



The Central High REGISTER

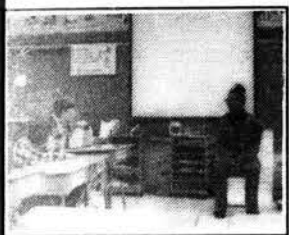
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The oldest
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west of the
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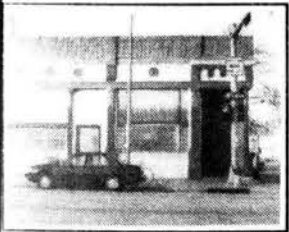
Omaha, Nebraska

December 19, 1991

INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION



D.A.R.E. TO HELP...
Students unite with police to promote drug awareness in elementary schools. D.A.R.E. focuses on decision-making and what it takes to say no.
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OMAHA'S HOMELESS NOT FORGOTTEN... Find out about homeless peoples' lives, what students think about the issue and how students and faculty are helping the underprivileged.
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WORKIN' OVERTIME... 'This year's basketball team takes advantage of their speed and quickness by using a run-and-gun offense.'
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FLU TAKES TOLL ON STUDENTS



Centralites forced to miss school due to virus

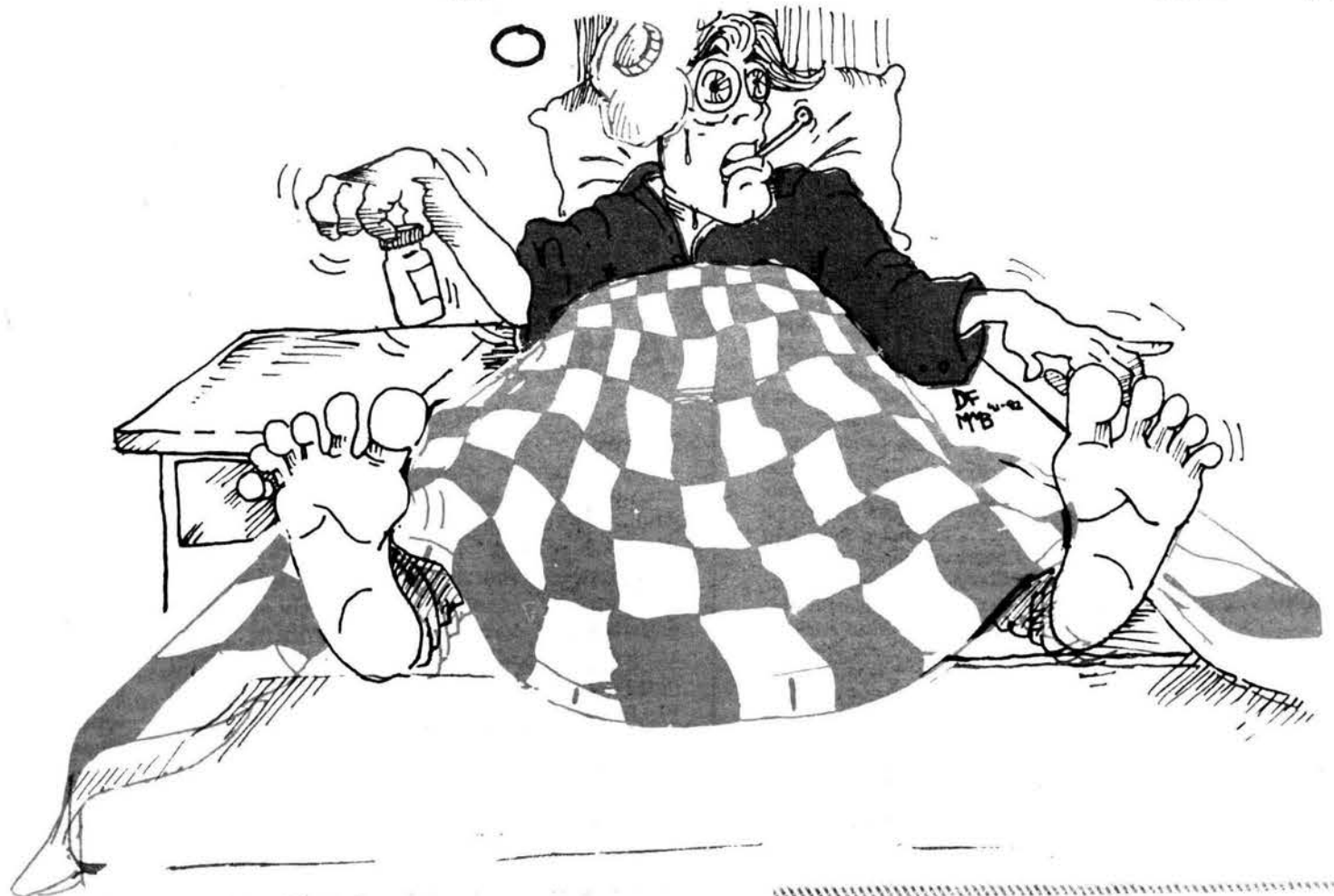
By Mark Rosenquist

“Over the last two weeks, there has been an increase in reports of an influenza-like illness. Absenteeism has risen and this has been associated with reports of this illness,” said Mr. John Weston, chief of the Omaha Health Department's clinical services division.

He said normally there is a “four to six percent” absence rate, and now most schools are reporting “15 to 20 percent of students absent.” He added, “Some schools have as many as 25 percent of students absent.” He said this is a higher absence rate than usual for this time of year. He said, “Reports from virus labs [in Douglas county] have started reporting that they had positive tests for type A influenza.” He said, “Physicians' reports were showing an influenza-like illness.” He added, “The influenza usually doesn't show up a lot until January and February.”

Ms. Geraldine Hansen, assistant supervisor for Omaha Public Schools

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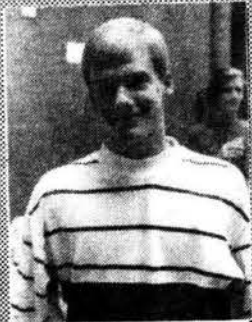
Centralite VOICES

Would you be willing to spend extra time and money to support a recycling program at Central?

YES: 60% NO: 40%
205 Centralites were polled



"Yes, because recycling can be beneficial to our school."
—Ed McCray Senior



"I'm all for recycling, but I don't understand why we would have to pay."
—Jeff Darst Sophomore



"Yes. With this many people, we have to do our part for the environment."
—Erica Corwin Junior



"Yes, but it depends on how much time was involved."
—Leslie Ellis Freshman



"No. It costs too much and not many people buy recycled products."
—Simone Thomas Senior



"We need to start thinking about our environment."
—Mrs. Judy Storm Special Education Teacher

Photos by Sean Chapman

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The Central High Register seeks to inform its readers accurately and fairly as to items of interest and importance. Letters to the editor are welcomed; unsigned letters will not be printed. The Central High Register (USPS 097-520) is published semi-monthly except during vacations and examination periods for \$5 per year by Central High School, 124 N. 20 St., Omaha, NE, 68102. Second class postage paid at Omaha, NE. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Register, Central High School, 124 N. 20 St., Omaha, NE, 68102. Due to the selling of paid advertisements, the Register is self-sufficient. To place an ad or to inquire about ad prices, contact the business manager at 978-7100, ext. 346.



Recycling needed at Central

As American forests are being cut down to provide our country with the massive amounts of paper products it consumes daily, the need for a recycling plan is evident.

Today, recycling is more common than it was ten years ago, but there are many problems with establishing a feasible recycling program. As seen through the recent problems that Omaha is having with the "blue bag" and curbside pick-up programs, establishing a recycling program is not easy.

Central is presently involved with the problem of creating a workable recycling project that will benefit both the students and the staff.

Omaha Public Schools were recently involved in a recycling contract that they had with the waste disposal company, B.F.I. Unfortunately, the paper that B.F.I. had accumulated from this program was too much to handle. There was no market for recycled paper products because the demand is so low and there is a surplus of recycled paper. So, B.F.I. withdrew from the

program, and OPS was forced to end the recycling of paper.

Much like the paper-recycling situation, there is no longer aluminum can recycling done at Central. Up until last year, the custodial staff was recycling the aluminum cans that were collected in the courtyard. But, they were asked to stop collecting the cans because the storage of these cans caused various problems with pests in the building.

At the beginning of this school year, Central's environmental club, the Green Eagles, assumed the task of recycling aluminum cans themselves, but due to the lack of support from students, they were not able to continue this task.

Currently, an agreement with two other organizations is being looked into. The setback is that we must produce 500 pounds of recyclable paper per week.

The Register staff stresses the importance of the need for a recycling program at Central. We believe that if a recycling plan is established, all of the students and staff will participate.

Smoking regulations unjust

Non-smokers and smokers have been at war with each other since the day that cigarettes were invented. Smokers feel that it is their right to smoke wherever they please, but non-smokers say that it is just as much a right that they be allowed freedom from the smoke-polluted air.

The Register staff does not promote smoking in any way, but we feel that both of these points of view are well-made and true.

We have in no way solved the problem by segregation; as long as people continue to smoke, there will always be the conflict between the die-hard non-smoker and the chain smoker who refuses to quit lighting up.

The Omaha Public School Board has attempted to deal with the situation on a small scale by forbidding students from smoking within the school. They recognize the potential dangers of smoking, and they know that it is their job to try to provide us with a clean educational environment, but what they do not realize is that there will be smokers, whether they like it or not.

If a smoker is forbidden from smoking in a certain place, he or she will simply find a different

place to do it. In most educational facilities, a smoking lounge is provided for the faculty members who smoke, but students are expected to do without. The Register staff would like to point out that it is unfair to the students who feel they "need" tobacco pick-me-up just as much as their teachers.

One possibility is to stop enforcing the no-smoking policy outside of the limits of the building. This would allow students a place to go to satisfy their urge for tobacco without offending the rest of the student body by sneaking off to the restroom, and it would also limit the responsibility of the faculty of dealing with these rule-breaking students.

A second possibility is to forbid the faculty from smoking in the building as well. It would make the students feel that they were being treated more equally, and besides, the Omaha Public Schools would not be the first non-smoking work environment ever to be established.

Either way, the problem should be dealt with. We are supposed to be living in a democratic society; can we not come to a solution which would be fair to both smokers and non-smokers, students and faculty?

Attendance policy confusing

As a result of the past fluctuation of the attendance policy at Central, many students do not know how to deal with their absences. For example, students are often in the dark about what does and does not count against their ten-day absence limit.

In answer to this question, any absence from class for any reason other than school-related activities will count against a student. If the student knows of an absence from school ahead of time, he or she should bring a note to school to notify the administration; any doctor appointments will be handled by the nurse and any absence due to personal complications will be handled by the counselors, but all notes must be received before 7:45 a.m.

An absence is considered unexcused if the school is not notified by the parents. In the event

of an unplanned absence, the parents or guardians of the student must notify the attendance office during the day of the absence; if this is neglected, the student will be issued a blue absence card and will receive zeros for all work that was issued during the absence.

When returning from an absence, students are required to bring a note signed by his or her legal guardian that states the reason for the absence, which should be turned in to the attendance office in order to receive an admit to class. The student must then have the admit signed by each teacher whose class he or she missed.

If a student has been given permission to leave the building early, he or she must sign out at the attendance office; if, because of illness, a student must leave early, it is necessary to sign out in the nurse's office.

Another Point of View

Release of hostages brings joy

Catie Rickerl

After six and one-half years in captivity, five western hostages who were being held in the Middle East were finally released on Wednesday, December 4, 1991.

To many people, American foreign policy in the Middle East is very confusing. The hostage crisis merely added to the mysteriousness of the governments of these nations. We could not understand the reasoning behind the capture of innocent human beings.

The five hostages who were freed earlier this month were justifiably in the Middle East on business. Unfortunately, their presence in this area was at the wrong time, the same time that radical Muslim activists decided to go on an anti-Western rampage. These five men, and many other people who are being held captive in the Middle East, had, in no way, provoked their capture beside the fact that they were Westerners.

The American public was terrified with the first reports of their fellow countrymen being taken into seclusion by a group of people who were filled with a great hate for the Western world. Heart-saddening stories of battered men who were often times chained to cell walls for the majority of the day made their way back to frightened citizens of the U.S. The hostages and their unfortunate situation were continually in the hearts of many Americans the entire time of their captivity.

The events in the Middle East had a great influence on the American outlook of foreign policy. The hostage crisis left most Americans fearful of Middle Eastern travel and also led them to have an unpleasant view towards politics in this area.

Although there still are many missing Westerners thought to be in the Middle East, this breakthrough in the hostage crisis brings hope of a possibility to negotiations for the freedom of western country citizens. Now, with the release of the hostages, Americans are beginning to view the Muslim world in a different light. The captors are no longer seen as evil people with motives of capturing, torturing and executing Westerners to frighten the entire world.

Instead, they are understood to be an important factor in the development of peaceful ties in the Middle East. I truly believe that the Iranians are taking a step closer to peaceful negotiations by finally releasing some of the Western hostages.

The timing of the release by the captors could not be more ideal. The five men, some spending up to six years away from their families, were released during the holiday season, a time filled with joy and hope.

These men were given the one gift that the average American citizen takes for granted, freedom. And, the entire Western world has benefited in one way from the catastrophe of the hostage crisis; they are given the hope of establishing peaceful ties with the once bitter Middle Eastern countries in the new year.



Is creativity just a ghost in our closet?

Simply Polyester

Todd Djureen

I know everybody believes in them. You do know what I'm talking about don't you? You know, those things that are white-floating-figures-that-hide-in-your-closet-and-scare-you-so-your-hair-stands-on-end. In essence, ghosts.

Now I mean to tell you, I've had my fair share of experiences with ghosts. Modern ghosts have become highly advanced and resemble nothing that looks like the feeble attempts of a sappy little kid's Halloween costume. I know this because I have a pet ghost—his name is Elmer.

Elmer and I met in a very odd way. One evening, I was sitting in the living room doing my English homework, and I had forgotten about the world around me. I sat quietly indulging in a bag of pretzels and reading when I noticed that the downstairs light started blinking off and on. Quite peculiar, I thought, and continued to read.

It stopped momentarily and soon began again. I could not take it any longer—I knew the light was trying to say something to me. I got a pencil and paper so I could follow the code. "Y-O-U-R-N-E-W-F-R-I-E-N-D-D-O-W-N-S-T-A-I-R-S," my paper read.

“ Now it may not be that extreme, but we need to realize that it isn't bad to let your creative/imaginative juices flow freely and openly. In fact, let them flow as if they were a river, and sail away babe. ”

Not thinking, I leaped off the couch and ran downstairs. There he was, in the doorway, wearing a large top hat.

The only noticeable feature on his visage was the impish grin that went from ear to ear. "ELMER," was printed across his shirt in large white letters.

He spoke no words. I went to get up but I felt like a quadruple trying to run for help. I sat and stared at the apparition for 20 minutes. The more I looked the more details I saw. Elmer's clothing turned from an endless black to a flaming orange.

The next morning when I woke up, there was no evidence of any such ghost. Could it be that my mind conjured up this character named Elmer?

Elmer comes to visit me every so often now. He's a great delight. He never talks back, he's not very loud, he doesn't talk with his mouth full, and most of all he listens to what I have to say. He's the best friend a person could have (other than Shag).

Some people say that Elmer is a figment of my imagination. Well, well, well. SO WHAT! Maybe my brain conjured up my best friend. "I'm vain about my brain—baby!" I'm happy with the power my brain is equipped with to create and imagine new ideas. You might say that

I'm a mover-and-a-shaker.

Let's say that Elmer is part of my creative instincts. Isn't that my point exactly? You can find comfort through creativity.

I don't think that anyone particularly disagrees with me, but we must realize the importance of creativity. It seems to me that sometimes an imagination tends to get lost in the whirlwinds of science and math. Oh, don't get me wrong, I think science and math are great, but isn't humanity just as important? Please understand that I use the term humanity very loosely in order to encompass a broad spectrum. This especially includes imagination and creativity, but it also covers art, writing, drama, etc. In fact, there is humanity in everything that people do. From farming to poetry to, yes, even science. The question I ask you is, is there science or math in everything people do?

I'm sure you could come up with some sort of in-depth philosophy that there is science in everything that people do. When painting, the paint has some sort of oil base that will react a certain way to the canvas, and the water used to clean the brush acts as a catalyst. This may be a logical explanation, but without the need for humanity there would be no need for science and vice-versa. They are ultimately dependent upon each other.

It all boils down to the question, kind of like, which came first the chicken or the egg but rather, which came first science or humanity? HUMANITY!

Let's face it, without creative minds, the movers-and-the-shakers, there would be no innovation. I predict that there would be no progression, and the world would stop spinning and everybody would croak—due to excessive boredom. Do we really want to face a problem like this on top of illiteracy, crime, rape, and AIDS? (I'll tell you one thing, it will take a creative mind to solve all of these problems.)

Well, let me get straight to the point. Humanity is part of a person's soul. I think every person has stifled their creative instincts sometime. "What will people think? Will they think I'm too bizarre and take me away in a white jacket? Will people still like me? WILL THEY LAUGH AT ME?" It's a form of censorship, but that's an entirely different column for a different date. The sad thing is, you're never wrong when it comes to humanity.

We should use humanity to find comfort, but rather, we reject ourselves as societal freaks. Now it may not be that extreme, but we need to realize that it isn't bad to let your creative/imaginative juices flow freely and openly. In fact, let them flow as if they were a river, and sail away babe.

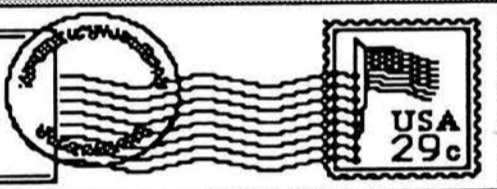
I just have so much to say about this topic, but I know it's time to wrap it up because my computer is shooting sparks everywhere. Please send your thoughts and feedback to room 315.

I honestly believe that this issue is more important than it appears because I think the world would be a much better place if we were all a little more creative/imaginative.

You might be asking yourself what Elmer had to do with anything. He further construes my point through symbolic and actual situations. You also might be asking yourself if Elmer actually exists—some of you might not think so.

*Taken from the most awesome play, *Body Leaks*.

Letters to the Editor



Cleanliness students' duty

The editor,
Your administration takes all Register editorials seriously. Your administration agrees 100% with nearly every point made.

However, we must take some issue with "...the custodial staff could also make more of an effort to keep these facilities [the restrooms] clean." (Taken from the November 27 editorial entitled "Sanitation a growing concern.")

Please check any restroom at 7:00 on any morning. They are in excellent, sanitary condition. Admittedly, and fortunately, a 9 a.m. check will not be the same story. It would be if only each student would clean up after himself/herself.

The Omaha Public Schools operate on a very tight budget. The help that we are fortunate to have will not permit the cleaning of restrooms several times a day.

Soap, toilet paper, mirrors and hand dryers frequently are missing or not functioning. "Most of these problems could be fixed replacing the broken items and installing the items that the restrooms are lacking." Your editorial is dreaming. We've tried that advice repeatedly and have found that we're lucky to have the replacement last hour. Someone who could come up with truly vandal-proof restroom dispensers would make millions.

Smoky restrooms are often offensive to many. About the only way to eliminate them would be to place a staff member in every restroom every class period and during passing period of the day. Are you and your parents ready to pay taxes for that? The Register feels that Central students have the right to use a clean restroom with all the conveniences a

modern restroom should have." Agreed, and you would have just that if every one of your peers would do his or her part.

Sincerely,
Dr. G.E. Moller, principal

Editor's note: The editorial staff wishes to apologize for any confusion due to the editorial about the restrooms; it was not intended to attack the custodial staff.

Sprinklers possible answer

To the editor,

I agree that the condition of the restrooms is intolerable. I offer a simple solution to the problem of smoking in these facilities. Install sprinklers in the restrooms to spray either water or sodium bicarbonate on Central's Porcelain Puffers. This will also eliminate the need for teachers and administrators to monitor the restrooms.

The only drawback would be that the other people in the restrooms would also be punished for other's actions, but I'm confident that this will eventually eliminate this problem.

Second-hand smoke is dangerous. Those that choose not to smoke should not be subject to second-hand smoke's health hazards or its stench.

Sincerely,
Chris Coquat, senior

YOUR OPINION

Please send all letters to the editor to:

Register Editorial Staff
Room 315

Letters are printed according to space availability, and unsigned letters will not be printed.

NEWS briefs

Seniors in Beautillion

Centralites Burrell Williams and Antone Douglas, seniors, participated in the 15th annual Beautillion sponsored by the Urban League, November 30.



Antone Douglas

According to Burrell, the Beautillion is a formal dance for black seniors. Kenya Crandell, Benson senior, was crowned Mr. Beautillion and Burrell and Antone both received scholarships.



Burrell Williams

Antone was escorted by Rena Bates, Central senior, and Burrell was escorted by Dwana Williams, Central graduate, 1987.

Road show approaches

The 77th annual Road Show tryouts are rapidly approaching. Applications are due Friday, December 20, and tryouts are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 7-9. Applicants must attend the mandatory meeting Monday, January 6. The Road Show will be February 27-29.

Debate wins tournament

The debate team competed at the Bull Creek Debate Tournament December 13 and 14 in Atlantic, Iowa. Students competed in three divisions, Speech, Congress and Debate. The winners were Todd Djureen, senior, Mary Campbell, junior, Thad Domina, junior, Kelly Roberts, junior, Vanessa Strasdas, junior, and Erica Corwin, junior. Thad Domina was named outstanding senator; the debate team of Erica Corwin and Luisa Pioreschi, junior, were undefeated in Varsity policy debate; and the team of Heather Holland, senior, and Jeff Berg, junior, suffered only one loss in novice policy debate.

Mrs. Kris Bertch is the debate coach.

Honey Sunday a success

The contest between Central, Westside and Millard North for the school which sold the most honey on Honey Sunday was won by Millard North, whose total sales were \$3,705.17. Westside was second with \$2,473.08, and Central was third with \$2,415.80. The final totals on the event, which benefited GOARC (Greater Omaha Association for Retarded Citizens), was between 43 and 45,000 dollars. "Thanks Central," said Mary Fischer, representative for GOARC. "You saved our life!"

Canned food follow-up

The Student Council sponsored the annual Canned Food Drive November 18-26. Pom Squad homeroom, 050, brought in the most food. They were given doughnuts and juice as a prize. "Central brought in 1,200 cans of food," said Student Council president Maggie Boyle, senior. "That is the best that Central has ever done."

By Andrea Davis, Dawn Randall, Alexis Richards and LaVonya Watson

Flies teach genetics

By Laura M. Dunham

Genetics with a twist. The AP biology classes are learning about genetics using fruit flies. "We are studying the eye-color chromosomes of the fruit fly. We have both red-eyed and white-eyed males and females. We are mating the white-eyed females with the red-eyed males to see their off-spring. Then the students have to predict what the off-spring will look like," said Mrs. Pat Wallington, AP biology instructor.

The AP biology classes are studying six chapters of genetics, and one of the chapters deals with human genetics. The students learn about sex-linked traits, dominant and recessive traits and the chemical composition of DNA and RNA.

The classes have faced a few problems in their experiment, some of the student have lost their flies due to lack of water given to the flies or fungus growing in the viles. In one instance, there was a vile of white-eyed flies stolen from the biology room. "Can you believe someone stealing flies? What could someone do with flies?" said Mrs. Wallington.

"This is not a 'fluff' course. To be in the class we recommend you have completed chemistry, physics and biology. I feel students need it, and it also helps the students' college expectations," warned Mrs. Wallington.

"The flies provide a good way to see how genes are passed from generation to generation," said Rosetta Scholar, senior.



The miracle of life... Billy Ray Zywiec, senior, observes his breeding flies.

Flu takes toll on students

(continued from page 1)

health services, said the schools that contacted her have averaged "12-15 percent of students absent." She said, "If our absence rate is above ten percent, then we figure there's a major illness going around." She added that the high absenteeism "seems to be localized." She said the rash of illness "seemed to have started right before Thanksgiving."

Ms. Winnie Callahan, of the OPS Public Information Services, said that usually the OPS schools have absence rates of five percent or less. "The highest rate at a school this year was 20 percent, which occurred last week." She said that lately absence rates have been running at 10 to 15 percent. "We have not had any epidemic proportion [of absences] that would call for a closing [of OPS schools]," she said. She added, "We do not have a policy that would close schools when a certain percentage of students are absent."

Mr. John Weston of the Douglas County Health Department said that closing schools because of the flu "wouldn't be a good control measure" to contain the spread of the virus because "students wouldn't stay in their homes" and would go out in the public where they could catch the virus.

Ms. Barb Denman, school nurse, said there has been an increase in

the number of students being sent home. "Last week I sent home 24 on Monday, 25 on Tuesday, and 24 on Wednesday. [Dec. 2-4]" She said, "It's a lot more than usual." She added, "Almost all of them [sick students who are sent home] are sent home because of the flu. I'd call the mother and she'd say she had three more home with the flu."

Ms. Esther Wageman, Central attendance secretary, said there has been a rise in absenteeism at Central. "It [absenteeism] is considerably more than it was." She said that 244 students were absent on Monday, December 9 out of approximately 1825 Central students. She added that some of those students came to school late.

Dr. Jack Lewis, Omaha physician, said the influenza outbreak has been minimal so far. "There have been very few cases of flu in Omaha." He said, "There has been a tremendous influx of people who are sick with sore throats." He said that influenza is "getting too much publicity." He added that the publicity has caused a rise in people wanting influenza shots. "We've given close to 1000 here in our office [since the flu outbreak]. That's twice what we usually get this time of year."

Dr. Lewis said influenza shots at his office cost \$11. "A lot of places offer free flu shots, such as geriatric centers." He said, "A normal healthy teenager does not need flu shots." He said, "Only teens with chronic sickness" and especially lung

diseases "such as asthma need to get them." Usually Dr. Lewis does not give influenza shots to healthy children because they do not need them. He said flu shots take two to three weeks to protect the person from the virus. [The shots] only protects against the major flu viruses that are in the area, he said. The vaccine lasts for about a year. Dr. Lewis said the symptoms include a severe upper respiratory infection. According to the American Medical Association Family Medical Council, influenza is caused by a virus that spreads from one person to another through coughs and sneezes. The virus enters the upper part of the respiratory system through the nose or mouth. Symptoms of influenza include fever, sneezing, headache and sore throat. Usually these symptoms are followed by a dry hacking cough. The illness usually lasts three to five days.

According to the guide, since influenza is caused by a virus, no antibiotics are effective against it. The virus must run its course. Those who know they have the flu should go to bed as soon as symptoms begin, and stay there until their body temperature returns to normal. Also, they should take aspirin and drink plenty of water and fruit juice.

The guide also said if the fever lasts more than three to four days, or if a person infected becomes short of breath while resting, they should call a doctor.

First Semester Final

**Tuesday January 14
Odd Day**

O	7:00 - 7:41	Regular
HR	7:45 - 7:56	Regular
1	8:00 - 8:29	Regular
2	8:33 - 9:02	Regular
3	9:06 - 10:06	EXAM
4	10:10 - 10:39	Regular
5	10:43 - 11:09	Regular
6	11:13 - 11:39	Regular
7	11:43 - 12:09	Regular
8	12:13 - 1:13	EXAM
9	1:17 - 1:46	Regular
10	1:50 - 2:50	EXAM

**Wednesday January 15
Even Day**

O	7:00 - 7:41	Regular
HR	7:45 - 7:56	Regular
1	8:00 - 9:00	EXAM
2	9:04 - 9:29	Regular
3	9:33 - 9:58	Regular
4	10:02 - 11:02	EXAM
5	11:06 - 11:32	Regular
6	11:36 - 12:02	Regular
7	12:06 - 12:32	Regular
8	12:36 - 1:09	Regular
9	1:13 - 2:13	EXAM
10	2:17 - 2:50	Regular

**Thursday January 16
Odd Day**

O	7:00 - 7:56	EXAM
HR	7:45 - 7:56	Regular
1	8:00 - 8:35	Regular
2	8:38 - 9:38	EXAM
3	9:42 - 10:17	Regular
4	10:21 - 10:56	Regular
5	11:00 - 11:28	EXAM
6	11:32 - 12:00	EXAM
7	12:04 - 12:32	EXAM
8	12:36 - 1:16	Regular
9	1:20 - 2:03	Regular
10	2:07 - 2:50	Regular

*** Zero Hour classes will meet through the homeroom period on Thursday, January 16.

D.A.R.E. to stay drug-free

Student role models for fifth graders

By LaVonya Watson

always wanted to talk kids out of using drugs and to make them believe in themselves," said Burrell Williams, a role model for D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). The D.A.R.E. program is a substance abuse prevention program targeted at the fourth and sixth grade levels, according to Officer Dianna Zouch of the Omaha Police, who has worked with the program for three years.

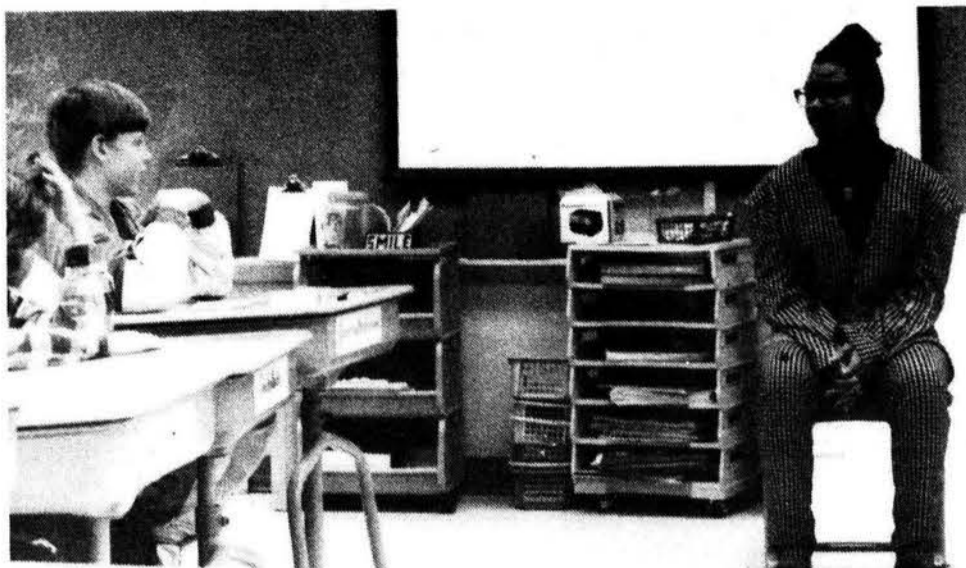
Centralites Kerry Coughlin, junior, Matthew Hovde, senior, Sharrone Travis, senior, Tristian Walker, senior, LaVonya Watson, senior, and Burrell Williams, senior, are role models for D.A.R.E.

According to Officer Zouch, high school students talk with D.A.R.E. students to show them they can successfully go to high school and not be involved in drugs and gangs and still be popular. "Most importantly, high school students show that high school is not scary and that no one is going to force drugs up their noses," she said.

Mrs. Geri Zerse, Central guidance counselor, is a liaison between the officer and the high school role models for the program. "I had to pre-screen to find drug-free (no use of chemical substances such as smoking, drinking or drugs) students," she said.

Sharrone, in her second year as a D.A.R.E. role model, feels that being a role model to younger students is important. "We serve as role models so children can see all youth don't use drugs," she said.

Officer Zouch also notes the positive effects of the D.A.R.E. program. "I see a more positive attitude toward police officers," she said. "Kids that



Jennifer Drebelis

"Do all students in high school use drugs?"... Kim White, senior, talks with students at Catlin Elementary about drugs and alcohol.

may be prone to using drugs turn around and get self-esteem. We teach students what drugs are and how they

affect your body. D.A.R.E. also focuses on the individual and teaches them decision-making and what it takes to say no," Officer Zouch said.

According to Officer Zouch, there is a difference between D.A.R.E. and other programs. "D.A.R.E. is taught by uniformed police officers. It is a 17-week program that meets once a week for one hour," she said.

D.A.R.E. would have been an asset to students currently in high school, according to Burrell. "D.A.R.E. would have taught students that they don't have to do what everybody else does. Even in high school people still follow

others," he said.

"If juniors and seniors had had D.A.R.E., they would have had better response to the police and be less likely to become involved in gangs," said Officer Zouch.

According to Zouch, The National D.A.R.E. program is working on a junior and senior high school program. Putting the program into effect will be just "a matter of time", she said.

According to Officer Zouch, D.A.R.E. began in 1983 as a police program in the Los Angeles Unified School system.

The program was a combined effort of the L.A. Police Department and the Los Angeles School System. The program came to Omaha the fall of the '89-90 school year. D.A.R.E. is currently taught in all 50 states.

Library hopes for software

We have five locations in the Omaha Public School District that are currently using the Microfiche system. We hope Central will be the sixth," said Dr. Nina Little, Supervisor of OPS Library and Media Services.

The Microfiche computer contains 100 periodicals and newspapers, that a student may have access to. The student will have to type in the subject, then the computer searches for any material on that subject.

"If a student wants to look up a subject, RAP, he would type it in. Then the computer would bring up anything connected with RAP, from 2 Live Crew to Kennedy-Smith's rape rap. It searches alphabetically," said Mrs. Betty Majeski, Central's head librarian.

The computer looks up anything the student would need, by using its memory bank of magazine and newspapers like Time, Newsweek, The New York Times, People, Rolling Stone, and other known publications.

The NewsBank system would be used to research current and past events with up-to-date information. It gives current coverage on most important regional, national, and international news.

The NewsBank's microfiche film is a replacement for the magazine and newspapers. Each magazine and newspaper is on film.

The subjects will be listed by headings underneath the heading is an abstract that is a summary of the article. The student will have to choose which article is applicable, print it and find the article on the Microfiche film," said Mr. Jack T. Kokker, employee of NewsBank.

Each work station comes with a printer, so it can print the information needed, to look up the article on Microfiche.

"For Real" addresses teen issues Central students host talk show for TV station

By Rob Harshbarger

Mario West and Brian Gray, seniors, will be co-host on an upcoming talk show named "For Real" addressing teen issues which will appear on KETV, channel 7, in January.

The first show on teen social groups will contain interviews with several Central students.

The two students will be co-host with Michael Scott, a local television news anchor, along with students from different area high schools including both North and Westside.

"We tried to get a good coverage of the community," said Michael Scott.

"And if you look at our group there are

developed similar to the one I had developed."

Brian Gray commented, "I got involved in it through my father who works at channel 7. I had done a number of shows before."

"Michael Scott asked me if I would like to do this. He had worked with me before. I was in another show which will air before 'For Real,'" said Brian.

When asked if television was a possible career choice for Brian, he noted, "I would like to be in TV or film making. Hanging around Channel 7 with my dad, I have developed a talent for certain things at the station."

"Arsenio has his posse, I have my crew."

different kids; you've got athletes, different ethnic groups, different backgrounds, rich kids, poor kids and middle class kids."

"It's a funny thing, you've got all these different kids and a lot of them have the same problems," commented Michael Scott.

"What is really funny, half the problems they've got are the same problems I had years ago when I was in high school."

"I had developed a show like it," said Mario. "The program director from channel 7 called me and asked me if I would like to do a show they had

The co-hosts were responsible for the name of the show and have been put in charge of deciding the music which will open the show.

They will also help the staff of the show come up with relevant issues to cover in the six episodes.

Ideas for the show may also be taken from letters received from viewers upon the shows airing.

Michael Scott described his co-host as his "crew." "Arsenio has his posse, I have my crew."

Michael added, "I keep telling people that these people are going to keep me young."

NEWS briefs

Bogue wins World-Herald writing contest

Willie Bogue, junior, won the Omaha World-Herald's November Opportunities For Writers contest. Willie submitted his slice of life for an assignment and his Creative Writing teacher, Mr. T.M. Gaherty, along with English teacher, Mr. Dan Daly, selected his piece to represent Central in the (World-Herald) contest.



In response to his feelings on winning the writing contest, Willie said, "It's nice to see your hard work recognized outside of the common school grading system."

Willie's story on euthanasia in a veterinary clinic, was chosen among entries from high schools across the state.

Along with the win, Willie received a \$25 award and an article in the World-Herald about the win with his slice of life reprinted on the page.

Sweet 98 Breakfast Flakes come to Central

The Breakfast Flakes, Steve Lundy, Ryno and The Cub, from the morning show on Sweet 98 FM, were at Central Thursday, December 5. They sat at the Toys for Tots table in the courtyard during fifth hour and part of sixth hour.

Their purpose was to interview Karen Bostic, president of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), about the Toys for Tots program, which is sponsored at Central by FBLA. Toys for Tots is a program sponsored by the Armed Forces which helps underprivileged and homeless children.

GNHS receives honors

The German National Honor Society has received letters of commendation for its contributions to the community service project, Project We Care. Over the summer, German teacher Heidi Jung received the first letter and a book from Dr. Baumhoff of the German Cultural Attache. The second letter was from Lamar Alexander, the U.S. Secretary of Education. "I think receiving these letters is an extreme honor for the German National Honor Society and also for Central High School," said Mrs. Jung.

Their community service contributions include making cards for the soldiers in the gulf war and Caroling at the Lutheran Home. "Caroling is a traditional activity for the German National Honor Society," said Mrs. Jung. They also contributed to the scholarship fund which awarded a three hundred dollar scholarship to Central graduate John Teaman. The money they contributed was raised by their candy selling fundraiser.

Students of the month

The Students of the Month for December are Jeannette Pimente, freshman; Rebecca King, sophomore; David Bialac, junior; James Archer, senior. They were nominated by teachers and selected by the officers of the National Honor Society.

By Andrea Davis, Duncan Joyner and Dawn Randall

Students begin futures at Career Center

Centralites gain experience in real world

By Alexis Richards

It seems kind of odd that a large number of Central's students leave Central to take their classes. As odd as this may seem, this is exactly what happens with the help of a place called Career Center.

The Career Center is a program that offers students a chance to work in different areas of study that their school does not offer. The program has nine different fields of study: radio/television broadcast journalism, auto service, auto fundamentals, auto body, mechanics, digital electronics, printing, photography, and academy of finance. The classes are divided into three different periods. Period A runs periods 1 and 2, period B runs from 3rd to 5th, and period C runs from 7th through 9th. The students receive four credits per year, per course.

Mr. Marvin Decker, Career Center principal, said, "This Center opens up opportunity for all OPS students." According to Mr. Decker, the Career Center is technologically advanced. He added that the Career Center is ranked nationally among high school vocational programs.

Many Central students take advantage of this opportunity. Michelle McCune, senior, takes the academy of finance course period B. This is a two year course in which the students learn banking, computers and investing. Also, in the summer, the students take an internship at a local bank. Michelle said that she really enjoys the class. "It's a really great program. You get a chance to meet a lot of people that can help you after high school." Michelle said that the only bad part about taking the Career Center is that she had to sacrifice some electives.

Phil Taylor, senior, is enrolled in digital electronics period C. This class deals with the theory and operation of different electronic devices such as DC and AC

circuits, semi-conductors, and linear integrated circuits. Phil is enrolled in the second-year class which deals with basic digital devices and circuits. Phil goes to the Career Center because, "I am going to take the things I am learning and apply it to my future career choices."

Robert McLaughlin, senior, takes radio/television broadcast journalism period A. This television section of the class teaches one how to work at and in a television station, how to be a broadcast anchor, and how to be a director. The radio section teaches the students about live broadcasting, how to operate a radio booth and other fundamentals. Rob is planning on making radio broadcasting his career. The only setback according to Rob, is that he has to be at school earlier.

Jennifer Becerra, sophomore, takes photography 1-2, period A. This class teaches the students to take "quality basics of photography. Jennifer decided to take this class just for a hobby. "If I discover I am good at it [photography], then maybe I will go into it as a career." According to Jennifer, the class is not cheap. "You have to pay a fee at the beginning of the year, and you also have to pay for film and paper."

Gina Gomez, junior, is also a photography 1-2 student period A. "At first I just took photography for fun, but now I am thinking about it as a career." After taking a tour of all the facilities, Gina thinks that she may want to take radio/television broadcast journalism also.

Chris Becerra, junior, takes photography 3-4 period B. In the advanced class students are taught how to use a R-Z camera and a portait camera, using 120 mm film. Chris said he likes the laid-back pace. "We all basically work at our own pace and are taught through experience." Chris also likes the teachers there. "The teachers are great, and they help you gain valuable experience."



Monitoring the show... Kevin Armstrong is up from learning about television production radio/television broadcasting 1-2 at the Career Center.

Standifer looks forward to creative career

From coach to cartoonist

By Mark Rosenquist

"You gotta have art," the saying goes. For Mr. Stan Standifer, Central High gym teacher, this means drawing cartoons.

"Whenever I have a spare moment I'm always drawing or doodling a character." Mr. Standifer added that he draws cartoons "whenever the moment hits me."

His favorite character to draw is a bear. "I've been trying to improve on the bear for 30 years," Mr. Standifer said. "I use people in my cartoons, also. I draw most everything."

Mr. Standifer's "one general character is the bear," but he "tries to surround him with other animals in a forest type situation." Among these animals are dogs, cats and rabbits. "I do use captions or balloons depending on what my mood is," he said. "I make them talk to each other."

Mr. Standifer keeps all his cartoons in my desk and just keep them everywhere. I



Mr. Standifer

Standifer keeps them in my folders, on in drawers. I t h e m never throw

drawing since student at Junior High," looking at comic strips I myself how to added, "I got drawing."

"I've been I was a Horace Mann he said. "By cartoons and tried to teach draw." He excited about

Mr. Standifer said, "I like drawing because it's very relaxing. It's very enjoyable."

He said that drawing "is a hobby right now," but he plans on getting more involved in it after he retires from teaching. "I hope to get some of them [the cartoons] published," he said. "I'm going to use words and maybe make a comic strip." He plans on getting into either advertising, merchandising or illustration.

Mr. Standifer is advancing his cartoon drawing skills in different ways. "Right now I'm taking classes and trying to learn as much as I can about techniques." He added, "I look at every cartoon in the newspaper and I ask questions to professionals in the field."

"I have cartoon videotapes, books; anything I can get



Mixed mascots... Mr. Standifer's one general character is the bear.

my hands on to improve my skill and techniques," Mr. Standifer said. "I've bought two videos from one professional cartoonist," he added. "I'm practicing as often as I can to develop my technique and style."

Mr. Standifer has not talked to any national cartoonists, but he has taken classes under Mr. Bill Johns, an Omaha professional cartoonist.

'Role model' will counsel

By Laura M. Dunham

Ms. Sharie Jorgensen is a new addition to Central's counseling staff. She is the replacement for Mr. Bill Meen, who has been promoted to Guidance Director. She inherits all of the students with names beginning with A, and D through G, with the exception of students with names beginning with S.

Ms. Jorgensen was working at Bryan Jr. High School before she accepted the job at Central as a guidance counselor. She taught human growth and development and home economics. She was also active in the Youth-to-Youth and PPC programs, and the Drug Prevention Team.

Ms. Jorgensen's interests include; golf, dancing, acting, singing, and spending time with her friends.

She has wanted to be a guidance counselor since her sophomore year in high school. "When I was a sophomore at Burke

guidance counselor was my role model, and I decided that I wanted to be a counselor too. I like to help students, and I relate well. I want to provide a good role model, help students by using the experience I have gained," said Ms. Jorgensen.

She would describe herself as creative, enthusiastic, organized, empathetic, open, honest, direct, energetic and a good listener.

"I believe in the positive side. I give out 'fuzzies' to congratulate my students on doing something good," Ms. Jorgensen said. "I decorated my office to show my beliefs; prevention of involvement in drugs and alcohol, and teen pregnancy. I have one board that tells the students a bit about me. The other one is going to be my 'brag-board,' that will be a place to show the accomplishments of my students."



Ms. Jorgensen

Getting GED 'not advisable' but sometimes necessary

By Sean Chapman

The General Education Development is not a quick or easy solution to problems at school," said Mr. Bob McMeen, head guidance counselor.

The GED is a program set up for students unable to complete the necessary requirements of a high school diploma. In order to take the course a student must be 18-years-old and wait until their class graduates. The course is offered at varying times during the day and is available at 38 different locations.

To obtain a GED the student must pass a series of five different tests in the fields of writing, social studies, interpreting literature and the arts, mathematics, and science.

The tests focus on general skills and important concepts that might be used in everyday situations, rather than on the ability to recall specific facts. The first tests are taken individually and may be taken in any order.

After a student in the GED program

has successfully completed the series of tests, the student is then eligible for an Omaha Public Schools adult high school diploma or a state of Nebraska high school diploma.

"A GED is not advisable, said Mr. McMeen. The only time I recommend a student look into the program, is if that student is over the age of 18 and is unable to obtain enough credits to graduate."

Although, according to Mr. McMeen, the GED is not advisable, sometimes it is necessary. "Some people just don't cope well with the basic atmosphere of public schools," said Mr. McMeen.

"Seldom do we advise a GED; usually it's the student's idea," said Dr. G.E. Moller, principal. He said, "Sometimes it might be the best way to go,

it just depends on the circumstances." According to Dr. Moller, day schools do a lot better job of educating a student; however some colleges will still accept a GED.

Chad Demers is one of the many former Central High students that is planning to obtain a GED. "I was supposed to

"It's important to be educated. You can't make it anywhere without it nowadays."
-Chad Demers

graduate last year, but I did not have enough credits," said Chad. Chad returned to Central this year to try to obtain the necessary credits he needed. However, according to Chad, he was

unable to make it to semester. Because of a sickness, he missed more than the ten days allowed.

Chad is planning to take the five tests to obtain his GED. "I plan to further my education at college," said Chad.

"I dropped out because I was going to spend more time in high school than I wanted to," said Landis True, former Central High senior.

According to Landis, he would have to spend another year at Central to obtain the required credits. Landis is planning to take the tests as soon as possible and to further his education at Metro Tech.

"The older you get the harder it is to go back," said Rodney Gomez, former Central student. Rodney attended Central in 1985, for a semester, after transferring from South High. "I was three credits short of getting a high school diploma. When I was going to school, it was only required to have 36 credits to graduate," said Rodney.

"I tried to attempt to go back at night to get the credits, but it was difficult when everyone else there was younger than I was," said Rodney.

Rodney just recently obtained his GED and is attending classes at the Nebraska College of Business.

"It's important to be educated, you can't make it anywhere without it nowadays," said Chad Demers.

Card business a success

By Alexis Richards

Imagine, making money with a business you created and having fun too. This is what Tim Petersen, senior, does with his baseball card business.

P and H cards is the business that Tim and a friend started over four years ago. Because the partners could not work out their differences, Tim started running the company himself. "The company began to ruin our friendship, so he decided to drop out and I took over."

Weekend card shows are where Tim does business. An example of one of these shows

is the monthly card show at Holiday Inn. Tim competes with 40 to 50 other dealers. "I don't have any overhead like a shop to pay for, so I can usually give buyers the best deal."

By setting up a table and using the phrase "Buy, sell or trade", Tim's company brings in about \$2,000 a month. "You have to get connections and work with dealers," Tim said, "I work with other dealers a lot, so I have an option that others don't."

Tim said that he has been interested in baseball cards since he can remember. "I have a collection of close to two

million cards." His collection consists of all kinds of cards, but his most valued are the 50's and 60's baseball cards. "I have about 20 or 30 cards that are worth \$1,000 each."

He also deals with all other sports cards and trading cards such as Simpsons cards, Snoopy, and The Little Mermaid. According to Tim, "You name it they make it."

Although Tim has many reasons for running this business, he says his main reason is not money. "I do it mostly for the enjoyment. But it helps that I don't have to get another job."

Teachers exercise for health, fun

By Andrea Davis

"I had open heart surgery four years ago," said Assistant Principal Dick Jones, "and I've been exercising since I got out of the hospital." Mr Jones is one of the many people on the Central staff who have found a need to exercise. He walks three miles in Central's halls after school five times a week. "Walking is a very popular thing right now," said Mr. Jones.

John Waterman, Central math department head, also walks after school with teachers George Grillo, history teacher, and Gary Kubik, science teacher, and lifts weights in addition to that. "I need a regular routine to lose weight," said Mr. Waterman. "The winter is a hard time for me to be active because I don't like the cold."

Instead of walking, some teachers have organized an aerobics class to get their exercise. The class that was started last year by Carena Eure started again and has been meeting for a month. "It motivates me to exercise on my own on the off days," said Nita Merrigan-Potthoff English teacher, who also walks after school. "We're all planning to lose the weight we're going to put on over the holidays."

The class has 10 people and is taught by Jenny Hathoot, senior, "I wanted to get a job last summer as an aerobics instructor, but I was told that I needed experience," said Jenny. Jo Dusatko, gym teacher, arranged for Jenny to teach the class. "She's an excellent teacher," said Mrs. Merrigan-Potthoff. "It's all a lot of fun."

For some teachers, though, exercise is not a recreational activity. "It's work to me," said Mr. Jones. "I don't exercise out of sheer enjoyment,

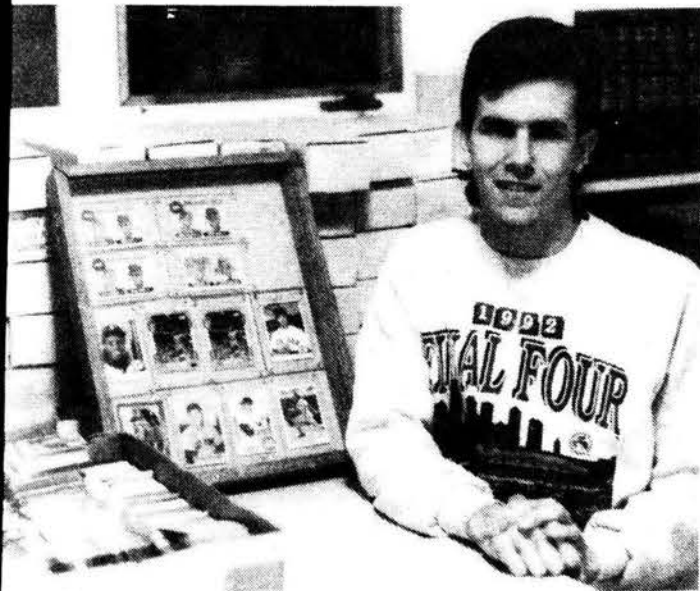


Cheryl Kulis

One, two, three, four... Ms. Merrigan-Potthoff stretches in her aerobics class.

but because I feel I have to." To improve his health, Mr. Jones has also quit smoking. Although he is improving his health, he does not preach to others. "I'm not a crusader," said Mr. Jones. "And I'm not a fanatic."

Mr. Waterman exercises as a trade-off for eating less. "I exercise since it is more difficult to control what I eat," said Mr. Waterman. "I should do both but I don't have enough discipline."



Jennifer Dreibeis

Business man with his collection... Tim Petersen with his favorite and most expensive cards.

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NAVY ROTC You and the Navy Full Speed Ahead

Centralites reach out to homeless

By Dawn Randall

It is Christmas season once again and Central High School clubs are doing their share of volunteering in Omaha. The season started off at Central with the canned food drive at the beginning of November sponsored by Student Council.

"The canned food drive is something we do every year, but the group still votes on it," said Luke Wilwerding, Student Council vice president.

The Food Bank proposes the idea to Central every year, and provides barrels to put the food in. After the cans are collected, the food is distributed to the Francis House and churches which then distribute the food to needy families.

"Toys for Tots" is a program that Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) sponsors every year. "We vote on it every year, and we always do it," said Karen Bostic, senior and president of FBLA. "We contact the Marines and let them know we are interested, and they bring us boxes," she added.

If students do not fill the boxes, FBLA takes the responsibility of filling them themselves. "Last year they sent three boxes and we filled six," she said. The toys go to homeless and underprivileged children. "It's probably one of the best things the armed forces does to help the civilian community," said Karen.

On Christmas Eve, FBLA will also go to the Francis house to carry plates of food to the homeless and those who can not afford a Christmas dinner. "We make placemats and table decorations to try and make it more Christmasy," she said.

Karen went on to say that the club was not sure enough members would sign up, since most people spend the evening with their family. "But about 20 people went last year, and we have about 20 signed up for this year," she said.

"[The people we serve] are really nice," said Karen.

Michelle McCune, senior FBLA member, who went to the Francis House last year, said, "I thought they were not going to be very well dressed and be alcoholics, but there were a lot of families with young kids."

She said when she was there a family came in and brought a bunch of ear muffs for the homeless people and "they really needed it and were grateful." She said she would like to do something like that to help the homeless.

Lisa Lewis, senior FBLA member, also volunteered

last year. "I didn't have any stereotypes. I thought of them as normal people," she said. "When I left, I felt I should do more things like that because it felt good," she added.

"I would like to have a set time that I go and not just do it on holidays. I would like to do it more frequently so I could get to know them and know what their needs are," said Lisa.

She also said five people went to the Siena House which is a home for battered women and children.

Mr. Harry Gaylor, marketing department head, volunteers at the Francis House once a month. Mr. Gaylor said he began volunteering because his marketing

class had a marketing speaker who talked about world hunger. He wanted to do something about it and decided that the best way was on a local basis. "It is difficult to make a world impact from Omaha, but you can make a change individually," he said.

He feels the homeless issue is one that everyone has a responsibility to take care of.

Mr. Gaylor said before he started volunteering, he had a typical middle class midwestern outlook, which was that a lot of people are homeless by choice or laziness. He also said once you meet the people, you learn that most of them are incapacitated from alcohol or drugs and are unable to make good decisions about their lives. "It would open up a lot of people's eyes as to why people end up in this predicament," he said.

The cutbacks in funding mental health facilities also contributes to the homeless problem, he said. Many people who need help are not able to get help, he added.

A group of people from his church each cook a goulash meal for ten to 20 people and take it to the Francis house to help serve 150 to 200 people.

Mike Langan, senior, volunteered for the Meals on Wheels program on Thanksgiving Day. Meals on Wheels takes dinners to home-bound elderly, or elderly people who cannot leave their homes.

"I've done things at nursing homes, and I thought it would be like that, but these people were able to thank us. He said, "Many people in the nursing homes are not mentally capable of knowing that you are helping them, but these people were nice and thankful."

The German National Honor Society (GNHS) goes caroling at the Lutheran Home. "Most of the Lutherans in this area are from Germany and Scandinavia, and they enjoy hearing music from their home country," said Mrs. Heidi Jung, sponsor of the GNHS.



Sean Chapman

Neighbors who care... Mike Langan and Alex Cooper deliver meals-on-wheels to Clinton Sargeant, 102 years old.



Lending help to those who need a warm place for the homeless of Omaha

Omaha with home prob

Students voice their opinion on the

■ "People see the problem but leave the solution to someone else"

By Rob Harshbarger

"The homeless are really an unfortunate breed of people...what can they do?" asked John Maaske, senior. Many Central students have their own ideas about possible solutions to the homeless problem.

The debate topic for this year is the extension of social services to the homeless. "The debaters explored homelessness from several points of view to reach several conclusions," said Mrs. Bertch, debate coach.

Mrs. Bertch commented, "The number of homeless people in Omaha is proportional to the numbers in other larger cities when population is considered. There are homeless all over the United States. Nebraska is not unique; but the reason we don't see very many homeless people is because

Nebraska has a very successful program of dealing with the homeless, relocating them, giving them job training and having them be absorbed back into the community."

"There are several groups of homeless people, and this is the scariest part, the biggest rising group among the homeless is homeless families. These usually consist of one parent and several small children, usually under twelve years old," added Mrs. Bertch.

The other groups noted by Mrs. Bertch included mentally ill released from institutions who did not successfully blend back into society, hard

core alcoholics, Vietnam veterans and runaways.

"If we had the money to do more, we could; but we don't. Everybody wants to do more, they all say it, but no one is willing to do it," replied Cassi Swisher, junior, when asked what she thought of the homeless problem. "It's easier said than done. People see the problem but leave the solutions to someone else."

J a m y Champenoy, senior, agrees. "People look out for themselves before they look out for other people." He added, "You have to look at the homeless

in two different respects. Some homeless bring it on to themselves, they've got drugs, or alcohol, and that's why they're homeless. Others are homeless because of unforeseen hardships." Jamy said this classification must be done before a solution can be found.

Matt Confr, senior debate member, notes that "the mentally ill are a significant part of the homeless." He has personally found sources which quote the mentally ill as up to one-half the homeless population.

"Some of the mentally ill are Vietnam vets, people with real problems. If we solve the mental problems by placing them in institutions funded by government, a significant part of the homeless problem would be solved," Matt.

August Matlock, senior, agrees that the government should do more. "I think that the government is trying to avoid

"The homeless are really an unfortunate breed of people... what can they do?"

— John Maaske

Homeless find help in Omaha

By Mark Rosenquist

"Society treats the homeless like dogs and that's not right. They're human beings," said Mr. Dale Pinneo, Open Door Mission employee and former victim of homelessness.

There are 650 to 1,000 homeless people in Omaha, according to Mr. Paul Koch, director of the Siena/Francis House. One third of the homeless at the Siena/Francis House are drug addicts and/or chronic alcoholics. Approximately one third are mentally ill. "For 20 percent of the homeless here the principal problem is poverty," said Mr. Koch. He said the ages of the homeless "vary considerably," with the average age in the mid 30's to early 40's.

According to Rev. Robert Timberlake, executive director and pastor of the Open Door Mission, 40 percent of the homeless in greater Omaha are families. 40 percent of the homeless are former mental health patients who have been released into society.

According to Rev. Timberlake, many mentally ill homeless on the streets are a result of the Community Mental Health Centers Act of 1963. This federal law sought a deinstitutionalization and community integration of the mentally ill. One million mentally ill have been released into society since 1963, and another half million have not had institutional care, according to Timberlake.

Mr. Pinneo said, "The average age of the homeless used to be between 40 and 60 years of age." He said the age average has lowered because "more kids are coming from home break-ups." He added that children are "not being raised like they used to be. Nobody's helping them."

Mr. Koch echoed his statement, adding, "Most homeless people do not choose to be that way. No one [here] has said they wanted to live on the street."

Mr. Pinneo said that many of the men at the Mission have had jobs before. He said their homelessness "is [usually] circumstances beyond their [the homeless person's] control."

Mr. Koch said homelessness can be prevented if the city has "more affordable housing." He said, "The city does not have a great record for the volume of housing that is available."

Rev. Timberlake, in a typed statement, was more specific. "We have the lack of low-income housing [because] as our cities are being renewed, low-income housing is being destroyed. It [the housing] is not being replaced in adequate proportion."

Single men stay at the Francis House and single women at the Siena House. The Siena/Francis House provides emergency services, food, clothing, shelter and various job programs for the homeless. They are fed two meals a day. The Siena/Francis House also provides a program that helps people get break drug and alcohol addictions. "We provide a community outreach," Mr. Koch said, "that provides food and clothing for the homeless here." From 5-7 p.m. anyone can come to the Siena/Francis House and have dinner with the homeless.

The Lydia House, a homeless residence for women and children, was opened by the Open Door Mission, a homeless shelter for men, in June, 1990. The first floor includes a playroom for children and six rooms for overnight shelter. The second floor includes an apartment for the resident housemother and six rooms for long-term rehabilitation. Two professional full-time counselors and a week-end counselor help women through their problems in a Christian approach.

In addition to providing food, clothing and shelter for the homeless, the Open Door Mission and Lydia House also help people get out of drug abuse and low self-esteem. The Mission, started in 1954, is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Open Door Mission and Lydia House also provide rehabilitation programs for the men and women. One primary program is the New Life Program. It is a one year work-study Christian rehabilitation program. The program consists of ten hours a week of classroom

instruction, two hours a week of group therapy, 136 Bible lessons, five hours a day of work at the Mission and active involvement in churches. The New Life program has a 70 percent success rate, according to literature on the Open Door Mission. Classes to earn a G.E.D. diploma are offered.

Aaron, former Central student, was forced to quit his senior year in September as a result of being homeless. "I got in an argument with my folks and decided to leave home. Both me and my dad agreed it would be best if we didn't live under the same roof," he said. "While in the process of looking for a job and living here [at the Open Door Mission], I didn't have time for school."

Aaron said, "As a last resort, I came here [to the Mission]. My Social Services case worker told me to come here." He said, "the Mission has put [the] motivation there to help me get a good job." Currently he is working five days a week full time minimum wage at McDonald's. "I'm going to try to make it on my own unless my dad's willing to let me move back into his house." He said, "Unless my situation improves I'll get a G.E.D." Aaron hopes to enter either auto mechanics or the computer industry.

Aaron gave his view on how people should help the homeless. "If you give a lot of [homeless] people money, they lose it or spend it gambling. If you give them a job where they earn money, then it won't go so fast."

Joe, another homeless man at the Mission, has been there for a year and a half. He became homeless when "thrown out of my family because of the fact I got married too young." Joe had good jobs and was planning a career in nursing when epilepsy and a heart condition complicated his life. "One night at eight o'clock we [my wife and I] came up to Omaha and some guy paid a taxi cab for us to come out here." Joe said, "We had twelve cents on us when we came up here. "The general public," Joe said, "doesn't have a good attitude toward all homeless people. All homeless people are stereotyped as bums." He said the government should "give us a chance and put us in work programs. The government doesn't want to put us in work programs because they're scared."

"Those who use the system ruin it for those who are trying to make it." Joe added, "Five out of thirty [homeless] don't want to work and they [the public and government] make a stereotype of it."

The Mission pays the homeless that work there \$8 every two weeks to start with, according to Mr. Wesley Davis. All of the absolute necessities of the homeless are taken care of at no cost to the homeless. "Each day they [the employees] post [Omaha] job offers at the desk. They provide transportation for us to get places for interviews," Mr. Davis said.

Beverly, a homeless woman at the Lydia House, said she was living with her brother when she became

homeless. "He [my brother] lost his job, and I couldn't find one so I couldn't pay the rent. I became homeless." She added that it was hard to find a job because she is from another state and didn't know her way around town too well. "Besides, they [employers] don't really take out-of-state references." Beverly's wish for Christmas is to get a job. Since she doesn't have a car it's hard for her to find a job. "You've got to know where it [the job] is. If you don't have money to get on the bus, you walk and it's a big city. If you don't know where you're going, where are you going to walk to?" She added, "Since I've been here, if you say you're staying here, they [employers] say they don't want to hire you." She would like a job in nursing but will "take any job that



Kristen Steenberg

Just help'n out... Rob Rouch, senior, helps the homeless of Omaha by serving meals at the Francis House.

pays."

Beverly was "embarrassed" about coming to the Lydia House. "A friend of mine told me about this place and she told me to come over here." She added, "You always feel bad about coming here." However, her opinion of the Lydia House has changed. She said, "The teachers around here keep you very uplifted." Beverly is "sure it's [her circumstances are] going to get better. It can't get worse."



Kristen Steenberg

helps to feed and provide

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because they're scared that cutting money into the programs, they will not support them."

"The government is wasting a lot of money on arms and other countries when they should be spending their own money," stated Beverly. "The government should spend money on this country. This is the only way the American people can feel safe in a country where they can feel safe."

"The government is taking the money out of the wrong place," was the comment made by Beverly.

Beverly, senior, agreed saying, "They're taking the money out of the middle class when the money for the homeless come up." She said, "I don't want to take it [money] from the middle class and keep making it."

Beverly said that families of the homeless turn their backs and walk away from them. "Families need to

By Sean Rourke

Just when you thought that Steven Spielberg was taking a break. BLAM! Another movie. Doesn't that man get tired of making money? I guess not.

Hook is an excellent movie for people of any age. It's witty, comical, fun, heart-felt, sad, exciting, and thought-provoking all at the same time.

Did you ever wonder what would happen if Peter Pan grew up and became a lawyer who looked an awful lot like Robin Williams? Well wonder no more.

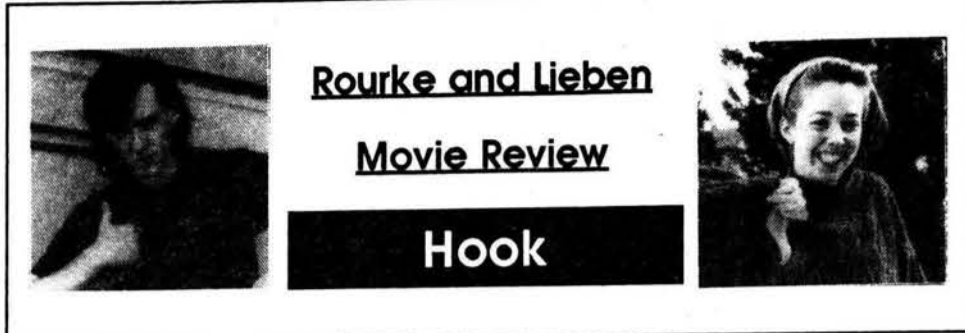
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Did you ever wonder what would happen if Peter Pan grew up and became a lawyer who looked an awful lot like Robin Williams? Well, wonder no more.

”

Robin Williams plays the part of Pan very well, at least, at the end of the movie. You see, he doesn't even realize who he is until the last fourth of the show. But when he does finally come to accept his identity, well, let's just put it this way: you're in for some of the most realistic flying you've ever seen.

Julia Roberts plays a very good Tinkerbell, laying the tom-boy image on, pretty thick. But for all her boyish qualities, you do see the love she feels for



Peter in more than one instance. Not to mention the fact that the special effects they use to make her so diminutive are almost staggering. You'd swear by your licorice that she was actually standing there on Peter's stomach.

Bob Hoskins also does a good job in the role of the befuddled old lackey, Mr. Smee. It's a good role for the king of supporting roles. David Crosby even makes a brief appearance as one of the bumbling pirates. (Liz really liked that; in fact she told me the dream she had about him when she was twelve. But I can't print most of it, so ask me about it later).

The true credit, however, goes to Dustin Hoffman. Captain Hook is hilarious, and you'd never know who the actor was. Even when he was de-wigged in the end, I swore it was someone else. Your younger siblings will be scared spitless by Hoffman, I guarantee.

All in all the movie boasted incredible special effects, a Spielbergish storyline, and the best climactic sword fight I've seen since Highlander. I thought it was a really good film, and give it a whole hearted thumbs-up.

By Liz Lieben

The blockbuster of the season Hook, directed by Steven Spielberg is a great movie if you are under the age of 12.

When I saw the previews for Hook, I thought Ooooh! Adventure! Excitement! Lots of action! I know this movie is rated PG and I knew Steven Seagal was not going to jump out on the screen, but I was disappointed in the few sword fights and weak adventure scenes.

This summer there were millions of sequels released in the theatres and most of them were flops. A better title for this movie might have been Pan II. It is a sequel and it was a flop.

The movie is centered around the middle-aged Peter Pan and his present day family. Everything seems to be going fine until Captain Hook decides it is the time for revenge and kidnaps Pan's two children.

About an hour of the movie is spent trying to get Peter Pan to remember who he was and how to fly, fight and crow. After Peter Pan regains his memory, another half an hour is spent in Peter Pan's flashbacks. The rest of the two-and-a-half-hour movie (which is enough

time for both of my legs and my... to fall asleep) is weak sword fights, jokes and sappy love scenes.

Robin Williams plays Peter Pan is not one of his better roles. He is a good part of the movie as a businessman and the second little kid.

Dustin Hoffman is a fantastic Hook, but he lacks the strong and hatred that Hook had in the Peter Pan movies. When Pan's dad is describing Captain Hook, she says "Oh Daddy, he's just a mean old man without a mommy!" Oooh, ha. This is the antagonist character in the movie, a mean old man without a mommy.

Julia Roberts makes a few appearances as Tinkerbell. She is cute, but about it. She doesn't do anything important.

The Lost Boys of Never Never were a wide variety of characters. There were the Buckwheat and Lil Abner all the way to the kids you might find at a reform school. However, my favorite was the little kid who could turn into a human cannonball.

With all the shouting on the set, Pan! Pan! I suddenly thought of Pan Peanut Butter and Little Pizza and I became very hungry. I wish the theater missing nothing available some licorice from the Indianapolis Concessions which had a very good selection of cinema munchies.

If you absolutely must see this movie, I will pre-warn you that it lacks pizzazz, and I would see it at the theater.

Central students make Christmas magic through Omaha's community theater

By Sean Rourke

This holiday season, several Central students are participating in local community theater. Noelle Jaroch, Amy Knoepfler and Jenny Priesman, juniors, are active in *The Christmas Carol*, at the Omaha Community Playhouse, and Kate Duggan and Ali McLarney, sophomores, and Shawn Lanz, senior, currently have roles in the Norton theater's production of *Babes in Toyland*.

"It's hard work and all, but I really love doing it," said Noelle. Noelle plays the part of Little Bo Peep and is also one of the adult dancers. She is performing in the *Christmas Carol* for her second year on the main stage, after performing with the touring group for three years.

According to Noelle, the story is about an old miser named Scrooge who is exceedingly greedy and dislikes the rest of humanity.

One night, he is visited by the ghost of his old partner, Jacob Marley. Marley sends Scrooge the ghosts of past, future and present, who eventually teach him the error of his ways.

"Sixteen years ago, Charles Jones [director] researched the book and adapted it for the stage," Amy said. Amy is on the stage crew and does a lot of backstage work.

She said that the same director [Jones] has been directing the show for the past 16 years. She also said that the same actor has been playing Scrooge since the beginning as well.

"It's become a part of Christmas, and it wouldn't be

Christmas without it," said Jenny Priesman. Jenny has been performing *The Christmas Carol* for seven years, including four years in the touring version.

"I have an entirely different group of friends at the theater," she said. Jenny plays the part of Little Boy Blue, as well as one of the adult dancers.

Kate Duggan who plays Mary Mary in the Norton's production of *Babes in Toyland*, said, "The show is basically a fund-raiser for the Norton. This is their last chance. If they don't make money, the theater is gone."

According to Kate, the story is about "a mean old man, named Barnaby, who wants to marry the oldest daughter of the Widow Piper. Jane, the daughter, doesn't want to marry him, so she runs away to Toyland. Alan, Jane's boyfriend, goes with her. The widow, Barnaby, and the 13 children follow them. In the end, Barnaby commits a crime, and Jane and Alan get married."

Ali McLarney, who plays Goldilocks, said, "It's a children's show, and it's really pretty."

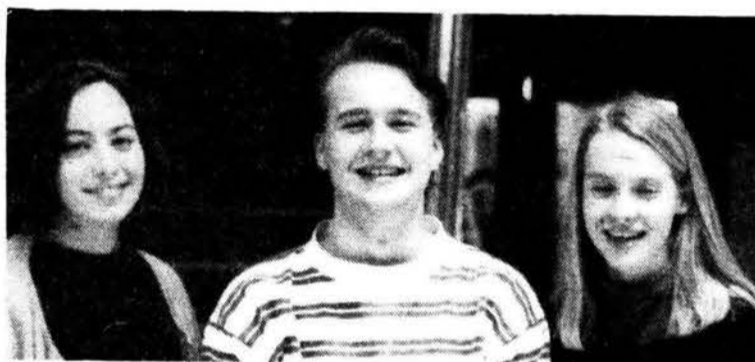
Both Kate and Ali said that even though they enjoy the show, it does keep them busy.

"It's very time consuming," commented Kate. "Finding time to do my homework is kind of hard."

"I don't have a lot of time to do much, and what time I do have goes to homework," Ali said.

When asked if the show was affecting her grades, Ali replied, "Uh, yeah, and my health."

Babes in Toyland performances are on Thursday and Friday nights, as well as



Babes from Toyland... Shawn Lanz, Ali McLarney and Kate Duggan play Piper children at the Norton.

Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Shows run through December 22.

The Christmas Carol performances are on Tuesday through Saturday nights, with two performances on Sundays. It also runs through the 22.

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Entertainment Briefs

Arna Swanson and Liz Lieben

Theater
The Christmas season gets underway at The Circle Theater with the musical *Tilly's Holiday* through December 23, and performances are on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. The special dinner starts at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. at Vidler's Cafe, 6064 Maple St. Tickets are \$12 to \$13 with the dinner and \$7 to \$8 without. Student discounts are available.

Symphony
The *Magic of Christmas* concert presented by the Omaha Symphony will be presented on December 19 through 22. The concert will feature soloist Herman Cain, the Magic of Christmas Chorus, the Children's Choir, Otis Williams, conductor Bruce Van der Bruggen and the Omaha Symphony. Tickets are available and can be ordered by phone at 342-3560.

The Emmy Gifford Children's Theater presents *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* now through December 29. The play is about Willy Wonka and his efforts to find an heir for his chocolate factory. Discount tickets are available at participating Burger King restaurants. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

The Joslyn Art Museum's latest exhibit, *Kratky Film: The Czechoslovak Animation*, will be on display through January 19. This exhibition consists of 35 films and related materials dated from 1940 to the 1980's. The first gallery displays the films themselves, the second gallery displays animation cels, puppets and

other animation tools. The third gallery is the children's gallery which features children's films. All screenings are free with admission to the museum.

Laser show
Manheim Steamroller Christmas 1984 will be featured in the UNO planetarium Laser Magic Light Show on December 20 and 21. The shows begin at 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at the UNO planetarium. Admission is \$3 for students and \$4 general admission. Seating is on a first come first serve basis.

Music
Achtung Baby means Attention Baby. U2 has come out with a new album which definitely deserves attention. Surprise! This is not the rock band of the 80's. U2 has become a type of alternative 90's band.

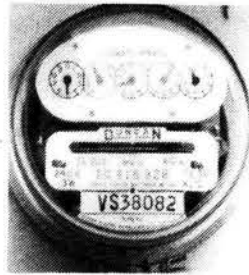
U2 has developed a new beat not heard on their previous albums. They have new drum lines, guitar melodies and of course the voice of Bono, the lead singer.

The album starts off with the song *Zoo Station* and the voices are so high-pitched that it makes you check your tape player speed. The song *The Fly* sounds a lot like *Nine Inch Nails*, but it has its own style altogether.

The video for *Mysterious Ways* is really bizarre. It is totally different than their previous videos. Their new style is definitely appealing.

All of the songs on this album are mellow, not the hip-hop bounce-around type of music. Some of the songs contain the same guitar melodies from the *Joshua Tree* and *The Unforgettable Fire*.

This is definitely a new style for U2. If you find U2 to be monotonous at times, this album will surprise you in a positive way.



Ty Sievers, Donahue and God

Your Piece of Chalk

Duncan Joyner

Having a talk-show junkie for a girlfriend, I have become quite familiar with the talk-show circuit. By talk-show, I mean the three big ones: Sally Jesse Raphael, Donahue, and of course, Oprah. By junkie, I mean...well I don't really know how to explain, but I can give an example.

One Friday night I was out with my gal, Celery. We had picked up some fast-food and had decided to see a movie. We were in the movie for about 25 minutes when I noticed that Celery was repeatedly looking at her watch.

"Uh' Celery what's the problem?"
"Uh', nothing Duncan...it's nothing," she stuttered.

"No, Celery, I want to know what's wrong," I explained.

With that she looked at her watch one last time, got out of her seat, and hurried out of the theater, my jaw gaping open.

She came back to her seat explaining that it was a female thing. I accepted that, not really understanding, but happy to see her not looking ather watch anymore.

When the movie was over, Celery jumped out of her seat, grabbing my arm, hurling over the six couples down the row, and carrying me to the car, where she quickly instructed me to drive home.

Assuming she meant her home, I drove as quickly as my car could go and made it to her home in three minutes. Upon entering her house, she accosted a member of the household.

"DID YOU TAPE IT?!" she screamed to the poor, feeble child underneath her grip.

"You called me from the movies and reminded me right before it started; how could I forget?" the boy replied.

"Oh," Celery responded with an air of release, simultaneously putting the boy back on the ground, "just wanted to make sure."

The boy quickly left the room, and I asked Celery if that's what she had been so worried about in the theater. She said it was. I then asked her if that's why she had left the movie theater—to call her house and remind them to tape a show.

She responded with a timid, "Yes."
I asked her what show she had had wanted taped.

"Donahue."
"Donahue?" I asked, "I thought Donohue came on at three?"

"Four," she responded, "but he has a special on tonight."

"What happened to it being a female thing?"
"Well, the topic is "Women That Balance Serious Relationships With Six or More Men."

That's what I mean by junkie. Addicted to junk. Now that Celery's habits have been exposed—back to the point of this column.

One afternoon, Sebastian and I skipped lunch (not condoning any against-the-rules activity) and went to his home and tried to sleep. The excitement of actually being out of school was too much, and we found our tired selves facing insomnia. So we turned the TV on (for someone who supposedly is against TV, I know it sounds as if I watch a lot of it but I don't) and facing us was the recently reconstructed face of Sally Jesse Raphael. So in good humor, Sebastian increased the volume of the TV, and we listened with great amusement.

The topic was, "Women That Had Babies Because Their Husbands Wanted Them To." Sebastian and I chuckled over this topic while listening intently. It was strange, Sally talked to the audience more than she talked to the people on stage. Every audience member had the confidence of an expert on the subject. More than one member cited that the women were obviously going through "post-synthetic behavior" and should definitely pick their self-centered, slimy selves, off the "self-pity ladder" and start taking care of their families, and most importantly, their babies.

After the Sally show, Sebastian and I did fall asleep only to be awakened by Sebastian's dad, asking why we weren't at school. Sebastian explained to him some bomb threat at school, so the entire school was released until, oh my gosh, right now. With that we dove out the door and hurried to our eighth our class.

After school, Celery and I went to her house and customarily watched the talk-shows. First Oprah, at three, and then Donahue at four.

During the Oprah show, which happened to be about, "A 44-Year-Old Woman That Left Her Husband And Family, And Married Her 12-Year-Old Son's, 14-Year-Old Friend," I noticed a couple of familiar looking audience members citing "post-synthetic behavior" as the cause of the woman's marriage to the 14-year-old and advising the woman to pick her slimy, self-centered self, up off of the "self pity ladder" and start taking care of her real family, most importantly, her children.

After Oprah, Celery quickly changed the channel to Donahue. On Donahue's opening statement, Celery fell down on the floor, writhing and speaking in tongue. Confused, I looked on the TV at Donahue. He too, looked confused.

I wanted to get help, but nobody was home, and I didn't want to leave Celery alone to her writhing.

After about five minutes of this strangeness, Celery stood up, proclaiming, "God spoke to me through Donahue."

Confused, I asked her what God had supposedly told her.

"He told me to be good and moral, and send lots of monetary gifts to Donohue, and he would give them to God."

I still am forced to watch Donahue, along with Oprah everyday, despite having to exercise her TV. In my talk-show delirium, I have one holiday announcement: No matter what your religion, have a safe winter recess and, if you are ever wondering how cults are formed, ask Celery, she just formed one herself "Church of Donahue."

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JUST BEHIND AUTO GLASS CENTER

The Register guide to the perfect music store

By Liz Lieben

Don't you just hate it when you go to a music store and they don't have the tape or CD that you want, or when you go to buy a tape or a CD and it costs ten dollars more than you have in your pocket? The quest for the perfect music store begins in the phone book where we looked for the best place to get the most for your money and for the best selection in town.

Dirt Cheap Recycled Sounds

1026 Jackson Street (Old Market)

Dirt Cheap is chock full of records, tapes, CD's and posters. If you are in the market for used tapes, records and CD's, this is where you want to go. Dirt Cheap has the best selection of posters in town. Their price range is: Tapes: \$4-8; Records: \$3-5; Compact Discs: \$8-10.

Drastic Plastic

419 S. 13th Street (Old Market)

Drastic Plastic has all kinds of music, but DP specializes in heavy metal music or death metal. If you are looking for folk music, this is definitely not the place to go. Their CD's range from \$10-14.

Homer's Records and Tapes

1114 Howard Street (Old Market)

Homer's has all types of music but caters mainly to the

hard rock and pop music crowd. Homer's has all kinds of T-shirts and posters. Homer's also lists all the upcoming concerts and their ticket prices. Their prices are: CD's: \$12-14; Tapes: \$7-11.

Pickle's Records and Tapes

8027 Dodge Street

If you are looking for a strange or rarely heard of group, Pickles has it. Pickles has the best selection of alternative music in Omaha. They also have some of the best prices: CD's: \$11-13; and tapes: \$6-11.

Great American Music

8413 W. Center Rd.

GAM is similar to a music warehouse. They have a selection of everything from rap to religious music, but they are limited in what they have. Their specialties would be in country or pop music. GAM's prices are for CD's: \$14-16 and for tapes: \$8-10.

Best Buy

74th and Dodge Streets

Best Buy is not a music store. It is more of an appliance store, but they have a pretty large selection of CD's and tapes. Best Buy has a selection of everything from Alpha Blondie to Zeppelin. They are definitely the best buy in town with prices for tapes: \$6-11 and CD's: \$7-12. If you are going Christmas shopping and you have a budget, this is definitely the place to go.



Chris Meyer

Scott Buchan plays the guitar...

last Friday, December 16, in a benefit concert for Jessie Pederson, a victim of a drunk driver accident.

Scott is a member of Twigg, a band consisting of five Central students. The members are Scott Buchan, Rob Anderson, Steve Berman, Tim Galligan, and Boz Johnson.

Two other members of the alternative Omaha band, Pioneer Disaster and Days Wonder, also played.

Scott said, "I was happy to see all the people out to support the Pederson family."

The concert raised \$625 and a box of food which was presented to the family as a contribution.

And you say there is nothing to do in Omaha

By Sean Rourke

In a recent opinion poll, the entertainment staff attempted to uncover the ten best (censored) things to do over this holiday vacation. Judging from the responses we received, most of the school will be asleep. If this is the case, then be sure to eat lots of nuts and berries. (I heard you have to do that when you hibernate or something). But for those of you who will be awake, here are the top ten (ehem) best things to do over the two week holiday break.

10. Get together with your good friends, cook up a bunch of ravioli, and eat all day while watching pre-recorded episodes of C.O.P.S.

9. Pretend to be interested in presents you hate.

8. Go cow tipping.

7. Not take a shower for two weeks.

6. Go camping.

5. Get last year's snowballs out of the freezer and throw them this year.

4. Go to Perkins on 35th and Dodge and ask Bill.

3. Sit in front of the fire with your family and watch Christmas Carols.

2. Put cole-slaw in your father's shoes and celebrate the ritual of the shaved yak.

1. Leave Omaha

The adventures of Sean and Rob Elvis' spirit alive in Omaha thrift store

By Sean Chapman & Rob Harshbarger

Sean: Yo Rob! Where should we go for our first adventure?

Rob: You know, Sean, I've been thinking a lot about that. I thought we could go skydiving, but I wanted to start this column off with a bang.

Sean: Well, Rob, I think I agree. We need something with a bit more excitement, more of an adventure. So what should it be; perhaps we could try mud wrestling with ten beautiful bikini wearing babes.

Rob: Now, Sean, be realistic; we would need at least 20 babes.

Sean: As usual, Rob, you're right. So what should we do?

Rob: You know, Sean, about the babes, where do you think we can find 20 beautiful bikini wearing babes?

Sean: Rob, I've got it! We'll go to the one place in town where the babes are as numerous as the stars in the sky. That's right, Rob, it's the THRIFT STORE!!!!

Rob: I never thought about that. After all, that is where all the true babes shop for the latest in fashion direct from the runways of Paris. NOT!

Seeing that the only way to truly gain from our adventure to the thrift store as a total experience, we decided to take good 'ol uncle MAT, otherwise known as public transportation.

The fact that neither of us are experienced bus riders left us unaware of the proper attitude to take upon getting on the bus. We paid our most financially stressing dollar and sat down

next to a man who seemed to be in friendly spirits.

Sean: Excuse me, sir, do you mind if we sit here?

Unknown Busrider: No!!!

Rob: O.K. (we proceeded to the back of the bus) Sean, did he mean no he doesn't mind, or no we can't sit there?

Sean: Rob, I'm not sure, but I don't really care to find out. Hey, Rob, there is a seat

next to that very pleasant looking older lady.

Rob: Looks good to me.

We sat down next to the elderly

lady and tried to start up some pleasant conversation.

Rob: So, what do you think of the weather?

Elderly Lady: It stinks!!

Sean: Um, ma'am, how are you doing today?

Elderly Lady: I met him on a Monday and my heart stood still, do run run run a do run run (rather than speak to me she sang loud enough for the entire bus

to enjoy her beautiful voice).

Rob: Are you talking to me?

Elderly lady: A do run run.

Needless to say we gave up on the older lady, and proceeded to enjoy the bus ride.

Sean: Low and behold we're here!

We stepped off the bus into the dark haze surrounding the street. The nice, slightly insane old lady followed us out

into the street.

Rob: Is she following us? I think she's fallen in love with you.

Sean: Look, Rob, she's fallen

into the street.

Rob: Is she following us? I think she's fallen in love with you.

Sean: Look, Rob, she's fallen

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Sean: Look, Rob, she's fallen

into the street.



Kristen Steenberg

Sean and Rob...display their prized treasure.

and she can't get up. Quick let's get inside the store before she figures out a way to get up.

We looked up at the cardboard sign which read: The Best of Luck to Find Anything Under a Buck. We tried to enter the store being as quiet as possible so we would not disturb everyone's shopping pleasure.

It was the Christmas season, and the store was packed from wall to wall.

Before we began to hunt for the apparel bargains, we just stood there and observed the beauty of it all which filled our beating hearts with happiness.

Sean: (Rob was so overwhelmed that he did not notice the large stack of BeeGee records which he managed to run into but was able to gracefully slip himself from a broken neck by using the flip he learned from watching the Karate Kid one too many times.) Rob, are you o.k., even more importantly, are the records o.k.?

Rob: Ooooooooouuuuuccchhhh! They should remove those darn records. Wait, what's that over there? Could be? A velvet Elvis portrait. Gotta have it.

Sean: This has been an excellent adventure so far, but we still need to find the babes (for Rob that is, see how I'm already taken).

Rob: That's right, Sean, I'm open to anything that comes my way, real and willing. Look over there. Is that bird, is it a plane? No it's, WOW, beautiful woman.

Sean: Yeah, and look what she has in her bag, a used toilet seat, some lingerie, and a really cool rubber duck. I don't think that she's the right one for you.

To wrap it up, we advise that you search for babes (or dudes for you women) at places other than the thrift store. However, you can find many bargains on some quality products while having an enjoyable time.

Sports Update

Football players recognized

Recently the Omaha *World-Herald* selected its All-Metro and All-Division football teams.

First Team Offense All-Metro went to lineman, Matt Failla, junior. Second Team Offense All-Metro awards went to tight-end Harambee Jackson, and running back Jessie Value, seniors.

All-Division offensive awards went to Harambee Jackson, Matt Failla, Jessie Value and utility player Matt Scanlan, senior. Defensive awards went to lineman Chris Reed, senior, linebacker Sean Gard, junior, and defensive back, Rodney Evans, senior. Honorable Mention went to Alfred Harris, Brian Nelson, Matt Oetter, Kacasha Station, Rob Partidge, Biff Roberts, Chet Palmer and Burrell Williams.

Wrestler takes first

Kacasha Station, junior, took first place in both the North High Invitational and the Council Bluffs Invitational. He wrestled in the 152-pound class and was the only first place winner from Central at both tournaments.

Swimmers qualify for State

In their first meet, four members of Central's swim team qualified for State. The girls 400M relay team of Julie Neary, junior, Gretchen Pfeiffer, sophomore, Melissa Hotalmen, senior, and Cate Townley, freshman from Lewis and Clark qualified for state. Todd Reiser qualified in the 100M backstroke. Julie also qualified in the 50M freestyle and the 100M backstroke. Gretchen qualified in the 50M freestyle also.

In the OPS Holiday Invitational the boys' team took first place and the girls' team finished in second place.



Locker Room Talk

Al Bakhit

The college basketball season is once again upon us. You can now begin your countdown to March madness. The season looks to be exciting. With no dominating teams like UNLV stalking their prey, this year's title should be up for grabs.

College basketball seems to be an entirely different game than the pros. I myself would prefer to watch college ball over professional games. I find it much more exciting. College hoops seems to provide me with much more intense moments that leave me on the edge of my seat.

That is why I have chosen to write my column on college basketball and to pick my top ten teams. We'll count them down and mention a few highlights of each team.

AL'S NCAA BASKETBALL

PRESEASON

TOP 10

10 UCLA- The Bruins have great shooters in Don Maclean and Tracy Murray. Freshman Ed O'Bannon who is recovering from a knee injury can be an important part of the team, but his status is still uncertain.

Last year's team had a great start and then they went on vacation and barely had a 500 conference record.

If they can hang in there this season, they can surprise a lot of people and get themselves into the Final Four. Coach Jim Harrick has got to put the pieces together to accomplish this.

9 LSU- The Tigers have a strong team this year, led by the menacing Shaquille O'Neal. O'Neal is also a top Olympic prospect this year. Another surprise from Baton Rouge will be Jamie Brandon, sometimes called the best player out of Chicago since Isiah Thomas. This team will be lacking the presence of a Chris Jackson, and that will hurt them.

Don't be surprised if the Tigers manage to slip past the Sweet Sixteen and into the quarterfinals come March.

8 Arkansas- Nolan Richardson has one more shot before he loses his strong core of seniors. They were one win away from the Final Four last year.

Their line-up includes the likes of Lee Mayberry, one of the best point guards in college. The big man, Oliver Miller, the nation's leader in field goal percentage (70.4) last season, will be a strong force. Todd Day will be very important defensively to the team, but is he actually coachable? Look for Arkansas to finish out somewhere in the Sweet Sixteen.

7 Indiana- Indiana is on the rise again. Led by 6'6" Calbert Cheaney and wonderboy, Damon Bailey, the Hoosiers are looking to go all the way. Coach Bobby Knight is hoping to work 6'9" freshman Alan Henderson into the frontcourt, possibly replacing center Eric Anderson. Be ready for the usual from Knight. Watch for falling chairs and flying insults from the master of mockery.

Depending on the development of Alan Henderson, the Hoosiers could make the Final Four.

6 Kansas- The Jayhawks are once again being led by the dazzling Adonis Jordan. Coach Roy Williams has paid the price for violations of past teams. His teams, full of players unheard of, have turned out impressive records and this year's team figures to do the same.

Four of their seven recruits were named player of the year in their respective states. The team is also relying on forwards Alonzo Jamison and freshman Ben Davis.

The team probably won't last as long as last year, but they should make a strong showing in the NCAA's.

5 North Carolina- Dean Smith's team will have to work hard to continue with their success. The Tar Heels are looking good on paper, but can they produce? They have a lot of talent in Eric Montross, a 7 footer, Hubert

College hoops provide the excitement

Davis, the ACC's best three point shooter and forward Brian Reese, who looks to be as athletic as Jordan.

They have a lot of loose ends to tie down before tournament time, but they'll be in the running for the Final Four.

4 Seton Hall- 7'2" and 290 pounds is their key. Those are the dimensions of last year's Prop 48, Luther Wright. Seton Hall has a strong backcourt with Terry Dehere, an awesome three-point shooter. Assisting him will be Brian Carver and little Danny Hurley, brother of Duke's star guard Bobby.

P.J. Carlesimo has put his team back into the lime-light after a brief absence. This should be one of the best teams in school history with a good chance of making it to the finals.

3 Ohio State- The Big Ten Conference title last season felt great, but the Buckeyes are looking to go even farther this year.

The team is lead by 6'6" all-purpose player Jimmy Jackson, now in his junior season. The return of the nation's best unknown point guard, senior Mark Baker, should be a big plus.

The Buckeyes have even more talent waiting in the shadows this season. 6'9" Lawrence Funderburke has transferred back home from Indiana, where he played in six games last year. When he regains his eligibility in January, he will provide an inside presence that is rare in the league. Look for the Buckeyes to provide a lot of excitement down the stretch as they make a run at the title.

2 Arizona- Lute Olsen has proven that there is life in Arizona basketball. He has turned a string of successful seasons down in the sunny state of Arizona.

The strong point this season is Chris Mills, a leader on last year's team; along with big men, Sean Rooks and Ed Stokes, the Arizona front line should be even better than last year's. New names are Matt Othick who runs the team on the floor and Khalid Reeves, a high-scorer in the final games of last season.

Arizona will challenge Duke for the title if Reeves can improve his court judgment.

1 Duke- The baby-faced Blue Devils proved to everyone that UNLV was not unstoppable. Led by Christian Laettner, an Olympic front-runner, and the little guard Bobby Hurley, who keeps reaching new heights, Duke is looking to repeat again this year.

Grant and Thomas Hill (not related) were also on last year's title team along with Brian Davis. Duke has high hopes for newcomer Cherokee Parks, a highly touted recruit from the West Coast. Coach Mike Krzyzewski has a handful of talent this year, but can they repeat?

The loss of Billy McCaffery's outside shooting will put some extra responsibility on Hurley, but it shouldn't hurt the team too much. Look for Duke to be back in the Final Four as they begin the hunt for back-to-back titles.

There you have it, my own top ten. I'm sure some other teams will move into contention later on this season. Some of the dark horse teams to watch for will be, Michigan, Oklahoma State, Kentucky, St. John's, Georgia Tech and Georgetown.

Looking at local teams, Nebraska should have a pretty good season, even though they are rebuilding. They may even qualify for the NCAA's, depending on their Big Eight performance. The Creighton Bluejays are going to do some learning this year with a new coach and a lot of new players. They need to find some new players to replace Harsted and Galligher. Give them another year or two to mature.

Now sit back and prepare yourself for an exciting season of college basketball. The teams are lining up and are ready to go. Non-stop action is coming your way, don't miss it.

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Jr. Lancers, Gladiators provide exciting games

By Thomas Rose

Watching the Omaha Lancers professional hockey team play is not the only way six Central students are involved with competitive hockey. Mike Callahan, senior, Troy Anzalone, Dave Wallace, and Chad Rudiger, juniors, all play on the Junior Lancer Varsity Hockey Team. Al Bakhit, senior, and Abe Bakhit, junior, play for the Omaha Gladiators Varsity Hockey Team.

These two teams are both high school travel teams that are associated with the Iowa High School Hockey League. They are the only Nebraska teams in the league, which includes one team from Missouri and six teams from Iowa. Both teams are in their third year of competition with the Iowa High School Hockey League.

The Jr. Lancers have started off with a 0-6 record and the Gladiators have a record of 7-1. Their season runs through March. Mike Callahan, who has played on the team for two years as the center and is the captain, said, "We're a good team, but we just can't get our act together and have trouble using good team work."

The teams practice two to four times a week and each practice lasts about an hour and a half. There are one to three games every week each lasting approximately two hours either on Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday. This brings the total sum to 24 games in the regular season. The state tournament is at the beginning of March in Sioux City. The Jr. Lancers also compete in several tournaments during the season. The Gladiators have not scheduled any tournaments.

As a result of being in the Iowa High School Hockey League, the players get to travel to numerous cities in Iowa to play. These cities include Mason City, Dubuque, Sioux City, Ames, St. Joe, Waterloo and Des Moines.

"Sioux City is one of our rivals," Troy Anzalone said. "During the last game with Sioux City, two Jr. Lancers each broke one of their legs, one of which was a result in an illegal fight."

The players all feel that it is a very rough sport. "Hard hits make the game fun," said Abe. "It gets the fans into the



Where's the puck?.. Mike Callahan, senior captain of the Jr. Lancers, looks to see if his goalie made the save as he blocks out a player from the Gladiators team looking for a rebound.

game more," he added.

The two teams have already played each other twice this season. The Gladiators have won both matches. The first game went into overtime before the Gladiators won 6-5. The teams play each other two more times this season. "Against the Junior Lancers we always try to get a lot of people to come and watch," said Abe.

On the December 27, the Jr. Lancers will be in Dallas, Texas, for a tournament which they placed 1st in last year. From February 13 through 17, they will be in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for another tournament. On November 29, the Jr. Lancer team was unable to attend a tournament in Aberdeen, South Dakota, because of the icy conditions on the highway. Chad Rudiger, who has played

on the team for three years as the goalie, said, "I like the tournament in Colorado the best because of the talent contest."

A committee takes the best goal keeper, the best shooter and the fastest skater from each team and has a contest. For example, whichever skater can skate the fastest or whichever goalie can keep the most people from scoring, wins. Rudiger finished third in the goalie competition last year.

All this traveling costs a lot of money. The players from both teams raise this money through various fund-raisers. The Jr. Lancers sold wreaths and advertising for their program. The Gladiators also sell ads and are going to sell concessions at this year's College World Series.

Home games for both teams are played at Hitchcock ice rink at 44th and P St.

The teams usually draw anywhere from 100 to 400 fans per game. School admission is \$1.50. The teams have programs and concessions at the rink to help raise travel funds.

The next six games the Jr. Lancers will all be at home. They play the Omaha Gladiators Dec. 19 at 7:30PM and on Jan 9 at 7:30PM. They play Joe Dec. 20 at 7:30PM, Des Moines Valley Dowling, Dec. 21 at 7:30PM, Dubuque Jan. 4 at 7:30PM and Des Moines Jan. 2:00PM.

The Omaha Gladiators play their three games at home. They play at Des Moines Valley-Dowling on Dec. 15 at 7:30PM and on Dec 15 at 2:00PM. They play the Junior Lancers on Dec. 19 at 4:45PM and on Jan 9 at 7:30PM. They play at Sioux City on Jan 5.

Sports Calendar

December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				19	20 BB - GB Burke	21 WR - Ralston
22	23 BB - GB Holiday Tourn Through Dec 30	24	25	26	27	28 WR - Prep Invite
29	30	31				

BB - Boys Basketball
GB - Girls Basketball
BS - Boys Swimming
GS - Girls Swimming
WR - Wrestling
(A) - Away Games/Meets/Matches

The Register Sports Staff encourages all students to take pride in Central and support your athletic teams.

January

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 GB - Linc. High(A)	4
5	6	7 BS - GS Prep-Marion Prep - Ralston	8	9	10 BB - GB Papio	11 BB-GB Benson(A) WR - M.S. Invite
12	13	14 BS-GS Gross	15	16	17 BB-GB Gross(A)	18
19	20	21 BS - GS Ralston(A) WR - AL	22	23 BS - GS Bell East	24 BB - GB Ralston	25 BB - GB South(A)
26	27	28 BS-BS Northwest (A)	29	30	31	

Next Issue

Wrestlers grab hold...

Central High wrestlers begin another season on the mat. Check out how the team is shaping up.

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Central Eagles 1-2, boys' basketball off and running

Joe Maginn

The first two games of Central High's 1991-1992 season are any year, this year's team will play with high scores and an exciting brand of play. The Eagles posted a 90-75 victory over Bellevue East in their season opener. In their next game, the team scored 91 points before losing a close game to Lincoln East in

Eric Behrens, head coach, said, "I was very happy with the way we played last night." He added, "I was anxious to see how the team would play, and they played well."

This year's team takes advantage of their speed and quickness by using a run-and-gun offense. Mr. Behrens said they operate for a lack of height trying to use the full court strategy of taller teams. He said, "I try to get the ball down the court quickly and then take the good shot."

Good shooting is another quality the team possesses. The team attempts a lot of three-pointers and has already made five this season. "I always encourage a kid to keep shooting," said Mr. Behrens. The team's offensive ability was shown in their



Rob Rouch

Foul?... Eric Behrens, senior, attempts a shot in the Eagles' season opening victory against Bellevue East.

first two games. Against Bellevue East five players scored in double figures on the way to an impressive victory. Mr. Behrens said he was "surprised" about his team's rebounding ability. He stated that several players are "good jumpers" and can "get up quick", and these abilities allowed them to rebound effectively.

The following game highlighted the team's ability to score quickly. Down ten points to Lincoln East with 2:30 left in the game, the Eagles went on a run and tied the game at the 1:00 mark.

The game went into overtime but Lincoln East emerged with a victory. Turrane Dawson, junior, scored 28 points for the Eagles.

Two games into their season, Central has profited from balanced scoring.

Several players have scored in double figures in both games, and no single player is expected to carry the load. They have also taken advantage of their speed by running a fast-paced offense.

The team has set several goals for their season. Mr. Behrens said the team hopes to be in contention to win their division.

He also said, "I'd like to make it to the state tournament."

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All-school rally raises spirits

By Rachel Kozol

According to a wide majority of the student body, the best way to start off the winter sports season is with a school pep rally. Mrs. Jennifer McConkey, cheerleading sponsor and organizer for the pep rally, said the event was successful.

"The main purpose was achieved," Mrs. McConkey said, "and that was to recognize the individual athletes." Players for the wrestling, swimming, and basketball teams were given recognition at the December 6 assembly. Kelly Roberts, junior, agreed, "It's great to see people excited about the season."

Sarah Engelke, sophomore, complained about how the number of band members playing at the assembly was



Kristen Steenberg

Twist and shout... The eagle does a little dance at the all-school pep rally.

limited. "You couldn't even hear the band because of this," she said.

Mrs. McConkey said that overall, the attendance was quite good.

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Boys' volleyball becomes Central's newest sport

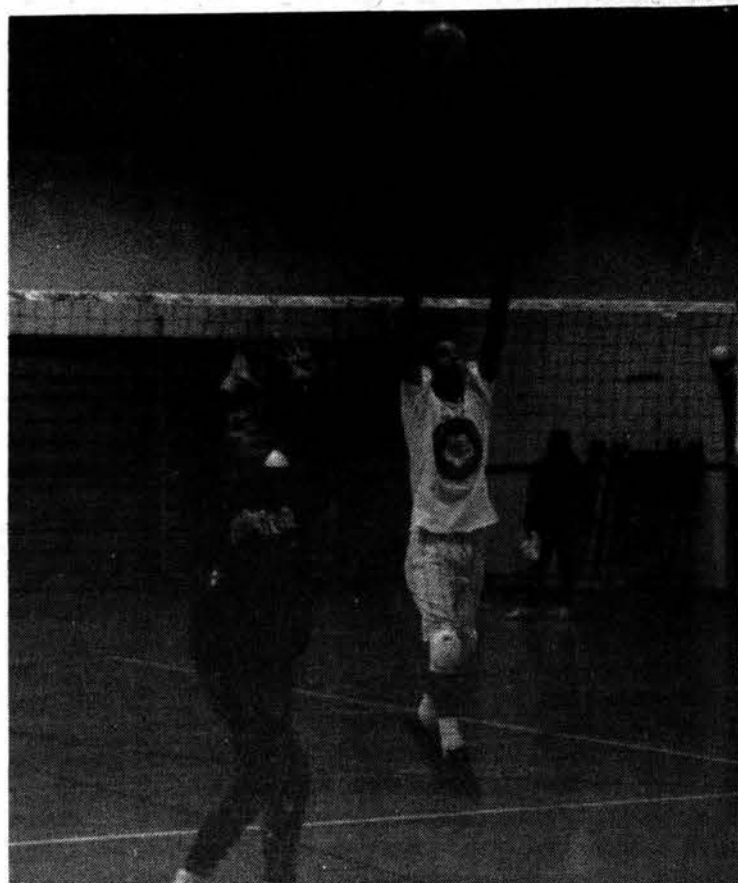
By Al Bakhit

Can boys play volleyball? A group of Central students seems to think so. A guys' volleyball team has been organized at Central. The school will form two teams and compete with several other schools in the city.

Ms. Vicki Wiles, girls' volleyball coach, organized the team. It is not school sponsored, but all the players are from Central. They are playing as a club, similar to the girls' softball league this past fall.

The team holds practices on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Central. Practices last about two hours, and they can be very intense, according to some of the players. The team has done a lot of running to get them all into shape. Some of the players decided to play to condition themselves for other sports.

The team is short on experience with indoor volleyball, however many of them have played in sand volleyball leagues. "Sand volleyball is totally different; there you play more as an individual than as a team," said



Up and over... Kyle Hovorka sets the ball as Ms. Wiles demonstrates the proper way to do it.

Kyle Hovorka, junior. Joe Armeta, junior, felt that "the indoor game requires a lot more skill than sand volleyball."

The players have different reasons for wanting to play. "Sean Foster, senior, wants to have fun and spike it down the other teams' throats." Ryan Bayse, junior, said, "I want to be able to compete with the other schools in the city."

"We want to draw a lot of fans to our games to cheer us on.

—Kyle Hovorka

The team is funded by the players. The team fee is \$90 per team plus uniforms. The players each paid \$10 to play. Although they practice at Central, the games are played at local community centers, according to Kyle.

Though the players want to

have fun, they are trying to accomplish a few other things this season. First, they want to start a push for the sand volleyball. Second, they want to "show go play just as good as we," according to Todd Co junior.

The team has not reached any goals this season, other than "we want to play up potential and win our games," said Joe. "I hope to play together as a team and make it a popular sport for students," said Kyle.

Several players have expressed hope in playing in college, even on a scholarship. The season plays from January to March. Games are played on Wednesday nights at community centers.

The players seem to think the sport will become a big success of the softball and partially due to their interest in the sport in general. "We want to draw fans to our games to cheer us on."

Teachers volunteer time to help coach Central teams

By Rachel Kozol

Where do those great athletes of yesterday go after high school? Do they let their athletic pursuits slide aside?

No. As the case with many Central High staff members, they often share their worthwhile sporting experiences with their students, and they do this for a variety of reasons.

Often teachers, like special education instructor, Tim Herbert, sophomore boys' basketball and junior varsity girls' softball coach, donate their time simply to meet more students. "Since my classes are really small, I coach to meet more kids," he said.

According to physical education teacher, Diane Pfeiffer, junior varsity girls' volleyball coach, another reason is that sports often boost teenagers' self-esteem levels. "Kids are recognized in sports," she observed. "It's nice to be recognized as an individual and as a team."

Elvis Dominguez, Spanish teacher, linked his own education to his coaching of the boys' varsity baseball team. "If it wasn't for athletics, I wouldn't

"Since my classes are really small, I coach to meet more kids.

—Mr. Herbert

have had the chance to go to college," he remarked.

Mr. Dominguez also believes there can be a good connection between high school and

teachers.

English teacher Jennifer McConkey, track coach and pom squad sponsor, agreed that kids and adults can relate well in athletic atmospheres. "When I coach, I try to be everything but a teacher," she commented. "I love working with students outside of the classroom."

Often coaches feel a noticeable difference between working with female and male athletes. According to Mr. Herbert, "It is a whole different philosophy."

Mr. Dominguez agreed, "You can yell at guys, but with girls you have to be more careful with what you say."

Mrs. Pfeiffer feels part of the problem with girls' attitudes is due to their feelings toward one another. "There is so much competition among themselves, they often can't compete against other schools," she observed.

According to Mr. Dominguez, the competition is one of the major reasons for a team coming together. "Competitive playing gets you through. Not everyone can adjust to high school sports."

But this is only to a certain extent. "I don't care if we win or lose," Mr. Dominguez stressed. "The effort and improvement are what counts."

Mr. Dominguez believes this improvement can only come about after long hours of hard work. Often baseball games will run till nine in the evening. Mr. Dominguez also donates his time in the summer to coach the Central baseball players competing in the American Legion League. This league plays over 30 games in the summer.

Mr. Dominguez is not only interested in his players

athletically, but also socially and academically. "I keep close tabs on my kids all year," he said. "They represent Central and their 20 other teammates."

Mrs. McConkey also spends many long hours supervising the cheerleaders at basketball games and organizing the school pep rallies. She commented on the pros and cons of this. "It does bother me that I don't have a lot of time for myself but I enjoy it and it helps us through the season," Mrs. McConkey explained.

According to Mr. Herbert, getting that competitive edge is

"Competitive playing gets you through. Not everyone can adjust to high school sports.

—Mr. Dominguez

often expensive. "The school will only pay for so much," he remarked. Mr. Herbert supported this by saying he often must pay for any extra equipment.

Mrs. Pfeiffer agreed with this. "If we ever want to do anything extra, it will come out of our own pockets."

But despite these difficulties, there are always high expectations for the athletic seasons.

"I want my kids to reach the uppermost of their abilities this year," Mrs. McConkey said. "It's discouraging when kids take their talents for granted."

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