



The Central High REGISTER

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school paper
west of the
Mississippi

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Tim Galligher

Value rushes for the Eagles... Jesse Value, running back, gets the handoff from Matt Scanlan, quarterback, and runs for a first down.

Controversial kit approved

Human growth classes to utilize contraceptive kit

By Christopher Thilgen

The Omaha Public School's Board of Education has approved the use of a contraceptive kit to be used in human growth and development classes at Burke and Central high schools. The kits are planned to be used for the second semester classes.

The "kit," that has raised controversy in the past weeks, contains several contraceptive devices. The contents include condoms, a diaphragm, a contraceptive sponge, an IUD (intrauterine device), a model of the female reproductive tract, and several examples of contraceptive foams and jellies.

According to Mrs. Karen Marx, central human growth and development teacher, the textbooks currently used in the course contain nothing but illustrations of contraceptive products. "By showing the products, it would make them seem more real," she said.

Ms. Jean-Ann Ballinger, director of education for Planned Parenthood, is in strong support of the kit being used in human growth classes. She said, "It makes sense, if you are talking about something in which people have a limited understanding, to actually show them the products [in the kit]."

Ms. Kathleen McCallister, School Board member, disagrees. She said, "The more contraception that is taught in the classroom, the higher the cases of venereal disease, teen pregnancy, abortions, and sexual activity becomes."

Dr. John Langan, School Board member, said, "I am in favor of the kit, and I believe that the myth that because you expose students to something suggests that they will use it or take advantage of it, is ludicrous."

According to Ms. Ballinger, Planned Parenthood has been using a similar kit

for twenty years. She said that people from the Planned Parenthood office go to schools, by invitation only, and give discussions on birth control using a similar kit to the one to be used in OPS.

Ms. Ballinger said, "The students at these schools are always given the option of not attending the lecture, with no fear of losing credit. At Planned Parenthood the goal is to inform, but not at the expense of another's religious or personal beliefs."

Opting Out

OPS has a similar policy. According to Mrs. Marx, the student has the opportunity to "opt" out of the section of the class that would utilize the kit, or they may choose to "opt" out of the entire class.

Mrs. Marx said that she complies strictly with the opt out choice. She said, "I have had students in the past who, for one reason or another, could not attend the part of the class that deals with sexuality. At these times, I either send the students to the library or a study hall. They do not lose credit because I usually assign an essay or something to make up for the class time missed."

Ms. McCallister says that most parents do not know the class is not required. "Parents don't find out because the 'opt' out form is not sent home, it is given as an option to the students." She feels that this procedure should be reversed. Instead of students being able to "opt" out of the class, the class should be based on students "opt'ing into the class."

Dr. Langan said, "I appreciate and understand the 'stopping places' of all individuals. People oppose this kit because of religious beliefs or because they feel that youngsters shouldn't know about this information at all."

A parent of one Central student, who requested to remain anonymous, is against

the use of the kit in the human growth classes. She said, "I do not feel that the kit is necessary because it is not promoting abstinence."

"I have looked through the textbook, and I am not against the sexual education. I feel that the introduction of this kit into the curriculum is going beyond the boundaries of what is necessary in the class," she said.

Mrs. Tina Broekemeier, a Central High School parent, said, "I can't buy the idea that these products will promote sexual activity. I think the whole human-sexuality curriculum is an integral part of the overall education."

"If the kit is an educational tool that can make a point clearer or help someone understand by example, then I am all for it. I feel that the more information that anyone has about a subject, the better decision they can make," she said.

Mrs. Broekemeier also said, "I think that people are fooling themselves if they think that by avoiding a particular subject it will not be discussed among kids and among their peers. When I was in high school, 25 years ago, they showed condoms and a diaphragm in my biology class. In Maryland. This is like reverting into the dark ages."

Student Opinion

Brooke Bahr, sophomore, said, "I don't have a problem with it [the kit being used in class]." She is currently in human growth and she feels that some students will be able to benefit from actually seeing the products. "Students will see the products and be able to form more correct opinions of the products."

Ramona Moran, sophomore, will be taking the class next semester. She said, "I am in favor of the kit because the 'how-to' is very important."

She also said, "It's a fact of life that, one day or another, teen or adult, you will have sex. You need this knowledge."

(Continued on Page 4)

Centralite Voices

Are you in favor of the proposed plan to show contraceptive kits in Central's human growth and development classes?

YES: 86% NO: 14%
214 were polled



"I just do not like the idea."

—Jessie Jarboe
Freshman



"What makes a difference if they see the real thing or not?"

—Sean Gard
Junior



"No. My mom doesn't approve of the way the public schools teach the human growth and development classes."

—Kelly Elster
Sophomore



"Yes, I do approve of it because instead of only learning about sex education they can also have visual aids."

—Naté Smith
Senior

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Central High Register

Editorials

Unsigned articles are the opinion of the Register



Contraceptive kit a plus for classroom

Sex education has long been a very controversial topic in the eyes of the Omaha Public School Board. Not long ago, the main concern was whether the topic should even be approached in the junior high or high school atmosphere.

After the installation of the human growth and development classes in the school curriculum, however, the commotion began to fade as people started to accept the idea of sex education in a scholastic arena. Parents seemed to feel more at ease; the Board had erased some of its parental burden, and if the parents felt the class was unessential or harmful to their child, the son or daughter could obtain a parental-permission slip to opt out.

Well, times change almost as quickly as people. The current concern for the School Board is the proposed plan to use Central as one of two test schools that would use a birth control "kit" as a visual aid in human growth classes.

The textbooks that are

currently being used in the human growth classes attempt to explain contraception with artists' rendition pictures, but this can be misleading. The drawings that appear in the textbooks are unrealistic, and in many cases, not true to life. Aside from the lesson itself, students would be required, for credit, to fill out a chart related to the lesson, which would assure the instructor that the student fully understands the subject of contraception.

In many cases, parents do not recognize the fact that their sons or daughters may be sexually active and they often neglect to talk about birth control with their children. As a result they often learn about sex and contraceptives from their peers. Viewing the contraceptives themselves and taking part in the class discussions about them should provide a balance between what students learn from their friends and what they learn from their parents. In a classroom atmosphere, students can learn about contraception from a

more objective point of view. The parents are relieved of responsibility of discussing contraception; they have been allowed the opportunity to view the contraceptive and confront any questions concerns head-on. An open house for parents was held at Central on September 15, exactly one week after Blaine High held a similar open house. Parents and concerned citizens were asked to attend so they could view the kit firsthand, and, hopefully, clear their questions and concerns. One of the most common misconceptions about the kit is that the kit will be distributed to the students, when, in fact, the teachers will simply use it as a visual aid to accompany the normal curriculum. With the AIDS rate constantly increasing throughout the United States, people need means of increasing their sex knowledge; the course teaches the importance of abstinence as that the best way to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Proposed curfew not fair to teenagers

Some members of the Omaha City Council would like to see a bill passed that would make it illegal for Omaha youths under the age of eighteen to be out past midnight on weeknights and 1:00 a.m. on weekends.

City Councilman, Steve Exon, first proposed the idea of a curfew that would affect teens under the age of sixteen who were out past midnight. Since then, various amendments have been made to the original plan.

One such change is that the violation of being out past the curfew would also pertain to those under the age of eighteen instead of only to those fifteen years or younger.

Another revision is a slight increase in the time that teens could legally be out in the prohibited areas of Omaha. Councilman Steve Exon's first proposed curfew was midnight, but the time has been moved back one hour to 1:00 a.m. for a weekend. The curfew yet remains 12:00 midnight for weeknights.

This proposal causes many

problems for the police, parents, and youths of Omaha.

It is unrealistic for the City Council to expect the Omaha Police Department to back the planned curfew. The police are already busy pursuing real crimes; they don't have the time to deal with suspicious teens breaking the curfew.

In fact, the entire purpose of the curfew which is to decrease the amount of violent crimes like those that have plagued Omaha throughout the summer would reverse. Crimes would be easier to commit because the police would be occupied dealing with "lawbreaking" youth that have violated the curfew.

In addition to being an added burden to the police department, the City Council's plan violates the rights of Omaha parents to govern their children. A curfew should be agreed upon between teens and their parents, not commanded by a city ordinance.

The proposed plan also makes parents subject to a punishment because of their children's violation of the curfew. It is ridiculous to punish parents

because it is not they who are breaking the law, it is the children.

Although the City Council's proposed law is bothersome to police and parents, Omaha youths are directly affected by the curfew. It seems unconstitutional to impose a law upon a sector of the population that cannot even vote yet.

To many teenagers already seem to be troublemakers. A citywide curfew will just spread the misconception that youths are so misbehaved that the police have to order them to stay in their homes. It is not right to assume that a teenager is causing trouble because she is out past midnight.

The Register feels that the proposed curfew by the City Council is unrealistic and will be difficult for the Omaha Police Department to enforce. We are opposed to the planned curfew ordinance because the problems it causes for the police, parents, and youths are far greater than the crimes that a curfew would prevent.

Photos By Rob Rouch

The opinions expressed in these articles are those of Mrs. Carol Valdrighi, Central social studies teacher, and Mr. Harry Gaylor, marketing teacher. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Central High Register.

Education should be first priority for working students

By Mrs. Carol Valdrighi

Society has victimized students by the temptation to enter the work force too soon. It appears to many students that part-time jobs are teaching them responsibilities as well as rewarding them with cash. The trade offs, however, are costlier than most students realize. In class, students are often so exhausted that they cannot concentrate, giving only cursory attention to class activities. Study halls become a battle to stay awake. The student has no time for depth research, pleasure reading, or even fun.

Even the little part-time job of three or four hours an evening exhaust the student after a full day at school. For many students, the skills learned on these jobs are not relevant to those necessary in the future. Dr. William Gagne has cited the percentage of

service sector jobs will actually fall from the current 44% to 36% by the year 2000. It will be in the information sector that the jobs of the future will be found. To develop these sophisticated skills, education should be the student's top priority. Some would argue that shortened days are the answer. Unfortunately the hours spent at work too often this robs the student even more of his/her rights to a well-rounded education.

If education and learning are proportional to the practice, then time taken from the hours of education diminish final results. The "student-employees" are short changed by a system that encourages them to be a consumer of anything other than education.

Opposing Points of View

"NO"

Mrs. Valdrighi

Should students hold part time jobs while attending high school?

"YES"

Mr. Gaylor

Jobs provide an educational experience for students

By Mr. Harry Gaylor

Students gain education from work. One of the main benefits is taking the theoretical educational background into practical application.

In a global society today, it is necessary to apply what is learned in our educational system into an economic system. The Omaha Public Schools provide an internship program combined with coordinated classroom instruction which monitors the student's relationship between the learning environments of work and school.

Every student's priority should be school before taking on the sophistication of work and developing the breadth and depth of their total educational experience.

Some of the benefits students derive from an internship experience are skills in critical thinking, problem solving, time management, decision-making, and human relations with diversified

populations.

A significant proportion of the student population needs to work. It is a reality at Central that over fifty percent of the senior class works for a variety of economic necessities. There is a positive linkage between the educational system and our community through students who work.

Based upon fifty-seven years of combined experience of working with the Internship Program, there are three components to a student's life today: school, work, and social. The proper balance of each component is the key to maintaining academic excellence. In the opinion of the Internship Programs at Central High School, it is the social component which tends to override the academic achievement and not the working component.



Simply Polyester
Todd Djureen

Backward thoughts of the Stoidi

Last night I had this fab dream about these creatures called Stoidi from this extremely far out planet called Ekuddivad. I must admit, the Stoidi were really quite interesting creatures. There were variations in the shapes and sizes, but for the most part, they all looked about the same. They all walked on what we know as hands, with their feet in the air making them appear inverted.

Another strange thing about this is that their back-side faced forward when they walked. This of course caused several problems because they could not see where they were going, not to mention they were upside down as well.

Two colliding Stoidi were often the scenario of my dream. They were so clumsy it was pathetic. However, the major difference among these species was that they were different colors. For the most part they were purple and orange, with a couple of celstie green and mauve here and there. I didn't even realize their different pigmentation until it led them to their destruction.

All was dudly on the land of Ekuddivad until my dream suddenly became a nightmare. On this planet far from Earth, the flourishing Stoidi started to disappear, right into thin air. One by one the entire Stoidi population started to diminish.

It didn't take me long to realize why they were disintegrating. The prominent races among the Stoidi did not get along and often made slandering remarks about each other.

The Stoidi making the remark immediately became a complete nothing; they were gone forever. Due to the upside-down creatures insulting comments about each other's oddity in color, half the entire population had disappeared.

It wasn't long before the remaining Stoidi completed the process of elimination. All they had to do to terminate their prosperity was to let thoughts of hatred occur within themselves. This elimination process, of course, went rather quickly. The

Stoidis were arriving to the point of extinction when my alarm went off.

I got out of bed and took a shower, cleansing away all thoughts of the upside-down-backward-walking-disappearing-creature.

I was then on my way to school when I saw this man walking along side the road vanish. "To each their own," I thought, and carried on.

I was then stopped at a red light and there was a lady waiting to cross the street. After she got the "walk" signal, she bent over putting her hands on the ground and her feet in the air and then proceeded to cross the street, upside-down. I quickly whipped out my pocket calendar to verify that it was not April Fool's Day and that it was not some sort of prank. It wasn't even close to April, and I know I'm not going crazy.

It got worse the further I went down the street. It really worried me because I saw before my very own eyes the populous of Omaha dwindle away.

I then remembered the dream of the daunting population decrease of the Stoidi and realized that Ekuddivad was not as far away as I thought.

It's scary to think how senseless people can be. Racism contributes nothing positive to society. The Stoidi population was demolished by this open hatred.

Are we going to make this dream a reality? In this day and age where hatred is so prominent, I cannot comprehend why people want to contribute further to this attitude that does nothing but disintegrate and weaken our society.

Racism, along with prejudice, is a weakness that needs to be overcome by education, patience and a desire to terminate these hateful attitudes.

Racism has existed ever since the beginning of recorded history. I believe this is why we need to understand our history, so that we can begin to understand the heritage of others. This will allow the walls of misunderstanding to crumble.

It's in my vision that one day the concept of racism is unknown because I know that our generation is strong enough to begin these changes. We also have the strength to realize that the actions and remarks made by these racist people are upside down and backwards anyway.

Wednesday delivery new for Register

The Central High Register has changed the day that the newspaper is delivered.

Due to the fact that the Central High Register has changed publishers, the newspaper will be issued on Wednesdays for the 1991-1992 school year rather than the usual Fridays.

The Register's new publisher is the Papillion Times of Papillion, Nebraska.

Although a change has been made in the publishing process of the Central High Register, the newspaper will still be issued every three weeks, but is subject to changes depending upon school recesses and scheduled exam periods.

Approximately thirteen issues of the Central High Register will be published throughout the course of the 1991-1992 school year. This figure is only approximate, as it too relies upon the factor of time that is spent in school each month.

The only major difference that the 1991-1992 Register has from previous issues is the day that the paper is issued.

Editorial process involves students

The editorial process is an important part of a newspaper. Editorials allow a newspaper staff to show its opinion about issues, which is highly prohibited in straight news writing.

The Central High Register writes its editorials in a very democratic manner. All of the editorials written are voted upon and represent the majority of the staff's opinion.

The Register staff welcomes your opinion about the newspaper or anything that you would like to suggest, show appreciation for, or criticize.

Such opinions should be presented as a letter to the Register staff in room 315.

All letters that are submitted to the staff and are chosen for publication in the Register will be printed on page three under the segment entitled, "Letters to the Editor."

As a policy, letters will be printed depending upon space availability which is subject to change with each issue of the newspaper. Unsigned letters will not be published.

NEWS briefs

Hoagland Town meeting held in Central's courtyard

The Town Hall Meeting, Thursday night, was held in the Central courtyard, to give the public a say in the new crime bill that is being proposed in Congress. The bill deals with the crime problems in Omaha and the United States, today. Many

of the major components of the bill are: drug testing and treatment programs, community based policing, and stricter penalties for gun-related crimes.



The panel that attended the meeting included Bob Armstrong, Omaha Housing Authority; Sgt. Bill Agnew, Omaha Police Department Gang Unit; Chuck Lonter, FBI Special Agent NE/IA Office; Mike Wellman, Jim Jansen, and Mike Havicon, who are Omaha-area prosecutors. The panel was led by Peter Hoagland, Nebraska House Representative.

The panel discussed why the bill was needed in Omaha because of the outbreak of gangs and drug dealing in the last five years.

The members discussed the need for harsher punishments for the offenders that carry and use hand guns when they commit the crimes. The bill will also be proposed with the Brady bill, which introduces a seven day wait before purchasing a hand gun.

"If the bill goes through the city may set up drug treatment centers and youth camps for juvenile offenders, like the 'gang camps' in Los Angeles," according to Mr. Hoagland.

Students rewarded for perfect attendance

Central's adopt-a-school partners, Enron, Scouler Grain, Guarantee Mutual and American Charter, donated O-Books, Central t-shirts, s.a. tickets, homecoming tickets and one hundred dollar savings bonds to students who had perfect attendance last year.

The students with perfect attendance were sophomores William Barnes, Jeffery Cassady, Jeffery Darst, Jialun Dong, Sarah Engelke, Ryan Fry, Misty Hemmingsen, Frances Hodges, Neil Hogya, Jason Holoubek, Troy Kitto, Jill Pedersen, Jany Prouty, Nathan Rosenthal, Thomas Seidlik, Angela Splittgerber, Keli Ulrich; juniors Shani Brantly, Melissa Chambers, Michelle Dowd, Jason Hastert, Nathan Heimull, Marla Hernandez, Tommy Huey, Jason Hul, Jase Maddox, Aaron Mann Colleen McCoy, Jonathan McDonald, Ho Nguyen, Scott Osborne, Krishna Samaroo, Patrick Thomas, Jason Wheeler, Dawn Willis; seniors Christopher Anderson, Robert D. Anderson, Lizabet Arellano, Al Bakhit, Nicholas Englett, Jessica Haubrich, Thomas Pallas, Michael Roberts, Chris Short, Barry Teahon, Jeff Warden, Lisa Washington.

By Laura Dunham and Andrea Davis

School board required to notify students of bill

By Dawn Randall

The recent abortion parent notification bill applying to women under 18 has sparked some disagreement between the State Legislature and the Omaha Board of Education due to an amendment to the bill.

The bill requires girls 17 or under to notify their parents of their decision to have an abortion. The girl can waive the requirement by pleading her case in front of a judge. If the judge decides the girl is mature enough to make her own decision or if it would not be in her best interest to tell her parents, the girl can bypass the notification.

The controversy is over an amendment to this bill which also requires Nebraska public schools to notify students of this bill.

The Omaha School Board took a formal position opposing the amendment in mid-July. District School Board members are objecting to notifying students of the bill through school because "they think it is improper to put the school in the middle," said David Pedersen, attorney for the district school board.

He also said, "It is a no win situation." "We must have all parents backing the school." This action may upset some parents since the abortion issue is a sensitive one.

Although the board is fighting it, the schools are required to inform students of the bill by October 1, but each school district is able to draft its own form with which to notify students.

At the board meeting held September 4, it was decided that the notification

would be mailed to students to avoid a connection between Nebraska schools and abortion.

Dr. John Langan, Omaha School Board member, said that the form that will be sent to students will contain a disclaimer saying the board is unanimously opposed to this action.

Ron Withem, the state senator who proposed the amendment, said he proposed the amendment "because if a bill is passed, the people ought to have some way of knowing since it does affect them."

Dr. Langan, however, said the amendment is "obligating schools to be the vehicle in contacting students." He thinks notifying the students is the responsibility of the parents, not the schools.

The board is required to notify the students this year. However, it plans on repealing the bill in April. If the amendment is not vetoed, then the schools will be required to notify students yearly.

Another aspect that Langan said he was upset about was that "it is an obligation of public schools only, which is ridiculous."

Some students did not have any knowledge of the bill at all. Michael Milota, sophomore, said he has not heard about it. Robin Fuksa and Steve Micek, both freshmen said that neither of them had any knowledge of the bill.

Senior Jany Champenoy knows about the bill and said, "I think we should know what the law states and how it affects us."

Candy Lindberg, junior, disagrees. "I really do not think it is the school's responsibility," she said.

Central grad works as forest ranger
Chooses career before college

By Todd Djurean

Imagine running through the forest at top speed in hot pursuit of your dinner. You wear little clothing and feel at one with nature. A cave makes a luxurious home, especially with a bonfire out front. This is, of course, hardly the case for Mike Stansberry, a Central High graduate, who is now a park ranger at Neale Woods.

Mike's ranging career began as a volunteer at Fontenelle Forest. "I was a volunteer at Fontenelle Forest for a year and was offered the job through the ranger there." Realizing that there was "more to gain," Mike decided to take a year off from school and accept the job. "The offer was there, so I took it."

Even though he is waiting a year to go to school, he feels that it is an advantage because it will give "me time to mature before I go to school."

Maintaining his own house, preparing his own food, and paying his own bills are only a few of his responsibilities which are a "huge step into the real world."

Due to his experience at Fontenelle, he didn't need any training. As a ranger, Mike's duties vary from security of the park to maintenance of the trails. He also finds himself fixing the plumbing and gutters at some of the buildings at Neale Woods.

Mike feels that this job is well-suited for him because he "loves to work hard, both physically and mentally." His determination, sense of responsibility and love of the outdoors also aid in his fondness for the job.

"I take pride in my work. The president of the board at Fontenelle has complimented me twice on a job well done," said Mike.



Mike Stansberry...Performing one of the many tasks required as forest ranger

Being a park ranger will also further Mike's career. He plans to be a ranger for a year and then go to college next year majoring in biology or forestry.

After college, he plans to spend two years in the Peace Corps in Central America. He then plans to join the National Park Services and become a park law enforcer.

A park law enforcer actually carries a gun, whereas a ranger does not have the authority to do so, according to Mike. Now

Contraceptives cont. a
from page 1

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten, Central High human growth teacher, said, "What we are teaching is education for a lifetime. Students may not need it now, but, 'I will need it someday.'"

Kyle Havorka, junior, took human growth last year. He said that you can't form an adequate idea from the products from the textbooks. He also said that the teacher explains the products in more detail.

Mrs. Marx said that the human growth class emphasizes abstinence. One of the ways it does this is through the employment of a contraceptive information chart. "The chart shows that many contraceptive methods are not one-hundred percent sure, the always stress that the only one-hundred percent method of birth control is abstinence," she said.

Ms. McCallister said, "The primary reason that I oppose this kit, is that the non-directive approach to the problem." She explained this by saying, "To be directive in this class, abstinence needs to be emphasized for health, physical, emotional, and spiritual reasons."

She explained that this would be better than the non-directive approach of saying that sex is bad, but if you going to do it, here is how to try and safe.

Ms. Ballinger concluded by stating her personal belief. She said, "Even though someone may not need these products now, they will eventually need to make decisions on family planning and sexually transmitted disease."

Teens are being infected with the virus [the one that causes AIDS] and not showing symptoms until they are their twenties. The students need to know now."

Japan is 'ichiban' to Central junior

Mark Rosenquist

"Konichiwa" (hello), "sayonara" (good-bye), "ichiban" (number one). A foreigner traveling to Japan would need to learn these Japanese words if he or she wanted partial communication with the Japanese. Such was the case with Michael Rolleigh, a Central junior who went to Shizouka, Japan, (Omaha's sister city) from July 8th- July 29th as a result of winning a Junior Achievement essay contest on Japanese business principles. Michael and Rachelle Grabitowski (a Millard South student) were two of six essay winners chosen to go to Shizouka. Three judges who interviewed them their essays and personalities. Michael said, "The interviews were really easy."

Shizouka's SHARE association (a Japanese acronym standing for Shizouka Association for International affairs) co-sponsored the trip while Junior Achievement paid for the trip. (SHARE sent three students and a teacher to Omaha.) Michael stayed with two host families for eleven days each. Michael went to several functions with SHARE staff and his host families. These functions included meeting with the mayor for a press conference, seeing in Kyoto, a four-hour long train trip to scenic Ikawa, and seeing Mt. Fuji. Michael also saw a four-day display of continuous fireworks. Michael said that he helped the four Japanese who were going to Omaha with their English. "It's really hard for the Japanese to learn English because there are only around fifty sounds in the Japanese language," Michael said. He also said that he had no prior experience speaking Japanese before he left. Generally he used broken English when talking to the Japanese because that was the best way to communicate with them. He said that when he and Rachelle were together they had to "practice their English" because they got used to speaking broken English and temporarily forgot correct grammar. "My vocabulary is still gone," Michael said.



Photo Courtesy of Mike Rolleigh

Shimizu festival... Mike joins Hiroy-yo Hosoi, of one host family.

"Fashions are a little different in Japan but generally people wear the same clothes as people in the U.S. do," Michael said. "Teenagers really like Levi's jeans although they cost around \$90," Michael added.

Michael said that music is about the same as in the U.S. but there is "more dance music in Japan." M.C. Hammer and George Michael are popular. Japanese like to sing popular songs in English "although they are not very good at it."

The Japanese don't take much time out for recreation and leisure, although baseball is their favorite sport. "They love baseball. The whole school is required to attend the school's baseball games," Michael said. This is because the teachers feel that the more student support there is, the better chance the team has of winning. Other popular sports include karate, fencing, and Sumo wrestling. Michael went to a sumo wrestling match. "I saw a guy who weighed 698 pounds!" exclaimed Michael.

Michael said that high school in Japan is harder than it is in the U.S. and that college is easier than college is in the U.S. At the end of eighth grade, students

take a test that determines what high school a student goes to. Some high schools specialize in certain areas, such as horticulture or business. In agricultural high school "each student has their own plot of land and the teacher tells them what to grow," Michael said. High schools have different academic levels. Which high school a student goes to depends on how they do on the test. A student who scores well on the test would go to the high school for the academically gifted.

"School days are twenty minutes less than Central's," Michael said. He added that students have "a lot more homework." He also said that "they all do their homework." Students go to school on Saturdays, but "it is mainly club activities," Michael said. The school year has a three-week-long summer break, but "it is not really a break." During this time students go to school in the morning and have loads of homework at night. "Students are required to be in a club for three years," Michael said. Some of the clubs are for sports. During high school, students don't have much social life because they must study a lot.

Michael enjoyed the trip immensely. "It was the best three weeks in my life."

Just as I love life, I love music'

Mark Rosenquist

"Music soothes the inner soul....It's a universal language...Just as I love life I love music." These were just a few comments Mrs. Faye Johnson, Central High counselor, said about music's influence in her life.

Mrs. Johnson went to the 24th Annual Gospel Music Workshop of America from August 10th-17th in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mrs. Johnson is one of the members of the Thurston Frazier Alumni Chorale that performed twice at the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. The chorale, professional musicians and faculty at the convention, was the first black choir to perform with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The Thurston Frazier Alumni Chorale performed with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir "as a result of the choir opening its doors to minorities," Mrs. Johnson said. They were very honored to sing with them, Mrs. Johnson added.

The mostly black 10,000 member Gospel Music Workshop of America was welcomed "very cordially" by the Mormons, according to Mrs. Johnson. "They laid a red carpet for us," Mrs. Johnson said. "It was phenomenal that the mayor [of Salt Lake City] invited the choir to the convention to a reception," she said. "In all the years of conventions no other mayor has done that for us," Mrs. Johnson added. She also said that

the governor of Utah invited the workshop's chapter representatives to a reception at the governor's mansion. Mrs. Johnson added that the mayor provided free food for the children of the convention participants for three days. "It was by far the best convention I ever attended," Mrs. Johnson said. The main activities of the convention were at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The performances with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir were nationally televised. The first concert was attended by members of the Mormon Church [Church of Jesus Christ for Latter Day Saints]. "Every seat of the house was full," Mrs. Johnson said. Members of the Gospel Music Workshop of America attended the second concert.

Mrs. Johnson has also been very active in other choral activities this summer. She taught, directed, and sang gospel music in church choirs throughout the country this summer.

Mrs. Johnson taught music workshops in Galesburg, Il; Quincy, Il.; Jacksonville, Il.; Houston, Tx.; West Memphis, Ar; Chicago, Il; and Lincoln, Ne.

Mrs. Johnson taught the Nebraska Ambassadors of Music a gospel song before they left on their trip to Europe. She also taught three songs to the Burke High Gospel Choir which they received standing ovations for when performing in Japan this summer.

Mrs. Johnson directed the Nebraska chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America when they backed up John Denver at the Heartland Heroes celebration at Rosenblatt Stadium. She received this job because she is the coordinator of music for the chapter.

Mrs. Johnson said that she received a bachelor's degree in music from college. She is a member of the Opera Omaha Guild and has been involved in gospel and church music for the past 40 years. In 1985, Mrs. Johnson directed an Ethiopian chorus for the Opera "Aida."

"I will continue with my music ministry on a part time basis," Mrs. Johnson said. "When I retire from the school system my ultimate goal is to do my music ministry full time."

Mrs. Johnson said that she is not interested in fame, and instead remains humbly devoted to her music ministry. Summarizing her musical talents, she said, "I think God has chosen me as his star for sharing music throughout the land."



Mrs. Johnson

Jennifer Dreibeis

NEWS briefs

NeXT computer is here

This year, the math and science departments introduced the NeXT, a nineteen thousand dollar, state-of-the-art computer, which was financed by grants. The NeXT is the focal point of the Challenge class, a math and science class for freshmen. It will also be used for the Science and Engineering Fair projects.

"We're ecstatic to be able to work with this level of computer. Central is lucky to have such a valuable and powerful computer," said Mr. John Waterman, head of the math department. "I think we are the only high school in Nebraska that has the NeXT, most colleges don't even have it."

"The NeXT has virtually unlimited possibilities," said Mr. Waterman. The NeXT has 16.7 million displayable colors, CD sound, a motion detector, and can generate video tapes and save images from a TV. The Math and Science Department currently have about ten thousand dollars worth of programs.

"We would eventually like to have a lab of these computers. We can run a cable from the office to room 313 and hook it to a television screen so that we can broaden the impact on the students," said Mr. Waterman.



Scholarships awarded

The six National Merit semi-finalists this year are seniors: Bryan Campbell, Angela Henning, Emily Hooi, Matt Hovde, Peter Thorson, and Jessica Wenke.

The semi-finalists are determined by the PSAT scores of their junior year. Those chosen as finalists will win a scholarship to the college of their choice.

Cipperley Returns

Mrs. Sharon Cipperley is a fresh face in the counseling center.

Mrs. Cipperley has worked at many area schools, including both North and Northwest High Schools. She was teaching at Millard South before she decided to come to Central.

"It feels good to be back. I feel like I have always been here," said Mrs. Cipperley, who graduated from Central in the early 60's. She wanted to return to Central because it was

her home school and full of "high school nostalgia."

"I love to work with kids, that's why I got into the educational field," said Mrs. Cipperley. She describes herself as energetic and compassionate. "When counseling the students at Central, those are essential characteristics. You have to have patience and a very good sense of humor."

"I want to be the best at everything that I do, whether it is being a mother, a teacher or a counselor," said Mrs. Cipperley, who feels very dedicated to her work during and outside of school.

"I received a warm welcome from the students and staff. I am glad I had the opportunity to come back to Central."

By Laura Dunham and Andrea Davis

City councilmen's views on curfew differ

By Robert Harshbarger

Recently much debate has been raised over the proposed curfew for Omaha's youth. The ordinance was proposed by city councilman Steve Exon and would make it illegal for people under the age of eighteen to be out in public between midnight and five a.m. on week nights without an adult guardian, work permit, or parental permission to run an emergency errand.

The curfew is shortened on weekends, being enforced from 1:00 a.m. till 5:00 a.m. It calls for fines of up to \$100 or thirty days in jail for the parents of violators. The punishment for the youth offender would be up to the judge and could include public service.

In a recent written statement made by the assistant city prosecutor, Mr. J. Michael Tesar, being out in public was defined by the following: "public streets, avenues, highways, roads, alleys, playgrounds, public places, public buildings, places of amusement and entertainment, vacant lots or other unsupervised places."

The document also stated, "Any minor violating the curfew would be released to their parent or detained in accordance with the Nebraska Juvenile code."

Steve Exon stated that the proposal is based on the fact that Omaha has irresponsible parents who allow kids to be out on the streets all hours of the night. He notes the ordinance is for the safety of the kids whose parents allow them to roam the streets.

"It is not a witch hunt," Steve Exon said. "The police will not be hunting down every seventeen-year-old past curfew."

He states, "It [the proposed ordinance] is a tool to use in a potentially dangerous situation to protect the community or kid."

Exon admits that Omaha has a definite problem when it comes to constructive things to occupy teens' extra time. He feels, however, the city government should not be responsible for establishing these constructive, time consuming, things to occupy teens' extra time but should only play a supportive role in the establishment of these activities.

City council member Lee Terry also feels that Omaha needs things for teens to do and agrees with Exon that it is not the responsibility of the city government. However, Lee Terry is definitely opposed to the proposed curfew ordinance.

"I am opposed on philosophical and practical grounds," Terry replied when asked about his position. "I don't agree that the city or state should act as a parent."

Terry feels there should be less government in the daily lives of citizens.

Terry finds several other faults with the proposed ordinance. He notes that if the ordinance is enforced and the violators detained, holding facilities for these people would be lacking.

"Omaha does not have the facilities to detain the violators," Terry stated. Omaha lacks the funds needed to build such a facility. The cost would range from 500,000 to 1 million dollars.

Lee Terry also notes that the police force already has a backlog of calls each day upon the beginning of each shift, making this ordinance unenforceable.

According to the statement released by the assistant city prosecutor, "The Ordinance is based upon an essentially similar ordinance adopted in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and is similar to others which have been challenged on a number of constitutional grounds."

Lee Terry also cites problems with the ordinance because of its possible unconstitutional nature.

Terry noted that the equal protection clause of the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America states that the government can not pick out or classify a group of people and regulate and state by the virtue of their existence that they are committing a crime.

Lee Terry feels that standing out on a sidewalk at 11:59 p.m. is not any more illegal than being in the same location at 12:00 a.m. He states, "Standing out on your sidewalk at 12:01 a.m. is not illegal."

Joe Friend, city council president, commented, "I'm looking favorably upon it [the proposed curfew ordinance]." Yet, he also admits there are problems in the proposal.

He feels police need something to use against

thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen-year-olds out at 3 a.m.

He has concerns about the legality of the curfew proposal, however. He stated that the legal department, which he classified as conservative, has expressed possible first amendment violation.

He too feels there is not enough for teens to do in the city of Omaha. This opinion is widespread through the Council. The vastly varying interest of today's teens is one reason Friend identified for the difficulty in establishing constructive things for teens to do.

When asked if the proposed curfew might help reduce youth violence in the city, Omaha public safety director, Pitmon Foxall, said, "I don't think it [the proposed curfew] will live up to the community expectations."

Foxall was also concerned about the city doing parent's job. "I don't believe the city should parent. Parenting should be up to the parent."

He also stated that if the ordinance reaches the point where police must fine parents and hold juveniles, it would take away precious time from an already busy police force.

If passed the ordinance would go into effect on March 1, 1992. The Ordinance will face a trial year giving the Council the option to pass a permanent ordinance during the first year. Joe Friend stated that he thinks the voting will be very close.

Curfew Guidelines

The proposed curfew ordinance would make it illegal for people under the age of eighteen to be out in public between midnight and five a.m. on week nights without an adult guardian, work permit, or parental permission to run an emergency errand.

The curfew is shortened on weekends, being enforced from 1:00 a.m. till 5:00 a.m. It calls for fines of up to \$100 or thirty days in jail for the parents of violators. Any minor violating the curfew would be released to his/her parent or detained in accordance with the Nebraska Juvenile code. The punishment for the youth offender would be up to the judge and could include public service.

Being out in public was defined by the following: public streets, avenues, highways, roads, alleys, playgrounds, public places, public buildings, places of amusement and entertainment, vacant lots or other unsupervised places.

Do you agree with the proposed curfew?

No, it is not a viable option because it is not an enforceable law.

—Mr. Bode
Science

Yes, I don't think it will affect any good kids because they should be home by that time anyway.

—Mrs. Connie Ludwig
Parent

Yes, because after midnight there is not that much to do, and it will deter violence.

—Shiela Morgan
Senior

No, because it will be racially directed towards the blacks in North Omaha.

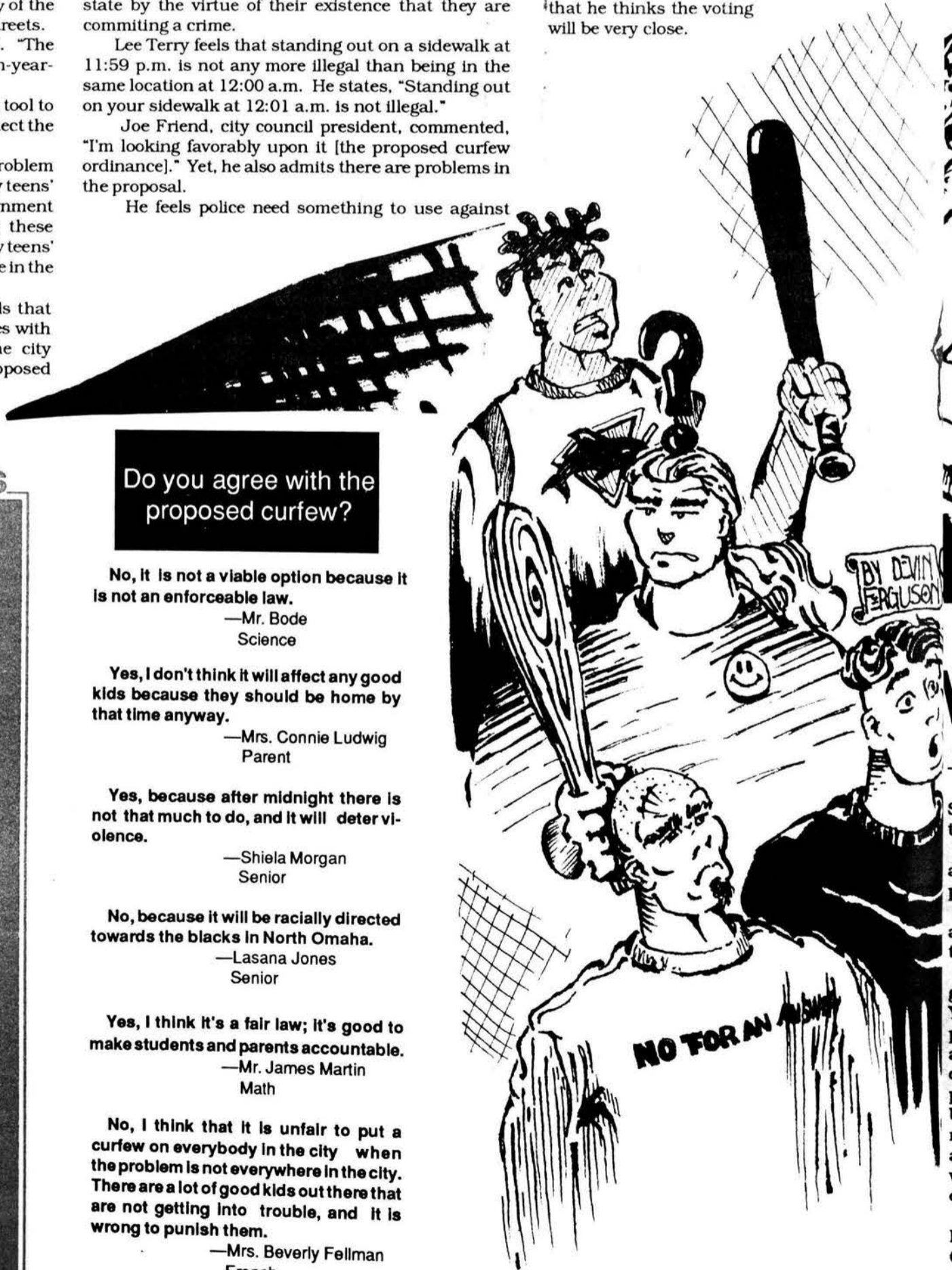
—Lasana Jones
Senior

Yes, I think it's a fair law; it's good to make students and parents accountable.

—Mr. James Martin
Math

No, I think that it is unfair to put a curfew on everybody in the city when the problem is not everywhere in the city. There are a lot of good kids out there that are not getting into trouble, and it is wrong to punish them.

—Mrs. Beverly Fellman
French



CURFEW

CLOSE-UP

Local officials give curfew mixed review

By Duncan Joyner

A curfew has been proposed for the Omaha area, restricting children under 18-years-old from being out on public places after 1:00 a.m. on weekends.

"No doubt minorities will be adversely or dramatically effected. Racism is pervasive in society."

So says Bill Schatz, Executive Director of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union. He also states that the N.C.L.U. has always opposed the institution of curfews.

Mr. Schatz added, "Basically, curfews criminalize lawful behavior." He went on to say that curfews "unfairly create separate classes of people" and that they (curfews) "force the police to make subjective decisions."

Sgt. Chuck Clark, a member of the Bellevue Police Department where a curfew is in effect, says that the purpose of a curfew is, "not to restrict honest kids, but to restrain kids from cruising and being drawn into unlawful activities."

The Bellevue curfew law restricts children 17 and under from being in public areas (including streets) after 10:00 p.m. Exceptions to the law: being accompanied by a parent, going to or from a meeting, being on a parent sent-errand, and/or if a young person's work schedule keeps him out past the time.

"Our curfew has had few problems," Sgt. Clark explained, "but in a larger city like Omaha, I see more potential [for problems]."

Papillion Police Chief Steve Engberg says that he agrees with a curfew because "it's a way to keep kids safe. There's too much chance for exposure to danger in the night; if kids go out past twelve, there's a good chance someone will do something stupid."

The Papillion curfew law restricts children from 17 years and younger to be on public streets, in businesses, etc. from 12 o'clock midnight to 6:00 a.m.

Chief Engberg states that their biggest problem with the curfew is the "amount of time taken away from other police duties."

He said that it takes twenty minutes to a half an hour to give a curfew violation. "First we talk to the child and see if he has a legitimate excuse for being out. If he does, we send him home; if not we write up a citation, call his parents and, depending on what they (parents) want

us to do, we either send him home, wait until the parents pick him up, or take him home ourselves."

Sgt. Clark says that the Bellevue curfew law is enforced leniently. "We hardly ever pick kids up directly after ten. We usually don't start enforcing it until around 12 o'clock."

"The way most of us (Bellevue Police) see it, we consider going to get pizza as a meeting." He also said that when he pulls a car over, he talks to the kid and finds out his destination. If the child says that "he's taking his friend home, I find out where he lives and ask if he can be home at a certain time. If the child says, yes, then I tell him if I see him again then he will be cited (for a curfew violation). That often happens at 1:00 in the morning."

Pertaining to the curfew debate, Omaha Police Chief James Skinner indicates that he "doesn't know if they've been proven effective in a city the size of Omaha."

Chief Skinner also expresses fear that curfew violations will take police away from their duty.

In response to whether curfews are discriminatory, or not, Chief Skinner says, "No matter how it's (curfew) enforced, some groups will view it as discriminatory. However, we will enforce it as fairly as possible."

Bill Schatz says, "The police have enough to do already; no matter how it's enforced, the public will cry discrimination. We (N.C.L.U.) feel that selective enforcement will be applied towards minorities."

Chief Skinner says, "We can't figure out our enforcement procedures until we get the city ordinance."

However, Chief Skinner went on to mention that enforcement may be difficult, with an already undermanned police force.

Chief Engberg says that "we have never experienced any discrimination, in fact, most of our violators are caucasian."

The difficulty he foresees for the proposed Omaha curfew is "the lack of police officers for standard enforcement, much less, curfew enforcement."

The main problem Chief Skinner sees is the difficulty to hold violators until they can be retrieved. However, he feels that the curfew should be successful, if enforced properly.

HERE'S
TIME FOR
S... IT'S
MOST
CURFEW!



Most students reject proposed curfew

By Sean Chapman

A rising feeling of uncertainty about City Councilman Steve Exon's proposed youth curfew has been circulating through the halls of Central.

Many students are becoming more and more worried about the growing possibility of the proposed curfew passing.

Because of the growing controversy many students and organizations have been showing their dislike for the proposed bill.

The Progressive Student Alliance is an organized group at Central High that is directly involved with Youth for Peace which is an organization that helps protect the rights of others. The group recently sent an anti-curfew petition around school. The petition was in opposition to the proposed curfew. It stated that the proposal was a violation of the First Amendment of the United States which means that Congress shall make no laws abridging the rights of the people to peaceably assemble. The petition also stated that the proposal would be unfairly segregating a group of people because of uncontrollable circumstances, their age.

"Nowhere does it state that there is an age limit in the First Amendment of the Constitution," said Anne Carroll, senior leader. "The proposal seems very contradictory to our rights."

Anne was one of the writers of the anti-curfew petition. "We received about one hundred and fifty signatures." The petition that the Progressive Student Alliance made was sent to the sponsor of the bill, Steve Exon. According to Anne, there were several other petitions that went around and several other schools were involved. "We have been working a lot with people from other schools that are in opposition to the proposal," said Anne Carroll.

"I feel that the youths are not being respected. The curfew is the only thing that is being proposed and the Council members are not offering any other options," Anne said.

The proposal as it stands now will punish parents, guardians or other adults in care of violators. The parents would face fines of up to \$100 or thirty days in jail. The proposal does not state a penalty for youths other than they would be dealt with through the Nebraska Juvenile Code.

"The proposal is unfair to the parent of the violators. How can the judge determine if the students were out against the parent's will?" said Chris Kunze, junior.

Chris spent the day at the public hearing, held on August 24. There was a period of time allotted at the hearing for people to state their feelings and opinions about the curfew. Chris was one of the students who

spoke out in opposition to the proposed curfew.

According to Chris the curfew will not work because the proposal will not deter the people committing the crimes. "Someone who is out selling drugs is not going to stop to look at his watch. In order to stop the violence we need to make long lasting penalties that make people think before they commit these crimes. I think it is more important that we punish the guilty and not the innocent," said Chris.

In addition to the many petitions going around there is a lot of student involvement. The Central High Student Council has been actively involved. They passed out information sheets in order to make the studentbody aware of the current proposal and a list of city councilmember's names and phone numbers so the students can relay their opinion to their councilman.

According to Maggie Boyle, senior, president of the Student Council, the Student Council is unanimously against the proposed curfew. "There was no counter discussion and no question that we should make the students aware of the proposal," she said.

"I think that the proposal is a feeble attempt for a solution to the real problem," she added.

Maggie is planning on attending the next city council meeting in hopes that she may be able to make a difference.

By Sean Rourke

"How many times can you die for love?" read the caption beneath the movie's title.

"Well that sounds like a good one to go see," Liz said, her voice slathered with anticipation.

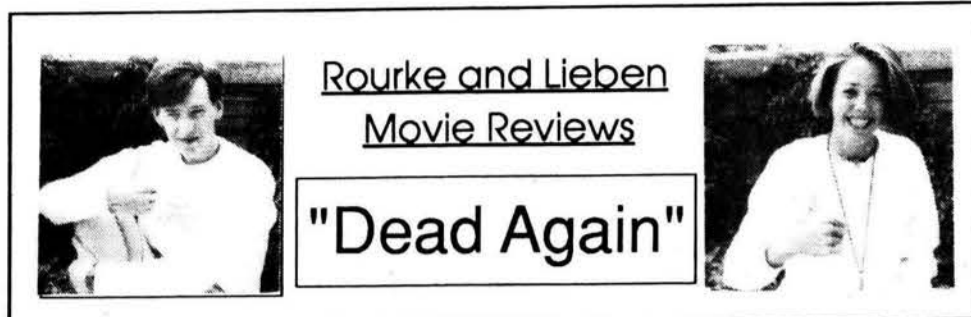
"I agree," spoke the almighty entertainment editor. "Why don't you two do that movie for your next review."

"Egad," I thought, "you'd think she could come up with a better movie for us to review than that one." But it has got to be one of the best suspense movies of the summer. Kenneth Branagh, director and star of the film, has created a movie so gripping that it scared the slobber out of me. Very few movies actually scare me to the point of screaming, but this one did it.

The basis of the storyline is basically...well...well, I'll let Liz describe it, but her version is only the basis of the plot. The story goes through so many twists, turns and flashbacks that nothing can be pieced together until the last ten minutes.

Dead Again is certainly not a movie for the weak of mind because one has to pay attention throughout the entire show. This, however, is not difficult, since the movie is so extremely riveting.

The music alone set such a gripping



mood that it had Liz clinging to my shirt sleeve throughout most of the show.

“
It had Liz clinging to my shirt-sleeve throughout most of the show.”

The acting is excellent, featuring the talents of Branagh, Emma Thompson, and Andy Garcia. There is even a cameo appearance by Robin Williams.

Everything about the movie was superb, and it had the two of us in awe when it was over. I give it a complete and whole-hearted thumbs up.

By Liz Lieben

When someone says, "Have You Seen the Movie *Dead Again*?" the first thing that pops into my head is scissors. Not the kindergarten round-tipped scissors but large sewing shears that one could use to murder someone.

The beginning of the film is a nightmare that takes place in 1948 and it is shown in black and white. The basic story is of the carefree life between composer Roman Strauss and his violinist wife, Margaret. Their contentment comes to an abrupt halt the minute that Gary Baker, reporter, enters their lives and tries to seduce Margaret. Roman's jealous side surfaces and Margaret is killed, stabbed repeatedly with a pair of sewing shears. Roman is accused and

sentenced to the chair.

Forty-three years later, a woman who appears to be mute has dreams of being stabbed repeatedly with sewing shears by a masked murderer.

What is this? Margaret Strauss reincarnated? Yet someone following her and wants her *Dead Again!*

This is a classic whodunit dealing with the powers of reincarnation. One of the rules of reincarnation is that if there was a murder in the past, the reincarnated victim and murderer will find each other in the present.

Emma Thomas, who plays Margaret Strauss and reincarnated Margaret, does a wonderful job as the 1948 slobber and the present day woman in fear for her life.

Kenneth Branagh does a superb job in his role as the private eye, Church. His American accent sounds so authentic, you would never guess that he is a British actor.

Robin Williams also makes a few appearances as an out-of-focus shrink who resides in the freezer of the local deli. His appearances are few but they are hilarious.

Overall, I give this movie enthusiastic thumbs-up!

Buffett makes musical magic

By Liz Lieben

Omaha has been the springboard for many musicians. Last year, Rick Kuethe with his "Nebraska Suite," and everyone knows Manheim Steamroller, but now there is a new face in the crowd, Peter Buffett.

Peter Buffett, a Central High graduate, would describe his music as new-age, but "I roll my eyes when I say new-age," explained Buffett. "New-age is usually associated with the type of lifestyle with crystals and stuff like that."

Buffett uses mostly electrical synthesizers in his three albums that he has produced.

However, in his last album, "Lost Frontier," he incorporates some orchestral instruments such as violins, cellos, violas and an English horn.

Peter Buffett's music has been in the movie "Dances with Wolves." Although it was not on the soundtrack album, it

“
My grandfather went here and I actually had the same English teacher as my mother did.”

—Peter Buffett

was heard in the background during the fire dance scene. His music will also be heard in the movie "Hard Promises" starring Sissy Spacek. Buffett finds that writing music for movies is very "low-developing" and he does not plan on doing it a lot.

Buffett also writes music for commercials such as Dupont, Sprint telephones, Infinity cars, and the milk board. Buffett said that "writing music for



Photo Courtesy of Narada Productions Inc.

Peter Buffett, Central graduate, makes it big in the music business.

commercials is a great way to practice for writing music for albums.

The demos for the commercials go into my albums. However, I like to work on albums more than commercials because of the artistic standpoint, and it doesn't have to be exactly thirty seconds long."

In his last album, Buffett titled two songs after Nebraska, his home state. Buffett said, "I write songs about the heartland because I have a real affinity towards Nebraska. I missed it. I missed the traditional values."

Although he misses Nebraska, Peter Buffett does not think he will move back. "I have my own little place here," he said. "I can be my own person."

Peter Buffett's interest in music started in Nebraska at Central High School. He and his friend Lars Erikson performed for the Road Show in 1976 with a four-handed piano act. They composed the music themselves and then performed

it.

Both Peter Buffett and Lars Erikson have become successful musicians. They both write music and have records out. They did the Dupont commercial together. The only difference is that Erikson still lives in Omaha and Buffett now lives in Milwaukee.

However, when Peter Buffett was in high school, he was not interested in pursuing a career in music. "I thought I was going to be a photographer. It's funny because I shifted from doing a lot of photography (as chief photographer for the O-Book) and a little music on the side to all music and... it's funny, I really don't take pictures any more."

Peter Buffett loved the tradition of Central High School. "My grandfather went here and I actually had the same English teacher as my mother did. I loved how it wasn't snobby like some of the other schools in Omaha. I just loved the whole place."

Central High O-Books go on
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Trip Shakespeare
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Oct. 9
Ranch Bowl

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(Chamber Music)
Oct. 12
Auditorium

The Connells
(Alternative)
Oct. 13
Ranch Bowl

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(Contemporary)
Oct. 17
Music Hall

Red Hot Chili Peppers
(HardCore)
Oct. 20
Peony Park



Your Piece of Chalk

Duncan Joyner

I have a lot of ideas for this column space for the months to come; however deciding on an idea for this particular column was more than the task I expected. My problems stemmed from my wanting to create a masterpiece as a first story. Also, a lot of social problems are coming into existence that I would love to write about. Unfortunately, I have come to realize that my fellow writer, Todd Djureen, has the social commentary column. So, I will just write and try to relate to you a story of youth and contain my social criticisms for another time.

Early one Friday night, I was sitting on my bed listening to music. My plan for the night was a little rest and relaxation. No dates, no hanging out with friends, just a little mental massage. In between studying my fish's swimming patterns and shaving my step-brother's head, the phone rang. I was prepared for this (the Friday night barrage of phone calls detailing the night's offerings), however. I had my step-brother answer the phone and say I was busy.

After speaking for about five minutes, he handed me the phone saying, "It's Steve."

The only Steve I knew that would call me, was an old junior high friend that lived in New Jersey. Deeply confused, I asked the obvious. "Steve who?"

My brother's reply was short and enlightening. "I don't know, just Steve."

I put the phone to my ear wondering how my step-brother could talk to someone for five minutes and not get a last name. Oh well, I would find out soon enough.

"Hello?" I asked.

"Duncan?"

"Yah?"

"Do you know who this is?"

God I hated that question.

"Uh' let me guess, Steve?" I asked sarcastically.

"Yah', how's it going buddy?"

"Uh' pretty good," I replied, still pretty confused.

"Guess what?"

Oh no, not again.

"What?"

"I'm back in town."

The light dawned on me.

"Wait a minute, is this Steve, as in junior high Steve?"

"Yah' man, are you busy right now? I figured maybe we could go do something."

"I have very little money right now, but maybe we could go get some coffee."

Well, that was how it all started. My evening of rest and relaxation was over before it had begun.

So I went and picked up Steve, and we journeyed on to Village Inn where we drank enormous amounts of coffee.

Around our fourth pot, Steve and I started remembering our adolescent, obnoxious, trouble-making, junior high years together. Recalling sneaking into movies, conning parents into giving us rides, and even the Skateland times of deceit made us instantly friends again. It was about this time that Steve brought up our infamous, "Grocery Store" days.

"Remember that time," Steve began, "when we went around Hinky Dinky, glueing the bottoms of the products to the counter?"

"Yah', that was so great. Remember coming back and finding all the stuff still glued?"

"That was so hilarious. Wouldn't it be great if we did it one more time, for old times sake?"

And that was how the trouble began.

Headlocks in Hinky Dinky

First, we had to go to my house and get some brown, wood-glue, which wasn't an easy task. We had to search through my father's toolshop to find two bottles and then we had to sneak them upstairs. Of course, neither one of us was wearing shorts with pockets, so Steve went and distracted my father, while I snuck the glue upstairs.

Then, my friend Sebastian called, asking if he could go out with us. It was fine with us, as long as he brought some glue with him. All he had was super-glue, but we reluctantly agreed.

So we picked up Sebastian and drove to the nearest Hinky Dinky.

This is where the trouble makes an appearance.

We get to Hinky Dinky, and instantly split up. That's the way to do it, you know, if you want to cover the most ground. By the way, it's about midnight, and this Hinky Dinky was not exactly bustling with shoppers. I start on the "Little Debbie Snackcake" section. Glueing those little boxes down, revived the eighth grade spirit in me. I quickly moved to the diaper section.

Later on, I made my way through the aisles and eventually met up with Steve.

"Isn't this great, man?" he asked, glueing down a two-liter of Pepsi.

"Yah', it sure is! Good idea!"

Then I moved up the aisle to the potato chips while Steve concentrated on the soft drink section. It was about this time when I heard the monotone message over the P.A. system.

"Security to aisle seven."

I picked up a carton of Pringles and poured glue along its cardboard side. Then I set the Pringles on its side to confuse some poor, oblivious to the fact, shopper. Wait a minute; did she say security? On aisle seven?

I turned to look at Steve. It seemed as if he had just realized it too. We both looked up at the aisle number that decorated the ceiling, with a knot ripping through our stomachs.

Seven.

I shoved the glue in my pocket (I had changed shorts) and walked, really fast. Steve walked really fast the other direction.

I was twenty feet from the door thinking to myself, "ha-ha, forget them; if I make it, I'm free!"

I looked down to make sure there were no objects to impede my walking. No, nothing. I was fifteen feet from the door now; home free!

Then, from behind the cigarette dispenser, jumps Mr. Rent-O-Cop, with a friend of mine in each arm. Actually, to be more specific, he had them in head-locks. He was really big.

I guess I knew I was caught. No head-locks were needed to contain me although soon I found I was in one. I told you he was big.

Next we were taken up to the room where all of the monitors of the cameras were kept. The store manager was there. He lectured us for ten minutes and then uncovered a blanket that I hadn't even noticed was there. Under the blanket were all of the objects we had glued; Pringles and all. That's when I got scared, when I realized they had been following us around the whole time.

I guess they could have pressed charges, but in the end, they just called our parents and banned us from all Hinky Dinkys around the nation. The manager told us that we had ruined 600 dollars worth of merchandise, but who was he trying to fool? We all knew that if we had actually ruined that much, Hinky Dinky would have been forced to sue. As it was, we knew the Pampers, Pringles, and Pepsi (alliteration) would all be back on the shelves the next day.

Believe me, I'm not condoning vandalous activities; I've learned my lesson. I guess it's all a part of growing up. By the way, I got a letter from Steve today (he moved back to New Jersey shortly after the incident); it seems he got a job working at a Hinky Dinky.

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Locker Room Talk

Al Bakhit

What happened to the fun in sports?

Sports today have become a marketplace for money. Salaries in pro-sports are becoming outrageous. Wasn't it more than enough five years ago? Back then if you made a million dollars you were considered elite in your field. Now, it seems that one million dollars is becoming average. The top paid athlete in 1991, Evander Holyfield, will make an estimated sixty million by

through the ceiling, and the price of souvenirs is outrageous. Why do we put up with this?

Sports are considered entertainment, and just like the movies you have to pay to see them. The question is how much is too much? I know this is hard to agree on. Diehard fans are willing to pay almost anything to see their team. Then there are the first-time fans who are scared away from sports by the prices just to get through the front gate.

Sports are being stressed too much by parents. There are several professional tennis players that are still in high school. Hockey and baseball are causing even more high school drop-outs.

Sports were meant to be recreational. Now they have become a multi-million dollar business. It seems that alcohol and gambling are becoming almost a part of the game. You can find point spreads for the major games in the daily paper. Rarely can you watch a game without hearing some kind of promotions for alcohol.

Endorsements are another big part of sports. All the big athletes have contracts for the equipment they wear. They make commercials for some products they probably never even use. What do they get for doing this? More money.

Is this trend going to continue? How much will athletes be paid ten years down the road? Some way has to be found to put a stop to this growing problem. Sports were meant to be played for fun and enjoyment.

In my opinion professional athletes should take the time to watch *Field of Dreams* and learn what sports are all about.

Evander Holyfield will make an estimated sixty million...

year's end.

It's a privilege to play professional sports. Now, the athletes we used to respect are complaining that they aren't paid enough money. At the beginning of baseball season, players held out for larger contracts. They should care more about playing and having fun, rather than sniveling about dollars and cents.

Now don't get me wrong, I want money too. If I played professional sports, I would get as much money as I could. But from the fans' point of view it's not very pretty. Who do you think helps pay for these salaries? The answer is the fans.

Ticket prices are going up, concessions have gone

Sports Highlights

Jessie Value, senior... is ranked third in the metro in both yards rushing and total offensive yards. He has accumulated 334 yards in the first two games of the season for an average of 5.5 yards per carry.

The volleyball team... earned their first victory at the Bryan Invitational. They avenged their season opening loss to South during the tournament. They also won one game against Bellevue East, which according to Melissa Holalman was quite an accomplishment.

Gymnastics... Shelly Loland, sophomore, won the all-around competition against Burke in a narrow Eagle defeat.

Sports Calendar

Boys Tennis

Sept. 26 Northwest
Sept. 27 at North
Sept. 30 at Fremont
Oct. 1 Gross
Oct. 3 A.L.
Oct. 9-11 METRO

Varsity Football

Sept. 27 at Lincoln S.E.
Oct. 4 at Ralston
Oct. 11 Northwest

Varsity Volleyball

Sept. 26 Millard S.
Oct. 3 at Ralston
Oct. 7-11 METRO
Oct. 15 at Northwest

Gymnastics

Oct. 3 South
Oct. 8 at Millard N.
Oct. 10 Benson
Oct. 15 Papillion

Cross Country

Sept. 28 Bryan Inv.
Oct. 4 Millard N. Inv.
Oct. 10 METRO

Girls Golf

Sept. 26 North
Oct. 1 Marian
Oct. 3 METRO
Oct. 9 DISTRICTS

Contest

SPORTS TRIVIA

1. What active major leaguer has won batting titles in three different decades?
2. Who was the youngest major league player to hit 50 or more home runs in one season?
3. What is the largest indoor stadium in the world?
4. Which pitcher gave up the first home run in World Series play?
5. Which pitcher struck out every time he came to bat one year?

Did you know?

The average pro football team uses 2900 pairs of shoelaces, 5200 gallons of Gatorade, and over 64 miles of tape.

RULES

1. Answers must be written on a 3x5 notecard and delivered to room 315, c/o Sports Trivia. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate and a free *Register* subscription for next year.

2. The winner will be determined by whoever turns in the most correct answers throughout the year.

3. Members of the *Register* and O-Book staff ARE NOT eligible for this contest.

4. In case of a tie the winner will be chosen through a random drawing.

5. Every issue a different sport will be covered.

Sports Briefs

Football

Central's football team is expected to have a better season than last year, although they lost their first game to South 20-23, their second game to Burke 14-14, and their third game to Millard South 14-19.

This year 45 players are suiting up opposed to 35 last year, and the team is a couple players deep on both offense and defense. With more players suiting up, players are enabled to play either on offense only or on defense only which Mr. John Georgeson, Central's defensive coach, said will help in the long run.

Golf

The girls golf team opened the season with a win against South. They then placed third in the A.L. invitational at Dodge Park. Dana Souser, senior, placed first in the tournament and also tied the tournament record by shooting 79. The team's record is 4-1 up through September 20.

Gymnastics

This year's gymnastics team has high hopes for the upcoming season. The team has only five members with four returning from last year's team. Gina Gomez Jr. stated, "We took fourth place last year and this year should be even better."

Cross Country

Any girls interested in joining the varsity cross-country team should contact Coach Tim Shipman in room 233. According to Mr. Shipman, "experience is not necessary, just a eagerness to play." The young team has started the season off 0-2.

Volleyball

Varsity volleyball coach Vicki Wiles has high expectations for the upcoming season. "Even though I expect this year to be somewhat of a learning experience, competition and hard work will pull us through." The girl's early record has been 0-

Softball

The varsity girl's softball team has a season of high competition ahead. After two close losses to Burke and Northwest, Central won their first game against Millard South. "We are now winning because we're finally coming together as a team," said sophomore player Christy Shearer.

Tennis

Central's tennis team is off to an outstanding winning streak, and it seems that there is no end in sight. Mr. John Waterman, Central's tennis coach, said, "I think we'll win all our duals, but we're just taking it one at a time." They've lived up to their expectations winning their duals with Millard North 8-1, Ralston 6-0, Ronco 9-0, Bellevue East 7-2, and Creighton Prep 7-2. The tennis team has three more duals to play this month against South, Northwest, and North.

Next Issue...

Golf: The team is off to a 4-1 start. This year's team is led by Dana Souser. Are they good enough to take state?

Tennis: The team has a strong core of returning seniors. Along with some new faces it makes for what looks to be a very exciting season.

Colleges come knocking on Fialla's door

By Robert Harshbarger

How in demand is Matt Fialla, a six foot five, two-hundred and eighty-nine pound, sixteen-year-old junior at Central High School? He is popular enough to receive letters from several of the top colleges in the nation due to his exceptional ability in the rough sport of football.

Matt has played for Central's Varsity football squad since his freshman year. About the end of his sophomore year Matt started to receive letters from colleges which want him to play on their football teams.

Prominent teams such as Miami, Penn State, Texas & M, Oklahoma, and Kansas have all contacted Matt. Surprisingly, the University of Nebraska has not yet sent him a letter. The letters simply introduce the colleges and try to get him interested in what they have to offer.

Matt plans to go into business administration after high school although Matt notes, "It might change I've still got a couple of years left."

When asked if his future plans include professional football, Matt realistically replied, "It's a possibility." Yet, Matt recognizes the fact that one "can't make plans in football because injuries are so common."

Already this year Matt has suffered through a sprained ankle, broken finger, and bruised knees. He remarked, "nothing a little ice can't take care of."

Matt made the list of outstanding underclassman in the Nebraska football class in the *Who's Who In High School Sports* for last season's performance.

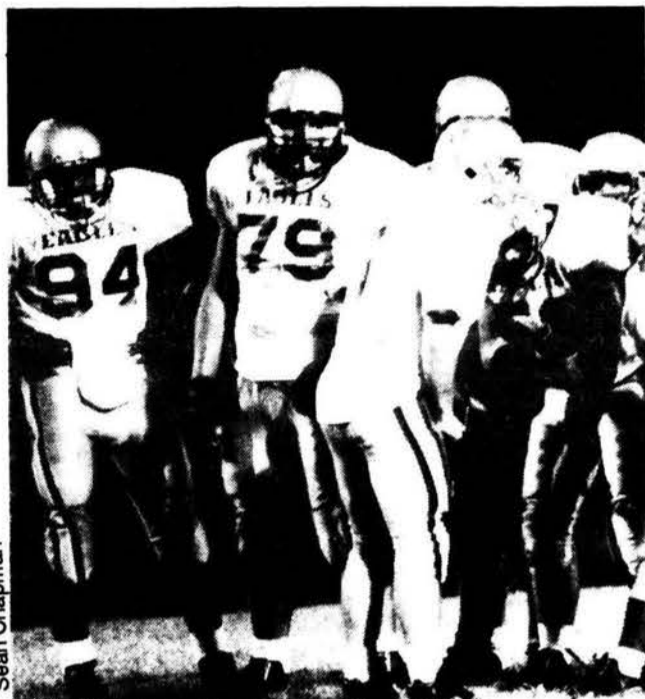
Achieving this prestige took a tremendous amount of time and effort. Matt, along with the other players on Central's football team, practices up to three and a half hours a day. Matt states, "This can be a burden on study time."

"I've learned to take advantage of my study halls," Matt said.

Matt's social life has also been affected. On Friday nights, after the long, hard game, Matt acknowledges that he is way too tired to attend social functions.

Saturdays become Matt's ice and rest day, and on occasion, Matt becomes a socialite on Saturday night. Sundays are always reserved for the academic side of life.

Matt also had a comment or two about this year's team. He commented, "This year, if we play together and are more organized than last year, then we'll be pretty good. We could be a state contender if we work together."

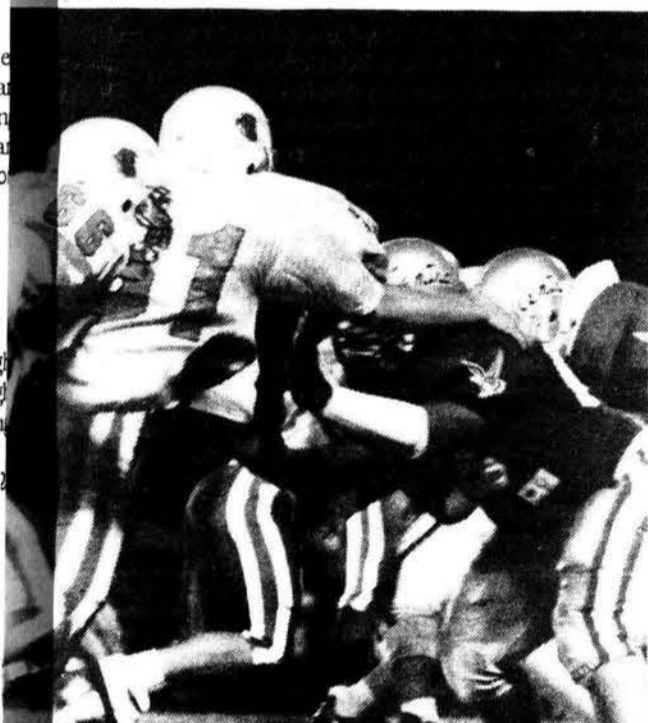


Sean Chapman

Matt Fialla, Central High School Junior
Matt waits as the Eagles discuss the next play in the game against Burke.

Eagles start off on wrong talon

Over one-hundred and ten yards in penalties 'disappointing'



Tim Galligher

By Joe Maginn

The Central High football team lost its season opener to Omaha South, 20-23. It was a disappointing loss for the Eagles who led throughout much of the game.

The Eagles looked good early and scored their first touchdown on senior quarterback Matt Scanlan's 6-yard run. The extra point was wide and Central led 6-0. South helped Central in the second quarter when a botched Packer snap sailed out of their own end-zone for a safety. The Eagles struck next when Scanlan aired out a forty-yard pass to senior wide receiver Alfred Harris.

Then it happened. South rallied for two scoring drives and took a 15-14 lead. But the Eagles did not fold. They managed to score next on senior running-back Jessie Value's 2-yard run. South responded by scoring again, and they took a 23-20 lead.

Central had one final opportunity when they moved the ball into Packer territory. They were stopped on third down, and with less than a minute left, the Eagles opted for the game-tying field goal. The crowd became quiet and all attention was focused on the field as a

South defender sped in and blocked the kick. This crushed hopes for a Central victory.

Although the Eagles were defeated, many players turned out brilliant performances. Central ground out 225 yards on the ground and threw

for 99 more. Senior Rob Partridge said, "We played great as a team." He added that they "totally dominated" South's defense but were hurt on kick-offs and punts.

Junior Mario Henderson agreed "Kickoffs changed the momentum of the game."

Turnovers also hurt Central. The Eagles fumbled seven times, losing three of them to South. Senior Anthony Bush said, "They didn't beat us, we beat ourselves."

In the Eagles second game, they were defeated by Omaha Burke, 0-14. The score was 0-0 through the first half, but the Bulldogs came storming out after the halftime break.

They scored touchdowns in the third and fourth quarter on there way to victory.

The Eagles were hurt the most by penalties. They lost 110 yards over the course of the game. Senior Rob Rowe thought the game was a "disappointment" and that Central "should've won." He added that penalties and injuries "hurt us."

The Eagles played well in their third game, but were defeated by Millard South, 14-19. Central turned out a fine performance and led the Indians throughout much of the game. Millard South, rated ninth by the World-Herald, found themselves in trouble after Central took an early lead. Injuries hurt the Eagles as the game progressed, and Millard South came back to win the game.

Brian Nelson, senior, said there has been a "mental let down" in the second half. He added, "Penalties are killing us."

Eagles and Packers collide...
Central's defense dominates, the defensive line holds off South's offensive attack protecting quarterback Matt Scanlan.

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Central softball teams swing into play

By Rachel Kozol

Central High softball director and teacher Norman Custard says he was uncertain last spring about the number of girls who would be interested in a fall softball league.

Now the numbers are over and above what was ever expected. 59 girls will be representing Central this fall in Nebraska's first high school fast-pitch softball competition.

Due to the high number of interested girls, three junior varsity teams were created in addition to the varsity team. These teams can possibly compete at a statewide level with 31 other varsity teams and countless junior varsity teams.

Coaches for these Central teams are as follows: varsity, Jim Kozak; J.V. Silver, Tom Rassmussen; J.V. Purple, Dave Thomas and the J.V. White, Cental teacher Tim Herbert.

"Cuts were not made due to all the benefits we received from the softball organizations," head coach Jim Kozak remarked.

The Amateur Softball Association is providing umpires and liability insurance. The Omaha Softball Association is paying for maintenance crews and with the Metropolitan Sports Foundation, the varsity uniforms.

"We've been really lucky," Coach Kozak continued. "The junior varsity uniforms so far

have been our only major expense.

"The big push to start a women's softball league has come from the ASA and the OSA," continued Mr. Kozak. "Nebraska otherwise hasn't had a tradition for women's sports," he explained.

"The thing to remember here is that softball is not yet a sanctioned school sport; it's a club sport so girls are allowed to participate in other sports," Mr. Custard noted.

According to assistant principal Mr. Richard Jones, however, a conflict has been met with Monday-Wednesday junior varsity softball and the volleyball practices.

"We've lost four or five volleyball players to softball," observed Mr. Jones. "Volleyball was supposed to be the top priority," he remarked.

Sophomore Angela Splittgerber, player for J.V. White, said, "That is the price you pay for being in extracurricular activities."

Angela also remarked that the sport you play depends on whether you like playing for fun, competitio or just exercise. "I just enjoy playing for fun," she said.

Mr. Custard agreed with this more relaxed attitude for the J.V. teams but says he expects "a very competitive varsity team."

He also remarked that eleven



Another run... Emily Hooi, senior, prepares to advance another base in a recent varsity softball game.

varsity players have played Class A softball.

One of these eleven girls, junior Rachael Newsome, says she enjoys the chance to play a new sport that is both "competitive and fun."

Each high school team is to play twelve games at Kelly or Benson Park before the October 18-19 state tournament.

When asked about the outlook for the season, Coach Kozak commented, "This has

been so overwhelming.

We're still not sure on what we expect."

According to Mr. Custard, "The season is coming very quickly and we have so little time to prepare ourselves."

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