



the Register

The oldest school paper west of the Mississippi

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Central High School

Omaha, Nebraska

February 23, 1994

Fear is red, violets are blue

Junior researches the colors of fear

By Matthew Truesdell



Robert Teply

research.

Robert also found that the physics of light had an effect on emotion. Colors with higher energy frequencies cause more fear, said Robert.

Dr. Nancy Perry, a psychology professor at Creighton University, suggested that Robert submit his findings for publication. She said that she chose *Modern Psychological Studies* because it is devoted to undergraduate work and because it is a national publication and therefore has a wider audience.

Dr. Perry also helped Robert prepare his results in a publishable form. Robert said that he had to follow the American Psychology Association style rules for research. "I had to go step by step over the research" converting it to APA form, said Robert. Dr. Perry also helped Robert with control procedures and data analysis.

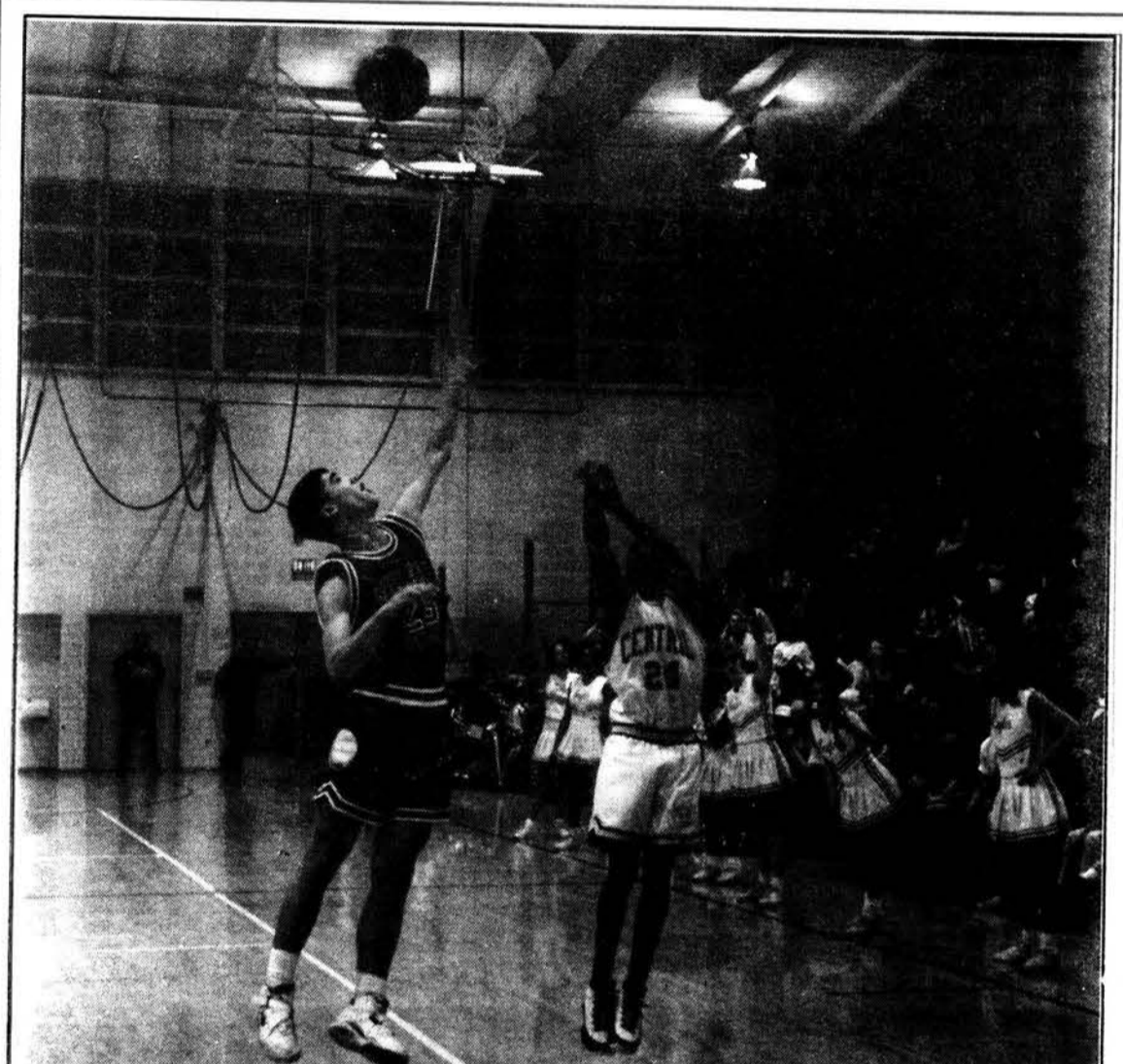
The significance of the sample only existed between extreme colors, according to Robert. "It would be interesting to repeat the experiment with a larger sample," said Robert. Robert said that other variations on his experiment may be

interesting as well. For example, repeating the experiment using passages that evoke emotions besides fear.

"I thought he had an interesting study because he had a significant result," said Dr. Perry. She also said that she liked the piece because it has practical implications. Robert said that his results could be applied to book covers, advertising, warning labels and other products.

Dr. Perry said she would like to see more students doing this type of research. "There's no doubt that Robert is very talented, but there are many other students who are capable," she said.

Dr. Perry said that if Robert's study is published it will be an extraordinary accomplishment. She said that rejection rates at some journals run around 80 percent. However, "I think it's a publishable piece," said Dr. Perry. "I have no guarantee of success," said Robert, "but it was fun to try to do it."



Eagles soar: Monta Sanderson shoots a three-pointer in the game against sixth-ranked Millard South. Photo by Jenny Hurst. See story page 16.

History students get their ACTs together

By Elizabeth Kaplan

"In honor of those who served - in memory of those who died," reads a plaque near the east entrance of the school commemorating the Central High graduates who died in World War I. The names on this plaque are the subject of a project in which Mr. Rick Behrens's American History students are participating.

"I wanted to get the students involved in doing some historical research," said Mr. Behrens, social studies teacher. He started the project by taking his classes downstairs to look at the plaque near the east entrance of the school. Each student was then assigned one of the 23 names adorning the plaque. Throughout the semester, the students will be doing research to find information on their assigned serviceman.

"We're trying to find the date of death of the men as recorded in the paper, so we can then find the obituaries to get some information on them," Mr. Behrens said. Some students have begun their research by calling the library, American Legion and the courthouse. "So far we haven't found any direct information, but we have found other

leads," he said.

Courtney D'Agata, senior, asked her uncle, a member of the American Legion, to call the American Legion to see if they had any information on the men. "They didn't

It really brings [history] closer to home.

--Nicole Blizek

have any information on the men listed on the plaque," said Courtney. "I think it will be really neat to see what we can learn about them though."

Nicole Blizek, senior, also tried to contact the American Legion, but was unsuccessful. "It's really interesting to tie what happened in history to our lives today and to our school," Nicole said. "It really brings [history] closer to home."

This statement is the goal of a program called ACT with which

Mr. Behrens's project is affiliated. ACT (Active Citizenship Today) is an Omaha Public Schools program which helps teachers think of innovative, community involvement-type projects. The goal of the program is to "get students involved in the community and learning at the same time," said Sally Fellows, ACT coordinator.

Several other social studies teachers at Central are planning ACT projects for their classes. Mr. Dean Neff, American Government teacher, is taking his classes to the Unicameral in Lincoln on March 2, and Mr. Clyde Lincoln, American Government teacher, is planning a project for his classes called "The History and Development of Dodge Street."

"The project will involve doing a survey of the downtown blocks to see what businesses were originally there," said Mr. Lincoln. He has planned speakers from UNO to come speak to his classes, and also hopes to research the history of the development of Central Park Mall and how it has affected business downtown.

"We're trying to get students actively involved in looking at history," he said.

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Editorial Pages

Unsigned articles are the opinion of the Register

Community service should be part of graduation requirements

Before students in the Omaha Public Schools can walk the stage at their graduation ceremonies, they must earn 45 credits in certain areas of the curriculum. While this helps ensure that students leave schools with academic knowledge, it does nothing to teach them to help their fellow humans or to develop a sense of caring for others.

Students should be required to do volunteer work in order to graduate from high school. Volunteering to help others helps people learn to care for others and give something to their communities. Some schools have already adopted programs in which students must complete a project or volunteer a certain number of hours in partial fulfillment of graduation requirements. All schools should consider including volunteer work as a prerequisite to graduation.

Not only is community service good for teaching people the value of caring, but it can serve the volunteer in other ways, too. Colleges look for well-rounded students in admissions, and volunteer work

adds a lot to an application. Community service is often a large factor in determining scholarship recipients. Helping others gives people a sense of accomplishment. It boosts the self-image of everyone involved.

Community service benefits many people, and it helps the community overall. Requiring students to volunteer in order to graduate is a way to motivate them to do something that they will hopefully continue after graduation and for the rest of their lives.

Putting in a few hours serving food to the homeless or delivering flowers to people in the hospital is easy to do, and it helps many.

Because of the numerous benefits of doing volunteer work and the increasing importance of community service, such activities should be required for high school graduation. If one of the schools' objectives is to turn out young adults who are conscious of the needs of those around them, this would be a logical first step towards attaining their goal.

Youth crime; a serious problem for legislators in the nineties

Dealing with crime in the nineties has suddenly become a topic of great interest on Capitol Hill as well as in many state legislatures and city halls across the country. At the heart of this evolving question is the problem of youth crime.

Over the past decade, there have been marked increases in the number of youth offenders as well as a dramatic decrease in the age of those individuals. Couple this with the increase in guns and gangs and the problem of youth crime is suddenly at the core of the problems with crime as a whole.

Many people have ideas as to what can be done to curb this rapid increase in juvenile crime. We at the Register think that there are certainly things that should be done to help the problems that now face our society, as well as some actions that should be absolutely avoided.

Many people have suggested that juveniles be treated as adults in cases of felony. The idea behind this is that persons who have shown they are able to commit a crime of that level should be punished accordingly, regardless of age. What has to be realized is that a fifteen-year-old that commits a crime is far different from an adult. Sticking a teenager in a high security detention facility is extremely detrimental. The likelihood is that the juvenile will leave jail as a much more dangerous individual than when he or she entered. Treating youths in this manner is almost as if we are saying "we give up;" often times there is a great chance these youth offenders can be rehabilitated.

not the answer. Incarceration has not shown effective for adults, so why would it be logical to make the same mistake in dealing with juveniles?

Another bad idea would be to make capital punishment an option in sentencing. Currently, a person must be sixteen to receive the death sentence. A requirement for the death penalty is that the person must be shown to be in total understanding of the crime he committed and the consequences of that crime. Most youth offenders are no where near competent nor mature enough to meet these parameters. Again, would this practice even be effective? We have seen how unsuccessful and costly capital punishment has been in dealing with adults; again, there is nothing that shows the current system would change by treating kids as adults.

Some things can be done to stop this growing trend in crime. One good idea is putting youths in "boot camps." These camps, molded after those used in the armed forces, have shown to be very effective in teaching discipline and changing attitudes. Boot camps on a large scale could begin to treat the actual problems at the root of youth crime, rather than simply bandaging the symptoms.

Crime, especially dealing with minors, is not an easy problem to attack. Legislators need to avoid the problems which now exist in when dealing with adults. The last thing our country needs is more people prison; hopefully other alternatives will be used.



Editorials In Brief

On Jordan in baseball

"When was the last time you saw Michael Jordan nervous?" Chicago White Sox general manager Ron Schueler asked Monday. Amid the astonishment and occasionally churlish speculation over Mr. Jordan's decision to play professional baseball, the question is a good one to keep in mind.

The answer is that Michael Jordan is a phenomenal talent, and it's a fascinating experiment—as if Albert Einstein had decided to give up physics to try finding a cure for cancer. Somebody, somewhere, would have given him a research grant.

--New York Times

On the Olympics

The story of the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway, so far has been written in legal briefs. Not only is Tonya Harding suing to keep herself on the U.S. Olympic skating team, but a U.S. Bobsledder has gone to court in Indianapolis to

get a berth on the team.

How times have changed! It used to be world events, not courts of law, provided defining Olympic moments.

In the 1936 Berlin Games, the world cheered Jesse Owens as he made mincemeat of Hitler's ideas of Aryan supremacy. And Americans swelled with pride at hockey team over the Soviet's government-run sports machine soon after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

And then there are the pros. like Katarina Witt and Brian Boitano, who've made money the world over, returning for a fresh taste of glory.

--USA Today

On punishing parents

One of the most troubling things about Omaha City Councilman Joe Friend's proposal to establish civil punishments for the parents of lawbreaking youths is the fact that it would allow government to intrude more deeply in the lives of citizens who haven't been convicted

of a crime, or even charged with a crime.

Friend would let the Police Department decide if those parents should be recommended for fines or community service. The recommendations go to the City Human Relations Department, which would oversee punishment.

Fines could go as high as \$1,000. As an alternative to imposing a fine, the Human Relations Department could force parents to form community service or attend a class in how to be a better parent. Do Omahans really think that much power in the hands of police officers and bureaucrats is a good idea?

--Omaha World-Herald

We like letters
Bring them to room 312

Register Your Opinions

Have you ever been a victim of a serious crime?

(88 students polled)

Yes 27%

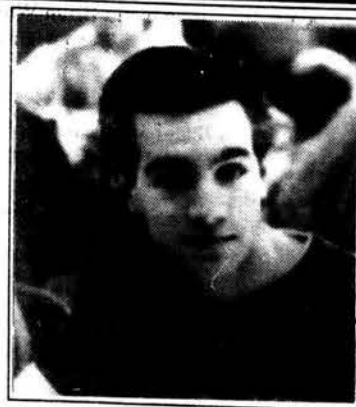
No 73%

Voices across Central



Robert Koop (12)

"A guy busted my truck window out with a club."



John Afzaldo (11)

"I had my car stereo stolen."



Eric Chartier (10)

"My car got stolen last week."

Excuses, excuses--they're not my fault

Rubber Soul



By Michelle Chandler

appears to have become the newest approach to passing the time.

Aside from the clients of that law firm, many other Americans have decided that the misfortunes in their lives and the things that they have done are not their faults. Take, for instance, some citizens who have become recently well-known in American culture.

Lorena Bobbitt is not responsible for the actions she took against her husband because he allegedly abused her. Tonya Harding is not responsible for lying to the FBI about her knowledge of the attack on Nancy Kerrigan because of her difficult childhood. She is not responsible for any actions she may have taken against Ms. Kerrigan because of her abusive homelife. Erik and Lyle Menendez are not responsible for murdering their parents

because they received years of abuse.

Crimes are getting entirely too easy to get away with. Kill someone and don't worry, society will understand that you were forced to do so in order to escape the terrible abuse you were suffering—pay no attention to the fact that you are more than old enough to move away from home. Cut off an important part of someone's body and don't worry, society will understand that you were forced to do so in retaliation for abuse. Let a friend hire someone to injure a person so that she is unable to participate in something she has been preparing for her entire life and don't worry, society will understand that you were emotionally damaged and motivated to do this in despair—you could see no alternative.

Of course, these examples

may be extreme cases, but nearly everyone seems to worry about what is whose fault, without even realizing what they are doing.

Here's an example: On his way to his desk the guy who sits in front of you in English bumps into your desk and knocks your book, notebook and folder full of papers on the floor. While you are down on the floor picking up a semester and a half's worth of handouts, he mumbles "my fault," and sits down in his chair. As if he had to tell you that he was the one that knocked all your stuff on the floor.

Why does everything have to be blamed on someone? Some things just happen. Some things are accidents and no one should have to be the bad guy for being the cause of them. For everything that happens, there is someone somewhere who

must have made it happen, right? Everywhere we have people looking for the causes of their problems. If it's not a death or mauling, it's bad weather. Didn't you know that the floods, droughts and earthquakes that occurred in the past year were punishment for all of the evil deeds committed by Americans?

Maybe I'm being a bit too cynical. I just think that people need to stop coming up with excuses for everything they do. Society needs to stop excusing everybody for everything they do. Admittedly, there are sometimes good reasons for peoples' actions. If a person kills in self-defense, he or she has a justifiable cause and the punishment should reflect that. However, he or she should still be prepared to take the consequences for his or her actions.

IN THE CROSSFIRE

This Month: Capital Punishment: An eye for an eye?

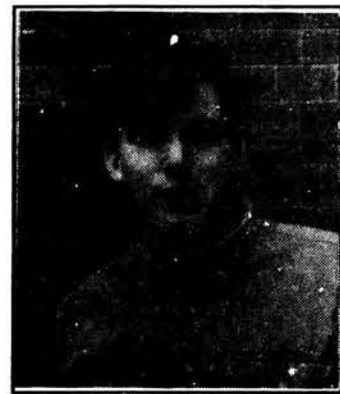
noticed McManus's cut was bleeding badly. Panicking, he stabbed her continuously with the knife.

He then used a hammer to beat her on the head four or five times. At that point, Jane McManus begged Otey to kill her. Otey strangled her with his belt to make sure she was dead and left her to be found by her brother, the next day.

It is because of crimes like this and people such as Harold Lamont Otey that the use of capital punishment is necessary. In dealing with malicious criminals, this is the best punishment because of its finality. No parole can be set. It is the finality of the death penalty which instills fear into the heart of every murderer, and it is this fear of punishment which protects society.

In *Furman v. Georgia* (1972), the U.S. Supreme court invalidated the capital punishment laws of 39 states by holding that they were a violation of the 8th amendment right against cruel and unusual punishment. Though this decision was overturned in 1976 with *Gregg v. Georgia*, the fact remains the same; capital punishment is cruel and unusual punishment.

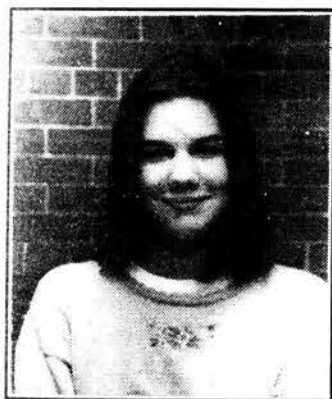
If a man commits a heinous crime such as murder, he should be punished. Rightly so, but in what way? According to 70 percent of the American population his crimes should be avenged by **murder**. Granted that this is a most brutal and malicious person that needs to be eradicated from society, but if he is killed as well, does this not make those who put him to death as guilty as the prisoner himself? This



Brian Alseth

becomes a viscous cycle that has no end. Capital punishment takes our nation back to the laws of Hammurabi, and an eye for an eye is barbarism.

Capital punishment has proven to be no deterrent to crime. Since the early 1750's, capital punishment has been argued to be needlessly cruel, highly overrated in deterrence and in some cases imposed in fatal error. There is no evidence that the murder rate fluctuates with use of the death penalty. *Lex Talionis* ("a life for a life") is not a sound principle of criminal justice.

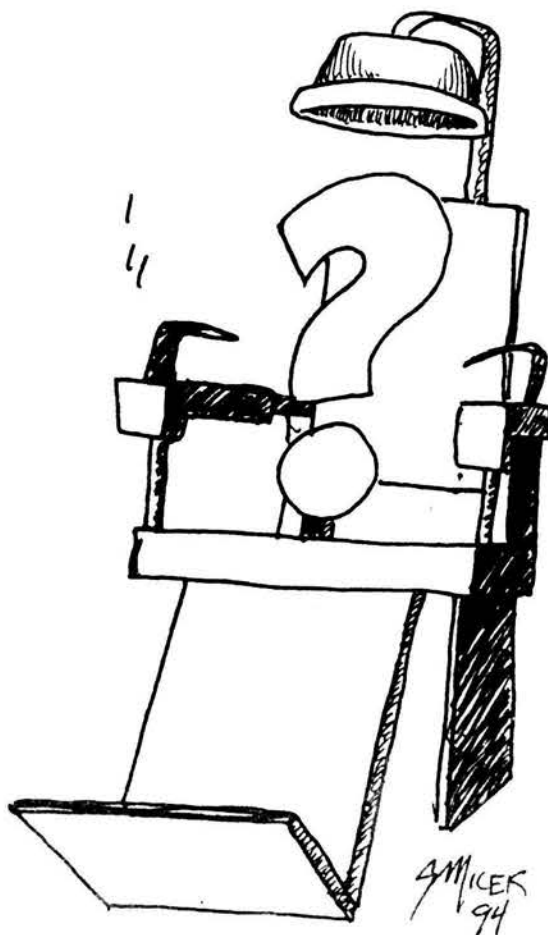


Colleen Cleary

June 11, 1977, a 26 year old woman, Jane McManus was sleeping on her couch, expecting to wake-up in a couple of hours, when Harold Lamont Otey entered her house through an open door. He saw a stereo and other things he wished to steal. The woman, having been awakened, confronted Otey and asked him what he thought he was doing. Otey grabbed her by the throat. He had a fish knife. He told her he was going to rape her, then robbed her. To show that he was serious, he slashed her forehead with the knife. He raped her on the couch and was looking for money when he

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Teacher adds Irish author to class study

By Matthew Truesdell

Mr. John Keenan, English teacher, teaches a slightly different curriculum than his colleagues. Mr. Keenan has incorporated the works of Sean O'Casey into his senior English classes.

O'Casey is the Irish playwright responsible for *Juno and the Paycock* and *The Shadow of a Gunman*, the works Mr. Keenan uses in class. Both works deal with the lives of the working poor in early 20th century Dublin.

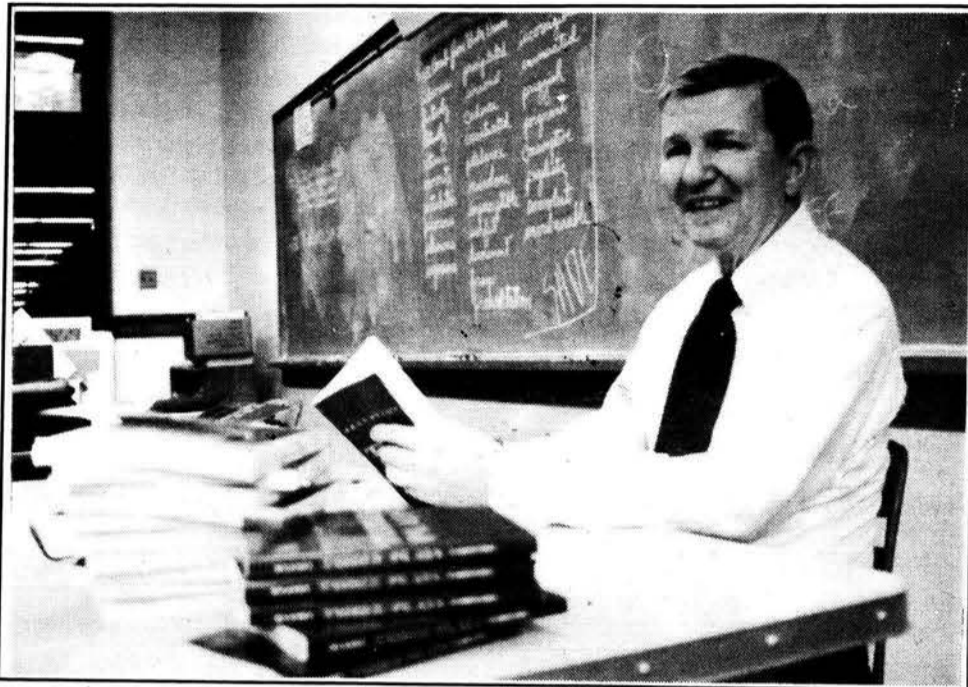
"I'm amazed O'Casey hasn't been presented before," said Mr. Keenan. He said that O'Casey writes well on universal themes and deserves exposure.

Mr. Keenan has taken three years of courses in Irish history and literature at Creighton University and was introduced to O'Casey in those classes. Mr. Keenan said that he enjoyed those courses and "wanted to share [O'Casey] with the students."

The senior textbook places Irish authors under the heading British, said Mr. Keenan. He feels there is a kind of tokenism in American publishing to include a few Irish authors in books of British literature.

Humor is one of the things Mr. Keenan said he likes about O'Casey. Mr. Keenan said that O'Casey "makes misery palatable by humor." O'Casey's plays are set in tenements and deal with poverty and suffering but are tempered with comedy. "Humor is such a saving grace," said Mr. Keenan. "It's also a great motivating factor for teaching young people."

Mr. Keenan also believes that the politics in O'Casey's plays is topical. The Irish Republican Army and the conflict in Northern Ireland are dealt with in the plays.



Top 'o the day to you: Mr. John Keenan reads works by Sean O'Casey which he uses in his classes. Photo by Cathy Moyer

When Mr. Keenan decided that he wanted to teach O'Casey's plays, he asked Mr. Dan Daly, head of the English department, to order the books for him.

Mr. Daly said that teachers don't often encounter problems when they want to read a particular book in their class.

"Teachers have certain required works so that students have a similar experience," said Mr. Daly. However, "it's pretty open ended."

Mr. Daly said that the only limits on what teachers can use are financial and whether the work has been approved by the Omaha Public Schools' Supplementary Classics Com-

mittee. This committee reviews books and approves them for use in OPS.

Mr. Daly said that before placing a book order each year he tries to send English teachers a memo asking for a list of books for him to consider purchasing.

"I'm very grateful," for Mr. Daly ordering the books, said Mr. Keenan.

Next year will be the last year Mr. Keenan teaches at Central. He is retiring after next year and Mr. Keenan's senior English classes are the only classes using O'Casey's works. However, said Mr. Keenan, "I'm trying to talk a few other teachers into using them."

Teacher travels to DC for healthcare change

By Beth Katz

There has been much talk these days about the need for changes regarding the nation's health care reform. At this point most of this has been a lot of talk and no action.

Central foreign language teacher Vickie Anderson will be taking action as part of a national lobbying team calling for healthcare reform.

On February 28, Ms. Anderson, along with one to two teachers chosen from each state, will embark on a three-day trip to Washington D.C. in order to lobby Congress and voice their views on health care.

"I believe health care is absolutely necessary," Ms. Anderson explained. "There are approximately 87 million people in this country that do not have health insurance either because they can't afford it, they are retired, their jobs don't allow it, they don't have access to it or they have preexisting health conditions and that leads to job loss."

Ms. Anderson said that job loss is often blamed for being a major flaw in the nation's healthcare plan and occurs when an employee wishes to leave a job but cannot because they are not insured if they leave.

Ms. Anderson says she plans on writing to Congressman Peter Hoagland regarding the proposed Cooper Plan, which Hoagland is a major supporter of.

The Cooper Plan encourages a petition between insurance agencies and said not to cost as much as President Clinton's plan.

Ms. Anderson also commented that the Cooper Plan ensures less loss of jobs not only the insurance area but the health care profession.

Electives fair provides look at courses

By Ann Rickerl

On Tuesday, February 15, an electives program was held in the courtyard to introduce to students the electives that are available at Central.

Each different elective, ranging from applied design to ROTC and everything in between, had an area where representatives displayed what was involved in each course.

Melissa Ryan, junior said that she thought this was a good idea to introduce students to the different courses Central has to offer that they may not have been familiar with.

She also said she thought it

was useful and helped her to decide what electives she wants to take next year.

Although Melissa said she thought it was a good idea, she felt that the different sections "should have been more prepared" with the information on what each course involves.

Anne Sary, junior, said she thought the program was very useful and helped her learn about classes which she is interested in. Anne also said she learned a lot about the career center and specifically photography which she is interested in taking.

Anne said she thought the

program was useful to freshmen particularly because it introduces the classes that one can take the rest of their high school years. Anne said she also learned a lot about the different computer classes that Central offers. "I did not know we had so many," she said.

Willie Glasser, freshman, said although the program took away his sitting spot at lunch, he learned a lot from this experience. It "showed me an interesting look at what my school has to offer," he said.

Willie also said he learned a lot about the career center and really enjoyed the free trucks that were provided by the career center.

3rd Quarter Midterm Exam Schedule

- Tuesday, March 8:**
Science, Music, ROTC, Foreign Language, Physical Education.
- Wednesday, March 9:**
English, Reading, Drama, Drafting, Business
- Thursday, March 10:**
Social Studies, Art, Home Economics, Mathematics.
- Third Quarter ends March 17.

News Flash

Honors English classes see "O Pioneers"

On Wednesday, February 9, almost 17 classes consisting of English, drama, stage crew and special education students attended Willa Cather's timeless classic "O Pioneers" at the Playhouse.

"O Pioneers" is a story about a young woman who takes over the parental struggles to bring up her family on a farm in a small farm town in Nebraska. This annual excursion to the Playhouse allows Central to

take 400 students to see a show.

The trip and the show were funded through OPS and Dr. Patrick Salerno, English coordinator for OPS.

Because of this field trip, Mr. Dan Daly, English department head, hopes that the students will be motivated enough by the performance to come back to school and read not only "O Pioneers", but other Willa Cather stories as well.

Commencement date changed

The commencement committee, composed of faculty, staff members and senior class officers have decided that graduation will be held May 24th at Aksarben coliseum.

"In the past we've held graduation at UNO and the Civic Auditorium," said Mrs. Sharon Cipperley, head counselor, "but we've decided to hold it at Aksarben for many reasons."

The coliseum has more parking, a nice, dignified atmosphere and the tickets are not limited, so students can have as many as they need," she said.

Each Senior receives four free commencement tickets and each additional one is one dollar.

Mrs. Cipperley said the speakers have not yet been decided on, but the tentative starting time for commencement is 7p.m.

Changes made to '94-'95 calendar

Several changes were made by a the school board in preparing the 1994-1995 school year calendar. School will open August 18 and end on May 31 without any changes in the vacation days for students. Winter Break will last from December 22 to January 3. The school year will be 178 student days, three days longer than this year.

Ms. Winnie Callahan, public information director, said that the length of the school year was changed because the "learning time isn't near as productive in

the spring as it is in the fall because everyone is so restless."

The changes were recommended by Dr. Norbert Schuerman, school superintendent, by an advisory council made up of 15 members including representatives from staff, parents, students, central office administrators, the Chamber of Commerce, University of Nebraska at Omaha, news media, Parent Teachers Association, citizens advisory committee, Anti-defamation League and the Omaha Education Association.

Scholarship Auction to be held March 18

The 1994 Annual Scholarship Auction will be held in the Scouler Grain Ballroom, 2027 Dodge Street, on March 18. Dinner and a silent auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. An oral auction will follow starting at 8:15 p.m.

The Scholarship Auction is an event designed to recognize Central seniors with scholarships

Reservations can be made for ten dollars per person. Those interested should contact Ginny Bauer at Central: 557-3308

February 23, 1994

Computer graphics class to be offered to students

Ann Rickerl

Next year, for the first time, Central will be adding a computer graphics class to the curriculum.

The new computer graphics class will "enhance computer literacy and computer graphic skills," said Mr. Trent Kelly, art teacher. This class has been offered at other schools previously and will be offered for the first time next year at Central, said Mr. Kelly. Mr. Kelly said the class will focus on "basic graphic designs," including a focus on posters, business cards and letterheads.

This course is a "limited class" and only 15 students will be allowed to participate in each semester, said Mr. Kelly. Mr. Kelly said the course will be taught in the foreign language lab with the aid of the Macintosh computers. He said that Claris Works is the program that will be used.

Mr. Kelly said this class is basically an art class that "focuses on the commercial aspects of layout and pasting."

Mr. Kelly said he feels that this is an important class because

"today's society is becoming more computer oriented."

He said that having a background in a computer class like this would be helpful in careers ranging from commercial artists, graphic designers and interior designers.

He indicated that this class is not "geared toward cartoons, animated strips or computer generated graphics," but is more concerned with layout and pasting and basic graphic designs.

Jessica Bender, sophomore, said that the main reason that she has wishes to take this class is because she wants to pursue a career as a commercial artist, and believes this class will help her in the future. Jessica said she thinks the class will be beneficial to her because it will "give me the ability to work on computers."

Mimi Amato, junior, agreed and said that she is also taking this class because she is really interested in art and hopes to go into the commercial art field.

Mr. Kelly said this will be the first time he has ever taught a class similar to this so he "will be learning right along with the students."

Familyness workshop celebrates its tenth anniversary in 1994

by Matthew Truesdell

1994 marks the tenth anniversary of the Familyness workshop series. The series is sponsored by OPS Human-Community Relations and the Omaha Council PTA/PTSA.

According to Terry Kocsis, Familyness Coordinator, the series was started in 1985 when members of the PTA saw a need for a parent awareness month. It was decided that workshops would be put on every week in February. Mr. Kocsis said that the first year organizers planned for [attendance figures of] 200, hoped for 100 and got 500."

The workshops include a keynote speaker and sectional ad-

resses after the keynote. Participants are allowed to choose which sectional address they attend.

Mr. Kocsis said that in recent years the Familyness workshops have added Kids Korner activities for children 3-12 and teen panels to discuss issues pertinent to teens.

The final workshop in this year's series is March 1 at Benson High. It will be broadcast live from six to seven on KMTV-Channel 3. Those who wish to attend are asked to be there at 5:30 p.m. Because of the broadcast the doors will be closed at 5:50.

"School Spirit Night" is the theme for the final workshop.

Prospective students have mixed feelings

By Kristen Perry

On Saturday, January 29, Central held its recruitment open house for prospective students. Dr. G. E. Moller, Central principal, said that he was "extremely pleased" with this year's Open House.

Central was once again restricted in the amount of recruitment it could do. "This [Open House] is our big thing," said Mr. Harry Gaylor, marketing department head and chairman of the Open House Planning Committee. "It's our only chance to make a good impression."

"It was impossible to count the number of people who attended, but we had quite a few people more this year than last year," Dr. Moller said.

Several changes in the Open House program were made this year. Two auditorium programs were presented with slide shows and performances by Jazz band and the CHS Singers. Last year, only one presentation was given.

"We tried hard to organize tours so they went smoothly," Dr. Moller said. This year, students were not taken into rooms. Instead, people were asked to drop off the tour and join a later one if they wanted to see a particular area. "It worked fairly well," Dr. Moller said.

Mailings to prospective students and folders for the people who attended the event were also revised.

Mr. Gaylor said he noticed differences in the people who attended Open House. Last year, he said, people seemed to be browsers who were "here for the entertainment," while this year, the people seemed to be shoppers who "were looking for a product."

Mr. Gaylor said several factors contributed to the success of Open House. This year, parents of Central students from each of the different junior highs were avail-



Open House a success: Central's courtyard was filled on January 29th. Photo by Jenny Hurst.

This [Open House] is our big thing. --Mr. Harry Gaylor

able to answer questions. Roughly 83 staff members also were on hand to "help people feel comfortable at Central and let them know our track record," Mr. Gaylor said.

Another key element of Open House was the Central students who were on hand for the event, Mr. Gaylor said. "Students to other students is the answer."

Students who attended said they were impressed with Central but were anxious about the size of the building. "I don't know if I'm going to be able to find my way around," said Mike Kelly, a freshman at Lewis and Clark. Mike also said that despite the size of the school, he is "really excited" about coming to Central.

"I've heard a lot [about Central]. I think it's a great school," said Lewis and Clark student Racheal Frampton.

Aaron Lupo, an eighth

grader at McMillan, said that although his brother attends Central, he is unsure about where he wants to go to high school. He said he is leaning more towards North because of the computers. Aaron said that he is interested in orchestra and Jazz Band at Central because he plays the piano and the violin. "The band room is kind of cavernous and dark, though," he said.

"Open house is a good way for us to look at ourselves—what we need to improve and what we are doing well," said Mr. Gaylor. He said that a formal evaluation of the event will probably be sent to teachers.

"We're not trying to outdo other Open Houses [at other schools]. We just want to appeal to students' needs and see if they feel comfortable in this environment. We're educating the consumer," Mr. Gaylor said.

Mr. Gaylor made a video of Open House and the auditorium presentations. A possibility for this video is that "we will make a promotional video to show to people who can't make it to Open House what Central is like," Mr. Gaylor said.

News Flash

Semester honor roll posted

A total of 601 people, or 36 percent of the Central student body were included on the first semester honor roll. 29 percent of the freshmen, 22 percent of the sophomores, 42 percent of the juniors and 43 percent of the seniors achieved honor roll. These students had to have a grade point average of 3.0 or above. This is close to last year's first semester total of 39 percent. Last year, 26 percent of the freshmen, 38 percent of the sophomores, 36 percent of the juniors and 50 percent of the seniors made honor roll.

DECA team challenges Greg

Over 600 students took part in the annual All-Metro DECA District Competition on January 22. With a turnout of over 100 Central students, the competition involved both individual and group categories. The individual competition involved the students and over 200 sponsors from different area businesses.

The group event involved a Quiz Bowl of answering various business questions. The bowl teams competed in a double elimination tournament. There were 64 teams in all, but after the elimination rounds it was narrowed down to 12 teams and an adult panel. The adult team consisted of Mrs. Alice Bunz, Central marketing teacher, a state director, a volunteer business man and Mr. Greg Peterson from KETV channel seven. Mr. Peterson participated in this event as part of his "I Challenge Greg" series on television.

The result of the competition ended with Westside in first place, Mr. Peterson's team in second and Central in third.

Students compete in pageant

October 31, 1993, marked the Sixth Annual Nebraska Teen Talent Pageant held at the Witherspoon Auditorium in the Joslyn Art Museum. With 120 participants, including Central sophomore Melissa Creswell and junior Summer Miller, the competition was divided into four main categories: evening gown, question/answer, sportswear and personal interviews.

Participants received a postcard in the mail inviting them to undergo a personal interview in order to proceed to the finals. The top ten finalists are eligible to participate at the national contest in Florida at a later date.

"You meet a lot of really neat people," Summer said reflecting on the event, "I'd say it was definitely a good experience."

Contraceptive kit approved

The Omaha Public School Board has authorized a contraceptive kit to be used in the human growth and development classes at the seven area public high schools, including Central High School, starting in the 1994-95 school year.

The contraceptive kit was tested at Central High and Burke High during the school year of 1992-93. Kate Lavia, junior, when asked if she supported the decision said, "Absolutely! It is important for teens to know how to use them the right way and when." Kate was one of the students who participated in the pilot classes.

■ Before there was MTV...

Math teacher writes songs as hobby

By Angela Parks

Mr. Steve Shonkwiler, math teacher, has a unique hobby. In his spare time, he writes songs.

Mr. Shonkwiler stated that he "loves music" and that his interest in music came from his family background. His parents were missionaries, and he had to sing in church.

Mr. Shonkwiler stated that he lived from the age of "five to fifteen on the island of St. Vincent," located in the Caribbean near Barbados.

He was not allowed to go to public school because he was a missionary kid, so his mother taught him at home. His mother also taught him how to play the piano.

When he was 15 they moved back to the United States and he stated that he was "scared to death" of attending public school.

In high school, he started playing the clarinet. Then he later learned how to play the guitar, keyboard, violin and saxophone.

Mr. Shonkwiler has been teaching for 22 years all together,

and six of those years have been at Central.

His music career started a

Our band was the first band to put on a good show.

--Mr. Shonkwiler

couple of years after his teaching when he and some of his friends started a band. He was the lead vocalist most of the time in the band but played the guitar and keyboard when needed.

Over time, the band changed in number and in people, but the band was his, he stated. He

made all the arrangements and hauled around the equipment for the band which "was a task in itself."

The band at first was a duo and later went to a four-piece group. The band also changed in the style of music.

Mr. Shonkwiler said, "The band was doing really well in Omaha and Lincoln and at a time we were in the top 40's." Mr. Shonkwiler also said, "Our band was the first band to put on a good show and was in Omaha before MTV was."

His interest in music became greater when he met Gary Petersen, whom, Mr. Shonkwiler stated, "is the greatest guitarist." Gary Petersen got the group into rock & roll.

Mr. Shonkwiler does not do very much playing anymore. He has a mini studio set up in his house. He said, "I can do everything I want with my equipment inside my house and make music."

Mr. Shonkwiler said, "I play music for fun and write songs for the fun of doing something in my spare time."

Student appears in *Fidelio*

By Joe Brecki

Ken Hill's *Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables*, the Omaha Symphony and of course, the *Dracula Ballet*. All of these shows have been performed at the Orpheum.

And now to the list of shows, the Orpheum adds Beethoven's *Fidelio*. In addition to this opera, the Orpheum has also added Central's very own Michelle Corbett.

Michelle, a senior this year, was selected as an extra in the Orpheum's new opera. Michelle first became interested in acting ever since first coming to Central, where she performed in *Hello Dolly*. Before that she had done a lot of backstage work, not only at Central, but at the Playhouse and in junior high as well. Finally Michelle said she "just got sick of it."

Michelle came across her part when she was asked to have her name placed among a list of extras down at the Orpheum. When casting began, she was called up and asked if she wanted to try out to be one of the five extras.

"The reason for me want-

ing to do a show at the Orpheum Opera/Omaha and Donnie Ray Albert. He (Donnie Ray) is sort of my mentor," said Michelle.

Mr. Albert was in the show playing one of the principle parts Pizzaro.

As an extra, Michelle got to be on stage for a good deal of the show. She got to deliver a package to one of the characters, sing in the chorus and was part of the big finale, which lasted almost 20 minutes.

This is her first appearance at the Orpheum, but Michelle said she would love to do another show at the theater. In fact she was asked to audition for Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Première* which is making its debut at the Orpheum later on in the future.

Fidelio, an opera performed in German, was written by Beethoven and has been performed in numerous locations.

This particular arrangement directed at the Orpheum ran on February 2, 4 and 6 and called for 75 cast members, nine of whom were leads, five extras, a chorus and a few other speaking parts.

Chief Skinner takes on roles of father, police officer

By Julie DeWitt

Julia Skinner, senior, is just an average teen. She goes to school, takes part in activities and goes out on the weekends. It's her father who isn't so average.

His name? Police Chief James Skinner.

Chief Skinner appeared recently on national television in an interview via satellite with CBS anchor, Connie Chung. The interview followed President Clinton's State of the Union Address and focused on crime in Omaha.

"I received a phone call from a woman with CBS news," Chief Skinner said. "They wanted a response to crime from three different people. One would be an average citizen, one a victim of a crime and the third a police chief of a city," he said. "They asked me if I would participate and I said yes."

Chief Skinner said that because President Clinton spoke 20 minutes longer than expected, each interview was cut back to three minutes.

What does Julia think of seeing her father in the national spotlight? "I'm very proud," she said.

Chief Skinner said that he has had 24 years experience on the police force. "I have three degrees—an associate degree, a bachelor's degree and a masters in criminal justice," he said. Chief Skinner said that he was promoted several times based on written tests and role playing tests. He said he went through "numerous state training programs and attended the FBI National Executive Institute."

Chief Skinner said that one of his most memorable experiences was "the excitement

my family and I shared when I was promoted to chief in November of 1989." This was when Julia was thirteen and she said it was a big change for her and her family.

"For the first year it was really time-consuming. We had to go to banquets and things," she said. "I think it matured me very quickly. There were never any kids. It was always adults. I had to watch what I said."

Julia said that she must always keep her father in mind when she does something. "It's not so much that I maintain my image but that I maintain my dad's," she said. "I have to watch what I say because people think that whatever comes out of my mouth is a reflection of my father." Julia said that she does have her own opinions on various issues.

"I agree with my dad on the majority of things, but even when I don't, I talk to him about it," Julia said. "He was against the curfew and I definitely agreed with that."

Julia is not the only one with an image to uphold.

Chief Skinner said that one of the pressures of being police chief is "meeting the expectations of the citizens, elected officials such as the mayor and city council members, community groups and civic groups." He said that the benefits he's enjoyed as chief are "an outstanding staff and good relationships with the mayor, civic organizations and the city council."

Julia said that because her father is the police chief, she is sometimes treated differently.

"I think people prejudge me," she said. "They think I'm either a rebel or a goody-goody because of who my dad is," Julia said. She said it is sometimes difficult to

get to know people because they have such a preconceived image of her.

Having the police chief for a father is also inspiring, said Julia. "He gives me advice like every other parent, but he usually has five or six stories to go with it," she said. Julia said her father's stories are from first-hand experiences about violence, drugs and drinking and driving so they make a greater impact than a simple "don't do that."

Chief Skinner said that sometimes the roles of police chief and father are hard to separate. "I'm sure I could probably be a lot better father," he said. About the numerous stories he tells his children? "Guilty as charged," he said.

He said some of his major moments as police chief include the arresting of five gang members for a recent carjacking. "One of my greatest frustrations is that we have yet to make an arrest in the Kenyatta Bush case," he said.

Chief Skinner feels that juvenile crime is a "significant" problem in the Omaha area. "Over half of all crimes committed are committed by people under twenty years old," he said. "I think holding parents

accountable [for their children's crimes] is something to look at, but I don't know if it's right for every situation." Chief Skinner said that in some cases if a child is sneaking out in the middle of the night and committing crimes the parent may have no knowledge and in that case should probably not be punished. "If the parent is doing nothing and the child is repeatedly in trouble, then some action should probably be taken," he said.

Julia said she is not sure if she will follow in her father's footsteps but that in the future she would like to take courses in criminal law. "Right now my plans are to be a dental hygienist," she said. "I have a feeling that I may possibly get into politics, government or run for office at some point in my life."

What does Chief Skinner think about that? "Her mother and I will support her in whatever she chooses to pursue," he said.

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February 23, 1994

Students experience abuse Abusive relationships call for help

By Elizabeth Kaplan

Students names have been changed to preserve anonymity.

"He would hit me and call me names, yell at me, and push me around when he was in a bad mood," Amy, a sophomore, commented on the abuse she suffered at the hands of her ex-boyfriend.

Mary Larson, director of the YWCA Women Against Violence, said that "one out of every five girls in high school and one out of eight girls in college will be in an abusive dating relationship."

The violence they experience follows many of the same patterns as abusive adult relationships. This usually involves threats, intimidation and isolation enforced by verbal, physical and sexual abuse.

Male abusers

Ms. Larson commented that the vast majority of the perpetrators of the abuse are males. "Less than 10 percent of the time is a girl the aggressor," she said. Girls are likely to hit their boyfriends only in self-defense whereas boys may use violence to intimidate their girlfriend.

Ms. Sharon Jorgensen, Central guidance counselor, said that many young women have talked to her about their involvement in a relationship which became abusive. "One week two girls in one day came to see me," she said.

The types of abuse that commonly occur in dating relationships are physical, verbal/emotional and sexual. Physical abuse involves pushing, hitting or any physical violence to intimidate the victim.

*Jenny, a senior and victim of abuse, described an incident during which her boyfriend used physical violence towards her. "Once, when my boyfriend was angry with me for refusing to have sex with him, he picked me up and threw me against the wall."

Mrs. Carla Robinson, Human Growth and Development teacher, said teenage girls who have been physically abused are "very into denial. The girls often say to themselves that 'he didn't mean to

do it' or that 'it's my fault he hit me; I deserved it.'"

Another type of abuse, verbal/emotional abuse, involves name calling, insults, restrictiveness and belittlement. Ms. Jorgensen commented that verbal abuse occurs in "very controlling relationships where there isn't a lot of mutuality."

Amy encountered verbal abuse in the relationship with her boyfriend. "He would say I was stupid and restrict me from seeing other friends. He was very possessive."

Jealousy

Jenny was a victim of extreme emotional abuse. She described her boyfriend as very "jealous and controlling." Jenny said, "I couldn't look out the window when we were driving around because he would scream at me and accuse me of looking at other guys. I eventually began to keep my head down when I was in the car with him."

Jenny also said that her boyfriend was obsessed with comparing himself to Tom Cruise. "He would spend an hour accusing me of thinking Tom Cruise was better looking than he was. If I denied it, he would accuse me of lying. If I agreed with him, he would get furious and scream at me."

Sexual abuse, forcing someone to have sex or perform sexual acts, is another type of abuse experienced by girls in abusive relationships. Jenny said her boyfriend would use physical violence to "force her to do sexual things. If I didn't want to do things with him, he would say I didn't really love him."

Ms. Larson described the cycle that abuse in dating relationships often follows. "The cycle usually starts with attacking the emotions of the other person," she said. "This involves comments or put-downs like you're fat and stupid. Psychological abuse occurs with comments such as 'no one else will want you and you're a lousy lover.'"

Ms. Larson went on to say, "The third stage usually is when the aggressor begins destroying the other person's possessions and objects that are important to them. The next stage is usually when the aggressor resorts to physical violence."

After the abuse occurs, Ms. Jorgensen said that the boyfriend will often apologize and say that it won't happen again. "Most girls believe that he still loves them and won't do it again," she said. "If it happens even once, they should get out of the relationship because it will probably happen again."

Ms. Jorgensen also said that abuse, in some form, may continue after the relationship has ended. An adult interviewed for this story, who wishes to remain anonymous, described a relationship that she had with a man who became emotionally abusive.

"I dated a guy for about six months who became very obsessive," she said. "He would place limits on me and wouldn't allow me to go certain places. After we broke up, he began stalking me. He would come to my house after he had been drinking between two and ten o'clock in the morning. He would also watch me at aerobics which was very scary and disturbing."

She said that she called the YWCA and they told her how to get a protection order which would enable the police to arrest him if he continued the stalking.

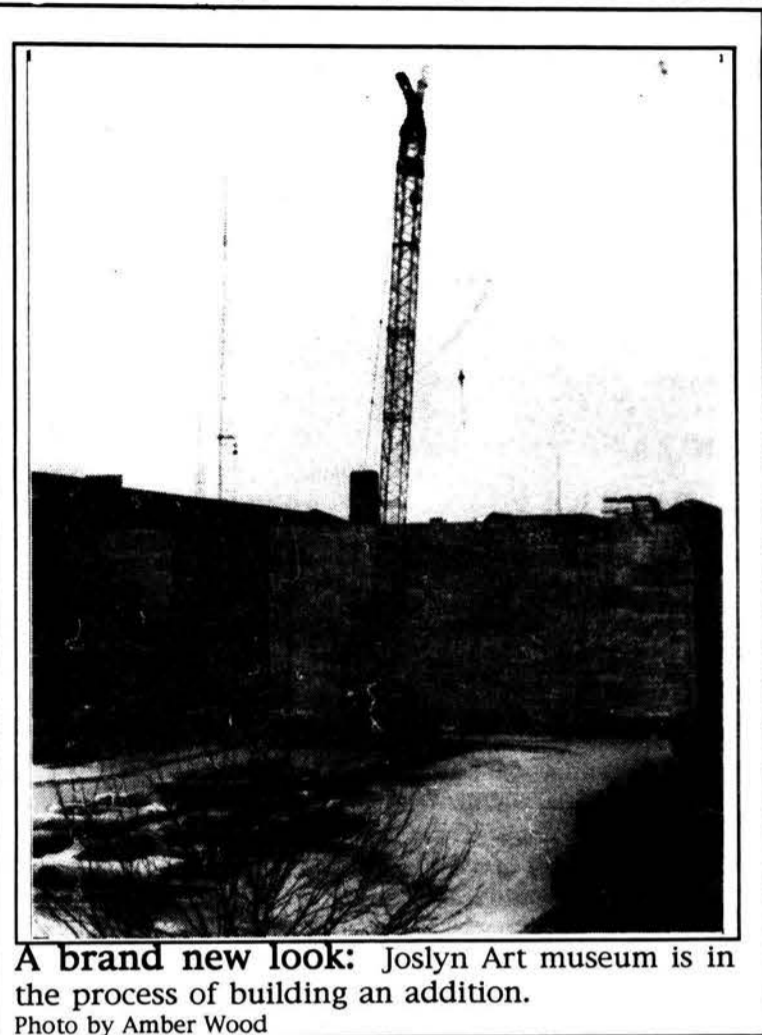
Warning signs

Ms. Jorgensen talked about various warning signs to tell if a boy might become abusive. She said that if they display obsessive behavior or "treat people like possessions" this is a sign they will become abusive.

Amy said, "My boyfriend would get really angry at his sister and mother and would yell at them and me a lot."

Ms. Jorgensen encourages girls to come talk to her if they are in an abusive relationship. Amy said it was very helpful to talk to her counselor. "I finally went to my counselor who helped me decide to break up with my boyfriend."

Ms. Larson recommends that girls seek counseling in order to "get support and understand that the abuse wasn't their fault." The YWCA provides support groups for teens who are in violent dating relationships. For information about these groups one may call 345-7273.



A brand new look: Joslyn Art museum is in the process of building an addition.
Photo by Amber Wood

Renovation of museum produces mixed emotions

By Bethany Vesely

Ever since the construction began on Joslyn Art Museum's expansion and renovation project last spring, it has become a daily observation for the students at Central and is now entering its final stages. The renovation is expected to be completed by November of 1994.

Joslyn has raised \$15.95 through the Joslyn Heritage Foundation and various other companies or fundraisers and has used it to add 52,000 square feet of gallery space for the travelling exhibitions and the permanent contemporary displays. A glass atrium is also being constructed as an eatery connecting the two buildings.

Sir Norman Foster and Partners, an international London company, was selected in 1992 to construct the building out of the same Etowah Fleuri marble as the original Joslyn building. This is their first American project and they

are working with an Omaha firm, the Henningson Durham & Richardson and Kiewit Construction Company.

Central junior Suzanne Prenger doesn't like the new building because the marbles don't match. Tom Johnston, junior, said that it was not fair that they built a new building and Joslyn would not let Central put a scoreboard on the turf field because it would obstruct the view.

"I thought the little sculpture garden was beautiful; now it is this huge building and ugly parking lot. We have no landscape," said Betsy Starr, junior.

Maureen Kelley, junior, likes the new building. She said, "Joslyn is really pretty and adding on to it is cultural and a nice addition to the community."

A celebration will be held for the public at the opening of the new building November 19, 1994 which is about the same time Joslyn was originally opened in 1931.

From heights to animals, students share phobias

By Bethany Vesely

Phobia: an intense fear of some object or situation which actually poses no major threat.

The three most common phobias are acrophobia, fear of heights, claustrophobia, fear of enclosed places and animal phobias. Natalie Sheperd, junior, is claustrophobic and will not ride in a car with more than three other passengers. Mr. Jim Galus, social studies teacher, is acrophobic but still rides in airplanes. Andrea Weiduwilt, junior, is phobic of small dogs. "They're all out to get me," she said.

Libby Broekemeier, junior, has a phobia of ants. "When I was little, my mom told me that red ants will kill me and I've been afraid since then," she said. "In the sum-

mer time, when I am sitting on the grass, I have to have a blanket. I always check boxes of food and I hate ant farms. Sometimes I'm lying in bed at night and I feel them crawling all over me."

Mr. Jim Rawlings, psychology teacher, said that most phobias "tend to come from dramatic experiences." Andrea Weiduwilt is phobic of arson because her garage was set on fire. "Fire is so destructive. I remember my mom coming into the room screaming 'our garage is on

fire' and we watched it burn down," she said.

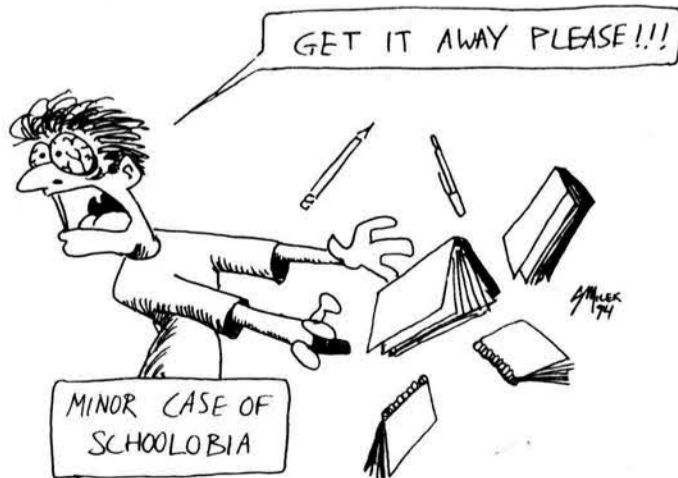
Bill (not his real name) had

shiny eyes it sent chills down my spine," he said.

Kari (not her real name) has a phobia of bus drivers.

"I was a freshman and rode the bus to school, and the bus drivers kept changing because they hated us. I started paying close attention to who was driving us. We got this lady/man bus driver who called us things like 'hon' and I was very scared. I don't ride buses any more," she explained.

Social phobias are also very common. Jane (not her real name) is



a frightening run-in with the alien on the book cover of *Communion*. "When I first saw those big

phobic of pain. "It keeps you distant from people because you are afraid they will hurt you," she said.

John (not his real name) also has a social phobia. "If I say something and don't get the desired attention, I immediately talk louder," John said. He tries to avoid situations like that and is going to need a job that requires performance where people go to see him.

Mr. Rawlings said that phobias can turn from neurotic to psychotic easily. He said that therapy usually involves desensitization when a therapist talks the patient through their "scary situation."

"Little by little people get experiences with the object of their fear," said Mr. Rawlings. He said that once cured, people lose their phobias.

Examining the shock to the system

By Matt Kudlacz

"I've always wanted to see a real execution," Michelle Queen, senior, said, saying that "just taking an eye for an eye" was not enough.

Despite the length of the argument's existence, the question of the death penalty's morality and ability to deter crime still rages on within society. However, a new variable has been added to the discussion: television.

With the capability and interest possible, televised executions may become reality soon. Nonetheless, the questions remain.

Michelle continued by explaining that, if executions

were more frequent and shown throughout the United States, crime would decrease. "If they (the criminals) took a life, they deserve to die just as violently." Alex Yale, junior, supports Michelle in adding the statement, "whatever gets the ratings. It should be a parent's responsibility to keep their children away from the TV if they have a problem with seeing an execution," he said.

"The ethics really don't matter at this point," Alex explained, "because a person has committed a serious crime and should be punished accordingly."

Stephanie Huff, senior, also agrees, suggesting that executions would be more successful if "shown in the prison."

Furthermore, she believes the system's belt could be further tightened with the lessening of court appeals that criminals have available to them.

Marcelles Walker, senior, differs in his opinion slightly, saying that while capital punishment is "necessary in some cases," it shouldn't be hasty. "A man should be put through due process," he explained. If rehabilitation fails, Marcelles suggested, then "his punishment should be carried out."

"Death is too much for television though, and if it came to that

point, I'd never watch television again," he said.

Joe Costello, freshman, agrees, saying that the death penalty is ethical if "someone was killed," but that it would be wrong to televise the assailant's execution because it is an "invasion of privacy."

"T.V. violence is bad enough," Jenny Hayduska, junior, said, explaining that the death penalty is still a "great idea to enforce the law" and teach morality.

"Kids cannot sit and watch people die," Jamie Farless, junior, said, but criminals must still "pay the price."

"It's necessary for people who commit a lot of crime" and "perfectly ethical" to execute someone as a punishment. Joe Achelpoh, sophomore, said, but televising it is "out of the question," as it is an invasion of privacy.

Brian Alseth, senior, disagrees with the punishment completely in saying that it is "not a deterrent. Execution is cruel and unusual. I think there should be more rehabilitation."

Brian supported his beliefs in the life sentence (punishment by citing statistics. "It costs 435,000 dollars in damages to keep a criminal on the street and even more to execute them, but only 50,000 to keep them in prison," he said.

Phillip Medemos, freshman, agrees, saying that although the death penalty "keeps the population down, it's still no reason to kill anyone."

Signing your own death certificate; students present their views on euthanasia

By Jacob Slosburg

Hospitalized, you are unable to move. You have been diagnosed with cancer and according to your doctor, will never be able to live the life you once lived. Unfortunately, your condition may worsen, and you may lose all your mental abilities. Hopefully no one will ever be placed in this situation. Realistically, some probably will.

Should one be able to terminate one's own life? Or should people be forced to live? If they are men-

tally incapable to make this decision, should their relatives be able to decide for them? What is morally correct in this situation? The right to die is definitely a question of ethics.

The rights of the terminally ill vary from state to state. In Michigan, last December, a judge ruled that assisted suicide was unconstitutional. This case involved Dr. Jack Kevorkian, a doctor who is known for his aid in ending life.

Adopted in July of 1992, the Terminally Ill Act of Nebraska allows individuals to "execute a declaration" to be taken off of life support. This declaration must be signed ahead of time and is only valid if the patient is in a "persistent vegetative state."

A "persistent vegetative

state" is defined as "a medical condition that, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty as determined in accordance with currently accepted medical standards, is characterized by a total and irreversible loss of consciousness and capacity for cognitive interaction with the environment and no reasonable hope of improvement."

According to Claire Iltzsch, an employee of the American Cancer Society, if there is no declaration, the family members can convey to the doctor that they want to end all life assistance. She said, "Now when you go into the hospital, they have you fill out a form which informs the doctors whether or not to sustain life."

Sophomore Sally Reiser thinks that "everyone should have the right to an assisted suicide because they shouldn't have to go through pain and suffering."

Kyle Small, junior, said, "Life is too precious to lose when you don't know if you have a chance or not."

"If you actually want to die, what's the use in suffering?" Suzanne Prenger, junior, said. Jessica Larkin, junior, added, "There is no way they can have a normal life again."

Stacy Smith, junior, said, "I don't think people should have the right to kill themselves. God gave them life, why would you take it away? Even if they have an illness, they should live their life to its fullest."

By Matt Kudlacz

This piece contains opinions of the author.

eth-ic (eth'-ik) n. philosophy which treats of human character and its relation to the community [Gr. *ethikos*].

—Webster's Encyclopedia of D

In today's society, inhabited by the mass media and the simple beliefs that comprise the American culture have become not only have the dividing lines between ethical and unethical of understanding.

The key to understanding the position and dimensions of the co-existing realms of culture and society as a consensus of members. The roots of these beliefs rest firmly in the soils of the platforms of beliefs, which nurture subjective ideas.

Because of their nature as breathing concepts, ethical cooperation can be dangerous as beliefs fluctuate often and, instances in American history, such as the years spent pursuing

Ethics, though noble ideally, are without the ability to in hand. It is with this in mind that recent social observers have psyche as untrustworthy and corrupt. Many critics point to the changes in standard.

However, there is comfort in the knowledge that the other concrete morals of America's past, have grown weaker. America, as a nation, is trapped in an evolutionary transition, and the new ideas for a just society.

Because society is under the scrutinizing gaze of this

Genetic engineering: rebuilding society

By Cliff Hicks

"The question that is bound to come up is 'Do we have the right to play God?'"

Gwen Rieser, genetic counsellor at University of Nebraska Medical Center said.

"We are a long way from being able to change things like eye color, hair color and height, but that's not to say that it isn't possible we'll see such developments in the future," Ms. Rieser said.

Currently, such major changes in genes are not possible, but there has been some progress in altering other genes, such as the gene responsible for cystic fibrosis.

Cystic fibrosis, which causes difficulty with the lungs and digestive system, along with childhood death, is caused by a missing enzyme. This missing enzyme was discovered by research about two years ago, Ms. Rieser said. Development has advanced to the point where scientists are able to insert a functioning gene, and as Ms. Rieser said, "It seems to be helping."

Such changes, however, are far from permanent. DNA is constantly replaced as cells die and new cells are created. Thus, the old DNA, and therefore the flaw, is constantly reintroduced into the body. The final goal, Ms. Rieser said, is to make a change in the body so that the problem can be corrected permanently. "Such a feat may be

plausible in the... Cystic... on the agenda... conditions are... other gene... conditions... The... genome project... entists are attempt... are in excess of... and "many, if... This... are causing... mining what the... treatments and... gene transplanta... other means... lessen compli... Another... screening." Dr... versity said, "We... defects in genes... changes." This... both the embryo... Through... possible for the... Gene therapy... embryos, is "a... definite way to... short term or... As tech... come possible... nently in the... Current... alterations" are... "At the... so much farther... said. "It is hard... are coming." While... is extremely... essence of the... straight-forward... ing the building... The first... is what Ms. R... Confidentiality... ics future, beca... made on who

Abortion and the civil war of the 90's

By Jacob Slosburg

Five-thirty in the morning. Saturday. Omaha, Nebraska. Just outside a building on 50th and L Streets, people are beginning to assemble. Some of them carry signs.

Behind them is another sign. It reads "Women's Services."

The people outside are angry about what goes on inside this building.

The people that work there are angry about the people protesting outside. Abortion is the source of the conflict.

Abortion is the act that is being performed at Women's Services.

The conflict is not limited to the city of Omaha, but is an issue that is being debated nationwide. It is a debate in ethics.

Abortions have been legal in the United States since a Supreme Court ruling in Roe vs. Wade in 1973.

However, not everyone agrees with the Supreme Court's decision. Mr. Bob Blank, director of Metro Right to Life, said, "I believe that abortion is the taking of a life of an unborn child. I believe that abortion is wrong because that child is being persecuted in most instances, over 97 percent of the time, for reasons of convenience."

Mr. Blank continued, "They are being done for economic reasons and sex selection."

In cases of rape, Mr. Blank said, "We believe in the self-defense rule." He explained that the self-defense rule allows for the mother to have an abortion only when her life is at stake. He did say, however, according to the Nebraska Health Department, that only one of the 5,711 abortions that took place in Nebraska in 1992 was because of rape.

Mr. Blank said that 90 percent of the women that have abortions have emotional or psychological problems afterwards and 10 percent of these women seek professional help.

Kelly Tollefsrud, director of education at Planned Parenthood, said that the claim that 90 percent of women that have abortions have psychological problems "is a lie. The previous surgeon general was directed by the President to find evidence of post-abortion traumatic syndrome. He was told to find it. He said to the President, 'I have done research and it doesn't exist.'"

"I stress we [Planned Parenthood] are for primary prevention," said Ms. Tollefsrud.

According to Mrs. Tollefsrud, there are three different alternatives Planned Parenthood offers to each of its clients. They are: continuing and parenting, continuing and relinquishing [adoption], or terminating [abortion].

Ms. Tollefsrud said, "We don't assume that she [a pregnant woman] comes to us to have us make her decision for her."

Ms. Tollefsrud, speaking on her own behalf, said, "Basically you have to look at the bottom line. We made abortion illegal and we saw what happened. We need to keep abortion legal to save women's lives. We know what happened before. Women were so desperate that they risked their lives to not be pregnant anymore."

When asked about the new law that can be applied to anti-abortion protesters, RICO, Ms. Tollefsrud said, "I think that there is a national network of terrorism and harassment. It's time to protect the clinics that are providing a legal service."

Sara Eagle, junior, said, "I think abortion should be kept legal. A lot of teenagers cannot afford to have a child. I don't think abortion

should be used as a form of birth control."

Jill Petersen, junior, said, "I believe the woman has a right to control her own body, but once she has made the choice to have sex and as a result has become pregnant, it is not her body, but the baby's."

Briana Hooi, senior, said, "Personally, I would never have an abortion, but I feel that every other woman deserves the right to make their own decision."

"I don't think the government should control it or get involved," Briana said.

Jaimie Cuckritz, senior, said, "I don't want my tax dollars to fund abortions."

"Those that personally won't have an abortion but say that it is the women's choice, that is the same as saying that they don't believe in it, but stand for it, therefore creating a double-standard," Jill said.

Briana said, "I think that this cannot be considered a double-standard in any way because what I am saying is that it comes down to choice. I've made a choice for myself. Everyone should be able to choose. I'm not saying I believe in abortion, I'm saying I believe in choice."

A senior at Central who wishes to remain anonymous had an abortion her junior year. It was forced upon her by her parents. She is pregnant again. She plans to keep the baby.

Commenting on her abortion, she said, "I didn't know if I wanted to keep it, but I knew I did not want to have an abortion. My parents didn't think it was my choice or his choice. They made an appointment for me. It is something I'll never forget."

"Adoption was an option, but I think it would have been just as hard," she said.

She also said that she encountered protesters outside the abortion clinic. "Someone escorted me in there. There were protesters. It makes you feel worse when you have to go through that. I wanted to scream, 'It's not my fault.'"

Abortion is a complex issue that will continually be reexamined. Until it is, every Saturday morning on 50th and L Streets protesters will assemble outside fighting for their cause, but also harassing employees of Women's Services.

...ion between right and wrong, and moral duty and obligations

...words as well as a gamut of conflicting tides of opinion, the applied to the questions that face a 90's world. In truth, however, meanings of the words themselves have fallen into the darkness

...place within its people. Ethics, as a living concept, fits within acting as the criteria for the judgment of the organization's tradition, opinion and faith. However, as they stand merely in structure.

...with their societies and cooperate with their changes. This will become the standards for judgment. Considering past of manifest destiny, one can see the result of altered beliefs. as the society generally marches into the arms of change and as lacking in ethical behavior, characterizing the American beliefs and movements away from past ideals as the reason for

...its beliefs. The basis for most ethical stances, the bible and of the true moral code has been frayed. As a result, conflict has belief of the past, which seems weak in the application to modern

...most moral values will become accepted as ethical.

...the building blocks of life

...questions are bound to be hitting the courts as this technology becomes more commonplace," said Ms. Rieser. With more time, genes that cause problems such as cancer or heart disease will be identified.

Is it ethical for employers to set genetic standards that must be met by their employees? Will it be possible for an insurance company to charge a higher rate, or even to flat out refuse to insure people, because of their genetic make-up?

"Along these same lines, can people be forced to take these tests, as a job requirement? Some people may not want to know," Ms. Rieser said.

Some scientists are attempting to take genetic research a step farther, though. As time progresses, it is feasible that genetic research will lead to the ability to alter embryos for specific traits. "Who decides which gene? Where do we stop? Where do you draw the line?" Ms. Rieser asks. Things such as eye color, hair color, height and weight may not be permanent in the next 30 years.

As the prospect of genetically altering embryos becomes more and more realistic, new laws will need to come into effect. Where will the courts draw the line?

"There is a committee for ethical concerns which is thinking about these issues before they happen," Ms. Rieser said. "Some people will always think that we shouldn't be messing with genetics," she said. The committee is designed to prevent possible legal issues from occurring.

Ms. Rieser believes that the benefits of genetic engineering will be greater than the difficulties. "If you ask a family who has genetic problems if this research is worth it, chances are many of them will say 'Yes.'"

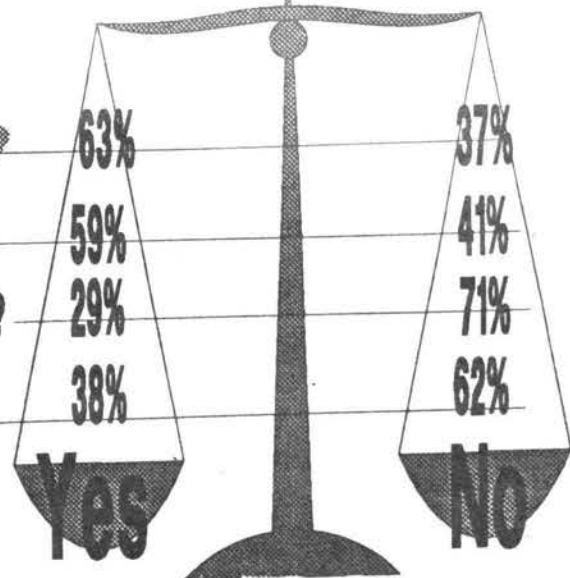
As genetic research develops, more and more questions will arise for the courts and for society. Do scientists have the right to remove genetic defects? Do the parents have right to decide exactly what their children will look like? Do insurance companies have the right to refuse to insure persons because of their genetic background? Questions such as these may be before the courts sooner than we think.

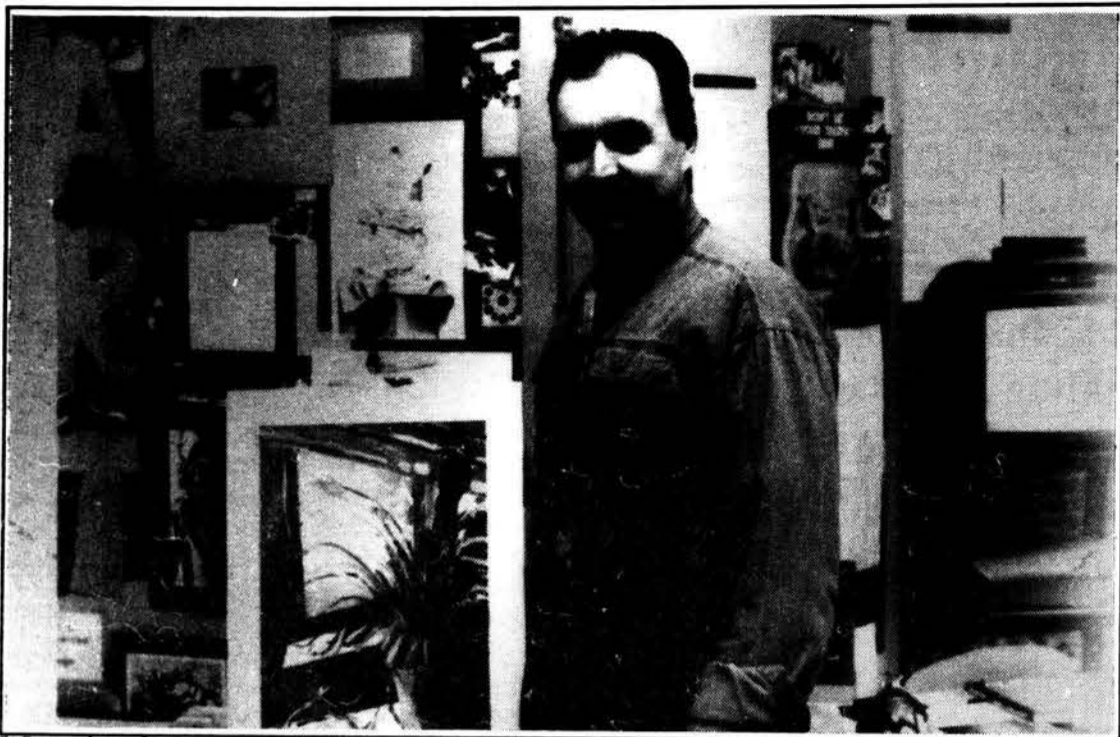
Should assisted suicide for terminally ill patients be legalized? 63% YES 37% NO

Should abortion be kept legal? 59% YES 41% NO

Should the death penalty be outlawed? 29% YES 71% NO

Should genetics be used to alter appearances? 38% YES 62% NO





Mr. Andrews and his art: Art teacher Mr. Larry Andrews sells some pieces of his art in his spare time.
Photo by Amber Wood

Central teacher sells portraits

By Carrie Jacobson

Home is where you hang your hat—or in Mr. Larry Andrews', Central art teacher, case, your canvas.

Mr. Andrews sells pieces of his art. "Recently, I've been doing water color portraits of homes," he said. "I've sold some of those. I've also sold some acrylics and oils."

Mr. Andrews first sold a piece of his work during his junior year of college. "I got \$75 for it, and I'd never been happier. I didn't get to make a slide of it, though. That means, aside from what I can remember of it, I have no record of what it looked like, except that it was a three-by-four foot railroad depot," he said.

Oil, acrylic, watercolor, even foam core, wood slats and torn canvas—all these media have been used in Mr. Andrews' work.

What he asks for a piece "depends on how much work I put into it. Of course, I'd like to sell more, but to sell more you have to work more," Mr. Andrews said.

"Sometimes, it's difficult for me to find time." The watercolor portraits sell for three to four hundred dollars; smaller works go for anything from \$150 to \$175.

Mr. Andrews' work is inspired by teaching or seeing something that catches his eye or shapes,

My students know I'm a working artist and a teacher.
--Mr. Andrews

colors and shadows. "Actually, I'm often inspired by my students' work," he said. "Or I could be fanning through an art book, a periodical and suddenly become inspired. Hopefully, it works the other way, too—my students know I'm a

working artist and a teacher," he said.

Many times, Mr. Andrews works in a series: two or three or four related paintings. He also does independent works.

He's commissioned himself out for projects before, but "it's something you have to promote. I don't have a whole lot of time to do that, and it's difficult." However, Mr. Andrews does find time to make wearable art for his six-year-old daughter. "I made lots of different things for her birthday party," he said. "The kids were thrilled, and the parents liked it a lot, too. Wearable art can be really expensive."

Mr. Andrews entered a lot of contests in high school and college, and he won many awards, including "Best of Shows." He once belonged to Associated Artists, although he's no longer active.

"We [at the art department] show the students our work. We show them we know what we're talking about. The phrase 'Those who can't do, teach,' definitely does not apply here," said Mr. Andrews.

Students volunteer

Community service gives Central High students Pride

By Elizabeth Kaplan

The Community Service Club, or Pride, is a new Central organization which was formed earlier this year. The idea for the club spawned from two Central students' experience this summer volunteering at Hattie B. Munroe camp, a camp for mentally and physically disabled children.

"Jennie Waldmann, sophomore, and I met at the camp," said Cassie Abrahams, sophomore. "We thought it would be nice to do more volunteering together. I get a lot of personal satisfaction from volunteering and we want to help other students get involved with it." Cassie and Jennie later discussed starting a club at Central High to help students get involved with volunteering.

"We got in touch with Mr. Blazevich, social studies teacher, and he agreed to be our sponsor," said Cassie. Mr. Blazevich then contacted the Mayor's Youth Organization and helped the community service club become affiliated with the Youth Volunteer Corps of Omaha.

Cassie said that the Youth Volunteer Corps has a "hands-off approach." It helps the club with funding and gave them a list of places in need of volunteers.

Cassie said that the goal of the club is to help motivate Central students to get involved in community service. "We also want to get more positive recognition for the school and provide alternative things

for people to do," she said.

"It's an excellent opportunity for Central students who want to be involved in the school and community," said Mr. Blazevich. "I like to see students involved by helping other students at school, and also being involved in the community."

Jennie said that she has recently been meeting with plans for the year. Christensen, sophomore, said the club hopes to volunteer one month, as a group, at various organizations in the Omaha area. Youth Volunteer Corps gave her a list of places needing help.

I get a lot of personal satisfaction from volunteering.
--Cassie Abrahams

attending.

The event will focus on the problem of homeless families in the Omaha. The club will sponsor a food drive at Central that can be done at Central that will be doing activities with the Salvation Army and the Open Mission," said Mr. Blazevich.

Mr. Blazevich hopes many students attend the event. He stressed that all Central students are welcome to go to the work. Students interested in attending the event or in joining the club should contact Mr. Blazevich or go to the club's meetings Tuesday, 3:00 in the courtyard.

Central student's cousin producer of Olympics, Arsenio Hall

By Ann Rickerl

They're cousins, identical cousins, two of a kind, one pair of matching bookends different as night and day.

James Chipasula, Central senior, and his cousin Kim Swan are not identical but may be as different as night and day.

Kim Swan is one of the producers of the Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. James said his cousin is in charge of all the ice sports.

James said that her job is "wide ranging" and includes that she makes sure all the equipment is at the site and is all working.

"She also makes sure that there is enough money to pay all the people involved." James said she also "does a little bit of spot work making sure everything runs without a hitch."

He said that Kim has to make sure everything is in its proper place at the right time for filming and editing purposes.

James said that Kim began her career managing on the "Arsenio Hall Show," then eventually producing the show. James said Kim has been a producer "going on her eighth year."

James said that Kim works for Fox, but producing the Olympics this year "may be her big opportunity."

Kim Swan has not always been interested in this area. "In fact, she majored in business and telecommunication journalism at New York University." James said at one point she "wanted to be a CEO of some big corporation."

James said that Kim has only produced one other show in addition to the Olympics and "The Arsenio Show", which was the AIDS

special with Magic Johnson, but "is trying to get toward other network programs."

James said his opinion on pursuing a career such as being a producer includes that those inter-

ested should contact some local news or television station and "tag along with their producers and see what they do on a daily basis."

When asked whether he would like to follow along in his

cousin's footsteps, James said "not really," and indicated that he would much rather pursue a career in architecture or computer programming. "But who knows, maybe I might become a producer."

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Central High choreographer puts his best foot forward

Carrie Jacobson

Damion Smith has never had a dance lesson.

Yet, according to onlookers, a Roadshow practice on a recent afternoon, his movements were fluid, professional in quality. Dancing comes naturally to him.

"I've danced my whole life," said Damion, who's a junior. When he was five or six, he'd see Michael Jackson on TV and copy his moves all the time. My mom named me Disco Duck and it was because she knew I was going to be a dancer."

Damion choreographs as well as dances. "About two years ago I just started getting ideas in my head. I thought if I presented them to someone, they could do it with me," Damion said. Dance steps constantly come to him; he can hear "a cheesy song, like I've Been Working on the Railroad, and I'll start to think up steps," said Damion.

When Damion thinks of a dance, sometimes he'll get out a recorder and tape himself. "Then I watch and decide that I like this or don't like that," he said.

He doesn't think up ordinariness with just a few people. He likes to work with a bunch of people. "I'll choreograph them individually, then put them all together."

Damion gets specific "people pictures" in his mind's eye, though sometimes it ends up not being right, so I have to change it; it's not what I wanted. I wanted the Emperor to be authentically Oriental, to be smooth," he said.

"There is something I feel, an inner spirit with the music. I know the dance step, but it's my job

to bring feeling to it. But the feeling comes from the music more than anything," Damion said.

Damion tries not to practice, however. "I like to hang out with friends, rest, look at a movie—not dance all the time. When I'm choreographing a number, I do hold rehearsals, but I don't force anyone to come; if they don't rehearse, it's their fault and they'll just lag behind. But I usually end up dancing every day—something'll pop in my head," he said.

Damion had two dances in the Road Show this year: *A Touch of Class* to Janet Jackson's *If*, and *The Emperor* to *Vogue*. In order to find talented dancers, Damion held auditions. "People would come up to me in the hall saying 'I heard you're doing this dance—can I be in it?' So I'd tell them to come down after school; I'd show them a piece of the dance and see what they could do with it. I wanted people with personality who could show what they're doing in their dancing—struttin' it out. Watching, I'd think, 'Yeah, she'd look good doing this.' When they're on stage, they're playing characters," said Damion.

This year, many talent shows have come to Damion for acts. "Everything has picked up so fast. Ms. Chamberlain saw us rehearsing in the hall and invited us to do *Emperor* for Jabberwock. I've also been asked to do something for Black History Month, McMillan Jr. High and Bryan Jr. High," he said.

Damion dedicated his creations in Roadshow to his mother, Charlene, who passed away on January 22. "She always had faith in what I'd do," he said.



Regal performance: Damion Smith, junior, performs his leading role in *The Emperor*, the dance he choreographed for Central's 1994 Road Show. Photo by Amber Wood.

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Students help with Family Days

By Brian Priesman

Take The Sky, performed by the Nebraska Theatre Caravan, was this year's FAMILY DAY performance at the Omaha Community Playhouse. FAMILY DAYS, formerly known as KIDS' DAY is an opportunity for area families to "experience live theater at its best" and to participate with the Caravan in theater-related workshops.

Take The Sky, written by Susan Baer Beck with music by Jonathan Cole, tells the story of aviation, from Leonardo Da Vinci to the Wright Brothers. The workshops available for the students follow the same pattern, with workshop groups

named after forms of aviation.

The workshops are organized by Marya-Lucca Thyberg, the Nebraska Theatre Caravan Education Coordinator. She helps the Caravan actors create the workshops and then contacts area school and community groups to get the "Pilots and Navigators," which is this year's title for the workshop leaders.

"As Education Coordinator of the Caravan I contact a variety of groups including Girl Scouts, Explorers, high school drama classes and Stage Door [the volunteer group at the Playhouse]," said Ms. Thyberg. "I contact instructor/leaders by phone or mail and then go to the groups or classes to speak with them about the event."

The Pilots and Navigators meet the students when they arrive and have a chance to sit and talk with them. Then the students are taken on a series of pre-show workshops, which are put on by members of the Caravan.

"Originally there was not much time between registration and the pre-show workshop. However, this year registration moved so smoothly that the Pilots and Navigators are playing theatre games with their groups before the actors arrive," Ms. Thyberg said.

The Pilots and Navigators are available to help the actors with

their workshops and to serve as "front-line problem solvers," said Ms. Thyberg.

This year the Pilots and Navigators came from Benson, North, South, Marian, the Explorer scouts and Central.

Although Ms. Thyberg tried to make it a good experience for the Pilots and Navigators, many of them complained about a lack of organization. J.B. Jones, junior, complained of lateness on the actor's parts and general disorganization.

But the Pilots and Navigators efforts do not go unnoticed. Matt Kamprath, six-year veteran of the Nebraska Theatre Caravan, said "We can't live without those kid-herders, I can tell you that. Honestly."

"They're a huge help. The other day, Darren and I went to our workshop and we were ahead of time, but the kids had been there even longer with their workshop leaders," said Matt. "She had em' I don't know, just keeping them active."

"I hope that they feel good about sharing with their groups. I think it is a particularly wonderful opportunity for those interested in pursuing a career in theater because they have a chance to meet professional actors," said Ms. Thyberg. "I hope they have a wonderful time."

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Eighty "Fantastick" years of Roadshow-- still Stayin' Alive

By Brian Priesman

Central's 80th Annual Road Show was performed last weekend in Central's auditorium.

The show, entitled "The 'Fantastick' Road Show—80 Years of 'Stayin' Alive'," consisted of a wide variety of songs, dances, skits and even the occasional magic act.

To be selected for Road Show, acts had to audition several weeks before the performances.

Acts are selected based on a judging system that uses students and faculty.

"We try to get a good cross section of ages, subject matter, and then there are students who are nominated or suggested by their counselors," said Mrs. Pegi Georgeson, Central drama instructor and Road Show director.

Judges consist of students, directors, faculty members selected by a committee and students nominated by counselors.

"We have some 'old-timers' who have been here forever and ever and know the standards of Road Show," Mrs. Georgeson said. "So you have that wide sector to get fresh young blood in there and try to have a good cross section of the student body."

According to Mrs. Georgeson, judges are chosen to represent a wide variety of interests, as long as the final production maintains the traditional Road Show standards.

This year there were 16

Competition serves as learning experience

Gold Keys unlock opportunities and disappointment

By Carrie Jacobson

The Regional Scholastics Fine Arts Competition results were unveiled. With them came a spot of trouble.

Criteria for both artwork and photography included "refined, finished, polished product," according to Janet Helms, photography instructor at the Career Center. "They [the photographic images] are also judged on what the image is trying to say."

However, Ms. Helms was careful to note that "we have no way of knowing who the judges are, or exactly what criteria they will use."

According to Ms. Helms,

student judges and twenty-three adult judges.

Mrs. Georgeson said that the amount of talent auditioning this year made the final selection harder than ever.

"There was a lot more talent auditioning for competition. It was much tougher this year," she said. "The judges and everyone were just going 'Wow! I can't believe the talent this year!'"

For this year's production, 100 acts auditioned, which had to be cut down to around 25 acts.

"We had 100 acts try out," said Mrs. Georgeson. "We could have had a four-hour show."

Students "are disappointed" said Mrs. Georgeson, when they do not get into Road Show.

But she tries to make it clear that "the judges all write comments" and that it is "very competitive in the performance world."

"Out of 100 acts, to get a fourth of them in is really good," she said.

Mrs. Georgeson tells the students not to give up; "there's always next year."

She went on to say that "if you don't make one thing and that stops you, then you don't have much of an interest."

Although many acts did



Strike up the band: Concert band practices for the 80th annual Road Show. Photo by Cathy Moyer.

not make it, many people had several acts in this year's production.

Senior Josh Perilo had several acts as well as seniors Ali McLarney, Chris Wiig and sophomore Anna Perilo.

"I really wish I wasn't in as many acts as I am," said Josh Perilo, "because the audience is going to hate me by the end of the Road

Show." Eight of Josh's acts made it into this year's Road Show, but ironically the acts that did not make it were the ones he most wanted in.

This is the second year in which Mrs. Georgeson has directed Road Show. The rest of the production team included Mr.

Larry Hausman, stagecraft instructor; Mr. Pete Wilger, instrumental music teacher; and Ms. Lyn Bouma, music teacher. Mr. Hausman handled all of the technical aspects of the show. Mr. Wilger and Ms. Bouma were available for the musical acts. "There's just a heck of a lot of talent in here; a nice variety," said Mrs. Georgeson.

"photography students can work anywhere from two months to a year on their portfolio."

Any student is eligible; the works are submitted by teachers. Each teacher, both art and photography, gets to submit 15 works. A portfolio, which is a collection of eight of the student's best pieces, counts as one work.

"In the past, the portfolios had been judged as portfolios, then again as [the judges] look at the works individually, as eight pieces. This way, the student is up for both individual and portfolio awards," explained Mr. Larry Andrews, Central art teacher. Gabriel Rivers, Sarah Bowen, Kelly Corcoran, Petra

They [students] do an awful lot to prepare for something like this. --Ms. Helms

Eccarius, Stephen Hobson, Brad Iwen, Cathy Moyer, Timothy Toberer and Sara Kraniak all won Gold Keys; Ann Otto, Kenneth Stuart, Mimi Amato, Ryan Cain, Sara DeWitt, Wendy Krecek received Silver Keys. Staci Narducci received the Hallmark award. From Lincoln, where the works are initially judged, Gold Key winners go on to compete at the national level in New York.

Petra and Steve were the only Central students to win Keys for their art portfolios. There were no individual award winners from the portfolios. "We entered ten portfolios this year," said Mr. Andrews. "A lot of students were really upset because UNL, who sponsors this, only judged on whether the portfolio would go on to nationals or not. There was no chance for other recognition, and the kids are just crushed," said Mr. Andrews.

"The portfolios were judged with complete disregard

for what a portfolio is and what it represents. There was no indication there were going to be changes in judging. If we would have been ahead of time, the students would have entered their best individual works rather than to be up for a Key," he continued.

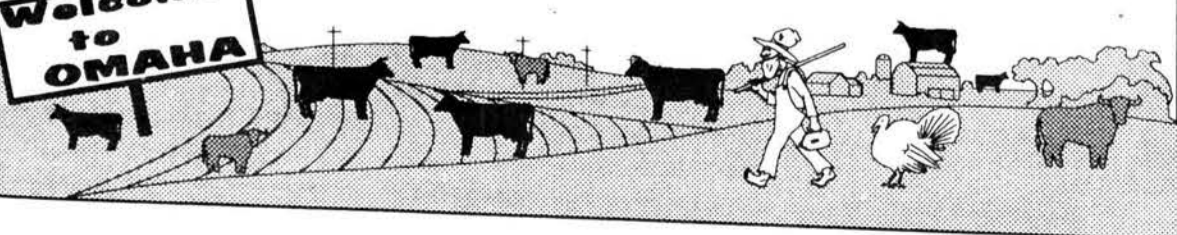
Mr. Andrews served as a consultant from Omaha to Lincoln during the planning stages of the competition. According to him, there were no meetings called by the sponsor to discuss changes.

Kristin Miltner, senior, said "When applying for art schools, I did all this hard work and it didn't count off—and my portfolio should've been good enough," she said.

Although Ms. Helms was disappointed, she did say this was a positive experience for her students. "They do an awful lot of work to prepare for something like this. They learned how to compete, to show their work. It's a good experience for the kids," she said. "And overall, we did quite well."

10 things to do in Omaha, better than date your cousin.

- 1) See Gary Oldman and Lena Olin in *Romeo is Bleeding*.
- 2) B.B. King, live at Orpheum, February 25th.
- 3) *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Playhouse, Feb 18-April 2.
- 4) Buy Mark Lanegan's *Whiskey For the Holy Ghost*.
- 5) Watch Daniel Day-Lewis in *In the Name of the Father*.
- 6) Check out *Beehive*, playing at the Orpheum March 8-13.
- 7) Watch some good television . . . "NYPD Blue," "Homicide," and "Law and Order."
- 8) See the UNO-Nirvana Lasermagic show March 6-7.
- 9) Neil Simon's play *Jake's Women* at the Firehouse Dinner Theatre.
- 10) Hunt down that stupid groundhog for predicting 6 more weeks of winter.



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Schindler's List to sweep up at Academy Awards

Dylan Gaughan
Film companies are propping their movies to death. Bowditch dresses are making their debut out of rich people's closets. Spi Goldberg is praying she'll be funny.

Yes, my friends... Oscar is here again.

The nominees for the 66th Annual Academy Awards were revealed Wednesday, February 9th, by people like you and me as we made our own predictions and arguments about who should win which awards.

Though it is usually tough to predict what the Academy is thinking, I'm going to attempt to make my winning predictions. Hold all bets until the end, and please don't wagering...

The nominees for best supporting actress are Holly Hunter (*The Piano*), Anna Paquin (*The Piano*), Rose Perez (*Fearless*), Winona Ryder (*The Age of Innocence*) and Emma Thompson (*In the Name of the Father*). Winona Ryder is a surprise nomination in this category, considering her near invisible role in Scorsese's *Innocence* was less than impressive.

While Perez and Paquin were convincing in their roles and Holly Hunter brought the only redeemable quality to the lackluster *Firm*, I think Emma Thompson will walk away with the Oscar for her portrayal of a determined defense attorney. Thompson, though her roles in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Howard's End* and *Henry V*, has proven to be one of the world's finest actresses.

The nominees for best supporting actor are Leonardo DiCaprio (*What's Eating Gilbert Grape*), Pete Postlethwaite (*In the Name of the Father*), Tommy Lee Jones (*The Fugitive*), Ralph Fiennes (*Schindler's List*) and John Malkovich (*In the Line of Fire*).

Though the competition

will be tough, I think the award will go to Ralph Fiennes for his portrayal of Amon Goeth in Spielberg's epic *Schindler's List*.

His biggest challengers are John Malkovich's vengeful psychopath in *In the Line of Fire*, and Tommy Lee Jones' unforgettable, unstoppable U.S. Marshall from *The Fugitive*. Fiennes shines above them all, however, as a sadistic Nazi captain both physically and mentally deteriorating and repulsive.

In the next category, best actress, the nominees are Angela Basset (*What's Love Got to Do With It*), Stockard Channing (*Six Degrees of Separation*), Holly Hunter (*The Piano*), Emma Thompson (*The Remains of the Day*) and Debra Winger (*Shadowlands*).

Impressive performances from all, but the Oscar BELONGS to Holly Hunter for her portrayal of Ada, a mute who uses her piano to express her thoughts and feelings. Rather than coming off as uncomfortable in a non-speaking role, she turns the disability into her character's beauty, pouring out emotion without the obstacle of words.

Nominated for best actor are Daniel Day-Lewis (*In the Name of the Father*), Laurence Fishburn (*What's Love Got to Do With It*), Tom Hanks (*Philadelphia*), Anthony Hopkins (*The Remains of the Day*) and Liam Neeson (*Schindler's List*).

Once again, the nominees face some tough competition, but I think the Academy will go with Tom Hanks for his role as Andrew Beckett in Johnathan Demme's *Philadelphia*.

In the category of best director, the nominees are Jim Sheridan (*In the Name of the Father*), Jane Campion (*The Piano*), James Ivory (*The Remains of the Day*), Steven Spielberg (*Schindler's List*) and Robert Altman (*Short Cuts*).

This is the hardest category

for me to narrow down. Campion's *Piano* is touchingly tragic and beautiful. Sheridan's *In the Name of the Father* is an intense, moving, brilliantly acted film. James Ivory continues to release incredibly well-made films with the budget of an independent film. Robert Altman, one of my favorite directors, has definitely earned his nomination for his *Short Cuts*, a landscape of human emotion, based on the writings of Raymond Carver.

Unfortunately for all of

Froot Loop deficiency poses potential danger

these directors, their films were released in the shadow of IT... Steven Spielberg's Rosetta Stone—*Schindler's List*. Spielberg deserves an Oscar, if not a thousand. Spielberg has created not a film, but a message of epic proportions.

The nominees for best picture are *In the Name of the Father*, *The Fugitive*, *The Piano*, *The Remains of the Day* and *Schindler's List*.

Excuse me, *The Fugitive*? Sure, it was a fun, riveting picture,

population even more.

Of course there are a few perks for the young testosterone banks out there. The Miss U.S.A. pageant takes place, and the *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit edition comes out. Personally, I don't care a can of beans about either of these events, although they do succeed in re-inspiring my exercise schedule. Nordic-track here I come!

Winter is here to stay, so until we are enveloped in fragrant spring rains and resting on the brink of summer, all we can do is dream...

Do you dream in color? This is always a major point when scientists analyze the dream activity of the average human being. Most people are supposed to only dream in black and white, but as I was conducting my unscientific study, I found that most people dream in color (unless of course they were lying just to be cool.)

I have always been a color-dreamer. In fact once I had an animated dream, and not only was it animated, but it was half cartoon, half real, like the *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*?

In this dream I was Yosemite Sam, and I was being chased by a shark.

I wonder what the dream scientists would say about that one? **Me:** I had a dream that I was Yosemite Sam and I was being chased by a shark. What does this mean, doctor?

Doctor: Well, obviously you are suffering from a severe Froot Loop deficiency and a major lack of tight-rope-walking as a child. You should

but it can't begin to compare with *Philadelphia*, whose slot in the best picture category it has stolen.

Schindler's List was the best film of the year, and one of the best of all time. If the same thing happens to *Schindler's List* that happened to *Malcolm X* last year, the Academy Awards should be discontinued.

So, let the debating begin. And on March 21, warm yourself by the television and see who walks away with the Oscars...

begin therapy immediately.

Another common dream is the flying dream, and I've noticed that no two people fly alike. My mom can only fly if she flaps her arms really hard, and a girl in my history class has to be holding the hand of a certain person. In my dreams, I am never quite able to truly fly, but if I run and pick up a lot of speed, I can jump into the air and glide for awhile. This is kind of nerve-racking when you're trying to escape a giant purple squid.

I usually don't have any nightmares, but I'll never forget the worst dream I ever had. I was a junior, and my class was reading *Moby Dick*. I was attempting to complete my reading assignment for the evening. I was too drowsy to appreciate the intricacies of Melville's plot and his artistic manipulation of symbolism, so I decided to take a short nap.

During my entire nap I dreamed that I was reading *Moby Dick*!

The worst part about it though was that I made up my own story in the dream and failed the quiz the next day because I couldn't remember which version was real. (Personally, I liked my interpretation better.)

Ishmael is swallowed by Moby and he meets Geppetto. They become great friends and after they are rescued by Indiana Jones they live happily ever after in Maui with the seven dwarfs. I'm thinking about writing a screenplay.)

So until later, try to keep warm and eat a lot of Froot Loops. Only a few months left until we are left to sunshine and soap operas. So until then, dream on...

Alaska and me



by Anna Thomas

A small group of intellectually-starved young adults huddle together. Their frozen breath hangs in the air as their chapped fingers flip the pages of one of Shakespeare's great works. A surreal dream? Knowledge-thirsty Eskimos? No! A.P. English, room 249, with Mr. Daly.

When my English teacher is wearing a scarf, and students are playing hockey in the senior lot, I've had enough of winter.

It wouldn't be so terrible if we were somewhere cool, like Lillehammer. "Sharing a moment with the world," feeling the Olympic spirit first-hand. Cheering on Americans, like Dan Jansen and Tommy Moe, and admiring the other international athletes (like that Norwegian speed-skating god Johann Olav Koss—wow!) But no, we're in Nebraska, where all you can do in the snow is shovel it.

February is probably the worst month of the year. It falls right after the holiday season, so it's always a major let-down. And Valentine's Day just succeeds in depressing two-thirds of the general

My mom can only fly if she flaps her arms really hard.

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- A kangaroo rat can live its entire life without a drink of water.
- Starfish don't have brains.
- One out of twelve people never catch colds.
- You should never refrigerate garlic.
- Marie Curie was the first casualty of overexposure to radiation.
- There are more lawyers in Chicago than in England.
- A survey once proved that the majority of New Yorkers could not name the one state in the union that ended with a "k."
- Rabbits' ears go limp when they're dreaming.

Athletes need 'heart' along with size and speed

Seventh Inning Stretch



By Christy Shearer

The five o'clock July sun was beating down, blinding me from the action of the game before me. It was the fifth game of a two-day softball tournament, and as the team's only catcher, I had to catch all five. My muscles were sore and my knees were like two old hinges nearly rusted shut. I wasn't a catcher anymore, only a glove to stop the ball. However, despite the seem-

ingly unending innings, I refused to give in to the heat and frustration of our opponent's ever-increasing lead.

While in this tired and weakened state, I came to realize something about myself and other athletes. Within all of us there lurks a desire to see a competition through to the end despite incredible odds and a resentment towards the idea of forfeiting or succumbing to these odds. This desire in athletes is often referred to as having "heart."

"Heart" is an element of athletics that is often unnoticed or forgotten, but when in the face of difficult obstacles, it shines through. It is the force that drives young athletes to practice just a minute longer or run just a mile further.

For years, amateur and professional athletes who possess this quality have impressed and thrilled audiences by entering every arena and stadium with a look of pure excitement and love of the sport they play.

After watching the recent movie, *Rudy*, based on the true story of an athlete whose dream is to play football at Notre Dame, I realized the importance of "heart" in an athlete.

After being told that he lacked the speed and size of a collegiate athlete, Rudy reached inside himself and discovered that he possessed more inner strength than athletes twice his size. His willingness

to take the beating of playing on the Irish's prep-team earned him the respect of his coaches and teammates. To me, this proves that it is not only athletic skill that produces winners and great athletes.

Many of today's popular athletes, like Nebraska quarterback

Tommie Frazier and Kansas City Chiefs' quarterback Joe Montana, have proven that they possess "heart" and the desire to do their best. In the face of the Florida State defense in

the 1994 Orange Bowl, Tommie Frazier did not cringe, earning himself and his team nationwide respect and nearly the National Championship.

Like-wise, after leaving his long-time team, the San Francisco 49er's and suffering numerous career-threatening injuries, Joe Montana sparked the Chiefs' offense and led them to the AFC Championship game. Despite the ability to retire comfortably at will, Joe Montana continues to give a little bit more to the sport he loves.

According to sports psychologist, John E. Anderson, recent article, in order to become a great athlete one must have a desire to be able to bounce back, aim to plan for trouble and refuse to give up. He uses the example of figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi's fall during the 1992 Olympic games. She had a dream of winning a gold medal but could have lost it as the result of a fall during her long program. However, she had the confidence to bounce back from possible disaster to skate the rest of her program nearly flawlessly.

Developing "heart" begins during childhood when young athletes are taught to believe in themselves, take pride in their abilities and refuse to give up in the face of difficulties and insurmountable odds. The fact that it takes more than size and speed to be a successful athlete needs to be emphasized to young athletes as they strive to reach their goals.

College-bound football players Two Central seniors sign letters of intent

By Brian Wilson

Along the course of the year, many of Central's talented athletes go through the process of choosing one of the many colleges that are waving scholarships in their faces.

Football players

Three of Central's top football players were given the chance to choose one of these schools and sign the Letter of Intent on February 2.

Kevin Armstrong, senior, signed with Wayne State, Marcelles Walker, senior, signed with the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Andy Thompson, senior, is walking-on at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Letter of Intent

The Letter of Intent is the letter athletes sign to accept an offer made by an interested college. At this point in the recruitment process, the athletes commit themselves to the school they sign with.

"These athletes are guaranteed a position on the team the following season," said Mr. Joe McMenam, head football coach.

Coach McMenam chooses about 12 players in the spring, who he feels will do well that season. Then, he gives these names to all the interested coaches in the area.

The coaches from these schools will then do a fall follow-up by either coming to watch them play, or Coach McMenam will send them videos of games.

Kevin's decision

Kevin, who signed with Wayne State, is receiving a full-ride scholarship for at least four years. Kevin also received full-ride offers from the University of South Dakota, Montana State, University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Univer-

sity of Nebraska at Kearney. Kevin said he chose Wayne State "because of their coaching staff and the kind of program they have. They have done very well recently and that was a big deal to me."

At Wayne State, Kevin says he will probably play offensive center. He also said that he would like to turn pro, "if it is possible." Kevin plans to study criminal law in college and says he wants to become a State Trooper.

UNO linebacker

Marcelles Walker, who is going to the University of Nebraska at Omaha next year, also received a full-ride scholarship to play for four years. Marcelles was also offered a full-ride scholarship by Montana State but said, "I didn't like the town and it is too far away."

Marcelles said he will play either linebacker or safety for UNO. His plans and goals for the future are to major in physical therapy and to have a job associated with football.

'Walk-on'

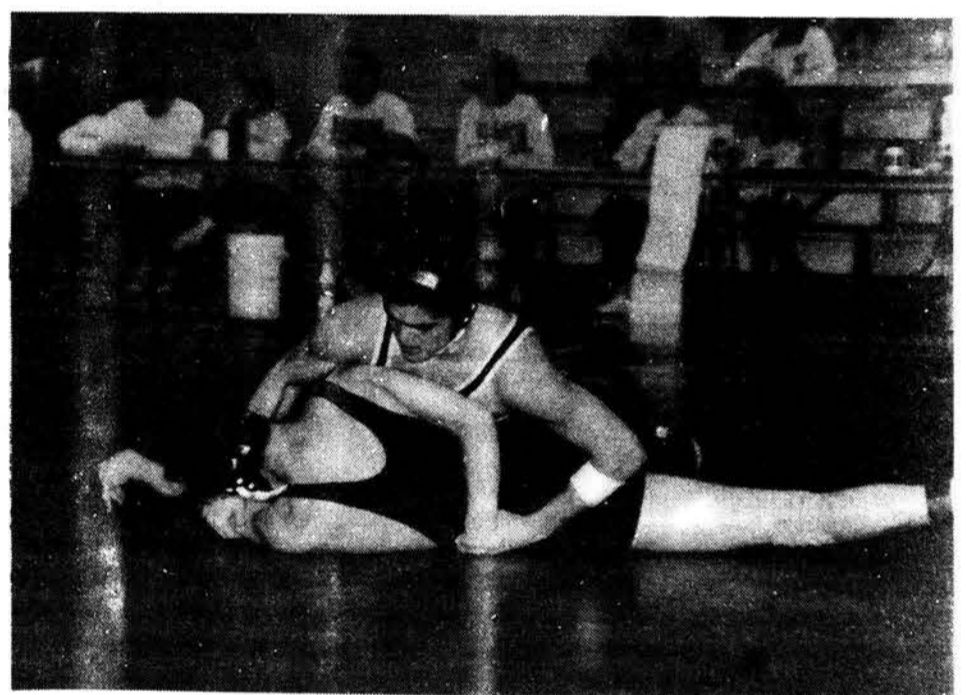
On January 24, Andy Thompson signed a 'Gentleman's Agreement' with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. This is not an official agreement. After he has been accepted, Andy will sign a 'walk-on' letter which will make it official.

According to Coach McMenam, "U.N.L. is only allowing twenty 'walk-ons' next year."

Andy was asked to be in the passing league this summer, and he will start practice with the team in August.

Andy said he may play cornerback or safety, but "I prefer cornerback."

He also said, "I might try returning punts. I'm not sure about it yet."



Say Uncle: Jason Lawrence, junior, secures a victory against his opponent from Northwest at the district competition. Photo courtesy of Gary Kubik.

Wrestling team places third at districts, seven qualify for state

By Michael Sigmond

The Central High wrestling team qualified for state with a bang. After struggling to meet many weight divisions throughout the season, the team produced seven state qualifiers at district finals.

Senior Jeff Casady is the new A-2 district champion in the 103-pound class as he sets his sights on the State Championships in Lincoln. He finished district competition with a 27-5 record, capping it off by beating the top-ranked wrestler in state. Jeff won the final match 4-3 over Omaha North senior Rennard Turrell.

Previously, Jeff won first place at Ralston, second place at Norfolk, Council Bluffs and Creighton Prep and third at Metro.

Jason Holoubek, senior, finished as the runner-up in the 275-pound class and qualified for state, posting a 24-11 record for the sea-

son. Jason had previously won first place at Ralston, third place at Council Bluffs and Creighton Prep and fourth at Metro.

Four additional wrestlers won third place in their respective divisions and are all headed to state. Freshman Vito Agosta is "eager to get (his) first shot at state" and Junior Jason Lawrence feels that "the team did really well."

The wrestling team was helped by the addition of ISC attendee Mike Evans. He placed third at districts in the 125-pound class.

The victory marked the first tournament appearance for Mike.

Head coach Gary Kubik told his wrestlers that this is the "to double, triple your efforts with a positive attitude." Coach Kubik attributed the strong showing to "wrestling technique."

Coach Kubik set three goals for the team for state. "Work hard, work on technique and build confidence," he said. Coach Kubik reminded his team, "you must be yourself as a champion to become one."

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Musselman, Bartee and Jones

Central adds three names to its list of professional athletes

rian Wilson
Gale Sayers, Larry Station
Keith Jones are just a few of the
professional athletes who have
graduated from Central.

Recently, three more have
been added to this list. John
Musselman, Kimera Bartee and
Calvin Jones. All are on their way to
becoming the next Central High
graduates to become professional
athletes.

John Musselman, a 1989
graduate, was a member of Central's
varsity golf team for four years. In
1986, John received four letters
and made it to the State tournament
three times. After high school, John
continued to play varsity golf for
three years at Emory University in
Atlanta, Georgia. In his four years
of college golf, he played in the
National Tournament his sophomore,
junior and senior years. In the
spring of 1992, John broke Emory's
record low tournament score with a

During John's sophomore
year of college, he began to consider
playing golf professionally. Later
in his college career, he saw what
was once only a dream become real.
"In my senior year I knew that's
what I wanted to do, and I started to
prepare for it," he said.

After receiving enough
support from sponsors, John started

playing professional golf in Octo-
ber, 1993. John is currently playing
on the Emerald Coast Tour, and his
best finish so far is second place. He
is now trying to gain as much tour-
nament experience as possible so he
will be ready for qualifying school
next October. Qualifying, or 'Q
school', consists of 13 rounds of
golf over a two-month period. "It's
like a long tournament. The top 125

scorers re-
ceive their
Professional
Golf Associa-
tion card. It
takes awhile;
my goal is to
get my card
within the
next five
years. I have
the game, and
it is definitely
improving. I
just have to
keep trying to
win," said
John.

John has many individual
sponsors in Omaha and Atlanta, and
now he has a hat contract with an
investment banking firm. This hat
contract means that the company
will help pay for his expenses and
tournament fees, as long as he wears
the hat with the company logo on it.

When it comes to competi-

tion, John said, "It's what keeps you
going. I love the competition." He
also said, "The mini tours I am play-
ing in now have only about 40 play-
ers, but any one of these players
could win the tournament on a given
day."

John said, "Becoming a
professional takes determination and
setting your sights on a goal, then
working hard to reach it. You have

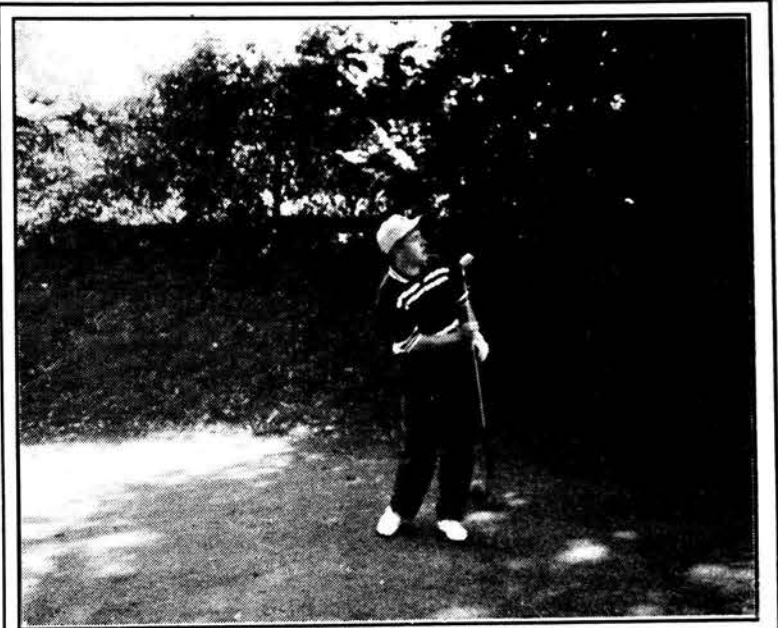
to love it and do it
right." John gradu-
ated from Emory
as an English ma-
jor and said that he
hopes to start his
own business
someday. He is
currently writing a
golf novel, and he
hopes to get it pub-
lished by summer.

Kimera Bartee, a
1990 graduate, played varsity
baseball for Central. During his

sophomore year at Central, he started
to realize what he could do with his
athletic abilities. During his junior
year, many Nebraska schools started
talking to Kimera. In his senior
year, Kimera made the all-state team,
and other schools and pro teams
started talking to him about his op-
tions.

After his senior year of high
school, Kimera had the option to go
to college or enter the draft. "Scouts
called me every day. Turning pro
was becoming a reality, but I had my
heart set on going to school," said
Kimera. Since Kimera chose to go
to school, the pros were unable to
talk to him until his junior year. At
this time, he has the option to either
enter the draft or finish school.

Kimera, who is now a jun-
ior at Creighton University, entered
the draft and was drafted by the
Baltimore Orioles. He was drafted
on the first day, in the 14th round, on



Pro golfer: John Musselman, 1989 Central
graduate, practices at the Omaha Country Club.
Photo courtesy of Musselman family

June 9. He then played rookie ball
for the Orioles over the summer.

Kimera says he plans to
get his degree in marketing next fall,
and if he cannot do it then, he will try
to as soon as possible. If he does not
make it in the pros, Kimera said he
would like to have a job in the com-
bined area of promotions and base-
ball.

Kimera left for Sarasota,
Florida, on February 12 to start
spring training and major league
camp. On February 15, Kimera
started practice and will play A-ball
this season. This is the lowest bracket
for professional baseball. Kimera
said, "It may take a long time to
make it to the majors. The three-
year plan is the goal I set." He also
said, "If it takes longer than that, I
will stick with it. My goals for the
near future are to make myself a
better player every day I'm out there
on the field."

Kimera's father was a pro-
fessional baseball player for the
Cardinals. "This was my biggest
influence," said Kimera. He also
added that his coach at Central, Elvis

Dominguez, was a big influence.
"He really helped me out a lot; he
made sure I knew what all my op-
tions were," said Kimera. Mr.
Dominguez is now coaching at
Creighton, after he took the job and
left Central two years ago.

Kimera said, "I was one of
those kids that dreamt to be a pro. I
turned pro for the pleasure of the
game, not the money." He added,
"If you're in it for the money, you
really shouldn't be in it at all be-
cause you're not going to be suc-
cessful."

"I hope everyone will see
me in five years. If not, I'll still have
my head up knowing I gave it my
best shot," said Kimera.

A third athlete who is look-
ing toward the pros is Calvin Jones.
Calvin, a 1990 graduate and former
Nebraska I-back, is cutting his col-
legiate career short to enter the NFL
draft in April. Mr. Joe McMenamin,
Central's head football coach, said,
"This was a hard decision for him,
he didn't want to risk injury."

Calvin left on February 11
to participate in the Combine. This
is a series of running and jumping
tests that is used to help the pros
measure the players' abilities. Coach
McMenamin said, "There's a good
chance that he could test the highest
in this Combine."

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Air Smith: Eagle guard Eddie Smith, senior, flies over the top of Millard South, scoring a total of 36 points. Photo by Jenny Hurst

Eighth in the state Boys' team looks for post-season play with 11-6 record

By Sarah Danberg

"We've improved a lot," head basketball coach Rick Behrens said as he looked over the Eagles' 11-6 season. The team is currently ranked eighth in the state in Class A, having won six out of its seven home games.

Coach Behrens said "Anything can happen."

Coach Behrens was optimistic that the Eagles were "learning to play as a team." He said that all the players have gotten better at split-second decision-making and are "learning to use teammates to get a better shot."

Senior starting guard Eddie Smith said that it helps that "everyone is very close" both on and off the court. Eddie is the Metro Conference's leading scorer, averaging 25.5 points a game. He scored 36 points to lead the Eagles to a 76-68 victory over sixth-ranked Millard South.

Coach Behrens said that this year the team has more team unity than in past years.

"We have the players (to go on to state)," he said.

The Eagles recently won No. 7 Papillion 82-62 on February 4. The Burke Bulldogs broke Central's game winning streak the following day by defeating them 84-66.

Freshman starting guard Eddie Smith said that he is "pleased" at the attention of their games.

"Our whole team is filled," he said. Ryan said that a big crowd is important for "getting team into the game (mental)." Eddie said, "I've won every game has been packed."

Coach Behrens said the team's goal was first to go on to the February 25-March 1, and then to March 10-12.

Coach Behrens also said "confident" his team has the ability to win "looking forward" to the remaining games.

The Eagles took on the High Packers on February 18.

We have the players [to go on to state].
—Coach Behrens

Cross-country skiers hit the snow at local parks

By Sarah Danberg

As the winter months come down upon Omaha, many Central students are taking advantage of the cold weather and snow to do an activity that is popular in the Metro area—cross-country skiing.

Many students started skiing cross-country when they were younger.

Libby Broekemeier, junior, said she started skiing when she was six years old. She said that her mom bought her first pair of skis for her. "My mom took me to Memorial Park and Elmwood Park to teach me how to ski," she said.

Libby goes to Crested Butte, Colorado, with her mom, sister and a friend of the family to ski.

Libby said she enjoys skiing for health reasons, both physical and mental. She thinks it is "beneficial to my whole personality." It also gives her "time to think" and puts her in a "meditative" state.

Gus Jespersen, junior, started when he was seven. He said that his dad bought him skis and took him to golf courses and his grandparent's farm to learn. Gus says today he skis with "family or friends" and he does it for the "good" workout he gets.

Ben Kreuz, junior, also started when he was seven. The 1984 Olympics were his inspiration to start.

Today he skis by himself in the Elmwood Park and UNO area. He finds the sport "not as fast as downhill skiing; it's a lot harder."

Ben prefers downhill but finds cross-country more convenient "because I don't have to travel to Colorado."

Chris Wiig, senior, started skiing in the ninth grade. He said a friend of his encouraged him to try it. Chris skis in Estes Park, Colorado, and warns that it might take "time and money" to learn. Chris suggests that it is more fun when you "bring a couple of friends."

Caroline Lieben, junior, started last year while she was on a trip with her youth group. She likes it better than downhill skiing because it's "not as cold," since there is more motion involved. Caroline has been to both Winter Park and Copper Mountain, both in Colorado. She suggests that the beginner "take lessons."

Mrs. Diane Pfeiffer, Central aerobics instructor, says that "cross-country skiing is considered the king of aerobic exercise because it involves using all muscles at one time and it gets the heart rate up."

Mrs. Pfeiffer says that she started skiing after she graduated from high school and moved to New York. Her sister got her started and together they skied through the woods and mountains.

She said, "Since I've been in Nebraska, I really haven't gone that much, but I'd like to start again."

Jeff Bahnsen, of Bahnsen's Ski and Sport, says that cross-country skiing is a "relatively inexpensive sport." Packages, which include special skis, poles and boots start at \$125. Equipment is totally different from downhill skiing.

He said that business had been "good through Christmas" but is now slowing down due to the "lack of snow. He recommends that skiers go to Mahoney State Park or Cunningham Lake because they clear trails for cross-country skiers.

Girls' team wins 'moral victory' against Marian

"We finally played a great game," said head girls' basketball Coach Stan Standifer as he spoke on the team's first victory over Westside.

The win ended the ten-game losing streak that started the season. Westside, whose record dropped to 0-12, could not stop senior Marquicia Peterson. Peterson scored 22 points leading Central in scoring.

Coach Standifer said, "Against Marian we played our best game. Unfortunately we didn't come out on the winning end."

Central suffered a 75-45 loss to second-ranked Marian. Coach Standifer called the game a "moral victory" since the team only lost by 30 points.

"The games against Westside and Marian are the two biggest highlights of the season," Coach Standifer said.

Coach Standifer blamed the team's ineffectiveness on the lack of high shooting percentage.

"We just don't shoot very well," Coach Standifer said. "Shooting is probably our biggest bug-a-boo."

Coach Standifer does feel that his team works hard and "that's all you can ask from the girls."

The team is led by Marquicia and seniors Niki Hollingsworth and Christi Atkinson. "Marquicia has improved her game

and Niki has improved as a shooter," Coach Standifer said. Christi is a transfer student from Colorado.

Marksmanship team has top shooters in city

This year's marksmanship team, coached by Master Sergeant Carey Jurin, got the season started on December 11 with a victory against Benson.

According to Justen Cameron, junior, "Everyone on the team does pretty well. We have done fairly well so far." The team's record of two and two, includes victories at Benson and North, while the team lost at South and Bryan. "Any other year, no one could have touched us, usually a 940 could beat anybody," said Coach Jurin. Competitions are held between all Omaha Public Schools. Regular matches are held after school on Tuesdays, while tournaments are held on Saturdays.

The team of five members has competed in the Omaha Public Schools and South High tournaments. The team earned a third place finish at the Omaha Public Schools tournament and second place at South.

Competition consists of a three-target course, at which the shooters fire one shot at each target. Each target is worth 100 points, to make the total possible points 300.

Chris Olander, senior, shot

a 254 at the Bryan match, making him the top shooter in the city among the top 15 in the city.

Coach Jurin said the team goals are to break 1000 finish third in the city.

Swim teams have high hopes for state

The Central swim team has finished their season with high hopes for state.

The girls' team finished season with 6 wins and 2 losses. The top finishers on the team include six girls who qualified for the state competition. Jen Nolte, senior, and Cassie Neary, sophomore, and Kim O'dell, freshman, go on to compete at the state meet.

The boys' team finished with 4 wins and 4 losses.

Both girls' and boys' teams finished second overall in the Invitational meet held December 11th and 12th at Bryan Jr. High.

"I think we've come a long way. We started out as a new team and we've matured a lot," Coach Mark Allner agreed.

He says the team has proved "quite a bit" and was optimistic going into districts, held February 11th and 12th at UNO.

The state swim meet will be held February 24, 25 and 26 at the Devaney Center in Lincoln.

Eagle Briefs