to drain out buckets of sea water from the bottom," Linh said.

A U.S. military submarine found the boat and saved the refugees, said Linh. "They saved us because a hurricane was coming in 30 minutes, and they did not want to watch us die." According to Linh, the submarine had been patrolling the waters for years, saving refugees from various countries.

"Once we were on the submarine, they gave us food and clothes and allowed us to call any relatives anywhere in the world, except our country," Linh said.

"Several of the men asked me if I wanted them to adopt me or sponsor me in America," Linh said. "They told me that they would give me money and about the families I could live with. But I insisted that I had to find my uncle."

*After two years and numerous exams on her English, ten-year-old Linh was finally sent to her uncle's house.*

Once arriving in the U.S., Linh was sent to a refugee camp in the Philippines. "If you know English, you are only there a short time, but I didn't."

"I was sent to another city, where they gave us food and clothes and taught

us English. They asked why we left and about our family background," Linh said.

"Also, they asked us if we had relatives or helped us to find a sponsor." After two years and numerous exams on her English, ten-year-old Linh was finally sent to her uncle's house.

"A woman was to meet me in Los Angeles to help me find Lincoln, Nebraska, and the men at the airport told her I was one year old because I was so short," Linh recalled.

Linh's main reason for leaving was education. "My parents wanted me to have the opportunity to see what the world is like and to have a good education," Linh said. She did not go to school in Vietnam, but her parents began to teach her to write and read Vietnamese and she continued to teach herself after leaving the country, Linh said.

Linh's father escaped from Vietnam two years after she settled with her uncle, and they moved to Omaha, but her mother and sister remain in Vietnam. Linh has not talked to them since she left in 1982.

"I did not leave or move from my country, I fled," Linh said. "The difference is that I am never allowed to go back."

# Grandson carries on forty year family tradition

By Kate Lundholm

"Like father, like son," the old saying goes. In the 1991 *Road Show*, Chris Short, junior, is following in the footsteps of not only his father, Mr. Steve Short, but also his grandfather, Mr. Dean Short, with the performance of a marionette act entitled "Boo!"

Dean Short created the marionette act when he was a student at Central. He was interested in woodcarving and began to carve marionettes. From there, he went on to develop the marionette acts which he performed frequently during his years at Central.

In addition to the 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952 *Road Shows*, Dean Short also performed in the musical "Naughty Marietta" at Central with his marionettes. Inga Swenson, former Central graduate who went on to be in the television series "Benson" and the Broadway musical "My Fair Lady," also was in the musical with Dean Short.

Dean Short went on to present his marionette act at state and county fairs, and eventually formed his own talent agency called the Dean Short Talent Agency which is now in its twenty-seventh year. In addition to his marionette acts, he books other variety acts from around the

United States and Canada.

Over the years, he taught his son and his grandson how to work the marionette shows. In 1972 Steve Short performed the act in *Road Show*. His son and grandson became interested in working for him as a part time job, Dean Short said.

Dean Short has also had connections with other Central students.

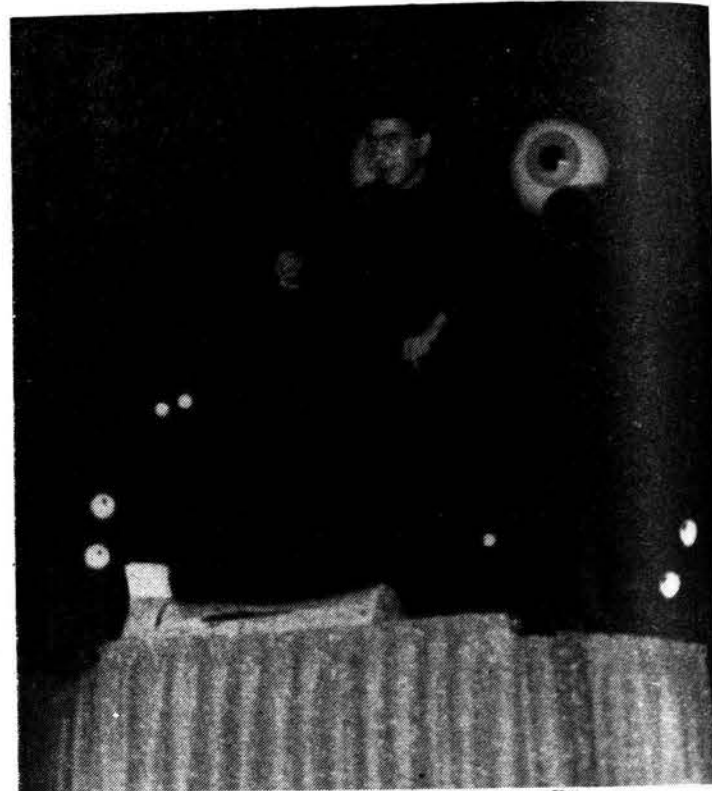
Over the years, he has had five or six Central students work for him with the marionette shows. Currently, he also books Sean Rourke, junior, and his family for their magic acts. Sean performed a magic act in *Road Show* this year.

Chris became interested in working with his grandfather four and a half years ago. He has worked with him

every summer in state fairs, and also in the winter for company parties and birthday parties.

The act that Chris performed in *Road Show* this year contained bat, devil, dracula, and skeleton marionettes. The skeleton marionette he used was built by Dean Short in 1951. According to Dean Short, the secret to keeping it usable all these years was "a lot of paint."

"A lot of people don't know what a puppet show is, and they like things that are different,"



Chris, Short, junior, works with dancing eyeballs during his *Road Show* marionette act. His father performed the same act in 1972, and his grandfather performed the act in 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952.

Chris said. Dean Short said, "The third time around it's a neat experience."

Dean Short added that "This year's show was really entertaining," and that it is "favorable when people who aren't connected with the show come and see it."

## Road Show in seventy-seventh year

# Auditions lead to final *Road Show* performances

By Libby Duckworth

Looking out onto a desolate auditorium from the stage evokes one's aspirations of stardom. The faint smell of stage makeup lingers in the air. But once the audition ingredient of judges is added, the mix can be spoiled.

The sensation of looking at stone-faced judges could be compared to standing under a microscope. Every action, step, and breath you take seems subject to scrutiny. Each spoken word seems to echo deep into one's ear.

But evidently, this potentially distracting situation doesn't intimidate too many, because acts come out of the woodwork when *Road Show* tryouts roll around.

Hold the curtain, though. What about making a decision for the final cut? How does it feel to see something truly pleasurable and not be able to react or share your feelings with the participants?

How about trying to be expressionless when appreciation and enjoyment are a natural reaction? Plus,

the numerous auditions take time to sit through, and talent abounds. While each act is judged on uniqueness, precision, showmanship, and adaptability, so many variations could immerse one's opinions into confusion.

Also, some numbers might not display the freshly

polished image, but the potential is definitely there. The tough part for judges is evaluating the finely tuned product, not the raw materials.

Where in the world did the name "Road Show"

come from, anyway? Was it a travelling three-ring circus in Omaha's earlier vaudeville days? Early variety shows took their conglomeration of acts on the road, wherein the term "Road Show" evolved.

Central High's talent shows were of the same format, so the name *Road Show* was borrowed, only the acts never really left the stage. The numbers still seem to follow in the footsteps of days gone by. They continue to run the gamut from melodramas, comedies, and from skits to dances, acrobatics, and magicians.

Five minutes,

including setup and teardown time, was granted to each act for auditions. Does it seem possible that many hard hours of work could be compacted into roughly the time of a passing period?

A group that looks a little out of breath, but also relieved, emerges out of a hall bustling with apprehension and anxiety. This scene could be dubbed "tryouts".

One group in particular, BMW, said that auditions were "a little uncomfortable at first, but then we got into it once we got going." So tension and nervousness eventually gave way to some degree of confidence.

Permanently cementing a smile on your face and looking out into the crowd is important in a routine, according to the auditionees. Summing up a trying performance, they said, "There is a lot of good competition out there."

This year, *Road Show* claimed its seventy-seventh year of excellence in "Gotta 'B' Original," and that it was, according to Mr. Terry Theis, vocal music instructor. Fresh and new staging effects added feelings of excitement for both participants and audience.

The clouding effects of the smoke, the strobe lights, and the draping assortment of disco lights exerted a concert-like feeling for some of the acts. Our very own

auditorium was suddenly transformed from the all-too-familiar fog of early bird homeroom chaos to downscaled Civic Auditorium magnitude.

The return of the matinee performance afforded students an additional chance to see fellow classmates in a different light. Screaming and cheering names and just flat out yelling from the audience is always a good indication of a fine performance. The acts must have earned a lot of attention because many enthusiastic onlookers had to be silenced.

This year's acts were stewed to well-done in what

was quite a melting pot. Mr. Theis agreed that in the thirst for a variety of acts, the judges' desires were quenched by the various talents that auditioners displayed.

The *Road Show*-goer saw magic, puppetry, comedy, skits, dancing, vocalizing, and drama come together before their eyes. Central High school has built quite a reputation for its academic excellence, but this is the time of year when the

other areas of exceptional talent are recognized. It is impossible to walk away from a show of this quality and not be impressed with the contents.

But it is the work that goes into *Road Show* that makes the whole production possible, and it takes a lot of dedication. Many hours are spent by stage crew, student directors, teachers, auditionees, makeup crew, and countless others to achieve perfection.

Subsequently, the rewards of a successful show and the rush of performing are more than enough reparation for the numerous problems of organization, rehearsals, and staging to name a few.

"Thanks you's are in order for participants of *Road Show* 1991, from the performers through stage crew and audience, who helped create another superior

performance, and that includes the matinee," stated Mrs. Pegi Georgeson.

She added, "They [the matinee audience] were very well-behaved and appreciative of the talent on stage."

The skeleton marionette [that Chris used in this year's *Road Show*] was built by Dean Short in 1951.

The *Road Show*-goer saw magic, puppetry, comedy, skits, dancing, vocalizing, and drama come together before their eyes.



# 83% of Central students indicate they have cheated

By Bob Zielinski

Students who attain high test grades without studying can be referred to as excellent test-takers or, more commonly, cheaters.

Teachers are split on the issue of cheating today as opposed to ten or 20 years ago.

Many Central faculty will say that there is the same amount of cheating, but students are more creative today. Other teachers have noted a significant increase in cheating at Central.

A recent poll conducted at Central indicated that 83% of Central students had cheated on at least one test during their high school years.

According to Mr. Jim Rawlings, psychology and sociology teacher at Central, cheating is on the rise. "Cheating is incongruous with how students handle themselves," he said. "It's a morality level."

Two Central students responded to questions of why they cheat



and what they feel cheating accomplishes.

"I cheat because I don't have time to study. I'm getting the benefit of the good grades to get into college," said one Central senior who wished to remain anonymous.

Another Central

student, who asked that his identity be concealed, added, "Yes, I cheat because Central is very competitive and I want to succeed. I cheat myself because I go for the grade and not knowledge."

Central history teacher, Mrs. Carol Valdrighi, uses a cooperative approach

to teaching by letting students take group tests. She commented about her methods by saying, "Cooperative tests lead to kids teaching kids. All students are helped and everyone's learning is reinforced."

Teachers at Central

attribute any rise in cheating to the "competitive" nature of Central. Many of these teachers have noticed an improvement in cheating methods by students, such as, answer sheets in shoes or fastened to a piece of clothing. Faculty members also commented on how difficult it becomes to regulate students' integrity.

"The problem of cheating is one of the most difficult for me as a teacher to face. Ideally, I would like to think that a cheater loses out on learning by his cheating," stated Mrs. Valdrighi.

Mr. Rawlings attributes the rise in cheating to "laziness, pressure to succeed, and internal or parental expectations."

Both Central students and teachers attribute the tactic of cheating to the lack of studying by students.

Mrs. Valdrighi stated, "You are really in competition with yourself, your own personal goals. Cheaters never win."

## Teachers have unique pets

By Kate Lundholm

Three Central teachers have something in common besides being English teachers. They all have unusual pets.

Mrs. Terrie Saunders has two salamanders, Mrs. Nina Merrigan-Potthoff has a goat, and Ms. Kim Schellpepper has a horse.

Mrs. Saunders acquired her pet salamanders through her marriage to her husband. He found the first salamander on the road, and the second salamander crawled through the window of his basement garden level apartment. Both salamanders were found in Omaha.

Mrs. Saunders said that the salamanders, named George and Georgette, have been alive for 10 to 15 years. "I think they're immortal. I don't think they'll ever die," she said.

The Saunders keep the salamanders in an aquarium where the salamanders float in water, sunbathe, or eat worms. They have been unable to determine the sexes of the

salamanders, but believe they are the same sex because the salamanders have never mated.

Mrs. Saunders said that her most interesting experience with the salamanders was one night when she got up at about 5:30 a.m. She stepped on one of the salamanders and it "felt like a wet, moldy cigar as it rolled under my foot," she said.

George and Georgette are about 10 or 12 inches long, similar to lizards, and loved by children, Mrs. Saunders said.

Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff grew up on a Nebraska ranch where she was allowed to have any pet she wanted except a goat. When she moved onto an acreage, her mother gave her a Pygmy goat as a housewarming present.

Her two year old goat is named Bruno, and Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff described her goat as a "killer watch goat." The goat is female, but Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff did not know that when she

named the goat Bruno.

Bruno lives outdoors where she has a pasture and a pen. She eats hay, bushes, flowers, and grain, but "hotdog buns are her favorite," Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff said.

Bruno is about two feet tall which is tall for a goat, and Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff walks her on a leash and combs her. She also said that her children like Bruno, and Bruno plays tag with the children and can walk on her hind legs.

Currently, Ms. Schellpepper has a horse named Reo that lives on her parents' farm in Stanton, Nebraska. As a child, Ms. Schellpepper had a horse named Jubilee.

She would ride Jubilee around his pen so many times that it was common for her mother to find her under a tree asleep on the horse's back.

Ms. Schellpepper has a hard time getting out to the farm to see her horse now because of teaching and her responsibilities as cheerleading sponsor, but said she has "enjoyed having all kinds of pets... because they're always happy to see you."

Central High

## Green Eagles recycle for city



Heather Schacht, junior, aids in the newspaper recycling.

By Dawn Randall

The Green Eagles joined the Sierra Club last month in an effort to recycle some of Omaha's newspapers.

Omahans could bring their newspapers to any of three locations around Omaha every Saturday from 10-4. The first week brought 117 tons of papers, all of which were lifted by eight Green Eagles. "We got

much, much more than we expected," said Mr. Roeder, sponsor.

Todd Djureen, who helped load the papers all three weekends, said, "Even though it was a lot of work, it was a lot of fun."

The Green Eagles will be sharing half of the profits that are made from the recycled papers. The first week, they took in about \$585.

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# Decathlon takes state, sets sights on L. A.

By Rick Besançon

Winning the State Academic Decathlon competition was only one goal achieved by Central High School's decathlon team. Ever since South High School won the State competition last year, Central's team has made it their goal to recapture the State crown.

Mrs. Dee Kovarik, Decathlon coach and Central math teacher, said that it was a close competition, but "after the second set of scores came back, we looked really good. If we kept up the pace, we would be on our way to 40,000 points which gave us a good chance to place and possibly win."

"We went for the overall (victory), and it seemed to work for us," Mrs. Kovarik stated.

By winning state, the decathlon team will now compete in Los Angeles in the National competition on April 19, 20, 21 and 22. The team is treated to an all-expenses paid trip to Los Angeles.

Mrs. Kovarik said that it should be great fun. "They usually take the kids on some sort of tour, maybe Disneyland," Mrs. Kovarik stated.

She went on to say that the school support has been "really helpful," although "I wish more people could have been (at the State competition). Mr. Rhoeder, Mrs. Valdrighi, and Mr. Waterman were very helpful. Mr. Watson gave economics books to the students, and the music teachers provided some of the music."

When asked about her goals for Nationals, Mrs. Kovarik responded, "I would be very pleased to finish in the top ten, but it is really up to the team, after all, they have Advanced Placement tests to study



Team members, back row, Coach Dee Kovarik, Chris Higgins, Jennifer Johnson, Anya Lawler, Mike Hendricks, Suzy Wolff. Front row: Deb Uhl, Teresa Clark, Kobporn Cha, Amy Vosburg, and Dan Fellman.

for."

Chris Higgins, senior, stated that "we are hoping for at least fourth, and we'll be going for both individual and team honors."

The team is taking two weeks off to rest and take midterms. Preparation is up to the students, Mrs. Kovarik said.

"I think they would find it hard to find any more time to study," added Mrs. Kovarik. The team studies together every Sunday and tenth period, and two hours of individual study time every night.

Chris Higgins commented that "we've gotten the stuff down,

now we are just maintaining the information. We'll get back into it after midterms are done."

Besides capturing the State title, Central students took home many individual awards.

Suzy Wolff received gold medals in overall, Social Science, and Fine Arts, and bronze in Science, Economics, and Math. Anya Lawler received a bronze for Fine Arts.

Kobporn Cha took home gold medals in Fine Arts and Social Science, and a bronze in Hard Science.

Mike Hendricks received gold in overall, Science, and in Language and Literature; a silver in

Math; and a bronze in Fine Arts. Deborah Uhl got a silver in Essay and a bronze in Fine Arts.

Jennifer Johnson received a gold for Interview, a silver for Fine Arts, and a bronze in both Science and Math.

Chris Higgins took a gold in Science, while Dan Fellman took a silver in Interview and a bronze in Social Science.

According to Jennifer Johnson, senior, team members compete in six tests. Language and Literature, Science, Social Sciences, Economics, Math, and Fine Arts make up the tests.

## Registration offers problems and possibilities

By Dawn Randell

As third quarter comes to a close, counselors are already registering students for the upcoming school year.

Time seems to be the biggest problem for counselors when registering students.

Among the seven counselors here at Central, each is responsible for approximately 250 students.

Mr. McMeen, counselor, who is new at registering this year, said he is feeling a little "overwhelmed" with the need of time.

Mr. Moran, counselor, said the time it takes to round up all of the students and the possibility of failures are his biggest problems.

Although getting all of her students together is not a problem, Mrs. Maniscalco, counselor, said she wishes she could spend more time with each student.

Although Mr.

McMeen disagreed, both Mr. Moran and Mrs. Maniscalco said students are aware of all classes available to them.

Mr. McMeen, however, said many students are not aware of the career center and all that it has to offer.

The Academy of Finance is open to those students who qualify, and radio-T.V. broadcasting, photography, auto-body and mechanics are available at the career center, McMeen said.

He also said some students are not aware of some of the home-economics classes such as child development and family living, which are important in everyday life.

Both Mr. Moran and Mrs. Maniscalco said students are provided with all of the information and should not be unaware of any classes.

Mr. Moran said he directs all of his students to the college-oriented classes. He said, "I would rather have a student come back to me

and say that they did not need a class rather than tell me that they needed a class that they did not have."

Both Mr. McMeen and Mrs. Maniscalco said they recommend classes to students that pertain to the occupation that they are going

**"I would rather have a student come back to me and say that they did not need a class rather than tell me that they needed a class that they did not have."**

Mr. Moran

into.

Mr. McMeen said he first asks students what they are planning to do after high school.

Then they discuss whether the student is living up to his/her expectations, and if what they are doing is

lining up with what they are going to do after high school.

Mrs. Maniscalco said she usually asks students what they are going to major in, and then tries to gear their classes toward their majors.

Mr. Moran and Mr. McMeen commented on the difficulties that they have with registering students in the honors classes, since the students have to be recommended by their current teachers for the honors and A.P. classes.

Students applying for honors and A.P. classes also must have the correct sequence of classes to be eligible.

The sciences progress from biology, to chemistry, to physics, and the math progression is: algebra 1-2, geometry, algebra 3-4, trigonometry, and then calculus.

Many classes that are only available for certain periods in the day are also problems for students. Enrichment math,

Register staff, and Student Council are all only available 6-7 period.

This year, the A.P. French class was moved to a zero hour because of a lack of room in the school day.

As a result, many students were unable to take A.P. French.

A fact that students may or may not know about is that 6 semesters of band can eliminate the required 4 semesters of gym.

Counselors also commented on the English and social studies classes, which are required for all four years.

Mr. Moran and Mr. McMeen said that those classes should be required.

Mr. McMeen said that both classes help people understand other people, and he thinks it is important to "know ourselves, our world."

He also said, "There is a tendency to want to specialize in careers rather than become a knowledgeable person."

# Brainstormers: A different kind of decathlon

By Erika Gaylor

There is an ongoing type of academic decathlon. Four seniors participate in Brainstormers, produced by University Television at UNO.

Brainstormers is a new quiz program which is produced on-the-air at the UNO campus. It airs Thursday evenings at 7:30 on KYNE, channel 26, on Cox Cable channel 11, and on American Heritage channels 3 or 4.

There are 25 Omaha, Council Bluffs, and surrounding area high schools involved. Out of these, two teams compete, each made up of four students from four different schools. This means each student competes with students from other schools. Central students involved in Brainstormers are seniors Teresa Clark, Joel Davies, Dan Fellman, and

Julienne Hill.

Each team has four different rounds. According to Julienne, the rounds differ by how long it takes a

questions are "pretty tough," but they answer them "well," he said. Julienne noted that the questions were "superquiz" or "trivia" type.



Here is the Brainstormers' logo used by KYNE.

participant to answer and depending on if he/she answers alone or in a group. According to Barry Anderson, Marketing Manager for University Television, questions came from the National Questions Bureau which many similar programs use. The

Some of the cameramen and technicians are broadcasting students of UNO. Mr. Anderson also applauds the underwriters who give support and help to defray the cost of production, such as May Telemarketing and Cox Cable.

According to Mr. Anderson, the producers are all professionals at the University Television station.

"The main purpose of Brainstormers is to help raise peer appreciation of academic achievement by giving it the kind of visibility usually reserved for athletics and other dramatic events," said Mr. Anderson. "Sports gets a lot of press right now, but eventually, we hope that the same amount of publicity will be given to this show," he relates.

Because both Nebraska and Iowa have "pretty good standings in educational measures," the program is expected to do well, Mr. Anderson said. "The area is supportive of education."

Another underlying goal of Brainstormers deals with the promotion of academic achievement in the Omaha metro area. According to Mr. Anderson, the program will publicize that these schools are exceptional.

## May cause 'long-term problems'

# Budget cuts cause shortages (continued from page 1)

for 1990-91 is up 125 students while that of the entire school is down by 100.

"It's going to create shortages in the ability to do laboratory work," he said, noting that this year it was possible only to replace chemical supplies that were totally exhausted. "It's going to create long term problems."

### PE suffers hardships

"We're going to run out of a whole bunch of stuff," Mr. Doctor said. He added, "Unless the budget changes significantly, certain labs might have to be abandoned."

Physical education, another part of the curriculum with heavy equipment demands, has suffered considerable hardships under a reduced budget, according to Miss Joy Morris, department head.

"We're hurting this year," she said. "I've cut back every place possible."

According to Miss Morris, the cost of replacing gym supplies this year has been greater than the amount of money allocated to physical education at Central. In some cases, she said, "we either have to repair it ourselves or do without."

Often, Miss Morris said, it is impossible for the P.E. department to expand the equipment in its programs.

"Basically our budget just covered the replacement of broken items," Miss Morris said. "We still have close to \$300 of things we want, but we just don't have money for each year," she said.

If the cuts continue to the extent that they have occurred this year, she suggested, the more expensive programs, such as Individual Sports, might be among the first to suffer.

"Individual Sports takes up most of the budget," Miss Morris said. "It [the

reduction] can hurt us to the point where we'll have to go back to the point of having general P.E. and cut out Individual Sports altogether," she said.

### Departments endure cuts

Other departments within the school building, though perhaps not as visibly affected, are enduring cutbacks in the amount of money normally available for expansion and supplies.

Mr. Jack Blanke, social studies department head, said that the reductions have not had such a serious effect on his office.

According to Mr. Blanke, the amount of money allocated to social studies at Central has remained constant for the last five years, though it has not increased to compensate for inflation.

Mr. Blanke said, "I don't think it'll have an effect on the curriculum," but he noted that the static budget does put his department under constraints. "A lot of teachers bring their own paper," he said.

Similar instances have occurred in the English department, according to Mr. Daniel Daly, department head.

"The portion we receive will be a portion of a smaller amount," Mr. Daly said. "My attempt to deal with that included cutting," he said, indicating that he had to cut back on relatively minor supplies such as pens and pencils.

"If things get really bad," he said, "teachers will buy their own paper. I know some who do so now."

Mrs. Daryl Bayer,

foreign language department head, has encountered similar problems.

"It [the budget] was approximately the same as last year," she said. "We have been able to get the basic supplies," she said, "but we aren't able to add to our overall department needs."

These needs, Mrs. Bayer explained, include adding to the stock of audio-visual aids and funding teacher conferences. "For example, next year we'll have five languages and one VCR," she said.

"Now we find that the availability of going to conferences is cut way back," Mrs. Bayer added, noting that only two OPS teachers will receive travel compensation for attending national meetings this year.

"This is kind of a blow," she said, "and it doesn't look like it's going to improve over the next couple of years."

"We have to be very careful that we don't overuse our supplies, since there isn't much money to replace things," Mrs. Bayer said.

### Fundraisers possible

With the current budget situation, a possible solution would seem to be to engage in fundraisers or other similar programs. However, such measures appear viable only on a supplementary level.

"There are a lot of things we'd like to do, and if we do we're going to need fundraisers," Miss Morris said. "We collect gym fees," she said, "but that is used mainly to replace broken articles."

"A lot of our

supplements to the foreign language program are done through foreign language fundraisers," Mrs. Bayer said.

Opinion toward having to raise money for basic requirements appears to be generally negative. "That's contrary to the concept of free public education," Dr. Moller said.

"I have some real problems here," Mr. Doctor said. "I'm not sure it is the responsibility of teachers and students to go out and try and raise money for their own basic education," he said.

Mr. Daly has a similar view. "In principle," he said, "I'm opposed to people having to do that. It seems to me that we do have a public school here, and public funds ought to take care of that."

In addition, OPS policy limits the use of in-school fundraisers. According to Dr. Bennett, such programs must be for a specific, pre-stated purpose and cannot be employed to raise money in general for a department treasury.

### Negative impression

Those interviewed about the funding situation gave the general impression that, despite indicators of growth for OPS as a whole, the limits of the current budget are having a serious effect on the ability of individual schools to keep up their programs.

"I personally don't see any way out of this dilemma," Dr. Moller said. "If we keep getting cut, then I think a negative effect on academic achievement is just inevitable," he said.

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# What does a date entail?

By Emily Rennard

**A**

long with dating comes an assumed set of rules for both sexes. These rules have changed over the years, to bring to mind one question of both guys and girls in the dating world: what exactly does a date entail?

First dates can send mixed messages about the intentions of both sexes. According to Duncan Joyner, junior, communication is the key. "You have to get to know the person before you decide what you want," he said. "If you can really talk and open up, then you ask her out again."

"And there is the sex thing, too," Duncan said. "You have to have similar beliefs about sex to make anything work."

According to Duncan, a first kiss should almost always occur on the first date. "Even if you don't like her, or you didn't have a great time, it is sort of like a common etiquette; you always kiss her."

"A kiss on the first date is important because that will be the most remembered night of your whole relationship," said Jason Holobek, freshman.

Nothing gets serious in the first couple dates, according to Tim Galligher, junior. "You could ask a girl out a second time and she might still think you are just friends," he said. "But by the third date, things start getting serious."

"Things don't start getting serious until you decide you like each other. If you like each other a lot, then you go out, but you can't plan for anything," said Mindy Morlin, freshman.

## Mixed messages and expectations

"You start by going out as friends. If you like each other, you can go out again, but you can't count on anything," said Shelley Sirois, sophomore.

Mixed messages can confuse not only those going on the date, but also their friends and peers. "Usually with the first date or two, people don't say much. After that they start critiquing your date and talking about the 'ball and chain' or something," Duncan said.

"Friends might tease about a date, but they don't say anything serious that can really bother me," said Kim Scofield, junior.

According to Tim, friends do not ask too much about details on sex. "It is really just close friends you talk to," Duncan added. "After that people just don't know and don't ask."

Kim added that friends are important in dating because it is much more complicated to go out with someone who does not have the same group of friends.

Asking a date out can be the hardest aspect of the situation. Questions such as who to approach, when to approach them, and what to say, plague the average dater.

According to Shane Berman, junior, asking someone out has to be a gradual thing. "You have to flirt a little at school and see what kind of response you get first, and then decide to ask her out," Shane said. "It is hard to just go up to a girl you barely know and ask her out."

The fear behind asking someone out lies in the fear of rejection. Both guys and girls in the dating world face the possibility of rejection, but everyone handles it in a different manner.

Megan Horton, junior, said that the fear of rejection "depends on the person you are asking out. If you don't really like them, it doesn't matter, but if you do like them, you are shot down if they reject you."

Others, like Abu Blackman, senior, do not think about the fear of rejection. "It is a part of life. If a girl doesn't know what she is missing, that is her problem. I'd go and ask her best friend out then," Abu joked.

After deciding who is going out, the date can raise more hard-to-answer questions. Where to go, what to do and how much to spend races through the mind of both people.

## Where to go and what to do

Matt Hoffman, junior, does not think that a movie makes a good date because "it does not allow for conversation. You want to be in a situation to talk to and get to know who you are going out with."

A party is not a good idea for a first date, according to Duncan. "You always have the feeling that other guys are going to try to hit on your date, and there is always the danger aspect; you don't want to get her drunk or into trouble on a first date," said Duncan.

According to Megan, the activities of a date should vary depending on who is going out. "If it is a guy you really like, you want to be alone, so a dinner date or movie is nice. But if you don't really like the guy then a party with friends around is a little more comfortable."

"The decision should be made together," Tim added. "Otherwise one of you will be bored or you will drive around saying 'No, you decide,' all night."

"Dinner or a movie is a good idea," said Tim. "But nothing extravagant. No more than \$20 is a good first date."

Going Dutch is a solution to deciding who is to pay for the date, according to Shane. "But if the girl doesn't offer, you don't want to ask her to pay," he added.

Wiff Farrell, senior, said that the guy should always pay for the date. "Even if a girl asked me out I would feel more comfortable paying for it," Wiff said.

"Girls rarely pay on a first date," said Duncan. "Usually the guy pays, unless there is a relationship."

Once all the details are worked out, once the "rules" are established, the date should just happen. Who knows? It could be the best night of your life—or not.



# Teens find security in long-term relationships

The value of having a "significant other" develops in the early adolescent years. Either "playing the field" or gloating in the meaningful ambiance of "true love," teenagers have a need for affiliation. Some teens decide to commit themselves to a relationship.

"As a teenager, dating is an important way to form relationships," said child psychologist Gail Krenzer. A long-term relationship involves "commitment, faith, and trust," according to students who have been involved in one.

"A person must also be calm and responsible," added Ed Young, senior. But Ed said that "being faithful" is extremely important. Ed tried keeping numerous relationships; each oblivious to the other. "That is the last time I will ever do that. I don't like getting shot at," Ed commented. One of Ed's girlfriends allegedly shot at him when she found out.

Ed and his current girlfriend have been going out for four months. Ed said, "That is a long time for me, but I like the security." Josh Bahr junior, favors long-term relationships because "someone's there all the time."

This security parallels the need for affiliation, according to Mrs. Krenzer. For example, middle children need more, which means those specific teenagers have a strong potential of being involved in this type of relationship, she explained.

Since the teenage years are the most important time for social development, relationships are a necessary part in developing identity formation, Mrs. Krenzer said. According to Josh, teenagers have a need for a boyfriend/girlfriend because they "don't feel comfortable around their friends." "Besides dating," said Kathy Nelson, clinical/social worker, "making friends allows one to learn how to be comfortable."

The disadvantages cited by many are obvious. "If you really like someone, you should only date that person," said Eve Broekemeier, junior. After going out with someone for two years, Eve also remarked, "I think it is important to not ignore friends and lose touch with them." Mrs. Krenzer, who married her high school sweetheart, said, "dating around is really positive because you need other

# Stereotypes, here

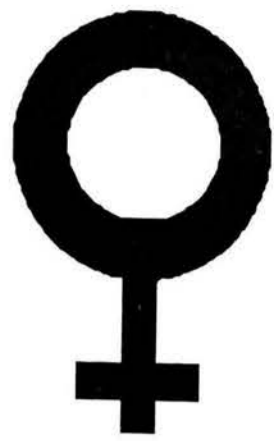
By Shelly Barker

**A**

hhh, the joys of youth. With this youth comes fun, freedom, and of course, dating. But dating among high school students is not always the carefree fun that many think it is. Sometimes teens enter into relationships that face great difficulties due to age and race differences.

Heather Dunbar, senior, was hesitant to get involved in an interracial relationship with senior, Tracey Finley, due to the negative reactions of her parents and of society in general. "I was worried about the consequences because it isn't that common," she said, "and I was worried about what teachers would think."

"I think that interracial relationships are more accepted at Central, but there is still prejudice," Heather said. She went on to say that the prejudice "is on both sides." She found obscene things written on her locker and some students made comments. When out in public "people looked twice, but I was proud to be with him."



# Dating and relationships in the nineties

## What do students think?

- How much does a date in the 90's cost?
 

10% of males said \$5-10	0% of females said \$5-10
15% of males said \$10-15	11% of females said \$10-15
40% of males said \$15-20	44% of females said \$15-20
35% of males said over \$20	45% of females said over \$20
- What is an acceptable age gap for couples?
 

22% of students said two years or less
42% of students said two to five years
2% of students said five to eight years
34% of students said it does not matter
- Do you think the trend of dating has decreased?
 

71% of females said yes
60% of males said yes

An informal poll conducted by the Register staff

## S, differences cause problems in dating

...as the relationship itself, "it was always... Feather was scared because she thought... could jump her," Tracey joked. According... er and Tracey, "black girls always had... say."  
...a Walker, senior, said that interracial... are acceptable. "I don't see a color," she... do with the person and how they act."  
...ews, senior, agreed, saying that "it's O.K... white people to be friends; why can't they... er?"  
...Bozak, senior, said that "if you don't... ur companion, the relationship is boring."  
...senior, has dated a girl who was white... negative feedback from other students... h a white girl, I'm considered a sellout... he said.  
...a Webster, senior, has a slightly different... couldn't go out with a white person,"... because it has been instilled in my head to... person of my own race. It keeps the race...  
...went on to say that "if you love or like

someone of a different race, just be proud of who you are with" and the most important thing is to give that person respect. "Never feel disgrace at who you are with, never push your own kind away, and never forget who you are and where you came from," she said.  
Jerome Moore, junior, had a stronger point of view. "I am totally against them [interracial relationships] for myself and for other people. It makes you lose sight of who you are. You lose respect for the African community." When asked if he finds interracial friendships acceptable, Jerome said that they are "fine" but that the sexual aspect makes the relationship more serious.  
One junior, who wishes to remain anonymous, commented that "the difference in lifestyles would be impossible. I myself have never been attracted to someone of another race."  
Many parents do not approve of interracial relationships. "It's just the way the older generation grew up. The civil rights movement was just happening when they were young," Nina said.  
One senior who was involved in an interracial relationship ran into problems with parents. "It was

hell. My parents were shocked and lost trust in me. I was supposed to be grounded for a year."  
Blake Thomas, senior, does not feel uncomfortable around her boyfriend, who is Korean and 26 years old. "I was hesitant at first, but not because of race, but because of his age," she said. Blake feels that the only problem is socially and that she was nervous to go out with his friends "I've been to parties and seen my teachers," she said. "Now that's scary."  
As far as her parents were concerned, Blake's mother disapproved of the age difference at first, "but then she met him. Now she thinks he's great" "Teachers have expressed their disapproval to me and my parents," Blake said, "but they don't know Paul. They're judging on ignorance."  
Rob Nelson, senior, dated a girl two years younger. "The only problem was with her parents," Rob said. His girlfriend, Nicole Goldstein, sophomore, was expected to be home early and was not allowed to ride in a car with Rob "because he was older."  
For the most part, students are indifferent to interracial relationships and differences in age. "Love comes in all colors," said Stacey Coleman, senior.



**in commitment**  
Story by Erika Gaylor

to know what you want."  
Michael Greenfield, senior, people have to have time for one another, be there for the ups and downs." He has in a relationship for the past two years and advantages."  
so said, "If people are not looking for a long- when they should date more people. I have learned"  
ents believe teenagers are qualified in their maturity commitment. Robert Lewis and Oretha Walker have two years. With synchronized thoughts, they agreed and grow with each other. "Sometimes you get on," Robert said, "but you get used to their ways."  
are not mature enough to handle relationships in commitment, according to Ms. Nelson. "It makes continued, "to date more people so you have the out different kinds of relationships."  
to Mrs. Krenzer, it is "very positive to be valued and to be found attractive." But, still, the trend on-one basis has decreased, agrees Ms. Nelson. ating has given way to a more casual, yet according to Mrs. Krenzer.  
on blames the media for presenting all the alone on a date." "In the past generation, pushed into dating situations when we them," she said. Most students agree for the decline in traditional dating they in numbers."  
the high school years, one of the who you can trust and who s. Nelson.  
society, ideally, our lives unless we have a she said.  
s, students from families



Michelle Rosener



**Holly Slye, senior, works in a broadcasting booth at the career center. Holly spends third, fourth, and fifth periods at the career center.**

The career center also offers hands-on classes in Radio Broadcasting, Television Broadcasting, Electronics, Printing, Photography, and Auto body.

Also, students can enroll in the Academy of Finance, an in-depth class in business.

## Students prepare for future Career Center offers opportunities



Michelle Rosener

Senior Stacey Applegate takes a picture in the photography studios at the career center. The photography students also have the opportunity to take pictures at the home games of the Omaha Racers basketball team.

By Dan Fellman

In the days of old, readin', writin' and 'rithmetic made up the normal education. But today, things have changed. Although the three R's are still taught, students have many more options today. Students in the Omaha Public Schools can enroll in the Career Center, a special hands-on educational opportunity.

The career center offers classes in photography, auto body, television production, television and radio broadcasting, electronics, mechanics, and printing.

Also, students can enroll in the Academy of Finance, an in-depth business class.

Senior Tom Porsel is enrolled in the auto mechanics class. He decided to take the class for many reasons. "I like cars, and the class has helped me learn

more about them," Tom said. "I have also become more acquainted and experienced with cars," added Tom.

Stacey Applegate took a class at the career center because "they do not have a photography class at Central."

Both students commented that the classes are good preparation for the future. Tom stated that he wants to be an aircraft mechanic, but that auto

mechanics will be something to fall back on. Stacey added that she plans on pursuing photography as a career as well.

Tom said that attending the career center has many advantages. "I have learned to fix my own car, and I also know what certain sounds from the engine mean," Tom stated. Added Stacey, "A career center class expands knowledge better than a normal class."



Tom Porsel, senior, works on a Chevrolet Corvette. Tom takes a class in auto mechanics at the career center.



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# Late night antics anytime

By Brian James

## Out & About

It's about that time. The homework's done and you're about to get some decent sleep for once. Your body's going along with this, but you're in the mood for some laughs. You flip on the television hoping to catch a little of the late night TV circuit, trying to withstand the urge to doze off. It doesn't work. You awaken to the sound of tractors on the Morning Ag Report. If this has happened to you before, don't bother staying up late anymore. Just get yourself a copy of *The*

*Late Night with David Letterman Book of Top Ten Lists*

like I did and enjoy it. Written by David Letterman and his team of writers, the book (retail price something like nine bucks) is

**The book... is an anthology of the funniest Top Ten lists that have been dreamed up during his reign as, yes Arsenio, "The Late Night king"**

as, yes Arsenio, "The Late Night king." The book, as Letterman writes, is "like watching TV in convenient book form."

This book is ideal for the student who likes reading but is discontent, or who knows, possibly even frustrated with, the daily strain of "required reading." Simply

put, it's easy reading.

Most of Letterman's Top Ten lists are derisive and sarcastic, yet some do have a point and are for the most part mild.

A few examples of the more mild lists include: "Top Ten New Advertising Slogans For Delta Airlines," "Fears of Snuggles the Fabric Softener Bear," and "Top Ten Things That Will Get You Kicked Out of Disney World."

At times though, Letterman and his writers have included lists that are very brazen and bold, if not just plain blatant and brash. The tactless

originality of some of these lists is what makes this book one you struggle to put down.

"Top Ten Punchlines to Scottish Dirty Jokes," "Expressions That Sound Dirty but Really Aren't," and "Top Ten Christmas Movies in Times-Square" are some that could only be found on "Late Night."

A few lists, such as "Top Ten Words that Almost Rhyme with 'Peas,'" or "Top Ten Numbers between One and Ten" initially seem pointless, but when blended in with the rest, are as comical as any.

You'll find Letterman's *Book of Top Ten Lists* is irresistibly funny, even if you don't get around to watching "Late Night."

His book still doesn't beat his show, though with 169 of his best lists packed in this book, it *does* come close.

David Letterman's Book of Top Ten's page 15

Club Maximus page 15

Teacher Match page 16

Horoscopes page 16

Records, Tapes, CDs, and DATs page 17

Paul Simon in concert page 17

Student Dancer page 18

Laser Majic page 18

Movie Reviews page 19

Possibilities abound at dance club

## Mac attack is back

By Shelly Bakes

"What do you guys wanna do tonight?"

"I don't know. What's there to do?"

"We could either cruise Dodge or go through Memorial."

Has this ever happened to you? Are you plagued by lost weekends spent driving aimlessly through the streets of Omaha? Do you pine for something exciting, new, and different? Well, dance fans,

**Are you plagued by lost weekends spent driving through the streets of Omaha? Do you pine for something exciting, new, and different**

there is something to consider on those monotonous moonlit nights. Club Maximus.

My friends and I recently visited what is affectionately called "Club Mac" by many who frequent it.

I don't know about exciting (that's up to the individual), but it's new and definitely different.

Finding the place is the first challenge. Located on 121st and "P", the sign which looms over this hot spot reads "Shots Rifle Club." Not too inviting.

But the beat drifts to the parking lot, and my friends and I are strangely curious.

We walk into the entry way and are appalled

at the five-dollar entrance fee. The things I do for the *Register*.

Anyway, after we check in our coats, which is necessary if you truly want to get down, and we head for the dance area.

The dim lighting is accented by a disco ball, and many of our articles of clothing are made luminescent. Nice touch.

The "house music", as it is termed, is made up of rap and pop music: You'll be grooving when you walk in the door.

There is a wide variety of inhabitants in the house, all different ages and colors, all dancing to the same beat. When you work up a sweat, the "bar" offers a diverse menu, from pop to nachos. If you're just too tired, you can stand back and watch as people give "Club Mac" its nickname.

For those of you who like to get busy (in more ways than one), this place is perfect.

Definitely a meat market, possibly a waste of money, but if you are in the mood to jam, Club Maximus is a good (and only) choice of teen nightclubs.

### Top Ten Reasons To Buy This Book

10. Serves as handy coaster for two jumbo beverages
9. Plentiful misprints sure to make it a valuable collector's item
8. Ideal for really easy book report
7. Everything you need to know to pilot your own jumbo jet
6. Randomly selected page numbers could include winning lottery combinations
5. You're mentioned on page 43
4. Paper made from criminal trees which deserved to die
3. Sure to impress the babes
2. This is the very last copy in existence
1. *Damn it!* It's about time you did something for you!



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Teacher match

How well do you really know your teachers?

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- 2. Races cars
- 3. Collector of Avengers
- 4. Irish music groupee
- 5. Raises rabbits
- 6. In Italian dance group
- 7. Power-walker
- 8. Baseball player
- 9. Motorcycle rider

- A. Miss Ryan
- B. Mr. Blazevich
- C. Mr. Roeder
- D. Mr. Jones
- E. Mr. Doctor
- F. Mr. Moran
- G. Mr. Keenan
- H. Mr. Watson
- I. Dr. Wolff

answers

9.H 8.F 7.D 6.B 5.G 4.A 3.I 2.E 1.C

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| Scorpions<br>Civic Auditorium<br>March 30               | The Wanderers<br>Joslyn Art Museum<br>Now through March 24 |
| The Magic Flute<br>Orpheum Theater<br>April 5, 7, and 9 |  |

Your Register horoscopes

**Pisces:** (February 19-March 20): Luck is against you; avoid risks such as smoking in the bathrooms and forged progress reports.

**Aries:** ( March 21-April 20) :Your horizons look bright. Start living by your wits and have more fun. You've held back long enough.

**Taurus:** (April 21-May 20): Stress is weighing you down. Try to relax-Spring break is not far off. Too far for you? A wild weekend might fix you up.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20): Spring is your season. Express your style by showing off K-Mart's new pastel line. Fresh.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 20): You are loved from afar, but you will probably blow it if you let it go to your head (as usual).

**Leo** (July 21-August 20): Financial troubles got you down? Desperate times call for desperate measures. But remember: Crime never pays.

**Virgo** (August 22-September 22): This is a "feel-good" month for you. Live it up and indulge yourself.

**Libra** (September 23-October 22): If you listen, knowledge will be yours. You are about to find yourself. Watch out.

**Scorpio** (October 23-November 22): Relationships have got your frustrated. Try channelling it into something positive, maybe a stamp collection.

**Sagittarius** (November 23-December 21): You are an intellectual, Sagittarius, and most people appreciate your wit. But think before you speak.

**Capricorn** (December 22-January 19): This weather is bringing out the wildlife lover in you. Why not vent your feelings?

**Aquarius** (January 20-February 18): Your powers of persuasion are at their peak. But you must practice restraint.

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# Records soon to be a thing of the past

By Becky Beerling

An era has past, the records our parents, grandparents, and even great grandparents listened to are in the process of being never heard on vinyl again. In a few years the only way someone is going to be able to show their children records will be to dust off the ones they buy today.

Starting last year the companies that distribute records passed the law that all records purchased are nonreturnable to the factory. As Eric Ray, employee at Homer's in the Old Market, put it, "It's an industry move."

The store was once able to send back anything that did not sell well. Now as Ray put it, "you're stuck with them".

Now even if the retail stores wanted to carry records it would be pretty difficult, because very few records are even being made anymore.

"Only big names, and

usually only 250,000-500,000 of these, are recorded. After those are gone, that's it," Eric said.

Musicland took records out of their stores about a year ago. "Towards the end of last year, records were hardly moving out of the stores," said Dean Phillips, an employee at Musicland.

Phillips said some customers are upset with the removing of records.

Records have not completely disappeared, however. A shopper can still find import records at Pickles, and both Pickles and Homer's will specially order big name LP's for those who just can't live without them.

The new trend in music is Digital Audio Tapes. These are like cassette tapes, but have the sound of CD's.

The problem with the DAT's is that a whole new system is needed to play and record on them.

Such a system would be about \$1000 for an indoor version and \$1200 for a car system.

Because of the expense, DAT sales are off to a slow start. Both Homer's and Pickles carry blank DAT's and a few recorded ones.

Matt Vanhosen, manager at Pickles, said the DAT's will be just like the CD. "Once the price of the equipment goes down, the DAT sales will start going up," he said.

The idea behind the DAT's is to have a high quality sounding tape that you can record on because at this point CDs have not been brought to the level that you can record on them.

Today the elimination of records may not seem important because of all the improvements which are being made to the quality of the sound, but every time a little part of history disappears it is a little sad.



Sean Chapman

Andrew Joeseph, employee at Homers, begins to remove the stacks of old records on sale.

# Simon rocks the crowds in Iowa City

By Dan Fellman

For those trying to escape the sounds of silence, Paul Simon's recent concert was a bridge over troubled waters. Simon entertained the all-ages crowd for over two hours, including three encores.

Simon opened the show with a hit from his newest album, *The Rhythm of the Saints*. "Obvious Child,"

with its pulsating drum beat, excited the crowd from the onset of the concert.

Songs from the *Graceland* album and old Simon and Garfunkel tunes were interspersed with songs from the new album throughout the concert.

After starting the show with a new song, Simon played "Boy in the Bubble," a hit from his *Graceland* album.

Simon then sang "Born at the Right Time," the theme song of the concert. After singing another new song, Simon played two old songs: "Kodachrome" and "Me and Julio Down by the Schoolyard." Both of the old songs seemed to liven the crowd.

One of the best performances of the evening came when "The Boxer" and

"Bridge Over Troubled Water" were sung. The crowd sang along with both songs.

Instead of having an intermission, Simon left the stage while a band member played a long interlude on the saxophone. While I enjoyed the talented saxophone player's music, I felt that it was slightly out of place at the concert.

After the interlude, Simon returned and played one of his old greats, "Cecilia." I was thoroughly disappointed in Simon after this number. He took an absolutely fantastic song and literally murdered it.

Simon then played "Call Me Al," a hit from the *Graceland* album. The entire crowd was on its feet cheering and singing along during this song. After it ended, Simon said to the crowd, "Oh, you liked that. Well, we will just play it again." They played it again and the crowd became even more wild.

"Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes" and "Graceland" favorites from the *Graceland* album also entertained the crowd. Both

brought the crowd of over 10,000 people to their feet.

Instead of the back-up band from Africa that Simon used on the *Graceland* album, Simon used an international band with members from Brazil, Peru, South Africa, and Cameroon.


Also, Simon used three Pointer Sister look-alikes as back-ups for many of the numbers. Though they did an excellent job, they were not quite the same as the Africans Simon used with "Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes."

The highlight of the three encores was definitely Simon's rendition of "Sounds of Silence." Simon played an acoustic guitar while singing his stellar hit. Silence filled the arena as Simon sang the familiar notes to the wonder and enjoyment of the crowd.

Paul Simon lived up to every expectation I had of him before the concert. With the exception of "Cecilia," the concert was terrific. Any Simon and Garfunkel fan or any Paul Simon fan would have enjoyed the show in Iowa City.

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## Tracey Finley dances 'for fun' Hammer Class taught by Central senior

By Seraphim Carlson

So you want to be on Pom Squad, or a cheerleader, but you have one slight problem. You can't dance. Well, there is one last hope: Tracey Finley's Hammer class.

Last summer while watching an M.C. Hammer video, Tracey's mother, Mary Taylor, owner of the Dance Studio, developed the idea of a Hammer class. Soon after, Tracey and his brother Philip, a freshman at Iowa State, started teaching the class from 11:30 to 12:30 on Saturday mornings.

"Anyone can come to the class, but it's mostly girls who just want to learn how to dance, also members of pom squads from schools like Millard North and South, Burke and Elkhorn come to learn moves for their routines, but guys are welcome too," Tracey said.

The class begins with stretching and a warm-up, led by Mary Taylor, and also a little bit of jazz. Philip and Tracey then take over the Hammer class.

They teach a variety of dance moves that he and his brother choreograph themselves, sometimes with

a little help from their mom.

"We try to keep the moves up to date, things like the Bart Simpson, and stuff we pick up from watching other people and also videos," Tracey said. "We do all the dancing to rap music, groups like Public Enemy."

Tracey also said, "My biggest problem is trying not to laugh. Some girls just cannot dance."

Sometimes the class puts together routines and travels to various places to perform. One class last summer traveled to Fremont to perform for one of the area festivals.

**"My biggest problem is trying not to laugh. Some girls just cannot dance."**

— Tracey Finley

"Everyone in the class gets to dance when we go to perform, but we try to keep the good dancers in the front, and the not-so-good dancers towards the back, but we always encourage everyone," Tracey said.

Tracey does not teach the class for money. "I do it because it's fun."

Anyone is welcome to drop in at the Dance Center on 108th and Blondo on Saturday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30 for a chance to learn to dance for five bucks a shot.



Sean Chapman

Tracey Finley, senior and brother Philip lead the Hammer class. The class takes place on Saturday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30 at the Dance Center, located at 108th and Blondo.

## Rush at UNO 'Laser Majic' zaps audience

By Seraphim Carlson

As I thought about having to spend an evening, or just an hour, in the Mallory Kountze Planetarium on the UNO campus I was a little less than excited. I was unsure of what exactly the Rush Laser Majic program would be like and not sure that I really wanted to find out.

Upon approaching the doors, about ten minutes before show time, and, as we found out, about ten minutes too early, anticipation arose. After proving we were students to pay the \$3 price, as opposed to \$4, for regular admission we entered the less-than-impressive sized planetarium.

As the show started I found the only truly awful part was the chairs, which seem as though they were originally designed to inflict some sort of torture upon an innocent audience. A Z-92 sponsored show, the program began with a DJ informing

us, and the approximately 20 other viewers, that everything was done as we watched so if we saw something we liked to just tell them.

The Rush songs accompanying the light show ranged from the album "2112" to the new album "Presto." They played the standard favorites "Tom Sawyer" and "Time Stand Still," as well as material from

"Hemispheres" and "Permanent Waves".

Senior, Mike Hendricks, said, "It was a really great mix, about the best you can find without actually going to a concert, or else buying 'Chronicles'."

During "Spirit of the Radio," Z-92 could not resist displaying their logo.

The reactions from the other

viewers told me that I wasn't the only one enjoying the show. It was a really laid-back, relaxed atmosphere, with people talking aloud and laughing, making the show more fun.

Hate to tell you that you already missed the Rush show, but this can make the anticipation mount for the show starting tonight, which is Pink Floyd, and it promises to be just as enjoyable.

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"Mom! She's looking at me!"

"Aidan, I told you to stop looking at your sister—you know how much that bothers her. Just stay on your side of the car, and don't bother her!"

Of course, I don't need to tell you how that one ends. This was the scene that generally took place every single time my sister and I had to sit next to each other in the car for more than 5 milliseconds. However, this was when we were much younger and not nearly as mature as we are now. I feel that I can look back on my days of youth and remember them with a feeling of relief that they're finally over—I'm sure my parents do, too.

These car scenes are often the ones that drive our parents to divorce or else to a mental institution. At the time, they seemed like such pressing matters—it was all so important. And now, having grown up, I can look back and realize that they really were.

I mean, do you remember the car trips that seemed to go on for at least 5 billion years? The ones where you pile everything you own into the back seat of a little VW Bug and somehow, you can still tell that your sister isn't staying on her side of the car? Unfortunately, I was always on my sister's side. I still haven't quite figured out how she could be sprawled all over the back seat of the car sleeping, yet she was still staying in compliance with the "over-the-line" regulations. Who makes up these rules anyway?

## Auto adventures with my family

And something else that's been bothering me for quite sometime. Do you remember the times when you and your siblings would start to fight and Father, who would be doing the manly job of driving this great big automobile, would pivot his head slightly to look at you and say in a voice that suddenly went down a couple of octaves, "Do you kids

I mean, do you remember the car trips that seemed to go on for at least 5 billion years? The ones where you pile everything you own into the back of a little VW Bug and somehow, you can still tell your sister isn't staying on her side of the car?

want me to stop the car?"

Uh-oh. Dad meant business now. And of course, you never knew if he was really serious or not because you couldn't see his entire face. It was like some mystical magnetic force was suddenly pulling his head back a few inches so that he was in closer yelling distance, his eyes would move to the side of his head to

give you this possessed look, and then he would still be able to drive and threaten at the same time.

Parents are definitely multi-talented people. But as soon as Dad asked if we wanted him to stop the car, we shut up. Why didn't we ever answer him? Were we just brought up to know that it was a rhetorical question and that if we valued our lives at all, we wouldn't answer? Was there once a kid who really did answer his father, and well, we know the rest of the story? This is a mystery, but at any rate, we never answered him. We immediately shut up and proceeded to give each other dirty looks.

If Dad were to say that now, I'd probably pipe up and say, "Yeah, I kinda would like you to stop the car—my legs could use the stretch," and then Dad would stop the car, pull out the heavy duty masking tape, strap me to the ground, and run over me a few times until I screamed, "MERCY!"

If I were to be honest though, I'd have to say that the road trips really weren't that bad. As long as my sister and I didn't look at each other and I didn't "violate her space," we got along pretty well. This went on for a few years. We'd all get in the car for a few thousand miles, Inga and I would beat each other up the entire time, and my parents would promise to end our lives if we looked at each other again. Now, however, Inga and I wish we could spend lots of quality time together because we love each other so much.

Like anybody believes that? Who am I trying to kid?

New movie *The Doors* weird and interesting

## Music and madness in *The Doors*

By Becky Beerling

"Is everybody in, is everybody in? The ceremony is about to begin," Val Kilmer cries at the beginning of the new Oliver Stone movie, *The Doors*.

And what a ceremony attending this movie was. Watching the insane lives the members of this band led was neither good nor bad. The two words which should be used when describing this movie are interesting and weird.

The photography in this film was incredible. Oliver Stone did an amazing job shooting the concerts.

Val Kilmer played Jim Morrison. His

performance was a big change from his previous movies. Kilmer took this challenge and mastered it. This incredibly hard role seemed easy with Kilmer playing Morrison.

Meg Ryan also should be commended for her great performance. Although her part was not too large, it was also a change from her normal roles.

*The Doors* was a hard look at the reality of the effect drugs and alcohol have in taking over someone's life.

Throughout this movie Morrison was never sober and always tripping. He ruined his career and eventually drugs took his life. Mor-

risson also had an obscene obsession with death which also helped in corrupting his life and mind.

Those days in rock were very important, days when the words had meaning and the music had feelings. *The Doors* were also concerned about what their words meant and said.

Jim Morrison thought he was a poet. He thought that his songs were poetry, and maybe they were, but his mind became so deranged at the end he probably didn't know what he thought.

Jim Morrison was a confused rock idol but this movie clears up anyone's misconception about what his life was like.

One of the most amazing parts of this movie would have to be the scenes crossing the desert, or the silhouettes of Jim Morrison with the stars in the background.

These scenes also added to the craziness of the subject of the movie.

*The Doors* is a movie full of harsh realities that are sometimes hard to watch. Nonetheless the movie was made well and is worth seeing if you think you can stomach it.

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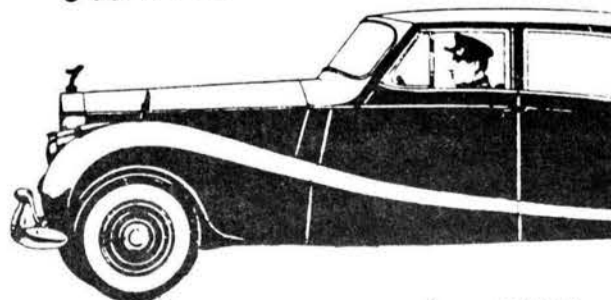
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## Late Innings with Brian James

The month of March is upon us, and with it always seems to come winter's last show of strength. A good snow storm is usually all it has left, knowing that there is a new season not far away.

It's the same way in the sports world. The best basketball of the year is about to be played in gyms across the country, all to decide who can snip the last strand of net from the rim. This season of roundball is nearly in the books, with tournament battles being the final 'big storm.'

That is to say for high school and college hoops anyway.

The NBA season lingers on. Don't get me wrong, NBA action is, as the commercial says, "fantastic," but to me, the whole season seems to lose its momentum when it stretches into the summer. Retractable roofs on arenas and suntanned players are just some of the things I see in the NBA's future.

As for boy's high school basketball, the state tourney this week has been the climax to another solid season of Metro conference basketball. I must say that this year's varsity team at Central has been a pleasure to watch all season long. With a record of 11 wins and 9 losses, Coach Behrens has

proved his new style of play effective and has created a new era of Central basketball that is fast-paced and exciting.

I'd have to say one of the keys to our success was our consistent scoring off the bench. It was good to see many of the guys, not just the starting five, get some good playing time all season long.

**Seniors Tracey Finley, Scott Fullerton, Shon Greene, Rodney Johnson, Robert Lewis, and Brett Wolfe should be congratulated on an excellent final season of basketball.**

Another factor I believe helped the team was their unity. This year's squad was an older, more balanced club who had played together, for the most part, all through high school. It didn't hurt either that most of the guys had worked with Coach Behrens last year on the J.V. team.

Seniors Tracey Finley, Scott Fullerton, Shon Greene, Rodney Johnson, Robert Lewis, and Brett Wolfe should be congratulated on an excellent final season of basketball. Here's wishing next year's

*'It's UNBELIEVABLE!'*

# March Madness

team even more success!

On to college basketball. Though it's hard to follow it as closely as high school hoops (know the players, actually attend the games, etc.) NCAA basketball is truly spectacular, especially around tournament time. In the words of the man who's got to be considered nothing short of, well, a living legend— Dick Vitale, "College Basketball...It's UNBELIEVABLE." The NCAA tournament is March Madness.

Packed with 64 teams all battling to turn a mere "successful season" into something much more, the tourney is one of the finest yet most unpredictable sporting events of the year. Attempting to pick out the teams that will end up in the Final Four accounts for as much fun as watching the actual games. This year, I'm sure, will be no different, although I'm not looking forward to CBS (instead of ESPN) covering the tournament.

So, if you missed out on most of Central's basketball games (for reasons I'll never understand— "Sorry, I'm an avid baby-sitter" was just one of the favorites I heard), grab yourself a TV and enjoy the Madness!

It doesn't get any better than this.

*'Players will continue to advance'*

## Freshman, sophomore teams experience unity

By Bill Thoms

For many, basketball starts at a young age in youth leagues as well as in the driveway shooting baskets. Yet, there is a medium between the varsity and the pee-wee leagues. Welcome to the wonderful world of boys' freshman and sophomore basketball.

Mr. Jim Galus, freshman coach, felt good about his team's performance this season. Although the team finished with a 3-9 record, he said that they worked hard all year.

The highlight of the season was in the freshman tournament. Central, blown

**"Everybody played as hard as they could and we got better as the year went on," Coach Galus said.**

out by Bryan earlier in the season, beat the Bears in overtime. Coach Galus felt that this was the highlight of the season and demonstrated the efforts of the team.

"Everybody played as hard as they could and we got better as the year went on," he commented.

"Hopefully they will continue [to play basketball]," he said. "The players are all interested; I think the success we had at the end of the season

can spur them on."

Many of the freshmen, like Bill Tice, had a good time this season. "I had fun in practice and a great time playing the game," he said.

Dragos Dorneanu and Ryan Shoener added, "We never gave up."

"We always kept our spirits high," concluded Jarred Nyenhuis.

The sophomore team, coached by Mr. Tim Herbert, finished with a 4-10 record, but finished on a high note. "We had some pretty good players this season. Some might go on to play varsity or junior varsity next season."

Coach Herbert emphasized the wholeness of the team. "We never got down on each other. We won and we lost as a team." He continued, "No one ever tried to show off [as an individual], we always played together."

"Lots of people really improved this year," added Coach Herbert. "We almost beat the number one team and we improved from last year."

"Our best game was definitely against Creighton Prep," commented Chris Badurek. Demetrius Richards agreed, "We stayed close with them for three quarters. Even though we lost big, Prep finished undefeated and we stayed with them."

**"We had some pretty good players this season. Some might go on to play varsity or junior varsity next season," said Coach Hebert.**

Coach Herbert felt another highlight of the season was a come-from-behind victory against Boy's Town, whom the Eagles had to play on one day's notice.

The players also enjoyed the season. Most agreed that the new "run and gun" fast-break offense makes it more fun. Jeff Berg added, "We played with intensity and we all had fun."

Demetrius added that the team "really came together and played well."



Demetrius Richards, a member of the sophomore team, shoots a layup during a game this past season.

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# Racers offer fast-pace entertainment

By Allison Atkinson

Three cheers and a hip, hip, hooray come from the young tikes in the audi-

This article contains opinions of the author

ence for the team mascot, Rodie the Racehorse. The Silks dance team receives a big round of applause from the teenage male crowd after finishing their rock n' roll pom-pom routine. But the main attraction for this crowd is not the splashy dance routines or the crazy, oversized stuffed animal. This crowd is fired up for Racers basketball.

Omaha sports fans are quickly discovering Racer-mania. The disease is spreading throughout the Midlands. Local doctors say the only cure for this strange phenomenon is a regular seat at the home games played at the Aksarben Coliseum.

Basketball fans can look forward to spectacular jump shots, fast dribble action, and never-ending face to face battles between coaches and players alike.

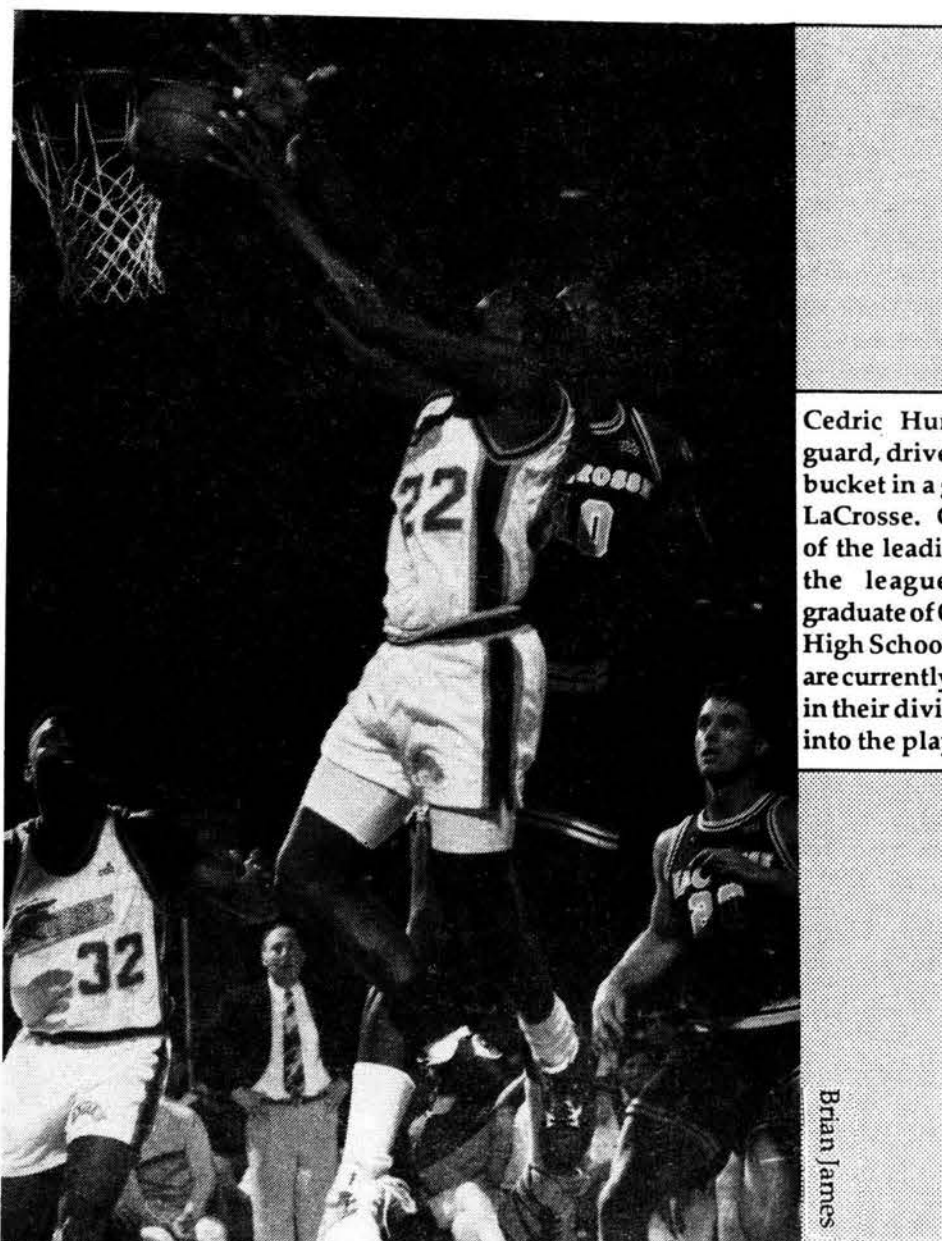
The Racers play teams from all around the country that are in the CBA

(Continental Basketball Association), which is considered just a step down from the NBA. The Racers are nearing the end of their season and are on top of their division over second-place Rapid City.

To receive tickets for this must-see event, fans are strongly urged to act fast. Tickets are available at all Ticket Master outlets and at the Aksarben ticket office. Tickets are \$4, \$6, and \$8. Also available are student and group discounts.

To get in on next season's action, call now to reserve seating for the 1991-1992 Racer's basketball season and get ready to enjoy the fun and excitement of Racer-mania with Rodie and the gang. Brace yourself for more fun than cruising Dodge.

The Racers still have a few games left to play this season, though, until they begin the CBA play-offs. Their remaining home games are March 15 against Rapid City and March 16 against Yakima. Be there for the lucky-fan half-time basketball shootouts that can earn prizes for those would-be basketball stars and kiddie-dunk contests for those wanna-be Jordan's.



Cedric Hunter, Racers' guard, drives toward the bucket in a game against LaCrosse. Cedric is one of the leading guards in the league and is a graduate of Omaha South High School. The Racers are currently in first place in their division heading into the playoffs.

Brian James

## High school sports ratings require time and research

By Bill Thoms

The *Omaha World Herald* comes out. Readers turn to the sports section and look at the high school ratings. Some are elated, others think the paper knows high school basketball like Bo knows figure skating. Now, as tournament time approaches, all eyes turn to Mr. Stu Pospisil, high school sports writer and rater.

Mr. Pospisil is in his first year of rating and replaced Larry Porter who did the Metro ratings for the past 15 years.

"My job is basically to look at the teams [all over the state] and stack them up against one another," said Stu. "I start out in December and line up the teams. The n I keep reassessing the ratings by how well each team plays."

Stu says he spends a lot of time trying to figure out who should be ranked where. "In a week of upsets, I may spend from 90 minutes to two hours trying to figure out what to do."

The NHSSA (Nebraska High School Sports Association) has its own power ratings which Stu says he does not base his ratings on. "The NHSSA determines wild-cards in the state tournaments."

"In football, boys'

and girls' basketball, and soccer, they figure play-off power averages. These are based on the outcome of games, classes and opponents. They're really just power ratings."

Mr. Eric Olson, also a high school sports writer for the *World-Herald*, said, "The classes are determined by enrollment. For instance, class A schools would be schools with over 400 students and class B would be 300 to 400 students in enrollment."

Mr. Rick Behrens, boys' head basketball coach, said that the ratings are fair, "except sometimes," he said, "I think some teams' ratings are based on tradition and may be placed a little higher than they really are."

Mr. Behrens feels, however, that the ratings are important to high school basketball because they generate interest around the metro.

Coach Behrens felt the *World-Herald* ratings maintain an equal balance in the paper between schedules and records. Stu Pospisil added that he looks at everything in ranking a team.

Coach Behrens, said this year in the ratings, Central has been ranked fairly.

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# Coach and son see working relationship as benefit

By Allison Atkinson

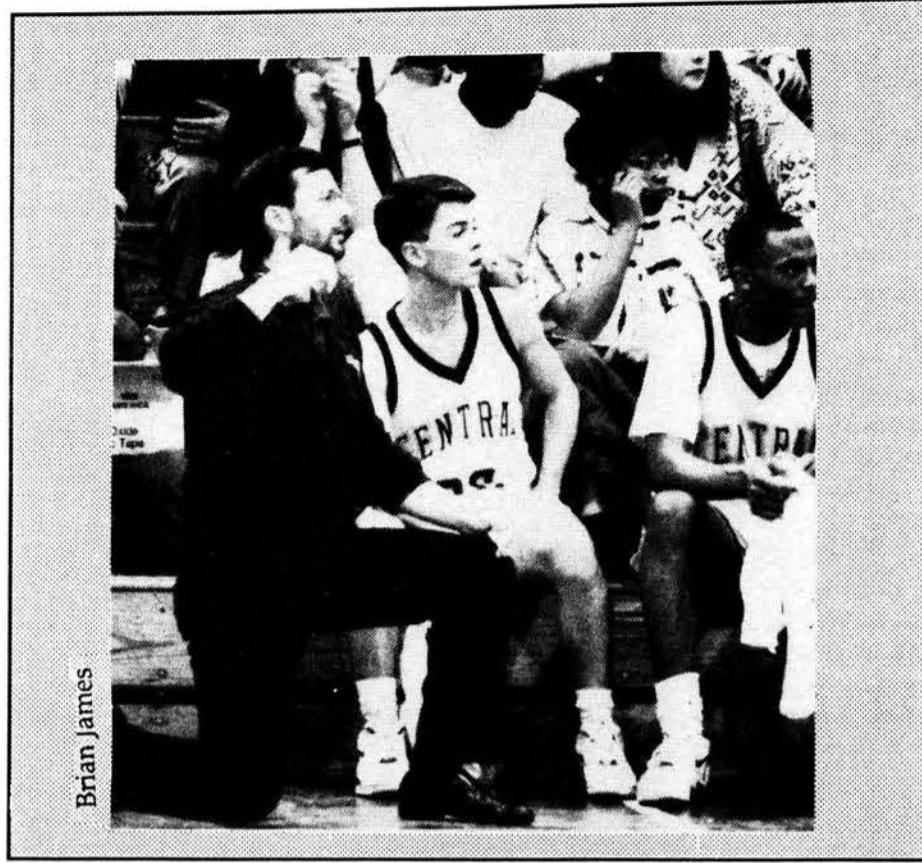
An occasional toss of the football. Weekend fishing trips. Working over the transmission of Junior's car. Male bonding, the father-son thing to do. The purpose: to bring them closer. The result: a better relationship. And in the case of Coach Rick Behrens and his son Eric, junior, a similar interest, basketball.

Coach Behrens and his son have something that they can share both in and out of school. Their common interest in basketball has allowed Eric to achieve in the sport and do well helping his father.

"Even though I play basketball because I like it and not because my dad likes it, it gives us something to do together, and I can improve my game while I spend time with my dad," said Eric.

Eric feels that part of the reason he can be a starter on the team is not because his dad is the coach, as some people might think, but because he really likes to play the sport and feels that he is good enough to be on the starting lineup.

"My dad has never pushed me to be better than anyone else, and just because he is the coach doesn't mean that I have to be better than anyone else. He has always told me that as long as I do the best I can do and I am happy with my performance,



Coach Behrens and his son Eric, junior, look on as Central battles Bellevue West in a playoff game. Eric felt that having his father for a coach gave him a chance to "improve my game while I spend time with my dad."

then that's all that matters," said Eric. Coach Behrens says that "Eric has always liked basketball and has excelled basically on his own. I am just there to give him pointers when he wants them or needs them."

"Eric expects more of himself than I do most of the time. There is no need for me to push him to excel." During the summer, Coach Behrens and Eric lift weights and "shoot some hoops" in the gym. Eric

also runs and plays baseball. Although Coach Behrens does train with Eric, he refuses to push him too hard or too fast. "Eric doesn't rely on me to make him an athlete," said Coach Behrens. "He wants to be good. He does it on his own." Eric stated, "My dad can only do so much for me, but what he does do, I really appreciate. He gives me a

**"My dad can only do so much for me, but what he does do, I really appreciate. He gives me a lot of inspiration," Eric stated.**

lot of inspiration." Eric has been playing basketball since he was in the third grade. His goal, at this point, is to play basketball in college. "I want to play college basketball, hopefully on a Division I team. After that, I don't know," Eric stated. As starting point-guard for the boys Varsity basketball team, Eric has helped bring the Eagles a successful season. "I like playing point-guard. I am good at it and it's a real aggressive position. Basketball is an aggressive game. I like being part of the action," explained Eric.

## Sports Calendar

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| March 16<br>Track-- Burke Relays                      |   |
| March 18<br>Varsity Boys Soccer--<br>Lincoln High (A) | Varsity Girls Soccer--<br>Lincoln High (A)  |
| March 20<br>J.V. Boys Soccer--<br>Roncalli (A)        | J.V. Girls Soccer--<br>Roncalli (H)         |
| March 21<br>Varsity Boys Soccer--<br>St. Albert (H)   | Varsity Girls Soccer--<br>Benson (H)        |
| March 22<br>Varsity Baseball--<br>Papio (H)           | Varsity Boys Soccer--<br>Benson (H)         |
| March 23<br>Track --<br>Wayne State Invite            | Boys J.V. Soccer--<br>Prep (H)              |
| March 25<br>J.V. Baseball--<br>South (H)              |   |
| March 26<br>Track --<br>Prep/Marian (L+C)             | Varsity Baseball--<br>South (H)             |
| Varsity Boys Soccer--<br>Mt. Michael (A)              |   |
| March 28<br>Varsity Baseball--<br>North (A) 1 P.M.    | V. Boys-Girls Soccer--<br>Bellevue West (A) |
| March 29<br>Varsity Baseball--<br>Burke (A) 9 A.M.    |   |



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# Coaching Eagles gives student goals

By Allison Atkinson

The experience. The dedication. The willingness to devote your time to others. These are the qualities that make parents proud. These are the qualities that have given Jeanee Weiss, senior, a boost towards her future.

Jeanee is a step ahead of most people her age. She knows where she is going and what she wants to do with her life and she already has her foot in the door.

Jeanee plans to be an athletic trainer in the future. The experience that she has gained in the two years of being the athletic trainer and manager for the Eagles football and basketball teams, has allowed her to make steps towards this goal even today.

For the past two years, Jeanee has assisted the basketball and football players with their injuries during the regular and off seasons.

During the summer, after being contacted by Coach Standifer, Jeanee took classes at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) for two weeks, eight hours a day, learning first-aid and other sports injury techniques.

At these classes, Jeanee acquired the skills necessary to diagnose minor injuries that might occur during the season and how to treat the injuries.

Jeanee then started to attend the August football practices with the team and treated them during training.

"I almost felt like I was part of the team. The guys were really great about having a girl tagging along with them. I didn't mind it at all, that's for sure! It was really a tough job," Jeanee said jokingly.



Jeanee Weiss, senior, wraps Carl Griffin's wrist at a football game. Jeanee was manager of the Eagles this year and last and plans to find a job as an athletic trainer in the future.

Sean Chapman

team schedule, the hotel rooms, and make major decisions about the team's future. I would really like to manage a professional football team."

Jeanee has played softball for 9 years and basketball for 8 years. She also likes to play golf occasionally and swim.

Jeanee's first priority is to get a degree in sports medicine. During college, her job as well as training will be working with the teams year-round.

"I have thought the whole thing out and have researched all the alternatives and I am positive that this is what I want to do," said Jeanee.

"My first year at college, hopefully Colorado State, I will primarily watch out for the players and keep track of their progress.

"Along with that, I will take anatomy courses and things like that. It will be sort of like a pre-med curriculum.

"Throughout the rest of my studies, I will progressively learn to work with the players and by my fourth year, I'll be able to travel with the team. They might decide to start me sooner though, since I already have lots of experience," stated Jeanee.

Depending on scholarships and other financial considerations, Jeanee hopes to go to Colorado State or Iowa State, both of which have notified her of her acceptance.

Jeanee feels that her aspirations and goals are not too far-fetched she will do exactly what she is setting out to do because "this is the only thing I have always wanted. Nothing can get in the way of wanting something bad enough."

Jeanee, who has been around sports all her life, believes that this experience and her knowledge about sports injuries will be very beneficial to her in the future.

"I eventually want to go into sports management. That means I would organize the

# New coaches jump into spring sports

By Bill Thoms

This spring, the Central sports scene will see two new head coaches.

Mr. George Grillo, the new girls' soccer coach, replaced Mrs. Jo Dusatko, who coached the team for 21 seasons. Mr. Grillo commented that "Ms. Dusatko has been very supportive of me in seeking the head position."

Coach Grillo said that nearly 50 girls have attended practice and are showing enthusiasm for the sport.

As far as a reaction to the new coach, Mr. Grillo added that "time will tell."

"This season, our primary goal is to reinforce ideas to be competitive in the Metro conference," stated Coach Grillo, "and emphasize hard work in order to [achieve this goal]."

**"When someone asks me a question, I have no one to defer to."**

**--Coach Grillo**

Mr. Grillo also commented on being a head coach. "When someone asks a question, I have no one to defer to. You have to know the answers."

Mr. John Georgeson also is a new head coach and will coach the boys' and girls' track team this spring.

Coach Georgeson has 21 years coaching experience as an assistant for both the junior and senior high levels.

Coach Georgeson says his goal for the track team is to "get the maximum out of [the track team members]."

Mr. Georgeson also added that the team has had a good turn out with athletes of decent quality.

The team members have reacted positively so far to the new coach.

"There are no signs of any lack of effort. There's good effort all across the board," commented Mr. Georgeson.

The new head track coach realizes his responsibilities and notices a difference from being an assistant. "Generally, it's an overseeing job of all the

events. You try to give your assistants an idea how the workouts are to be run."

He added, "It's really more demanding on the organizational end of it."

Coach Georgeson added what he liked best

about coaching track. "You enjoy the success you get from the athletes. You watch the great, the mediocre and the poor and you see them improve and hope it can culminate in the state track meet."



Brian James

Coach Grillo helps a soccer player with her passing technique. Mr. Grillo is the new girls soccer coach, replacing Ms. Dusatko.



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# SIDELINES

The track team stretches out before one of their practices as Mr. Georgeson looks on. The boy's team is hoping for its third state championship in the past ten years, while the girl's team is going for its eighth championship. Their first meet is the Burke Relays on March 16th.

B. James

Brian James



## Basketball team enjoys winning season despite district loss, looks to future

The Central High boy's basketball team has finished yet another season and a very successful one it was too. The team finished off the season with a record of 11 wins and 9 losses. Part of this success can be credited to the six Central seniors who played their final varsity season this year: Brett Wolfe, Shon Greene, Robert Lewis, Tracey Finley, Scott Fullerton, and Rodney Johnson. Coach Rick Behrens said, "Next year we have an even better chance of doing even better. With a younger team, you never know." The Eagles played Bellevue West in the first round of districts, losing 91-89.

## Power lifters building up solid season

The Central High power lifting team is having a successful season this year. The team lifts every Monday and Wednesday; workouts consist of benching and spotting. The team said they are excited for the state meet in May. Recently though, Central competed at the Brian Invite.

First place winners in their weight classes were: Anthony Brown, Terrance Whitcomb, Victor Johnson, Rodney Evans, Rob Partridge, Brian Nelson, and Matt Failla. Second place winners were Marvin Nutt and Corey Foster. Third place winners were Jake Swanson and Jermaine Bell.

## Spring teams gearing up for seasons

The spring sports season is now underway. The baseball, track, boy's and girl's soccer, girl's tennis, and boy's golf teams are currently practicing for their upcoming seasons.

The head coaches for the teams include for baseball, Mr. Elvis Dominguez; for track, Mr. Joe McMnamin and Mr. John Georgeson; for boy's soccer, Mr. Dave Martin; for girl's soccer, Mr. George Grillo; for girl's tennis, Mr. Larry Andrews; and for boy's golf, Mr. Jim Galus.

The dates for the games and meets in March are listed on page 22.

## New professional league formed

# Lacrosse catching on throughout country

By Tim James

"The Fastest Game on Two Feet" has now come to television. The game of lacrosse has been played for many years on the amateur level, but never professionally

This article includes opinions of the author

until the Major Indoor Lacrosse League was formed three years ago. The MILL consists of six franchises out of the northeastern section of the country.

The matches are covered by Prime Sports Network every Monday night at 8:00 or 9:00. These teams

The men strike each other with the crosses so hard it's almost like boxing, even though they wear headgear.

have die-hard fans that sell out the 17,000-seat coliseums for every contest.

Lacrosse combines the rules of basketball with the checking and rough play of hockey and football. The sport is actually a mixture of many sports. These twelve men on the astroturf, six to

each team, wear hardly any pads, and their equipment is only a long-handled racquet (crosse) along with a ball. The object is easy: Do anything to get the rubber ball into the hockey-sized net. The determined players dive, trip, and scrap with the opposing competitors just to possess the ball or score a point. These people are probably some of the most fit athletes in any sport. This frenzied game has four 15 minute quarters, and even a forty second shot clock, just like basketball.

The one aspect I don't understand is the potential injuries that could occur because of the harsh sport. It's amazing how they put their bodies on the line to make over the back shots and other unbelievable attempts to score. The men strike each other with the crosses so hard it's almost like boxing, even though they wear headgear.

Goalies wear the most padding of any of the players since they are to defend the high speed shots. Goalies are said to lose up to five pounds of sweat a game because of the hot and heavy gear.

Suprisingly, there are

referees, who really don't have any job other than the faceoff. Two-minute penalties are issued sparingly for skirmishes as most fighters end up getting checked into the wall.

The object is easy: Do anything to get the rubber ball into the hockey-sized net.

Professional lacrosse has become one of the new fast-rising sports in America, with a six-team league that is led by the Detroit Turbos. The other five franchises are Pittsburgh Bulls, Philadelphia Wings, New York Sprints, and the Baltimore Thunder. Many lacrosse players in this league either come from Syracuse University, a traditional lacrosse school, or from Canada, where the sport is popular and kids grow up playing lacrosse.

The sport is definitely catching on around the country, and expansion is planned in the next few years. Try it out if you're in the mood for fast-action, hard-hitting new sport excitement.

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QUESTIONS??--COME TO ROOM 326