

# Central High Register



**Running for second base:** Junior Scott Briganti, varsity baseball catcher, attempts to catch a runner stealing second base in a recent game against Papillion High School. Central went on to lose the game 3-12. The Eagles have posted a 3-2 record so far this season. For a brief on baseball and other sports, see page 10. Photo by Mike Buckley.

## Students' art to be featured in IRS booklet

By Rachel Kozol

Sexual harassment allegations concerning such recent national issues as the Clarence Thomas hearings and the Tailhook scandal may seem distant to many Central High students, but an upcoming art project will expose teens to the realities this matter plays upon their lives.

The Internal Revenue Services, an Adopt-A-School partner to Central, started a booklet last year that contained written federal information concerning the law of sexual harassment. It discussed the verbal and physical specifics and the environment of this problem.

In order to make this booklet more effective, Central art students will design visual representations to illustrate the complexities of this issue.

According to Jeanne Shimokawa, Assistant to the Director for Diversity and Equal Opportunity at the IRS, this booklet was originated with the goal of creating awareness among IRS workers towards sexual harassment. "We wanted to have something available for our employees so they can see what sexual harassment is all about."

Continued on page 4.

## Central may lose recruiting privileges in West Omaha; '94-'95 freshman enrollment may alter

By Jacob Slosburg

When the School Improvement Committee last met on Wednesday, March 24, Mrs. Bernice Nared, assistant principal, mentioned the possibility of Central losing its ability to recruit West Omaha students because of the district's plan to convert junior high schools to middle schools.

According to Mrs. Nared, this is achieved by eliminating the freshman class at the junior high school and placing the ninth graders into area high schools.

Currently, all of OPS' intermediate level schools, with the exception of Lewis and Clark Junior High School and Norris Junior High School, have been converted to middle schools.

According to Mrs. Nared, the majority of the students that attend these junior highs will choose to attend Central or South for their sophomore year.

Mrs. Nared went on to explain that this is why Central has a large gap in number between its freshman and sophomore

classes.

Although no permanent date has been set for the conversion of the two remaining junior high schools to middle schools, Mrs. Nared guessed that the change will occur within the next two years.

"The '93-'94 class will still remain within 250-275 freshmen, but the freshman class of '94-'95 may be affected."

Mrs. Nared also said, "At this stage Central cannot house all the ninth graders that would be eligible to come to Central."

She said it is not that Central does not want these students, but it does not have enough room to house these students. "Central would like to have all the eligible students they can have," she said.

Mrs. Nared believed that when the OPS plan to change junior high schools to middle schools has been implemented the boundary lines would be adjusted.

Thus, there is a possibility that Central

would lose its ability to recruit in West Omaha.

Mrs. Nared commented on the chance of Central receiving more funding to solve the problem by saying, "Boy, that would be nice."

However, Dr. G.E. Moller, principal, indicated that funding would not solve all problems. He said that it is a question of space.

Mrs. Nared said, "Central High School has never had a wide range of abilities to recruit. This was the first year we were given some other opportunities."

For the first time, Central was allowed to send out brochures to recruit students. She said there were rumors that Central "did not care" or "did not want to recruit" students, when in reality they were not permitted to do so.

According to Dr. Moller, three weeks ago the district "froze part of Central's

incoming freshman class." They were going to deny all students who previously attended a parochial school and did not

live in the Central attendance area the privilege of attending a public school other than their home school.

Because of pressure from parents, the district ordered to reverse the plan. Central can still recruit parochial students out of its attendance area.

Dr. Moller was asked to serve on a committee that would address the junior high school problem.

Dr. Moller said, "It [recruitment changes] scares me. I am afraid of negative recruitment results at Central. It's a can of worms."

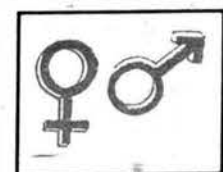
Dr. Moller implied that the problem will not go away. Dr. Moller also said, "The superintendent and school board seem determined to implement the middle school plan."

According to Dr. Moller, it is a problem that will greatly affect Central's future.

**"It [recruitment changes] scares me. I am afraid of negative recruitment results at Central. It's a can of worms."  
-Dr. Moller"**

**The '93-'94 class will still remain within the 250-275 freshmen, but the freshman class of '94-'95 may be affected.  
-Mrs. Nared**

Inside



**Sex!** Now that we have your attention, turn to pages 6,7 for stories about abortion, pregnancy and STDs.

Students give blood to the American Red Cross. See page 5.





Unsigned articles are the opinion of the Register staff

## School violence endangers educational opportunities

On February 26, 1992, gunfire ripped through the hallway at Thomas Jefferson High School, in Brooklyn, New York, killing two students. As the school recovered from the incident, administrators and students alike began to understand the danger the school faced and the importance of thorough security measures at the school. Within a month, the school had installed metal detectors at the doors and had implemented a complete security program.

While the killings at Thomas Jefferson are far from the norm, the same dangers exist at high schools throughout the nation. A recent National Center for Disease Control study found that approximately 20 percent of American high school students carry weapons for protection. The Register staff believes that this statistic must motivate American schools to work for comprehensive security arrangements and encourage nationwide gun control legislation.

Students should not be asked to place themselves in physical danger to obtain a high school education. In fact, school should serve as a refuge from the dangers of the rest of the world. This is the only way that students can dedicate the necessary effort to meet a school's demands. A student who has to worry about whether or not the student next to him is armed, simply will not be able to concentrate on his education.

If schools are to be successful, they must be safe. To make schools safe, all segments of society must unite. Parents should work together to convince young

people to use their efforts on education, rather than violence. Administrators should allocate the necessary money for comprehensive security arrangements in at-risk schools. Finally, policy makers should assist the effort by cracking down on the black-market weapons trade, since this is the source of most weapons in school.

Together, as a united front against violence in schools, we can prevent the repetition of the Thomas Jefferson High School killings and make schools safe learning environments rather than potential war zones.



## College-bound students benefit greatly from the Central Scholarship Auction

The annual Central High Scholarship Auction is going to be held for its eleventh straight year on April 23.

This auction has been successful for many years in giving 215 \$500 scholarships to college bound students since the beginning of the auction. The Register staff would like to commend all who are involved for such a successful scholarship fund.

The auction raised \$19,000 last year and awarded thirty-four scholarships. In addition to the money raised by the auction and donations, an endowment fund was started with the first auction. This fund is added to each year and invested, and the

interest on the invested money provides more scholarships.

The auction is preceded by a dinner of donated food, and the dinner admission charge also helps fund the scholarships. The dinner is not a major factor in the scholarship fund, but it helps to make the night complete.

The scholarship holds something for everyone. Many things are available from antiques to plane tickets to jewelry. All of these are donated by alumni, businesses, teachers, parents, and others to aid the student's scholarship fund.

The endowment started could eventually take over for the auction if

necessary. It is up to \$179,000, and could, if necessary, provide the scholarships for the students off the interest it makes after it is invested.

The auction is continuously successful because of donated time by the Auction co-chairs. This year they are Amy Dempsey, Jane Rumbaugh and Shelia Tomps. People like these donate valuable time to make the auction work.

The Register commends those who make the auction work every year and carry on the noble idea that it is based upon. It is hard work, but it pays off greatly to the dedicated, hardworking college-bound students of Central.

## Our Piece of Mind

Is Central generally a safe place to study?

YES 67%

NO 13%

UNDECIDED 20%

146 students polled



"Yes -- I'm not dead yet."  
Tom Dommaher, 9



"Yes, not much is going to happen in school since we have security guards here."  
Danielle Ward, 10



"No -- I've talked to people who carry guns. How could I feel safe?"  
Sarah Gleason, 11



"Yes, there is no reason why I shouldn't."  
Tommy Huey, 12



"Yes, we have all these security guards who do a good job."  
Khareth Bartee, 10



"For the most part, I feel secure. I am apprehensive about going down to the basement."  
Nicole Blizek, 11



# Dissection: murder or method?

By Chris Kunze

By Willie Bogue

As the animal rights movement has gained momentum, so have the attacks on dissection in class. Opposition is based around a belief that education through dissection is cruel, inhumane and unnecessary. Activists now charge that there are no reasons to use dissection during lab investigations because of the availability of plastic models, videos and computer programs that act as substitutes, although these are vastly inadequate.

Clearly there is a reason to continue the practice of dissection in high school biology courses. As Mrs. Wallington, Central's A.P. biology teacher, points out, "The best way for a student to learn about his/her internal anatomy is to study that of a similar organism. . . . there are no suitable substitutes for dissection." The substitutes promoted by animal rights activists have failed to provide students with a true understanding of the delicate systems of life. And in a time when the environment is being threatened worldwide, it is imperative that high schools be allowed to continue presenting such valuable lessons to their students.

If the activists succeed in banning dissection in high schools, it will be a significant loss for both the students and teachers.

Even though no new knowledge is gained by frog dissection in biology, it is of the same educational value to the high school student as cadaver work is to a medical student. Students being denied this valuable lesson are also being denied exposure to fundamental knowledge about themselves and all other organisms.

Dissection is a cruel and unnecessary practice that has unfortunately become so common in biology classrooms that students and teachers rarely question its validity.

Frogs, rabbits, mice, and all other animals commonly used for dissection have fully developed nervous systems and are able to feel pain, pleasure, and a range of emotions similar to humans. With that in mind, it is absurd to say that the slaughter and dismemberment of animals is justified simply because it provides students with a glimpse at the insides of a mammal with an anatomy almost entirely unlike our own.

The advanced technology available today also makes dissection obsolete. Computer applications, intricate models of human anatomy, and films all provide adequate educational materials for high school students, and human cadavers are far better teaching tools for those entering a medical career. Dissection can cost schools hundreds of dollars each year for each class, whereas non-animal methods are a one-time expense that lasts for years and are therefore more cost-effective.

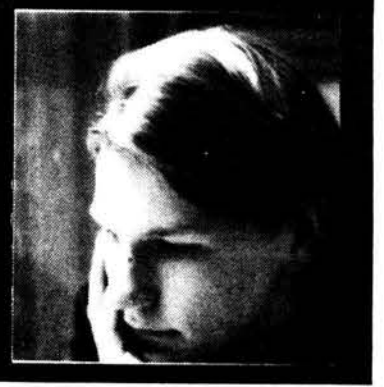
Dissection is harmful not only to non-humans but to humans as well. In Bangladesh, the mass exportation of frogs for use as food and experimental subjects caused an insect overpopulation problem that devastated many of the crops there.

No teacher can force any student to dissect if that student chooses not to. For further information on refusing dissection call 1-800-922-FROG (3764).

forum

# Absolute Uncertainties

by Thad Domina



## Digging for world peace

As the wet warmth of spring settles over my small part of the planet, I'm beginning to plan the details of my garden. With painstaking detail and care, the kind of care I rarely devote to my more important tasks, I diagram the garden, clean tools, shop for plants and seeds, survey the ground for growing potential.

It is at this time of the year that my thoughts turn from the bitter injustices and painful realities of the world to contemplate the peaceful serenity of my backyard.

Instead of worrying about the violence in Bosnia, the corruption in Washington, or the instability in Moscow, I now concern myself with the pH level of my soil, rain statistics, and tomato plant hybrids.

Once, this seemingly frivolous concern made me feel guilty; as a white male, I felt that I should

spend my time and energy attempting to remedy the many injustices that my ancestors have caused throughout history, rather than getting bigger blooms on my irises.

Today, however, I've come to understand that I can only reverse this history by correcting my own behavior, tending my own garden, instead of reforming those around me.

In fact, if we all concerned ourselves with ourselves a little more, we could avoid a huge portion of the suffering we all now endure.

For instance, thousands of lives would be saved and worlds of suffering would be avoided if American fundamentalist parents channelled their energy and talents toward raising their own children, rather than toward saving aborted fetuses and converting non-believers.

If Israeli, Palestinian, Bosnian, or African nationalists concentrated on peaceful living in the territory they now hold, rather than regaining the territory of their ancestors, the years of international warring we have endured could, possibly come to an end.

Of course, we cannot all crawl into our own shells and try to be self-sufficient. The demands of modern industrialism prevent this and the benefits of society make it unwise. We can, however, work to tolerate more of our differences, and to correct our own faults before we preach reform to the rest of the world.

If we began to spend more of our time tending our own gardens and correcting ourselves, and less time interfering with other's gardens, all of humanity could reap the crop of international peace and unity.

Dear Editor,

I think it is really sad that a lot of people are getting killed for just a jacket, hat, or shoes. I believe it is stupid for one to kill another. It seems as if nothing stops a person from killing another, not even friendship.

If a person wants a hat, jacket, or the most popular shoe, they should just buy it themselves. It sounds like these people are so desperate to have a team jacket that they'd go out and kill others. But no matter how desperate a person could be, he still doesn't have any right to kill another to get what he wants.

Maybe there's another reason why people kill to get a jacket. Maybe it's a macho thing.

Or, maybe they just wanted to look cool, but they are just too lazy to work so they could buy a jacket for themselves, so they decided to get it the cheaper way. It may make them feel good because they've got a better strategy than that other person. No matter how good they feel inside, I consider them a loser.

They may disagree with me because they think they're

winners. Just because they've defeated somebody else, but this isn't a game—this is a crime! Regardless they'll be getting silver cuffs, not a gold medal. Sian Israel

Dear Editor,

I have heard a lot of controversy concerning the Mind Dive act during the finale of this year's Road Show, and to tell you the truth, I feel that it's been blown way out of proportion.

The members of the band wanted to play an extra song,

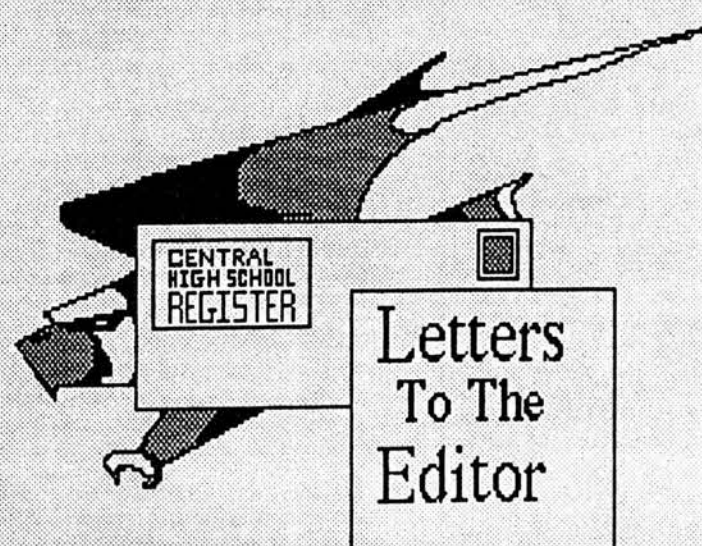
before using the brute force of administration to attempt to remedy the situation.

Several students came out on stage during this dreaded song and started to dance. Mr. Hausman said that people could have gotten hurt. I've heard many people describe the unplanned "outburst" as a mosh pit. Believe me, these people were doing nothing of the sort. Looking back, I don't see how these music lovers could have hurt anyone, anything, or even themselves.

Now, I have a question to ask the directors of the show. If it's so wrong to get up and dance to the music, why were the students in the first three rows allowed to do it? During one of the rap music acts, several

danced to the music. The screaming and yelling almost overpowered the music being played on stage.

Mrs. G was wrong, and I didn't think they did anything wrong. Adrian Hernandez



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news BRIEFS

Central makes music at Adjudication Day

The A Cappella choir and the CHS Singers participated in the OPS Adjudication at Northwest High School on April 13. The Concert Band participated on April 16. They were judged on musical talent, ability, sight reading skills and technique.

During the weekend of April 23-24, they will participate in the District Vocal Music Contest at Millard South. CHS Singers, A Cappella Choir, Concert Band, Jazz Band, soloists and mixed ensembles will compete against other area high schools.

DECA winners seen on television show

The state championship DECA quiz bowl team appeared on local television this month. Tommy Huey, Jason Hui, Meghan Stanek and Megan Burnett, seniors, appeared on "Education Omaha" with Dr. Norbert Schuerman, OPS superintendent. Mr. Harry Gaylor, marketing teacher, also was on the show.

The team discussed the national competition they will be attending and the marketing program in general. Some sample questions were asked to demonstrate the competition. The show is on Cox Cable's education channels 2 and 17 and will run at various times throughout the month.

Students do well at Bellevue art show

Last month Central students participated in the Metro Seniors Art show. The show was held at Bellevue College.

The list of winners are: for photography, senior Chris Becerra received both second and third place, and senior Andrea Davis received first place. For printmaking: Kristy Kun, senior, first place, and Danny Rose, third place. For Ceramics: Tiffany Clifton, senior, second place and Megan Burnett, senior, third place.

Military Ball honors CHS ROTC students

On March 11, 1993, Central's ROTC program took part in the annual Military Ball. It took place in Peony Park's ballroom and ran from 7:30 until 11:30. The Military Ball includes all the area OPS schools. The opening ceremony was the Grand March ceremony which includes the naming of the battalion leaders, and the dance lasts the rest of the night.

The students who were recognized and received awards in order of command were Leslie Snyder, Deputy Brigade Commander; Tressa Eden, Battalion Commander; Rachael Newsome, Battalion Executive Officer; Charlotte Armstrong, Command Sergeant Major.

By Judy Engler, Matthew Truesdell and Wendy Revers

Mr. Marsh wins \$2000 Kiewit teaching award

By Daniel Franck

Mr. Frank Marsh, Central High physics teacher, recently won the Peter Kiewit Award for Excellent Teaching. Mr. Marsh is the first science teacher to receive the award in Central High's history.



Mr. Marsh

Every year, the Kiewit Foundation presents the award to 15 teachers across the state of Nebraska. To be eligible for the award, a teacher must be nominated by one of his colleagues. Then, each nominee must submit an application and teaching materials that they have created.

Every recipient of the award receives \$2000 to be spent towards teaching, and the school receives \$5000. Mr. Marsh says that he plans to use the money to pay for the six credit hours he needs to get his masters degree in mathematics from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

"I was very surprised when I won the award," said Mr. Marsh. "I was beside myself when I found out. I almost forgot entering. I never expected to win."

Mr. Marsh has been teaching for 24 years, the last four at Central High. He graduated from the University of Wyoming with a masters degree in physics.

Mr. Jerry Doctor, chemistry teacher and science department head, wrote Mr. Marsh's nomination letter. Mr. Doctor said that he wrote the letter because of "Mr. Marsh's excellent teaching."

"His class is rare because you learn what you need to know and have fun at the same time. None of my other classes are like that," said Chet Haunton, junior.

Gregg Markus, senior, said that he believes Mr. Marsh deserves the award. "Physics is supposed to be boring and confusing, but he makes it interesting. It's not a class to fall asleep in. Besides, he has lots of cool toys."

Art students design harassment booklet

Continued from page 1

harassment is and how to prevent it," she said.

Larry Andrews, art department head, says the number of students to be involved in this project is not yet fixed. He does "hope for an equal representation of both males and females."

Students will work both in class and individually to meet the June 1 deadline. The IRS provides the desktop publishing for the students' work.

The finished booklet will be distributed throughout the Omaha district IRS offices and other regional offices throughout the state. It will be seen by several thousand of their workers.

Mrs. Shimokawa says the booklet will deal "less with the physical" and more with the "hostile working environment."

Mrs. Shimokawa said this issue affects teens more directly than they would probably tend to believe. "Teens are creating the working environment of the future," she said. "They have to be aware of these elements they will face."

Mr. Andrews said the project will be beneficial for the students' futures. "I think it is exciting for the students to work with this national and moral issue."

Genisa Zaremski, senior and art student, said the program would be worthwhile. "It's an excellent idea," she said. "It will create awareness among the students."



Good, clean fun: Central students enjoy Post-Prom. Photo by Mike Buckley

Central's Post-Prom party pioneers new possibilities

By Cy Zauner

On Saturday, April 17, Central held its first post-prom party in many years. The party took place at the Ranch Bowl from twelve to four and cost three dollars. Activities offered at the event included

bowling, dancing, pool, and according to most students, a lot of food. "All the food you can eat for three bucks, what a great deal," said Michael Watkins, senior.



April Hartman, senior, said, "I liked the fact there were a lot of things to do" David Lawler, junior, said, "Bowling wasn't exactly my idea of a fun prom night, but it turned out all right. I thought it was pretty well done." Junior Daemon

Bagley enjoyed the party for another reason; he won a one hundred dollar door prize. "I just show up and they hand me money; you've got to love it," he said.

Charles Williams, school security aid, said there were no problems with security. "It went really well."

Carol Pelan, PEP member and parent sponsor, said the party was a great success. "We had a very positive reaction."

Three hundred students bought tickets and of those, about three-fourths came," said Mrs. Pelan.

Due to support from staff and students, Mrs. Pelan said that there is a future in post-prom parties.

"Good turnout" at mini-college fair

By Wendy Revers

"Did you know you could fly a plane for \$20.00 an hour?" said Scott Adrian, senior. Scott was one of the many participants in the mini college fair held in the courtyard on April 14.

"I've always thought about being a pilot," Scott added; he got the chance to speak to a representative from Sky Harbor Flight School.

Mr. Bob McMeen, guidance director, contacted a number of schools to participate in the mini college fair. Hall Matthews, a representative from the Omaha College of Health Careers, commented that he and his colleagues come to area high schools two to three times a year to recruit students. DeAnne BeeBe, a representative from Metropolitan Community College, stated, "We always get a big turnout at Central."

Mrs. LuAnn Richardson, counselor, said, "There was a pretty good turnout, although I regret that more students aren't taking advantage of this." She also added that there will be a job fair in the courtyard over the noon hour on April 22. A number of area employers will be recruiting for part-time jobs, full-time jobs and summer jobs.

Senior Finals

Friday, May 14- First, Third, Sixth, and Ninth hours  
Monday, May 17- Zero, Second, Fourth, Eighth, and Tenth hours  
Tuesday, May 18- Any missed exams.



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## Custodian dies

By Kristen Perry

Mr. Jesse Heller, Central custodian, passed away from a heart attack on March 8. He was 61 years old. He had worked for OPS since 1957 and was preparing for retirement at the end of the school year. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

Mr. Heller worked the night custodial shift from 3:30 p.m. to midnight. Mr. Roy Holmes, custodian, said that Mr. Heller enjoyed his job and was "excited for his retirement." Mr. Holmes also said that Mr. Heller liked to hunt ducks and fish.

Mr. Holmes said that Mr. Heller had a "real nice personality. You never knew if he was down. I enjoyed working with him," said custodian Mr. Al Gunter.



Jesse Heller

## 11th annual Scholarship Auction to be held April 23

By Michelle Chandler

Friday, April 23, 1993, will mark Central's 11th annual Scholarship Auction. The auction will begin at six o'clock in Central's courtyard and consists of a taco salad dinner from 6 to 7 o'clock, a silent auction from 6 to 8 o'clock and an oral auction at 8:15 p.m.

Drawings for raffle prizes will also occur. First prize in the raffle is a trip to Las Vegas for four days, second is \$500 cash and third is a diamond and topaz pendant valued at \$250. Raffle tickets are one dollar each.

Items to be auctioned were donated by Central alumni, parents, staff, friends and students. A solicitation committee composed of a large number of volunteer parents and staff members began the process of finding people who would donate the items several months ago.

Central parents and staff began the scholarship auction and dinner in an effort to raise money for college scholarships to be awarded to deserving seniors. 50 percent of the net profits go directly to students who receive Central scholarships, and the other half goes into a long-term endowment fund. The endowment fund presently consists of approximately \$179,000, and the auction endowment fund combination has provided funds for 215 \$500 scholarships.

Ms. Ginny Bauer, school treasurer and annual organizer of the auction, said that the auction is a community effort and that Central's many supporters and the hours of work put in by Central PEP make the auction a success. Last year's auction was the most successful one so far, netting approximately \$19,000. Workers hope for a repeat of that success this year.

## news BRIEFS

### Physics students triumph at contests

On Saturday, March 29, the Central High Physics Club took second place out of seventeen schools in the annual Creighton University Physics Field Day.

Physics Field Day is a competition that consists of several events. Those events include Leap Frog (a written team test), bridge building, egg drop, optics slalom (trying to maneuver a laser through an obstacle course), and Chalk Talk (a five minute speech and presentation).

Central High team members were Kevin Cody and Mike Roleigh, seniors, and Alex Cooper, Dan Franck, Charles Muffly-Cunningham, and Matthew Truesdell, juniors. The team sponsors were Mr. Frank Marsh and Dr. Robert Wolff, physics teachers.

The Central High team received individual awards in two events. Kevin received a fourth place ribbon in Leap Frog and Mike and Matthew received second place ribbons in Leap Frog.

The second place ranking of the Central High team is the first time Central has placed in the top four since 1988. Central was also the only OPS school to place in the top four this year.

### Students advance to History Day state

Megan Hovde, freshman and Mimi Douglas, sophomore, were victorious in the Omaha District History Day Contest and now will go to State.

Mimi and Megan won first place in the Senior Group Media division of the contest held March 20. Their winning entry was a slide presentation on the Battle of Antietam, a Civil War battle.

State competition is April 24 in Lincoln. If they win at state, they go to Washington, D.C. for the national competition. Both Megan and Mimi went to nationals last year, and Mimi also went the year before.

### 1993 royalty crowned

The 1993 Central High School Prom, sponsored by Student Council, was held April 17 in the courtyard.

Prom royalty included Edie Andersen, Nicole Goldenstein, Quatesha Kern, Tiffany Lehn, Rachael Newsome, Dan Bagley, Ryan Basye, Jeff Berg, Ben Fenner, and Demetrius Richards.

Demetrius Richards and Nicole Goldenstein were crowned Prom King and Queen at Coronation.

### Register wins Quill and Scroll awards

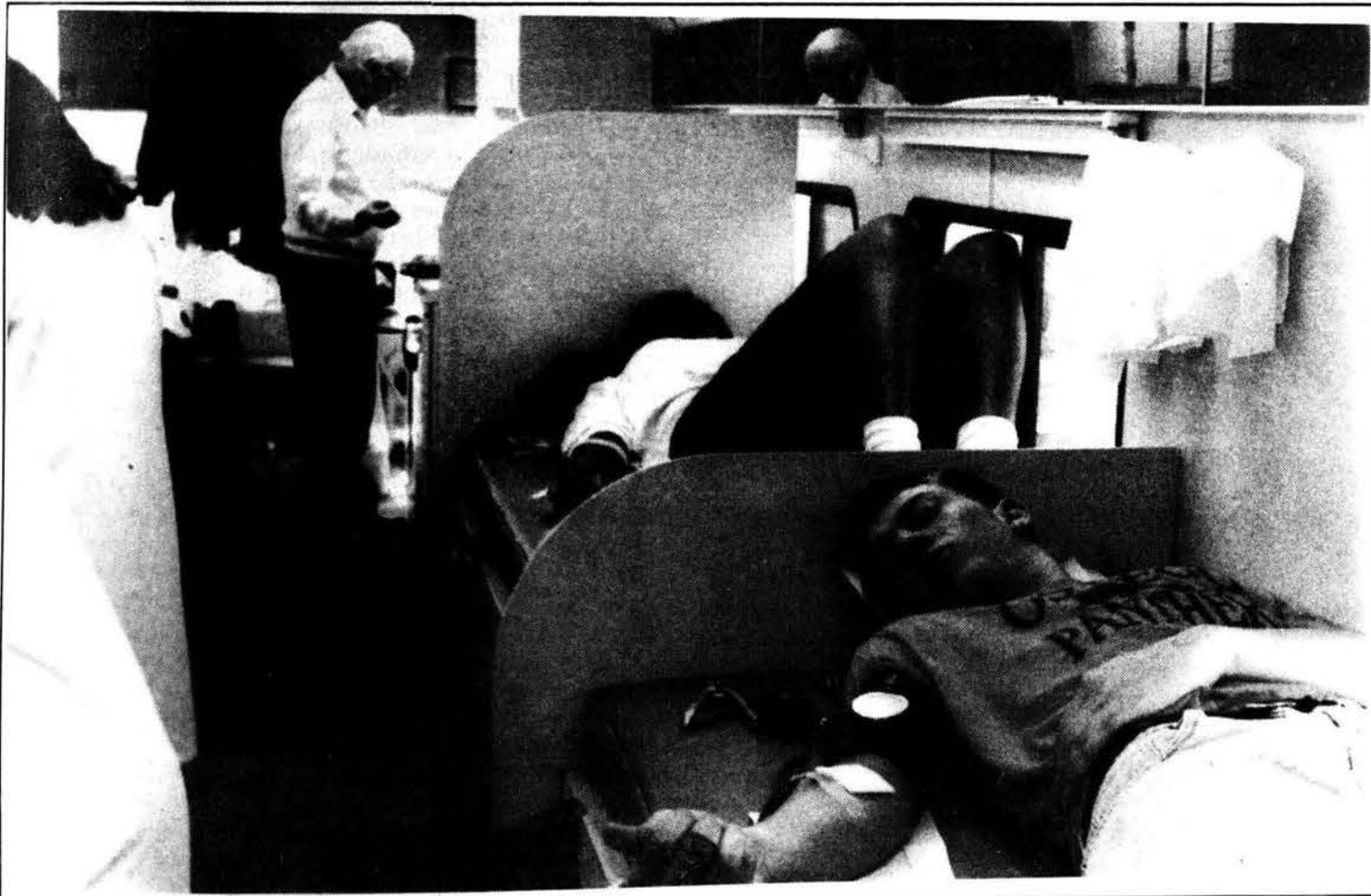
Senior Jeff Berg and junior Chris Rivers were each winners of the 1993 National Quill and Scroll Writing and Photo contest for their work on the Register this year.

Jeff won his award in the advertisement category and Chris in the editorial cartoon category.

The Quill and Scroll competition is co-sponsored by the National Newspaper Association.

As a result of their awards, Jeff and Chris are each eligible to apply for one of the \$500 Edward J. Nell memorial scholarships in Journalism.

By Daniel Franck, Matt Truesdell, Wendy Revers, and Kelly Grace



Givin' blood and takin' names: Nick Ogden, senior, patiently waits for his blood to be pumped for the American Red Cross April 2. Photo by Cathy Moyer.

## 55 students donate blood to Red Cross bloodmobile

By Jacob Slosburg

"When you give blood, you give another sunrise, another spring flower, another chance." This slogan is used by the American Red Cross to persuade people to donate blood.

On Friday, April 2, students had the opportunity to help out. The Red Cross visited Central from 8:30-1:30. They took blood from approximately 50 students.

Ms. Millicent Potter, a Red Cross volunteer who has helped at blood drives for four area high schools, said, "I would say that all of the high schools have had good participation. I would also say Central ranks high among them [in participation]. We have had very good cooperation."

The blood drive was organized by Central's Student Council. According to Mrs. Judy Storm, special education teacher and Student Council supervisor, not all students are eligible to give blood. Students must be at least 17 years old and weigh 106 pounds. They must also have a parent permission slip filed in the main office.

The Red Cross screened students by questioning them before taking blood. Each student met with a registered nurse where they answered questions which might prevent them from donating blood.

Ms. Jodi Manturi, head nurse, said, "We ask a lot of questions related to AIDS and hepatitis as well as medications the student may be using."

The Red Cross initially pricked each student's ear to get a blood sample. According to Ms. Manturi, this was done to check the hemoglobin so the student would not become anemic after giving blood.

If everything was acceptable to the Red Cross, the student would be allowed to donate blood.

Jeff Driscoll, freshman and Student Council member who worked at the bloodmobile, said, "A lot of people were turned down because of sickness."

Jennifer Cunningham, junior, said she wanted to do it because it "sounded like a good cause." But, she was rejected because her temperature was two tenths of a degree too high.

Ms. Manturi said that one unit of blood, approximately one pint, was drawn from each student. Ms. Potter said that Omaha is a regional center of the Red Cross and is responsible for distributing blood to 99 different hospitals. She said, "We always need blood. However, the Midwest has a reputation of being very good."

Nick Kammerer, senior, said he gave blood because he was asked by a Student

Council member. "I thought it would be a good thing to do for the community," he said.

Lushawn Smith, junior, gave blood for similar reasons. Afterwards, she said she was very tired. When asked if the process hurt she replied, "I'm not going to lie. It did hurt." Lushawn also said that the nurses made her drink some juice and offered her a donut after the process. This was a uniform procedure. They told her not to lift anything heavy and to refrain from strenuous exercise for the next five hours.

Ms. Manturi said she gives blood every eight to ten weeks. She said she gives because "it saves lives."

The event was made possible by the Student Council. Student Council members worked at the bloodmobile during their study halls and lunch periods. They registered students and worked as runners to go get students when it was their turn to give blood.

A freshman and Student Council worker at the blood drive, Tonya Watzke said she would volunteer for the Red Cross in the future.

Mrs. Storm said, "Every year we hope to increase the number of people that participate." Next year's blood drive will be held on March 23, 1994.



## Sex, dating; teens' opinions differ

By Alex Cooper

Sex is a subject often talked and joked about among teens. Students at Central have varying opinions about such things as what age is appropriate for sex, how long a couple should know each other before having sex and other things as well.

Joe Baber, junior, said that sex is all right if one feels he or she is mature enough to handle the responsibility. However, he said, "You really have to get to know someone before you have sex with them." Joe said that two months is about the right amount of time to know someone. If Joe got a girl pregnant and she wanted to keep the baby, he said he would give her money to support it and if she wanted to give it up for adoption, he would support that, too.

Joe said, "After having sex with a girl, I think I would have more respect for her because she shared something special with me."

"No, I don't think teenagers should have sex. I think very few teenagers are ready for it," said Carrie Jacobsen, junior. "I'd like to wait until I'm married or at least living with someone and having a very serious and mature relationship." She said that these are her opinions and she would not force them on anyone else.

"Teenagers are going to be experimental. [Sex] is one of their outlets," said Matt Kudlacz, junior, who believes that teenage sex is acceptable. He said that couples should wait until "no doubt exists" and

realize beforehand whether they are responsible or not.

Freshman Michelle Borowiak said she thinks it is alright for people to have sex whenever they want. "I think one should be going out or at least have a commitment," said Michelle.

Junior Christina Mace said when a couple has sex "depends on the couple." She said that sex is a "commitment" and that if a relationship is serious sex is o.k. Christina said pregnancy is a problem and that if a guy gets a girl pregnant he should "of course" stay with and support her.

"We discussed our feelings, what it would mean to each other, and the whole matter of respect," said Melissa (name has been changed to protect anonymity), a Central student, about her decision to have sex with her boyfriend of three months. By respect she meant that one of them was not just using the other for sex. She said that sex is great, but that there is a lot to worry about and "it can cause disagreements." Melissa said she is on the pill and that her boyfriend uses a condom every time.

Alfred (name has been changed to protect anonymity), another student, said he had known his girlfriend for three weeks before he had sex with her for the first time. He said that they talked about it beforehand. "We talked about pregnancy, AIDS and previous experiences." Alfred said that his girlfriend was on the pill and he used a condom every time.

## Students divided about

By Alex Cooper

Abortion is a controversial issue in today's society, but what are the rules for teenage girls seeking to get an abortion and how do teenagers feel about it?

Jade Turner, senior, said, "It's really sensitive and depends on the situation." She said that if someone who is financially stable wants to have an abortion she

would be against it, but she would support it if the person had no money or was going on to college. "If I got pregnant I wouldn't want to have an abortion, but it would be a thought,"

said Jade. "I'd think twice because my mom was thinking about aborting me."

Jade thinks that it is ultimately up to the mother whether she wants to have an abortion because she will be the one raising it.

"The people who are against her having an abortion aren't going to want to pay for the child," she said.

"I think that abortion is a sin because it is murder. It's biblically wrong," said Liz Bell, sophomore. "I think it should be illegal."

She said that she has participated in the life chain the last couple of years. The life chain is a gathering of pro-life people who hold hands and stand along 72nd and Dodge.

Liz participates in it because she feels that the pro-choice movement receives more publicity than the pro-life movement. Liz has also volunteered her time at the Crisis Pregnancy Center.

"I am pro-choice. My opinion could not be changed," said Vanessa Lewis, sophomore. She said that she thinks it

SHOULD ABORTION BE KEPT LEGAL

64% YES 26% NO

Out of 223 students

## Teenage parents encouraged to take class

By Anna Thomas

When most people read about teenage pregnancy, all they see is the statistics and numbers. Sometimes it is difficult to realize that every one of those figures comes with a face and feelings. Central High offers a teen parenting class that all expectant mothers and fathers are encouraged to take.

Mrs. Linda Milliken, teen parenting teacher, said that if they know about the students they are usually enrolled, but sometimes people "slip through the cracks, especially the fathers."

"It's just like any regular class," said Mrs. Milliken. The class focuses on three major topics. The areas are self-esteem, parenting and dual role responsibilities. Guest speakers, which include experts on teen pregnancy and people who were teen parents, are also incorporated into the curriculum.

The class is one year long, but a student can enter at any time. "If a girl finds out she's pregnant, she can start taking the class the next day," said Mrs. Milliken. "Everyone who takes the class is either pregnant or a parent, so we don't have other students being judgmental. Everyone knows they're all in the same boat," said Mrs. Milliken.

"We're here to show what's involved in parenting. We're also a little bit of a support system," said Mrs. Milliken.

Jill (all names have been changed for anonymity) is a student at Central and is taking teen parenting. Her pregnancy was unplanned, but she is not upset by it. Jill and the baby's father will be raising the child together.

"Even though this pregnancy was unplanned on my part, I couldn't be happier about having this baby and the fact that the father is still with me," said Jill. "We are both excited about our child."

Kristin, who is also enrolled in the teen parenting class, now has a daughter. The pregnancy was unplanned and the father will not be contributing in the actual raising of the child, although he will be paying of support. "It's hard raising a child by myself, but I have a lot of support from my family and the father's family."

Kristin decided to raise the child herself because she is against abortion and she said giving the child up for adoption would have been too hard. "I love my daughter and giving up things for her is worth it," said Kristin.

Bill, who is a father in the teen parenting class, said his son's birth was not planned, but "it really wasn't accidental."

Sometimes the role of the father is overlooked in teenage pregnancies, but Bill said, "I feel I have a major responsibility in raising my son."

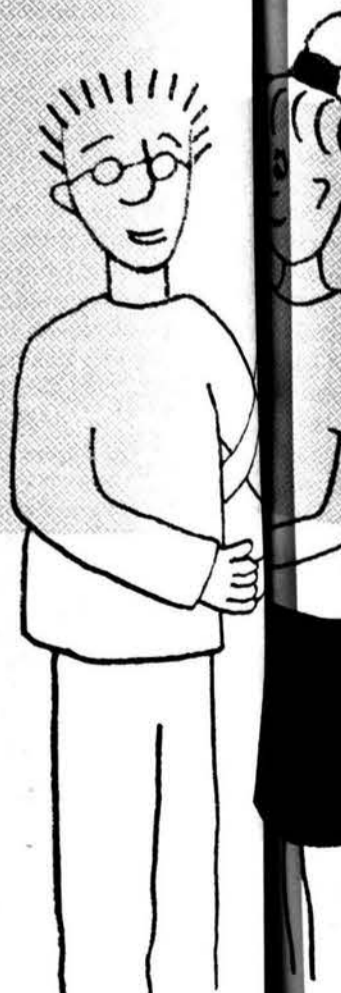
Bill also thinks that "having a baby is not a tragedy, it is a gift from God. There is too much tragedy in the world to look at it like that."

Shannon, also enrolled in the teen parenting class, gives this advice to teenagers: "Before you have a baby, you need to think about how you are going to raise the child. Think before you act, because it isn't easy."

Some of the problems that result from a teenage pregnancy are health problems and balancing school work and parenting. "This year I've had several girls with complications and health problems," said Mrs. Milliken. One of her students recently acquired a home tutor due to the fact that she will be bedridden until August due to complications in her pregnancy.

Another difficulty is obtaining day care. Students at ISC or North High School can take their children to Head Start, a pre-kindergarten program. Mrs. Milliken said that hopefully this option will be available for Central students next year, "which will be a real plus for some of the kids."

Mrs. Milliken said that going to school while raising a child is like "any other job."





**The Spur Posse, sex and teens**

**Students give opinions on sex and stereotypes**

*By Julie DeWitt*

What is the Spur Posse? "They're disgusting." "They're awesome." "They're a bunch of punks." "They're pimps."

These are some of the answers given by Central students who have seen or heard of the group. The Spur Posse is a group of high school boys from Lakewood, California, who have gained notoriety for the game they have been playing.

The members of the Spur Posse keep track of each girl they have sex with and get one point for each. Some members claim to have over 60 points.

The Spur Posse has appeared on numerous talk shows recently, to the disgust of many people. Sometimes they even get paid for the interviews.

Some Central students don't see anything really wrong with this while others spoke out strongly against it. Kim Rock, junior, said that she thinks the Spur Posse "has been glorified by

the media way too much." She declined to comment further.

"I think the girls are just mad because they found out that they weren't the only one," said Ben Perlman, junior.

"I think it's morally wrong [what the Spur Posse is doing]. I also think it's stupid. Who cares?" said Zach Hogya, junior.

Another aspect of the situation students expressed their opinions about is the double standard society seems to have about men and women and sexuality.

Students were asked what they thought about girls having sex and "getting a reputation," as one student put it versus guys having sex and being seen as cool or "a stud."

Gina D'Accio, freshman, said, "I think it is really unfair. Both girls and guys should have the same standards and girls shouldn't be considered sluts unless they talk about it or sleep around." Gina thinks there are ways to help dismiss the double

standard. "I think they could teach it in Human Growth classes. They should teach that sex is a big step but that people who have sex should be treated the same," she said.

Gina does not like the Spur Posse situation in California at all. "I think anyone who risks their life for the sake of a game should think more about what they are doing," she said. Gina thinks that the students involved in the Spur Posse should be concerned more about sexually-transmitted diseases.

Ms. Betty Schuler-Weingarten, Human Growth and Development teacher, said she is unsure how the stereotyping of men and women who engage in sex got started.

"Perhaps it is because males are always seen as the aggressor and women are seen as passive. Back in Victorian times women weren't supposed to be interested in sex. They were supposed to be passive and men were supposed to be more

macho."

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten said that she doesn't really believe it is necessary to teach about sex and stereotyping because "I think it has changed. I don't think intelligent young women think guys are studs who sleep around," she said. "I don't think they respect guys with that image."

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten said she hasn't really been following the Spur Posse story but commented on why some males may be reluctant to say what is happening is wrong.

"It affects their image. They may not think it is good or desirable, but they don't want to say it is wrong because other guys might think they are backing down," she said.

James Chipasula, junior, is one of the males who had no problem speaking out against the Spur Posse.

"They're just a bunch of punks who have no respect for women," he said.



**Something to worry about...**

**Statistics show increase in STD cases**

*By Anna Thomas*

Did you know that approximately 2000 teenagers are infected with STD's (sexually transmitted diseases) every day?

Although STD's are a common threat to all people's health, 85% of all cases occur in people between the ages of 15 and 30. The rising problem of risking disease with sexual activity is causing worry for people in all age groups, but most specifically for people in high school.

Ms. Cathy Tollefsrud of Planned Parenthood emphasizes that the problem "is growing" and "in terms of numbers it's increasing, especially in teens."

Anyone who has sexual contact with another person is in the at risk group, but chances can be lessened with specific precautions. Ms. Tollefsrud said, "The prevention is relatively simple." Her suggestions for preventing STD's are abstaining from sex and always wearing a condom during sexual intercourse.

The most common STD is chlamydia. Although this STD is sometimes difficult to diagnose with its vague symptoms, it can be treated easily with antibiotics.

Some other common STD's are gonorrhea and herpes. Gonorrhea is usually treated with penicillin, but if not diagnosed early it can cause serious problems such as arthritis and heart damage.

Ms. Tollefsrud describes herpes as "the gift that keeps on giving" because once the virus is contracted the symptoms can reappear at any time.

Syphilis is another STD, and probably the most dangerous. It develops in stages and is difficult to detect. If it is not discovered early enough blindness, heart disease, paralysis and insanity can result. "People should be aware [of STD's] if they choose to have sex," said Ms. Tollefsrud. She believes students should be educated in the subject of STD's because "even nice, clean-looking people can have sexually transmitted diseases."

Planned Parenthood speaks to all of its clinic patients about the dangers of STD's. The organization also does programs throughout the community, and STD's are included in the presentations.

Although Ms. Tollefsrud thinks the topic of STD's should be included in the human growth and development

curriculum, she doesn't believe in the "try and scare 'em approach."

At Central, the human growth and development classes include a chapter on STD's. Ms. Betty Schuler-Weingarten, Central HGD teacher, said, "We teach about how they are contracted and how to prevent them, and we stress abstinence." She said that teaching prevention of STD's with abstinence "reinforces the main idea of the course." Besides using the textbook, the classes watch videos about the signs, symptoms, and treatment of the diseases.

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten said that all teens need to worry about STD's, including Central students. "It is a popular notion to think that it doesn't happen in our school...we want to believe that Central isn't affected, but we are," she said.

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten stressed the importance of taking the human growth and development course that Central offers. "I think it's extremely necessary because you don't get all the facts in junior high," said Ms. Schuler-Weingarten.

Ms. Schuler-Weingarten's words of wisdom are that students should realize "that in the end the risks are not worth it."

**ed abortion**

would problems if a teenager had a she would probably have to school. "Sometimes it is be id," said Vanessa. "I think should be an option in rape st re the girl becomes pregnant ns where the girl's life is in use of an unhealthy pregnan z Offner, senior. "Howe e that people need to

**ABO  
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%

students

Gaughan id that his Sunday schooler arch "brain-washed" him into life when he was younger s changed after he completed school. He said, "I saw the issue I realized I had no right to do what to do." He said, "I feel that ve the right to do with their bod want."

Dylan t everyone has their right to "It's the reactionary pro-lifers se the problems," said Dyla

"The s that the majority of he activ le. I think it's sad hat me y have the right to decide a ights."

A girl 17 seeking an abortion n Nebra notify one of her parents, is not possible, she must rec sion from a judge to ave one

A bill g in the Nebraska egislatur would require a mandator waiting period before n abortion.







**Actresses through and through:** Christina Belford and Ali McLarney are hitting local stages as we speak.

Photo By Mike Buckley

## Students catch acting bug in local drama productions

By Jenny Priesman

While many Central students catch spring fever and relax, four dedicated Thespians plan to spend their free time acting on local stages. Josh Perilo and Christian Harding, juniors, are performing in "Romeo and Juliet" at the Bellevue Little Theatre and Ali McLarney, junior, joins Christina Belford, sophomore, in "Fiddler On The Roof" at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Josh plays Gregory and Balthazar in the Shakespearean classic. "I love doing Shakespeare. It's awesome," he said. "A lot of times there's not many chances for kids to do Shakespeare at a real theatre. This is a great chance for me."

"It's really hard to do two things at once," Josh said. The play takes up a lot of his extra time, with rehearsals scheduled for almost every night. He does not mind the commitment, however. "It all pays off in the end," he said.

Christian was added to the play to replace another actor. He will play one of the Prince's guards. "I'm happy about it," he said. "It should be fun."

The schedule is not as demanding for Christian as it is

for Josh. "I won't have a lot of rehearsals," he said, because he is joining the company late into the rehearsal period.

"I really like the show and thought I'd try out," Ali said about "Fiddler On The Roof." She auditioned hoping for a part in the chorus and was cast as Hodel, a supporting lead. Christina was also surprised to be cast in a supporting role. "I was stunned to find out that I was Chava," she said. "I'm very excited."

"I think it will be a really high quality production, since the Playhouse usually has high quality shows," Ali said. Christina agreed, saying that "I thoroughly enjoy working with real professionals in the theatre."

Ali said that "I'm counting on it [the show] affecting my schoolwork." She hopes to do her homework after school before going to rehearsal at night. "I'll have to work around" the schedule, she said.

"It is difficult to keep up the schoolwork with all the late rehearsals," Christina said. "Having no free time is basically my life. I'll come home from school, do my homework and go to my rehearsal. I won't have time for anything else."

"Romeo and Juliet" will be performed at the Bellevue Little Theatre April 23-25, April 30-May 2 and May 7-9. "Fiddler On The Roof" will be performed at the Omaha Community Playhouse May 28- July 2.



## Corner O' Reviews



Well, gang, with the end of school just around the corner, causing little tears to run down our cheeks like snowflakes, we review books and movies. Why? Because, dammit, you're worth it.

### Books

## Fat cat Grisham rolling in dough

By Jenny Priesman

Novelist John Grisham has achieved a rare literary accomplishment—to have four novels on the best seller list simultaneously. According to the April 18 *New York Times* National Best Seller list, all four of his novels: *The Firm*, *A Time To Kill*, *The Pelican Brief*, and *The Client* are bestsellers.

*The Firm* is the most widely known book. It is being made into a film starring Tom Cruise. The scheduled release date is July 2.

The thriller tells the story of an ambitious young lawyer and his wife who are struggling to survive in an exclusive Memphis law firm. Frequent plot twists and detailed

characterizations make the novel extremely suspenseful.

*The Pelican Brief* tells the story of Darby Shaw, a young law student. Shaw writes a brief about the murder of a Supreme Court justice which becomes known to the press and in Washington as the pelican brief. It was suspenseful, interesting and impossible to put down. *The Pelican Brief* is also scheduled for a movie release. Julia Roberts will star as Darby Shaw.

*A Time To Kill* is a compelling story of justice in a small southern town. Defense attorney Jack Brigrance becomes national news as he defends a father on trial for avenging the rape of his young daughter. Grisham has written yet another suspense thriller that

possesses intelligence, wit and style.

*The Client*, Grisham's newest novel, is about Mark Sway, an unusually mature boy who witnesses the suicide of a prominent New Orleans lawyer. Grisham's style never falters. The novel is as entertaining as his first three, with more comebacks than the others. In one scene Mark orders hundreds of dollars worth of take-out food and bills to a harassing policeman.

John Grisham has quickly become one of America's most popular authors. His novels are entertaining and riveting. I would highly recommend all four novels. Grisham's thrillers will satisfy most readers.

### Movies

## Awful flick gets two thumbs down

By Willie Bogue

There are some movies that are so atrocious, so altogether BAD, that they collect dust in video libraries everywhere, doing nothing but making people mad. One of those unique films is *Satan's Princesses*. I discovered this on Friday night and my sleep-starved brain was too weak to turn away.

Plot, you unknowingly ask?

Plot schmot. A female servant of the Prince of Darkness kidnaps the daughters of prominent political figures and brainwashes them to do the bidding of the Lord of the Flies. This generally involves having the girl murder some unimportant character then blow her own head off. A gruff cop (Jack Griffin) takes it upon himself to uncover the cause of the unusual killings and in the process learns how to love.

Acting, you innocently query. Acting schmacting. Although the movie would have been far more enjoyable if Beelzebub had sucked the cop's soul out, Jack proves early in the film through his acting that he has no soul.

Be sure to prepare yourself for the super-duper ending that is sure to have you on the edge of your couch. (Hint: the cop wins.)

I'm afraid I just can't give *Satan's Princesses* any more than two thumbs down. Yecch.

## Indecent Proposal 'just isn't very good'

By Ben Fenner

Okay. Take *Honeymoon in Vegas*, cut out all of the funny parts, and throw in one naked Demi Moore, and you've got *Indecent Proposal*. This is a movie

that just isn't very good. Granted, it had some neat camera angles and it was mildly amusing watching rich old men play poker, but that's about it. This movie could have been cut down to about ten minutes: guy gets girl, guy loses girl, guy gets drunk, guy gets back girl. It was very predictable, ending in perfect happy Hollywood form.

Girl, played by Demi Moore, gets offered \$1,000,000 by rich guy, played by Robert Redford, for one night of hanky panky. Meanwhile, average guy, played by everyone's favorite dumb bartender Woodie Harrelson, gets jealous and hits the bottle. The

remainder of the movie looks like the emotional rollercoaster of the two lovers.

This is a fairly emotional movie. There are no explosions and the rich people, as far as we can tell, didn't make their money selling cocaine or running prostitution rings in New York. Also, women who have seen this movie, that I have talked to, have enjoyed this film. I'm not sure these two facts are related. As women more emotional, am I just an unfeeling slab of concrete. Whatever the answer, my opinion doesn't change. I didn't like this movie.

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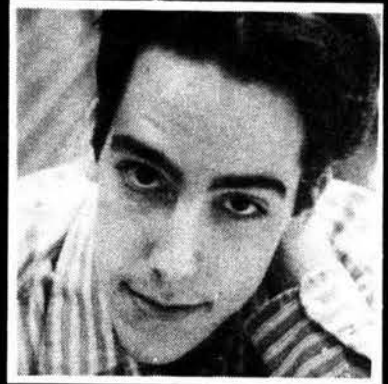


## Concert Connection

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Redman Tour<br>w/George Jones<br>(country)<br>April 24<br>Civic<br>Auditorium | Overkill<br>w/ Non-fiction<br>& Social Decay<br>(metal)<br>April 19<br>Ranch Bowl |
| FIREHOSE<br>w/ Fever Trees<br>(alternative)<br>May 10<br>Ranch Bowl           | Paul McCartney<br>(classic rock)<br>May 31<br>Kemper Arena,<br>Kansas City        |
| Faster Pussycat<br>(metal)<br>May 3<br>Ranch Bowl                             | Nuclear Assault<br>(metal)<br>April 27<br>Ranch Bowl                              |

## Whistling in the Dark

by  
Chris Becerra



## Pumsy the Magic Dragon

If you happened to read the Living section of the World-Herald on Saturday the 10th of April, you may have seen an interesting article on the front page, just under the bit about the re-enactment of the Last Supper.

"Dragon Fires Debate," read the headline.

Apparently, there are quite a few parents in Harrisburg, Pa., who do not want a dragon hand puppet to be the one to teach their children about self esteem and (heaven forbid!) to think for themselves. Lost? Me too, or at least just frustrated.

The culprit's name is Pumsy. She is a hand puppet designed to teach children that they are themselves "and that is enough" and to say no to drugs and to make decisions for themselves. She is used in over 16,000 elementary schools. But some

parents say that their children get all of the encouragement and self-esteem they need at home—through their parents and through God. "It teaches [kids] to look at a dragon as a friend instead of their parents," says Phyllis Schlafly, a conservative activist in Harrisburg. I don't know, I think I'd notice if my dad was a plush dragon rather than a human-being, and I'm sure most kids are smart enough to differentiate between the two.

According to the article, Pumsy the dragon—if used correctly—helps children feel good about themselves, advocates say. But many are angry at certain parts of the Pumsy program, developed by Timberline Press Inc. in Eugene, Or. Parts designed to encourage decision-making have parents in an uproar because of the "way those programs are structured." Elementary school counselors visit classrooms for three half-hour sessions a week for eight weeks. Pumsy asks kids to visualize themselves saying "no" to drugs and what they would do if they found a twenty dollar bill. Ooo, suffer little children.

Pumsy has been challenged in about eight states and in most cases, the dragon has proved herself as not being the anti-Christ exploiter of children she has been accused of being.

But Carolyn Kortge, a spokesperson for the dragon, says that these accusations by frightened parents "are not founded in an awareness of the programs but are broad, sweeping accusations from people who haven't even read the program."

I think for children, at least for me, it's difficult to muster up enough courage to confide in most people. When I was a kid, I was ashamed of a lot of the things I was scared of and of all the questions I had. I never had imaginary friends or anything and I wasn't raised very religiously so I had no one, save a few close friends, with whom I could talk to. I think there's more danger from the daily ostracization many kids face from other children every day rather than this puppet. Really, the only

way this dragon could be used incorrectly is by not using it at all.

But, "you're almost convincing the child that he has magical powers," according to Dr. George Twente of General Hospital in Decatur, Al., Whoa! Watch out! Here comes that self-respecting kid again!

Maybe Pumsy the dragon puppet isn't the best way to help children build their self-esteem. Maybe parents aren't always the best help either. But I think there is such fear among the moral majority that somehow, sometime, children will question their parents, their god and why there are certain rules to follow that don't make any logical sense. I think this "new age" dragon honestly does a lot more good rather than assist in the moral deterioration of our country. Maybe a little moral decay would do this country some good, anyway. Think of how many wars have been over religion.

All I know is that I could think of a few kids who could benefit from having a few talks with Pumsy; like the four-year-old up the street from me who was allegedly beaten to death by his mother's boyfriend. A little undermining of his parental figures might've helped him out; might've shown him that not all adults are out to hurt him, that there are some grown-ups out there who aren't blind, who are there to help. Maybe some magical powers could've proven useful. Even his father took no notice of the bruises on his own son's face.

This is the kind of moral decay conservatives should fight instead of wasting their breath on petty issues. Isn't the fact that we have to honestly communicate to our children through a hand puppet say something about the fall of the American family? God's not there for everyone and love doesn't exist in every home. Children need something concrete and if their parents or the church isn't working for them then a dragon will have to do.

Besides, I trust Pumsy a lot more than that crazy Barney character.

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Penalty Shots  
by  
Tim James



Is this the last successful year of Major League Baseball?

On a recent spring break trip to St. Louis, we got the chance to attend Opening Day at Busch Stadium. We saw the Anheuser-Busch Clydesdales pulling the famous beer cart, Cardinal shortstop Ozzie Smith perform his acrobatic back flip, and the air was filled with excitement and electricity as baseball was welcoming us back into spring.

After paying \$5 for parking, \$7 for each ticket, and \$3 for a souvenir program, we were ready for some fan-tastic baseball. Besides the opening innings and the eventual beer-fight in the nose-bleed seats, the oddest event caught my attention the most.

A bum stood outside Busch Stadium a few hours before gametime near the players' entrance. He stood against the railing in an old jacket, shirt, and pants; quite better than the normal, ordinary street person.

He approached us and asked us if we could spare any change. We replied with a quick no, and then he moved on and approached another group of vulnerable teenagers to beg for money.

Later, just before game-time, he was dancing to a band right outside the gates. People tossed in quarters and other spare bits of change for his routine. Actually, I don't think he was dancing, rather he was just walking a little awkward and chasing after those rolling coins. I would guess he made quite a bit of money that afternoon. The Cardinals drew around 50,000 for Opening Day, and if every person gave the beggar a penny, he would've made \$500.

While the bum made pocket change that day, most of the players made thousands in that period of time. Just as the guy dances outside, the players warm up to play their favorite game inside the stadium. Why does the bum even have to beg for money while the top-paid athletes make more in one day than the common ordinary worker?

This made me realize that baseball players' salaries are just simply out-of-control. The athletes have taken their success in life and turned it into greed. It seems to me that they have lost the love for baseball and the pure innocent sport that it once was.

The whole structure that now exists in professional sports is ludicrous. Baseball introduced its tragic flaw with the invention of free agency and arbitration. The system now in place lets the athletes play a game with other players to see who can reach what record salary milestone first. Minnesota Twins outfielder Kirby Puckett was the first 3 million dollar man in baseball in 1989. There have been 99

players to reach that mark since then. In 1993, there are 262 players in Major League Baseball who will make at least \$1 million dollars this year.

Free agency has also turned baseball into a guessing game about starting lineups on Opening Day. Many teams have different success one year to the next because of increasing turnover of players and free agency taking the players to the team with the most money or highest offer. What ever happened to being loyal to a team or working toward a common goal instead of always renegotiating for a new, higher priced contract?

It's becoming more and more difficult to follow a team for more than a few years because the team's chemistry changes so drastically during the off-season. Another strike is predicted in the spring of 1994 because the selfish owners can't get along with the greedy players.

Another concern of avid baseball fans is that the players are only moving to the

teams with large market areas who can pay the high demanding salaries. New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Texas and California teams attract many of the big-name stars away from the smaller markets such as Pittsburgh, Seattle and Cincinnati.

Where does all this money to pay the players come from? Your pocketbooks, and all of the fans who pay increased prices at the gates, concession stands, parking garages, and to the cable companies. Americans are quickly losing their "favorite pastime" as they once knew it.

I hope the owners and upper management of baseball soon realize that baseball is doomed for destruction with financial difficulties. Television revenue for the sport will drop because ESPN bought out their contract and will not be televising any games next year, and CBS is only paying a fraction of what they have the past few seasons.

The professional athletes, now considered to be entertainers, do deserve to be paid for the work and their talent. But few persons' contribution to society is worth more than \$1 million a year.

Changes in baseball, such as the proposed inter-league play, a new playoff system, and expansion will change the look of the game. An additional change that I would like to see incorporated in baseball is a salary cap of around \$30 million for the full roster of 26 players. This rule could be tested for around ten years to see if it could work. The simple fact remains that salaries are out of proportion for the job and game that they should love to be playing.

“Another strike is predicted in the spring of 1994 because the selfish owners can't get along with the greedy players.”

Sports Briefs

Boys' Baseball

Due to the poor weather this spring, Central's boys' baseball teams are looking at a schedule that has them playing 12 games in 12 days to complete their season. "I keep looking for animals walking two by two for a big boat, but I just haven't seen them yet," varsity Coach Steve Eubanks said about the large amounts of rain in April.

The varsity team has a 3-2 record heading into the final four weeks of the spring sports season. Central has victories over South, Boys Town, and Gross, with losses against Papillion and Benson. "Every game we've played we have been ahead up to the fourth inning," Coach Eubanks said. "We have to improve on not giving up one big inning and should give more run support in the later innings."

Senior Pat Driscoll pitched two victories for Central and has not allowed a run in 13 innings. He also has 19 strikeouts with the 0.00 earned run average. Junior Donny Lakin has added 12 strikeouts, and a 1-1 record in his 9 and 1/3 innings pitched.

Senior Buddy Hilario is currently hitting .462 over the five games with 6 for 13 batting, two doubles, one triple, and five runs scored.

"We've all been hitting the ball real well," said Jesse DiLorenzo, senior. Jesse has three doubles and has a .333 batting average.

"Our goals this year are to improve our play, do very well in districts, and make it to the State Tournament at the 'Blatt,'" Coach Eubanks said. "We can't make any mistakes and we have to be confident that we can play with the best in the city. We'll be the sleeper team this year and we'll shock some teams."

Boys' and Girls' Track

The 1993 Central Eagle track team has been busy at Invitationals this season. The team has participated in the Burke Relays on March 26, the Ralston Relays on April 3, the Millard South Invitational April 8, and had the Dick Jones Invitational on April 16. In addition to these the underclass members of the team participate in dual track meets.

The team has had several events that have been medal winners at the invitationals. The 3200-meter relay team of Eric Rinn, junior, Chris Heimes, senior, Tye Thomas, senior, and Demetrius Richards, senior, received fifth place at the Burke relays and sixth at the Ralston relays. It placed first at Grand Island and fourth at Millard South.

"Another event that has been strong is the hurdles with Josh Cusworth (senior) and also discus with Matt Faila (senior)," said Eric Rinn. "[But] middle distance is probably the strongest on our team," he said.

Eric said about the girls' team, "They have a lot of potential, it just needs to be worked with."

Girls' Tennis

The members of the girls' tennis team have been preparing to begin their season for several weeks. The first scheduled matches were postponed due to rain.

Despite the weather, the members have had the opportunity to practice outside. They practice every day after school at Dewey Park. According to Libby Broekemeier, sophomore, the team has been working on strategies and techniques that will be useful in the matches.

Libby said, "The returning players have improved and we have many new players." According to Megan Burnett, senior, the team members have a lot of experience working with each other.

This season, Libby said, "We want to win more matches and be more consistent." The team's next match is scheduled for April 22 against South High.

Girls' Soccer

The girls' varsity soccer team began its season by participating in the first annual Hoover Cup at UNO. The Eagles faced a tough round of opponents, challenging Marian, Bellevue East and Lincoln Southeast. Although no victories were attained, the pre-season play gave the team a chance to start the season with more game experience.

Due to rainy weather, the team has been confined to a gym for practice and has had five cancelled games. The three games the weather has allowed them to play, although yielding no victories, have resulted in exciting play.

The first game of the season was played against Gross and the Eagles lost 0-3. The girls lost the second game 0-1 after a hard struggle against Mercy in overtime. In the third game the team faced North and went into a shoot-out. The final score was 1-3 with North squeezing out a close win.

Despite the past difficulties, the Eagles still have maintained a positive outlook and hope to succeed in district and state competition.

Sports Briefs by Tim James, Leah Musselman, Christy Shearer, and Anna Thomas

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## Boys' soccer teams have positive outlook

By Christy Shearer

the field.

The team's goal is to win its district and advance to the state tournament. Seth said, "I want to get better for the upcoming seasons." Ian said, "This is a building year for next season; we are getting acquainted and trying new positions."

The varsity team is coached by Tim Herbert. "Mr. Herbert is a great coach, and he is helping us to build for another championship year," Ian said.

The team will play on April 23 against Burke. The district tournament is May 8-10, and the state tournament is May 16-20.

The boys' junior varsity soccer team is 0-2 this season.

Team member and junior, James Chipasula said, "We played well for our first games together, and hopefully we'll improve as the season goes on."

James said that his goal this season is "to play as if we are a varsity team and work on our skills."

The next JV game is scheduled for April 24 at Burke.



**Photo finish:** Seniors Josh Cusworth, left, and Travis Howard, right, place first and second respectively in the 110-meter hurdles at the Dick Jones Invitational. The meet was held at Burke last Friday. The boys' team finished with 36 points in the Invite. For more information on the meet, see the brief on page 10.

Photo by Mike Buckley.

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## ■ Golf team victorious

# Boys' golf team crowned champion at tournaments

By Leah Musselman

The 1993 Central boys' golf team started the season with a big first place finish at the Abraham Lincoln Invitational on April 2 at Dodge Park golf course. The team broke the tournament scoring record by eight strokes with six individual medalists. Clark Lauritzen, sophomore, received a second place medal; Jon Farrell, senior, received third place; Brian Wilson, junior, received fourth place; Jeff Fleming, senior, came in sixth place; J.D. Welsh, sophomore, came in seventh place; and Pat Lynum, sophomore, received 13th place.

The team scored third place at the Central Invitational at Shoreline golf course on April 5; Omaha Burke won the tournament. Jon Farrell placed 10th

in the tournament and Brian Wilson placed 11th. Brian said about the team's performance at the tournament, "I think we were a little over-confident at our home golf course."

#### Overcoming obstacles

"The team's main competition this season will be Omaha Creighton Prep and Omaha Burke, and maybe Millard North," said J.D. The team won its matches against Abraham Lincoln High School and Thomas

Jefferson High School and lost to Omaha Burke.

#### Leadership

The team is under the leadership of Coach Jim Galus and Coach Jim Kemp. Brian said, "Coach Kemp helps us out a lot. He gives us really good advice because he is such a good

individually.

#### Continued success

The team also played in the Lewis Central Tournament last week on April 15. Brian Jans, senior, shot a score of 79 to place first in the tournament. At the tournament, Brian Wilson received fourth place, J.D. Welsh was sixth place, Pat Lynum was seventh place, and Jeff Fleming was ninth place. The whole team placed first in the tournament for its second all out tournament win of the season.

#### Upcoming events

The team has the Omaha Creighton Prep Invitational at Applewood golf course on Friday, April 23. J.D. said, "I think we should place in the top three teams which would be a good showing going into Metro."

J.D. said about the team's progress this year, "At the beginning of the season we weren't working up to our potential, but with Coach Kemp's support we're doing much better. Coach Kemp is good about showing us things we're doing wrong mentally and physically and without him we wouldn't be doing as well as we are." He also said, "The team's most consistent player is probably Clark, followed by Brian Wilson."

“ At the beginning of the season we weren't working up to our potential, but with Coach Kemp's support we're doing much better. -J.D. Welsh ”

golfer." Wilson also said, "Coach Galus is also a great coach, but Jim is a good addition."

The team played in the Bellevue Tournament on April 14 and received second place, after losing a team playoff for first place. J.D. got second place individually with a score of a 78. "The weather was so terrible and cold that I decided I'd be happy with anything below 80, so I was pretty happy." At the Bellevue Tournament, Clark Lauritzen placed third,

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# Biking helps science teacher save gas, stay healthy

By Kelly Grace

"I have ridden since childhood and never really quit. I've always enjoyed cycling. The feel of the wind on your face, the exercise and knowing that you're going someplace add to the thrill of it," said Mr. Al Roeder, science teacher.

Mr Roeder has biked to and from school for the last 16 years. "The time it takes varies on the weather, but usually it takes me about a half hour one way," said Mr. Roeder. "I have a truck which I bought brand new in 1990, and it just recently turned over 7000 miles on the speedometer. I very rarely drive," said Mr. Roeder.

Mr. Roeder rides his cross country bike to and from school in almost all weather with the exception of ice and extremely cold temperature. "I basically ride for myself. I ride for health, for the earth and to save on gas. I only drive when I need to take something that is impossible to balance on the bike or when it is really very icy out," said Mr. Roeder.

Cycling to school has not always provided fond memories for Mr. Roeder. "I was hit by a car once on a sunny, bright, January

afternoon on 41st and Old Military and experienced my first and only ride in a rescue squad. Another time I just slipped on some diesel fuel that was on the street and broke my collar bone," said Mr. Roeder. After the car incident, he was off the bike for "a miserable" six weeks but kept his mileage up on the stationary

**"Biking for me is an excellent way to relieve stress."  
-Mr. Roeder**

exercise bike in the Roeder basement.

Mr. Roeder also cycles on the weekends. "I've got a 30 mile loop that I ride that extends from Standing Bear Lake to Cunninham Lake over to 72nd Street east and ending on the Keystone Trail," said Mr. Roeder.

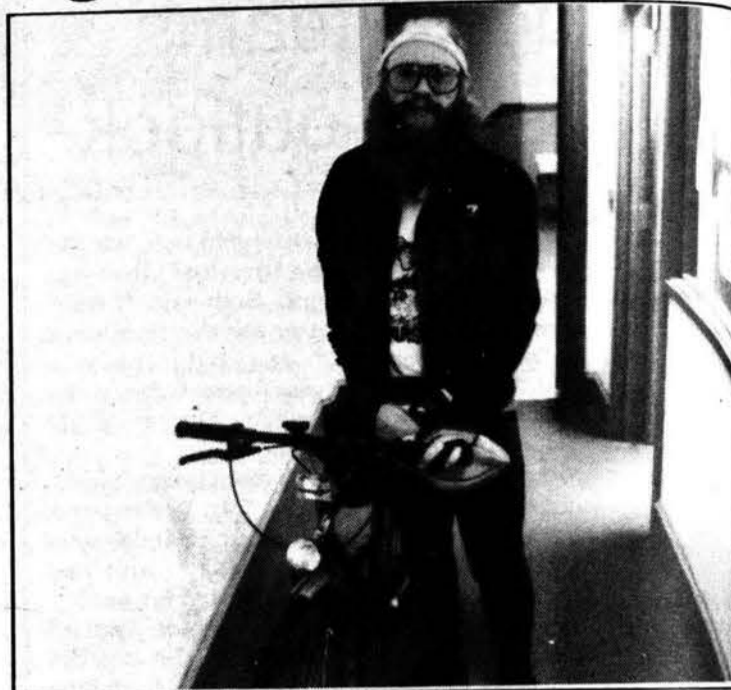
For the past 15 summers, Mr. Roeder has been involved in BRAN (Bike Ride Across Nebraska). For the past 7 years

his 15-year-old daughter Shannon has cycled with him. "My wife doesn't cycle but Shannon loves to," said Mr. Roeder. Mr. Roeder stressed the importance of proper training and equipment for such long bike rides. "You generally average 100 to 120 miles a day during BRAN, and it can be extremely exhausting. Anyone interested in long distance cycling should purchase a quality bike, quality equipment and should train daily before attempting to bike long distances," said Mr. Roeder.

Mr. Roeder recommends looking in the want ads for bikes as well as bike shops. Mr. Roeder owns several bikes. "I ride the cross bike to school because it's got fenders, racks, lights and is good for carrying stuff to and from places. It is a good commuter bike," said Mr. Roeder. "I also own a tandem bike (two seater) which I ride with my daughter," said Mr. Roeder. He added that a good bike will often cost up to \$1000 and that the Tandem was \$1500.

"Biking for me is an excellent way to relieve stress. Since I seriously started up, I've been in much better shape," said Mr. Roeder.

Protective clothing is extremely



**Taking a break:** Mr. Roeder rests after riding his bicycle all the way from his house to school. He rides to Central almost every day, rain or shine. Photo by Chris Beern

important to cycling, according to Mr. Roeder. "I always, always wear a helmet. When it's very cold outside, I usually wear lots of layers," said Mr. Roeder. His winter biking wardrobe consists of polypropylene long underwear, tights, winter windproof jacket and pants, a polypropylene t-shirt and his trademark wool balaclava head and face cover. "I

also tape up the ventilation holes on the helmet to keep my forehead warm," said Mr. Roeder. Mr. Roeder is currently trying to start up a cycling club. "It's basically just for fun and health. We won't be competing anything, but it would be a good chance to meet people, start a new hobby and see the world," said Mr. Roeder.

## The 1993-94 Cheerleading Squads

- Varsity: Stacey Bolte, Michelle Buller, Danielle Calabro, Kyiia Clark, Tisa Coffin, Molly Flemming, Jenny Gruber, Schae Lewis, Joey Morley, Gennean Scott, Ann Wallerstedt, Kara Willits
- Junior Varsity: Jaime Anderson, Heather Brown, Sarah Danberg, Maureen Kelly, Jennifer Krayneski, Tammie Leicher, Tamika Mills, Leah Roberts, Betsy Starr, Andrea Wieduwilt, Keri Wilwerding
- Sophomore Reserve: Sarah Boro, Dunica Brown, Alycia Krayneski, Susie Lamm, Laura Perry, Monique Peterson, Sarah Raful, Leila Roberts, Beth Scanlan, Crystall Travis
- Freshmen: Kelly Allen, Jamalia Brushears, Liz Hong, Karen Kazor, Kelsey Keith, Jenny Miller, Shoshana Wees, Jessie Zahn
- Sponsor: Andrea Stranglen

## The 1993-94 Pom Squad

- |               |                    |                     |
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| Sara Anderson | Dani Kennedy       | Staci Narducci      |
| Julie Benton  | Melissa Keyser     | Sally Reiser        |
| Jenny Berg    | Kori Leavitt       | Traci Rooks         |
| Kris Berg     | Caroline Lieben    | Kelly Seidl         |
| Ruth Carlson  | Ida Long           | Keegan Sheridan     |
| Liz Crossman  | Jaimie Luckritz    | Danielle Ward       |
| Erin Emmons   | Lindsay Lundholm   | Tanya Watzke        |
| Roslyn Fraser | Mindy Marlin       | Julie Whitney       |
| Lisa Hinder   | Jennifer Michalski | Stacy Wolta         |
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Where the streets have no name

## Students take their 4x4's off-roading

By Jon McDonald

Central students enjoy many forms of fun. Some students look to off-road driving as a way to relax and enjoy themselves.

Off-road trucking is a sport where its participants drive vehicles, usually capable of four-wheel drive, on dirt and mud trails in the wilderness.

Senior Sean Gard, who drives a baby blue 1979 Jeep CJ5 has been an off-road enthusiast for "about a year." He said that he goes "trucking" at least once a week in a variety of locations.

"I like to go four-wheeling in the environmentally sensitive areas because they have the freshest dirt. There are others doing the same thing, so finding an out-of-the-way area is not too hard," said Sean.

Sean also said that the "only really bad thing about 4x4 trucks and Jeeps is that they get bad gas mileage. I only get about ten miles per gallon, and I had to remove my catalytic converter to get more low end torque so it pollutes rather badly."

Senior Troy Anzalona said that about a year ago he had a 1980 Toyota truck with four-wheel drive.

"The first time that I went off-roading, I was driving under the South Omaha bridge after a flood. It was really muddy down there, so I drove into the river to clean my tire tread. I parked on a

sandbar when it gave way and my truck dropped into the river. I had to swim to shore with my winch to get my truck back," said Troy.

Troy crashed his truck while off-roading. He said, "That was one of the risks involved in taking the truck out. I still feel that 4x4s are the ultimate expression of destructive masculinity."

Sean told about one incident where "I was down by DeSoto Bend and was taking a trail that circled the wildlife refuge. Then

I saw a ranger patrolling the area and I had to outrun him through the brush. That is the closest I have ever come to getting caught."

However, not all Central students have a good opinion of off-roaders. Some have had poor experiences with the vehicles.

Senior Gina Gomez went off-roading with "my brother and uncle when the Jeep rolled down a hill. It was really scary. Luckily, everyone got out with only some bruises, but I'll never go off roading again."

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